

*Follow in Their
Footsteps*

Dunany
Country Club

1922 - 2022

*Centennial
Tour*



BLACK Lake

Ross Road

Montée Boyd

Follow in the footsteps of our earliest members and discover how the Dunany Country Club came to be. Points of interest relate to Dunany's early settler history, the old Dunany School, the original Dunany Road ("Public Road"), the arrival of the cottagers and more.



Ch. Boyd

#

Ch. de Dunany

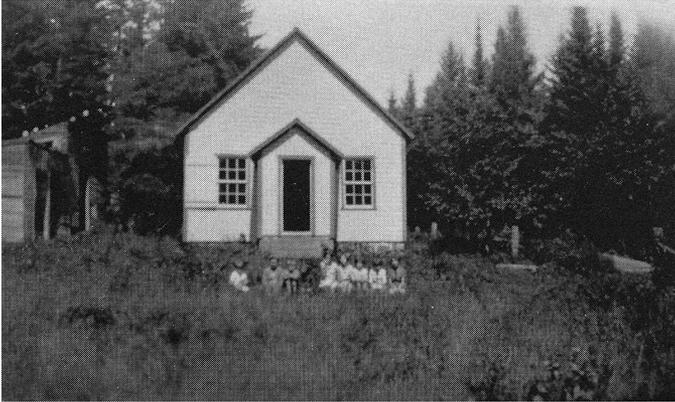
BOYD Lake

Ch. McDougal

CLEAR Lake



The Dunany School



Historic schoolhouse

Dunany's first settler, William Smith, donated land for a Dunany school. Dunany School No.1 was built in 1895 in what is now DCC's west parking lot. Past members, Florence Mannard and Bev Neill attended Grade 1 before the school closed in 1947. In 1948, school-aged children began to be

transported to Lachute. The old schoolhouse was eventually dismantled, moved across the Dunany Road, and rebuilt as the DCC locker room. A small addition was later added and today it is the DCC starter shack.



Present-day starter shack

#2

The intersection of Ch. Boyd and Ch. de Dunany



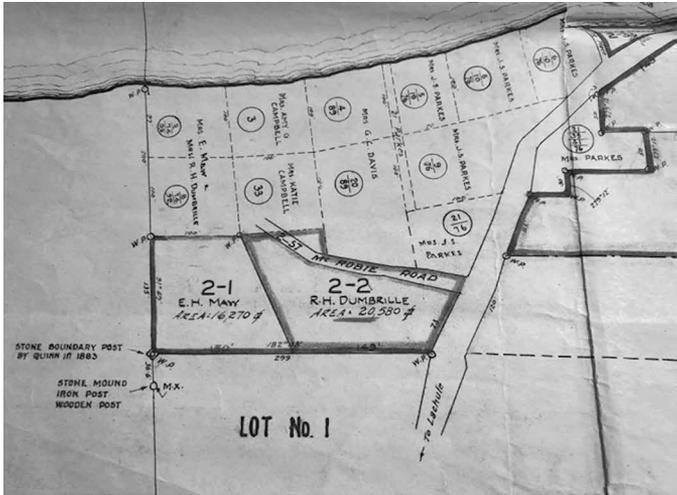
In 1922 the Dunany Road, or “Public Road” as it was known, followed the Boyd Lake shoreline, then turned north at Montée Road before continuing on past Black and Curran Lakes. The section of Dunany Road that you see bordering the first and second holes was constructed at a later date.



Intersection renovated in 2021

#3

Old McRobie Road 186-188 Ch. Boyd



Can you spy old McRobie Road running perpendicular up into the bush from the driveway at 186-188 Ch. Boyd? The first cottage lot on it was sold in 1913 by Stewart Boyd to DCC founder, Thomas McRobie and his wife, Florence Arnott. Stewart sold other lots along McRobie to founders E.H. Maw,

R.H. Dumbrille and G.C. Davis. According to Eleanor Hammond's book, *A History of Dunany*, the last cottage on the road was the McRobie cottage which stood 'smack-dab up against the Campbell cottage', owned by the Campbell sisters. The three sisters all married DCC founders and became Mrs. Catherine Dumbrille, Mrs. Amy Maw and Mrs. Anne Culross. The Davis cottage is the last on old McRobie still standing. It was built for founder, George C Davis (Paul Wilson's great-great grandfather). The cottage is now owned by Bruce and Angie Macleod.



