

Coit, Elizabeth
New York

Ms. A. I. A. 100
10

Application for Membership

February 15, 1929

To the Secretary of The American Institute of Architects.

I hereby apply for Membership in The American Institute of Architects, and certify that the following statements are correct:

Name..... Elisabeth Coit

Address..... 32 West 50th Street New York N.Y.

Place and date of birth..... Winchester, Massachusetts September 7, 1892

Graduate in architecture..... Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 1919.

Holder of Scholarship in architecture.....

Passed the qualifying examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or the examinations for the first class of the Ecolé des Beaux Arts.....

If your State has a Registration or License Law and you are not registered, state reasons.....

If practicing architect, firm name..... Elisabeth Coit

Have been in practice..... 3 years. If draughtsman, employed by.....

Collegiate and office training..... Office of Robert Coit, A.I.A. Office of Grosvenor Atterbury, F.A.I.A.

I have carefully examined the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute and the circular of advice relative to "Principles of Professional Practice," and I agree, if elected, honorably to maintain them.

I further agree, if elected to membership in The American Institute of Architects, that if at any time my membership shall cease, either by my own resignation or by any action taken by the Institute, I will then, by that fact, relinquish all rights of any character that I may have acquired by reason of such membership in the property, real or personal, of The American Institute of Architects, and of the Chapter of the Institute of which I am then a member.

(1) Elisabeth Coit
[Signature of Applicant.]

I hereby certify that the signer of this application was duly elected an Associate of the.....
[For use when the applicant is an Associate.]

Chapter, A. I. A., on the following date..... (2)
[Insert date of election to chapter.] [Signature of the Secretary of the chapter.]

If the applicant is not an Associate, the following acknowledgment must be signed:

Without endorsement I hereby take note on behalf of my chapter that this applicant is applying for Institute membership (3) Julian Clarence Lee, Secretary My Chapter
[Signature of President or Secretary of Chapter to which the applicant will be assigned if elected.]

We, the undersigned members of the American Institute of Architects, have carefully examined the foregoing statement by the applicant and believe it to be correct. We know the applicant personally, and consider that his work and practice warrant his admission to Membership.

Registration or License Number. (4) Marcia Meade
(5) Walter B. Fisher
(6) Ernest Atterbury

It is not mandatory that applicants from Registration or License law states be registered or licensed. But the current number of Registration or License must appear here if the applicant is registered or licensed.

(7) 1187
NUMBER

[The signatures of three Institute members are here required even if the applicant has the unanimous endorsement of his Chapter, in which case certification to that effect should be made above by the Secretary. Unanimous endorsement is that endorsement in which each Institute member of the Chapter had an opportunity to express himself by letter ballot either for or against the applicant proposed, and in which there were no negative votes. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

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Paul 450
3/12/29

MASSACHUSETTS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

This is to certify that

Miss Elizabeth Coit

was graduated from the Department of

Architecture

and received the diploma conferring the degree of

Bachelor of Science

from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

in June , 1919.

A. L. Merrill

Secretary of the Faculty



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

COPY

May 31, 1929

Dear Miss Coit:

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in The American Institute of Architects, effective May 15, 1929.

You have been assigned to the New York Chapter as an Institute Member in good standing therein, and the Secretary of the Chapter has been so advised.

A Membership Card, which should be further endorsed by the Secretary of your Chapter, is enclosed herewith.

An engrossed Certificate of Membership in The American Institute of Architects will be sent to you in due course.

May I take this opportunity to say that the office of the Secretary at The Octagon is for the service of every Institute Member. Should the occasion arise we shall be glad to give you our best cooperation.

Cordially yours,

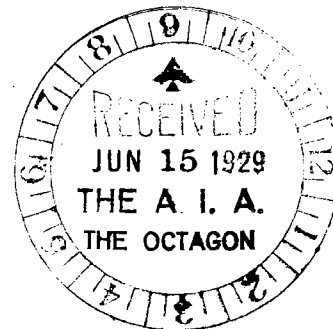
Executive Secretary.

Miss Elisabeth Coit,
32 West 50th Street,
New York, N. Y.

K/PHG
Enc.

ELISABETH COIT
ARCHITECT
32 WEST FIFTIETH STREET
NEW YORK

June 15, 1929.



File

My dear Mr. Kemper:

I am very glad to hear of my election
to The American Institute of Architects.

Thank you for your kind letter so
informing me and for sending me the Membership Card, which
I shall have endorsed by the Secretary of the New York
Chapter.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Coit

Edward C. Kemper, Esq.
The American Institute of Architects
The Octagon,
1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

ec/wfa

ELISABETH COIT, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
9 EAST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK
PLAZA 3-6867



October 20, 1936.

American Institute of Architects
Octagon Building
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

My purse containing my card of membership in the Institute was stolen last week, and I wonder if you can tell me how I should make application for a new card.

It was taken in a train, possibly by one of the cleaners, so I do not think there is any chance of the old card causing any embarrassment.

I shall be much obliged to you for any help you can give me in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

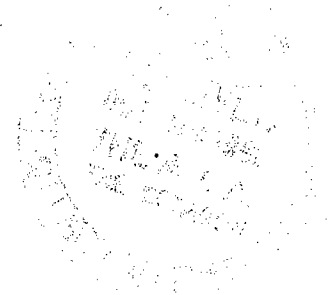
Elisabeth Coit

ec/wfa

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY



October 23, 1936.

Dear Miss Coit:

We are sorry to learn, from your letter of October 20th, that your purse containing Institute membership card was stolen.

We hope that your purse may be recovered, and are very glad to send you herewith a duplicate membership card for the current year.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

K:C
Encl.

Miss Elisabeth Coit, A.I.A.,
9 East Fifty-fourth Street,
New York, New York.

