

## WOODLAND PARK

(GEOLOGIC History: see Green Lake and Park)

(ZOO History: following)

Guy Phinney, a Briton from Nova Scotia, built (1880) the first industry on Lake Washington - a sawmill at Charles Street; in 1889 invested \$40,000 to develop his residence estate, "Woodland Park", with a small zoo near his residence in the southwest portion of the park, a bandstand nearby and paths through the woods to Green Lake where he built a bathing beach and boathouse on shore (at that time as far south as 54th and islands were off-shore), picnic grounds, and two ballfields. Then he built a trolley line from the southwest corner to the Fremont line to Seattle. The park was included in the 1891 annexation. In 1900 the City Council bought the park from the estate of Mr. Phinney, in spite of vigorous protests over the price - \$100,000 - and that it was "too far out of town"! Another trolley line had been built by realtor W. D. Wood and Dr. Kilbourne to connect Seattle with the east and north side of Green Lake; by 1904 it was extended on around the lake and through WOODLAND PARK on a trestle (a bulkhead still remains near 59th and Aurora) to Woodland Park Avenue (the center paving reveals route) to 34th and to Fremont Bridge. In 1903/1910 the Olmsted Bros. included the development of the park in their plan but the location of Aurora Avenue in 1932 voided their concept of Zoo expansion in that area. This was protested in vain and a beautiful forest area was removed - some trees transplanted at Gilman and Wallingford Playgrounds. Dirt from the excavation was used to fill at the south end of Green Lake (Aurora Avenue was named by Dr. Edward C. Kilbourne to honor his home town: Aurora, Illinois.) "Lower Woodland" was used as a barracks site by the U. S. Army from 1941-1944. ("Upper Woodland": S.W. corner, also an athletic field/tennis courts/casting pool complex until phased out by Zoo expansion - 1930s.)

FREMONT AVENUE named to honor Fremont, Nebraska by homesteaders from there.

STONE Avenue and STONE WAY honor Seattle's second mayor, Corliss P. Stone.

Spanish-American War Veterans (1898-1902) "Hiker" monument honors slogging infantryman with slouch campaign hat and Krag rifle, of Philippine and Cuban Insurrection; Allan G. Neuman, Sc., 1926; plaque from metal of U.S.S. Maine. Plaque on rock honors comrades (sailors, marines and soldiers) of U.S.S. Illinois. Two 6" Mk IV 10,760 lb Naval Cannon - W.N.Y.-1890; from Adm. Dewey's U.S.S. Concord - loaned to Vets by Navy in 1911 but used at Bremerton for training during WW I. Two brass Boat Howitzers, 770 lb, 1863 (Civil War) Dahlgreen. Flagstaff erected in 1937. (Plot set aside for commemoration and exhibit in 1914.)

ROSE GARDEN: (2½ acres) Maintained by Department Horticulturist: established by Park Board in 1922. Bas relief ("Old Faithful Fountain") at pool designed by Alice Carr (1924), presented by Lions Club and Seattle Rose Society; left panel: "This civic rose garden made possible by the efforts of The Lions Club and is dedicated to rose lovers of Seattle."; right panel: "The idea of a civic rose garden was conceived by the Seattle Rose Society which has directed plant selections and arrangement." A Floral Hall was built in 1925, converted into Indoor Tennis Center 1937-40 (school gyms opened to clubs), used by U.S. Army 1941-42, became a Shop Building of the Park Maintenance Division. In 1947 the garden became one of the Test Gardens of the American Rose Society (site originally occupied by Phinney's Conservatory until 1910(?); new one at Volunteer Park in 1912).

HARDING MEMORIAL: designed by Alice Carr, presented by the Elks and Boys Clubs to honor the 29th President: Warren G. Harding who, on an Alaskan trip in 1923, made a speech on this site in a ceremony sponsored by the clubs.

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FLAGSTAFF (at Fremont entrance) presented by American Legion 1942 (80' high).

