

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



The Octagon • 1735 New York Avenue, N.W. • Washington 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-7050

CONFIDENTIAL

Norman C. Fletcher is being nominated to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects in Design

(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

I have known Norman Fletcher, and have been aware of his outstanding abilities as a partner and designer for Architects Collaborative for the past fifteen years

All my contacts with him have served to prove that he is a gentleman of great distinction, one whom the Jury of Fellows should be more than proud to recommend for elevation to Fellowship

I have known the nominee for 15 years in the relationship of colleague

Signed Josiah H. Child

Typed Signature JOSIAH H. CHILD

Date Nov. 5 1963

NOV 6 1963

Note: The Jury requests that copies of this form be filed only with the Jury.

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Mr. Norman C. Fletcher, as senior partner of the Architect's Collaborative, has demonstrated his high achievements in the field of design by his many outstanding buildings comprising schools, universities, libraries, churches, and office buildings.

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

In the Boston area, the Putterham Library, Brookline, The Social Science Buildings at Brandeis University, the buildings at Harvard University, and the Schools at Wayland and Concord are eloquent expressions of the high calibre and originality of his work and ability as a master in architectural design.

I have known the nominee for 5 years in the relationship of Boston Society of Architects

Signed

*Carney Goldberg*

Typed Signature Carney Goldberg, F.A.I.A.

Date Nov. 14, 1963

NOV 15 1963

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CONFIDENTIAL

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Activity Design (General)

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

In the field of Design -- to select but a few of his works -- I would mention the great shopping complex on Route 1 north of Boston, the chief building of which, Sears Roebuck, is extraordinarily distinguished. The Jewish Community Center in Hartford is noteworthy as an example of the skill with which Fletcher incorporates the other arts into his work, while Clark University of Worcester represents his marked ability to plan on a big scale. He is admired not only for his innate design ability but also for his acute powers as a critic and his willingness to try the untried.

(over)

I have known the nominee for 12 years in the relationship of friend

Signed James Lawrence G.

Typed Signature

Date 27 Sept 1963

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SEP 30

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LAWRENCE, SHANNON & UNDERWOOD  
A R C H I T E C T S   A N D   E N G I N E E R S

711 BOYLSTON ST. • CO 7-6776  
BOSTON • 16 • MASSACHUSETTS

13 September 1963

To The Jury of Fellows:

I understand Norman Fletcher, a partner in TAC, has been nominated for fellowship in the Institute.

It is a privilege to write on his behalf.

Fletcher is among the best liked and most respected architects in the Boston Society. He is liked for his courtesy, his modesty, his quiet friendliness and ready humor; he is respected for his high ability as an architect, matched by his devotion to the welfare of the profession as exemplified by his service to the Institute in many different capacities and over many years.

So often there is some nagging mental reservation in the back of one's mind as one recommends a person for some position or honor, but in the case of Norman Fletcher there is none.

He is a man whom all would like to see honored, for he is one who reflects high credit on the profession and Institute alike.

Respectfully,

James Lawrence, Jr.

:mw

SEP 30 1963

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

I have known Mr. Fletcher for fifteen years. When he received his registration in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I was serving on the Board. He was one of the best informed and especially in his concept of design, that I had met in my service on the Board.

Since then he has been active in our Chapter and has served on many committees and has produced outstanding results.

In his work as designer for The Architects Collaborative he has been the recipient of many honors and prizes for his outstanding work.

Without reservation I recommend that he be advanced to Fellowship in the Institute.

I have known the nominee for 15 years in the relationship of Colleague

Signed Thomas F. McDonough F.A.I.A.

Typed Signature Thomas F. McDonough, F.A.I.A.

Date November 6, 1963

NOV 7 1963

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Activity

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Competent partner in an exceptionally competent firm, Mr. Fletcher's contributions to the development of the contemporary design approach have led to many outstanding public and institutional buildings. He might also have been nominated for selfless service to the Institute in the organization of many meetings and seminars and as an officer and director of the Massachusetts State Association of Architects and the reformed Boston Society of Architects.

I have known the nominee for 10 years in the relationship of fellow architect

Signed John W. Peirce

Typed Signature John W. Peirce

Date 4 November 1963

NOV 5 1963

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this *activity* which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

Norman C. Fletcher is, to my mind, one of the three or four younger architects responsible for the interpretation of the design philosophy of Walter Gropius to the United States and was directly responsible for the success of Gropius' first major work here -- the Graduate Commons at Harvard University. *St. Long*

I have known the nominee for 17 years in the relationship of friend and co-worker

Signed Francis B. Sellev

Typed Signature Francis B. Sellev

Date November 12, 1963

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Institute of Architects in Design

(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement:

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

Vice-President of the Boston Society of Architects.

Chaired many committees and very active in Chapter affairs.

Has produced many notable buildings - especially schools. Many of his designs have been nationally published and acclaimed.

Excellent designer.

Dedicated to the profession.

I have known the nominee for 10 years in the relationship of Architectural Societies and Committees

Signed Michael R. D'Orsi

Typed Signature Michael R. D'Orsi

Date 11/8/63

NOV 12 1963

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CONFIDENTIAL

Norman C. Fletcher is being nominated to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects in Design

(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement: his work in Design of Office and Religious buildings

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

Mr. Norman C. Fletcher, my Partner since 1945, has been an outstanding designer not only for office and religious buildings, but for a great many school and college buildings as well. I wholeheartedly recommend him to you for Fellowship as a first-class designer and a most reliable personality of highest character.