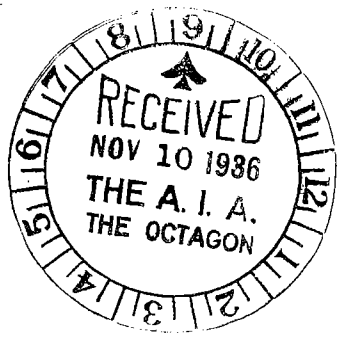
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COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

File

ELISABETH COIT, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
9 EAST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK
PLAZA 3-6867



November 7, 1936

Edward C. Kemper, Esq.
Secretary, The American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Kemper:

Thank you very much for your
letter enclosing a duplicate membership card in
place of the one I lost.

Since the other card has not
been returned I can assume it is safely at the bottom
of the East River.

Faithfully yours,

Elisabeth Coit.

ec/wfa

Members
Coit, Elizabeth
NO NF 451



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
JURY OF FELLOWS

Received Oct. 29, 19 53
Voted On Marc. 18, 19 54
Voted On Mar. 24, 19 55
Voted On 19 .
Granted March 24, 1955.

NO M

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

CASE RECORD

- 1. *Name of Nominee* Elisabeth Coit *Date of Nomination* Oct. 26, 1953
- 2. *Address of Nominee* New York City Housing Authority, 63 Park Row
New York 7, New York
- 3. *Nominee's firm* E. Coit, Architect
- 4. *Nominee's principal place of business* New York
- 5. *Nominee's Chapter* New York Chapter, A.I.A.
- 6. *Nominee's State Organization* New York State Association of Architects, A.I.A.
- 7. *Nominee admitted to Institute* 1929
- 8. *Nominee has been in good standing in Institute from* 1929 *to* Dec. 31, 1953
- 9. *Nominee's age* 61 yrs. *Birthplace* Winchester, Massachusetts
- 10. *Nominators:* Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

11. *Achievement* in Literature and Public Service.

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Exhibits Rec'd

NO NF 451

(Nominators leave blank)

CONFIDENTIAL



SEP 29 1953
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

BY
CHAPTER

THE JURY OF FELLOWS, A.I.A.

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

Date October 26 1953

The Executive Committee of this Chapter, at a duly called meeting on September 22 1953 ^{*Type in full name.} nominated* Elisabeth Coit member of this Chapter, for fellowship in The Institute. We enclose evidence of the qualifications of the nominee for the fellowship on which the nomination was based and certify the resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, this Executive Committee believes* Elisabeth Coit a member of this Chapter, has made so notable a contribution to the advancement of the profession because of his achievement in** Literature and Public Service that he is worthy of fellowship in The Institute; and

*Type in full name.

**Type in "Design," "Science of Construction," "Literature," "Education," "Service to The Institute," or "Public Service," as is appropriate.

"Whereas, said member has been in good standing in this Chapter for†twenty-four years prior to this date; therefore be it

†Type in number of years.

"Resolved, That‡‡ The New York Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, does hereby nominate* Elisabeth Coit

‡‡Type in name of Chapter.

*Type in full name.

for fellowship in The Institute, and the President and the Secretary be and hereby are authorized and directed to prepare the nomination papers and forward them to The Jury of Fellows of The Institute and to do all things proper to forward said nomination."

Joseph Ferriss
Jeffrey Bates
Donald Wallwork
Walker O. Cain
Richard A. Kerven

Secretary.

THE NOMINATORS SHOULD SEE THAT LETTERS OR DATA ARE SENT TO THE JURY OF FELLOWS IN SUPPORT OF THIS NOMINATION.

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checked 1979

BIOGRAPHICAL STATISTICS

1. Nominee's full name Elisabeth Coit
2. Nominee is a natural ~~born~~ citizen of the United States
3. Nominee's legal residence 131 West 76th Street, New York 23, New York
4. Nominee's firm name E. Coit, Architect
5. Nominee's principal place of business, address New York City Housing Authority
63 Park Row, New York 7, New York
(Principal Project Planner)

2. Strike out in-appropriate word and write in name of Country.

6. Type in "N.C.A.R.B." or name of State Board, as case may be.

7. Strike out in-appropriate words.

8. Type in date of birth and city and Country.

6. Nominee is registered or licensed to practice architecture by New York State, and holds Senior Certificate, N.C.A.R.B.
7. Nominee is engaged in practice of architecture as a ~~residing architect in the United States~~
~~member of the American Institute of Architects~~—public official—~~architect~~
8. Born 9/7/92 Place of birth Winchester, Massachusetts

9. Nominee's schools, colleges and universities:

	Location	No. of Years	Year of Graduation	Degree
High School	Winchester, Massachusetts	4	1909	Diploma
Private School				
College or University	Radcliffe College Cambridge, Massachusetts	2	1909-1911	Special Student
College or University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge	2 plus 2 summer terms	1919	B.S.Arch.*
Post Graduate at				
Scholarships held	A.I.A. Langley Scholarship		1937-38 and 1938-39	

10. Other data concerning nominee's record.
- Spent year and a half in Europe (two trips) for travel and study of housing and architecture in general. Visited France, Italy, Switzerland, England, Ireland, Spain, the Low Countries, Austria, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. Attended courses at College de France.

Agent in Paris for shipping collection of art objects and paintings to Fitchburg, Massachusetts. Since owner died in the United States, the collection was released and transported to Fitchburg under very complicated legal procedures.

(see continuation sheet)

*In 1912-1914 took two-year course under C. Howard Walker at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. That work and Radcliffe courses counted toward M.I.T. degree.

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Continuation Sheet - Elisabeth Coit

Biographical Statistics

10. Other data concerning nominee's record (continued)

Performed research in housing for lower-income families (A.I.A. Langley Scholarship), studying about 150 public and private developments from the Eastern Seaboard to the Midwest, 1937-38 and 1938-39.

Visited and reported on public housing developments for FPFA in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and California, 1944-47.

Made housing study trip to Puerto Rico, 1949.

Was research associate on projected New Jersey housing development (Milton L. Grigg, architect), 1942.

Employed as research associate in the office of Mayer and Whittlesey, 1947-48. During that period also performed housing research for Clarence S. Stein, architect.

