

SECTION 1. DIGEST OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Part A. DIGEST OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Myron Henry Goldfinger
(name of nominee)

New York, New York
(city, state)

Nominated by New York Chapter American Institute of Architects for
Achievements in Design

Sponsor: Ulrich Franzen 228 East 45th Street, New York, New York 10017

A self discovery of Mediterranean vernacular architecture after graduation, and a ten year personal study, later assisted by the Ford Foundation and Brunner Award, and including lectures, publications and exhibitions, culminated in the publication of his book "VILLAGES IN THE SUN". From the time of its publication in 1970 he has been distilling the essence of that study into his own works.

His first major work, a house for his family completed in 1970, was simultaneously exhibited in three publications and subsequently received three major awards and wide international publication and exhibition. Architectural Record Houses of the Year 1971 stated, "The house is so intensely sculptural, inside and out, and so dramatically related to its rocky, wooded site.....Few accomplish the poetic result Goldfinger has here".

His next ten buildings all had multiple publications and several won multiple awards. Among them three stand out most prominent: the Matkovic House, exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, in which modular round forms were the dominant theme; the Marcus House in Chappaquiddick Island, which was conceived as a series of interconnecting bridges and triangulated forms; and the Marcus Carriage House, in which a dynamic interior was created within the shell of a turn of the century building and which won an AIA Honor Award of 1976.

He is continuing today to refine and enrich his vocabulary, and to date through publications a considerable chronological body of work has been seen by the profession and the public internationally. In addition, his work has been exhibited extensively and he has lectured on the philosophy of his work at architectural schools around the country.

Myron Goldfinger's work has developed not only from the context of an era in which the refinement of modernism was held in high esteem, but has been strongly influenced by his unique research into the architecture and culture of Mediterranean Villages. It is this latter research pursued in the 1960's which taught him the poetry of simple geometric forms placed in the ever changing aspect of light and shadow.

His work displays a vigorous design philosophy based on the principles of modernism, geometry and chiaroscuro. His work, therefore, exemplifies high standards of design by means of a taught mastery of his design vocabulary.