



Pearl

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Robert A. Fielden, AIA
Director, Western Mountain Region
522 East Twain
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

CONFIDENTIAL

JANUARY 14, 1975

JURY OF FELLOWS
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

GENTLEMEN: ENCLOSED IS THE INFORMATION THAT YOU REQUESTED REGARDING NOMINEES. I HAVE LIMITED MY REMARKS TO ONLY THOSE INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN MY REGION. I HOPE THAT THESE COMMENTS WILL SERVE YOUR NEEDS.

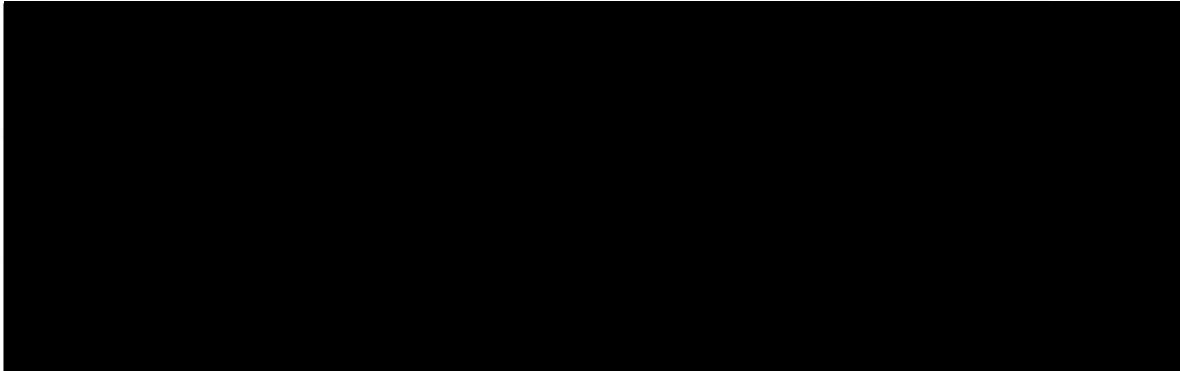
VERY TRULY YOURS,

ROBERT A. FIELDEN, AIA

ENCLOSURE

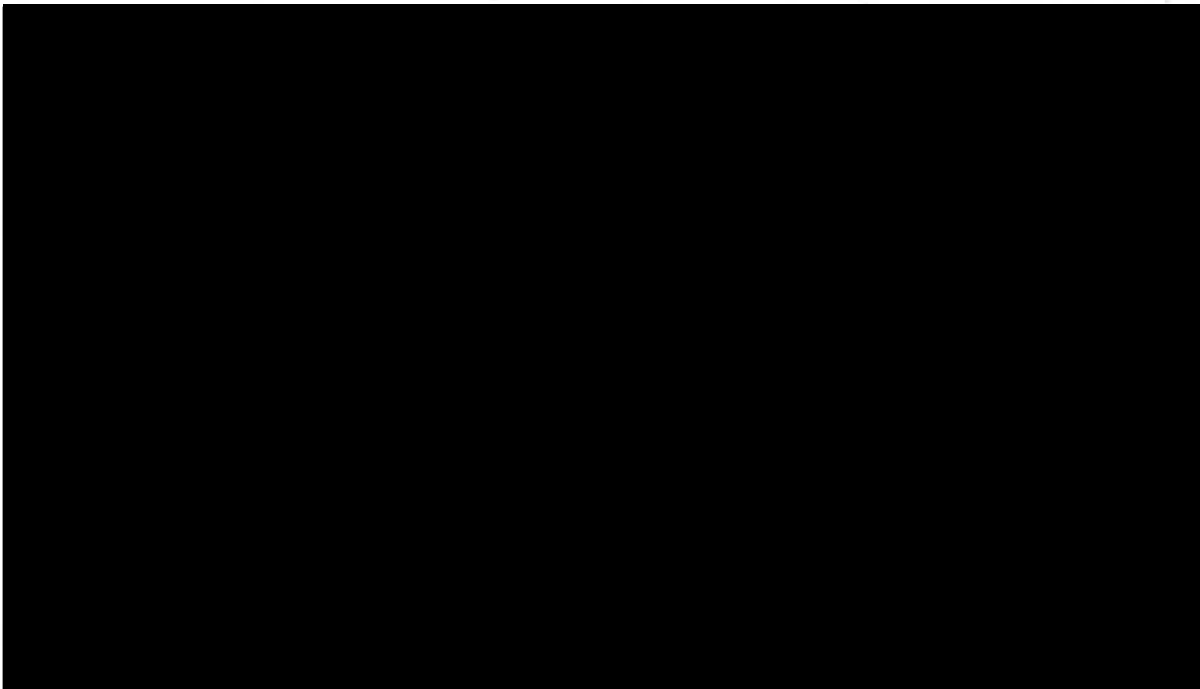
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JAN 17 1975



