

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

23 August 1954

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

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that Ernest Born has been nominated for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Ernest Born is a strong, selfless person who has done much for our profession in many aspects. As a student he showed promise early in drawing and this has flowered until his work is of the best we have in our profession. Not content with this he turned his attention to practise and his things are forceful and fine. He has given unstintedly to the civic-art affairs in San Francisco which was recognized this year by the bestowal of the Northern California Chapter's Award of Merit - the award of High Honor for brilliant and selfless service to his community and his profession in advancing the cause of City Planning, Architecture and the Arts.

Now he has added to all this a teaching assignment in the College of Architecture of the University of California. And here, too, he contributes with limitless vigor.

His outlook in all of these phases has noble proportions. It is an honor to give endorsement to this nomination.

Sincerely yours,

*William W. Wurster*

William W. Wurster, Dean  
College of Architecture

FACTUAL

HARRISON & ABRAMOVITZ, ARCHITECTS  
630 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

*Ernest Born*

August 23, 1954

*ack 8/27  
b*

The Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Ernest Born worked with me in the days of the New York World's Fair and before. He is a great designer - a real architect - a man devoted to what I understand to be the highest of ideals in his profession. I would certainly like to see him a member of the honored group of Fellows.

Sincerely,

*Wallace K. Harrison*

Wallace K. Harrison

*W.K.H.*

WKH:O

*I mean I worked with Ernest - This indicates only time*

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August 25, 1954

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

Gentlemen:

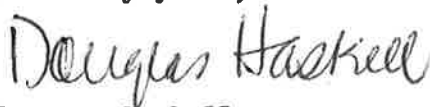
I am delighted to endorse the nomination of the Executive Committee of the Northern California Chapter for a Fellowship for Ernest Born.

Ernest Born will stand for incorruptible integrity in the memory of the many, many people whose lives and careers he has deeply influenced.

I suppose one would have to say his greatest gift was in design although one would like a classification that would recognize a great gift for stimulation. I first knew Born when he was doing magazine covers for the old Architectural Record under Dr. Mikkelson and Lawrence Kocher. After which he served with equal distinction on the FORUM under Howard Myers. It was Born who started on their way numbers of other fine gifts in the art of graphic presentation, including Paul Grotz at the FORUM and Madelaine Thatcher. Whether he was advising Mr. Fletcher on granite problems in the course of putting out unexcelled promotional literature for building materials, or whether he was serving on the Art Commission in San Francisco, or whether he was struggling with the hardboiled proprietors of a major department store, or designing a beautiful house, or putting some joy of life into public housing, he has always been one of those that helped hold all around him to a higher standard of performance.

Ernest, with his brilliance, has sacrificed a great deal of possible income to maintain his standards. His output has been relatively small but of the choicest. Architecture and its presentation are permanently the richer for him, and I believe he generously merits the accolade of Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



Douglas Haskell  
Editorial Chairman

DH:aw

FACTUALLY  
9-23-54

WURSTER, BERNARDI AND EMMONS, ARCHITECTS  
202 GREEN STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 11, CALIFORNIA EXBROOK 2-8918

13 September 1954

WILLIAM WILSON WURSTER, F. A. I. A.  
THEODORE C. BERNARDI, A. I. A.  
DONN EMMONS, A. I. A.

JAMES D. WICKENDEN  
ALBERT ARONSON, A. I. A.  
WILLARD D. RAND, JR., A. I. A.

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

Gentlemen:

It has been my privilege to know Ernest Born for the past fifteen years, and it is with great pleasure that I write to you in connection with his nomination for Fellowship in the Institute.

Mr. Born's devotion to the best principals of his profession and to the cause of architecture have been brought out in many ways. His designs for exhibits for the Chapter have been the best we have ever had. His hard work and refusal to compromise as a member of the San Francisco Art Commission made that body a force for good design that it had never been before.

In one instance, through his efforts, the City of San Francisco carried through the master plan and now the construction of a community center with three schools, a library, a recreation center and playfields.

Mr. Born, now a professor of design at the University of California, is an inspiration to the coming generation of architects as well as to his contemporaries, by his thoughtful and understanding approach to problems of the community and architecture.

