

NOBLE, ROBERT W.

Chapter Supporters:

Mansell, T. Norman)
Class, Robert Allan) Proposers

Bacon, Edmund N.
- Carroll, J. Roy, Jr., FAIA
Grisdale, John T., FAIA
* Harbeson, John, FAIA
X- Kahn, Louis I., FAIA
Koyl, George S., FAIA
X- Larson, Roy F., FAIA
Martin, Sydney E., FAIA
Morgan, David H., FAIA
Perkins, G. Holmes, FAIA

Non-Chapter Supporters:

- Richards, John Noble, FAIA Toledo, Ohio
X Spitznagel, Harold, FAIA Sioux Falls, S. D.

Non-Institute Supporters:

Cathcart, H. Robert, Vice-Pres., Pennsylvania Hospital,
Philadelphia
Cornell, John W., Jr, Builder - Philadelphia
Greenaway, Emerson, Director, Free Library of Phila.
Greenberg, Joseph J., Board of Public Education,
School District of Phila.
Large, H. W., Vice-Pres. and Regional Manager, Pennsyl-
vania Railroad Co., Chicago
McKelvey, Rev. John W., Lansdowne Methodist Church,
Lansdowne, Pa.
X Marceau, Henri, Director, Phila. Museum of Art
Nelson, Dr. Waldo E., Medical Director, St. Christo-
pher's Hospital for Children - Phila.
Smith, Dr. Laurant H., Physician-in-Chief, Pennsylvania
Hotel - Philadelphia

CARROLL · GRISDALE & VAN ALEN · ARCHITECTS
6 PENN CENTER PLAZA · PHILADELPHIA 3 · PA. · RIttenhouse 6-1670

September 8, 1960.

The Jury of Fellows,
American Institute of Architects,
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.,
Washington 6, D.C.

Gentlemen:

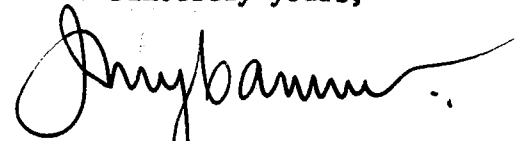
FACTUAL

ca. 9-14-60
J

The Philadelphia Chapter has placed
in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in
the Institute for Design the name of Robert W.
Noble.

I realize that Fellowship in Design is
awarded largely on the basis of the photographs
of buildings submitted, and I feel sure that these
will speak for themselves. I would, however, like
to point out that the Mercantile Library designed
for the Free Library of Philadelphia did win the
Gold Medal of the Philadelphia Chapter and also an
award of merit in the National Honors and Awards
Competition of the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



J. Roy Carroll, Jr.

jrc/r

CARROLL · GRISDALE & VAN ALLEN · ARCHITECTS
6 PENN CENTER PLAZA · PHILADELPHIA 3 · PA. · Rittenhouse 6-1670

October 11, 1960.

Jury of Fellows,
American Institute of Architects,
1735 New York Avenue N.W.,
Washington 6, D.C.

Gentlemen:

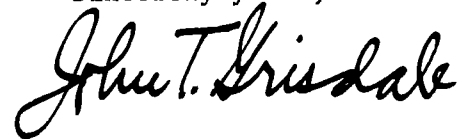
FACTUAL

As a member of the Philadelphia Chapter's Committee on Fellows, I should like to add my name to the list of proposers for Mr. Robert W. Noble for advancement to Fellowship.

Mr. Noble worked with our office for a short time about twelve years ago, and we thought of him as a man of fine ability. Since working with us he has been with the firm of Sydney E. Martin where he has been made a partner (the new firm name being Martin, Stewart and Noble). I understand that Mr. Noble is responsible for the design of contemporary buildings for this office, and am certain that the illustrations submitted with his nomination form will speak to the quality of his work.

I hope the Jury will act favorably upon this man's nomination.

Sincerely yours,



John T. Grisdale

r

JOHN T. GRISDALE

HARBESON HOUGH LIVINGSTON & LARSON · ARCHITECTS
ARCHITECTS BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA 3, PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN HARBESON
WM. J. H. HOUGH
WM. H. LIVINGSTON
ROY F. LARSON

SUCCESSORS TO PAUL P. CRET, ARCHITECT

DARWIN H. URFFER
CHAS. F. WARD, JR.
ROLAND L. MOORE
F. SPENCER ROACH

1 September 1960

Fellowship Jury
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The Philadelphia Chapter has nominated

ROBERT W. NOBLE

for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute because of his achievement in Design. It gives me pleasure to endorse this nomination, having known Noble as student, as young assistant, and as a practicing architect.