PEARL, GEORGE CLAYTON - ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

MY FRIENDS IN NEW MEXICO TELL ME THAT GEORGE PEARL IS THE ED PARSONS OF NEW MEXICO, AND HIS PARTICIPATION IN AIA GOES BACK ALMOST AS FAR. HIS ILLNESS OVER THE LAST FOUR OR FIVE YEARS HAS KEPT HIM HOME AND MOSTLY AWAY FROM REGIONAL ACTIVITIES. IN WHAT I KNOW OF GEORGE, HIS ABSENCE HAS BEEN OUR LOSS.



LOREN MASTIN AIA ARCHITECT

103 AMHERST S E

ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO 87106

(505) 266-4010

November 12, 1974

Macon S. Smith, FAIA
Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

I have known George Clayton Pearl for the past five years. During this time, my contact with him has been both personal and professional. I know of no other person more highly regarded and respected by his professional colleagues than George.

His conduct is an inspiration to us all. He is dedicated to architecture in a significant and meaningful way. The quiet, unassuming manner in which he devotes his time to important tasks within the profession deserves recognition.

Before the Western Mountain Region AIA Conference held in Albuquerque in the fall of 1972, I was asked, as an Albuquerque Chapter member, to assist George. He had taken on the difficult task of handling the Honor Awards for the Region Conference. We were to work with the jury in categorizing the entries, showing them and finally putting together a presentation for those attending the conference after the jury had made its selections.

George hosted these long, arduous sessions in his office. The highly professional manner in which they were conducted was predictable. Predictable because this is the precise manner which has been a part of his life-style for years.

I can wholeheartedly recommend George Clayton Pearl to your consideration for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.



Loren Mastin

LM/mhw

NOV 19 1974

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 16, 1973

Mr. George E. Kassabaum, FAIA
Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mr. Kassabaum:

I am delighted to have the opportunity to recommend
Mr. George Clayton Pearl for Fellowship in the American Institute
of Architects.

I have personally known George for several years and
am very well acquainted with his work in the field of architecture.
A review of George's career will reveal involvement in every aspect
of the architectural spectrum.

New Mexico's landscape is dotted with George Pearl designed
buildings which beautifully accentuate the tri-cultural makeup of the
State. George has also been very active in efforts to preserve the
historic architecture of New Mexico. He has lectured and written on
this subject in a state rich in historic sites and interested in preserving
these riches.

George has been most helpful in working with State officials
to develop a Bicentennial plan to coincide with the National Commission's
interest in historic preservation.

I would be most grateful for any consideration which you
will give to George Pearl's nomination.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Montoya
United States Senator

NOV 20 1973

JMM/rbb

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November 14, 1973

Mr. George E. Kassabaum, F.A.I.A.
Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mr. Kassabaum:

In reply to your letter of November 9, 1973, stating that Mr. George Clayton Pearl, A.I.A., has been nominated for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects and requesting on behalf of the Jury of Fellows my opinion of this nominee, I am pleased to state I can whole heartedly endorse this nomination.

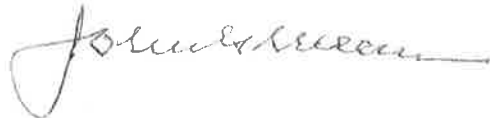
Ever since he started practicing architecture in Albuquerque with the firm of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell, I have been aware of his good influence among the architects of that neighboring city. It is my understanding that he has been largely responsible for the high standards established by that firm in the design of their buildings.

Primarily, however, I have been aware of him in the field of historic architectural preservation, especially in the area around Albuquerque. I believe that it was largely through his influence that the historic old church of San Felipe de Neri in Old Albuquerque was saved from demolition by an overzealous pastor and congregation. He is a strong influence for good on the Governor's Cultural Properties Review Committee of the State of New Mexico.

He is a rather shy and modest man who nevertheless, because of his background and integrity, he has had great influence on the profession of architecture.

