

## **Field Notes**

**SCRC Series:** Lewis Clarke Oral Histories Project – MC 00191

**Field Notes:** David Swanson (compiled November 2, 2008)

**Interviewee:** DAVID T. SWANSON

**Interviewer:** Yona R. Owens

**Interview Date:** Thursday, October 30, 2008

**Location:** Raleigh, N.C.

**Length:** Approximately 53 minutes

**THE INTERVIEWEE** David Swanson was born in Beirut, Lebanon. His family moved back to North Carolina when he was a small boy. His first interest was in planning and city management, but eventually he settled on landscape architecture and graduated with an MLA from North Carolina State University School (now College) of Design in 1983. Swanson worked at Lewis Clarke Associates (LCA) when the first master plan for the N.C. Zoo was developed as well as during the Fayetteville Street Mall Project in Raleigh, N.C. In 1988, Swanson founded his own firm, Swanson and Associates, PA. In addition to his practice located in Carrboro, Swanson has been an adjunct professor at NCSU and is teaching site planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**THE INTERVIEWER** Yona R. Owens is the Lewis Clarke Oral Histories project manager at North Carolina State University Libraries' Special Collections Research Center (SCRC).

**DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVIEW** The interview was conducted at Lewis Clarke's studio. Swanson has a lot of nervous energy and anxious to be interviewed. He essentially had prepared his thoughts for the interview and needed few questions.

**CONTENT OF THE INTERVIEW** The interview was minimally directed by questions as Swanson recounted his association with Lewis Clarke and Lewis Clarke Associates, added information about the field in general, and addressed remarks specifically to students.

**NOTE ON RECORDING** I used the SCRC's Edirol R-09 recorder, recording in stereo. I recorded the interview as a WAV file, and the quality is quite good. There were no interruptions but there is a bit of traffic noise from time to time.