He designed the Mercantile Library of the Free Library of Philadelphia, which received the medal of the Philadelphia Chapter in 1954 and an Award of Merit in the National Honor Awards Competition of the Institute. Since then he ably designed a one hundred and twenty bed Psychiatric Unit for the Pennsylvania Hospital (founded by Benjamin Franklin) which is most successful functionally, and most satisfactory aesthetically, and college buildings for Swarthmore College and Beaver College.

In my opinion he would be a worthy addition to the group of Fellows.

Sincerely,



John Harbeson

jfh/p

FACTUAL

ack 9-7-60
B

LOUIS I KAHN ARCHITECT FAIA

December 30, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6 D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I have known Robert Noble since my school days. Then, as he is now, he is known for his genius in the analytical and rational aspects of Architecture.

Every building Robert Noble is responsible for owes its directness and workability to the perseverance of his beliefs. He has been associated as his record will show with some of the finest buildings of our period.

I recommend Robert Noble for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours, *Louis I Kahn*

Louis I. Kahn

LIK:lmb



George Simpson Koyl

AMERICAN ARCHITECTS DIRECTORY

4400 SPRUCE STREET, PHILADELPHIA 4, PENNSYLVANIA

August 29, 1960

The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
The Octagon, 1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

ack 9-7-60

Gentlemen:

It has been brought to my attention that the Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A. has placed the name of Mr. Robert W. Noble, A.I.A. in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in The Institute on the basis of his achievements in Design.

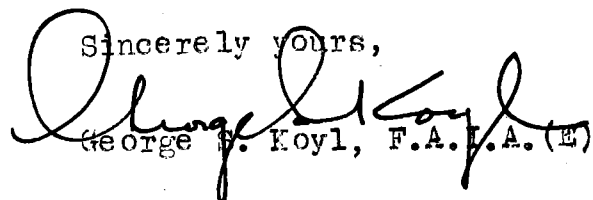
While honors earned in College are not consistently a prediction of distinguished performance in a professional career, in the case of Mr. Noble there is a clear indication that the brilliance of his performance as a student of the University of Pennsylvania was a prediction of his future achievements in Architectural Design. He was elected to Tau Sigma Delta and Sigma Xi honorary societies and awarded the A.I.A. Student Medal in his graduating year. These honors were awarded for high achievement in professional subjects related to Architecture, to capacity for scientific research and for having the highest standing in his class.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Mr. Noble should receive high awards for the Mercantile Library as the Designing member of the firm of Martin, Stewart and Noble, first as a Medal from the Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A. in 1954 and second as an Award of Merit, in 1955, from the A.I.A. National Honor Awards Competition. Additionally, this project, though modest in size, was favorably reviewed by Lewis Mumford in his column in the New Yorker Magazine the following year.

Mr. Noble was undoubtedly responsible for the fresh and charming quality of other projects which, in the last ten years, have come from this office. His thirty years of experience as a designer and architect in some of the best offices in the East are bearing fruit through a thorough understanding of his professional responsibilities.

I take pleasure in endorsing the nomination of this candidate for advancement to Fellowship in The Institute.

Sincerely yours,


George S. Koyl, F.A.A. (E)

HARBESON HOUGH LIVINGSTON & LARSON · ARCHITECTS
ARCHITECTS BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA 3, PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN HARBESON
WM. J. H. HOUGH
WM. H. LIVINGSTON
ROY F. LARSON

SUCCESSORS TO PAUL P. CRET, ARCHITECT

DARWIN H. URFFER
CHAS. F. WARD, JR.
ROLAND L. MOORE
F. SPENCER ROACH

31 August 1960

Committee on Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

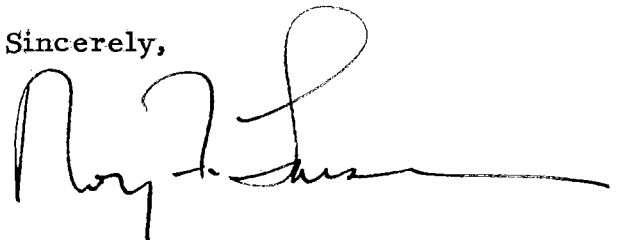
I have been advised that the Philadelphia Chapter of The American Institute of Architects has placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship, Robert W. Noble of this city.

Mr. Noble is a member of the firm of Martin, Stewart and Noble which has done some distinguished architecture and Mr. Noble has had the responsibility for the design and execution of some of their more successful projects.

He is a man of extremely pleasant personality, a man of great integrity and he has the esteem of his colleagues in the Philadelphia Chapter. I am sure that evidence of his ability will be presented with his nomination and this will be an indication of the excellence of his design ability.

I am pleased to endorse his nomination.

Sincerely,



Roy F. Larson

rfl/p

FACTUAL

ack 9-7-60

MARTIN, STEWART & NOBLE
ARCHITECTS

SYDNEY E. MARTIN, F. A. I. A.
HARRY G. STEWART, A. I. A.
ROBERT W. NOBLE, A. I. A.
ROBERT ALLAN CLASS, A. I. A.

