

The Kohimarama Golf Links.

During the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 about 84 acres of the 148 acre Melanesian Estate at Kohimarama (now Mission Bay) was leased to the golf club which, during 1922 and 1923 was known as the Kohimarama Golf Club and during 1924 as the Glendowie Golf Club (Incorporated). This club was formed as the result of informal discussions which took place on the Orakei links between golfers of St. Heliers and Kohimarama during the winter of 1921. The area which they arranged to lease may be seen on the plan on the next page - a plan which was drafted in 1929 several years after the Melanesian Estate was subdivided.

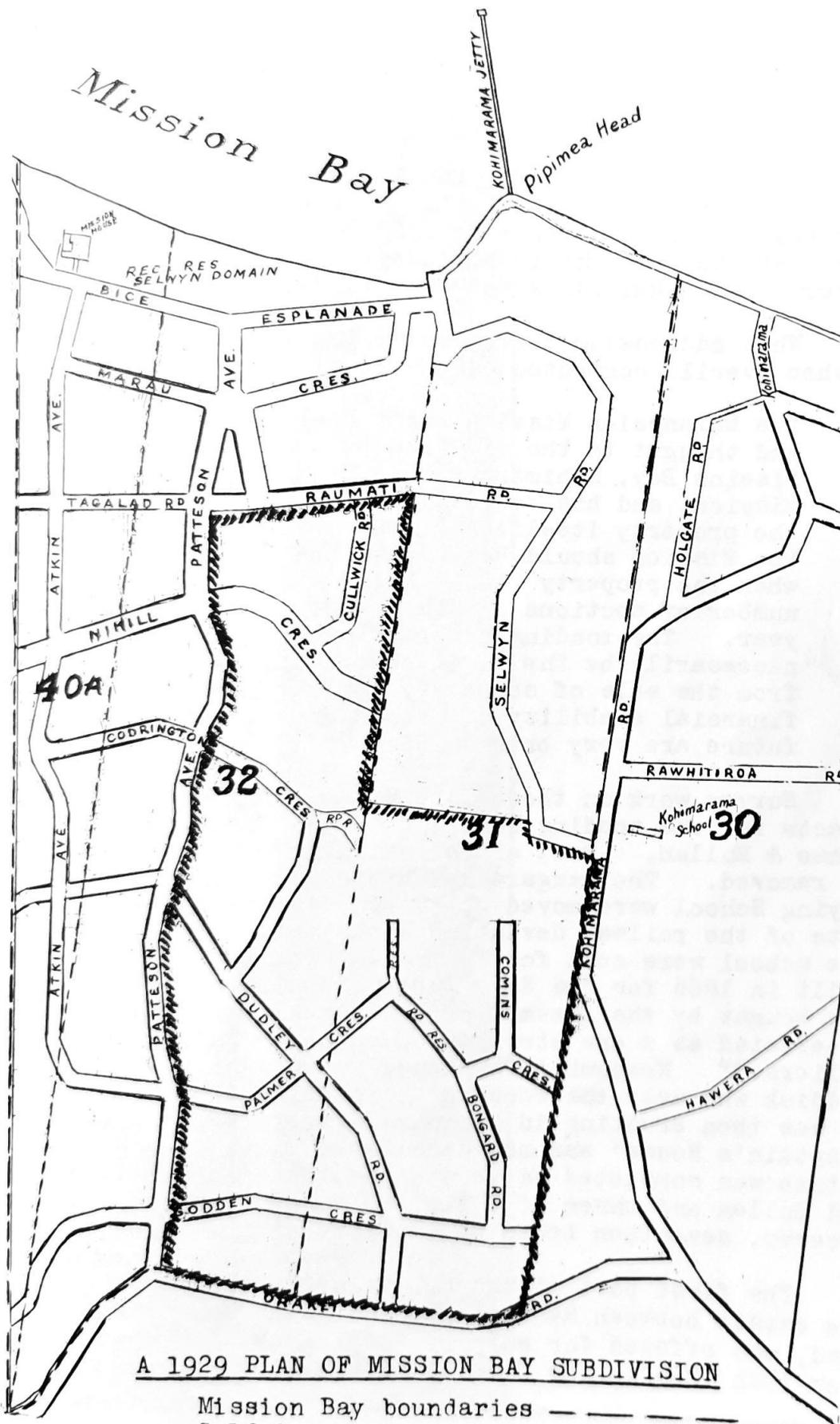
The northern boundary of the links was where the western half of Ronaki (formerly Raumati) Road now runs, and here the golf house was erected. The southern boundary was Orakei Road (Kepa Road); the western one where Patteson Ave. has since been constructed; and the eastern one, first along the boundary line between the original farm allotments 32 and 31 and then after a right angled turn to Kohimarama Road; then south to Orakei Rd. The entrance to the links was in Kohimarama Rd. a little above the Selwyn Ave. turn-off. Hence those members who came from the city by ferry had to walk from the Kohimarama wharf along to Kohimarama Rd. and then up the hill to the club gates.

The new club was opened on the afternoon of Wednesday April 12th 1922 when, according to a "Herald" account, about 100 people including visitors from other clubs assembled on the links which were declared open by the club president, Mr. F. Chambers. After the club captain Mr. P. Trice had hit the first ball off, the visitors did the round of the links and then gathered at the club house for afternoon tea. That afternoon it was announced by the president that the committee had elected Mr. and Mrs. Trice life members "in recognition of the work they had done in getting the club started." This couple were regarded as the actual founders of the club and it was under Mr. Trice's direction that the course had been laid.

The secretary of the club was Mr. D.N. Purdie and the treasurer Mr. D. R. Garrard, a well known cricketer. Other foundation members who later held office were Mr. K. Brookfield of St. Heliers and Mr. Nalder, another prominent cricketer.

Late in 1923 the Melanesian Trust Board informed the club that they were considering subdividing their estate in the near future. So the committee decided to buy 134 acres of the Riddell estate in Glendowie - that portion of which Churchill Park now forms the greater part. The transaction was completed in December of that year, a temporary mortgage having been arranged with the vendor. The rest of the capital was provided by committee members who formed the "Glendowie Golf Club, Incorporated".

Their plan was to pay off the mortgage and defray other expenses by selling sections along the Riddell Road frontage of the land. (See Section 7 on Glendowie.) The newly named club continued to use the Kohimarama links until the end of September 1924.



A 1929 PLAN OF MISSION BAY SUBDIVISION

Mission Bay boundaries - - - - -
 Golf Course Boundaries thus //