

Ditchy, Clair Wm.
Michigan

No exp reg

Application for Membership

December 13, 1922

To the Secretary of the American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon House, Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I hereby apply for Membership in the American Institute of Architects.

I hereby certify that the following statements are correct:

Name Clair William Ditchy

Address 424 McKerchey Building Detroit Michigan
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]

Place and date of birth Kelley's Island, Ohio April 12, 1891

Graduate in architecture U. of Michigan 1915
[If required in your case, give name of institutions and year.—Attach evidence of Diploma or Certificate of graduation]

Holder of Scholarship in architecture.....
[If required in your case, attach evidence.]

Passed the qualifying examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or the examinations for the
first class of the Ecole des Beaux Arts.....
[If required in your case, state which, and attach evidence of Certificate.]

If an Associate of a Chapter of the Institute, give name of chapter.....

If practicing architect, firm name J. Ivan Dise & Clair W. Ditchy, Associate Architects
one years.

Have been in practice..... years.

If draughtsman, employed by.....
[State number of years.]

Collegiate and office training.....

I have carefully examined the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute and the "Circular of Advice Relative to Principles of Professional Practice and Canons of Ethics," 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.

Clair W. Ditchy
[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 Oct 18, 22
[Insert date of election to chapter.]

Mustaw Steffen Secretary.
Michigan Chapter, A. I. A.

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

(1) Chas. K. Ketting
(2) G. Philip Thompson
(3) Alfred H. Ketchum
[The signatures of three Institute members are here required unless 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 member proposed. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

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

COPY

February 12, 1924.

My dear Mr. Ditchy:-

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in the American Institute of Architects, effective on February 12, 1924.

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

Enclosed herewith is statement covering dues for three quarters of the current year.

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.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clair Wm. Ditchy,
424 McKerchey Bldg.,
Detroit, Michigan.

K:B
Encl.

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

American Institute of Architects

Inter-Office Communication

Subject

From

To

Date

March 17, 1927.

American Railway Express Company,
On Hand Department,
941 Howard Street,
Detroit, Michigan.

Gentlemen:-

Please forward the package that you are holding for Mr. Clair
W. Ditchy to the following address and oblige;

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, Secretary,
Detroit Chapter, A. I. A.,
206 Architect's Building,
415 Brainard Street,
Detroit, Mich.

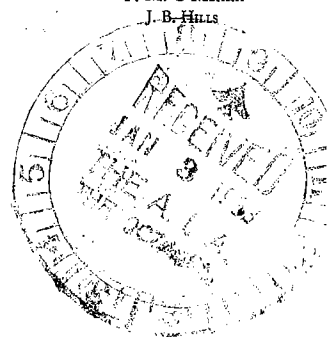
Very truly yours,

The American Institute of Architects.

By-

O'MEARA & HILLS
ARCHITECTS
703 FISHER BLDG.
DETROIT, MICH.
CLAIR W. DITCHY
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT

December 31, 1932



Mr. Edward C. Kemper
Executive Secretary, A.I.A.,
The Octagon, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kemper,

I am answering Mr. Bergstrom's letter by addressing my response to you, for I presume he is in Los Angeles.

I am enclosing a check for \$5.00 which I realize represents a very small portion of my indebtedness, but does represent a considerable segment of my ready cash,-- just how much I should hesitate to reveal. Aside from what meagre assistance it may be in swelling the receipts of your treasury, it may be regarded as an earnest on my part. The Institute has meant much to me during my eight years or more of membership and I would not willingly be parted from it. I may say that the benefits which have accrued to me have not been entirely purchased with my national and local dues, but have come, in the manner that most benefits do, through extensive personal interest and activity. I am none the less aware of my serious responsibility in the matter of dues.

I regret that circumstances have placed me in the embarrassing position of being in arrears to the Institute and further that I can make no definite promise as to when I may be able to completely discharge this indebtedness, but I do look forward more hopefully to the coming year and believe that it will be possible for me to so budget my meagre income that I may be able to send a small check each month. If I can do better than that, I shall be most happy to do so. This I will do, of course, no matter how my status in (or out of) the Institute is affected.

With sincere good wishes for the New Year

I remain

Very truly yours,

Clair W. Ditchy

502 1/8/33

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2 3
COPY

January 6, 1933.

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your remittance of \$5.00 on account of Institute dues for the year 1932.

I am writing at the direction of Mr. Bergstrom to give the assurance that no adverse action will be taken affecting your Institute membership - without ample advance notice to you.

Your membership in the Institute and the Detroit Chapter is secure for the time being, and at the March meeting of the Institute Board full consideration will be given to the serious financial problem which confronts the Institute and its members.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, A. I. A.,
703 Fisher Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

ECK*B

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

23
COPY

December 31, 1933.

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

We send the enclosed bill for Institute dues for the year 1934, with an explanatory letter from the President, so that you can see just what is proposed by the Board of Directors with respect to a reduction in dues for the year 1934, and readjustment of outstanding dues for the three-year period, 1931-1933.

As you will note, the proposed readjustment with respect to outstanding dues applies back as far as 1931. It does not apply to unpaid dues for the year 1930.

On the record at The Octagon it appears that your indebtedness for 1930 is \$7.50, and in addition \$75.00 for the years 1931, 1932, and 1933.