1104 ARCHITECTS BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

August 9, 1960

JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND, JR., A. I. A.
MARVIN D. SUER, R. A.
JOHN F. HAYES, R. A.

Mr. Alfred Bendiner
Western Saving Fund Building
Broad & Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Dear Mr. Bendiner:

FACTUAL

In considering the nomination of my partner, Robert W. Noble, for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects, you may wish to know that he was responsible for the design and execution of the Mercantile Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, on which we received the Medal of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1954 and an Award of Merit in the 1955 Honor Award Program of the American Institute of Architects.

At the time when drawings of this building were being prepared, we were practicing as Sydney E. Martin, Architect, Harry G. Stewart and Robert W. Noble, Associate Architects. Immediately after the completion of this project, we formed our present partnership of Martin, Stewart & Noble.

Sincerely yours,

Sydney E. Martin

Sydney E. Martin

SEM:vfl

MARTIN, STEWART & NOBLE
ARCHITECTS

1104 ARCHITECTS BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

SYDNEY E. MARTIN, F. A. I. A.
HARRY G. STEWART, A. I. A.
ROBERT W. NOBLE, A. I. A.
ROBERT ALLAN CLASS, A. I. A.

JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND, JR., A. I. A.
MARVIN D. SUER, R. A.
JOHN F. HAYES, R. A.

September 28, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee of Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Dear Sirs:

ack 9-29-60
S

The name of my partner, Robert W. Noble, is being placed before your committee by the Philadelphia Chapter for consideration for Fellowship in the Institute.

Back in the Twenties, he was a designing draughtsman in the office of Thomas, Martin & Kirkpatrick of which I was a partner. I have, consequently, been familiar with his career previous to his becoming associated with me and later a partner. During these years, he has always endeavored to produce the best in architecture and has recently been responsible for much of the design in this office, some of which has received medals and citations.

Knowing him as I do, I think that he is fully qualified for Fellowship in the Institute and trust that your committee will find it agreeable to award him that honor.

Very truly yours,

Sydney E. Martin

Sydney E. Martin

SEM:edb

ARCHITECT

DAVID H. MORGAN, F. A. I. A.

STATE REGISTRATIONS - N. Y. - N. J. - PA.

313-314 ARCHITECTS BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.
RITTENHOUSE 6-9894

September 15, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

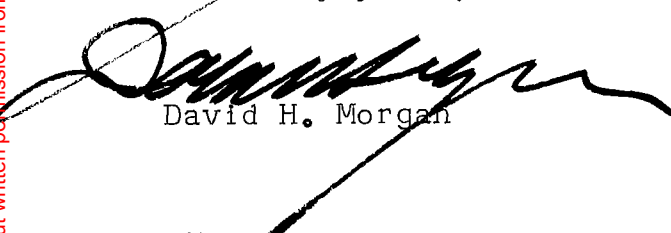
Mr. Robert W. Noble, A.I.A.

Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to affirm that I consider Mr. Noble a capable designer, ethically first-class, and highly respected in the Profession.

I hasten to endorse Mr. Noble's nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Cordially yours,


David H. Morgan

DHM:sjm

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 4

The School of Fine Arts

G. HOLMES PERKINS, *Dean*

September 12, 1960.

Committee on Fellows
American Institute of Architects
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

The Philadelphia Chapter has nominated Mr. Robert W. Noble for Fellowship. His work has been most sensitive and progressive. He has been for many years a very modest practitioner but in all of his work there has been a most sensitive understanding of the elements which make for a fine architecture.

As a person, he is a most sincere and serious philosopher of architecture and one who is aware of the qualities of the great architecture of the past but who at the same time has shown an original approach to his own architecture. His Mercantile Library in Philadelphia is certainly one of the finest small libraries I have had the pleasure to see, and in it can be seen the quality of the man.

I would most sincerely support his nomination for Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



G. Holmes Perkins

GHP:dic

BELLMAN GILLETT RICHARDS

A R C H I T E C T S A N D E N G I N E E R S
1 6 0 0 M A D I S O N A V E N U E · T O L E D O 2 , O H I O

JOHN N. RICHARDS F. A. I. A.
MICHAEL B. O'SHEA A. I. A.
ORVILLE H. BAUER A. I. A.
RAYMOND A. ETZEL P. E.
ROBERT C. MOORHEAD P. E.

OSCAR H. HARTMAN P. E.
ROBERT M. LUTZ A. I. A.
LELAND E. MOREE ASSOC. A. I. A.
H. LEE SMITH A. I. A.
FRED J. SPEIRS P. E.
D. L. LASHBROOK P. E.

