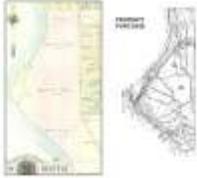


LINCOLN PARK HISTORY, April 23, 2013

IMAGE	TEXT
	<p>Lincoln Park has been Lincoln Park for 91 years - longer than nearly all of us have been alive. With such a long history, this presentation can hit only the high points. Many details are out there for the searching, starting with the Seattle Parks website.</p> <p>For this evening, though, here's our park's history in a nutshell.</p>
	<p>Prior to European settlers, Fauntleroy Cove was a seasonal camp for Coast Salish people. With sentries posted at Brace Point and Point Williams, they could safely harvest food and other supplies from the water and upland forest.</p>
	<p>Timber companies heavily logged the area that became Fauntleroy, then sold it in large plats that gained in value as roads and the street car arrived. This 1912 map shows three owners of what would become Lincoln Park. Some of you will recognize the Fauntleroy Land Company (in lower right) as belonging to Fauntleroy pioneers John and Maggie Adams. His real-estate business sold many of the home sites where we live today.</p>
	<p>In 1922, the city purchased 107 acres of land and 23 acres of tidelands for a new, major park, paying just over \$104,000. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, that would be roughly 1.4 million in today's dollars.</p> <p>The Olmsted Brothers recommended the purchase but the firm did not develop plans for the park.</p>
	<p>"Lincoln" got bandied about quite a bit in early 20th century Seattle.</p> <p>Lincoln Reservoir on Capitol Hill had the name from 1901 to 1922, when it became the Broadway Playfield and later the Bobby Morris Playfield. The entire site is now known as Cal Anderson Park.</p> <p>Lincoln Beach at 48th & Beach Drive had the name at roughly the same time, 1909 to 1925, when it was changed to Lowman Beach Park.</p> <p>The present site was first known as Fauntleroy Park, then was changed to Lincoln when the Park Board wanted to honor the 16th president with a statue in a major park. The park got the name but never the statue.</p>
	<p>The first shelter, now known as Shelter #3 - the one on the beach with the large fireplace - was built in 1925 and christened with band concerts.</p> <p>A city building fund and local improvement district then generated money for further development, including what we now know as the north parking lot (in 1928) and the tide-fed swimming pool (in 1929).</p>

	<p>The south seawall and other major infrastructure projects were accomplished during the Depression through the federal Civil Works Administration and later the Works Progress Administration.</p>
	<p>Some features came and then they went. You won't see this lily pond or this waterfall in the park today but the images are preserved, thanks to Edward Kilbourne, who took many photographs of the park.</p>
	<p>The present Colman Pool opened in 1941, using nearly \$153,000 donated by the Colman family in memory of Laurence Colman. In 2013 dollars, the gift would amount to nearly \$2.4 million. The pool was totally refurbished last year, at a cost of \$1.4 million.</p>
	<p>Lincoln Park soon became THE site for many community activities, including storytelling on "Girls Day" in 1941 and foot races at the West Seattle Commercial Club's annual picnic in 1949. Today, it's a popular park for dog-walking, beach exploration, fishing, and even Shakespeare.</p>
	<p>Similar to Interstate 90, Lincoln Park has seldom been without a construction project. Storms have pounded the south seawall and promenade, necessitating patches and then fixes. A wastewater line had to be built along the shoreline, then repaired a few years ago when it broke. And you may have been here when barges off-loaded tons of rock and gravel, with community notice and without, to "renourish" the south beach.</p>
	<p>History is a story – and it's still being written. By pulling ivy and planting salal, tracking and protecting park wildlife, or crying foul when officials need to hear it, you are helping write the next chapter in the story of Lincoln Park.</p>