Mr. Born's ability as a designer is well expressed by the North Beach housing project, and many of his small houses, as well as by his beautiful drawings for which he has long been known.

This year the Northern California Chapter presented Ernest Born with an "Award of High Honor" for his great efforts in behalf of his profession. This was the first award of its kind ever given. Mr. Born was so much the obvious choice that he was unanimously selected by the Executive Board at the first discussion - a choice enthusiastically backed by the entire membership.

Sincerely yours



Donn Emmons

DE/eb

# DONALD BEACH KIRBY & ASSOCIATES

## ARCHITECTS

DONALD BEACH KIRBY, A. I. A.  
TED MOULTON, A. I. A.  
Members, American Institute of Architects  
BAIRD HEFFRON, Civil Engineer

*Recd - 9-23-54*

13 September 1954

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

Gentlemen:

This letter is being written to support the nomination of Ernest Born, A.I.A. of the Northern California Chapter who has been nominated for fellowship. Mr. Born enjoys a national reputation as a designer and teacher. I am sure that you have a detailed record and illustrations of his work, and it is not necessary to go into detail.

Mr. Born's very fine renderings and presentation drawings are known throughout the country. He has done a considerable amount of industrial design and has been very successful in this field with his distinguished and delicate sense of taste.

Mr. Born's activities in the field of designing exhibits has been another part of his professional activity. Many young men owe their educational inspiration to Mr. Born, and I trust that you will look favorably upon his nomination for the honor of fellowship.

Sincerely yours,

  
Donald Beach Kirby

cc: Northern California Chapter office

H O L A B I R D   E   R O O T   E   B U R G E E ✓  
*and*  
A S S O C I A T E S  
A R C H I T E C T S   E N G I N E E R S   C O N S U L T A N T S

September 17, 1954

ack  
9-23-54

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

Gentlemen:

The fine record and unusual extent of Ernest Born's work over the years for The Institute plus his contributions to architectural education warrant, in my opinion, his advancement to the Fellowship for his Service to The Institute and for his Service to Education.

Yours very truly,

  
JOHN WELLBORN ROOT

JWR:mc

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MORRIS KETCHUM JR., F. A. I. A.

227 EAST 44 STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

September 17, 1954

The Jury of Fellows  
The American Institute of Architects  
The Octagon  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I was very pleased to learn that the Executive Committee of the Northern California Chapter, A.I.A., has nominated Ernest Born for advancement to fellowship in the A.I.A. I am writing this letter to endorse this nomination.

During the last 30 years I have followed Mr. Born's work with great interest and enthusiasm. During that time, he has won national recognition as a designer and delineator. More important, all of his brilliant architectural renderings, whether prepared to illustrate his own work or the work of others, has been based on sound architectural design and construction. Mr. Born has proved, time and again, that he is an extremely capable architect and that his projects build just as well as they look on his magnificent drawings. I am also familiar with Mr. Born's valuable contribution to his home city of San Francisco in the field of city planning and with his service to that city on various commissions dealing with planning and building.

Finally, I believe that no one is more deserving of recognition by the Institute and I hope that his nomination receives your favorable consideration.

Very sincerely yours,



Morris Ketchum, Jr., F.A.I.A.

MKJr:hp

# george nelson and associates

30 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y., JUDson 2-0260

George Nelson, A.I.A.  
Irving Harper  
William C. Renwick  
John F. Pile  
Gordon Chadwick  
George Tscherny

October 6, 1954

Mr. William Corlett, Secretary  
Northern California Chapter  
American Institute of Architects  
26 O'Farrell Street  
San Francisco 8, California

Dear Mr. Corlett:

I am afraid this reply to your letter of August 17 regarding Ernest Born is much too late, and I can only apologize and hope that Mr. Born has received his Fellowship in the AIA.

Should this matter still be pending, I can only say that there are very few people in our profession better qualified to receive this honor. I have known Mr. Born for many years and have the most tremendous admiration for him both as a person and as one of the most remarkably talented individuals I have ever met.

