

74 HURST ROAD
EAST MOLESEY
SURREY
KT8 9AG

14 November 1979

Dear Steven,

I wonder if you have
a copy of your book "Early
Golf" available.

If you have, would
you allow me to purchase it,
please.

Last week I got back
home after spending a month in
the U.S.A., and while there I went
to the Annual meeting of the Golf
Collectors' Society, held in Akron, Ohio.
Of course, as you can read in the
latest Bulletin, it was a very jolly
and noisy meeting. It was very
pleasant for me to renew friendships
already made when I went over
there last October.

If you come to London, do let
us know - I am sure we can
arrange for a number of our
London Golf Collectors to meet
you and exchange ideas.

I hope you are well

With best regards

Ray Gossage.

14, HURST ROAD
EAST MOLESEY
SURREY. KT8 9AG
20/4/77.

Dear Mr van Hengel,

First of all let me say
how delighted I was to receive your
Monograph - "Early Golf", which
I have read with great
interest. Thank you, indeed.

I now enclose a xerox
copy of the Wouwerman picture; of
course the colour, and tonal
values really make the picture. My
copy is only a "detail", and I
do not know what is in the
rest of the picture - it is a great
loss that one cannot see how
the two boys in the left hand
corner are playing their golf -
indeed their ball is not actually

visible.

Turning now to the Washington Avercamp.
It is in the National Gallery of Art,
Catalogue number 2315; "A Scene
on the Ice". [Obtained by the Gallery
via Ailsa Mellon Bruce Fund].

Two or three golf games are in
progress on the ice. I have got

one spare copy of this picture
which you may have if you
would like it; it is about 35 cms
by 25 cm. in dimension. Perhaps
when you are in London I can
give it to you.

I have ascertained that the
two Avercamps were related; Hendrick
Avercamp (1585-1634) was the uncle
of Barent Avercamp (1612-1679).

I hope you are well and
enjoying some Spring golf.
With kindest regards,

Ray Gossage.

Detail from
WINTER LANDSCAPE
by

PHILIPS WOUEWMAN (1619-1668)

[ALTE PINAKOTHEK, MUNICH]



↑
TWO BOYS
PLAYING
GOLF

↑
GOLF
BALL

↑
GOLF
CLUB

74, HURST ROAD,
EAST MOLESEY.

SURREY. KT8 9AG.

3.3.77.

Dear Mr VanHengel,

First may I congratulate
you on your article which
appeared in the G. C. S. Bulletin
No 30, and on winning
The Murdoch's prize with it.

Secondly, I write to
ask one or two questions. I have
copies of half a dozen ice
scenes painted by Dutch
painters. TheAvercamp (their pictures are
in the U. S. National Gallery (in
Washington D.C.), in the Rijksmuseum,
and in the Mauritshuis. Also
paintings by A. Van der Neer (1603-1677)
and Philips Wouwerman (1619-1688), who
has a picture in the Alte Pinakothek.

I assume that the two, ³
Avercamps are father & son.

There seems to be a fairly
large number of these paintings. Do
you know if they have been
catalogued (I mean specifically as
"golf" pictures, not merely as the
landscapes of individual painters)?
Is there any illustrated book which
brings together a good number
of them? Of course they are, for
the most part, not what is usually
meant by the term "Golf Print" and
yet they are most interesting. With
so many pictures with golfers
in ice scenes, what is there
on land? Pieter de Hooch and
Van Steen give us a little, but
surely not very much.

13
Has anyone prepared a
"speculative commentary" on all
these pictures, from a golf
viewpoint. (Perhaps you yourself
have done so)

Finally, is it possible to get
copies of the drawings by
Hendrik Avercamp which are
reproduced on pages 25 and 27 of
the book by Harold Hilton and
Garden Smith "The Royal and
Ancient Game of Golf"? And
particularly I would like to
get a copy of the drawing
by Romeyn de Hooghe, reproduced
on page 22 of the same book.

Perhaps if you are in London
and have some time to spare
we might meet for a little
discussion. Of course if you

would like to play some golf,
please come and play as
my guest. I play at two
courses, Home Park which is
in the park of Hampton
Court Palace, and West
Byfleet which is near Woking.

With kindest regards,

R.V. Gossage.