Organized small but thriving Dutchess County poultry farm and supervised periodically, 1929-36.

Organized and was chairman of "Scarpa," a watercolor group, mostly architects, that exhibited four or five times in Town Hall Club and City Center. Experimented in painting 1,000 feet above ground in light plane, Passamaquoddy to Key West (see "I'll Take the High Road," W. Langewiesche, Harcourt Brace, 1939).

Biographies: WHO'S WHO IN NEW YORK, WOMEN IN AMERICA, and a forthcoming publication, WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT, E. D. Partridge Associates, editors.

Nominators should read "Principles Underlying the Bestowal of Fellowships", Institute Document No. 9 before completing this nomination. Additional sheets may be inserted to supplement any page, 3 to 7, inclusive. Use typewriting only.

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

1. Works

Type (a) Commercial (b) Monumental (c) Domestic (d) Special	Identification of Work	Location of Work (City) (State)	Completed Construction Work (Year)	Photographs Drawings, or Sketches Submitted
(c)	House for Miss Anna B. Van Nort Addition	Yorktown Heights New York	1927 1930	2
(c)	Alteration to house of Philip Maguire	Shrub Oak New York	1933	2
(c)	Boat house on estate of Charles T. Main	Holderness New Hampshire	1932	1
(c)	Alteration to house of I. G. Mudge	Yorktown Heights New York	1928	1
(c)	House for Miss Mary Burnham	Yorktown Heights New York	1927	1
(c)	House for the Rev. Morgan P. Noyes	Holderness New Hampshire	1929	1

Under column headed "Type" type in (a), (b), (c), or (d), as the case may be.

Type in last column to right the number submitted in each case.

2. Describe nominee's notable work in design, to bring out the particular achievements the nominators believe have notably contributed to the advancement of the profession.

Although the nominee is cited primarily for literature and public service, some examples of her design as a practicing architect are listed above and submitted as exhibits to illustrate that she is a very real and competent practitioner. The nominators feel that this phase of her career contributed much to her notable achievements in the advancement of housing design in general.

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN SCIENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

1. CONSTRUCTION WORK

<i>Type of Work Constructed</i>	<i>Identification of Work</i>	<i>Location of Work</i>	<i>Completed Construction Work (Year)</i>	<i>Photographs, Drawings, or Sketches Submitted</i>
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------	---	---

Type in last column to right the number submitted in each case.

2. BOOKS, TREATISES, OR ARTICLES WRITTEN

<i>Subject Title</i>	<i>Where Published</i>	<i>Date Published</i>
----------------------	------------------------	-----------------------

3. Describe nominee's notable work in the science of construction and any recognition thereof by other societies, to bring out the particular achievements the nominators believe have notably contributed to the advancement of the profession.

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NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION AND LITERATURE

1. EDUCATION WORK

(List the degrees and the educational positions held by the nominee, and bring out clearly the nominee's signal work and its particular force and influence which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession, and state evidences of recognition of such work by pupils, the profession, other societies, or the public.)

2. LITERARY WORK

(List the original written works of the nominee and state clearly the particular force and influence of that work which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession, and state evidences of recognition of such work by other societies, the profession, educational institutions or the public.)

<i>Book, Treatise or Article</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Name of Book or Periodical Containing Work</i>	<i>Year Work Published</i>
Design and Construction of the Dwelling Unit for the Low-Income Family (Langley Scholarship)	Housing	The Octagon (A.I.A.)	October and November, 1941

The above article was also briefed and illustrated in ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, April, 1942, and in the National Association of Housing Officials' BULLETIN, September, 1942, and published in full (in Spanish) by the Argentine government, 1943.

(see continuation sheet)

Continuation Sheet - Elisabeth Coit

Nominee's Achievement in Education and Literature

2. Literary Work (continued)

<u>Book, Treatise, or Article</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Name of Book or Periodi- cal Containing Work</u>	<u>Year Work Published</u>
Notes on European Low-Cost Housing (illustrated)	Housing	Radcliffe Quarterly	October, 1935
Three leaflets	Examining An Old House; Renting An Apartment; Fireplaces and Chimneys	New York Herald Tribune	December 29, 1935
Architecture for Women (illustrated)	Professional information	Radcliffe Quarterly	May, 1936
The Smaller Airport (illustrated)	Airport design	Pencil Points	November, 1937
\$25 a Month for Your Own Home (illustrated)	Prefab	Women's Day	February, 1937
Prefabrication Comes of Age	Prefab	Citizens' Housing Council News	April, 1943
Pointers in Dwelling Design (illustrated)	Housing	Journal of Home Economics	January, 1947
A Plea for More Space	Housing	Citizens' Housing and Planning Council News	January, 1951

Edited:

FPHA Minimum Physical Standards and Criteria	Housing	FPHA	1945
Public Housing Design (illustrated)	Housing	FPHA	1946

(see continuation sheet)

Continuation Sheet - Elisabeth Coit

Nominee's Achievement in Education and Literature

2. Literary Work (continued)

<u>Book, Treatise, or Article</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Name of Book or Periodi- cal Containing Work</u>	<u>Year Work Published</u>
Manual of Instructions for Erecting Temporary Dwellings (in French - illustrated)	Housing	FPHA	1945
Memo to Architects (illustrated)	Housing	New York City Housing Authority	February, 1952, and subsequent revisions

Book review editor, THE ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, 1940-43. All reviews except for an occasional guest writer. Various other reviews in professional journals.

The nominators believe that Miss Coit's publications have exerted a profound influence toward the advancement of housing, and in particular, housing for lower-income groups. Her work in this field is notably successful because of her fine balance of technical competence and understanding of economic and human problems. These qualities have been made especially effective by long and diligent research and study in the field.

Her Langley report, "Public Housing Design," and "Memo to Architects" are standard references in their field.

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTE

1. State fully the nominee's signal service to The Institute, his chapter, or his state organization, or to the profession, which the nominators believe has notably contributed to the advancement of the profession, and list the offices in architectural organizations occupied by the nominee and the period of each.