TOTEM POLE: carved by Chief Shelton of the Salish (Puyallup) Tribe; presented by the DAR in commemoration of the State's Golden Jubilee 1889-1939 and the first Governor, Elisha P. Ferry. Dedicated during "Potlatch Week". (That same year another totem designed by Frank Vincenzi of the Zoo and carved by WPA was placed at the main entrance to the Zoo - removed several years later.)

STEAM LOCOMOTIVE AND TENDER #1246: gift of Great Northern Railway in 1953 (through efforts of Doug Welch, P.I. columnist). Built by Baldwin Co. in 1907 for \$16,896; was last steam engine used on Cascade Div. (1952); engine and tender weigh nearly 143 tons (largest load moved on a City street when hauled to park): originally hand-fired coal burner, converted to oil in 1913; total length 75' 9", height from rail to top of stack 15' 4".

CABOOSE #1313: gift of Northern Pacific Railway in 1961; built in South Tacoma in 1913, original body weight 20,700 lbs; length 31' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " pulling face to p.f.; width 9' 6 1/8"; served entirely on N.P. Tacoma Division. The NP trademark comes from Chinese figures Yang (Light) and Yin (Darkness) combined = Monad (creation) (3000 B.C.); meanings applicable to train-fire + water (steam), light and darkness, force and matter, motion and rest. Known to railroad crews as a "crummy" (originally applied to the personnel car of a logging outfit to describe its condition), galloping goose, skunk, doodlebug, mulligan and speeder. Acquisition and conversion of #1313 into a Comfort Station initiated by D.N.S. of Park Engineering staff. (Monad abandoned in 1970 upon merger with Burlington etal Railroad = Burlington Northern, Inc.)

DS:d 4/2/75

#### WOODLAND PARK ZOO - History

(Earliest known pets were bears kept in pits by Stone Age men, 30,000 years ago. First known "Zoo" 2100 B.C. owned by Great King Shulgi, 3rd Dynasty of Ur, Mesopotamia. These collections of exotic animals became prized trophies of war by conquering armies. Kings and noblemen would stock their huge estates, but usually with animals of the hunt. As the "primitive" areas of the world were obliterated by "urban sprawl", zoos became more than a collection of caged curios: they became the preservers of many species victimized by the predator Man. With the shift from Farm to City, the zoos also provided the only contact with the Animal-Bird-Fish world other than household pets - a new big business. The moated "Rangeland"-with-people-in-"cages" (cars) concept was developed in England in 1967 inspired by the Game Preserves of Africa plus a concern for the animals' well-being.)

The first zoo in Seattle was a private development by the Lake Washington Cable Railway Co. in 1889 at Leschi Park as an added attraction to lure townfolk to ride the clanking "horseless" cars all the way from Pioneer Square, being made aware of the real estate for sale along the way. This same year Guy Phinney was building his "Woodland Park" - also with a zoo feature. The animals at Leschi were given to the City for inclusion with the Woodland Zoo in 1903. (Carkeek Park's first use was as a vegetable garden for zoo animals.) The first Catalog of Zoo Animals is in the 1904 Annual Report, by the foreman. The gift of animals is continuous - from children, sportsmen and businessmen, as well as trades with other zoos. One of the more famous: "Tusko" billed in the 1920s by Barnes Circus as the "Biggest Elephant on Earth" (12' 7" high - 7 tons), went berserk once too often and was sold to Dr. M. M. Bull of Oregon who couldn't contain him, either. En route northward, Tusko's trailer collapsed in Seattle and he became a zoo resident, dying in 1934, still the subject of lawsuits resulting from a \$20,000 binge after a breakout during which he found a still in the woods and ate seven