Carol (Haldimand) Wilson's Great Grandmother Davis
.....

#4

James Stowell Parkes house 'Tall Pines Cottage' 188 Ch. Boyd



James Stowell Parkes built this handsome house in 1922. It was said to have “the classiest water system in Dunany”. In 1926, Parkes, a DCC founder, paid for a third hole green to be built beside the large spruce that once

stood on the 3rd fairway. Parkes, a marine engineer, was born near Manchester, England. One of 13 children, he was the only one to come to Canada. The Parkes-Culross Cup played every prize-giving Saturday was named for James Parkes and Charles Culross.

The trophy was donated in 1946 by Ewart Everson, grandfather and great grandfather of DCC’s Campbell and Everson families.



James Stowell Parkes is buried in Dunany.

#5

The former Boyd farmhouse 235 Ch. Boyd



The Boyd family gave its name to Boyd Lake.

In the 1860s, settler John Boyd's farm bordered the Smith Farm (present-day golf course) and stretched north to Black Lake and west to #2145 Ch. de Dunany. The old Boyd farmhouse still stands at #235 Boyd. Stewart Boyd, John's son, bought the Smith Farm in 1921. On May 27, 1922, he sold it

to twenty enthusiastic DCC founders. Each founder paid \$50 toward its \$950 purchase price. Today, Greg, a sixth generation Boyd, is a member of the Dunany Country Club.

When the Boyd Farm came up for sale in 1947, a group of DCC golfers pooled their resources in a move to protect the golf course from future encroachment. Through a draw, lots not involved in the golf course were given to subscribers. Many Clear Lake residents acquired land on Boyd and Black Lakes at this time. Hugh Kearns, a DCC founder related by marriage to the Hyde family, drew a lot on the north side of Boyd. Next to his was Evert Everson's lot which ran through the Boyd barn and what would later become the Tony Straessle property. Tom Hodgson got a section of land behind Black Lake and DCC founder, EH Wilson, acquired land at the east end of Black Lake.

(Sources: *A History of Dunany* and www.DunanyCountryClub.com)

#6

Sutherland Cottage

(across Boyd Lake)



DCC founder, William H. Sutherland and family, were friends of the McRobies in Montreal. In 1919, the Sutherlands traveled by horse and buggy from Lachute to visit the McRobies at their cottage on Boyd Lake. Later, Mr. Sutherland would be the first to drive a car in Dunany. The original Sutherland cottage was torn down and replaced by

the cottage you see across Boyd Lake and in this photo. It was built in 1954 by Clarence Neill, a longtime DCC Golf Superintendent and the Mayor of Wentworth for 29 years. Mary Sutherland, William's grand daughter, has won the DCC Ladies Championship an astonishing 22 times. Brother, Don Sutherland Jr, has won the Men's Championship ten times.



William Harkness Sutherland, his wife Minnie (Eagle)
and Donald William Sutherland

#7

Laidley Cottage

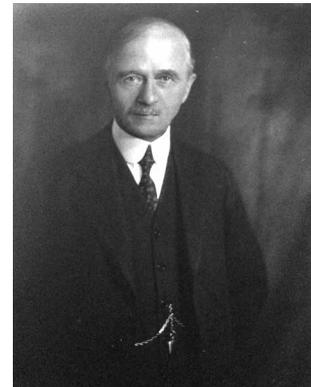
(across Boyd Lake)



Dr. Isaac Henry Laidley was also a founding member of the DCC. Isaac was born in Ontario. Later, he would graduate from McGill medical school and live in Westmount, Quebec. He was an avid winter curler and summer golfer. In the early 1920s, Isaac and family discovered Dunany along with two of Isaac's friends and their families (Dr Swaine

and Dr W.J. Patterson). Isaac sold his property in Ste Agathe, bought a lot on Boyd Lake and built the first Laidley family cottage.

Although Dr Laidley was a long-time member of Montreal's Marlborough Golf Course, he spent more of his last 10 years of life enjoying the Dunany Country Club. He passed away in 1932 when the DCC was only 10 years old, but his wife Edith and their three children Wendell, Ruth and Ken, continued to spend every summer at the lake and on the golf course. Youngest son, Ken and his wife Doris, lived out their life in their beloved Dunany and today, a third generation of Laidley families are active DCC members.



