## The Story of William Powell and Clearview: The Only Golf Course Designed, Built, and Owned by an African American



Twice as Good: The Story of William Powell and Clearview, the Only Golf Course Designed, Built, and Owned by an African American by Richard Michelson

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Print length	: 32 pages



William Powell was a man of many talents. He was a gifted athlete, a skilled carpenter, and a successful businessman. But it was his love of golf that would ultimately define his legacy.

Powell was born in 1899 in Xenia, Ohio. He grew up playing golf on the local public course, and quickly developed a passion for the game. However, he faced discrimination from other golfers because of his race. This did not deter Powell, and he continued to play and improve his game.

In 1924, Powell moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where he found work as a carpenter. He also continued to play golf, and in 1930, he won the city's

African American golf championship. This victory gave Powell the confidence to pursue his dream of building his own golf course.

Powell spent the next several years working on his plans for Clearview Golf Course. He wanted to create a course that was challenging but fair, and that would be open to all golfers, regardless of race. In 1937, Powell finally broke ground on Clearview, and two years later, the course was complete.

Clearview Golf Course was an immediate success. It was one of the first golf courses in the United States to be designed and built by an African American, and it quickly became a popular destination for golfers of all races. Powell was proud of his accomplishment, and he often said that Clearview was "a testament to the power of perseverance."

Powell continued to own and operate Clearview until his death in 1984. The course has since been designated a National Historic Landmark, and it remains a popular destination for golfers of all ages and abilities.

The story of William Powell and Clearview Golf Course is a testament to the power of perseverance and the importance of representation in the game of golf. Powell's legacy will continue to inspire generations of golfers to come.

#### **Timeline of William Powell and Clearview Golf Course**

\* 1899: William Powell is born in Xenia, Ohio. \* 1924: Powell moves to Cleveland, Ohio. \* 1930: Powell wins the Cleveland African American golf championship. \* 1937: Powell breaks ground on Clearview Golf Course. \* 1939: Clearview Golf Course is complete. \* 1984: Powell dies. \* 2001: Clearview Golf Course is designated a National Historic Landmark.

#### Legacy of William Powell and Clearview Golf Course

William Powell's legacy is one of perseverance and determination. He faced discrimination throughout his life, but he never gave up on his dream of building his own golf course. Clearview Golf Course is a testament to Powell's hard work and dedication, and it continues to inspire golfers of all ages and abilities.

Clearview Golf Course is also a reminder of the importance of representation in the game of golf. For many years, golf was a predominantly white sport. However, Powell's success helped to break down barriers and open the door for other African American golfers. Today, there are many African American golfers who have achieved success at the highest levels of the game.

William Powell and Clearview Golf Course are important symbols of progress and inclusion in the game of golf. Powell's story is an inspiration to us all, and Clearview Golf Course is a reminder that the game of golf is for everyone.



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