continues

gallons of mash. Dr. Bull's son gave the monumental bones to the University of Oregon Anthropology Department. The pennies of Seattle school children purchased other elephants: in 1921 "Wide Awake" who took children for rides until she got the wanderlust and went down Aurora Avenue - no more rides. She died in 1967 at age 54. More pennies bought "Elmer, the Safety Elephant" ("Cross Streets Safely") in 1956. The "star of the show" in the 1950s and 1960s was a gorilla "Bobo". Captured in Africa as an infant, he was bottle fed by a family until he became too active for a home scene, moved into a new Great Ape House and provided with a mate, "Fifi". He completely captivated Seattle audiences, but not Fifi; he died in 1968 (age 17) without any offspring. "Toogoo" and "Sultana", born in 1951, came to the zoo as two year olds; are parents of 54 cubs that lived - a record for Bengal Tigers in captivity - or wild ones?

The CHILDREN'S ZOO (basic concept: a nose-to-nose contact with small and baby animals) was first proposed in 1948 by Edw. J. Johnson, Zoo Director, and William C. Hall, Park Engineer, following a tour of U. S. Zoos. But it wasn't until 20 years and five unsuccessful park bonds later, plus a controversy over theme design, that the first unit was opened in 1967. The Children's Theatre unit was financed by the "Patrons of Northwest Civic, Cultural and Charitable Organizations" (PONCHO): \$50,000, and in their honor the theatre was dedicated and named in 1971. (PONCHO funds are raised at annual auctions to benefit the Seattle Symphony, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Boys Clubs, Friends of Crafts, Jazz Society, art scholarships, and this Department. Items auctioned include yachts, exotic cars, art jewelry, clothing, mansions, antiques, etc.)

DS:d 10/10/74

The first mention of rides for children is in a 1919 letter: "a small pony ring" is operated by the Department . . ."; the 1920 Annual Report lists Shetland ponies and "a midged elephant" named Wide Awake, sponsored by a club of that name and a children's Penny Drive. In 1922 camels were added to the Pony Ring.

Amusement ride concession for children was introduced in 1950 to provide additional revenue to feed the zoo, located on the asphalt pad of former tennis courts (converted to a parking area - west side of Fremont entrance in 1953).. Upon relocation became "Woodland Rides" located north of service shops.

In 1954 Frederick and Nelson Department Store at 5th and Pine began displaying animals in a show window at Easter time; donating animals to the zoo until the zoo began to loan animals to the store. When the Central Association inaugurated the Easter Petting Zoo in Westlake Mall (in a tent) in 1967, Frederick & Nelson abandoned the program.