Dr. Isaac Henry Laidley

#8

FW Hamilton – Leggett/ Cairns/Gauley (across Boyd Lake)



There is nothing in motoring to surpass the luxury and ease of the straight eight. And among straight eights there is nothing to equal Hupmobile's distinction and performance save one very costly European car. Custom bodies by Dietrich, created and built exclusively for this magnificent chassis, are available.

Always. Color optional, and many in finishes exclusive and upon order.
\$1495 to \$2795 (a. 6. Drive), plus delivery tax.

IN THE FINE CAR FIELD THE TREND IS
- UNDOUBTEDLY TOWARD EIGHTS -

HUPMOBILE

THE DISTINGUISHED EIGHT

DCC founder, F.W. Hamilton was one of many early cottagers who worked in the 1920s automotive industry. Hamilton owned a Hupmobile dealership at the corner of Montreal's Atwater and St. Catherine Streets. This location would later become the site of the Montreal Forum. The Hamilton cottage was sold to the Stuart family who owned it briefly before selling it in 1946 to Reginald John Leggett, Bill Gauley's grandfather. Dorothy (Leggett) Gauley, Bill's mother, remembers her first visit to the Hamilton cottage, which did not have electricity or an indoor bathroom.



#9

Kit McRobie cottage 245 Ch. Boyd



DCC founders Ann and Lewis McRobie shared a cottage with sister, Kit, at 245 Boyd Road. The Cunningham family later purchased this cottage. In 2021, it became part of the west wing of a new Cunningham home.

In 1938, the DCC flagpole was erected and dedicated to Lewis. McRobie Walk, DCC's 6th hole was also named in honour of Lewis and his brother, Fred McRobie.

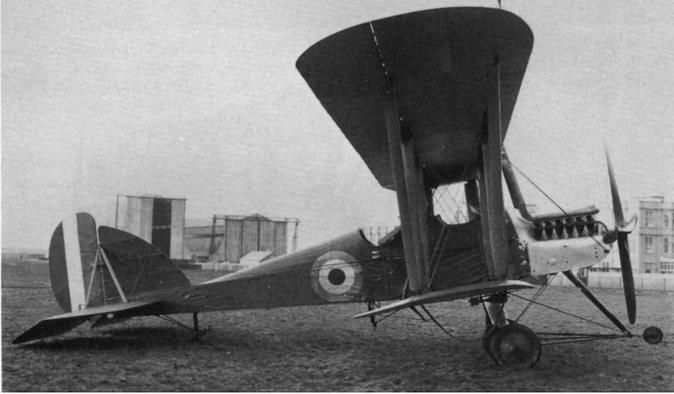
“Dunany must be one of the very few Canadian courses that owes its inception to the imagination and enterprise of a woman. It was in 1914 that Miss Katherine McRobie, then an ardent member of The Country Club of Montreal, first dropped a golf ball in the hamlet of Dunany and commenced playing there over a crudely fashioned three holes.”

(Source: www.DunanyCountryClub.com)



#10

DCC founder, Lorne Matthew McCoy



DCC founder Lorne McCoy became a World War 1 airman and learned to fly early 'flying machines' like this RAF-RE7. World War 1 planes were largely experimental and pilots who flew them did so without parachutes. Over 1000 Allied pilots lost their lives during training. While stationed near Reading, England, Lorne managed to get a golf game in with fellow Canadian flying officer,

Don Brophy. Brophy's diary recorded the following on March 11, 1916:

'After lunch, Walter [Soper], McCoy and I went out to the Sonning Golf Club, and although it was raining we got toggged up for a game... It rained just a light drizzle all afternoon, but we played the whole eighteen holes.'

(Source: "A Rattle of Pebbles", www.Canada.ca)

Lorne's father, Edmund McCoy, first purchased land on Clear Lake in 1912. He gave the Clear Lake house to his daughter Elinor (McCoy) Hay and the Boyd Lake lot to his daughter Harriet (McCoy) Swaine. The Hay and Swaine families are also related (by marriage) to DCC founders Ann, Thomas and Lewis McRobie.



Lorne McCoy,
November, 1936

#11

Montee Boyd



Old maps show that the original Dunany Road or “Public Road” turned north at Montee Boyd before continuing west. Affectionately known as ‘Montee Hill’, older DCC members may remember driving up “Montee Hill” to the Dunany Road.