I am honored to endorse the nomination of George Clayton Pearl to be a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely,



JGMh

NOV 21 1973

Perkins & Will

29 November 1973

The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: George Clayton Pearl, AIA - Candidate for Fellowship

Gentlemen:

I most strongly recommend George Clayton Pearl for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

We were classmates at the University of Texas where he established the outstanding record in Design. Since then he has maintained that reputation as Partner in charge of Design for his firm: Stevens, Mallory, Pearl & Campbell. I served on the New Mexico AIA Design Awards Jury two years ago and then learned that we had given the highest award to George Pearl's work. His design work has also received many other awards. I have personally experienced some of the buildings he has designed, including those at the University of New Mexico, and I admire his work.

George is also extremely interested in indigenous southwestern architecture and active in historic preservation. He is a superb designer, artist, scholar, and a splendid architect in the fullest sense. I know personally that he is held in highest esteem by other professionals in New Mexico, Texas, and other states.

I believe George Pearl will be an outstanding member of the College of Fellows and I am honored to make this recommendation.

Regards,

PERKINS & WILL ARCHITECTS, INC.



Charles William Brubaker
President

CWB:gdc

DEC 3 1973

JAMES PRATT

26 November 1973

Mr. George E. Kassabaum, FAIA
Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Kassabaum:

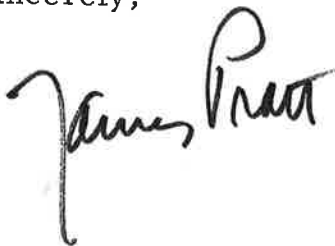
I have known George Clayton Pearl since 1947 - first, as a fellow student at the University of Texas and during the intervening years as a friend, guide, lecturer and juror.

The fact that George Pearl has a singular, highly disciplined and a most exemplary character is evidenced by his ability to effect the many activities that show on the digest of his career. I would value his character in the top 1% of the architects I know.

The most significant of his contributions to society and the profession is his development of a contemporary regional expression in architecture. Throughout his entire career in New Mexico, he has insisted on holding onto, continuing, developing and enlarging on an honest and reasoned design expression related to the Pueblo and Spanish antecedents in the area. This perseverance is a quality few of his New Mexican colleagues have valued in their own work. It is through his strong leadership that there is now a group of architects beginning to adopt this most important design approach. Many of us in other parts of the country could do well to emulate his example. The nuances of regional differences in buildings have almost been totally ignored by the past generation of U. S. practitioners.

As a part of this regional interest, his preservation activities are also impressive. These extend to his documentation of Pre-Columbian Indian sites in New Mexico as well as more recent Spanish and Anglo buildings. His intellect is of a high order, and no architect need fear George Pearl's representing his profession as anything but a first-rate member.

Sincerely,



DEC. 4 1973

1645 curtis street • denver, colorado 80202 • telephone (303) 573-1551

interplan incorporated

Mr. George E. Kassabaum, FAIA
Chairman, the Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

7 December 1973

Dear Mr. Kassabaum:

Like so many of my fellow architects, I don't know how to write and become over-elaborate and tedious when I attempt it. Without meaning to offend anyone or in any way diminish my enormous respect for George Pearl, I am going to put this down straight.

I have known George Pearl for almost eight years — as a fellow professional; as a source of valuable information and help — freely given — in the area of historic building preservation; as the designer who developed and refined a valid, modern building form which is sensitive to and wholly compatible with not only the historic buildings of this region, but also with the region itself.

As to character, he is intellectually honest, not self-seeking, gentle but very strong. He contributes to the advancement of the profession merely by being himself.

The significance of his contributions has been documented by others. I will add only this:

- 1) no other architect, by sheer design example, has done so much to wean his fellow architects away from the pseudo-modern pueblo style;
- 2) he put New Mexico's historic building program together, he keeps it going, and he alone understands not only the pitfalls of reproduction architecture but also the real importance of historic buildings in the contemporary environment.

DEC. 10 1973

Mr. George E. Kassabaum
7 December 1973
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I have been in George Pearl buildings — most recently a new automobile dealership...which warrants study for many reasons — and they are notable both for design concept and for regional validity.

I have attended George Pearl lectures and seminars on historic buildings and worked directly with him on preservation projects and problems. He knows preservation and the realities of preservation...and he is singularly successful in achieving historic building preservation.

My only question is: why have New Mexico architects waited so long to nominate George Pearl for Fellowship?

