

OFFICE OF  
ELDRIDGE T. SPENCER F.A.I.A. Wm. CLEMENT AMBROSE A.I.A.  
ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATED  
251 KEARNY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 8  
DOUGLAS 2-5840

ALTON S. LEE A.I.A.  
WESLEY A. TALLEY A.I.A.

October 12, 1951

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

Re: Nomination of Birge M. Clark, AIA for Fellowship

Gentlemen:


I would like to put all emphasis possible behind the nomination of Birge M. Clark for Fellowship in the Institute. The nomination was made by the Executive Committee while I was President of the Northern California Chapter, AIA, in 1948.

I have known Birge Clark for many years and worked with him on a committee on Contract Documents about fifteen or twenty years ago. In all of the time I have known him, I have never heard a derogatory word as to his character or competence.

On the positive side, I believe that his influence has been one of the main factors in making Palo Alto, his home city, and base of operations, one of the most attractive communities in the United States. His many houses, schools and public buildings have been of a uniformly high standard, and his participation in the civic and financial affairs of the community have given definite prestige to the profession of architecture in the territory which he has served. The fact that the high quality of community design has been maintained to a large extent in the recent great growth of the district is testimony to the lasting effect of his influence.

Mr. Clark's energy and enthusiasm are coupled with a becoming modesty of person, all of which have placed him in high esteem by his fellow architects and other associates. I emphasize these qualities particularly, as they are not always evident in pictorial exhibits of a man's work, but are of very great importance to the good name of our profession.

Yours very truly,

  
Wm. Clement Ambrose, Architect

WCA:m  
Encl. record & copy  
c.c. Mr. B. M. Clark

J O H N L Y O N R E I D A . I . A A R C H I T E C T  
109 STEVENSON STREET · SAN FRANCISCO 5 · CALIFORNIA

DOUGLAS 2-2795

WILLIAM HOWARD EDIE A . I . A  
ARCHITECT

WILLIAM CORLETT A . I . A  
ARCHITECT

W. CAVEN TAYLOR C. E.  
CIVIL ENGINEER

October 23, 1951

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

Re: Nomination of Birge Malcolm Clark, A.I.A.  
for Fellowship

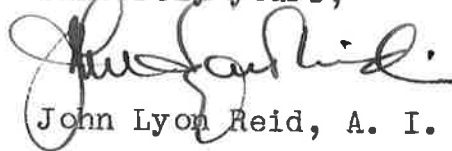
Gentlemen:

I have followed the work and the professional activities of Birge Clark for many years with interest and admiration; in my opinion his practice represents the quality of architectural service that most of us try to emulate.

I have known his work in the design of school buildings, all of which have contributed new ideas and beautiful solutions to a building type where creative thinking is especially welcome.

Personally Birge Clark is the type of man the honoring of whom by elevation to fellowship would reflect honor on the entire profession. I respectfully recommend him for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,



John Lyon Reid, A. I. A.

JLR:mas

2-9  
Clark

STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

235 Embarcadero Road  
Palo Alto, California.

November 8, 1951.

Mr. H. Deland Chandler, Chairman,  
The Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.,  
1741 New York Avenue, NW,  
Washington 6, D. C.

ack 11/14/51

JHM

Dear Mr. Chandler:

In response to your request for information concerning Mr. BIRGE M. CLARK, of Palo Alto, I am glad to write to you on his behalf.

It happens that I have known Mr. Clark and his family for many years. His father was a colleague of mine on the faculty of Stanford University, from which I retired a few years ago, while Mr. Clark is himself a Stanford graduate. At present I am Mayor of Palo Alto and have been aware of Mr. Clark's good work in many different fields. He is one of the outstanding architects in this area. He has built many private homes and public buildings. He conceived and carried out the building of the Palo Alto Community Center and has done a great deal of work for our school board. He is a man of excellent character and ability and is in every way worthy of professional recognition for his achievements.

Very sincerely yours,

J.P.Mitchell/ELF

HENRY · H · GUTTERSON · F · A · I · A  
ARCHITECT

2922 GARBER STREET · BERKELEY 5

421 POWELL STREET · SAN FRANCISCO 2

December 3, 1951.

