

HOLDEN EGAN WILSON & CORSER
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

ARTHUR C. HOLDEN FAIA
JOHN TAYLOR EGAN AIA
WILLIAM D. WILSON AIA
JOHN B. CORSER, JR. AIA

RONALD E. WOODWARD RA
WILLIAM SCHROEDER RA
LOIS BALCOM EXEC. ASST.

630 THIRD AVENUE (AT 41 ST.)
NEW YORK 17 • MURRAY HILL 7-5777

10 November 1959

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

FACTUAL

Re: Kenneth Kassler
New Jersey Chapter

Gentlemen:

Dating from his days in the Architectural School at Princeton, I have known Kenneth Kassler and have watched the development of his architectural practice. It gives me especial pleasure to recommend his advancement to Fellowship in the A.I.A.

He has practiced in Princeton, New Jersey, has done hospital, educational, better grade industrial and research laboratory work, as well as residences for individual clients.

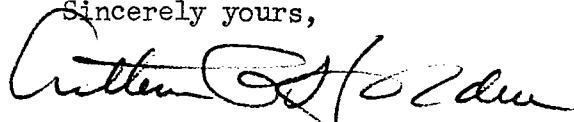
A brochure listing his particular work together with photographs will be submitted by the New Jersey Chapter, so it would be redundant for me to duplicate material regarding details.

I can, however, certify to Ken Kassler's capacity, integrity, ethical standards, and to the spirit in which he conducts his practice. He has the interest of the public and service to the community at heart.

In Princeton he has been a part of the intellectual environment of the University. He has rendered distinguished service to Princeton School of Architecture, as critic, participant in important conferences and by service on juries. He is a cultivated man of fine tastes.

I am glad to join with his New Jersey brother architects in urging his advancement to Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur C. Holden, F.A.I.A.

H/c

KASSLER, KENNETH STONE

Chapter Supporters:

Shteir, Jacob)
Elsasser, Frederick A.)
Scacchetti, John : Proposers
Scrimenti, Adolph R.)
McMurray, Howard L.)

Morgan, Sherley W., F.A.I.A.

Non-Chapter Supporters:

Busselle, Alfred, A.I.A., Asst. Director for Construction, Dept. of Treasury, State of New Jersey-Trenton
Carroll, J. Roy, Jr., F.A.I.A. - Philadelphia, Pa.
Coolidge, John, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University - Cambridge, Mass.
Churchill, Henry S., F.A.I.A. - Philadelphia, Pa.
Creighton, Thomas H., F.A.I.A., Editor, Progressive Architecture - New York, N. Y.
Engstrom, Elmer W., Senior Executive Vice-Pres., Radio Corp. of America - New York, N. Y.
Frost, Frederick G., Jr., F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.
Fuller, R. Buckminster, Dept. of Design, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, Ill.
Haskell, Douglas, A.I.A., Editor, Architectural Forum - New York, N.Y.
Hibbard, Donald L., Executive Vice-President, The Board of Pensions, The United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. - Philadelphia, Pa.
Holden, Arthur C., F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.
Hoyt, Mrs. Burnham - Denver, Colorado
Kahn, Louis I., F.A.I.A. - Philadelphia, Pa.
Keck, George Fred, A.I.A. - Chicago, Ill.
Lee, Rensselaer W., Chairman, Dept. of Art and Archeology Princeton Univ. - Princeton, N.J.

(continued)

Non-Chapter Supporters (continued):

Lussier, Dr. Georges H., Medical Director, Arthur
Brisbane Child Treatment Center, State of N.J. -
Allaire, N.J.

Meiss, Millard, Professor of The History of Art,
The Institute for Advanced Study - Princeton, N.J.

Moss, John, Vice Pres. and Design Director, Marshall
Field Co. - Chicago, Ill.

Neutra, Richard J., F.A.I.A. - Los Angeles, Calif.

O'Connor, R. B., F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.

Oliphant, A. Dayton, Retired Justice, Supreme Court
of New Jersey - Princeton, N.J.

Osborn, Robert - Salisbury, Conn.

Peressutti, Enrico, Architect - Milan, Italy

Smith, G. E. Kidder, F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.

Stone, Edward D., F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.

Tramburg, John W., Commissioner, Dept. of Institutions
and Agencies, State of N.J. - Trenton, N.J.

Voorhees, Stephen F., F.A.I.A. - New York, N.Y.

Wescott, Lloyd B., President, State Board of Control
of Institutions and Agencies, State of N.J. - Trenton

Wurster, William W., F.A.I.A. - Berkeley, Calif.

JACOB SHTEIR, PRESIDENT
NEWARK

FREDERICK A. ELSASSER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT
UNION

JOHN SCACCHETTI, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT
UNION CITY



ADOLPH SCRIMENTI, TREASURER
205 WEST MAIN STREET
SOMERVILLE

HOWARD L. MCMURRAY, SECRETARY
983 STUYVESANT AVENUE
UNION

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
120 HALSTED STREET • EAST ORANGE, N. J.
TELEPHONE: ORANGE 2-7900

ALBERT C. BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 13, 1959

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

Gentlemen:


Our Executive Committee selected Kenneth Stone Kassler for recommendation to your Honorable Body as a candidate for elevation to Fellowship in the Institute.

Kenneth has a splendid record of achievements in architecture, to which he has dedicated his life as a student, teacher, counselor and architect.

He has served faithfully on committess of importance to the profession, and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow architects, clients and contractors.

It is a pleasure and privilege that I attest to his qualification to receive this great honor.

Very truly yours,


Fred. A. Elsasser
President, 1959-60

fae/d

ack - 10/15

G E KIDDER SMITH FAIA

163 EAST 81
NEW YORK 28
TEL: LE 5-0904
28 Oct 59

The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue NW
Washington 6 / D C

Gentlemen:

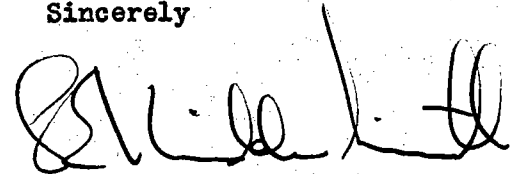
FACTUAL

The New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has proposed Kenneth S Kassler of Princeton for Fellowship in the Institute. This letter is to support enthusiastically the nomination.

I have known Mr Kassler for over twenty years, beginning at Princeton University from which we both graduated. Since then I have followed closely his always noteworthy architectural developments.

Kenneth Kassler combines in his architecture a searching imagination with a maturity of result. His explorations for valid new means and spaces are always developed with respect for the inherent goodness of materials and executed with great elegance of taste. It is only too rarely that we find architects with such an inquiring mind and satisfying achievement. His work is a credit to the profession and I endorse wholeheartedly his nomination to Fellowship.

Sincerely



FORUM

PUBLISHED BY TIME INC

October 28, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

This letter is written in support of the nomination for Fellowship of Kenneth Kassler by the New Jersey Chapter. Apart from the fact that I think that forty years are too long a period of time for the New Jersey Chapter to have been without any new Fellows, Ken is fully deserving entirely on his own account, and New Jersey could not have made a better selection with which to try to break the silence barrier.

As most of you know, Ken was one of the early and devoted students of housing and planning in the days of the great Henry Wright (Senior) when Henry and his group were laying the foundations of almost all that is good in today's new town or subdivision practice in America. On the social side of architecture, Ken has also done his share in studying the best planning practice in relation to delinquent children and to the helpless aged. In public service he has done more than his share, as chairman of the local zoning board of adjustment, as a member of the Multiple Housing Committee of the Planning Board, as an advisor to the Committee on Passive Protection Against Bombing. In other words, Ken has always been a good citizen. He has also been a good educator and a very handy man to have in the vicinity of Princeton University.

But Ken's outstanding contribution has been just where it should be, in design of a quietly effective and persistently high standard. Moreover, his several experiments with new construction methods have fitted right in with his design work so that technical progress has not been at the cost of design value, but on the contrary has stood in its service.

I believe that the College of Fellows would be enhanced by Mr. Kassler's membership.