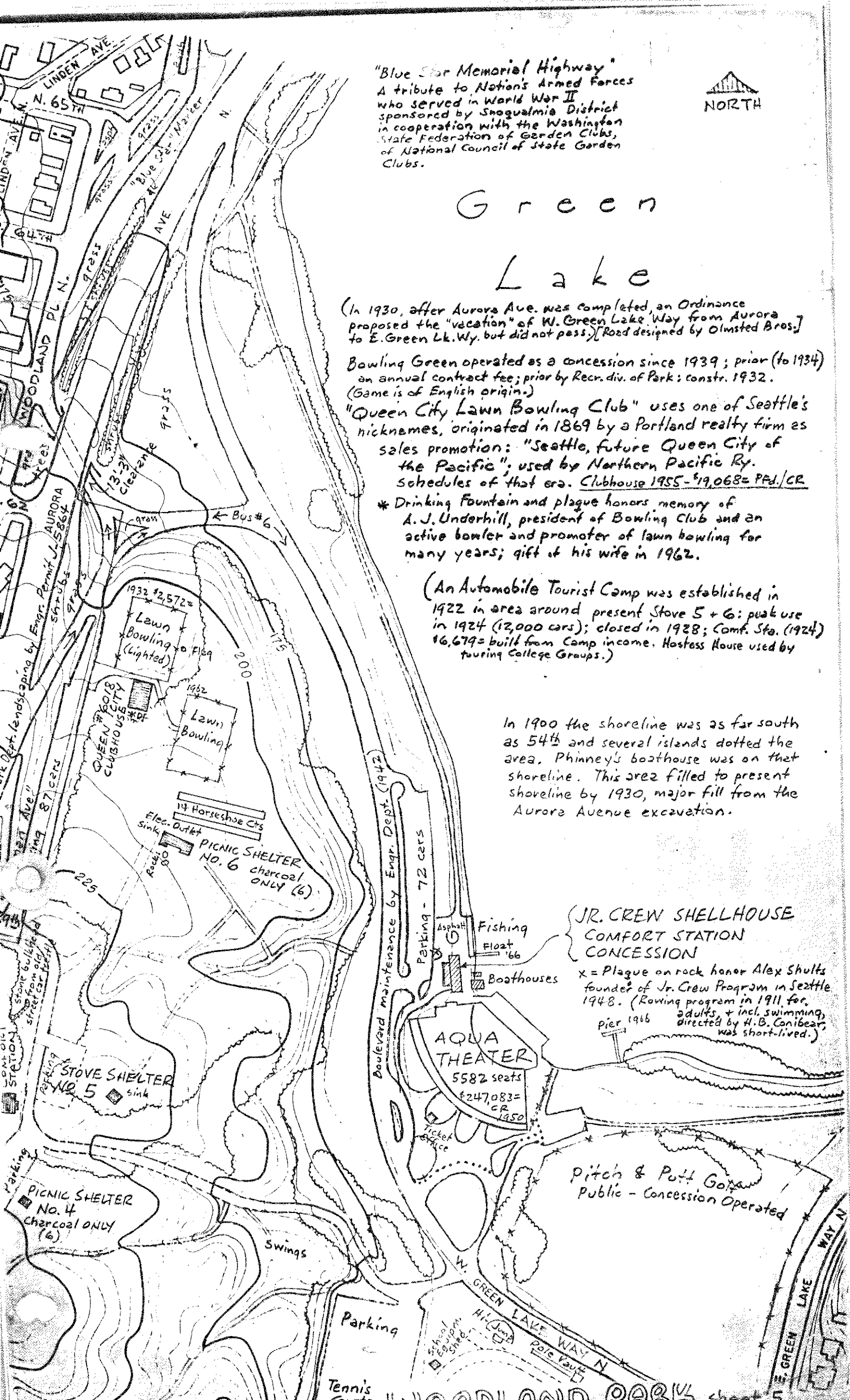
ZOO DIRECTORS:	Dr. Gus Knudson	1922-1947
	Edw. J. Johnson	(1926) 1947-1961 - 35 years at Zoo to become Department Superintendent
	Frank Vincenze	(1930) 1961-1971 - to become Curator
	Jan R. vanOosten	1972-1974
(Acting)	Dr. James W. Foster	1974-1975
	David Hancocks	1975 -
VETERINARIAN:	Dr. Gus Knudson	1907-1922 (?)
	Dr. Gustavson	- University of Washington
	Dr. Kenneth Binkley:	1970 - service of Seattle/King County
	Dr. Watkins:	Health Department
	Dr. James W. Foster	1971 -

continued

SEATTLE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY; founded in 1965 by Dr. Walter A. Fairservis, Jr. (Director of U. W. Burke Museum), Rev. E. A. Healy, S.J. (Seattle University), and Dr. Carl Heller (Pacific Northwest Research Foundation). The DOCENT program was initiated the following year with Laura May and Leo McGinnis touring 5600 persons that year. Assured of success, classes then began for Docents.

In 1974 an Agreement was made defining services provided by the City and the Zoo Society (chiefly the ownership of "certain animals").

DS:d 10/16/74



"Blue Star Memorial Highway"  
 A tribute to Nation's Armed Forces  
 who served in World War II  
 sponsored by Snoqualmie District  
 in cooperation with the Washington  
 State Federation of Garden Clubs,  
 of National Council of State Garden  
 Clubs.



# Green Lake

(In 1930, after Aurora Ave. was completed, an Ordinance proposed the "vacation" of W. Green Lake Way from Aurora to E. Green Lk. Wy. but did not pass. [Road designed by Olmsted Bros.]