A.I.A. Multiple-Unit Housing Committee, 1941

New York Chapter, A.I.A.:

Small House Committee, 1939-42 (Chairman, Exhibit Committee, 1942)

Public Relations Committee, 1943

Housing Committee, 1948-49

Foreign Visitors Committee, 1951-52

FPHA Architects' Advisory Committee Liaison Officer, 1945-47

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE

1. List the public offices held by the nominee and the positions of trust held by him in recognition of civic leadership, and state clearly his notable work in public service and the particular influence of that work which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession.

Citizens' Housing Council:

Design-Management Committee, 1938-40 (Chairman, Exhibit Committee, 1940)
Old Housing Committee, 1940-41

American Public Health Association, Housing Committee, 1945-46

Regional Development Council of American Board of Governors, 1949-date

FPHA, 1942-47, wartime emergency appointment, Technical Division. Worked on standards and evaluation of public housing (see Page 5) and organized an information service for foreign architects, technical missions, etc., traveling through the United States.

New York City Housing Authority, 1947 to date. Liaison work with architects under contract to the Authority. Responsible for first published edition of Memo to Architects (see Page 5-b.) and for subsequent revisions; furnishing information on public housing design and construction to visiting architects and technical teams from abroad; answering technical questions from foreign correspondents.

In 1941 gave two series of talks on small house design and construction, for the layman, on Station WNYC.

In 1942 organized and conducted course on wartime home repair and maintenance for American Women's Voluntary Services.

Various papers on housing subjects were delivered at meetings, the most important being:

Citizens' Housing Council, New York, February, 1941, design and construction of dwelling units for the low-income family.

M.I.T. School of Architecture and Planning, Cambridge, March, 1947, housing design standards.

Baltimore Housing Authority, Baltimore, October, 1949. community centers.

Ontario Association of Architects, Toronto, January, 1950, planning for the low-income tenant.

A.I.A. Committee on Urban Planning and Housing, St. Louis, February, 1950, planning low-rent housing.

The broad scope of the nominee's public contacts are notable. The nominators feel that there are few architects who have so consistently and continuously spoken with earnestness on behalf of the profession to the great mass of people to whom decent housing and living are an ever-present problem.

FACTUAL

S E Y M O U R
J O S E P H

W M . C H A R N E Y
V L A D E C K

ARCHITECTS

American Institute of Architects

October 7, 1953

Mr. Perry Coke Smith
Committee on Fellows
New York Chapter of the A.I.A.
101 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Smith:

It is really a pleasure to support the proposal of the New York Chapter submission of Elisabeth Coit as a candidate for Fellowship in the A.I.A.

Miss Coit's work in housing has, for many years, been of such nature as to make a substantial contribution both to the program itself and to the efficiency and adequacy of architects in particular. Her editorship of the "Memo for Architects", published by the New York City Housing Authority, would of itself be considered a substantial contribution to the betterment both of the profession and to the design of public and private housing developments. Her unfailing tact and good humor in her relationships with architects as a governmental representative have certainly created a spirit of cooperation too often, unfortunately, not found in other large government or corporate agencies. She is most deserving of a Fellowship, and the award of one would be a stimulus to other architects whose positions are such that they could also make substantial contributions to the general welfare and to the profession.

Sincerely yours,


William Charney Vladeck

WCV.de

FACTUAL

Columbia University
in the City of New York
[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

9 October 1953

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

Gentlemen:

Miss Elisabeth Coit has made unique contributions to the architecture of housing. It is largely because of her influence that the real breadth of the housing problem came to be realized, both by Governmental Agencies and by designing architects. From the beginning she has realized that housing is for people, and that what people actually need and want must be an essential part of a true housing program. This vision of hers has been expressed in a long series of studies, published and unpublished, each one of which has added to our store of knowledge of the relation of people to houses and to communities. In addition to her published work, the influence she has personally exerted on the humanization of housing has been of the greatest importance, and she has worthily carried on the tradition set by Edith Elmer Wood, adding to it the benefits of her own architectural training.

Professor James Marshall Miller, Director, Planning and Housing Division at the Columbia School of Architecture, has written to me of her as follows:

"In the past fifteen years, which might be considered as the era of large scale public housing in the United States, there have been relatively few people who have seriously attempted to analyze the program of large scale housing development from the standpoint of providing really satisfactory housing for the families who live in these developments. One person who has been outstanding in this attempt at appraising the human value of housing is Elisabeth Coit. In addition to her keen knowledge of design and construction from a technical standpoint, she has demonstrated both her interest and her ability in adding that quality of human under-

Page Two.

The Jury of Fellows:

9 October 1953

standing to housing design, which unfortunately, far too few architects possess. It is my firm belief that the American Institute of Architects should be foremost in attempting to bring this added and desirable quality to housing design."

I am accordingly happy to recommend her for elevation to the Fellowship grade.

Faithfully yours,

Talbot Hamlin F.A.I.A.

Talbot Hamlin, F.A.I.A.

TH:ab

FACTUAL

Clarence S. Stein, F.A.I.A.
1 West 64th Street
New York 23, N. Y.

ENdicott 2-8065

October 9, 1953

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

Gentlemen:

I am particularly acquainted with Elizabeth Coit's professional contribution to public service. I have followed her work for some years in connection with housing and community development.

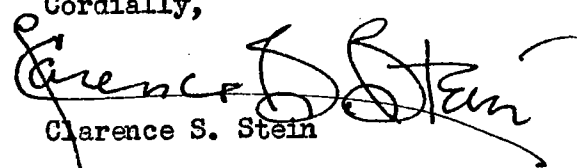
She did invaluable work for me during 1947 and '48 in the field of community planning. She made a study of our past work in developing towns and neighborhoods, with the objective of finding the organizations that would best serve the future. This study and analysis was of great value in judging the reactions of tenants to their living conditions and the technical ways of improving their environment. She showed great human understanding as well as common sense.