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

Attention: H. Deland Chandler, Chairman

RE: Birge M. Clark.

Dear Friends:

As one's perspective deepens, the characteristics, standards and performance values of our fellow chapter members become clearer, and even tho the personal connections are not close, the desire to aid in rewarding members increases.

Birge Clark is an outstanding composite of architect and engineer, fired by high professional ideals and intense regional loyalties that prompted him to choose the wise and helpful course of remaining in the Stanford University-Palo Alto region to initiate a major, sound professional practice. With conscientious and dynamic industry he has won for himself a unique place and enlarged the borders of the good influences of our Northern California Chapter, A.I.A.

From the attached statistical information, you can see something of the richness of his life,- a life that centered in home and office, but gave leadership in many directions afield.

I recommend to you for careful consideration

Birge M. Clark,  
321 Channing Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

as a Fellow of our A.I.A.

With all best wishes, and gratitude for your service in your important work, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
Henry H. Gutterson

HHG:eh  
encls. (1) cc - N. Cal. Chapter A.I.A.



## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

BIRGE MALCOLM CLARK

Born April 16, 1893

A. B. Stanford 1914; Bachelor of Architecture, Columbia 1917.

Served two years in Air Service World War I, Captain, Balloon Company commander, received Silver Star citation.

After war, while associated with father, A. B. Clark, designed residence for Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoover. Opened own office in Palo Alto in 1922. First partner, younger brother (now deceased) 1929 until 1944; present partner, Walter Stromquist since 1945.

Practice has been very general and Palo Alto has many examples of his work; residences, stores, garages, office buildings, banks, newspaper plant, public and private schools.

During World War II was consulting architect on Kaiser's Fontana steel plant and designed various specific buildings such as the administration building; did similar work for the Kaiser magnesium plant, and in Oakland, the Permanente Hospital. In San Francisco, the Stanford Medical School Research Laboratory.

His office has done and is doing schools within a twenty mile radius of Palo Alto, at San Jose, Campbell, Cupertino, Mountain View, Centerville and Decoto; also, a great number of large and small residences; among the larger that for Charles and Kathleen Norris, residences of Mrs. Louis Stern and daughter Ruth Stern, Harold Hamilton.

In public work, other than schools, designed the Palo Alto Post Office for the Federal Government; the Palo Alto Fire and Police Station, Palo Alto Community Center, the Palo Alto Red Cross Building, and, at present, the first unit of the Santa Clara County Government Center.\*

In the field of public service and relations, he has served both as Director and President of the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce; a Director and President of the Palo Alto Mutual Building & Loan since 1940; Chairman of the Survey Section of the Disaster Committee of the Palo Alto and Stanford Red Cross, a Charter and 25-year member of the Palo Alto Kiwanis Club, Boy Scout Committeeman and various civic committees; served on mayor's committee studying signs, and as a result of a movement initiated by him, Palo Alto is one of the few cities in the state in which no signs of any sort are allowed to extend out over the sidewalk, but must be limited to one foot projection beyond the building. At present time is lecturer for second year in newly formed Architectural School at Stanford University.

Professional relations: A 25 year Corporate Member of the Institute; served as Director of the Northern California Chapter and on various committees. Delegate to national convention. While chairman of the Membership Committee

COPY

Professional Career  
Birge M. Clark - 2

devoted regular time to calling on non-member architects, some of whom had been estranged from the Institute by ancient feuds, and was instrumental in bringing several back to the Chapter. Participated in the organization of the Coast Valleys Chapter and served as President in 1949 when it was a branch chapter of the Northern California Chapter. Has been active on various committees and currently chairman of Relations with Construction Industry Committee. Served on the Code Changes Committee of the Uniform Building Code and actively participated in developing the present school portions of the Code. Currently has met with the same committee and the State Fire Marshal in formulating Title 19 of the State Code regulating fire safety in public buildings. In the case of Palo Alto, has at several times been appointed by the Board of Public Works to work with the Building Inspector in rewriting certain chapters of the Palo Alto version of the Uniform Code. Is well known to, and has worked with the Building Inspectors of Palo Alto, San Jose and Counties of Santa Clara and San Mateo, and has been instrumental in bringing about a better understanding between architects and building inspectors and assisting in improving the present building codes. He was very active in representing the Palo Alto architects in reviewing for the Planning Commission architectural sections of Palo Alto's present master plan when it was before the Council for review. The work of the architect was especially appreciated by members of the Planning Commission and his efforts led to definite improvements in various sections relating to architecture in the master plan.