Sincerely,

Douglas Haskell
Douglas Haskell
Editor

SCRIMENTI, SWACKHAMER and PERANTONI • ARCHITECTS
205 W. MAIN STREET • SOMERVILLE, N. J. • RANDOLPH 5-7300.01.03

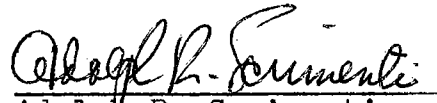
October 27, 1959

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

Dear Sirs:

As a member of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey Chapter of the A.I.A., I am privileged and honored to recommend Kenneth Stone Kassler for advancement to fellowship in the Institute, because of his achievement in Design.

Respectfully yours,


Adolph R. Scrimenti
Second Vice-President,
N.J. Chapter, A.I.A.

ARS/rr

LOUIS I KAHN ARCHITECT FAIA

October 23, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

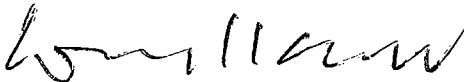
FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to express my esteem for Kenneth Kassler, good man and good architect. His entire work in Architecture from the first building on is marked by his ability to express his thoughtfulness and sense of art in simple and natural forms. New materials in recent times brought out his inventiveness based on accurate knowledge and applied with courage and exemplary taste.

Without reservation I recommend Kenneth Kassler for Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



Louis I. Kahn

lik:dk

LITWACK-SHTEIR ARCHITECTS AND ASSOCIATES

NINE CLINTON STREET, NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY • MARKET 3-7161

H. C. LITWACK, A.I.A.
JACOB SHTEIR, A.I.A.

October 23, 1959.

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

FACTUAL

Dear Sirs:

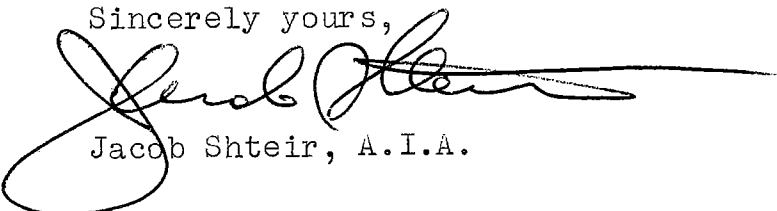
I am privileged to nominate Kenneth Stone Kassler for Advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects because of his achievements in Design, Science of Construction and Education.

Mr. Kassler has the rare quality of always searching for new and more expressive forms and construction methods in order to enhance his structures and improve their efficiency. He is an advocate of truth in Architecture and strives for honest use of materials with buildings properly related to their sites. He is alert and inquisitive and is constantly experimenting with new uses of materials, and new combinations of materials, which will be of greater benefit to his buildings than the old and tried methods. His career in Architecture has been a continued advancement and improvement in the refinements of design with careful analysis in proportion, interplay of masses and rectilinear forms and imaginative use of color, showing a positive knowledge of the values of color responses in human beings.

Mr. Kassler since 1930, has been enthusiastically associated with Princeton University as Instructor, Critic and member of innumerable design juries and has assisted materially in improving the caliber of students who have graduated. He is looked upon with high esteem by students and faculty-members and is ever ready to aid students who earnestly desire to further their knowledge and background.

By his many achievements, I feel that Kenneth Stone Kassler merits being brought to the attention of the Jury of Fellows for consideration for Advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,


Jacob Shteir, A.I.A.

JS:et

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS

Department of Design

October 21, 1959

Fuller, R. Buckminster

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am informed that the name of Kenneth Kassler has been proposed for consideration as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. I would like to comment on his work and philosophy from the viewpoint with which I am most familiar, and that is the viewpoint of the industrial equation and the design of high performance per pound structures in such a manner as to realize the high advantages inherent in the industrial economics, mechanics, distribution, manufacturing techniques, and all of their trends.

I have known Kenneth Kassler and his work for a quarter of a century and for many years found him to be one of the few practicing architects who was concerned with the relation of the most advanced industrial capabilities to architectural problems. He has conducted many expensive experiments and has shown great courage. Neither courage nor expense guarantee satisfactory results. Kenneth Kassler has been outstanding in my estimate as an architect who has successfully conceived and realized his incorporation of advanced technical capabilities of man.

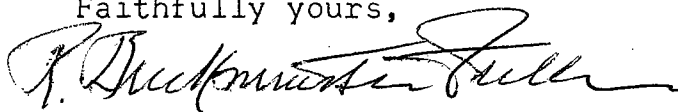
I particularly enjoy his own residence in Princeton and his successful introduction of the transparently and translucently surfaced honeycomb wall structures on the outside of his residence. This technique which has entered into boat building and ray-dome construction in recent years was seen well in advance by Kenneth Kassler to have not only the good structural capabilities, but extremely satisfactory behavior characteristics as a transparent, translucent wall with sharply oriented line of sight occasioned by the honeycomb tubes. This meant good light and good vision by the person inside the house with successful screening of the insiders from outside viewers except from very special angles. In these special angles trees and gardens were installed by Kenneth Kassler bringing about surprisingly happy results.

Another aspect of Kenneth Kassler's life has been his relationship to the architectural school of Princeton and to its students and visiting lecturers. His home has been the meeting place of student architects and distinguished visiting architects not only with Princeton architects but with the great scholars of Princeton University.

Gentlemen:
Page 2
October 21, 1959

I am unusually enthusiastic over Kenneth Kassler's candidacy for
Institute Fellowship.

Faithfully yours,



R. Buckminster Fuller
Professor (Research)

RBF/la

JACOB SHTEIR, PRESIDENT
NEWARK

FREDERICK A. ELSASSER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT
UNION

JOHN SCACCHETTI, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT
UNION CITY



ADOLPH SCRIMENTI, TREASURER
205 WEST MAIN STREET
SOMERVILLE

HOWARD L. McMURRAY, SECRETARY
983 STUYVESANT AVENUE
UNION

NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

120 HALSTED STREET • EAST ORANGE, N. J.

TELEPHONE: ORANGE 2-7900

ALBERT C. BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 20, 1959

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

FACTUAL

Re: Kenneth Stone Kassler
Nomination for Fellowship

Gentlemen:

Mr. Kassler's achievements in the field of architectural design has certainly contributed to the advancement of the profession and I, therefore, wish to support Kenneth Kassler of the New Jersey Chapter for nomination to fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

His careful research and development of the various uses of materials and construction methods has been outstanding in his career. This phase of architecture is so often delegated to the engineer that Mr. Kassler is to be commended for his efforts.

Very truly yours,

NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Howard L. McMurray, A.I.A.
Secretary

HLM:mm

STEPHEN FRANCIS VOORHEES
101 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

October 19, 1959

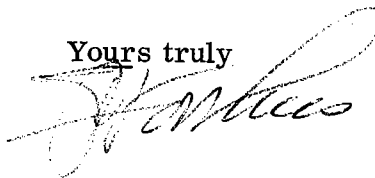
Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It gives me great satisfaction to endorse
the nomination of Kenneth Kassler for advancement
to Fellowship in The Institute. I have known him
both in his undergraduate days and in his later
practice. He is an outstanding architect in
Princeton and a worthy representative of the
profession.

I respectfully urge favorable action on the part
of the Jury.

Yours truly



NOV - 2 AM 1959

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOHN SCACCHETTI, A. I. A. - P. E. - ARCHITECT - ENGINEER
HUDSON TRUST BUILDING - 415 - 32ND STREET - UNION CITY - NEW JERSEY

TEL. UNION 5-4100

October 17, 1959

Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

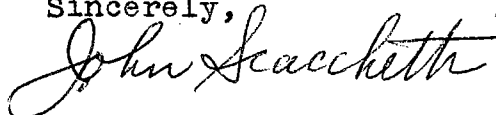
Gentlemen:

The New Jersey Chapter has indicated its recognition of Mr. Kenneth Stone Kassler's diversified architectural accomplishments to which I happily add my concurrence in nominating him for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

His work, of outstanding quality, has been accorded deserving honors on many occasions and although I have not physically inspected the buildings I have been greatly impressed by them when shown at exhibits.