September 16, 1960

Re: Robert W. Noble, AIA
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Jury of Fellowships
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

*ack 9-22-60
J*

I am informed that the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects proposes Mr. Robert W. Noble, AIA for advancement to Fellowship in the AIA, based on his achievements in Design.

I have known Mr. Noble for approximately 36 years. Mr. Noble and I attended the University of Pennsylvania together and I worked with him in the office of Thomas, Martin & Kirkpatrick, Architects, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Noble is a very capable and conscientious architectural designer with an excellent technical background. He has an understanding of the needs and requirements for the development of a good solution to a building project, in the sense of the plan and aesthetics of the building. He understands and makes use of new materials and technical developments. His background of study and travel in Europe has afforded him the opportunity to know and understand the basic principles of design and architecture, whether he designs in architecture of a period or contemporary architecture.

His work in architectural planning and design is exemplified in the thousand bed psychiatric hospital for the Veteran's Administration at Salisbury, North Carolina when he was associated with Mr. Wm. Henley Dietrich, Architect of Raleigh, North Carolina.

He designed a Children's Seashore House for crippled children in Atlantic City, New Jersey, as a partner of his present firm - Martin, Stewart & Noble, carefully analyzing the program and developing a building which functions well and presents a unified and aesthetic accomplishment in the field of architectural design.

(over)

**BELLMAN
GILLETT
RICHARDS**

-2-

The Jury of Fellowships

Sept. 16, 1960
Re: Robert W. Noble, AIA
Philadelphia, Pa.

His Mercantile Library, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania which he designed as a partner of the above named firm, received the Medal of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AIA in 1954 and the following year, an Award of Merit in the National Honor Awards Competition of the Institute. This project is well coordinated from the standpoint of architecture and engineering and presents a final solution of a small library building in an admirable manner.

He has the faculty of using native materials, combining same with new materials as is exemplified in Willets Hall at Swarthmore College and a Methodist Church at Lansdowne, Pa.

Due to Mr. Noble's outstanding ability in architectural design and his excellent solutions of several different types of building programs in an admirable manner, I am pleased to recommend him for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully submitted



John Noble Richards, F.A.I.A.

JNR/ems



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

September 22, 1960

HAROLD T. SPITZNAGEL, DIRECTOR
NORTH CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT
1800 SOUTH SUMMIT AVENUE
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL
ack 9-29-60

Gentlemen:

While you will have no knowledge of the fact that Mr. Robert W. Noble, who is a candidate for the advancement to Fellowship in the Institute, was a classmate of mine in the University of Pennsylvania, I can assure you that this fact has in no way influenced this letter.

As a Director, I have had perhaps more than the usual number of requests for letters of recommendation for prospective Fellows. In this case, I am happy to say that I am pleased to recommend Mr. Noble for this recognition, as he is most deserving of same. He is an able architect, a sensitive designer, and his work has reflected great credit upon the profession. I recommend him without reservation for advancement to Fellowship.

Respectfully,

Harold Spitznagel F.A.I.A.

HS*vk

MANSELL, McGETTIGAN, FUGATE & RAPP

Registered Architects

1831 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

T. NORMAN MANSELL, F.A.D., A.I.A., C.A.G.A.

FRANK J. McGETTIGAN, A.I.A.

October 25, 1960

EDWIN L. FUGATE, 3rd, A.I.A.

WOLFGANG RAPP, A.I.A.

Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I consider this a pleasant opportunity to be able to recommend Mr. Robert W. Noble for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

He is to be commended not only for his high ability on architectural design, but also because of his high principle and integrity personally as well as a professional architect.

I was a classmate with Mr. Noble at the University of Pennsylvania where we graduated together in 1926. At that time his outstanding ability in design was obvious. He graduated Summa Cum Laude.

After he left school, he worked for a while with Architect Ernest J. Matheson where he was in charge of design for three years and was the man principally responsible for the design and drawing execution of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company building in Philadelphia.

He traveled and sketched for a year in Europe and then for a time worked with the Philadelphia City Planning Commission assisting in the design of many of the basic plans which have been so helpful to the current growth of Philadelphia.

He was in Washington, D. C. for a while as an associate architect in the Resettlement Administration, where he was effective working with other architects in the design of the Heightstown, New Jersey Resettlement Housing Project.

For a while thereafter he was in Raleigh, North Carolina as the designer for the office of William Henly Deitrich where he was responsible for the design of a number of housing projects, schools, and college buildings such as those at Wake Forrest, Shaw and Meredith Colleges.

October 25, 1960

During the war he was involved in the design of housing and site planning for 1500 housing units for shipyard workers in Wilmington, North Carolina, with camps, and with post-war planning for Wake Forrest College.

He spent a short time then in the office of Walter Hook, Architect in Charlotte, North Carolina before he returned to Philadelphia where he entered into partnership with Sidney Martin and Harry Stewart, two of the finest architects in Philadelphia both of whom I know personally.