The Officers of the Institute do not wish to lose your affiliation and your moral support at this critical stage of affairs.

They, therefore, express the hope that you will send a check covering the outstanding account for 1930 and thereby be in position to take advantage of the Board's proposal. Such action would reduce the charge against you to \$15 for the year 1934 plus \$5 a year until \$25 has been paid for the period 1931-1933.

The above is on the presumption that the Convention will approve the proposals outlined.

If we do not hear from you by January 30, we will presume that you wish your Institute membership terminated for non-payment of dues, effective December 31, 1933. We sincerely hope that such will not prove to be the case.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Clair Wm. Ditchy, A.I.A.,
703 Fisher Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

ECK*B

Enc.

cc- Messrs. Palmer
Hewitt

COPY TO
FILES

PRESIDENT

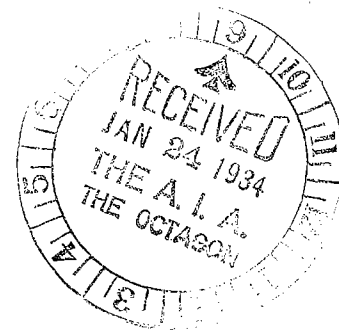
SECRETARY

TREASURER

O'MEARA & HILLS
ARCHITECTS
703 FISHER BLDG.
DETROIT, MICH.

CLAIR W. DITCHY
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT

January 22, 1934



Dear Mr. Kemper :

If my memory serves me correctly, I believe I owe you several apologies. Some time ago I had innocently hoped to wipe out my current indebtedness to the Institute promptly and in all good faith I made a promise to you to that effect. I believe that was the last word you had from me.

Again you wrote me when you reprinted an article of mine from the M.S.A. Weekly Bulletin. In this instance I must admit I was somewhat embarrassed to have an article of mine which was intended purely for local consumption suddenly appear in national circulation. I realize now that I should have at least thanked you for the compliment even tho' I chose to be so rude as to disregard your letter. But I am sure also that the rather irresponsible tenor of the article indicated a certain weakening of the mental fibre of the author (the depression had claimed another victim) and led to the only possible conclusion, towit, that a good alibi for any lapse from grace or decorum on my part existed; witness the irrefutable evidence.

I hope this letter will restore me to your good graces and that the enclosed check will do as much for me with the Institute, for the time being. Much as I would like to, I am cured of making promises and can only ask that you take the receipt of this letter as an encouraging sign that all hope has not been abandoned.

The suggested arrangement for readjusting delinquent dues I feel is a most happy solution to a very difficult and distressing problem.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Clair W. Ditchy

Received Payment
American Institute of Architects
\$ 7.50 for 1930 Dues.

Mr. Ditchy received a letter of January 1, saying he would be dropped if his 1930 dues of \$7.50 were not paid by January 31, 1934.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2
3
COPY

January 26, 1934.

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

It was good to get your letter of January 22d, and to know that you are going to stay with the Institute and the Detroit Chapter. We need your support in these times.

The check for \$7.50, which accompanied your letter, was utilized to clear the record in payment of 1930 dues.

Now, under the proposed plan - if it is adopted by the Convention - your indebtedness for dues for 1934 will be \$15 and there will be an additional \$5 for the next five years, or until \$25 has been paid on dues for the 1931-1933 period.

It has been decided to hold a Convention this year. It will be in Washington on May 16, 17 and 18, and we hope you can attend.

If we can be of service to you here in Washington at any time, please command.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, A. I. A.,
703 Fisher Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

ECK*B

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

2 3
COPY

April 2, 1935.

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

Various meetings here have given us opportunity to recover from the shock of getting so large a check as \$50, which we now formally acknowledge, covering your Institute dues, as per the enclosed receipt.

You should have received your Membership Card under separate cover.

With appreciation

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Treasurer.

ECK*B

Mr. Clair Wm. Ditchy, A.I.A.,
703 Fisher Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

COPY TO

FILES

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

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

2-3
COPY

April 22, 1937

Dear Mr. Cordner:

On April 10, Mr. Clair Ditchy of Detroit was at The Octagon.

His time was so taken up with matters which came up under the Public Works Committee of The Institute, of which he is a member, that he was unable to get away and go to your office.

As he was leaving for his train - with a margin of about sixty seconds to get it - he requested that I call you and explain his failure to appear.

I tried to get you at your office, but you had gone for the day. Later on Monday, they told me you would be away for perhaps a week.

Please accept this note of explanation in behalf of Mr. Ditchy and also the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

ECK:LF

Mr. G. Frank Cordner, A.I.A.
3640 16th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

COPY TO

FILES

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

DITCHY - FARLEY - PERRY

ARCHITECTS

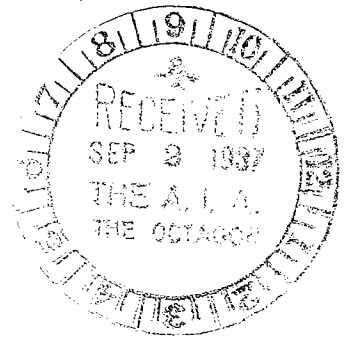
333 STATE STREET

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

CLAIR W DITCHY
HOWARD L FARLEY
LEO IRWIN PERRY

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 9330

August 31, 1937.