Favorable action by your committee on this nomination will reflect credit on the profession, as well as being a worthy addition to the College of Fellows.

Sincerely,



John Scacchetti
1st V. P. N. J. Chapter A.I.A.
V. P. N. J. State Board of Arch.

JS/jcm

ack- 10/15

HENRY S. CHURCHILL, F. A. I. A., A. I. P.

Architecture • City and Community Planning

204 W. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia 3, Pa., Rittenhouse 6-0139

10 October 1959

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

FACTUAL ✓

Gentlemen:

It is with great pleasure that I endorse the New Jersey Chapter's proposal that Kenneth Kassler be honored with a Fellowship:

1. His design work is distinguished and thoughtful. Never spectacular nor eccentric it is nevertheless always experimental in its use of materials and with a fine feeling for form. He never designs idly or carelessly. What he builds is satisfaction for the eye. Nor has his office - by deliberate intent - ever been allowed to grow too large for his personal control.
2. He has spent much time and thought in the development of various structural elements. The translucent walls for light control are particularly successful.
3. He has always been interested in, and devoted time to, the civic development of Princeton. Again, never spectacular, his contribution to the physical development of Township and Borough has been notable; the action of a first-class mind as a balance wheel in local affairs.
4. His interest in the education of younger men has manifested itself as a teacher and as an employer.
5. There is no one whose friendship I regard more highly, or for whom I have more respect professionally.

Henry S. Churchill
Henry S. Churchill

HSC:b

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R. B. O'CONNOR AND W. H. KILHAM, JR. ARCHITECTS

101 PARK AVENUE · NEW YORK 17, N.Y. · MURRAY HILL 5-1272

ASSOCIATES

H. F. SEITZ
R. D. DE RHAM
R. M. BEDER
R. B. SNOW
P. M. CHU
G. T. LICHT
S. M. TORKELSEN

October 6th 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I take pleasure in adding my recommendation to those of others for the advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects of Kenneth Kassler of Princeton, New Jersey, and a member of the New Jersey Chapter of the A.I.A.

I have known Mr. Kassler since he was a student in the School of Architecture at Princeton University. Not only is he a person of the highest personal integrity but also of great professional ability.

Mr. Kassler is a designer of sound historical knowledge and unusual creative imagination. As a result, his work which is almost entirely of a contemporary character has more interest and validity than that of a very large proportion of younger architects whose work I am familiar with.

He has done a wide variety of work including a large number of residences, mostly in and around the Princeton area of New Jersey as well as hospital groups, school groups etc. He has also done varied work in connection with the use of modern materials, lighting, furnishing, etc. He has for many years been a visiting critic of the Princeton School of Architecture and is currently a member of its Advisory Council. During 1954-56, he was a member of the Selection Committee for Architects and Planners, Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Program and has been a member, including Chairman, of various public Boards such as the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Princeton Boro, of which he was Chairman 1955-58, and the Multiple Housing Committee of the Planning Board, Princeton Township, of which he is presently a member.

R. B. O'CONNOR AND W. H. KILHAM, JR.
101 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

- 2 -

October 6th 1959

The Jury of Fellows:

In my judgment, Mr. Kassler is qualified on several grounds for Fellowship in the Institute, being one of the unusually rounded practitioners in the younger age group. I particularly recommend him as a Fellow for design and public service.

Sincerely yours,



R.B. O'Connor

RBO'C/1

dr. arch. Lodovico B. Belgiojoso

dr. arch. Enrico Peressutti

dr. arch. Ernesto N. Rogers

September 30, 1959

Dear Mr. Chorlton,

FACTUAL

I am answering to your letter dated September 8th to give you the following information about my acquaintance and my opinions on the architect Kenneth Kassler , whom I personally know.

In the development of the contemporary architecture and in the research that the architects, wittily living, daily carry out with the purpose of solving the specific problems on the technical level or even on that of the taste, Kenneth Kassler has devoted himself to the deepest research of a coherence among all the physical elements that are at the basis of the architectonic science, with their expressions on the spiritual level.

In other words he has laid his work not only on the professional level, that is the least necessary for a consideration, but also on that of a poetics, that is a research on the artistic level, to contribute to the formation and definition of an effective architectonic contemporary language.

Unfortunately I did not have the pleasure of visiting all the various works that arch. Kenneth Kassler realized in his career, but among those I have visited, chiefly in the Princeton area, and others I have seen reproduced, I could very clearly notice his care and his deep interest for the attitude said above.

Particularly, and, I should say, typically, his personal house in Princeton, realized in 1954, reflects this highly humanistic tendency. In this house we can find, besides the methodologic and organic solution of the typical and specific problems of an one-family house, also the research of improving life in our homes through new applications of modern technology and, above all, the effort of making more and more expressive the architectonic volumes (see the living room) through

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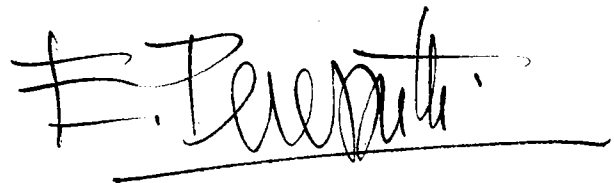
materials used (see floor, bricks), in a word in the function that is requested to each of them for the purpose of the general "pathos".

His personal studies and the application of methods and means existing in the pre-fabrication and modulation, in the curtain-walls, in the modular-storage units, and mass production, give him a characteristic aspect in our profession just for the personal language with which he has applied these modern means of building.

Another problem to which he has devoted himself, with outstanding results, is that of the placing of the new buildings in the centres, where the architectural research was obliged to take into account the pre-existent values, first of all when these ones assumed the aspect of a certain tradition and where the buildings could not be divided by green areas.

I can affirm all this not only for personal acquaintance, but also for the esteem of which arch. Kenneth Kassler enjoys not only among colleagues, but above all in the School among his students where he is appreciated for his teaching and for his clear critic interventions in the examination commissions to which we participated together.

With my best regards



Enrico Peressutti

Mr. Richard J. Chorlton
Fellowship Committee
341 Nassau Street

P r i n c e t o n, New Jersey

RICHARD J. NEUTRA, F. A. I. A.

ARCHITECT AND CONSULTANT
2300 SILVERLAKE BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES 39, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE: NORMANDY 5-8194, NORMANDY 4-2684, MRS. G. SERULNIC, EXECUTIVE, COLLABORATORS: DION NEUTRA
BENNO FISCHER
SERGE KOSCHIN
JOHN BLANTON

CABLE: RITRA

Buenos Aires September 29 1959

Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen,

Due to my travels in South America your deadline of September 30th unfortunately cannot be held, as I received the Letter of Richard J. Chorlton of September 3rd only today.

I can only briefly state my recommendation for Kenneth Kassler's fellowship, which I want to do full heartedly. I have known his designs of social significance for a dozen years and believe also in his fine contribution in the residential field.

Sincerely yours,

Richard J. Neutra
RJN/dn

RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
RCA BUILDING
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

ELMER W. ENGSTROM
SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



September 28th, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to recommend Mr. Kenneth Kassler as meriting recognition by the American Institute of Architects for advancement to the Fellow grade. I have known Mr. Kassler for approximately 15 years and I am familiar with his architectural accomplishments. I am impressed by his ability to innovate and to conceive new methods and yet at the same time to produce a practical end result.


I have been Treasurer of the Trustees of the Princeton YMCA-YWCA Corporation during the period from architectural planning through the completion of construction of buildings. It was during this period that I had my most intimate contact with Mr. Kassler since he was the architect for this project. This was a program of approximately \$1,000,000 in magnitude. The architectural design and the architectural supervision on this job was carried out to the full satisfaction of the Trustees and of the community. The project is unique in a number of its facilities, but yet practical in terms of its utility. As I suppose is normal in a project carried out for a community or a volunteer organization, there are many diverse opinions and desires to be met. In meeting these differences and in producing a result which was satisfactory to all parties, Mr. Kassler performed equally as well as he did in the professional requirements as architect.