Among the many buildings designed by Robert Noble during this association are a number which are outstanding.

One is the Messiah Lutheran Church on North Broad Street which accomplished a very successful design inside and out on a very small and tight site.

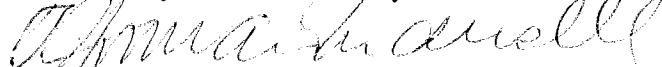
A second is the Lansdowne Methodist Church near Philadelphia, where a very fine and direct contemporary church building was achieved with very low cost, where in most cases structure was also the finish.

Other outstanding buildings include the Episcopal Church in Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Psychiatric Hospital on 49th Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Student Housing for several hundred students for which a contract had just been let at the Beaver College just on the edge of Philadelphia.

It is my belief that Robert Noble who has been a member of the American Institute of Architects for a number of years, would be a continuing credit to the Institute as a Fellow, and that his professional ability and high personal qualities would uphold these high standards represented by Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,

MANSELL, McGETTIGAN, FUGATE & RAPP



T. Norman Mansell, F.A.D.

TNM/mp

MARTIN, STEWART & NOBLE
ARCHITECTS

SYDNEY E. MARTIN, F. A. I. A.

HARRY G. STEWART, A. I. A.

ROBERT W. NOBLE, A. I. A.

ROBERT ALLAN CLASS, A. I. A.

1104 ARCHITECTS BUILDING

PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

October 13, 1960

JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND, JR., A. I. A.

MARVIN D. SUER, A. I. A.

JOHN F. HAYES, A. I. A.

The Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.
The Octagon
1735 New York Ave., N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure and a distinct privilege to support the nomination of Mr. Robert Warren Noble for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects for his achievement in Design, both in my capacity as a Director of the Philadelphia Chapter and as an architect who has been closely associated with Mr. Noble during the past ten years.

During this period of our association, I have acquired an intimate knowledge of Mr. Noble's work and have come to appreciate his good-humored, sensitive and sound approach to any problem in design, coupled with his rare ability to penetrate to the heart of a program and to produce a commendable solution. The facets of Mr. Noble's abilities are not restricted to those of purely architectural design and planning, as I have observed repeatedly his capability to master a structural or mechanical problem, his excellent working knowledge of materials and their applications, his control of building costs, his good all-round approach to architectural practice, and above all a comfortable list of satisfied and happy clients.

Mr. Noble is the partner in charge of design in this office, wherein the practice encompasses such classifications of buildings as hospitals, churches, libraries, museums, banks, public and private schools, college structures, and restoration of historic buildings. Under Mr. Noble's able design leadership, this office has served as architects for such hospitals as the Children's Seashore House in Atlantic City and Philadelphia's St. Christopher's and Pennsylvania Hospitals; libraries for the Free Library of Philadelphia (including the extrovert award-winning Mercantile Library) and for the American Philosophical Society; buildings for the campuses of such colleges as Bryn Mawr, Beaver, Dickinson, and Swarthmore, with buildings for the University of Pennsylvania now in the planning stage; city and suburban schools, both public and private; churches of several denominations; design consultants to Philadelphia's City Planning Commission; and restoration of Philadelphia's venerable Academy of Music, where the command performance of the renowned Philadelphia

The Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.

October 13, 1960

Orchestra will be given during the 1961 Convention.

It is the fervent hope of all those who well know Mr. Noble and his work that the Jury of Fellows will give favorable consideration to his nomination for Fellowship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Allan Class".

Robert Allan Class

RAC:vfl

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL

DEPARTMENT
FOR SICK AND INJURED

EIGHTH AND SPRUCE STREETS

Philadelphia 7, Pa.

H. ROBERT CATHCART, ADMINISTRATOR

WALNUT 2-1000

August 8, 1960

Committee on Fellows
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

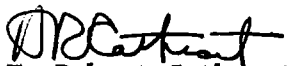
The officials of the Pennsylvania Hospital were pleased to learn that the name of Robert W. Noble, A.I.A., has been placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. As a client of Mr. Noble's, we are happy to endorse this nomination and urge his advancement.

Mr. Noble has provided the highest standard of professional services to this Institution for more than six years. He has been able to accurately determine our architectural needs and guide us to the proper solution of these problems with patience which has been coupled with the necessary firmness. This has given us great confidence in Mr. Noble's professional ability, and yet made it possible for these solutions to accurately reflect our unique needs.

While working with Mr. Noble, we have gained a deep appreciation of his artistic and architectural abilities. These traits have helped us preserve and highlight the architectural charms of our historic Institution, while at the same time, making this organization better suited to meet the scientific demands associated with the best of American medical practice.