Mr. Edward C. Kemper,
Executive Secretary, A.I.A.
The Octagon,
1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kemper;

There was recently published a list of buildings prepared by the House Appropriations Committee for proposed construction under a seventy million dollar public building program.

There were many good sized buildings for Michigan included in this list. Could you tell me whom I should approach to secure some of this architectural work? I have written to Mr. Louis Simon for information regarding the final list, and am wondering if I should approach the Senators from Michigan, and other political representatives from Michigan.

Your valued advice will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Clair W. Ditchy

CWD/D

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

23
COPY

CLAIR W. DITCHY - PEPPER

RECEIVED

SEP 11 1937

CLAIR W. DITCHY

CLAIR W. DITCHY

333 STATE STREET

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SEP 11 1937

September 2, 1937.

Mr. Edward C. Morgan,
Executive Secretary,

Dear Mr. Ditchy:
1741 New York Avenue,
Washington

Responding to yours of August 21, at hand this morning:

Dear Mr. Morgan:

We believe that you have followed the right course in writing to Mr. Louis Simon, the Supervising Architect under the Procurement Division, for information regarding the new list of buildings appropriated for in the recent Deficiency Bill.

However, it might expedite matters and strengthen Mr. Simon's hand if you requested one of the Senators from Michigan to see that you get an early response - with reasonably complete information as to the location of the projects in Michigan, the cost, and the policy of the Department with respect to the employment of private architects.

The Chairman of the Committee on Public Works of The Institute, Mr. Sullivan, is informed about the appropriation for these new projects and we have sent a copy of your letter and of this reply on to him in case he can supplement the above.

If we can be of service to you specifically, please command.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, A.I.A.
333 State Street
Detroit, Michigan

Executive Secretary.

EGK:LF

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

Dayton

File

April 6, 1940.

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

We have had two recent visitors at The Octagon - reporting on conditions in two Chapters in the Great Lakes District, as follows:

George T. Neuffer, Secretary, Dayton Chapter.

The group of architects in the Chapter, who have been successful in getting a large housing project, are going to bring about the reinstatement of an approximate dozen former corporate members who lost their memberships because of financial difficulties.

We are preparing a memorandum showing the status of these accounts and it will be sent to Mr. Neuffer (with copy to you) giving complete information concerning reinstatement procedure.

All this is most encouraging and we conveyed to Mr. Neuffer the appreciation of the Regional Director of the District and of the Officers.

David B. Maxfield, Cincinnati Chapter.

He states confidentially that conditions in this chapter are, and have been for several years, in a most unsatisfactory state. There is a lack of program, meetings when held are poorly attended, and the profession is not doing justice to itself in Cincinnati.

He says that the new President, George F. Roth, Jr., is trying to improve the situation. He believes that a word of encouragement from you to Mr. Roth would do a lot of good; also a visit if that is possible.

In the past, no effort has been made to enlist the interest of the younger men, or to take a vigorous part in civic affairs.

The proximity of Cincinnati to Louisville may offer opportunity to revive interest and to put the Chapter in a stronger position than it now occupies.

The above notes are entirely informal of course, and merely to keep you posted.

Sincerely yours,

J. K.

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, Director,
Great Lakes District, A.I.A.,
333 State Street,
Detroit, Michigan.

EGX:LF



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
JURY OF FELLOWS

NO NF 136

Received Dec. 31, 1943

Voted On 3/8 1944

Voted On 19 .

Voted On 19 .

Granted 3/8- 1944

NO M

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

CASE RECORD

1. Name of Nominee .Clair William Ditchy Date of Nomination Dec. 29, 1943
2. Address of Nominee 333 State Street, Detroit 26, Michigan
3. Nominee's firm Clair W. Ditchy, Architect
4. Nominee's principal place of business Detroit, Michigan
5. Nominee's Chapter Detroit Chapter
6. Nominee's State Association Member Michigan Society of Architects
7. Nominee admitted to Institute 1924 19 .
8. Nominee has been in good standing in Institute from 1924 to 1943
9. Nominee's age 52 yrs. Birthplace Kelley's Island, Ohio
10. Nominators: Executive Committee, Detroit Chapter

11. Achievement in service to The Institute.

Ephraim K. d

NO NF 136

(Nominators leave blank)

CONFIDENTIAL



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
43 DEC 31 AM 9:56
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

BY
CHAPTER

THE JURY OF FELLOWS

The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

Date December 29 1943

The Executive Committee of this Chapter, at a duly called meeting on December 27 1943
nominated* Clair William Ditchy
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* Clair William Ditchy
a member of this Chapter, has made so notable a contribution to the advancement of the pro-
fession because of his achievement in** Service to The Institute
that he is worthy of fellowship in The Institute; and

"Whereas, said member has been in good standing in this Chapter for† nineteen
consecutive years immediately prior to this date; therefore be it

"Resolved, That‡
The American Institute of Architects, does hereby nominate*

Clair William Ditchy
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."

*Type in full
name.

**Type in "De-
sign," "Science
of Construction,"
"Literature,"
"Education,"
"Service to The
Institute," or
"Public Service,"
as is appro-
priate.

†Type in number
of years.

‡Type in name
of Chapter.

*Type in full
name.

Elected 1924

Reph R. Caden
J. A. Fairbrother
Salvador R. Hughes
J. W. Lemmber
Secretary.