Miss Coit has had long experience in research as well as practice in the field of housing, both abroad and particularly in connection with FPFA and the New York Housing Authority. For the latter she did a fine job of organizing and editing the experience record of the FPFA "Public Housing Design" and their manual of standards, as well as other documents.

Since 1943 she has been principal project planner of the New York City Housing Authority, where she has done an outstanding job and has won the confidence and respect of the architects working for the Authority.

She has frequently lectured to professional gatherings, as well as over the radio. Many of her articles and reports have been published. The first of these was based on the important study of housing for lower income groups in the Eastern States, which she made during 1937-39, working on a Langley Fellowship.

I enthusiastically endorse Elizabeth Coit's nomination as fellow on the basis of her unusual contribution in her special field.

Cordially,

Clarence S. Stein

CSS:wb

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

October 12, 1953

Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

Gentlemen:

It gives me pleasure to enthusiastically support the candidacy of Miss Elisabeth Coit for a Fellowship for Public Service.

I have worked closely with Miss Coit upon several occasions and each time I realize anew how gifted and devoted she is to the use of architecture by human beings. She has great knowledge of their needs. She has contributed notably to the livability of group housing. Abstract patterns often appeal to the beginner and no one has greater respect for the need for beauty than she has--but also no one has greater respect for the dignity of the individual if there is conflict between the predetermined pattern and a proven human need. We would add to the luster of our profession by honoring Miss Coit.

Respectfully yours,

William Wilson Wurster

William Wilson Wurster, Dean
College of Architecture

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

Architecture • City and Community Planning

19 West 44 Street • New York 36 • VAnDerbilt 6-6247

204 W. Rittenhouse Sq. • Philadelphia 3, Pa. • Rittenhouse 6-0139

Harvey Cahn, A.I.A.

October 13, 1953

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

Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to endorse the New York Chapter's recommendation to elevate Elizabeth Coit to Fellowship. I have known Miss Coit a long time, and I have much admiration for her qualities as an architect, a student and practitioner of Housing, and as a person. She has added to the stature of the profession in many ways, and I hope indeed that the Institute will honor her as she deserves.

Very truly yours,


Henry S. Churchill

HSC:j

E E R O S A A R I N E N A N D A S S O C I A T E S

EERO SAARINEN F.A.I.A.
JOSEPH N. LACY A.I.A.
J. HENDERSON BARR A.I.A.
WARREN PLATNER A.I.A.
JOHN DINKELOO
BRUCE ADAMS

October 13, 1953

Committee on Fellows
American Institute of Architects
101 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

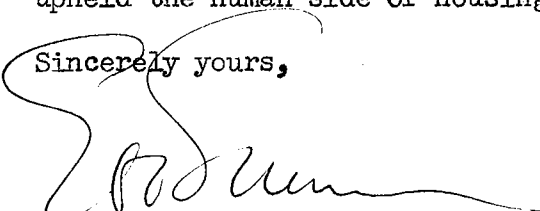
Attn: Mr. Perry Coke Smith

Gentlemen:

I would like to support the nomination of Miss Elizabeth Coit to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects because of her long and fine career in public service.

I feel that Miss Coit has contributed greatly to architecture through her work with the Federal Housing Agencies where she has upheld the human side of housing, a thing so often forgotten.

Sincerely yours,



Eero Saarinen

ES:vk

FACTUAL

GILBERT L. RODIER, A. I. A.

REGISTERED ARCHITECT

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

WASHINGTON, D. C.

4515 Ellicott St.

October 20, 1953

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

Gentlemen:

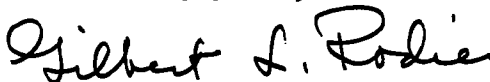
It affords me great pleasure to support the proposal of the New York Chapter Committee on Fellows that Elizabeth Coit be elevated to Fellowship, A.I.A.

I have known and worked with Miss Coit for about twelve years during which time I have been continually impressed by her high level of thinking and her unflagging devotion to the true ideals of the Institute.

Specifically, in her work with the Public Housing Administration and with the New York City Housing Authority, she has made outstanding contributions toward the raising of standards for public housing and in developing means for meeting these standards with a true sense of fitness and with proper economy. I cite, as one bit of evidence, the book Public Housing Design which was published by the Federal Public Housing Administration and which was largely organized, edited and otherwise prepared under the direction of Miss Coit. In addition, Miss Coit was in large measure responsible for a long series of technical bulletins issued by Public Housing and generally recognized as a valuable contribution to housing design and construction.

I would like to say, in conclusion, that Miss Coit's interest and activity in the relatively narrow confines of architectural design and planning derive from her social conscience and her sincere desire to render public service. I state this rather badly but I trust that my meaning is clear.

Very truly yours,



GILBERT L. RODIER

Washington Metropolitan Chapter

FACTUAL

ARTHUR C. HOLDEN & ASSOCIATES

Architects

570 LEXINGTON AVENUE
New York 22 • MUrray Hill 8-5620

October 21, 1953

The Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
The Octagon
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is with very keen pleasure that I recommend the advancement of Elizabeth Coit for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I have known her for at least ten years and have had the privilege of insight into the unique position which she occupies in our profession.

Elizabeth Coit's work in private practice has been characterized by charm, refinement and good taste, but her very special contribution to the profession has been made in her capacity as architect on the staff of the New York City Housing Authority. In this position she has represented the Authority with distinction in setting standards of design and in conducting contacts with private architects retained by the Authority for the execution of projects.

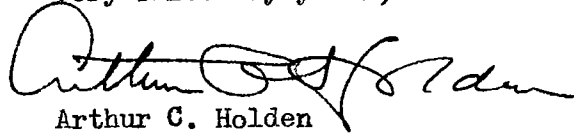
Miss Coit developed the memorandum of standards sent out to architects by the New York City Housing Authority and has created similar manuals for the Federal Public Housing Administration, one of these for public housing design, in addition to instructions in French for the erection of temporary dwellings abroad. Her writings include contributions to all of the well-known technical and popular architectural magazines.