\* This last also involved the development of presentation of needs and the master plan for this inter-governmental center which would comprise offices of the City of San Jose, the County of Santa Clara, and state and federal governments.

HARRIS C. ALLEN, F. A. I. A.  
BOHEMIAN CLUB  
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

December 3, 1951

*ack 1/10/52*

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

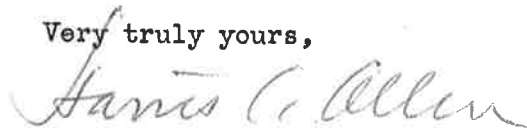
Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to endorse the nomination of Birge M. Clark for Fellowship.

For more than 25 years I have known Mr. Clark, and my liking and admiration for his character and ability have steadily increased. During the period when I acted as Editor of "Pacific Coast Architect" and of "California Arts and Architecture" I published many of his buildings, all of which showed outstanding merit in design and construction. When president of Northern California Chapter A. I. A. and of the State Association of California Architects, I had frequent occasion to observe his fine and active participation in our work for improving professional conditions.

His ability and integrity are widely recognized, and his Elevation to Fellowship is well deserved and will be well received by his professional brothers and of the Building Industry generally.

Very truly yours,



Harris C. Allen

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

ARCHITECTS

442 POST STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 8

December 5th, 1951

Mr. H. Deland Chandler, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

*ack. 1/10/52*

Dear Mr. Chandler:

I understand that Mr. Birge M. Clark, A.I.A. of Palo Alto is being proposed as a Fellow to the American Institute of Architects.

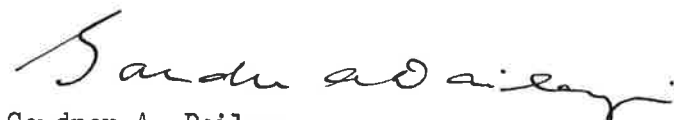
I should like to write a short letter telling you that I have for many years, as a matter of fact, since 1921, known Birge Clark and it is with great pleasure that I recommend him to a Fellowship.

Mr. Clark has not only been very active in the field of architecture near Palo Alto but he has taken an active part in public affairs, having served on the Mayor's Committee of Palo Alto and, as well, at one time President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Having graduated from Stanford University and having been one of Palo Alto's prominent citizens he has done much over the past years to keep the city of Palo Alto from being spoiled by signs and other unsightly structures.

Trusting that you will consider his promotion favorably, I am, with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Gardner A. Dailey

GAD/ld



# Palo Alto Times

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

December 6, 1951

Mr. H. Deland Chandler, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.  
1741 New York Avenue N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

*ack 1/10/52*

Dear Mr. Chandler:

It has come to my attention that Birge M. Clark of Palo Alto has been nominated for fellowship in the American Institute of Architecture, and that you would be interested in letters from his acquaintances concerning his activities.

I have known Birge Clark for almost twenty years during which time he has always been highly regarded for his integrity and his outstanding ability in his profession. He has designed and supervised innumerable business buildings, schools and residences. He has had a marked influence on the attractive but functional architecture of Palo Alto and surrounding territory.

He devotes a great deal of his time to civic and community affairs. For example: he led the movement (against considerable commercial opposition) which resulted in a new sign ordinance for Palo Alto. This ordinance limits sign projection to one foot. As a result, Palo Alto has as neat an appearing business section as you will find anywhere. He is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce.

It is always a pleasure to work with Birge Clark on commercial as well as civic projects.