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

BIOGRAPHICAL STATISTICS

1. Nominee's full name Clair William Ditchy
2. Nominee is a natural ~~naturalized~~ citizen of The United States of America
3. Nominee's legal residence 1630 Houstonia Avenue Royal Oak Michigan
4. Nominee's firm name Clair W.Ditchy, Architect
5. Nominee's principal place of business, address 333 State Street Detroit 26 Michigan

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.

6. Nominee is registered or licensed to practice architecture by Michigan State Board of
Registration for Architects
Engineers and Land Surveyors

7. Strike out in-
appropriate
words.

7. Nominee is engaged in practice of architecture as a practicing architect—~~teacher in architecture—
teacher in science of construction—public official—engineer.~~

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

8. Born April 12, 1891 . Place of birth Kelley's Island Ohio

9. Nominee's schools, colleges and universities:

	Location	No. of Years	Year of Graduation	Degree
High School	Sandusky (Ohio) High School	4	1908	
Private School				
College or University	University of Michigan	3	1911	A.B.
College or University	University of Michigan	3	1915	B.Arch.
Post Graduate at				
Scholarships held				

10. Type in im-
portant experi-
ences during em-
ployment or ad-
ditional statistics
of importance in
nominee's record.

10. Other data concerning nominee's record.

Assistant Instructor College of Architecture U.of M. 1914-15
Visiting Instructor in Architectural Design U.of M. 1928
Office of Albert Kahn 1915-17, 1919-21
Instructor, Cours des Instructeurs pour l'Armee
Americaine, Fourth French Army 1918

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)	Small house A	Grosse Pointe	Michigan	1939	1
(c)	" " B	Detroit	Michigan	1938	1
(c)	" " C	"	"	1937	1
(c)	" " D	"	"	1938	1
(c)	" " E	"	"	1937	1
(d)	Housing Pro- ject Parkside Homes F	"	"	1940	1
(a)	Small Factory G	"	"	1937	3

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

Type in last col-
umn 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.

The nominee has been particularly active in the field of housing. He has participated as a principal in the design of four Federal housing projects. He has cooperated with the Federal Home Loan Bank (see Exhibit "E") in promoting the Federal Home Building Service Plan, and with local mortgage and building associations. He helped to organize and has served as President of the Architects' Small Homes Association of Michigan.

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 sub-
mitted 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.

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.)

*Book, Treatise
or Article*

Subject

*Name of Book or Periodical
Containing Work*

*Year Work
Published*

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTE

1. State fully the nominee's signal service to The Institute, his chapter, or his state association, 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.

The nominee, as a public speaker on the subject of architecture, has appeared before associations of realtors, bankers, builders, engineers, garden clubs and the general public. He has acted as principal speaker for local architectural conventions, Wisconsin State Society of Architects, Indiana Society of Architects, Architects Society of Ohio, Producers Club of Chicago, etc.

As a special writer for the Detroit Free Press, he conducted a weekly column devoted to architecture and building during the years of 1930 - 31.

He has shown a deep interest in State organization and unification of the profession. During his term as President of the Michigan Society of Architects, that society became a State Association Member of The Institute and during his term as Director of the Great Lakes District, the remaining State societies became State Association Members of The Institute, thus making this District the first to be so completely unified.

He has served the various architectural organizations in the following capacities:

The Institute:

Director, Great Lakes District,	1938 - 1941
Member, By-Laws Committee	1941 - 1947
Executive Committee	1938 - 1941
Committee on National Capital	1929 - 1934
Committee on Roadside and Scenic Beauty,	1931 - 1934
Committee on State Organization,	1938
Etc., etc.	

Chairman, Seventy-third Annual Convention	1941
General Chairman, Committee on Arrangements	
Seventy-fourth Annual Convention	1942

Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

Secretary,	1925 - 1929
Vice-President	1929 - 1931
Chairman or member at various times of	
Lecture Committee, Small House,	
Large Scale Housing, Chapter	
History, Unification, etc.	

Michigan Society of Architects

Director,	1933 - 1940
President,	1934 - 1936

President, Thumb Tack Club of Detroit	1925 - 1926
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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.

The following activities of the nominee form a noteworthy contribution to the advancement of public appreciation of the profession:

Engineering Society of Detroit:

Selected assone of nine incorporators by the Rackham Foundation, to represent the architectural profession as an incorporator of E.S.D.

1936

Secretary

1936-37

Director

1936-40

Associated Technical Societies of Detroit:

Chairman

1933

Citizens' Housing and Planning Council of Detroit :

Director,

1941- 44

Office of Civilian Defense

Building Inspector and Shelter Engineer

1943

Speakers' Bureau, American Red Cross

1940-43

Community War Chest Worker

1938-43

C O P Y

Emil Lorch, Architect
1023 Forest Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan

January 29, 1944.

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

Privileged Communication.

Gentlemen:-

As you have learned the Board of the Detroit Chapter is this year presenting to you for consideration the names of four architects and for reasons regarding which President Kapp has written you; there was a long interim during which the Michigan Chapter and its successor the Detroit Chapter neglected to nominate architects for the Fellowship. Those recommended are Messrs. Henry F. Stanton, Clair W. Ditchy, Branson V. Gamber and Talmage C. Hughes, for whom you have received detailed data as well as testimonial letters and perhaps privileged communications.