As this letter indicates, I am the Senior Executive Vice President of the Radio Corporation of America. Among a number of operating and staff

(over)

responsibilities, I am charged in an administrative sense with the corporation's facilities and the construction of new facilities. I cite this to indicate that I am knowledgeable in the matter of architecture and architectural performance. It is with this background of experience that I heartily recommend Mr. Kassler for this recognition by the Institute.

Very truly yours,



EWE/g

EDWARD D. STONE
A R C H I T E C T
38 EAST 65TH STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

September 25, 1959

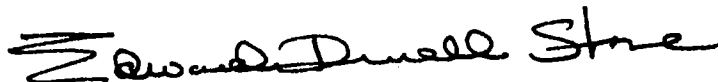
The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to recommend
Kenneth Kassler for a fellowship.

He has a brilliant record in design and
is qualified in every way for a fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



Edward Durell Stone

EDS:bk

FREDERICK G. FROST JR. & ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS

144 EAST 30TH ST. NEW YORK 16, N. Y. MURRAY HILL 5-9789

FREDERICK G. FROST JR.	F. A. I. A.
NEMBARD N. CULIN	A. I. A.
CARL J. CARLSON	A. I. A.
CARL FELTZ	A. I. A.
S. HART MOORE	A. I. A.
GEORGE J. SCHWARZ	A. I. A.
FREDERICK G. FROST	F.A.I.A.

September 25, 1959

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

Re: Kenneth Kassler, A.I.A.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am honored to have been asked to write a letter supporting the application which is being filed by Mr. Richard J. Chorlton, A.I.A. recommending to you the advancement of Mr. Kenneth Kassler, A.I.A. to Fellowship in the Institute.

Mr. Kassler and I have been friends for many years. Our friendship began when I was an undergraduate at Princeton studying architecture and Mr. Kassler was a graduate student. Later he became an instructor on the Faculty when I was doing graduate work.

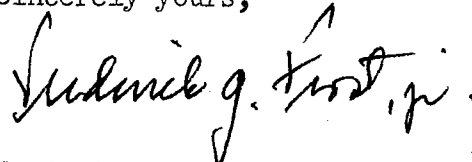
Over the years since then, I have followed his career with great interest. It seems to me that it has been a distinguished one.

Of the many buildings he has designed, I have only had the good fortune to visit one. That was his own first residence at Princeton, N. J. It seemed to me then, and it does now, that this was a fine residence and exemplified the distinguished work of this architect. Other examples of his work are known to me from photographs in magazines. All seem to me to indicate that Mr. Kassler is fully worthy of being made a Fellow.

In addition to his distinction in design, I know that his practice has been highly competent in every respect and that he, himself, has stood for the highest professional ethics.

I hope that your Committee will grant the application.

Sincerely yours,



Frederick G. Frost, Jr.

FGFjr/md

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*Acknowledged
9/26/59*

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

September 23, 1959

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I take pleasure in endorsing the candidacy of Kenneth Kassler to the group of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. It seems to me that Mr. Kassler has demonstrated his distinction as an architect in three different respects. First, he has designed and built a group of handsome buildings, houses, institutional structures, and a splendid bridge. These buildings are all in a contemporary style, reflecting sometimes the work of Frank Lloyd Wright or at another moment the so-called international style, but Mr. Kassler has always assimilated the conventional styles and given them a personal stamp.

Second, in the tradition of Frank Lloyd Wright and other contemporary architects, he has undertaken to explore the possibilities of new and more practical, as well as attractive, materials. He has shown the same kind of alertness in the study of the functioning of some of the most basic elements, such as the screens in his own house.

Perhaps the most extraordinary aspect of Mr. Kassler as an architect is his ability to respond, very often imaginatively, to the needs and the ideas of his clients without abandoning his own positions or compromising his own architectural style. He shows in this regard great flexibility and insight, and indeed his conception of the role of the architect whose imagination functions under the stimulus of the clients explicit and implicit wants is very rare.

Faithfully yours,

Millard Meiss
Professor of The History of Art

MM:dw

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
21 September 1959

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

Wurster

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

Gentlemen:

The name of Kenneth Kassler is to be before you for election to Fellowship I am told. I have known Mr. Kassler for twenty years and want to send my enthusiastic and complete support for this elevation with good reason as I will endeavor to show.

FACTUAL

Before doing so, however, I want to explain that this enthusiasm is not caused by the fact that Mr. Kassler and I are connected by marriage (our wives are sisters) although of course it does give me a better opportunity to know him and his work.

Mr. Kassler is inspired by the highest ethics and runs his professional life with complete integrity. Furthermore he gives time and thought to the young people who work for him so in a way, they go to the school of practice while they are with him. No dry routine is followed. As an educator I know how invaluable this kind of office is in our educational scheme.

Mr. Kassler has a scientific bent which expresses itself in the research and experimentation which always pervades his job. As architecture wishes to turn more and more to research I think of Ken as a leader in this direction. It is well to honor this side of architecture. His windows of double plastic and honeycomb -- his conical ceiling in his own Living Room all show this direction. He has a logical, reasoning mind.

The social factors of life are of moving interest to him. Just last spring he made a trip to Europe with a group of experts looking at penal institutions. How can these be made more human and yet help solve the need? I know how much time he gives to this in his thinking.

Mr. Kassler gives time to students and the architectural education at Princeton over and above the time at his office with draftsmen. This comes because of a native interest as well as the good chance which locates him in Princeton.

But over and above all of the many phases of this well rounded man is the distinction of his design. Over the years I have seen many of his works and they never fail to thrill me with their logic, beauty and taste. His own house with its round living room is very beautiful. His Nursing Home is very fine. As you go down the complete list of his works you will find in them the qualities we seek for in our Fellows.

Agreement 12/2/59
9/15 3/59

Jury of Fellows

2

21 September 1959

I give this my whole-hearted support because we not only have design distinction but the complete man at his best.

Respectfully yours,

William W. Wurster

William W. Wurster, Dean
College of Environmental Design

WWW:jd

SHERLEY W. MORGAN, F. A. I. A.
ARCHITECT - PRINCETON - NEW JERSEY

September 21, 1959

Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Although it is always a pleasant duty for me to support well-deserved nominations for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects, it is truly a joy to respond enthusiastically in favor of the candidacy of Kenneth Stone Kassler of New Jersey.

I have known him and his work intimately since 1925 when he began the study of Architecture at Princeton. After his graduation and some travel abroad, he was appointed to the Staff of the Princeton School of Architecture, and served under me for three years, before opening his own office.

His work showed from the beginning a happy blend of sensitive feeling for form and texture with scientific interest in the development and expression of contemporary structure. When in 1937, I had the challenging opportunity to design the Squibb Institute for Medical Research (New Brunswick, N. J.), I got Ken to collaborate. It was the first window-less, completely air-conditioned building in this area, with precast moulded concrete curtain-walls framing panels of glass-blocks. Full credit for solving the problems involved in this new (then) type of construction goes to him, as well as a full share of the credit for the architectural expression.

This building and several others that Kassler did on his own in the next few years, were published and commended nationally by the professional magazines. His office and home were in Princeton, and he often served on juries at the School, or gave talks to the graduate students on his experiments with new structural possibilities and their relation to architectural expression. I saw him continuously except for the World War II years, when he was a Marine officer on active duty in the Pacific.

Then in 1952, the removal of a vocal chord obliged me to retire from the University Faculty and I found office space with Ken. We did two jobs together. One was for the State of New Jersey (dormitories for retarded children) and the other was the Princeton YM-YWCA. Due to changes in program, site, and budget, the latter went through over fifty schemes, and was completed only last spring. It was a test of architectural association which was successful because of Ken's sympathetic cooperation and willingness to do most of the hard work while sharing the fun.

(over)

July of Fellows, A.I.A.

9/21/59

Gentlemen, I assure you that in Kenneth Kassler you have the type of man that the Institute is seeking for its Fellows. He is a creative artist, has a keen interest in the imaginative development of structural science, and full realization of his responsibilities to his clients, his contractors and the general public. He is a gentleman, a scholar and a public-spirited citizen.