She has served frequently on committees of the New York Chapter, and made an especially valuable contribution to the work of the Committee on Housing.

Miss Coit has made an outstanding contribution toward the interpreting of basic requirements of the standards of living to architects and to the general public, and in this regard her services to the profession have been unique.

Elizabeth Coit is a person of great refinement and taste, high ethical standards and complete integrity. It gives me particular pleasure to recommend her advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arthur C. Holden". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Arthur C. Holden

ach;vh

TAYLOR AND LEVI, ARCHITECTS
105 WEST 40TH STREET . . . NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
JULIAN CLARENCE LEVI, F. A. I. A.

October 30, 1953

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

Dear Sirs:

The Committee on Fellows of the N. Y. chapter with the approval of its Executive Committee, has submitted the name of Elizabeth Coit for advancement to Fellowship.

It is a privilege for me to support and endorse this submission. I have known Miss Coit for some 25 years and can vouch for her high standards, her integrity, her ability and her personality.

In addition to her practice she has been active in fields of real value to the profession and to the public - particularly in the domain of Housing. Under an A.I.A. Langley Fellowship (which was renewed) her survey of the housing situation resulted in a report that was published in the "Octagon" and reviewed in various technical journals. It was even translated and published in full in "La Habitacion Popular" an official organ of the Argentine government.

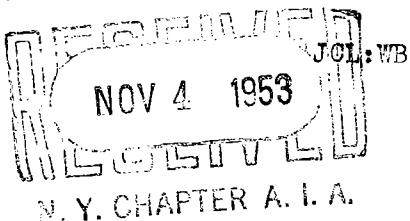
Subsequently, she was called to the F.P.H.A. where for several years she served as architect and then as editor of technical standards and of an F.P.H.A. manual "Public Housing Design". On leaving Washington she was engaged in technical research for Mayer and Whittlesey in connection with their city planning for India.

Finally she has been principal project planner for the New York City Housing Authority and also editor of its "Memo to Architects", a manual of procedures, requirements and advise.

You have her complete record of course, but I stress the above as evidence of public professional service of great value and worthy of recognition by her advancement to Fellowship.

Very truly yours,

Julian Clarence Levi



FACTUAL

January 3, 1955

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

Gentlemen:

This letter is addressed to you in unqualified support of the candidacy of Miss Elisabeth Coit for elevation to Fellowship in ~~the Institute.~~

For nearly twenty years I have been active in the design of multiple housing. Miss Coit's writings and personal contact have been an important influence on me for practical good in doing this work. I believe that this is also the case with many other architects as well as other workers in the field of housing. I know of no one who has actually brought about improvement in living conditions for low income families on so wide a scale as Elisabeth Coit. This is a mature and notable contribution to the advancement of the profession which, to my mind, deserves the recognition of her colleagues.

I urge the elevation of Miss Elisabeth Coit to Fellowship.

Sincerely,


Perry Coke Smith

ab

✓

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

10 January 1955

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

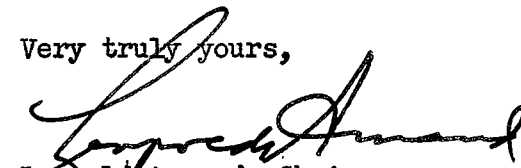
ack 1/18
E

Gentlemen:

Some weeks ago the Committee on Fellows of the New York Chapter received a letter from you stating that more information was required on the pending candidacies of Miss Elizabeth Coit and Mr. Frederic Frost Jr. whose names had been submitted to the Jury of Fellows by the New York Chapter last year.

I take pleasure to enclose herewith a letter from Perry Coke Smith, F.A.I.A., in support of the candidacy of Miss Elizabeth Coit and hope that the Jury may be able to consider her name again when it meets.

Very truly yours,


Leopold Arnaud, Chairman
Committee on Fellows
New York Chapter

LA:jaf

Enclosure

GUGLER, KIMBALL AND HUSTED, ARCHITECTS

101 PARK AVENUE ••• NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

ERIC GUGLER
RICHARD A. KIMBALL
ELLERY HUSTED

FERDINAND EISEMAN

FACTUAL

January 26, 1955

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

ack 1/28
b

Gentlemen:

This letter is written in enthusiastic support of the candidacy of Elizabeth Coit, who has been nominated for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. Miss Coit's candidacy was endorsed by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter while I was serving as its Secretary. I regret that through a misunderstanding my personal endorsement has not reached you earlier.

Miss Coit is in many ways the most distinguished lady architect in our part of the country. She has had a notable practice of her own. She has made important contributions as administrator, writer, and editor in the field of public housing.

As Principal Project Planner in the New York City Housing Authority, Miss Coit is a most highly respected public servant. In this, her present position, she has been invaluable as a liaison agent between her fellow architects and the New York Housing Authority.

It is with pleasure that I recommend Miss Coit, a woman of fine accomplishments and high position among architects, for elevation to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours,



Richard A. Kimball

RAK:elh

FACTUAL

WILLIAM & GEOFFREY PLATT
ARCHITECTS
101 PARK AVENUE - NEW YORK

OWEN LAU GOWMAN
GEORGE C. CROCKETT

January 31, 1955

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

ack 2/21
G

Gentlemen:

This is to endorse the candidacy of Miss
Elizabeth Coit for Fellowship in the Institute.

As a designer and administrator in the field
of Public Housing, she has made a most distinguished
contribution in this branch of architectural activity.
I doubt if any other individual in the profession has
made a greater one. Elevation to Fellowship for this
would be fully justified.

Yours very truly,

Geoffrey Platt
Geoffrey Platt

GP/j

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WILLIAM & GEOFFREY PLATT
ARCHITECTS
101 PARK AVENUE - NEW YORK

OWEN LAU GOWMAN
GEORGE C. CROCKETT

January 31, 1955

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

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing letters endorsing the candidacy for Fellowship of Miss Elizabeth Coit and Frederick G. Frost, Jr. I would have done this long ago but I did not realize that a letter was needed in addition to my endorsement of their papers as Vice-President of the N.Y. Chapter at that time.