Owing to special conditions at the time of the Chapter Board meeting a full discussion of relative merits was not possible; where a choice might have to be made comparison is inevitable and since upon further reflection I realize that it may not be possible to advance all the nominees at this time, the following comments are submitted.

Henry F. Stanton, A.I.A. 1922, was the first selected for nomination by the Chapter Board. This was probably due to those personal and professional qualities which in a large group of associated architects, employing a very numerous force, caused his selection as Assistant Chief Architect for the first two extensive Federal Housing Projects in Detroit. Mr. George D. Mason was Chief Architect but because of his advanced years Mr. Stanton had the chief responsibility. His other professional work has been distinguished by high quality rather than by volume; the Chapter Medal Award for residential design was made to him some years ago by a jury of Chicago and Cleveland architects. As a professional man his integrity is irreproachable. He is sensitive, non-assertive and not self-promotional; Albert McDonald, a partner of Mr. Mason, told me that Mr. Stanton's presentation of matters before commissions and others were clear and convincing, as if made by a lawyer". In addition to being a representative architect, he is a good water color painter. He was an excellent Chapter president and has served in numerous other capacities; because of his moral courage and particular ability he continues to make an ideal head for the Detroit Chapter Committee on Practice.

Clair W. Ditchy, A.I.A. 1924, has for many years been constructively and unusually active in architectural organizations; he was an effective president of the Michigan Society of Architects and has been a director and a vice-president of the Detroit Chapter. While Regional Director of the Institute for this District he was a member of the Institute's Executive Committee. He was one of the early enthusiasts for unification for which in Michigan with his support a workable plan was developed. Mr. Ditchy has also served on committees of the former Associated Technical Societies, now the Engineering Society of Detroit. His organizational activities have been

generously carried out and his long and devoted service to the Institute and the profession are outstanding. He was one of the Associates on Detroit's first two large housing projects and has since been engaged on others. His work in other fields has been on a fairly modest scale but on a sound professional plane.

Branson V. Gamber, A.I.A. 1926, long associated with Robert O. Derrick, has for some years been a member of the firm of Derrick and Gamber. They have had larger private commissions and public work than the others and have done very creditable work with Mr. Gamber heading at times a fairly large staff. He is aggressive and very capable, and has been both active and effective as a member of many committees, also a vigorous president of both the Michigan Society of Architects and the Detroit Chapter. He recently became a member of Detroit's City Plan Commission and was employed as a District Officer of the Historical American Buildings Survey for whose success in Michigan he had a responsible share. You are of course acquainted with his present Institute committee connections one of which is the Committee on Unification; however unification here has been actually accomplished by others. At times he appears regardless of the interests of others and very recently an architect of high standing, who feels he has a real grievance, questioned the desirability of his nomination; I suggested his recourse to a privileged communication. You may have heard from him and others.

Talmage C. Hughes, A.I.A. 1930, has devoted so much of his time to architectural organizations that his practice on the whole has been quite limited. He has been a zealous Executive Secretary of the Michigan Society of Architects for many years and during the last three years has served in a similar capacity for the Detroit Chapter. He is probably best known as editor of the Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects; as editor he receives substantial remuneration through the Bulletin, an income which serves indirectly to compensate him for some of his other services. His advertising and other standards of publication have at times been open to question, but on the whole he has kept within acceptable bounds from a business standpoint. Mr. Hughes is a prominent exponent of publicity on behalf of architects and has done much in this field locally through the Bulletin and the regular press. He is one of those long interested in having the Institute develop an appropriate journal and as chairman of the Institute Committee on Public Information has I understand helped plan such a publication. For a short time he was a District Officer in lower Michigan of the Historical American Buildings Survey.

For me, on the basis of the records insofar as they are known to me, the nominees arrange themselves in the order given above which also happens to be their order of seniority as Institute members.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Emil Lorch

Charles D. Maginnis, F.A.I.A.

Charles D. Maginnis, Jr.
Eugene F. Kennedy, Jr.

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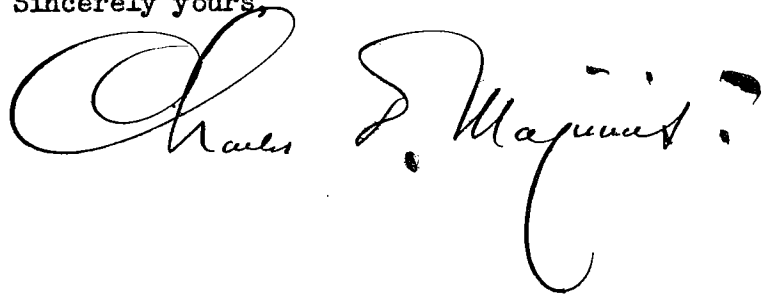
January 19, 1944.

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

Gentlemen:

I take pleasure in being associated with the endorsement of the nomination of Mr. Clair W. Ditchey for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects. As one of the outstanding architects of Detroit, whose long identification with the fortunes of The Institute included membership in its Board of Directors, his selection for Fellowship would, I believe, be accepted throughout the profession as a proper and rather tardy acknowledgment of his qualities.