I cannot urge you too strongly to advance him to Fellowship. He has earned this honor in Design, Construction and Education. It will be easy to cite more facts in corroboration of this recommendation if you wish.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherley W. Morgan, F.A.I.A.

SWM:evn

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
THE BOARD OF PENSIONS

Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

KINGSLEY 5-7640

September 18, 1959

Jury of Fellows,
The Octagon
Washington, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

We understand that Mr. Kenneth Kassler is being proposed as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and are glad to join with others in expressing our high regard for him as an individual and an architect.

A few years ago we were asked to "do something" about the problem of shelter and care for retired ministers and missionaries. As a group, these individuals served in varying capacities over a period of forty or more years during which they lived in homes owned and provided for them by churches. On retirement at age 70 or later, these individuals had to find a home of their own, usually renting or purchasing a home for the first time in their lives. Some would not be able to care for themselves (less than 3%) but the remainder would be able to do so if proper housing was available for them. The problem was to determine the kind of shelter that should be provided.

We consider ourselves fortunate in having obtained Mr. Kassler as our architect for he was able to study the problem, grasp its implications and help develop a philosophy. Within this larger framework, the particular housing problem soon became clear and he was then able to design it with a particular objective in mind. We did not want to follow the familiar pattern of an old people's home - we wanted to build with the idea in mind that it could be copied across the country and be good for all older persons, good for the community and good for the nation. These factors are mentioned only because they indicated the need we had for an architect with unusual scope and perceptiveness.

The result was an interesting small development of ten homes in which Mr. Kassler took full responsibility, starting from a tract of wooded land in Swarthmore, Penna., planning the roads and utilities, grading, building and landscaping. The houses, themselves, are simple but attractive and after two years of use, the retired couples living in them have not been able to suggest a single major improvement. In fact, all of the couples on the waiting list want to live in a house with the same floor plan.

Naturally, we are very happy with this project and we realize that much of its success is due to Mr. Kassler's interest and intelligent approach. We are not competent to judge the finished products architectur-

(over)

Jury of Fellows.

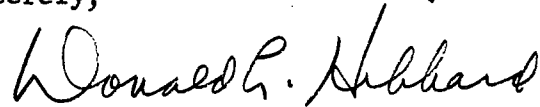
-2-

September 17, 1959.

ally, but we do know that the results have been eminently satisfactory and livable. His personality was such that no serious problems arose with the contractor (an aggressive, quick-tempered Irishman), and his ability to satisfy the donor (who had strong ideas) without "giving in" on any important matters was of great value to us.

What we have tried to say is that Mr. Kassler is a very real credit to the profession and we wish there were more like him. Not only did he do a good job, but he engendered in all of us a feeling of happiness about the entire project - and the people living in it seem to be carrying that same spirit forward.

Sincerely,



Executive Vice-President.

DLH: cnb

(Mrs.) BURNHAM HOYT

ARCHITECT

September 18, 1959
Denver, Colo.

Mr. Richard J. Chorlton
341 Nassau St
Princeton, N.J. -

FACTUAL

Dear Mr. Chorlton -

It is unfortunate that Mr. Hoyt is too ill at this time to write the letter for Kenneth Kessler which I know he would be very happy to write. I'm certain he would want to sponsor Kees for a Fellowship.

I can tell you that Mr. Hoyt has followed Kees' career in Architecture with interest and admiration for his dedicated approach to his work. -
He has always admired his
(over)

lively, enquiring mind and has been delighted with his original and imaginative solutions of problems which he has discussed with Mr. Hoyt.

I know my husband feels that Ned has much to contribute to his profession and I regret that I am unable to cite specific details -

Being a devotee of Mr. Hoyt's wishes in this instance, I hope this letter can be used as all unqualified endorsement of Ned for a fellowship which he has so rightly earned -

I send this letter to you hoping it will be of use -

Most sincerely

Wendell Hoyt



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

TRENTON 25

September 17, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

My dear Sirs:

It has been called to my attention that among the architects from New Jersey, proposed for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects, is Mr. Kenneth Kassler of Princeton.

I have been acquainted with Ken but a few years, however his reputation as a most capable architect is known to me.

The first project he was assigned to design and execute for the Department of Institutions and Agencies were two children units at our Brisbane Child Treatment Center, Allaire, New Jersey. These units blend with the natural surroundings, are practical in their use, were constructed at a minimum of cost and are an attractive asset to the Institution.

Two other projects which he is planning for this Department are the Turrell Residence at the above Institution and a Recreation Center for our State Hospital at Ancora. These projects have not as yet been constructed.

In conclusion, may I say Mr. Kassler's work is of the highest quality, complete in every detail including supervision of construction and above all he is a very fine gentleman.

Very truly yours,

John W. Tramburg
John W. Tramburg
Commissioner

JWT:10

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Department of Art and Archaeology

September 17, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

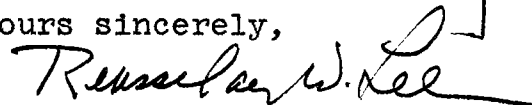
I understand that Mr. Kenneth Kassler is a candidate for Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and I have been asked to write a letter in his behalf. I am glad to submit the following testimonial based on long and close acquaintance.

I am not an architect; those architects who are supporting Mr. Kassler's candidacy will be happy to testify explicitly, as I cannot, ~~as~~ to his excellence as a designer of buildings. But I know that he is highly regarded as one of the very ablest architects of this community, and I myself regard him on the basis of the few buildings of his that I know (the Emeny, Kassler, and Frantz-Talcott houses) as an architect of fine taste, distinguished originality, and progressive temper.

I know Mr. Kassler chiefly as a friend who is personally and intellectually always a delight to be with. He has an active, brilliant and searching mind and abounds in fresh and interesting ideas. He is one of the best men in conversation that I know, and with his wide and deep knowledge of the arts, past and present, and of a great deal else, he is always persona grata in any society with humanistic interests.

He is furthermore, as his record shows, both as architect and citizen, a man who is interested in philanthropy, education and civic good. A man of strong convictions, he is also distinguished for his range and breadth of mind. I consider him a wholly admirable candidate for Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Yours sincerely,



Rensselaer W. Lee
Chairman

FOGG ART MUSEUM · HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

Coolidge John

September 17th, 1959

Mr. Richard J. Chorlton
341 Nassau Street
Princeton
New Jersey

Dear Mr. Chorlton:

Thank you for your letter of September 8th. I am flattered that you should want me to support your recommendation for Ken and I only wish I could do a more adequate job.

I have known Kenneth Kassler for twenty years. Before the War, we lived in Princeton and were intimate with him. At that time I was an architectural historian. I knew his work well and frequently discussed problems of architecture with him. Since the War, I have been living in Cambridge and have seen him rarely. He remains, however, a good friend. More important, my own interests have changed and because of the obligations of this job I am no longer in as close touch with architecture as I used to be. I have, however, seen something of Ken's recent work. I am therefore better able to recommend Ken as a person than I am as an architect.

Ken Kassler's buildings seem to me outstanding for a variety of reasons. Most important is their humanity. The designs are not machines for living but an environment in which the individual can dwell as a full human being and work with the greatest effectiveness. Invariably his buildings show extraordinary thoroughness and care; aesthetically they are elegant; practically, whether in planning or in construction, thought through to the last detail. He has, moreover, a great sense of intellectual adventure, is constantly experimenting with new ideas for design, new concepts of planning, and new techniques of construction. Hence, within the general qualities of humanity, elegance and thoroughness his work over the last twenty years has shown remarkable development.

This last comes out most clearly perhaps in a comparison of the two houses he has built for himself, both of which I know well. His first house in 1937 remains

(over)

is remarkable

Mr. Richard J. Chorlton - page two

an extraordinarily graceful study of the integration of architecture and landscape and for the extraordinary way he was able to make a small house seem spacious while preserving a high degree of privacy in separate rooms. Outdoor and indoor space are notable for their fine proportions. His latest house shows experimentation in a wholly different direction. The large livingroom is an exciting and original form. The bedrooms are charming in character and proportion and are most ingenious in technique. Throughout the building is bursting with new ideas, whether for a floor or window treatment or the shape of rooms.