Sincerely yours,

*Eugene C. Bishop*

Eugene C. Bishop  
Publisher

ECB:LI

JAMES H. MITCHELL · FAIA · ARCHITECT  
HAROLD W. HAWES · AIA · ASSOCIATE  
407 SANSOME STREET · SAN FRANCISCO 11

December 7, 1951.

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

Gentlemen:

The petition originating in Northern California Chapter for the granting of Fellowship to Mr. Birge M. Clark is before you. It will not be amiss, I trust, to acquaint you with his Chapter service beginning in the early days of his Institute membership.

Having been a Chapter officer, myself, continuously from 1928 to 1940, I, perhaps, am best qualified in our group here to recount Mr. Clark's activities during these years for your benefit.

In those days, Mr. Clark was an extremely active participant in the Chapter's life. He was a constant attendant at the meetings in spite of a travel inconvenience. He served very frequently on committees and gave unstintedly of his time and energy during a period of officership as a Chapter Director. He has been from time to time a member of Institute committees.

In more current years Mr. Clark was a leading force in successfully organizing the Coast Valleys Chapter to which his membership is now assigned.

Throughout the years of his practice Mr. Clark has aggressively fought for the betterment of the profession, as evidenced in his Chapter, his community and the State.

Beyond this, Mr. Clark holds as a mark of his design ability, one or more Honor Awards granted in past Chapter Exhibits.

I am very happy to extend my full-hearted support to the petition for the conferring of Fellowship upon Mr. Clark.

Sincerely yours,

*James H. Mitchell*  
James H. Mitchell

JHM:es

MEYER & EVERS  
ARCHITECTS

EXBROOK 2-6658  
149 CALIFORNIA STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 11

December 13, 1951

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

Att. Mr. H. Deland Chandler, Chairman

Gentlemen:

It has come to my notice through the officers of the Northern California Chapter that Birge M. Clark was nominated for Fellowship two years ago with the endorsement of the Chapter. I must confess that I was entirely unaware of the nomination or this letter would have been written much sooner.

Birge Clark has been well and favorably known to me since the middle 20s shortly after he opened his office in Palo Alto where he is still practicing. During the intervening years his good qualities have always impressed those who knew him. It is seldom that one is able to endorse a candidate for Fellowship on an all-around basis as in the present case.

The work of his office has always been of high standard, showing marked ability and character of design, with evidence of careful supervision. In addition to ably conducting his practice, he has been active in his community serving as President of the Chamber of Commerce and holding many important positions in community activities. He also served his country in World War I as a Captain in the Army and was cited for the Silver Star. Mr. Clark's work for the Chapter has been consistent and faithful for many years, he having served as a Director of the Northern California Chapter at about the time I was very active and if I recollect correctly when I was President. As evidence of his continued interest, I can cite that he assisted in the formation of the Coast Valleys Chapter and served as president thereof when it was still a branch of the Northern California Chapter.

In summation, may I say that Birge Clark has been a splendid member of the profession, has served it well with much more than average ability. I have no hesitation in endorsing his nomination for Fellowship and recommend him to your favorable consideration.

Respectfully yours,

  
Albert J. Evers, F.A.I.A.

AJE:ef

# DONALD BEACH KIRBY, A.I.A. • THOMAS B. MULVIN, A.I.A.

MEMBERS AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

## ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATED

December 13, 1951

Jury of Fellows

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

Re: BIRGE M. CLARK

Gentlemen:

Birge Malcolm Clark has brought honor to the entire Architectural profession during his many years of distinguished practice. I am happy to know that he is being considered for Fellowship in the Institute and I wish to add my recommendation.

Mr. Clark's talent as a designer is widely recognized on the Pacific Coast, where his work has been greatly admired for many years. The consistently high quality of design produced in his office has been an inspiration to young students as well as other Architects who had difficulty "selling" good design to their clients. During the last twenty years Mr. Clark's grasp of pure design has been very evident in his adjustment to new concepts and new materials, not as a follower but as a leader. He has produced a great variety of fine work.

