



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

DENNY-BLAINE PARK (originally "Whitman Place" - changed by Council - 1918)  
 2.0 Ac. (Incl. 0.4 Ac. shorelands) 7 ornamental light standards / G.I.D. - paving

HOWELL ("Children's") PARK  
 1.3 Ac. (Incl. 0.5 Ac. shorelands) Permit to improve w/ lawn to adjacent owner - 1930

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

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

1901: Plat Dedication (All)  
 "...to the use of public...and  
 park maintenance as fountain  
 and parks... forever."

DENNY/BLAINE/HOWELL/MINERVA/STEVENA/VIRETTA- History

All park areas were dedicated and named on plat filed in 1901 - the Denny Blaine Lake Park Subdivision - by the Denny-Blaine Land Co./E. F. Blaine & C. L. Denny.

ELBERT F. BLAINE: Was admitted to the bar in his native New York, came west to Tacoma by 1884, moving then to Seattle to practice law with John H. McGraw, living in this area. He became a Park Commission in 1902-08 being a "most active . . . pioneering member." The Park Board became independent of City Hall under an initiative petition resulting in the Freeholder's Charter - 1904. His efforts put the Board on a firm, business-like basis, essential to putting the Olmsted Plan for the Seattle park system into effect. Thus, in 1908 he was honored as the "Father of the Seattle Park System" and to his honor the boulevard from Yesler Way to Madison was named for him. "But by 1920 "Blaine Boulevard", "Frink Boulevard", "Stixrud Drive", had all been swallowed up by Lake Washington Boulevard. (Also in 1967 voters approved returning the control of the Department to City Hall and the Board became advisory.) Blaine achieved fame also in state affairs, becoming "Father of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project." Upon retirement he moved to "Le Panorama" Ranch near Spokane. (1858-1942)

CHARLES L. DENNY: Born in Seattle in 1861, son of A. A. and Mary Boren Denny. Educated in California and at the new U.W. (his birth had delayed laying of a cornerstone at the U.W.), was a teller at Dexter Horton Bank, engaged in insurance, realty, owned the freight steamer Transit serving Central America; partner in Denny-Renton Clay Works and Alaska Lines; member of School Board, Firlock and Rainier Clubs. Typified "Seattle Spirit of Growth". (1861-1919)

CAPT. JEFFERSON D. HOWELL: Was honored in naming the park and street. He lost his life with his ship Pacific off Cape Flattery in a major tragedy in 1875. Many relatives and friends of Seattleites were lost. Capt. Howell was brother-in-law of Jefferson Davis.

MINERVA STONE: Was the wife of E. F. Blaine, who honored her with the name of a fountain park. Denny and Blaine hired Ellsworth Storey in 1910 to design a realty office and construct it in "Minerva Park" with a sign on the roof "Denny-Blaine Lake Park" (subdivision). The sign remained and was maintained along with a realty office that became a bench shelter (as designed) so that the name "Minerva" was never used except in official records. An attempt in 1961 to remove the realty sign resulted in the Park Board decision to allow it to remain as the popular name of the park!

GOV. ISAAC STEVENS: The small triangle was named in honor of the first Territorial governor.

VIRETTA DENNY: Was the daughter of Andrew Jackson and wife of Charles L. Denny.

(STIXRUD: The boulevard between 39th and 40th was originally named in honor of the civil engineer who platted the Denny-Blaine Lake Park Subdivision.)