During our years of association with Mr. Noble, we have found him to be an honest, dignified and sensitive gentleman. Your profession is fortunate to have such an excellent representative who is doing so much to demonstrate the contribution that architects can and do make to further the positive goals of our society.

Sincerely,


H. Robert Cathcart
Vice President

HRC/enp



J. S. CORNELL & SON, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1857

BUILDERS



TELEPHONE
LOCUST 3-3157

1528 CHERRY STREET
PHILADELPHIA 2

September 12, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellowship
1735 New York Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

ack 9-16-60
B

Dear sir:

It is without any reservations that I recommend to you for Fellowship in the Institute, Mr. Robert W. Noble, A. I. A.

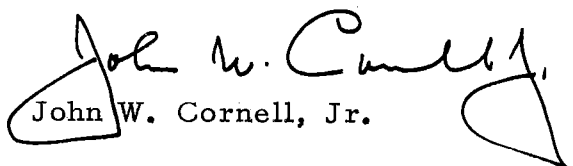
I have known Bob, as he is known to most of his friends, for many years as a builder and as a client. He is a man of honesty and integrity and fair in all his dealings. I do not feel qualified to pass expert judgement on his quality of design but as a builder I would say his work is of the best.

As a Trustee for Beaver College I have been working close to him in the design of a new 400 student dormitory. His work has been very favorably accepted and his dealings with many at the College and Trustees demonstrates his ability for creative design and solving problems to the satisfaction of the owner without sacrificing design.

I know quite a few of the Fellowship of the Institute and without reservation I believe Robert W. Noble is deserving of this honor. I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. S. CORNELL & SON, INC.


John W. Cornell, Jr.

JWC: is
cc: Bendiner



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA

LOGAN SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

August 5, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

ack 8/8/60
E

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that the name of Mr. Robert W. Noble, A. I. A., has been placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

I am delighted that the Philadelphia Chapter has taken this action and, although not an architect, I am in hearty agreement with this recommendation.

My first knowledge of Mr. Noble was in 1952, upon my arrival as the new director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, in connection with the designing and construction of the Mercantile Library Branch of our library system. He was very understanding, imaginative and enthusiastic about bringing a new library design to Philadelphia. We were pleased with his concept of a library building and were, of course, delighted when his firm received the Gold Medal presented by the Philadelphia Chapter for the best designed building of 1953. This building has been acclaimed throughout the library world and we have had visitors from far and wide to study it. The other buildings designed by Mr. Noble and his firm have been eminently satisfactory.

I trust that his colleagues will honor him by election to the College of Fellows; the College would indeed be honoring itself.

Sincerely yours,

Emerson Greenaway

Emerson Greenaway
Director

eg/h

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
PARKWAY AT TWENTY-FIRST STREET
ZONE 3

JOSEPH J. GREENBERG
MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

August 3, 1960

Mr. Edmund T. Purvis, Executive Secretary
American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows,
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

FACTUAL
ack 8/8/60 JG

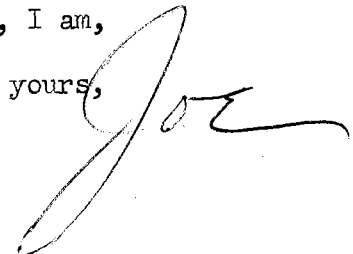
Dear Ned:

I have been informed that the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute - Mr. Robert W. Noble, A.I.A. Will you permit me to say that no one of the many gentlemen in the architects profession is more qualified for this honor than Bob. I have had direct association with him, particularly at this time as his firm is the architect for a six million dollar high school up in Northeast Philadelphia for the Board of Education and, as you know, I am Chairman of the Building Committee . I also know of his many other achievements. He is a capable and conscientious architect and one who has maintained the highest standards of the profession. After 53 years of association with the many architects in this city I feel that I am in a position to applaud his many achievements and it would give me great pleasure if he is so honored. Will you please convey to your Committee on Fellows my interest in the matter?

I do not think I have seen you since we last met in Honolulu and I hope this letter finds you in the best of health.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially yours,



JJG/c

THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY



NORTHWESTERN REGION

August 5, 1960

REPLY TO

H. W. LARGE
VICE PRESIDENT AND
REGIONAL MANAGER
CHICAGO, ILL.

A-1

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I have been advised that the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship the name of Mr. Robert W. Noble of Philadelphia, and I have been asked by Chairman Alfred Bendiner to comment on Mr. Noble's qualifications.

For a period of two years I worked very closely with Mr. Noble, in my capacity as Chairman of the Building Committee for the construction of the new West Philadelphia Psychiatric Division structure for the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa. This was an extremely complex undertaking, not only from the standpoint of design of a modern building that would blend with adjoining structures that were built many years ago, but also from the standpoint of ability to secure enthusiastic support from the professional staff -- a problem which I am sure many of your associates recognize is a very real one in any hospital construction. I found that this problem is compounded in dealing with psychiatrists, and had it not been for Mr. Noble's skill and diplomacy we would probably still be modifying the building. I found Mr. Noble a conscientious and extremely able gentleman. The resultant building speaks for itself, and has been enthusiastically endorsed not only by the staff of the hospital, but by the medical profession generally.