#12

DCC founders O.C. Martin, Dr. W.J. Patterson and G.E. Brennan



Original O.C. Martin cottage stood beside ‘Montee Hill’

Before you begin your climb up Montee Hill, take a look at the cottages to the west. O.C. Martin, a furniture merchant, owned the property beside Montee Boyd. He sold it to A.R. Wright, Joan Gale’s father.

The Wright-Morton-Gale cottage is a mid-century modern built by Clarence Neill and Tolbert Gauley in the 1950s.

The property next door was owned by founder, Dr. W.J. Patterson. Dr. Patterson was a surgeon at Montreal's Royal Vic and Shriners Hospitals and Chief Medical Officer at the Montreal Locomotive Works. Next to his property were George E. Brennan's properties. Brennan was an engineer with the City of Montreal.



#13

The old road to Ross Road



Look for #5 Montee Boyd on your climb up Montee Boyd. The driveway at #5 is all that is left of an old road that once crossed a bridge over the Black Lake outlet before continuing up and over the present-day Dunany Road to Ross Road.

#14

Formerly the 'Public Road'



At the end of Montee Boyd, continue on the path that was once the old Public Road to Black Lake, Curran Lake and beyond. When you come to the fork in the path about 3/4 of the way up, take a right. This will lead you to Ch. de Dunany and Black Lake. Turn right and walk east and down the hill past the Black Lake outlet to Ross Road.

#15

Ross Road



99 Ross Road and the Culcross cup

Ross Road was named for what was then the last cottage on the road, owned by John Wellington Ross.

DCC founder, Charles Culross, a Montreal piano merchant, married Ann Campbell from Boyd Lake. Their cottage at 99 Ross Road was built by John Murphy, a Dunany carpenter. Murphy also built the original cedar fence along the golf course.

In 1918, Charles donated the Culross Cup, DCC's oldest trophy. In 1946, it was replaced by the Parkes-Culross trophy.

Colin Dumbrille, a Culross nephew, and son of founder, Reuben Hunt Dumbrille, inherited the Culross cottage. #99 Ross is now owned by the Cruise sisters and their families.

Further up Ross Road, the Raguin/Leslie cottage is one of the oldest on Black Lake. Built in 1919 for founder, John Henry Hodges, early DCC members rented it before the Raguins bought it in 1933. The late Ross Leslie nicknamed it “The Dunany White House” since so many were Dunany golf presidents (including Ross himself, who was DCC president from 2008-09).

Other presidents who lived in the house were William Sutherland, Fred McCracken, Rene Raguin, Donald Sutherland Sr., Hugh M. McCracken, and Cameron Leslie.

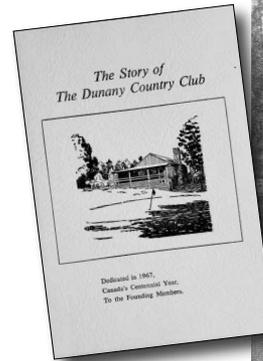


The Raguin/Leslie cottage

#16

Dawber House

2093 ch. de Dunany



Many DCC members will remember the Dawbers. Eric often sported a wide-brimmed hat while playing golf and his wife, Gweneth, carried a Sunday bag. In 1967, Canada's Centennial year, Eric penned *The Story of the Dunany Country Club* and dedicated it to the founding members.

#17

“Memorial” DCC’s Second Hole



Near the end of the Second World War, two DCC founders lost their sons just weeks apart: Garth Fish, eldest son of James Fish, and Hugh Wilson Gall, middle son of Mossman Gall, were both serving with the Black Watch regiment in France when they were killed.

“Memorial”, DCC’s second hole, and the cairn erected on the second tee in 1946-47 by James Fish, are in memory of Garth and all who served or were killed in action during the war. In 1953, Doug Percy, a cousin of Garth Fish, donated the Garth Fish Trophy to the DCC in Garth’s memory.



Memorial plaque on the second hole

#18

Former starter shack



Located among the groundskeeper sheds between the Dunany Road and the first hole, an earlier starter shack is now used as the Golf Superintendent's Office. One of the starters from the 1980s thinks the older shack stood closer to the 7th green than the current starter shack. "Because back then the shack was often hit by golf balls from golfers going for the green".



**DUNANY
COUNTRY CLUB
1922 - 2022
CENTENNIAL
TOUR**

Dunany Country Club is not responsible for, and will not indemnify anyone against, any harm or damage resulting from an individual's participation in the activity.

This document was produced by Glenn Cameron and Judy Hammond on behalf of the DCC History Committee.
