



DENNY-BLAINE LAKE PARK 1901
 (Contains "Minerva Fountain")
 2075 sq. ft. Bench Shelter

DENNY-BLAINE PARK 1901 (Dedicated as "Place"/Street - Jurisdict. 1932)
 2.0 Ac. (Incl. 0.4 Ac. shorelands) 7 ornamental light standards / L.I.D.-paving

HOWELL PARK 1907
 1.3 Ac. (Incl. 0.5 Ac. shorelands) Permit to improve w/ lawn to adjacent owner - 1930
 + to place por. of driveway on Park - 1953

STEVENS TRIANGLE 1901
 3049 sq. ft. (partly paved over)

VIRETTA PARK 1901
 1.78 Ac. Permit for landscaping + steps by letter - 1960

1901: Plat Dedication
 "...to the use of public and City
 of Seattle forever, all...fountains,
 parks, places... City at all
 times to maintain (same)."
 1907: Deed Dedic. "park pump."

110774

HISTORY: HOWELL PARK

When park-oriented E. F. Blaine and civic-oriented C. L. Denny developed their real estate into "Denny-Blaine Lake Park Subdivision" they included several small areas for park purposes. An additional area was purchased in 1907 by Charles and Viretta Denny for a park on the steep shoreland of Lake Washington (the slope is 25' in 100'); there was a narrow "bench" of beach at the foot of the slope. The name they gave to this was "Children's Park". But the downhill slope continued on out into deep water offshore, so development was left mainly to children's imaginations, weeds and the adjacent neighbors. Until after 1916 this small group of Denny-Blaine parks was listed just that way - as a group - and "Children's Park" was, at a recent date, changed to HOWELL PARK to avoid its identification as a playground.

The name came about because the park is at the foot of Howell Street. (The street name honors the memory of Captain Jefferson D. Howell, brother-in-law of Jefferson David, President of Confederate States (1861-1865). Captail Howell lost his life with his ship Pacific off Cape Flattery in a major sea tragedy in 1875 during which many relatives and friends of Seattle folk were lost.) (REFER: DENNY-BLAINE PARK for their biographies.)

The Shoreland was deeded to the City for park purposes in 1910. When the level of Lake Washington was lowered by 9' in 1917 by the opening of the Ship Canal, very little beach was added to this park; the offshore water was still too deep for beach purposes, children particularly. But the beach area must have been cleared of litter revealed by the receding water and probably smoothed and planted in grass (the Department was quite busy with this type of work after this 1917 event and the files are not too itemized.) Evidently the park was frequently bypassed in maintenance for the Park Board minutes in 1930 note that the adjacent neighbor to the north was given a permit to improve the beach area with a lawn. In 1953 a new neighbor on the south, N. Peter Canlis, petitioned for the placing of a small portion of a new turnaround driveway on the park. Six years later Mr. Canlis was back for a large slice of park for a whole new driveway. Upon the advice of Corporation Counsel, his petition was rejected, and again in 1962.

11/7/74