



## HISTORY: BAGLEY VIEWPOINT

The acquisition of property to create Interlaken Park in 1908 was basically an enclosure of the 1896 bicycle path that made its way along the bluff and through the ravines in this area. The path came out on top of the bluff at about Roanoke Street, crossing the "Divide" and curving down to join the path along the bluff along Lake Union. The northern "entrance" to Interlaken Park was at 11th and Roanoke; by then the Broadway trolley car had been extended northward on 10th Avenue turning west on Roanoke to Harvard, thence down Harvard to meet the 3rd and University trolley which crossed a narrow neck of Lake Union, proceeding on past the University to Ravenna Park. Those who enjoyed a stroll or hike along this highly scenic portion of the bike path would come by the trolley car, so this entrance became very popular. (For autoists, the Bike Path was developed into a boulevard from Galer and 19th, through the eastern half of the Park, joining the newly developed boulevard system in Washington Park and southward. With the development of streets in the area, Delmar Avenue crossed onto Interlaken Park (with approval of the Park Board) extending to 11th Avenue; the park area continued northwesterly as a triangle between 11th Avenue, Federal Avenue and Roanoke. (Roanoke Park had been acquired by the City in 1900 at a Sheriff's sale and was placed under Park jurisdiction in 1908.)

The west portion of Interlaken Boulevard split away from Delmar Drive and followed the Old Bicycle Path along the bluff and ravines to join the Interlaken Boulevard at Halfway House (refer: Boren/Interlaken Park). Evidently little more than clearing and grubbing, and park maintenance, if the path did cross through this triangle, was done in this area till 1916.

From this end of Interlaken Park there was a super view of Portage Bay, the U.S. (and the preceding AYP Expo in 1909), Laurelhurst, Lake Washington, and the Cascade Mountains. One could have watched the digging of the Ship Canal which was completed in 1917. One of the watchers could have been one of the originators of the Canal plan - Dr. Herman Bagley - except that he had died about 1895. But he had seen work begun on the project in 1885; a channel opened between Lakes Washington and Union; then a cut with a wooden lock into Salmon Bay (refer: Commodore Park).

In 1916 Dr. Bagley's widow, Mrs. M. W. Glenn, presented an ornamental drinking fountain with lights to the memory of DR. HERMAN BEARDSLEY BAGLEY, one of the Territory's first homeopathic (vaccination) physicians and surgeons. Born in New York in 1845, studied medicine with his physician-father, graduate of Medical College in Cleveland, Ohio, and of New York; taught in Michigan until 1875 when he followed his father to Seattle. His medical and business judgment was superior; he was elected president of King County and Washington Homeopathic Societies, was County Health Officer and elected to the State Board of Medicam Examiners; was president of Seattle Improvement Co. (Bagley Avenue named for him) and was a director of Washington National Bank. Elected Councilman in 1879, his continued promotion of civic projects was outstanding.

The Fountain was appropriately placed at the west entrance of Interlaken Park boulevard, to be known as the BAGLEY MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN (aka "Bagley Light").

By 1932 the demands of traffic on the boulevard were such that Delmar Avenue was extended from 11th to Roanoke, causing a redesign of the Fountain area; 11th Avenue could not be extended to Roanoke because of existing slopes and slide potentials. Soon there were complaints that the Fountain was "neglected and forgotten", for which the Department claimed extreme vandalism and that the Fountain "of cast iron construction" is easily susceptible to rusting and corroding. About 1952 the crumbling Fountain was removed but the plaque from it was not returned until 1970 when the viewpoint was redeveloped following the construction of the access freeway to the Evergreen Point floating bridge in 1963. The freeway very effectively cut the viewpoint off from Interlaken Park; if the freeway had not been realigned it would have completely eliminated the viewpoint. (During the absence of the plaque, it was thought that the pioneer clergyman, Rev. Daniel Bagley, was the honored one. Not so.)