Sincerely yours,



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ARTHUR K. HYDE
JOHN A. WILLIAMS

January 28, 1944

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

Gentlemen:-

It is a genuine pleasure to add my support to the nomination of Clair W. Ditchy for elevation to the status of Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Ditchy is a man of exceptional talents whose sincere interest in and constant efforts for the welfare of the profession have had a profound effect upon the life of the Detroit Chapter. During the past twenty years, Mr. Ditchy has served the Chapter continuously in various important offices or committees. His clear thinking, breadth of vision, sound judgment and sympathetic understanding have earned for him a place of high respect within the profession.

Endowed with a rare ability of expression, his services as a speaker and as a chairman are sought on many occasions by the Chapter and other organizations. Few have more ably, through the written and spoken word, presented to the public the aims and ideals of the profession.

In addition to Mr. Ditchy's countless Chapter activities, he has ably served the Michigan Society of Architects in many capacities and as President during one of its most constructive periods.

In all branches of architecture, Mr. Ditchy's work has maintained a high standard of excellence and has shown careful thought in plan, design, detail and construction. The scope of his practice includes several housing projects, schools, hospitals, churches, industrial buildings and much residential work. His contribution to the small house field has been noteworthy.

As Regional Director of the Institute from the Great Lakes District, Mr. Ditchy rendered valuable service to the profession. He was instrumental, I believe, in arousing many Chapters to greater effort and his sympathetic understanding and diplomatic executive ability smoothed troubled situations on several occasions. Under his leadership a deeper feeling of District unity and responsibility was borne

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ARTHUR K. HYDE
JOHN A. WILLIAMS

-2-

January 28, 1944

The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

which engendered keener interest in the national body where interest had previously been waning. The first Regional Conference of the Great Lakes District was held at South Bend under Mr. Ditchy's administration.

An ardent worker for the unification of the profession on a sound basis, Mr. Ditchy's efforts have been very helpful in the Detroit Chapter and throughout the District in furthering this program.

Those same qualities, which characterize him as an architect and gentleman and hold him in high esteem among his professional contemporaries, dominate his life as a citizen. His personality, integrity and high sense of responsibility command respect of all who know him.

I believe Mr. Ditchy is eminently deserving of the honor of Fellowship.

Yours very truly,

AKH:EI

Arthur K. Hyde

VOORHEES WALKER FOLEY & SMITH

101 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK ... 17

January 20, 1944

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

Gentlemen:

I learn that Mr. Clair W. Ditchy has been
nominated for fellowship in the Institute and I
want heartily to endorse this nomination.

I have known Mr. Ditchy a long time and
have served with him in many Institute activities.
You are all familiar with his professional accom-
plishments as well as Institute contributions. He
is a competent, pleasant, cooperative worker for the
benefit of the Institute and I respectfully request
favorable consideration of his nomination.

Yours truly



(S. F. Voorhees)

INGHAM & BOYD THE AMERICAN
ARCHITECTS INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

CHARLES T. INGHAM, F.A.I.A.
WILLIAM BOYD, F.A.I.A.

1944 MAR -3 AM 9:28
WASHINGTON, D.C.

EMPIRE BUILDING
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March 1, 1944.

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Having been informed that Clair W. Ditchy of Detroit has been nominated for advancement to Fellowship in The Institute I write this letter in support of his nomination.

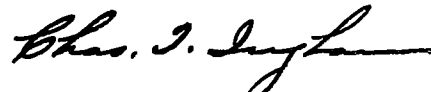
It was my pleasant privilege while Secretary of The Institute to work with Mr. Ditchy on numerous occasions in the service of The Institute and the profession.

He is a man of high ideals and splendid character who has notably contributed to the advancement of the profession by his unselfish work locally and nationally for the betterment of our profession and its public relations.

From personal experience I know he was greatly respected by the late Albert Kahn in whose office he received some of his early training.

It is a pleasure to add this testimonial to the detailed statement of his qualifications which you no doubt have received from his proponents.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles T. Ingham.

Mr. Frederick H. Meyer, Chairman,
Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.,
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

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

COPY

Ditchy

April 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

It is my privilege to advise you of your election as a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects by action of the Jury of Fellows at its meeting in Milwaukee on March 9, 1944.

Notice of your election is being sent to the Detroit Chapter.

A certificate of advancement to Fellowship will be sent to you or presented to you in due course - depending upon procedure to be determined by The Board of Directors at its annual meeting the latter part of the current month.

The Officers and Directors of The Institute join me in extending to you their congratulations.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

Mr. Clair Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
933 State Street
Detroit, Michigan

ACB:ER

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By

May 1, 1944

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

Under the established procedure of The Institute, the photographs which accompanied the proposal of your name for advancement to fellowship are being returned.

We trust that you will receive them promptly and in good order.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Clair Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
333 State Street
Detroit, Michigan

K/g

COPY TO

FILES

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-9
COPY
Ditchy

March 26, 1945

Dear Mr. Ditchy:

Customarily certificates of election to Fellowship in The Institute are presented with ceremony at an annual convention.

As no convention was held in 1944 all certificates were held for presentation in 1945.

Because of a recent governmental ruling, the 1945 convention will be a limited one. The annual dinner at which the ceremony of presenting Fellowship certificates usually occurs must be omitted.

Therefore, The Executive Committee is requesting the chapters of The Institute to receive and present the Fellowship certificates.