Bowling Green operated as a concession since 1939; prior (to 1934) on annual contract fee; prior by Recn. div. of Park; constr. 1932. (Game is of English origin.)

"Queen City Lawn Bowling Club" uses one of Seattle's nicknames, originated in 1869 by a Portland realty firm as sales promotion: "Seattle, future Queen City of the Pacific". used by Northern Pacific Ry. schedules of that era. Clubhouse 1955 - \$19,068 = Pfd./CR

\* Drinking Fountain and plaque honors memory of A. J. Underhill, president of Bowling Club and an active bowler and promoter of lawn bowling for many years; gift of his wife in 1962.

(An Automobile Tourist Camp was established in 1922 in area around present Stove 5 + 6; peak use in 1924 (12,000 cars); closed in 1928; Camp. Sta. (1924) \$6,679 = built from Camp income. Hostess House used by touring College Groups.)

In 1900 the shoreline was as far south as 54th and several islands dotted the area. Phinney's boathouse was on that shoreline. This area filled to present shoreline by 1930, major fill from the Aurora Avenue excavation.

JR. CREW SHELLHOUSE  
 COMFORT STATION  
 CONCESSION

x = Plaque on rock honor Alex Shults founder of Jr. Crew Program in Seattle 1948. (Rowing program in 1911 for adults + incl. swimming, directed by H.B. Conibear, was short-lived.)

