

Scott Verba Interview with Larry Morris
Man on the Street Interviews at the Gardens
October 19, 2002

SV: Could you give me your heritage?

LM: African American.

SV: How long have you lived in Cleveland?

LM: All of my life, just two blocks down East Boulevard.

SV: Could you tell me what you know about the Cleveland Cultural Gardens?

LM: I know it's a lot of different cultures honoring Gardens of brotherhood. Honoring like German, Moscow, Italian, Persian, Hungarian. It's like a lot of Gardens and people's ideas coming together to honor these people who put these Gardens together.

SV: You mention brotherhood, do you see this relevant today around all cultures?

LM: In some places it is, but in some places it's not depending on where you are but around here, I see different people coming around here all the time because the Garden is honoring brotherhood of all kinds of races so I see different Italians, African Americans, Hispanics, and Whites.

SV: So you see a lot of people use the Gardens?

LM: Yes, but I think it should be used more because they put a lot of work into this at the beginning, and if they put more work into it right now then people would want to visit more and maybe learn a little more because a lot of people don't know what the Gardens are about they just think it's like a park or something.

SV: Would you be interested in learning more about the Gardens?

LM: Yeah, I've read some of the things like that, I've read some of the statues for dog names and stuff like that.

SV: Do you have any idea when these Gardens were founded?

LM: I have no idea and no clue, I just come down here in the summertime with my dog and watch the view all day at the Hungarian Garden.

Brian Pfeiffer Interview with Tiffany Campbell (very young girl)
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BP: What is your heritage?

TC: African American.

BP: Do you live around here and how long?

TC: Right up the street for the past five years.

BP: Have you ever heard of the Cultural Gardens?

TC: No.

BP: Did you know that there is an African American Garden here?

TC: No, I don't know where it's at.

BP: What do the Cultural Gardens mean to you?

TC: They're beautiful and they're about other people's backgrounds and how they lived.

BP: Do you see a lot of visitors come to the Gardens?

TC: People sometimes get married in the Gardens but people don't visit.

Scott Verba Interview with Rita Brown (older woman)
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SV: What brings you the Gardens today?

RB: I'm just coming home from church. I belong to Liberty Hill Baptist Church on the corner of 82nd and Euclid Avenue, and I just thought I'd take a nice walk through the park on my way home.

SV: Can you tell me what your heritage is?

RB: I am a very proud African American.

SV: Tell me what you know about the Cultural Gardens.

RB: I really don't know much about the Gardens, but I'd thought I'd take a nice walk and see the trees and the leaves fall this time of the year since this is a short cut home for me.

SV: Are you aware that there is an African American Garden here?

RB: Yes I am, sometimes I take a stroll in my spare time. I also enjoy looking at the beauty of the leaves since this is a nice area.