Very truly yours,



GN:ML



CHARLES ST. GEORGE POPE  
ARCHITECT

605 Market Street  
San Francisco, Calif.  
October 12, 1954

The Jury of Fellows  
The American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C.

FACTUAL

Re: Ernest Born

Dear Sirs:

In April of this year, as Director of Administration of the Northern California Chapter, I presented the names of 44 Chapter members then eligible for consideration to Fellowship. The names of Charles Masten, John Lyon Reid and Ernest Born were unanimously chosen by the Executive Board as the outstanding of the many outstanding architects in our Chapter.

Ernest Born has just become eligible through 10 years in this Chapter. Why he did not join A.I.A. before 1944 I do not know.

To me the Covers that Mr. Born did for the American Architect in the late twenties were the acme of beautiful design and composition. His United Nations Building for San Francisco and everything he has touched have been inspirational.

Others will touch on his influence with the San Francisco Art Commission, on his Chapter for his inspirational work and designs of Bulletins, Awards, etc., on his present inspiration to college students at the University of California.

I hope that the minimum time in the A.I.A. does not prejudice the jury to delay his Fellowship.

Yours very truly,

*Charles S Pope*

Charles S. Pope, A.I.A.

Formerly Director of Administration  
Northern California Chapter.

**FRANCIS JOSEPH McCARTHY A.I.A. Architect**

693 MISSION STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 5 • EXBROOK 2-0262

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

F A C T U A L

Gentlemen:

This letter is in support of the Northern California Chapter's nomination of Ernest Born for fellowship in the Institute.

He is a person entirely dedicated to architecture as an art and a profession. In the eighteen years that I have known and been associated with him on various projects, civic and chapter activities, he has consistently maintained a high standard for design and a sense of responsibility to the public, which in turn has been reflected in increased respect of the public for our profession.

His renderings, drawings, paintings, and typographic designs are outstanding. His buildings, besides being distinguished in design, also reflect his fine sense of responsibility to the community as well as to the client.

Besides being active on Chapter committees, he has consistently given his time to design and assemble architectural exhibits. He assembled many of these exhibits even before he became a member of the Institute.

In Brasil where we worked together in 1943, his sincerity and integrity gained the respect of the Brasilians, and his activities as President of the San Francisco Art association have also brought respect to both himself and the architectural profession.

On the San Francisco Art Commission where I served with him for three years, as the other architect member, he devoted unlimited hours, at great personal sacrifice, with those responsible for the City's Building Program to create an atmosphere where it was possible for architects to give the public the full benefit of their professional ability rather than furnishing a draughting service. The

**FRANCIS JOSEPH McCARTHY A.I.A. Architect**

693 MISSION STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 5 • EXBROOK 2-0262

Page 2--

result of this activity has been to raise the standards of local public buildings as well as the prestige of the profession.

In addition to his distinguished and outstanding work in design and his unlimited service for both the public and profession, his council advice and criticism, which he gives generously, is constantly sought by both the older and younger men in the profession.

He is an Architects' Architect and would bring honor to the institute as a Fellow.

Very truly yours,



FJM/dm

October 22, 1954

ANSHEN & ALLEN

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS  
JURY OF FELLOWS  
THE OCTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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GENTLEMEN:

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING THE NOMINATION OF ERNEST BORN FOR FELLOWSHIP IN THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

MR. BORN HAS A LONG RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT; NOT ONLY IN HIGH EXCELLENCE OF DESIGN, BUT ALSO IN HIS DEDICATION AS AN ARCHITECT TO THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC.

HE HAS CONTRIBUTED HEAVILY TO THE CULTURAL BETTERMENT OF SAN FRANCISCO THROUGH HIS TIRELESS EFFORTS AS A MEMBER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO ART COMMISSION AND IN MANY OTHER WAYS. AS A PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, HIS WORK AND HIS TEACHINGS ARE OF GREAT INSPIRATIONAL VALUE TO THE STUDENTS. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY IS ACUTE AND SENSITIVE IN "SENSE OF DESIGN". HE IS HANDING ON TO THE STUDENTS IN THE BEST TRADITIONS OF THE "MASTER ARCHITECT", SHARING THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HE HAS ACCUMULATED OVER THE YEARS WITH THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE PROFESSION WHO ARE COMING ALONG.

