

In 1935 the Puget Mill Co. sold 207 acres for \$36,000 but upon the condition that the City procure assistance from the Federal Works Administration "to develop a municipal golf course. This offer was largely the result of the efforts of H. W. Blackstock, founder of the lumber company and member of the Park Board; hopes of WPA approval were improved by the Seattle residency of Mrs. Anna Roosevelt Bottiger, daughter of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and wife of the editor of the Post-Intelligencer. So it became the largest WPA project in the district:





\$1,090,920 plus \$108,941 contributed by the City as sponsor. The course was designed by the famous H. Chandler Egan of Pebble Beach, California ("Golf Capital of the U.S."). Mr. Egan died in 1936 before the project was completed and it was suggested that the course be named in his honor. Course opened for play in May 1940.

Regrading was done over the entire area, but preserving Longfellow Creek and the Camp stream. (Longfellow Creek, a major pioneer landmark: the 1890 City Directory lists John E. Longfellow & Co., loggers in West Seattle; Ferdinand Schmitz, who later honored Henry W. Longfellow (1807-1882) by naming a playfield for his poem "Hiawatha" and who had envisioned "Longfellow Park" in this area.)

As the work progressed, Archie Phelps, Park Board member, envisioned the feasibility of increasing use of the area to include a sports stadium (long sought in West Seattle) and an outstanding camp area. So in 1936 the Park Board authorized the name be changed to "WEST SEATTLE GOLF COURSE AND RECREATION AREA." Foremost supporter was Superior Court Judge ("crusty-soft") WILLIAM G. LONG of the Juvenile and Divorce Courts (upon his retirement in 1964 had dealt with 225,000 juvenile cases in his 46 years, 31 on the bench) whose leisure included a dedication to fishing (helped to found the State Game Commission and was given honorary hunting and fishing license No. 1), photography, music, the outdoors, Red Cross, Boy Scouts, animals and happy family times.

Upon the recommendation of the West Seattle Commercial Club, the Park Board in 1940 officially adopted the name: CAMP WILLIAM G. LONG, and the Camp officially dedicated on November 8, 1944 to youth; for camp and climbing skills and education by supervised groups only.



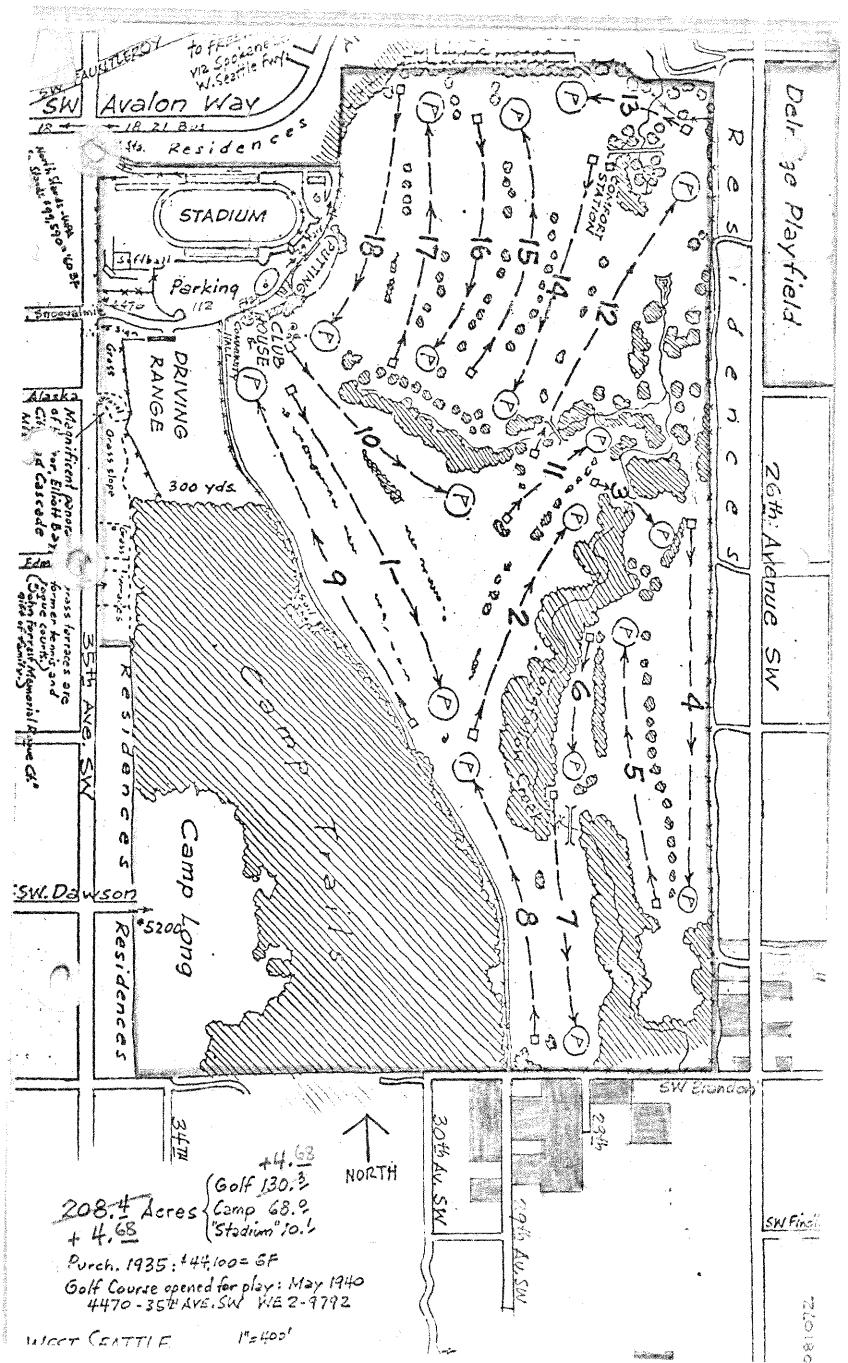
JUDGE WILLIAM G. LONG

The camp committee made a nation-wide study of camps and then chose Clark Schurman, Chief Guide at Mount Rainier and Scoutmaster, to design the camp. Outstanding feature became Monitor Rock (later renamed Schurman Rock) which he spent a year designing: to be "that which warns, reminds, advises or instructs" in every important mountaineering rock problem that a climber sould encounter. The WPA foremen and workers who constructed the "Rock" thought they were dealing with a madman, but the result has become world famous. (Upon his death in 1955 public contributions provided funds for a climbers "camp" on the Sunrise side of Mount Rainier.) The camp cabins were named by Schurman to honor Washington peaks: Rainier, Constitution, Pilchuck, Pinnacle, Constance, Olympus, Glacier, St. Helens, Baker and Adams; cabin designs were based upon pioneer log cabins in Washington; the natural amphitheatre he named Lyceum and Ultima Thule "the mythical northern end of the world" - the northern end of the camp. Schurman was appointed director of the camp until his death. Development of the camp made possible with gifts from county sawmill, dismantling public buildings, paving blocks from Madison Street (Administration Building),

History: WEST SEATTLE GOLF COURSE
AND RECRETION AREA

(over)

WPA built wooden grandstands for the "Stadium"; concre replaced the south stands in 1961; included a rifle training range named in 1964 to honor its primary booster and sportsman, Roger Dahl, active in youth training program since 1940 and developed the State Game Firearm Safety Program. Brother of Park Board Commissioner Waldo Dahl.



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trees from a bankrupt nursery estate, WPA labor, etc.

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