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## Places

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## The Localized Landscapes of Golf Maria Cox

The writer John McPhee has pointed out that the remains of glacial moraines are particularly suitable for cemeteries—or for golf courses. The game played on these courses is essentially the same worldwide. They have been designed, almost always by Americans, to vary in difficulty, and they are never as alike as baseball diamonds or football fields. Still, each recalls the glaciated shorelines of Scotland, the “links,” where the game as we know it began.

If the landscape of golf is that of the greens, fairways, roughs and sand traps of Scotland, it is also one that local vegetation creates. The photographer Maria Cox is not particularly interested in the game, but is enthralled by the local landscapes of golf. In her pictures, we see an occasional ball or other piece of equipment. But primarily what she shows us are park lands shaped by indigenous plantings—stone pines in Italy, olive trees in Portugal, Norfolk Island pines in Hawai’i—landscapes that are energized by the needs of the game.

—*Cervin Robinson*



Westhampton Country Club  
Long Island, 1997



Circolo del Golf di Roma, Acquasanta  
Rome, 1995



San Lorenzo Golf Club  
Algarve, Portugal, 1997

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The Experience at Koele  
Lanai, Hawai'i, 1997



Pinheiros Altos  
Algarve, Portugal, 1997



Waiha Gold  
Maui, Hawal'i, 1998





Quinta do Gramacho  
Algarve, Portugal, 1997