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU OUR UNQUALIFIED HOPE THAT MR. BORN BE MADE A FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

VERY TRULY YOURS,  
ANSHEN & ALLEN, ARCHITECTS

By S. Robert Anshen  
S. ROBERT ANSHEN *th*

OCTOBER 25, 1954  
SRA/TL  
AIR MAIL

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

26 O'FARRELL STREET · SAN FRANCISCO 8 · DOUGLAS 2-3041

October 26, 1954

The Jury of Fellows  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

The name of Architect Ernest Born, A.I.A., has long been known and well received not only by Californians but by many people within the national and international scope of Architectural appreciation. His unquestionable sincerity and ability in design have been manifest in a variety of forms from cover designs for national Architectural Magazines to city apartment projects of large magnitude and from small local exhibits to master plans for expositions of high reknown.

Mr. Born lives architectural design as may presently be witnessed not only in the building projects that stand to his credit but also, in the conception of his own San Francisco home; in his charitable and unselfish contributions to the public planning problems of the City of San Francisco; and in his generous distribution of architectural knowledge to the students of the School of Architecture on the Berkeley campus of the University of California.

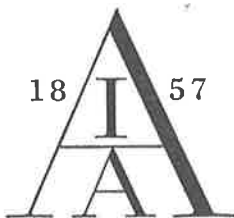
The Northern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has recently awarded this man the first and, thus far, only special certificate that it has given to honor an individual for his contributions to his profession and his community.

With my personal knowledge of the abilities and achievements of this modest and unassuming man of great character, I consider it a distinct honor to recommend his name as a foremost candidate for election to fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours,

*W.R. Spackman*  
W.R. SPACKMAN, A.I.A.

WRS:jmj



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

26 O'FARRELL STREET · SAN FRANCISCO 8 · DOUGLAS 2-3041

October 28, 1954

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Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Re: Election to Fellowship  
Ernest Born

Gentlemen:

I have served with Ernest Born as a member of the State Board of Architectural Examiners jury, sitting in judgement on Architectural License Applicant's design problems. This experience has qualified me to recommend Ernest Born to the Jury of Fellows as a member of the Profession who knows and believes in good Architecture. His distinguished work speaks for itself, his position as a Professor of Architecture at the University of California records his interest in developing Architectural talent, and his unselfish contribution to Institute Chapter activity exemplifies his devotion to the profession.

The Northern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects recognized, in 1953, these fine qualifites and conferred upon him their achievement award. If our 250 members considered Ernest Born, in effect "The Architects' Architect" he most certainly is worthy of the Jury of Fellows consideration.

Very truly yours,

*William Corlett*  
WILLIAM CORLETT A.I.A.  
Architect

WC:jb

GARDNER A. DAILEY, F.A.I.A. AND ASSOCIATES

442 POST STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 2

ARCHITECTS

FACTUAL

October 29, 1954

Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.  
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Nomination of Ernest Born

I understand that my friend, Ernest Born, is being proposed to the Jury of Fellows for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. His reputation is such that anything I might say may seem redundant but on the other hand it gives me great pleasure to speak of our association over the past years.

Ernest Born is as well known in the East as in the West. I believe he spent some ten years in New York at which time he was associated with many prominent architectural firms. My first association with him was when we jointly did the Brazilian Pavilion at the San Francisco Exposition for the Government of Brazil. His brilliant handling of the interior design was the chief contribution to the success of the building.

With the advent of World War II, Ernest Born and I found ourselves further associated with the Rubber Development Corporation's work in the jungles of Brazil. Together we worked on many design projects for proposed housing developments in Manoa and stations on the Upper Amazon. Although this work was never constructed, Mr. Born's fine planning and design ability was very apparent.

After the war, Ernest Born again returned to San Francisco and in the years that followed he has distinguished himself in private practice and in public service. He served most ably as the head of the Art Commission for the City of San Francisco for about four years commencing in 1947 and was personally responsible for the fine work of that Commission, notably in the improvement of the appearance of public works which are now appearing in our City.