AQUA THEATER  
 5582 seats  
 \$247,083 = CR 1950

Pitch & Putt Golf  
 Public - Concession Operated

Parking

Tennis

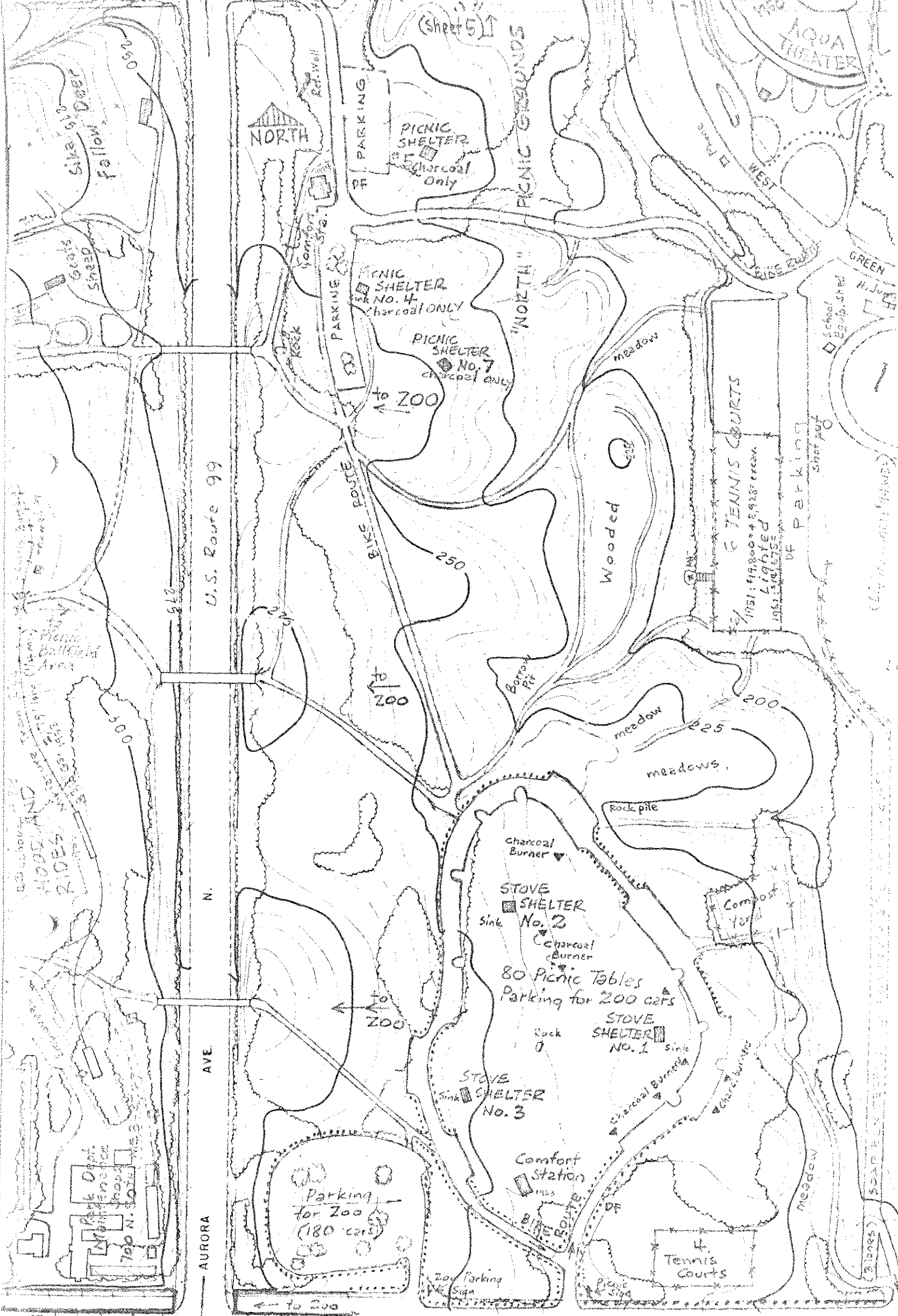
School  
 Equipment  
 Shop

HI-Jump  
 Pole Vault

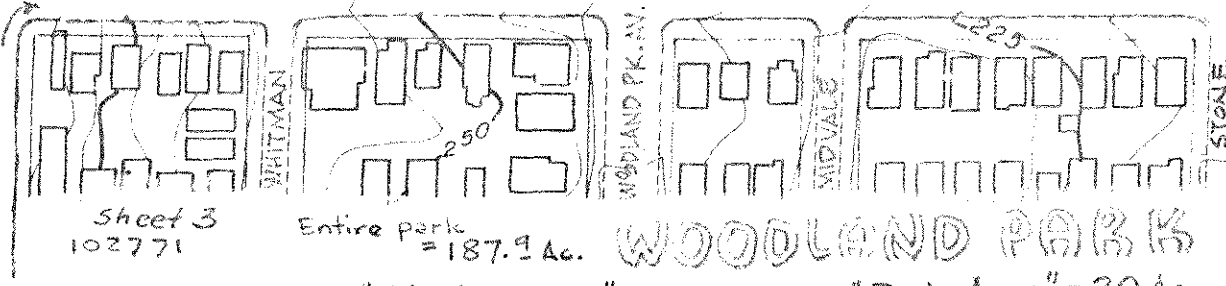
W. GREEN LAKE WAY N

W. GREEN LAKE WAY N

WOODLAND AND PARKS chart



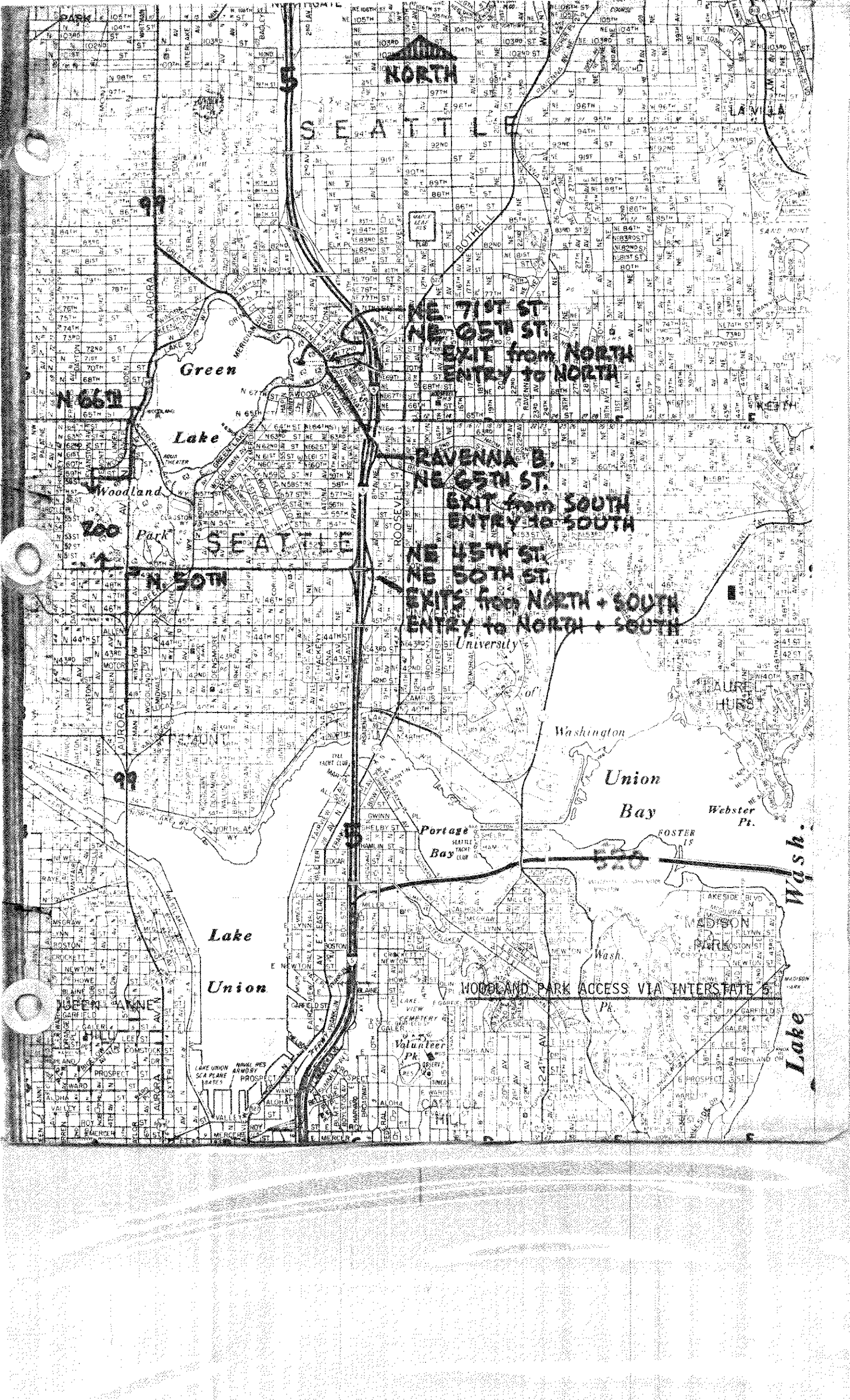
AS - Busk: Daily  
 2  
 = 90 Ac.  
 ← to City Center



Sheet 3  
 102771

Entire park = 187.9 Ac.  
 "Picnic Area" = 40 Ac. + "Park Area" = 20 Ac.

**WOODLAND PARK**



**NORTH**

**SEATTLE**

**Green Lake**

**Woodland Park**

**SEATTLE**

**RAVENNA B. NE 65TH ST.**

**EXIT from SOUTH ENTRY to SOUTH**

**NE 15TH ST. NE 50TH ST.**

**EXITS from NORTH + SOUTH ENTRY to NORTH + SOUTH**

**University**

**Washington**

**Union Bay**

**Webster Pt.**

**Portage Bay**

**Lake Union**

**Union**

**WOODLAND PARK ACCESS VIA INTERSTATE 5**

**Volunteer Pk.**

**Wash. Lake**