These qualities of his buildings are merely the reflection of a remarkable personality. He is a man of the highest intelligence. I have never known a person who combined such intellectual toughness with complete open-mindedness. He has a wholly undogmatic approach, but the keen, critical quality of his mind enables him to achieve a firmly rooted but wholly independent intellectual position. Remarkable too are the diversity of his interests. As an architect he is keenly concerned with planning, with structure, with aesthetics and with the relation of the whole synthesis that is architecture to the desires and needs of the human beings who must use the buildings. This approach naturally fortifies his permanent interest in architectural education. He has carried out this concern formally at Princeton University and more informally by the program of apprentice teaching in his office. Finally, he is always an enthusiastic and effective member of the community and deeply interested in its human problems.

Sincerely yours,

John Coolidge
John Coolidge

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF
A. DAYTON OLIPHANT
JUSTICE, *Retired.*



STATE HOUSE ANNEX
TRENTON, N. J.
Princeton, N. J.

September 15th 1959

The Army of Fellows,
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Dear Sirs:-

I am happy to commend to you as a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects, New Jersey Chapter, Mr Kenneth A. Kessler of Princeton, New Jersey.

I have most favorably known Mr Kessler for a number of years. He is an outstanding member of this community, active in civic affairs, is a very respected citizen and is considered one of our leading architects.

As president of the Board of Trustees of the Princeton J. M. C. A. - J. W. C. A. I have come in close contact with Mr Kessler during the planning and construction of our new million dollar facilities, of which he was the architect in conjunction with

(over)

His associate, Mr. Shirley Lo. Morgan, he was extremely, in every particular, selfless, and largely thru his work and efforts we now have what is generally acknowledged as the outstanding No. 1 - 1/2 lo. building in the country. It is functional in addition to being of charming design, interior and landscaping.

From all that I know and have heard of Mr. Kessler and his work as an architect and as a man I cannot recommend him too highly to you for your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,
Weyton D. Kessler

Acknowledged

September 15, 1959

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I understand that the New Jersey Chapter, American Institute of Architects, has nominated Kenneth Kassler, member of that chapter, for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute. I wish to endorse this nomination heartily. I have known Mr. Kassler's work over a long period of time and I am very familiar with the advances that he has made in both design and construction method in various fields of architecture ranging from site planning through institutional, industrial, religious and commercial buildings. His work has also included a number of residences which have been extremely influential in the advancement of contemporary residential architecture in the U.S. I can say this with particular sincerity since I have chosen several of Mr. Kassler's houses to illustrate points that I thought were important in books that I have written on the development of U.S. residential design.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Creighton
Thomas H. Creighton
Editor

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acknowledged

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

September 15, 1959.

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

Gentlemen:

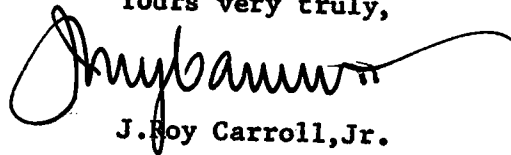
FACTUAL

The New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A. has informed me that they have proposed Kenneth Stone Kassler for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I am enclosing copies of biographical material which should be in your file.

Our office was associated with Kenneth Kassler on a project which was a series of residences for retired ministers in the Borough of Swarthmore, Pa., and Mr. Kassler through his office certainly rendered most competent services to his clients. He has been an active member of the New Jersey Society of Architects and a critic in design in the graduate program at Princeton University.

I am sure that the Jury of Fellows will give every consideration to the material presented in behalf of Mr. Kassler.

Yours very truly,



J. Roy Carroll, Jr.

jrc/r

are

THE OFFICE OF
KENNETH KASSLER & ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTS PRINCETON · NEW JERSEY

THE MAIN CONCERN of this office has always been good design — good design integrated with effective construction techniques and executed within the stipulated budget. We favor imaginative new concepts when compatible with sound structure and economy. That some success has been achieved is indicated by the frequent publication of our work.

S E R V I C E S

ANALYTICAL RESEARCH AND REPORTS
PROGRAM FORMULATION
SITE SELECTION - SITE PLANNING
PRELIMINARY REPORTS AND DESIGN
COST BUDGETS AND COMPARISONS
COMPREHENSIVE DESIGN INTEGRATION
CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION
EXPERIMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL
WORK IN THE CONSTRUCTION FIELDS

The office consists of an average of ten architects and engineers, with present facilities for twice that number. By reason of our experience and staff, we are capable of handling projects running into the millions. With the University and the many research centers in the community, Princeton offers an impressive array of specialists who may be consulted on specific problems.

P R O J E C T S P A R T I A L L I S T

I N S T I T U T I O N A L A N D M E D I C A L

Princeton Y.M.C.A.-Y.W.C.A. †	Princeton, N. J.
Mental & Convalescent Facilities, Tenacre Foundation	Princeton, N. J.
New Jersey State, Brisbane Child Treatment Center †	Allaire, N. J.

P U B L I C

New Jersey State Park Recreational Facilities*	Hopatcong, N. J.
Firehouse	Borough of Princeton
Community Building	Borough of Princeton

R E S E A R C H L A B O R A T O R I E S

Applied Science Corporation of Princeton	Princeton, N. J.
E. R. Squibb & Sons, Biological Laboratories* †	New Brunswick, N. J.

I N D U S T R I A L

Manufacturing plant, Disogrin Industries, Inc.	Hopewell, N. J.
Manufacturing plant #5, Applied Science Corporation	Princeton, N. J.

R E L I G I O U S

Parish House, St. Alban's Episcopal Church	Staten Island, N. Y.
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C O M M E R C I A L

Office Building, Princeton Municipal Improvement, Inc.	Princeton, N. J.
Princeton University Store — Additions	Princeton, N. J.

S I T E P L A N N I N G

Greenbrook Project,* U.S. Resettlement Administration	Middlebush, N. J.
Marquand Estate Subdivision (now a municipal park)	Princeton, N. J.

H C
E

HOUSING

Group Dwellings for Retired Persons*

Swarthmore, Pa.

The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

EXPERIMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL WORK

Thin Shell Concrete

Kassler House,*
Princeton, N. J.

Precast Concrete Curtain Walls

Squibb Biological Laboratory,*
New Brunswick, N. J.

Precast Prestressed Concrete Construction

Princeton Y.M.C.A.
Disogrin Industries

Steel Frame, Modular Curtain Wall,
Shop Fabricated Construction

Walker* and Boone* Houses,
Princeton, N. J.

Translucent and Transparent Walls for Multiple Light Control

Kassler House,*
Princeton, N. J.

RESIDENTIAL WORK

Residence, Brookhouse* and Bridge,* Frederic L. Beckman

Blawenburg, N. J.

Residence, Fred H. Best*

Mountainside, N. J.

Residence, Walker Bleakney*

Princeton, N. J.

Prefabricated House, American Houses, Inc.

Model House,* Revere Copper & Brass Co.

Springfield, N. J.

Residence, Gordon Keppel

Williamsburg, Va.

Residence, Robert M. Walker*

Swarthmore, Pa.

Residence, Frantz-Talcott*

Princeton, N. J.

Residence, Paul Sturkie*

New Brunswick, N. J.

Residence, Brooks Emeny*

Princeton, N. J.

Residence, Kenneth Kassler*

Princeton, N. J.

* Work published in books or nationally circulated magazines.

† In association with Sherley W. Morgan, F.A.I.A.

KENNETH KASSLER

American Institute of Architects

Zoning Board of Adjustment, Borough of Princeton, Chairman

Committee on Hygiene of Housing, American Public Health Association

Advisory Council, School of Architecture, Princeton University

SHERLEY W. MORGAN, Associated Architect (for some commissions)

Fellow, American Institute of Architects

Director (Emeritus), School of Architecture, Princeton University

Secretary-Director, New Jersey State Board of Architects

ASSOCIATES

William H. Walker, II, A.I.A.

James A. Kerr, A.I.A.

Burton F. Weisbecker, R.A.

ENGINEERING

Consulting engineers are retained from the local area as well as from New York and Philadelphia, depending upon the nature of the problem.