Most recently Ernest Born has turned his hand to teaching and at this writing he is full professor in architecture at the University of California. Fortunately his professorship allows him time to carry on a brilliant private

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E

practice.

As a result of his many achievements and fine character it is with pleasure and enthusiasm that I recommend him for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gardner A. Dailey". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Gardner A. Dailey

GA:D/jp

cc: Northern California Chapter A. I. A.



ERNEST E. WEIHE  
EDWARD L. FRICK  
LAWRENCE A. KRUSE

WEIHE, FRICK & KRUSE  
ARCHITECTS  
A. I. A.  
251 KEARNY STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 8, CALIFORNIA

November 12, 1954

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

Gentlemen:

As Director of the Northern California Chapter of the Institute, I wish to express my sincere endorsement of the nomination of Ernest Born for fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Born has been outstanding in his inspiration of the younger members of the profession. He is at the present time a professor of architecture at the University of California.

His community service has been outstanding in that for a number of years he was chairman of the architectural section of the San Francisco Art Commission. He set up an extraordinary high standard of service for that committee. He is now chairman of the architect-engineer subcommittee of the Mayor's Forward Committee of the City of San Francisco.

His architectural works have been many and varied, among them being The North Point Housing Project in San Francisco, in collaboration with Henry Gutterson, three floors of Macy's Department Store in San Francisco, and many fine residences in the progressive spirit. As a delineator he ranks among the first in the nation.

His work in all his fields of activity has been of great credit to the architectural profession.

Yours very truly,

  
Lawrence A. Kruse

LAK:imw

ANSHEN & ALLEN

FACTUAL

ack 12/1

JURY OF FELLOWS  
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS  
1735 NEW YORK AVENUE N.W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

GENTLEMEN:

I AM HAPPY TO SEND YOU THIS LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF ERNEST BORN OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AIA FOR A FELLOWSHIP IN THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

AS A PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, HE HAS PROVIDED GREAT INSPIRATION TO MANY STUDENTS THROUGH HIS GREAT TEACHING ABILITY AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN.

THROUGH HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS AS A MEMBER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO ART COMMISSION FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, AND IN OTHER CIVIC ACTIVITIES, HE HAS MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CULTURAL BETTERMENT OF THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND HAS AT THE SAME TIME ASSISTED IN RAISING THE STATURE OF THE PROFESSION IN THE PUBLIC MIND.

HE HAS BEEN EVER ACTIVE IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE CHAPTER, GIVING GENEROUSLY OF HIS TIME AND OF HIS TALENTS TO THE COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES.

MR. BORN IS MOST WORTHY OF THE HONOR OF A FELLOWSHIP IN THE INSTITUTE, AND IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT HIS NOMINATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FAVORABLY.

VERY TRULY YOURS,



WM. STEPHEN ALLEN, DIRECTOR  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER  
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

NOVEMBER 29, 1954  
WSA/TL  
AIR MAIL  
CC: NORTHERN CALIF.)  
CHAPTER )

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FACTUAL

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

26 O'FARRELL STREET • SAN FRANCISCO 8 • DOUGLAS 2-3041

January 11, 1955

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

*cash to Chapter  
1/24  
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Gentlemen:

I am writing this letter to support the nomination of Ernest Born for Fellowship in the Institute. I know of no one more qualified for this initial honor. Mr. Born has been an inspiration for me since my student days, and I consider myself fortunate to have had the privilege of working with him as a member of the Institute.

Mr. Born has given generously of his time in the interests of our Chapter, and I wish to call to your attention the very excellent award certificates that he designed for our Honor Awards Program in 1953.

Mr. Born's activities on the San Francisco Art Commission, on which he served from 1947 to 1950 in various key positions, did more than any other single thing to advance good design in our city and bring honor and respect to our profession.

I am particularly familiar with the excellent work done by Mr. Born in some of the departments of Macy's San Francisco store.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard J. Sabaroff  
Treasurer