Yours very truly,


Geoffrey Platt

GP/j

encs.

RONALD ALLWORK

ARCHITECT

254 EAST 49TH STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

January 31, 1955

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

*ack 2/16
β*

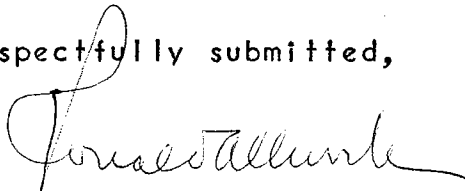
Gentlemen:

This is written in support of the nomination of Elizabeth Coit for advancement to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects as proposed a year ago by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter.

Elizabeth Coit established an enviable reputation for design in the residential and housing field, during the period 1932-42 when she maintained an office in New York. With the advent of war, Miss Coit joined the Federal Public Housing Administration in Washington. Since 1947 she has been Principal Project Planner for the New York City Housing Authority.

While I am sure that Elizabeth Coit's nomination is supported by a fully documented presentation, I am anxious to offer my endorsement of her candidacy.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Allwork

RA:mok

HUGH FERRISS, F.A.I.A.
ARCHITECTS BUILDING
101 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

FACTUAL

February 4, 1955

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

cc: 2/15
J

Gentlemen: RE: Elizabeth Coit, A.I.A.

I take pleasure in addressing you to support the nomination for advancement to Fellowship of the member named above.

Miss Coit has been a member of the New York Chapter since 1929. Until 1942 she was known to me mainly as a capable designer conducting her own practice in New York City, including many homes in the Eastern States which were frequently illustrated in professional journals (examples of which, I understand, are in the A.I.A. files in Washington).

It was in 1942, through an appointment to FPMA that she began the public work regarded by this Chapter as being a particularly outstanding achievement. Her entering this field followed, and was perhaps caused by, the successful outcome of her effort on an A.I.A. Langley Scholarship, which involved a two-year study, published, "The Design and Construction of the Twelling Unit for the Low-Income Family", in the Octagon, and elsewhere. With the Federal agency, she worked on revisions of housing standards and on reports of public housing projects; met with technical missions from abroad and edited various Federal publications in the housing field.

In most recent years, 1947 on, she has been with the New York City Housing Authority as Principal Project Planner. During this time she has done valuable work as liaison between the Authority and architects under contract with it. Carrying on, at the same time, numerous Institute and Chapter committee assignments, writings and radio talks of an educational nature, she has been such a force in her field as to merit the Chapter's recommendation for advancement to Fellowship.

P.S. Please note enclosed carbon copy of my letter to the Chairman of the Jury of Fellows.

Respectfully yours,

Hugh Ferriss
Hugh Ferriss, F.A.I.A.

February 4, 1955

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

Dear Sir:

RE: Nominations for advancement to Fellowship
of DANIEL SCHWARTZMAN, KENNETH K. STOWELL,
FREDERICK G. FROST, Jr. and ELIZABETH COIT.

Since some misunderstanding has apparently arisen in connection with the above nominations made by the New York Chapter in previous years, and still pending before the Jury, will you kindly permit me to bring the following to your attention?

At Chapter level, Messrs. Schwartzman and Stowell were initially considered for advancement in the autumn of 1952; Mr. Frost and Miss Coit in the autumn of 1953; and at both times I was President of the New York Chapter (my terms being June, '52 to June, '54).

This Chapter, in accordance with its By-Laws, requires scrutiny of candidates in the first instance by its Committee on Fellows, this committee consisting of six members all of whom are Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. In the autumn of 1952 this committee, after serious consideration, proposed to the Executive Committee of the Chapter the nominations of Messrs. Schwartzman and Stowell, and the Executive Committee, after equally serious consideration, ratified the action and duly forwarded the formal papers to the Jury of Fellows. Exactly similar procedure was followed in the autumn of 1953 in respect to the nominations of Mr. Frost and Miss Coit.

In forwarding each of the four nominations to the Jury, our Executive Committee was well aware of the fact that the necessary supporting letters were being prepared by various members of the Chapter; we believed our presentations to be fully in accord with all regulations known to us; and we had before us no information or intimation that additional letters of endorsement were to be required from each member of the Executive Committee.

Chairman, The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

(2)

We therefore looked forward to the Jury's consideration of our thoughtfully prepared nominations and it was not until the Spring of 1954 that any intimation reached us that our papers were considered in any way insufficient; e.g., in the letter of March 18, 1954 addressed to our then-Secretary, Richard A. Kimball, by the Jury of Fellows, Albert Simons, Chairman, the most pointed item being "We request ... that letters of endorsement be prepared by each of the members of the Executive Committee."

I indeed regret any misunderstandings which led to the Jury's passing over the names above, in its deliberations of 1953 and 1954. At the same time, for the Jury's deliberation in 1955, I am happy, in deference to the request, to forward today my supporting letter in each of the four cases, and am taking the liberty of enclosing with each of those letters a copy of this letter.

Respectfully yours,

Hugh Ferriss, F.A.I.A.

✓
MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE
101 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

LAWRENCE GRANT WHITE
JAMES KELLUM SMITH

MILTON B. STEINMANN
ALEXANDER S. CORRIGILL
WALKER O. CAIN
NEWTON R. SMITH
EARL PURDY

JOHN STEPHEN DOLAN
AUDITOR

CHARLES FOLLEN MCKIM
1879-1909
WILLIAM RUTHERFORD MEAD
1879-1928
STANFORD WHITE
1879-1906

February 17, 1955

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

Gentlemen:

I would like to add to the general endorsement made by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects on behalf of Elizabeth Coit for Fellowship in the Institute.