CONSULTANTS

We have working agreements with consultants whom we consider outstanding in the fields of site and city planning, housing and urban redevelopment, hospitals, education, research and industry. Clients may, however, stipulate their own consultants.

FINANCIAL REFERENCES

Princeton Bank & Trust Company

First National Bank of Princeton

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler
(Answers to Questions A.I.A. Form H-503)

Page 1 Kenneth Stone Kassler

Chapter member since 1942, or 17 years

Page 2 Biographical Statistics

- 1) Name: Kenneth Stone Kassler
- 2) Citizenship: Natural citizen of U.S.A.
- 3) Legal Address: Lafayette Road West, Princeton, N.J.
- 4) Firm name: Kenneth Kassler A.I.A. Architect
(formerly Kenneth Kassler Associates, Architects, changed because of new rules, New Jersey State board of Architects.)
- 5) Business Address: 18 Nassau Street, Princeton, N.J.
- 6) Registered: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Maine
(1935) New Jersey Certificate #C-2092
(1937) MCARB Certificate #118 (NCARB File #1056.)
- 7) Engaged in: practice of architecture as practicing architect.
- 8) Born: Denver Colorado, U.S.A. - 2/28/1905.
- 9) Schools, colleges and universities:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>No. years</u>	<u>Yr. Grad.</u>	<u>Degree</u>
Private school Hill School	Pottstown, Pa.	4	1923	Yes
Princeton University	Princeton, N.J.	4	1927	B.S.
Princeton University	Princeton, N.J.	3	1930	M.F.A. architecture

10) See next page

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler

10) Other Data Concerning Nominee's Record

- 1935 Started Practice of Architecture
- 1935-36 Washington, D.C., Assistant Chief Site Planner, Greenbrook Project, Suburban Resettlement Administration.
- 1936-42 Architectural Practice in Princeton, New Jersey
- 1942-45 War service as reserve officer, U.S. Marine Corps.
- 1943-44 -South Pacific, Combat area.
- 1944-45 -Washington D.C., U.S. Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, cognizant officer all Public Works projects for Marine Corps Air Stations in United States and continental America. Additional duty in development of Naval Air Experimental Facilities, Atlantic Coast.
- 1945 Architectural Practice Princeton
- present
- 1952-59 Planning, travel, and research in preventative and correctional areas of human behavior
- 1952 -Plans for Hampshire Country School (behavior problems)
- 1953 -Arthur Brisbane Child Treatment Center, State of New Jersey - commission, 2 cottages (emotionally disturbed children)
- 1958-59 -Turrell Residential Group Treatment Center, State of New Jersey - commission (delinquent girls)
- 1959 -Trip to Sweden, Denmark, England and Holland as member of delegation from State of New Jersey visiting prisons and correctional institutions
- 1955-58 Planning, travel and research in Housing for the Aged.
- 1955 -Trip to Denmark and England to study Old Age facilities
- 1956-57 -Residences for Retired Persons, Board of Pensions, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. - commission

Trustee:

- The Princeton Y.M.C.A.
- Dorothea Van Dyke McLean Association (Philanthropic organization).
- Miss Fine's School (Private Girls' School) 1953-58.

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

<u>Type</u>	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
Domestic	First Residence for Kassler	Princeton, N.J.	1937
Domestic	Residence for Fred Best	Mountainside, N.J.	1940
Domestic	Brook House Fred Beckman	Blawenburg, N.J.	1940
Special	Nursing Home Tenacre Foundation	Princeton, N.J.	1952
Domestic	Second Residence for Kassler	Princeton, N.J.	1954
Special	Dormitories for Children in State Hospital	Farmingdale, N.J.	1955
Domestic	Residence, Misses Frantz and Talcott	Princeton, N.J.	1956
Special	Bath House Complex State Park	Lake Hopatcong, N.J.	1957
Domestic	Dwelling for Retired Persons, Board of Pensions, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.	Swarthmore, Pa.	1957
Monumental	Y.M.C.A.-Y.W.C.A.	Princeton, N.J.	1959

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler

SCIENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|--|---|--|
| 1. | 1937-38 | Moulded Surfaces on masonry panels and blocks. | Squibb Biological Laboratories
Architect's House | New Brunswick, N.J.
Princeton, N.J. |
| 2. | 1953-54 | Thin-Shell Concrete | Architect's House | Princeton, N. J. |
| 3. | 1947-51 | Stressed Skin, Panelized, Curtain Wall Construction, on Steel Frame | Walker and Boone Houses | Princeton, N. J. |
| 4. | 1949-54 | Translucent & Transparent Curtain Walls, Multiple Light Control Panels | Architect's House | Princeton, N. J. |
| 5. | 1948-54 | Furniture, Modular Storage Units, Studies in Mass Production | Architect's House | Princeton, N. J. |

A brief description of items 2, 3, and 4, will be written for the final draft of material to be submitted to the jury of Fellows.

In addition, a small brochure of photographs of items 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be made showing techniques and completed examples or work in progress. This brochure will be separate from that submitted for design.

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler

EDUCATION

- 1932 Member, Henry Wright's Summer Work Project, which was incorporated later in Wright's Work "Rehousing Urban America."
- 1930-33 Instructor Princeton University. Graduate and under-graduate design.
- 1934-37 Vice-President, Princeton Architectural Association*
- 1947 Chief Critic, Second Term, Princeton University, Graduate Design.
- 1947 Member of Organization Committee, and Discussion Leader, Bicentennial Conference on Architecture, Princeton University. Contributor later to "Building for Modern Man", a symposium of the Conference, edited by Thomas H. Creighton.
- 1960 Critic, Princeton University, Architectural Design, Graduate Program.
- 1957-60 Advisory Council, School of Architecture, Princeton University. (And at least one additional earlier term of membership on Council.)
- 1938-60 Member of innumerable juries, judging student architectural design problems, including at least five juries passing on graduate degrees in Princeton, and for the Stewardson Prize in Philadelphia.
- 1954-56 Member of Selection Committee for Architects and Planners, Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Program.
- 1946-60 Employer every year, usually in summer, of architectural students on temporary basis, to do
a) General draughting on commission projects.
b) Research and development of hypothetical problems.
For example, George Kostritsky, on a Small Elementary School for 300.

*Composed of Princeton Graduate architects.

Biographical Material on Kenneth Kassler

PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1941-42 Blood Donor Service, Princeton Red Cross, Chairman
- 1941-42 Advisor to Committee on Passive Protection Against Bombing, National Research Council.
- 1946-58 Zoning Board of Adjustment, Princeton Boro, New Jersey. Chairman 1955-58.
- 1952-56 Committee, Hygiene of Housing, American Public Health Association.
- 1953-55 Architects' Advisory Committee, Greater Philadelphia, Delaware, South Jersey Council.
- 1959 Multiple Housing Committee of Planning Board, Princeton Township, New Jersey
-present

MARSHALL FIELD & COMPANY
CHICAGO STORES
111 NORTH STATE STREET
CHICAGO 90

JOHN T. MOSS
VICE PRESIDENT
DESIGN DIRECTOR

September 15, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
THE OCTAGON
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Dear Sirs:

I have had the good fortune to know Mr. Kenneth Kassler for some thirty years.


In my opinion, he has many qualities which should make him a candidate for a Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

He is a conscientious designer, but not without intense interest in the functional and construction phases of architecture. He has also always been interested in advising and teaching the elements of design and construction which he believes in.

I have had the pleasant experience of inspecting and studying some of his finished projects with him.

At such times I have always felt that he was justly pleased with his accomplishments, but not without some self-criticism of certain details, and a desire to better these details on future projects. This spirit of progress and the seeking of new answers to problems I feel are most commendable in his approach to architecture.

Very sincerely yours,


John Moss

JM:d



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
STATE BOARD OF CONTROL OF
INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES
TRENTON, N. J.

September 14, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I would like to strongly support the advancement of Mr. Kenneth Kassler to the position of Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

My principle knowledge of Mr. Kassler's work is in connection with the two student cottages designed by him that were built at the Brisbane Child Treatment Center in Monmouth County, New Jersey.