I have the highest regard for Mr. Noble, and sincerely hope that his qualifications will be recognized by the American Institute.

Sincerely yours,

Lansdowne Methodist Church

REV. JOHN W. MCKELVEY, PH.D., PASTOR
MRS. JOSEPHINE S. HAGELE, EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

LANSDOWNE & STRATFORD AVENUES
LANSDOWNE, PENNSYLVANIA

5 August 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL
ack 8/8/60-9

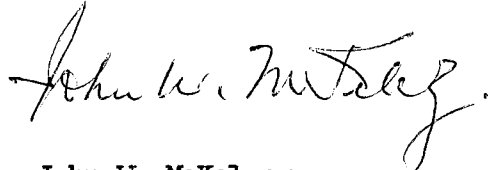
Dear Sirs:

It is a distinct privilege to commend Mr. Robert W. Noble, A.I.A., in his nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Noble was responsible for the blueprints of our new sanctuary erected five years ago. This sanctuary has survived the tests of criticism and has attained a high rating in appreciation of its style and beauty not only by the congregation and the people of our community but also by visitors and travelers who use the thoroughfare in front of our property. We in the Lansdowne Methodist Church are grateful beyond words for the ability and insight which mark Mr. Noble's career as an architect. We have a sanctuary that achieves everything desirable in a house of worship.

I am sure the whole congregation would concur in this recommendation and I am happy to write this letter commending him to you.

Faithfully yours,



John W. McKelvey



PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART • FAIRMOUNT

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY AT TWENTY-SIXTH STREET • PHILADELPHIA 1

August 16, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

✓
ack 8-17-60
B

Gentlemen:

I understand that your Committee is considering the nomination of Mr. Robert W. Noble for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.

It is my pleasure to write you in support of Mr. Noble's nomination and to express my sincere belief that he fulfills all of the requirements expected of a Fellow of the A. I. A.

I have had dealings with Mr. Noble in my capacity as Curator and Chairman of the Committee on Hall of the American Philosophical Society. I have also followed submissions by his firm as they have come before the Art Commission of Philadelphia on which I serve. I have the highest admiration for Mr. Noble as an architect and as a valued citizen.

Sincerely yours,

HENRI MARCEAU

Director

Hon. Associate A. I. A.

job

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

A Non-Sectarian Medical Center for Children

2600 NORTH LAWRENCE STREET, PHILADELPHIA 33, PA.

WALDO E. NELSON, M.D.
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
PROFESSOR OF PEDIATRICS
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

September 15, 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

ack 9-16-60
B

Gentlemen:

On August 1, Mr. Alfred Bendiner asked me to write in support of his nomination of Mr. Robert W. Noble for advancement to Fellowship in your Institute. Inasmuch as I was out of the country and just returned, I could not reply at an earlier date. I cannot pretend to evaluate with competence the status of a person for membership in your Society from an architectural point of view. Mr. Noble has represented his firm in dealings with our Hospital during the past 10 years or so and I have come to know him quite well.

In our building program, he has shown insight, imagination, and a competence for functional detail that I would consider to be of a high order. In our situation, which has been far from a static one during these years, he has added contributions in being able to envisage the directions in which growth would most likely occur.

As a person, it has been a privilege to know him and work with him, and consider him as a friend.

Were I to translate him, from a stature-standpoint, from the architectural field to the academic medical one, I would have no hesitancy in recommending him for membership in one of our honor societies.

Sincerely,

Waldo E. Nelson

Waldo E. Nelson, M. D.

WEN:mal

Incorporated 1751



Pennsylvania Hospital

THE INSTITUTE · · · III NORTH FORTY-NINTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA · 39 · PENNSYLVANIA · GRANITE 2-1100
LAUREN H. SMITH · M. D. · PHYSICIAN-IN-CHIEF AND ADMINISTRATOR

3 August 1960

American Institute of Architects
Committee on Fellows
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that Mr. Robert W. Noble, A.I.A., has been placed in nomination for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.

As a hospital Physician-in-Chief, whose hospital recently built a new building, I had the privilege of close association with Mr. Noble over a period of several years. The whole development of our program for a new building was very smooth and efficient, due to Mr. Noble's quick grasp of the needs of this psychiatric hospital, and his willingness to incorporate the new and modern concepts of treatment that are active today. Through all the years of planning and completion of the building there were wonderful personal contacts that were very pleasant and agreeable to all members of our staff. The originality and broad interest brought into the building through Mr. Noble, the sense of freedom and effect of color, and many other things necessary in a psychiatric hospital must be credited largely to his personal knowledge and efforts. We now have what we think is the finest psychiatric building, most modern and most comfortable that exists in the United States today. We feel very grateful to him for his part in this.

