Abandoned transformer station

Bench under trellis and patio

Trees and shrubs

Walled area of transit room

Fenced on south and west side

Named by C.I.P/Planning Staff

YEAR OF IMPROVEMENT: 1981
DESIGNER: ROSEMARY WILLIS
COST OF IMPROVEMENT: $17,174.43
CONTRACTOR: ROBERTSON LANDSCAPING
SIZE: 5,000 SQUARE FEET
TRANSJURIS: 1969. $19,750 FROM LIGHTING DEPT.
... FOR PARK AND RECREATION PURPOSES...

ART WORK:
SUBJECT: MURAL BAMBOO
ARTIST: ANN FISKE
YEAR: 1981
("Abandoned" transformer station)

- Bench under trellis + path
- Trees + shrubs
- Walled area of transf. room
- Fenced on south + west sides

5,000 sq. ft.

Transfer, jurisd. - 1969: $18,750

"...for park + recreation purposes..."

LA 2-0268

NE 43rd St. Mini-Park
Renamed Christie Park (5/98)
Seattle Park Naming Committee
210 Municipal Building
Seattle, 93104

Hi,

I am familiar with the minipark at 9th and 43rd Northeast and would like to suggest that it be named Christie Park after the leader of the Press Expedition of 1889 which explored the Olympic Mountains.

The enclosed copy is from the book Across the Olympic Mountains, THE MEANY EXPEDITION, 1889-90 by Robert L. Good, 1967, University of Washington Press. The footnote describes the starting area for this expedition as the Meany farm on 9th between 40th and 41st, only yards away from the minipark.

The expedition was a significant civic enterprise early in Seattle's history. Its leader James Christie was a common man with a little bit of adventuring spirit that is part of life in the Northwest. He had other successes in expeditions and lived many years in British Columbia until his death in 1942.

He was not so chauvinistic as to ignore the place of the native residents of the area and apparently spent some considerable effort on behalf of local Indians later in his life. Though he might have scoffed at the idea, some importance can be attached to his unique place in our history.

I became aware of the history of this small plot of land when I first read the book about 10 years ago. At that time I was working at 4059 Roosevelt Way; as it happens we were mounting a major scientific expedition to the Arctic Ocean under the auspices of the University. I was thrilled to realize the connection with an earlier time.

There is still an office and activity at that address mounting annual expeditions to the Arctic. In that sense one could consider the name Expedition Park, but I much prefer Christie Park and the sense of humanity and history that goes with it.

Yours truly,

Pat Martin
4353 92nd S.E.
Mercer Island,
Washington 98040