As a family, the Clarks have been one of the strongest forces in the Palo Alto community for better education and aid to students. At present Mr. Clark is lecturing on Architecture at Stanford University. Many well qualified Architects received their first inspiration and office training in his drafting rooms.

This nominee has a well-balanced and very forceful personality and is recognized as a leader in whatever he undertakes. Among businessmen he is regarded as a sound thinker and has taken an active part in many business operations including civic enterprises and lending institutions. For twenty five years a Corporate member of the Institute, Mr. Clark has always been a strong supporter and an active committee member, delegate and officer. He helped to organize the new Chapter in his area so that more men in neighboring communities could enjoy the fellowship and benefits of professional association.

He did yeoman service in re writing our building codes. As a community leader he has not only sponsored but has kept alive master planning, modern zoning, and other developments guided by a strong Architectural hand.

Those of us who know Birge Clark and his work trust that you will agree that he deserves to be elevated to Fellowship in the Institute.

Very truly yours,



DONALD BEACH KIRBY

# HIGGINS & ROOT, A. I. A.

A R C H I T E C T S

W. L. HIGGINS AND CHESTER ROOT

220 MERIDIAN AT PARK AVENUE • SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA • TELEPHONE GYPRESS 3-1427

13 December 1951

Mr. H. Deland Chandler, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, 6, D.C.

*ack 1/10/52*

Dear Mr. Chandler:

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Birge M. Clark as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

As a corporate member and past president of the Coast Valleys Chapter, I have had a close association with Mr. Clark during the last five years and will write from my personal experience.

## 1. Chapter Activities:

Mr. Clark, as President of the Coast Valleys Chapter, did more than anyone else to give the organization the stability and strength needed to become a separate Chapter; no easy task, as the area embraces four counties, and runs from Palo Alto to Carmel. As a past president, he has continued his activity and has served as chairman of various committees, always serving with interest and enthusiasm.

Currently, as chairman of the Committee on Relationship with the Construction Industry, he has done much to interpret the Architect to the City and County Building Departments and the State Fire Marshal.

## 2. Professional Activities:

As a member of the Santa Clara County Planning Commission and Chairman of the Civic Center Executive Committee, I have had close contact with Mr. Clark in the development of the Governmental Center now under construction in San Jose.

Mr. Clark was one of a group of Architects that defied precedent and recommended a sixty acre site for development as an "Inter-Governmental Center", (City, County, State and Federal buildings) one mile from the business center of San Jose.



# HIGGINS & ROOT, A. I. A.

A R C H I T E C T S

W. L. HIGGINS AND CHESTER ROOT

220 MERIDIAN AT PARK AVENUE • SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA • TELEPHONE CYPRESS 3-1427

The Jury of Fellows  
Mr. Birge M. Clark  
13 December 1951  
Page -2

The firm of Clark and Stromquist was chosen to design the site plan and subsequently the first major building. Designed for the automobile age, the project has come into being in spite of the entrenched interests of down-town business, that mistakenly believed increasing congestion to be a necessary part of progress.

Mr. Clark skillfully presented the merits of good planning and a county wide election sustained that point of view. We believe this project will be of national interest and a very large part of the credit is due to his far sightedness and courage in fighting for an ideal.

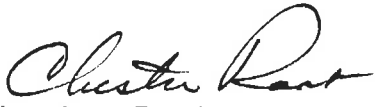
### 3. Other Activities:

The Santa Clara Valley is full of the works of Mr. Clark's firm. They show a high level of design quality and have been a stimulating influence of great worth to the profession as a whole in demonstrating the value of the Architect's services.

Mr. Clark's interest in City Planning has long been evidenced in the City of Palo Alto, where he has also designed many of the civic and quasi-public structures.

I regard it as a privilege to further this Fellowship nomination.