The recipients of the honor have been notified by The Institute, their citations have been published in the Journal, and the delivery of the certificates remains to be made.

In view of these conditions The Executive Committee of The Institute requests the President of each chapter to arrange for a presentation at some appropriate meeting of the chapter - and with the suggestion that the Regional Director be invited to participate if that is feasible.

We send herewith the Fellowship certificates and citations by The Jury of Fellows, signed by The Secretary of The Institute for each of the following:

Branson Van Leer Gamber
Clair William Ditchy
Henry Francis Stanton
Eliel Saarinen

March 26, 1945

If you will receive these documents as President of the Chapter and bring about their delivery along the lines indicated above, The Institute will indeed appreciate your courtesy and help.

By direction of The Secretary,

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ECK:dd
Enclosures

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, President
Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.
333 State Street
Detroit 26, Michigan

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

CLAIR WILLIAM DITCHY

DETROIT CHAPTER

Admitted to The Institute in 1924. An outstanding architect of splendid character, high ideals, and unusual executive ability; has been advanced to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects for his outstanding practice, his adherence to the ideals of The Institute, and his contribution and service in various capacities to the Michigan Society and to The Institute as a Director for the Great Lakes District.

Secretary

members
Ditchy, Clair W
f

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

June 28, 1955

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
5 West Larned Street
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Clair:

A quick farewell in Minneapolis did not convey to you how sorry I am that your official activities with The Institute are now over, but only for a brief respite, I hope.

It has been a grand experience knowing you and working with you over these many years, an experience which had led to an enjoyable and lasting friendship.

Please give my love to Bernice and to yourself all good wishes for continued success.

Yours sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

ERP:hra

ONE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

member
Ditchy, Clair W

July 8, 1955

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
5 West Larned Street
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Clair:

Yours of the 27th and enclosures are at hand. I will be glad to take care of the items.

You certainly must be a little bit exhausted after all these years of heavy responsibility which, however, I think were relieved now and again by bright moments of enjoyment, not to say hilarity.

Best to Bernice and yourself,

Sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

ERP:hrs

(Dictated by Mr. Purves, but
signed in his absence)

*transcribed
Ditchy, Clair W.*

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

July 12, 1955

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
5 West Larned Street
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Clair:

We are forwarding to you, under separate cover, a copy of the "JORNADAS DE ARQUITECTOS" which was addressed to you here at The Octagon by the Sociedad Central de Arquitectos, Argentina. I am not certain whether this is a Journal for you personally or whether it is to be kept here. If the latter is the case, you can return it to us.

With my best to you,

Sincerely yours,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

P:msd

Members
Ditchy, Clair W.

file

THE COPY : PLEASE RETURN

July 26, 1957

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, F.A.I.A.
1232 South Woodward Avenue
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Clair:

From all we can gather, there is no indication that the Veterans Administration is about to embark upon a new program or that it is reactivating an existing program. It appears that they are bringing their records up to date. Of course, it is conceivable that they may have some project in or about Detroit in contemplation and you might check in with the local Veterans Bureau. There is no indication here that anything is brewing.

At all events, I wish you success.

I am sorry to hear about Bernine and trust all goes well with her now. It was too bad that you had to leave early the other day for we had a most pleasant time in the garden at 2918 P Street. In fact, the boys stayed slightly upwards of two hours so they must have been enjoying themselves.

With my best to you,

Yours sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves, F.A.I.A.
Executive Director

ERK:MSD

Members
Ditchy, Clair W.

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

May 31, 1961

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA
1232 South Woodward Avenue
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Clair:

Awfully sorry I missed seeing you when you were here last Friday. As Mrs. Day told you, I was occupied by a meeting in my office and when that was over I learned to my dismay that you had left the building.

It was good to see you at the Convention and I hope it will not be too long until we have a chance to visit together again.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Scheick, A. I. A.

Members
Ditchy, Clair W.

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F

June 1, 1961

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA
1232 Woodward Avenue
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Clair:

It was a great pleasure to have seen you the other day and to have a chance to sit down and talk over all situations.

I trust I will not get out of touch with those with whom I have labored so long and have gotten to like so much.

Many thanks to you for a delightful occasion.

Cordially,

Edmund R. Purves

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN
FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

*members
Ditchy, Clair W.*

July 7, 1961

Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA
c/o William Beaumont Hospital
Royal Oak, Michigan

*x 5/7/61
Eugene W. Ditchy*

Dear Clair:

Linn Smith has given me news of your automobile accident on June 10th. This is the first I had heard about it. From the description which Linn gave us of the demolished Karman Ghia, we are all very thankful that you and Bernice escaped without more serious injury.

That lucky number which you drew in Philadelphia must have had an unlucky number printed on the back.

All of us at the Octagon extend our best wishes for a speedy recovery for both you and Bernice.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Scheick, AIA

bcc: Linn Smith - Thanks so much, Linn, for sending flowers for the AIA. This was a very thoughtful thing for you to do and we appreciate it. When the bill arrives, you can send it to the Octagon.

WHS

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



The Octagon • 1735 New York Avenue, N.W. • Washington, D. C. 20006 • EXecutive 3-7050

September 5, 1967

Miss Ann Stacy, Exec.-Dir.
Detroit Chapter, AIA
28 West Adams Ave.
Detroit, Michigan

Re: Death of Mr. Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA,
on July 31, 1967.

