

CASE STUDY



CONSTRUCTION OF IRRIGATION RESERVOIR AND 18 HOLE GOLF COURSE

Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire

Client: (Firoka) Heythrop Park Ltd
Design By: Mackenzie and Ebert Ltd



White Horse Contractors Ltd were appointed by Firoka (Heythrop Park) Ltd for the construction of a new eighteen hole golf course to replace a small nine hole one. The new golf course has been designed by golf course architect Tom Mackenzie of Mackenzie and Ebert Ltd.

Construction work involved the creation of a full 18 hole course, with practice area and water storage facility within the historical estate of Heythrop Park. As part of the project the Park is being turned back to its former glory including substantial restoration of the parkland, parts of which over the years had been turned into forestry and agricultural use.

Works commenced in March 2008 with major clearance work, carefully preserving original large mature trees, desilting of existing lakes/ ponds and the construction of a reservoir to facilitate the water supply for the irrigation system.

Earthmoving is being kept to a minimum in order not to spoil the natural characteristics of the parkland site, which enjoys relatively steep sided river/ stream valleys with a central limestone plateau area.

The work will include the construction of high quality greens and tees, bunkers etc and the provision of a comprehensive drainage and water harvesting, together with a full fairway irrigation system.



The site is suffering from a variety of drainage problems, ranging from poor draining clay soils to lighter soils with high water tables to strong spring activity on the steeper slopes with free draining limestone on the central plateau area. A comprehensive drainage system is to be installed to deal with the drainage issues, and where practical the creation of water features will be incorporated.

Pathways are to be constructed with bridges over the streams to provide access to the various holes.

The site and new golf course design have all the ingredients for the construction of a prestigious, top class golf course set in beautiful Oxfordshire surroundings.