Very truly yours,

  
Chester Root

CR: jm

KENT & HASS

*Architects*

525 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 5, CALIFORNIA

Telephone EXBROOK 2-6931

December 14, 1951

*ack 1/10/52*

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

Gentlemen:


It has come to my attention that the name of Birge Malcolm Clark has been placed in nomination for Fellowship.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Birge Clark for many years, and am extremely interested in his nomination for this honor. His interest in the profession has been consistent over many years, and he has contributed unstintingly of his time both to the Northern California Chapter and the Coast Valleys Chapter.

He has always helped and has been an inspiration to the younger men in the profession in his community. He has also taken an active interest in community activities and has been very instrumental in getting recognition of the profession in his section of the state thru his efficient efforts in any thing he undertook to do.

I trust my small contribution to Mr. Clark's numerous recommendations will convince you that you will make no mistake in honoring him.

Sincerely,



Andrew T. Hass

ATH:fy

321 CHANNING AVENUE, PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA



## Officers:

William F. Hempel, President  
 Lawrence Gentry, Vice-President  
 Walter Stromquist, Secretary-Treas.

## Directors:

Thomas Elston  
 Charles Butner

*ack 1/10/52*

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

Dec. 19, 1951

RE: Nomination of Birge Malcolm Clark, A.I.A., for Fellowship.

Gentlemen;

Birge Malcolm Clark is greatly respected by the members of our chapter and, prior to that time, our sub chapter and is frequently asked for advice.

He has always been an active leader and shown the initiative on many occasions both in chapter and civic affairs.

When a committee of Intergovernmental Relations was set up to study the city of San Jose and County of Santa Clara for a unified civic center, a panel of five Architects was appointed, Mr. Clark as chairman. Chiefly through his personal initiative and forethought a new civic center site was selected away from the present congested location. On another occasion, the city of Palo Alto Planning Commission planned to revise the zoning ordinances. Mr. Clark again, upon his initiative obtained the proposed revisions, studied them, and was mainly instrumental in coordinating all of the Architects to study this problem. I mention these two specific occasions only as I was also a member of each committee and can appreciate his tireless efforts.

This past year he was invaluable in helping the chapter and me in his committee work of relations with Construction Industry and National Defense and has been an active conseller and advisor at all chapter meetings and affairs.

He is truly an Architect, respected equally by fellow Architects and laymen for his sound execution and judgement in design, office practice, community and chapter activities.

The recommendation of Birge Malcolm Clark for Fellowship is sincerely and wholeheartedly endorsed by every member of our chapter and myself.

Respectfully Submitted,

William F. Hempel, A.I.A.,  
 President.

WFH:mc



2.9  
Clark

SAN JOAQUIN CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

P. O. BOX 111 - FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

December 20, 1951

2 acts 1/10/52

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

Gentlemen:

The San Joaquin Chapter of The American Institute of Architects wishes to heartily endorse the nomination of Cyrus E. Silling and Birge Malcolm Clark for election as a Fellow of the Institute. All of the members of our Chapter are personally acquainted with Mr. Clark and have knowledge of the service which he has rendered to the Institute and in the field of public relations and public service. We consider him to be one of the outstanding architects in California.

Several of our members are personally acquainted with Mr. Silling and all of our members have knowledge of the splendid work he has done in the profession, the services he has rendered to the Institute and the service which he has rendered as a citizen on behalf of the public.

Our Chapter firmly believes that both of these men are well entitled to have the honor of Fellow of the Institute conferred upon them.

Very truly yours,

*Fred L. Swartz*  
Fred L. Swartz,  
President

FLS:vj

Copy made for  
Mr. Silling's file  
JMS

E. J. GAMBARO, A.I.A. • ARCHITECT

4 EAST 41ST STREET • NEW YORK CITY, 17.

December 23, 1951.

Mr. H. Darland Chandler, F.A.I.A.  
Chairman, Jury of Fellows,  
The American Institute of Architects,  
1741 New York Avenue, N/W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

*ack 1/10/52*

Dear Mr. Chandler:

I am very happy to add my recommendation to the others in favor of advancing Mr. Birge Malcolm Clark to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Clark has made outstanding contributions in the field of architectural design. Since 1926, when he joined The Institute, he has rendered public and professional services that have aided the cause of good architecture and helped to further the objectives of The Institute.

