Cowan Park & Ravenna Blvd originally were a deep ravine like Ravenna Park, having been cut by drainage from the post-Ice Age "Lake Russell" (formed by melt-off from the "Vashon Glacial Ice Sheet" 50,000 years ago.) The glacial basin remaining is "Green Lake" which continues to drain through this ravine until about 1911, installation of sewer and first fill in Boulevard; most recent fill at Cowen Park in 1961, which came from Seattle Freeway. Streets are now mostly spring-filled (some are mineral). Drains into Union Bay; shoreline until 1947 is indicated by the curve of railroad.

COWEN PARK: (west of 15th Ave.) named for Charles Cowen who gave the park believing that "Man does not live by bread alone," scripture. Of English birth, spent childhood at family diamond mine in South Africa. Came to U.S. on business, remained as resident in Seattle estate, Hoyt-Cowan Real Estate & Insurance. The present 15th Ave., Bridge built (1913), replacing wooden street car trolley. 8-year track run along Service Drive till 1941.

RAVENNA PARK: named c. 1889 by the original owner and developer I.W. Beck, because rolling, wooded ravine near Talmadge (1871) built a large house overlooking Ravenna Creek. It was abandoned in 1950, after a long stagnation caused by drain failure; filled in 1964 by Metro Sewer drainage.

RAVENNA BLVD. sheet 3

BECK PL. - ENG.