It is extremely difficult to prevent governmental institution buildings from being cold, bleak, and repetitious. The pressures of restricted budgets, and the force of pre-conceived routine solutions tend to prevent buildings such as these from having any light or life or interest or warmth.

The two cottages at the Child Treatment Center represent excellent examples of what we believe buildings such as this should be and great credit is due the architect. A successful building of this kind will have a significant effect on future buildings in the Department, giving subsequent administrators and Boards of Managers inspiration and courage to accept new solutions to their building problems.

Sincerely,

Lloyd B. Wescott
Lloyd B. Wescott,
President

LBW:mh



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

STATE HOUSE
TRENTON 25

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION

*Bussell, Alfred
aged*

DIVISION OF
PURCHASE AND PROPERTY

CHARLES F. SULLIVAN
DIRECTOR

September 14, 1959.

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D.C.

F A C T U A L

Gentlemen:

I am delighted to have the opportunity to recommend Kenneth Kassler for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

In general Mr. Kassler has been known to me through various publications which are listed elsewhere. I have also known him personally for a number of years being a fellow resident of Princeton, N.J. He is outstanding as an architect, interested in the best traditions of the profession both in his actual work and in his social and business contacts. He has interested himself in civic matters contributing a great deal of time to the Y.M.C.A., Miss Fine's School and other organizations.

Mr. Kassler has done three commissions for the State of New Jersey under my supervision as head of the Bureau of Construction:

1. Two resident cottages for the Brisbane Child Treatment Center at Allaire - N.J. - Although these cottages were not of large scope and the budget was extremely limited, Mr. Kassler produced a very satisfactory and imaginative plan. The appearance is pleasing even though the material was largely confined to concrete block to save cost. The facility has been uniformly praised as being admirably suited to its use.
2. Bathhouse & Concession Building, Lake Hopatcong, N.J. - Again this building was very carefully designed and detailed. The elements are simple but there is evidence of a great deal of thought in their composition. It has set a standard for buildings of this type.
3. Turrell Residential Group Center, Allaire, N.J. - This building will be built to provide an atmosphere conducive to group interaction therapy for 16 to 18 delinquent girls. The planning of the building will probably have a considerable effect upon the success of an experimental program. Mr. Kassler took an active part in the development of the program and produced plans which satisfied its exacting requirements. Although this building has not yet been built, I believe that it will also provide a model for similar ones in this State and elsewhere.

(over)

The Jury of Fellows

-2-

It is often true that architects' work for governmental agencies is unprofitable because of the excessive amount of time required. Although this is probably true in the specific projects cited, there has never been any suggestion of reducing the amount of thought and study or the number of sketches. Mr. Kassler's one aim has appeared to be to produce the best job possible and I believe that this has been the result in each case.

Very truly yours,



FOR CHARLES F. SULLIVAN, Director
Division of Purchase & Property
By Alfred Busselle, A.I.A.
Assistant Director for Construction

AB:jkw

GEORGE FRED KECK
WILLIAM KECK
ARCHITECTS
612 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS
TELEPHONE SUPERIOR 7-5035

September 10, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washington, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 8th regarding Kenneth Kassler.

I have on several occasions when I was in Princeton met with, talked with, and seen work done by Kenneth Kassler. I was very well impressed with his work, especially that which I have seen and which is not necessarily his best work because I saw it. His work is most carefully done, thoroughly thought out, in the most reasonable contemporary manner. He uses materials available in today's construction in a suitable and intelligent manner, put together with technicians available to accomplish a most reasonable architecture. In Princeton I naturally saw mostly his residential work and I was proud of the work that I saw which he did. All too often architects have relinquished work in this field to aspire to larger things, whereas the real challenge, the real difficulty in architecture lies in housing of all kinds. If we architects could solve these problems properly, many of our problems would disappear. Mr. Kassler has done more than an architect's share in this field, for which I congratulate him highly.

(over)

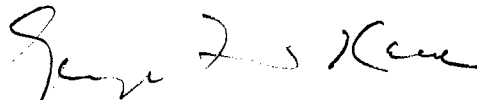
The Jury of Fellows

-2-

September 10, 1959

He is a man of outstanding intelligence, married to an equally outstanding girl who is a fine architect and writer in her own name. It goes without saying that a helpmate of this kind is more important to a good architect's standing in his community than anything else. Mr. Kassler serves, therefore, the profession of architecture as a gentleman and scholar should. He has done nothing of which he need be ashamed. I am, therefore, pleased that you should think of him as likely material for consideration as a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Kenneth Kassler richly deserves this honor.

Yours very truly,


George Fred Keck
cmc



State of New Jersey

ARTHUR BRISBANE CHILD TREATMENT CENTER

ALLAIRE, N. J.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: FARMINGDALE, N. J.

TELEPHONE: FARMINGDALE 5-4441

GEORGES H. LUSSIER, M.D.
DIRECTOR

MYRON M. SCHREIBER
BUSINESS MANAGER

September 10, 1959

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon
Washinton, D. C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that Mr. Kenneth Kassler, Architect, of Princeton, New Jersey, is being sponsored as a Fellow of the New Jersey Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

I first met Mr. Kassler in the Summer of 1953 when he had been retained to prepare plans for two cottages to house thirty two emotionally disturbed children at our residential treatment center. At that time I told Mr. Kassler that we wanted two cottages which would be functional in operation, and of homelike atmosphere with the idea of getting away from the institutional type of building. In discussing our children who would be housed in these new cottages, I was amazed at the profound knowledge and understanding that Mr. Kassler had of the needs of emotionally disturbed children.

After looking over prospective sites for the buildings, Mr. Kassler finally chose one which lent itself very nicely for the type of building which we had in mind. When the first draft of the plans was submitted for study and presented to our Board of Managers, but few changes had to be made, mostly to keep within the amount of money appropriated for the construction. Mr. Kassler gave enormously of his time and knowledge in the landscaping, selection of furniture, and interior decoration.

I am pleased to report that after two years of operation of these two cottages, we find them to be as functional as originally planned and were we to construct other cottages, would definitely continue the plans of the present ones with just minor changes.

Mr. Kassler was most cooperative, understanding and patient, and was highly commended by our Board of Managers for his accomplishment. I might add that we have had only highly favorable comments from visitors and architects from other States, who themselves were planning housing for emotionally disturbed children.

Although a layman, I would think that Mr. Kassler would certainly qualify to be elected a Fellow.

Very truly yours,

ARTHUR BRISBANE CHILD TREATMENT CENTER

Georges H. Lussier
Georges H. Lussier, M. D., Medical Director

GHL/fjs

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gentlemen - of all the
 Americans I know Mr.
 Kessler is the most civilized.
 He is gentle, kind, forgiving
 when need be, curious
 of mind - capable,
 attentive to detail (as all
 top floor architects are
 of late) he is an artist.

2/ a craftsman, and an
engineer. He enotes
your profession as a
human & a Guilden.

Sincerely

Robert G. Storm

Salisbury

RFD.

Conn.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

December 2, 1959

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

Re: Kenneth Stone Kassler, A.I.A.

To Members of
The Executive Committee, New Jersey 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 Kenneth Stone Kassler, 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? OF THE HIGHEST.

Joseph R. Scrimanti
(signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New Jersey 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, more fully expressed in previous letter of endorsement -

John Sacchetti 1st V.P.
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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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 Kenneth Stone Kessler, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? He has many friends and is well respected.
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? He is extremely ethical.
4. What is your opinion of his character? He is earnest, sincere and energetic and is constantly searching for new expressions and for truth in architecture.

(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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


(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A.

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

December 2, 1959

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

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To Members of
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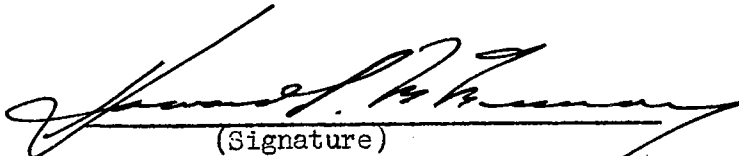
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To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to Kenneth Stone Kassler, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope 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? EXCELLENT


(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A.