Dear Miss Stacy:

We were very sorry to learn of the death of the member indicated above.

For the Institute's Baldwin Memorial Archive records, it would be appreciated if you would have the enclosed forms filled in. Two copies should be returned to the Institute and the third copy should be maintained in the Chapter's files.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Scheick, F.A.I.A.
Executive Director



Conducting his studies from London where he is serving as visiting senior lecturer at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College, Liskamm is to prepare an inventory of the design and development potentials of selected mass transit facilities throughout the world and to evaluate their implications for the US.

Journal's First Editor, Henry Saylor, Is Dead

Henry Hodgman Saylor, who served as editor of the AIA JOURNAL from 1944 to 1957 and who was known as "the dean of architectural editors," is dead at 87.

Mr. Saylor died Aug. 22 in Long Island, N.Y., where he made his home in recent years.

He was associated with leading professional magazines for half a century and he wrote or edited a dozen books including a *Dictionary of Architecture*, first issued in 1952 and two years ago published in paperback form. He wrote *The*

AIA's First Hundred Years in 1957.

A native of Baltimore, Mr. Saylor studied architecture at MIT where he became editor of *The Tech*. After serving his internship in Philadelphia, he returned to the world of print as editor of *The Architectural Review*, Boston. Other editorial positions with various professional and popular publications followed. During World War II Mr. Saylor supervised war plant construction for Albert Kahn.

Toward the war's end the Institute asked him to establish a successor to *The Octagon* and Mr. Saylor responded with the AIA JOURNAL, the first issue appearing in January 1944.

Mr. Saylor during his JOURNAL years could often be found weekends in the Octagon gardens, assuming a gardener's role.

Death Claims Clair Ditchy; Was Institute President

Clair W. Ditchy, two-term president of the Institute in the 1950s, is dead at the age of 76.

Mr. Ditchy's July 31 death came

during his hospitalization in Royal Oak, Mich., where he resided at 1630 W. Houstonia St. Among survivors is his wife, Mrs. Bernice Bookmyer Ditchy.

Mr. Ditchy served as AIA secretary before his election as president in 1953. He was chosen for a second one-year term in 1954.

Mr. Ditchy was born on Kelley's Island, Ohio, and received Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Architecture degrees from the University of Michigan.

Necrology

CLAIR DITCHY, FAIA

Royal Oak, Mich.

FRANK M. HIGHBERGER

Pittsburgh, Pa.

LESTER W. HURD

San Francisco, Calif.

RILEY B. MONTGOMERY JR.

Charlottesville, Va.

GEORGE F. PELHAM

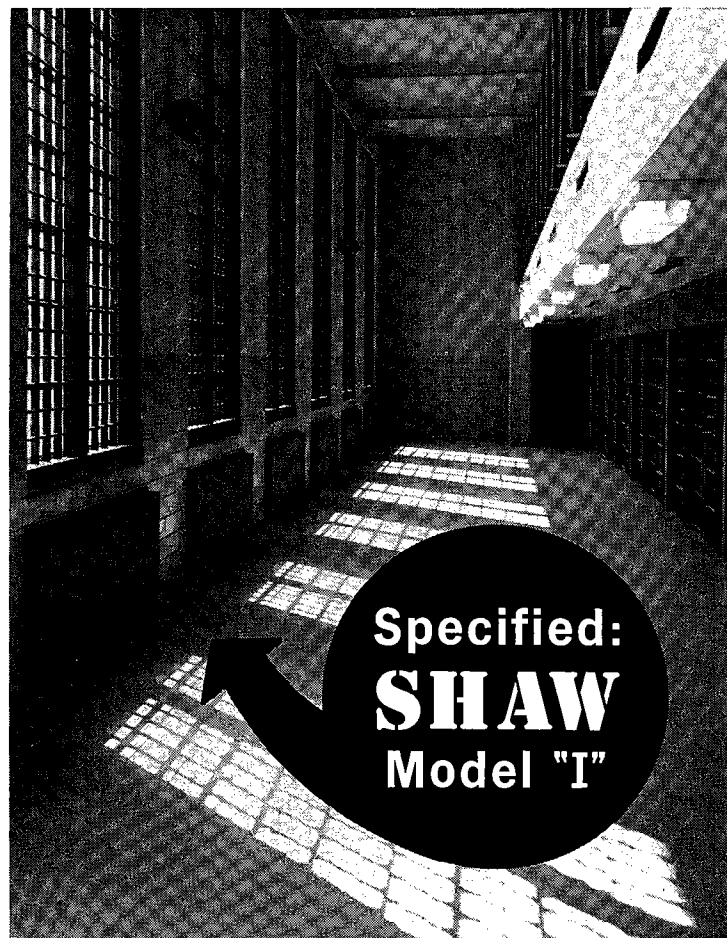
Scarsdale, N. Y.

WALTER THOMAS ROLFE, FAIA

Austin, Tex.

HENRY J. TOOMBS, FAIA

Atlanta, Ga.



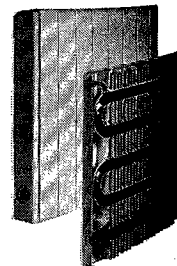
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