

Transcribed Tape Cordell Edge

1. How long have you been involved with the Cultural Gardens and how did it come to be?

I have been involved since 2000. I started originally in 1998... I was walking in front of garden and I saw a man working in the garden and I said how do you get to work in the garden and he said will I don't know I said where's the African American Garden I didn't know here it was and he said I don't know he said you can work with me in this garden I said now I want to work in the African American Garden he said just keep calling around.... I started going to meetings as a friend

2. What has been your role?

I didn't know no one has known how to get involved.... I attended meetings.... Why African American Garden didn't have a garden like everyone else had a garden.... became a delegate and representative.... I started coming to meetings and questioned where is garden.... My concern was where is the garden ... since 1977.... No flag polls or anything to mark garden... talked about Clarence fiche and original group to get garden in place.... Talked about planting the garden.... You can't miss what we've planted because **you get a little bit of color**

3. How so you feel an African American Garden will effect the community?

I think it has to be centered around education process.... Talks about John Green.... and that mission statement and John Green founder of labor day.... Jessie Owens, Garret Morgan... educational process.... People can see beauty of garden I think the important factor of having the garden on Martin Luther King Boulevard is that it's within the chain of gardens.... We are not going to break the change and be involved.... it creates a sense of unity we are all in this together we love where we are we call it a bit of color.

4. How long have you lived in the area?

I've lived in Cleveland my mother lived in Cleveland.... When I moved her I had 5 children... they are all professionals now and the asked me why I didn't move... I said I've been here 43 years and I have not intentions of going anywhere else except feet first out the door I love Glenville..

5. How as the neighborhood changed?

Every 5 yr. Different groups of people moved in ... isn't a lot of shopping as there used to be.... A lot of neighborhood businesses.... The schools are not as great as

they were....it's the inner city problems...I feel it will get better and I'm going to stay...My house is my castle

6. What ways have you seen Cleveland change and how much of that was because of people moving to the Suburbs?

I thin it isn't as togetherness as it used to me you knew next door neighbor...you felt comfortable keeping you doors open...not a concern for next door neighbor...home ownership...not where people want to live...parent of neighbor died and not bring her furniture there...the attitude is that people that have here are not a good as those in the suburbs feel the opposite it's not where you live but who you are and you intensions are

7. Any Stories?

My Children very you they were the one going to the gardens they could tell you everything going on in the gardens....he could tell you everything...they went to gardens every week 2 to 3 times... walk to school through gardens educational process and effected children in many ways.
-people who lived in Glenville area can tell you about gardens.
-didn't know the gardens were a part of a federation-
(-she asked me not to use the story about the Ivy, so no one can use this part of tape, I didn't write it down, but if you hear it you can't use it)

8. Do you see a place of Brotherhood or a battleground?

I think once get every thing in ... they are working in that direction...flagpole and sign moved 3 different times...I don't feel quite as included cause no sign or pole or structure and I don't feel comfortable... the community has to be included.

9. Comments

We have no funds we started off as a grass roots we don't have the luxury of finances...financing talk.... Were not where used to be but gonna get where want to be. Other issues in front.. Everybody working together....

(she asked me not to use the story right here of the ivy plants, so no one can use it even if you hear it on tape)

Kids have always know that there wasn't an African American Garden—talked about daughter and moving the sign-

Petition as way to talk to community and other people knew about the sign

Serious problems (she told me these thing off the record)