Therefore, I am very glad to write on behalf of Robert W. Noble, feeling that he deserves much recognition for his ability and work.

Very sincerely yours,

Lauren H. Smith
Lauren H. Smith, M. D.
Physician-in-Chief

LHS:mfk

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CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

9TH FLOOR PENN SQUARE BUILDING

N. E. CORNER JUNIPER AND FILBERT STREETS

PHILADELPHIA 7

LOCUST 4-0744

- G. HOLMES PERKINS
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- PHILIP KLEIN
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- EDMUND N. BACON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- PAUL F. CROLEY
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- ARTHUR T. ROW
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 12, 1960

American Institute of Architects
 Committee on Fellows
 1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
 Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is an honor to write to you concerning the proposal that Mr. Robert W. Noble be made a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

In my capacity as Executive Director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, over the last several years I have worked directly with Mr. Noble on a number of civic projects and have observed the impact of some of his other work on the general development of Philadelphia. Mr. Noble is a modest man, and has not had a spectacular role in the development of the City. However, he has quietly carried through a number of important matters which have affected the City. He was consultant to the City Planning Commission in certain phases of the development of the Penn Center plan and the plan for improving City Hall. In this capacity he made important contributions to these developments.

As Chairman of the City Planning Committee of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, he has fostered the understanding of city planning among the architects and effective working relationships with the official agencies.

(over)


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Page 2, American Institute of Architects

I consider his design for the Mercantile Library to be one of the most interesting for any public building in Philadelphia and to be one that opens up new vistas of architectural possibilities.

I hope very much that Mr. Noble will be elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,



Edmund N. Bacon
Executive Director

K.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



The Octagon · 1735 New York Avenue, N.W. · Washington 6, D. C.

December 6, 1960

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Re: Robert W. Noble, A.I.A.

To Members of
The Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

An architect is advanced to Fellowship in recognition of exceptional ability or of exceptional service. The Jury of Fellows always tries to choose wisely and with discrimination, but it is limited in precise knowledge about the nominees.

To complete Nomination, this form must be filled and returned before January 1st. Otherwise, no action will be taken at the forthcoming Jury meeting.

It is the opinion of the Jury of Fellows that a designer, however talented, should not be advanced to Fellowship if he possesses deficiencies of character which reflect discredit upon the profession; and that no architect, regardless of outstanding service, should be advanced if the buildings which he has designed are so notably inferior in architectural design as to reflect discredit upon the profession.

To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to Robert W. Noble, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? they do
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? the very highest!

Thomas Inauell
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 12 1960

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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? High

Robert Della-Cava
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Reliable & Trustworthy

Samuel G. Shepard
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Very good

RECEIVED

NOV 18 1960

LYLE F. BOWLER AND
ROBERT MONTGOMERY BROWN
ARCHITECTS


(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? YES
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? YES
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? YES
4. What is your opinion of his character? OUTSTANDING

Harry Hall, Treasurer
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 29 1960

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To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to Robert W. Noble, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? many praise him
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? without question
4. What is your opinion of his character? He has a very high professional standard of ethics

Henry Shurick
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? Very High

Carl D. Kattermayer
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 29 1960

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December 6, 1960

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Re: Robert W. Noble, A.I.A.

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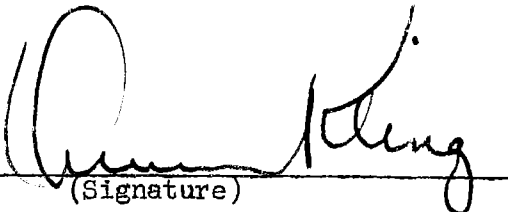
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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Just Rate


(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Excellent

[Handwritten Signature]
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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1 1 1 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? MANY
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? YES
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? YES
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? MODEST BUT STRONG = TOP NOTCH

(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

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DEC 16 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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An architect is advanced to Fellowship in recognition of exceptional ability or of exceptional service. The Jury of Fellows always tries to choose wisely and with discrimination, but it is limited in precise knowledge about the nominees.

To complete Nomination, this form must be filled and returned before January 1st. Otherwise, no action will be taken at the forthcoming Jury meeting.

It is the opinion of the Jury of Fellows that a designer, however talented, should not be advanced to Fellowship if he possesses deficiencies of character which reflect discredit upon the profession; and that no architect, regardless of outstanding service, should be advanced if the buildings which he has designed are so notably inferior in architectural design as to reflect discredit upon the profession.

To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to Robert W. Noble, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? Mr. Noble is a forthright honest individual of unquestionable integrity.

(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 19 1960

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