Sincerely,



Langdon E. Morris, Jr., AIA

LEM:mraa

interplan

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 23, 1973

The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Gentlemen:

It is indeed a pleasure to recommend Mr. George Clayton Pearl for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I have known George for many years and in my capacity as City Commissioner in Albuquerque, New Mexico, I had the opportunity of working with him in various city and state-wide efforts.

As you already know, George has numerous achievements in the architectural field. However, I think it particularly important to note that he has devoted a great deal of independent time and energy to the historical and cultural heritage of our state. Whenever called upon to be of assistance by various organizations or private individuals, George is always willing to cooperate and lend his expertise against ugliness and sterility, and to respond to the total potential of the cultural needs of a community to improve its quality of life. He is always ready to donate his knowledge and assistance to those who seek his advice and counsel.

George uses his vast storehouse of historical knowledge whenever called upon to design a facility or advise those who are contemplating a restoration project and is considered an authority on Southwestern design and architecture. He has captured the unique flavors of the Southwest and combined them into serviceable, beautiful works of which all our citizens are proud. Personally, I know I always felt confident when I learned George would have a part in any special project because I knew upon completion, his works

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The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
November 23, 1973
Page Two

would truly reflect the spirit of the great New Mexican culture;
that he would have incorporated the beauty of the past into the
beauty of the present, and we would have a most remarkable
result.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to heartily recom-
mend George to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pete V. Domenici". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "P".

Pete V. Domenici
United States Senator

PVD/kld

November 18, 1974

AIR MAIL

Mr. Macon S. Smith, FAIA
Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D. C. 20006

Re: Nomination of George Clayton Pearl for
Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects

Dear Mr. Smith:

In response to your November 5, 1974 request with regard to the subject matter, I am honored to submit the following recommendation.

As I drove through Tijeras Canyon in late 1958, I was very taken by a beautifully designed cement plant that graced the setting of the rugged mountain pass entry into Albuquerque, which was to become my home. Subsequent site visits convinced me of its designer's sensitivity to the harmony that can exist between nature and man-made structures when his ability is highly tuned.

I was soon to meet its designer, George Clayton Pearl, inasmuch as a job in an architect's office was my purpose at the time. I found myself quite comfortable in Clay's warm presence--he was deep and incisive without being overbearing. Although no employment was available in his office at the time for a first year graduate architect apprentice, the meeting was the beginning for a friendship and respect that has lasted to this day.

You have asked me to comment on the candidate's character and the significance of his contributions. By definition, I must be subjective in both areas.

Clay's character is virtually beyond reproach. He has, to the best of my knowledge, always led a quiet, exemplary life, commuting daily between the solitude of his adobe home in Tome, New Mexico, to his bustling Albuquerque office. His elaborate

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Mr. Macon S. Smith, FAIA

Page 2

November 18, 1974

involvement in the activities of his community, which are aptly described in "Digest of the Career and Achievements of George Clayton Pearl," really tells his story far more comprehensively than I could ever hope to do. Words describing qualities of his character that are implicit, but not used in his Digest, include: involved, thorough, kind, accurate, appropriate, timely, concerned, honest, interesting, interested, in tune, of today, vital, resourceful, integrity, humility, equanimity--qualities that he possesses to an unusually high degree.

Clay's contributions are many and varied, and are adequately related in his Digest. He is a silent inspiration and teacher who conveys his message by act and deed rather than by word. Some clues to the depth of his thinking and design ability become evident when one observes his exquisitely simple barn and garden irrigation system (ala Alhambra) at his Tome, New Mexico home. His involvement in the historic preservation movement ranks him amongst the country's top authorities on the subject. His ad hoc involvement in Albuquerque's municipal government caused our City to acquire a group of volcanoes that is for the benefit of our residents--something which cannot now be leveled by insensitive development. As chairman of the City's ad hoc advisory committee on the development of our civic plaza, I found Clay's thoughts and influences to be a major factor in the successful implementation of the project.

Clay's ability as a designer of buildings causes me to consider him as one of the country's best contemporary architects, especially in terms of regional southwestern design. His sensitivity to the use of appropriate materials, his fine control of massing and proportion, his agility with color and texture, his ability to bring jobs in within the budget all bring me to the inevitable and unreserved conclusion that Clay is an architect's architect.

In my inexorable opinion, George Clayton Pearl should be bestowed with the highest of honors of our profession and more particularly of The American Institute of Architects--Fellowship.

Very truly yours,



John Peter Varsa, AIA

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