His fine efforts down through the years should be recognized and I hope that you and the Jury of Fellows will consider with favor the recommendations of his friends and colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

*E. James Gambaro*



**ALFRED HOPKINS & ASSOCIATES - ARCHITECTS**

LESTER S. LA PIERRE, A. I. A.    CLARENCE B. LITCHFIELD, A. I. A.  
415 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.  
MURRAY HILL 2-5750

ARTHUR E. DORÉ, A. I. A.  
GANNETT HERWIG, A. I. A.  
ARTHUR H. FULLER, A. I. A.  
W. FRANK BOWER, A. I. A.  
BEN JOHN SMALL, A. I. A.  
PAYTON SHAW KELLY, R. A.  
ALFRED A. ROTHMANN, A. I. A.

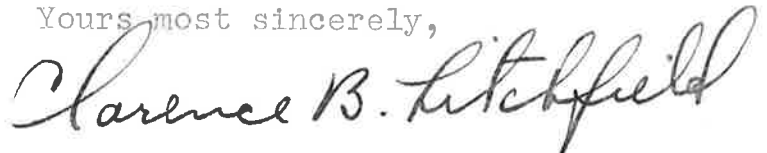
January 29, 1952

Mr. H. Daland Chandler, Chairman  
Jury of Fellows  
9 Armington Street  
Boston 16, Mass.

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that Birge Malcolm Clark is coming before the Jury of Fellows for the possible award of title of Fellow, A. I. A. I would like to present my recommendation that Mr. Clark receive this high honor from the Jury of Fellows. His work in the A. I. A. is well known as well as the unstinting services he has given to the different civic enterprises of Palo Alto.

Yours most sincerely,



Clarence B. Litchfield

CBL:jb

January 30, 1952

Mr. Clarence B. Litchfield  
415 Lexington Avenue  
New York 17, New York

My dear Mr. Litchfield:

Thank you so much for your letter in commendation of Birge Malcolm Clark, who comes before the Jury of Fellows for consideration of advancement to Fellowship.

I wonder if you can help the Jury somewhat more fully than your letter indicates. We have so many of this type of letter, which is naturally an enthusiastic endorsement of the nominee, but which so often gives very vague reasons for this advancement. I regret to say that I have no access to the files here in Boston, but I can assure you that it would be of great value to the Jury to have a detailed description of the actual services that Mr. Clark made to the various civic enterprises of Palo Alto to which you refer. If, therefore, you can fortify your letter in this way, and more specifically, defining "his work in the A.I.A.", we would be most grateful.

Sincerely yours,

H. DALAND CHANDLER, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.

HDC:T

ALFRED HOPKINS & ASSOCIATES - ARCHITECTS

LESTER S. LA PIERRE, A. I. A. CLARENCE B. LITCHFIELD, A. I. A.  
415 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.  
MURRAY HILL 2-5750

ARTHUR E. DORÉ, A. I. A.  
GANNETT HERWIG, A. I. A.  
ARTHUR H. FULLER, A. I. A.  
W. FRANK BOWER, A. I. A.  
BEN JOHN SMALL, A. I. A.  
PAYTON SHAW KELLY, R. A.  
ALFRED A. ROTHMANN, A. I. A.

January 31, 1952

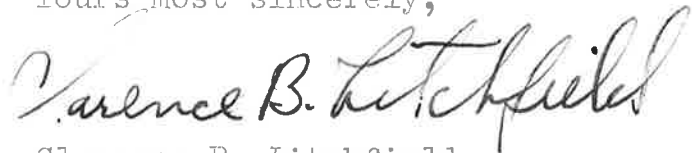
M. H. Daland Chandler, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows, A. I. A.  
9 Arlington Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Chandler:

As you request in your letter of January 30th, I am enclosing a ditto copy of the information I have on Mr. Birge Malcolm Clark.

Thank you for the interest you have shown in my letter of commendation.

