

Smugglers' Notch. The rural views on 15 and up 108 into Enosburg Falls are some of the finest in the state. The drive to Richford, from Burlington, is just over an hour, and when you jump on the course, you realize that the relaxing trip was well worth the wait.

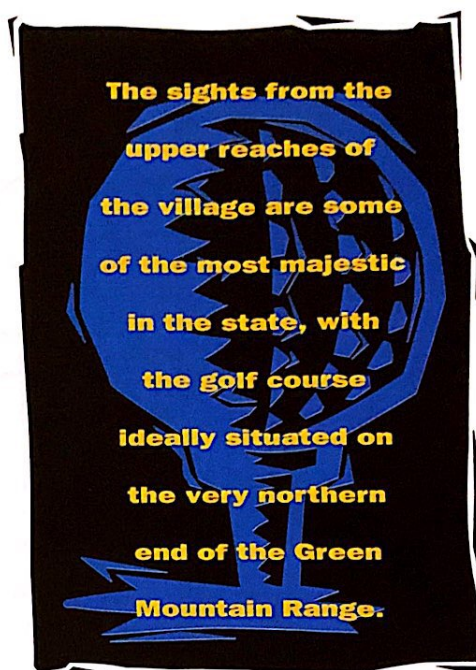
The course is a nine-hole track measuring 3003 yards. It is well maintained and plush, and unlike most nine-hole affairs, offers challenging play at every turn. The course is basically divided by the main road leading to the clubhouse. As you drive in, the first five holes are to the right, and run along the bottom of the slope. The last four holes are positioned on the left side, which leads the golfer up into the higher elevations of the slope. If you miss the eighth green to the left, you'll be standing just a few yards away from the international border with Quebec.

From the ninth hole you will see the celestial quality of the Richford Country Club. The hole plays all

downhill, and from the tee the golfer can look upon the valley and the splendor of the golf course. In the distance is a handsome vista encompassing Jay Peak and the ridge of mountain peaks that provide the last miles of hiking on the Long Trail before it joins a dirt road just shy of the border and heads into downtown North Troy.

While this final hole is not difficult, beware of the gully which cuts through the middle of the fairway.

Built in 1930, the Richford Country Club now caters to tourists and the



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local Canadian golfers, with over seventy-five percent of the play coming from Canada. The prevailing attitude is a good one up north. People are friendly, the pace is slow and easy, and everyone this golfer has spoken to has enjoyed their round at the golf course. An indication of the northern spirit can be seen on your way into Richford. On the bridge coming into town

is a big sign welcoming the public to this friendly spot. So hop in your car and make the drive along a scenic summer road. It is one which you won't easily forget. ●

*Panoramic views characterize much of Richford's layout.*





# THE HIDDEN GEM; RICHFORD GOLF CLUB

BY ALEX KOUREBANAS

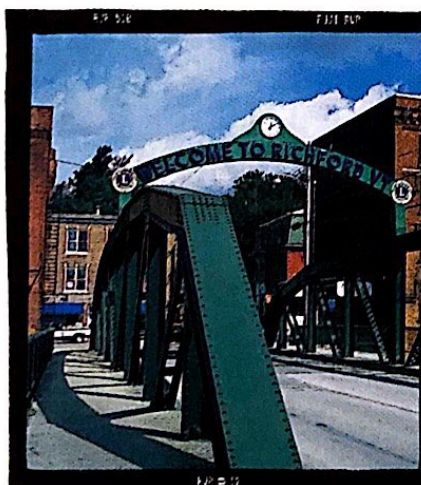
*The Richford Country Club is this year's selection as Vermont's hidden gem. Located in northern Vermont near the Canadian border and the Jay Peak Ski Area, Richford offers scenic golf and pleasant surroundings for both its local and traveling customers.*

*The village of Richford lies roughly in the center of the northern*

end of the Green Mountain range. This area is very hilly and wooded, rising from the banks of the Missisquoi River which divides the northern and southern part of the village. Richford possesses an abundance of fine timber which serves as the commercial base of Richford industries. Over 500 people are employed in the furniture, plywood, and veneer mills.

The sights from the upper reaches of the village are some of the most majestic in the state, with the golf course ideally situated on the very northern end of the Green Mountain Range. Lying just above is the Lake Memphremagog Basin, which is one of Vermont's truly unique areas due to its geological variety.

Granite, dome-like peaks of an igneous nature are intermingled with rigid hogback mountains. These hog-



*The friendly downtown*

back mountains are made up of metamorphosed sediments and exist side-by-side with weaker formations of sed-

imentary limestones. The limestone, sharply defined by stream erosion, completes the diversity of the topography. Other interesting features of this enchanted pocket of Vermont are the remnants of the last glacial period, the Pleistocene period which dates back 14,000 years. The striated rock formations, the Missisquoi and Clyde Rivers, and Lake Memphremagog are all modern day remnants of this last glacial period. The area is a direct contrast to the Green Mountain Range that lies south and the Laurentian Mountains located past the international border into Canada.

For those Vermonters unfamiliar with summer in northern Vermont, driving to Richford is an experience in itself. From Chittenden County the best direction to Richford is route 15 east, through Cambridge and past