Miss Coit has a record which even for a male of the architectural species would by now have reached your attention. Her work in Washington alone might justify this distinction for the combination of technical, legal, scholarly and administrative understanding exhibited. She has, however, in addition been active in the New York City Housing Authority; the New York Chapter A.I.A.; the C.H.P. Council of New York; and many other organizations in this City.

The public and the profession has seen examples of her architectural design in various professional and lay publications and the high quality of her design talents is unquestioned.

It is a pleasure to support the candidacy of Elizabeth Coit for Fellowship.

Yours very truly,

Walker O. Cain
Walker O. Cain

WOC EB

May 11, 1955

Miss Elisabeth Coit
210 East 15th Street
New York, New York

Dear Miss Coit:

The American Institute of Architects desires to confer upon you the honor of Fellowship and membership in the College of Fellows in accord with the action of The Jury of Fellows at its recent meeting.

The purpose of this letter is to request your presence at the 1955 Convention of The Institute to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, starting June 21, 1955, in the Radisson Hotel.

At the formal dinner of the Convention on the evening of Thursday, June 23, those who have been elected to Fellowship will receive their certificates. Presentation will be with appropriate ceremony and it is highly important that each of the newly-elected Fellows be present. The Officers of The Institute and The Jury of Fellows join in the request that you come to receive this honor in person.

Your Chapter has been notified and has been requested to make no public announcement until after such announcement has been released by The Institute after the Convention Annual Dinner. We ask you, also, to hold this information confidential until that time.

Please send your response to The Institute at an early convenient date.

Yours sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

ERP/G

ELISABETH COIT, A. I. A.

ARCHITECT

210 East 15th Street
~~131 WEST 70th STREET,~~

NEW YORK ³28, N. Y.

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

May 15, 1955

Edmund R. Purves, Esq.
Executive Director,
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mr. Purves:

I can scarcely tell you how happy I
have been made by the signal honor that the
A. I. A. and its Jury of Fellows plan to confer on me.

Will you, please, convey to the
Officers and to the Jury my hearty thanks for the
award, and tell them that I shall do my utmost
to deserve it.

To answer your letter specifically,
I do expect to come to Minneapolis June 21st,
and I shall send you a recent photograph
within a few days.

Again my thanks, and with
personal greetings to you, I am

Faithfully yours,

Elisabeth Coit.

men her
~~of the~~
Coit, Elizabeth

ELISABETH COIT, F.A.I.A. ARCHITECT 210 EAST 15TH STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y. JOURNAL

July 15, 1955
JUL 18 1955
of The A.I.A.
FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

Dear Mr. Saylor:

I have a very dashing photograph of a surprised-looking old girl just having been kissed on both cheeks by a handsome Chancellor of Fellows of the A.I.A.

I don't know who sent it, but it came from 1735 N.Y. Ave, so I am trusting that you will give my cordial thanks to the instigator.

I am very glad that the photograph was taken just before I had difficulty in not bursting into tears - the occasion was delightful, but it was also very moving.

With all good wishes always
Truly yours
Elizabeth Coit

Henry A. Saylor, Esq.,
1735 New York Avenue
Washington, 6, D.C

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1. ~~Mr. Purves~~

2. Mrs. Shackleton

July 18, 1955

REET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y. JOURNAL

JUL 18 1955

of The A.I.A.

July 15, 1955

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

Miss Elisabeth Coit
210 East 15th Street
New York 3, New York

The photograph of you receiving the Fellowship certificate, Miss Coit, was, I think, sent by Mrs. Shackleton.

At any rate, I am sending your letter over to her and to Mr. Purves.

It certainly was a very memorable occasion, and I am sure, from my not-so-distant memory, that it is particularly moving to the participants.

With all good wishes,

Henry H. Saylor
Editor

HHS:ms

shiny photograph
it just having
by a handsome
st. I. A.

and it, but
, so I am trusting
Thanks To the

The photograph
difficulty in
a occasion was
very moving.

With all good wishes always
Thankfully yours
Elisabeth Coit

Henry H. Saylor, Esq.,
1735 New York Avenue
Washington, 6, D. C



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

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP EMERITUS

TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS:

Strike out the inappropriate reason, a, b, or c, as the case may be.

I wish to apply for Membership Emeritus in The Institute for the following reasons:

- a. I am more than 70 years of age.
- ~~b. I am 65 years of age, retired, and not engaged in the practice of architecture.~~
- ~~c. I am unable to engage in any gainful vocation.~~

Write in name of chapter.

I have been in good standing in The Institute and the New York chapter for 15 successive years or more immediately preceding the date of this application.

Respectfully,

Date November 28 1962.

Case
Elisabeth Coit
Signature

The applicant may supplement the above reasons in writing below or on sheets which he shall attach to this application. Under exceptional conditions and circumstances, The Board of Directors may lessen the period of good standing but not the requirements of a, b, or c.

NOV 30 1962

*62 pd in Feb.
ex. from Sup.
1929*

m.
Coit, Elisabeth



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

NOTICE OF ELECTION—MEMBER EMERITUS

(S)

TO
Miss Elisabeth Coit, FAIA
210 East 15th Street
New York 3, New York

It is my privilege to advise you that The Board of Directors has conferred upon you
the title

MEMBER EMERITUS

of The American Institute of Architects and of its component organizations of which you are
a member, exempting you from the payment of annual dues to The Institute and such
organizations, effective **December 31, 1962**

Date **December 18** 19 **62**

Clinton Zauke
Secretary

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DATE March 5, 1986

To the 237 Chapter

The post office has returned the invoice mailed to the member listed below. We are requesting a current address and telephone number for this member. Because of the undeliverable status, the member is prevented from receiving publications and other Institute mailings as well.

Name Blisabeth Coit 1404557

Address 330 West 72

City, State New York, NY 10023

NEW ADDRESS DELETED AS PER
information from Membership

Dept.

TELEPHONE 2/21/85, pls

check your records
Sorry, we do not have a correction for the member



Thank you very much for your cooperation. Please return the information to

Mary S. Felber
Assistant Director, Membership
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20006

Cjs

D-9
3/14

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