ABSTRACT

SCRC Series: Lewis Clarke Oral History Project – MC 00191
Field Notes: William Warren Edwards (compiled March 4, 2011)
Interviewee: WILLIAM WARREN ("WARREN") EDWARDS
Interviewer: Yona R. Owens
Interview Date: Friday, January 7, 2011
Location: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Length: Approximately 72 minutes

The interview was conducted at a large table in the dining room of Warren Edwards' 100 year old house. The questions were arranged so that responses follow a chronological order from Edwards' undergraduate days at Oklahoma State University, his 1955 to 1958 matriculation at North Carolina State College (now University) School of Design (now College of Design), and his work history, which includes two years at Lewis Clarke Associates beginning in 1960. Edwards related many interesting bits of information about a variety of people from Henry Kamphoefner to William Baumgarten to Pier Luigi Nervi, and contrasted the styles of Lewis Clarke and Richard Bell.

Tape Log

00: 00:00	Where from? How got interested in landscape architecture and NCSU School of Design starting in 1955
00:03:00	Description of School, number of students, some of the professors – Willie Baumgarten, Cecil Elliot, Duncan Stuart, Joe Cox, and librarian, Harrye Lyons
00:06:40	Kamphoefner description and involvement and conduct of studios 00:08:40 Blue Tower Restaurant
00:09:20	Any professors from Oklahoma with Kamphoefner to NCSU and under what conditions did Kamphoefner accept NCSU job?
00:11:36	Gil Thurlow impressions, Lewis Clarke as a professor
00:15:15	Clarke's teaching about the environment, Edwards' view
00:17:32	Visiting lecturers: Thomas Church, Garrett Eckbo, Patrick Horsbrugh, Bodfan Gruffydd, Roberto Burle Marx, Eduardo Torroja, Pier Luigi Nervi, Brian Hackett, Frank Lloyd Wright, Moholy-Nagy, Richard Neutra, Robert Royston
00:25:22	Summing up School of Design experience, describing the drawings, Kamphoefner student seminars at his house
00:29:34	Beginning his career; description of Fred B. Stresau and wife, Ann; Dumbarton Oaks Scholarship and travel in Europe
00:39:53	Working for O'Neil Ford in San Antonio, Texas
00:44:44	Working for Lewis Clarke in Raleigh, North Carolina with Bill Nichols, Loddie Bryan, Charles Burkhead, and Clarke as boss; working on Rouse Company shopping centers, and the Groat house in South Carolina, Clarke's salesmanship, the Groats as clients
00:52:56	More about the Rouse shopping centers
00:55:44	Difference in designs among landscape architects, Richard Bell's operation differed from Lewis Clarke's

00:58:50	Opening his own practice in 1965 and best project with explanation about the fragility of gardens
01:01:26	How Clarke influenced Edwards, and hints on accepting or not accepting projects
01:04:03	Has definition of landscape architect changed? Free-hand drawing versus computer generated drawings
01:06:35	What will profession look like in the future? Looking for strong designers to come forward
01:09:42	What's the one important thing to know about Lewis Clarke?
01:10:57	What's the one important thing to know about Warren Edwards?
01:12:12	End of interview