

Ravenna Park loop walk!

3. Ravenna Park Loop: (2010 NE 58th St Seattle) parking lot. This park was the site of the Rosevelt Tree, and the Ravenna Girls School. A wonderful mile and a quarter walk is to circle down the north side of the creek and back the south., with several bridges and stairs along the way.

History of the Rosevelt Tree: In 1913 -- a mere two years after the city had taken custody of Ravenna Park from its private owners -- city mismanagement of it took another turn for the worse. That was the year that some members of the Seattle branch of the Federation of Women's Clubs noticed that the beloved Roosevelt Tree was gone. In its place was a fresh three-foot-high stump. Alarmed, they notified Seattle Parks Superintendent J. W. Thompson, who glibly responded that it had been rotten and was removed as a "threat to public safety" (Arnold). A bit of investigating later revealed that Thompson himself had profited through the sale of "The Big Stick" as 63 cords of firewood.