*Strong*

I have known the nominee for 18 years in the relationship of Partner

Signed Walter Gropius

Typed Signature Walter Gropius

Date September 27, 1963

SEP 30 1963

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement: his work in Design of Residential buildings.

Activity

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As a designing member of the Architects Collaborative, he has been responsible for much of the work that has been done in two outstanding contemporary developments in the Boston area, Six Moon Hill (which includes his house) and Five Fields, a large group of very well designed contemporary houses building the way to much better suburbia residential planning.

FACTS

I have known the nominee for 17 years in the relationship of practising architecture in same city

See attached

Signed Carol Peterson

Typed Signature Carol Peterson

Date Oct. 14, 1963

OCT 16 1963

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16 September 1963

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

Gentlemen:

I am happy to recommend for your consideration Norman Collins Fletcher, Partner in The Architects Collaborative. I can remember in 1945 when he and a group of very young men were made full partners in The Architects Collaborative by Walter Gropius. At that time it was quite an unusual group undertaking and it is certainly obvious that it has been a great success.

One of the principle reasons for recommending him also makes it difficult to be specific. The difficulty in recommending him for a Fellow in Design arises from the anonymity of each of the designers in The Architects Collaborative. I know he has been particularly concerned with the full gamut of design work accomplished by the firm. He was primarily responsible for one of the most interesting and effective houses in Five Fields, an outstandingly designed single family community in Lexington. He has put the same effort into the single family house that he put into the plans for Boston Back Bay Center, a 100 million dollar complex with which I remember working with him.

He has strongly dealt with such difficult and completely dollar and cent clients as Sears and Roebuck and is, I believe, primarily responsible for making the Saugus New England Shopping Center as effective and as much as a relief from the norm as it is. He is, I believe, primarily responsible for the design of the Hartford Jewish Community Center, which I feel is a very effective building.

In the direct contact with him that I have had on the Back Bay Center and a Cambridge Public School, which our firm did with The Architects Collaborative as consultants, I found his approach to and understanding of design principles a very unusual combination of conviction and lack of prejudice. I think it should be obvious to anyone who is familiar with the work of The Architects Collaborative and has been close enough as I have to see how they practice that it is certainly time that the younger generation in that office received the recognition for the work they have done, that a fellowship would provide.

Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects

- 2 -

16 September 1963

I believe that a study of any of the buildings mentioned above satisfy the requirements for achievement outlined in AIA H501. I would particularly like to emphasize the steady improvement apparent in the work of the firm, largely which is the result of patience and persistence and the unselfish pooling of talent under difficult conditions, for which our profession is not normally noted. In short - a cooperative approach still resulting in outstanding design.

For these reasons I heartily recommend Mr. Fletcher for Fellowship in our Institute.

Sincerely,

CARL KOCH & ASSOCIATES, Inc.

  
Carl Koch  
FAIA

CK:cqp

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(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement: his work in Design of  
School Buildings.

**Activity**

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personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of  
the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury  
prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

I have known the nominee for 20 years in the relationship of friend

Signed Edward L. Barnes

Typed Signature Edward L. Barnes

Date October 8, 1963

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Institute of Architects in Design

(state the category or categories)

The nomination lists the following activity as a basis for advancement: his work in Design of  
Commercial Buildings.

Activity

In the space below, please list any further details about this activity which you can provide on the basis of direct  
personal experience, and explain why you would consider it a significant accomplishment in the advancement of  
the profession of Architecture. Additional information may be submitted on an attached sheet, but the Jury  
prefers the material to be brief and pertinent.

I have known Norman C. Fletcher both professionally and socially.  
I consider Mr. Fletcher one of the outstanding men in the field of  
architecture. His design contributions to the projects of his  
office have been a source of inspiration to the architectural pro-  
fession as a whole. Mr. Fletcher and I collaborated on the design  
of a Store and Shopping Center for Sears in Saugus, Massachusetts  
which I feel is a significant project.

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Mr. Fletcher as a Fellow of  
the A.I.A. for design.

I have known the nominee for 20 years in the relationship of Friend & Collaborator

Signed Francis X. Gina

Typed Signature FRANCIS X. GINA

Date September 27, 1963

SEP 30 1963

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(state the category or categories)

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SEE ATTACHED SHEET

I have known the nominee for 16 years in the relationship of Architecture

Signed Albert Harkness

Typed Signature Albert Harkness, FAIA

Date November 20, 1963

NOV 21 1963

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ALBERT HARKNESS AND PETER GEDDES • ARCHITECTS  
274 WEYBOSSET STREET • PROVIDENCE 3 • RHODE ISLAND

ALBERT HARKNESS, F.A.I.A.  
PETER GEDDES, A.I.A.  
DONALD S. REED, A.I.A.  
RANDOLPH E. ANDERSON, P.E.

November 20, 1963

I have known Norman Fletcher since the formation of The Architects Collaborative in 1947. I had heard about him the year before when he won the Smith College Dormitory Competition with Jean Fletcher and Ben Thompson.

Since that time I have watched with interest the development of the quality of his design. The presentation drawings prepared by him for the Hua Tung University in Shanghai were brilliant and sensitive. His other later executed work has borne out the promise of these earlier projects.

I am familiar with some of the work of The Architects Collaborative in which he was the partner in charge. But, I am also familiar enough with the TAC method of office cooperation to appreciate the influence that he has had on the general output of the office.

I can think of no one more deserving of the honor of Fellowship in the A.I.A.

S + R Long - Faculty

I am sorry to find this is overdue. I hope it is not too late.

Albert Harkness