Yours most sincerely,



Clarence B. Litchfield

CBL:jb  
enc.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER



BIRGE MALCOLM CLARK

Born April 16, 1893

A. B. Stanford 1914; Bachelor of Architecture, Columbia 1917.

Served two years in Air Service World War I, Captain, Balloon Company commander, received Silver Star citation.

After war, while associated with father, A. B. Clark, designed residence for Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoover. Opened own office in Palo Alto in 1922. First partner, younger brother (now deceased) 1929 until 1944; present partner, Walter Sproquist since 1945.

Practice has been very general and Palo Alto has many examples of his work; residences, stores, garages, office buildings, banks, newspaper plant, public and private schools.

During World War II was consulting architect on Kaiser's Fontana steel plant and designed various specific buildings such as the administration building; did similar work for the Kaiser magnesium plant, and in Oakland, the Permanente Hospital. In San Francisco, the Stanford Medical School Research Laboratory.

His office has done and is doing schools within a twenty mile radius of Palo Alto, at San Jose, Campbell, Cupertino, Mountain View, Centerville and Decoto; also, a great number of large and small residences; among the larger that for Charles and Kathleen Norris, residences of Mrs. Louis Stern and daughter Ruth Stern, Harold Hamilton.

In public work, other than schools, designed the Palo Alto Post Office for the Federal Government; the Palo Alto Fire and Police Station, Palo Alto Community Center, the Palo Alto Red Cross Building, and, at present, the first unit of the Santa Clara County Government Center.<sup>44</sup>

In the field of public service and relations, he has served both as Director and President of the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce; a Director and President of the Palo Alto Mutual Building & Loan since 1940; Chairman of the Survey Section of the Disaster Committee of the Palo Alto and Stanford Red Cross, a Charter and 25-year member of the Palo Alto Kiwanis Club, Boy Scout Committeeman and various civic committees; served on mayor's committee studying signs, and as a result of a movement initiated by him, Palo Alto is one of the few cities in the state in which no signs of any sort are allowed to extend out over the sidewalk, but must be limited to one foot projection beyond the building. At present time is lecturer for second year in newly formed Architectural School at Stanford University.

Professional relations: a 25 year Corporate Member of the Institute; served as Director of the Northern California Chapter and on various committees.

Professional Career  
Birge M. Clark - 2

Delegate to national conventions. While chairman of the Membership Committee devoted regular time to calling on non-member architects, some of whom had been estranged from the Institute by ancient feuds, and was instrumental in bringing several back to the Chapter. Participated in the organization of the Coast Valleys Chapter and served as President in 1949 when it was a branch chapter of the Northern California Chapter. Has been active on various committees and currently chairman of Relations with Construction Industry Committee. Served on the Code Changes Committee of the Uniform Building Code and actively participated in developing the present school portions of the Code. Currently has met with the same committee and the State Fire Marshal in formulating Title 19 of the State Code regulating fire safety in public buildings. In the case of Palo Alto, has at several times been appointed by the Board of Public Works to work with the Building Inspector in rewriting certain chapters of the Palo Alto version of the Uniform Code. Is well known to, and has worked with the Building Inspectors of Palo Alto, San Jose and Counties of Santa Clara and San Mateo, and has been instrumental in bringing about a better understanding between architect and building inspectors and assisting in improving the present building codes.

He was very active in representing the Palo Alto architects in reviewing for the Planning Commission architectural sections of Palo Alto's present master plan when it was before the Council for review. The work of the architects was especially appreciated by members of the Planning Commission and his efforts led to definite improvements in various sections relating to architecture in the master plan.

\*This last also involved the development of presentation of needs and the master plan for this inter-governmental center which would comprise offices of the City of San Jose, the County of Santa Clara, and state and federal governments.



Clark, 1952

February 1, 1952

Mr. Clarence B. Litchfield  
415 Lexington Avenue  
New York 17, New York

My dear Mr. Litchfield:

Thank you for your detailed information on Mr. Birge Malcolm Clark. This is just the kind of information that the Jury of Fellows needs and appreciates for proper consideration of an applicant.

Sincerely yours,

H. DALAND CHANDLER, Chairman  
The Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.

HDC:T