

LEWIS G. ADAMS  
FREDERICK J. WOODBRIDGE

MURRAY HILL 7-4456

HENRY R. ASTHEIMER  
EDWARD N. BLOOMSTEIN

ADAMS & WOODBRIDGE  
ARCHITECTS  
215 EAST 37TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16

December 15, 1960

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

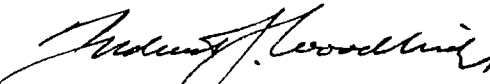
FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Mr. William Tabler is probably the one outstanding architect in the field of hotel design. Others have done successful work in this field, but Mr. Tabler has worked in widely separated parts of this country and overseas as well. He has displayed originality and imagination in his concepts. Far from succumbing to the easy road of uniformity or standardization, he has produced buildings suited to their locale and surroundings. He has achieved graciousness, comfort, and efficiency. He has made a very important contribution to commercial architecture.

I am glad to add my endorsement to the recommendation that Mr. Tabler be advanced to Fellowship in this Institute.

Respectfully yours,

  
Frederick J. Woodbridge

FJW:db

EGGERS AND HIGGINS  
ARCHITECTS

100 EAST 42<sup>ND</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

OTTO R. EGGERS, F.A.I.A.  
THEODORE J. YOUNG, F.A.I.A.  
GEORGE S. HOLDERNESS, A.I.A.  
BRADFORD N. CLARK, A.S.C.E.  
RICHARD M. POTT, A.I.A.  
R. JACKSON SMITH, A.I.A.  
DAVID L. EGGERS, A.I.A.  
DANIEL P. HIGGINS, JR.  
RICHARD F. EGGERS

ALLEN R. CONGDON, A.I.A.  
ARCHIE J. DOOLITTLE, N.S.P.E.  
ELIOT B. WILLAUER, A.I.A.  
GEORGE H. BUTERBAUGH, A.I.A.  
GUSTAVE R. KEANE, A.I.A.  
ALLEN C. PARRETTE, A.I.A.  
C. GATES BECKWITH, A.I.A.  
JOHN J. MCFADDEN, JR., A.S.C.E.

PHONE: OXFORD 7-3780

November 21st, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

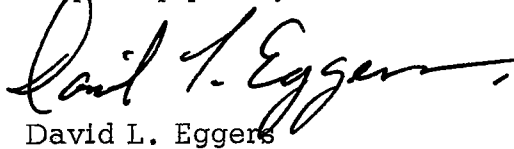
F A C T U A L

It is seldom that one has an opportunity to wholeheartedly support a member of our Institute for elevation to Fellowship for Design, but in the case of Mr. William Benjamin Tabler, there can be no question of his prominence in the field of major hotel development.

His list of outstanding design contributions to this field may be demonstrated by such buildings as the International Hotel at Idlewild Airport, the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and many others.

Therefore, I feel that such a recognition is long overdue and will bring great credit to our Institute.

Very truly yours,



David L. Eggers

DLE:ju

NOV 23 1960

PETER S. VAN BLOEM, A.I.A.  
REGISTERED ARCHITECT  
147-25 THIRTY-EIGHTH AVENUE  
FLUSHING 54, NEW YORK

December 26, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

It is my pleasure to be among those recommending  
to the Institute's Jury on Fellows the advancement  
to Fellow in the Institute for Design of Mr. William  
B. Tabler.

He has become a leader in the field of Hotel Design  
and should, I feel, be rewarded for his good influence  
on the design of this kind of structure throughout  
the United States. As an imaginative designer he  
has few equals.

Very truly yours,

*Peter Van Bloem*

PSVB:kd

HARRISON & ABRAMOVITZ  
ARCHITECTS

630 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

WALLACE K. HARRISON  
MAX ABRAMOVITZ

CHARLES H. ABBE  
MICHAEL M. HARRIS  
JOHN J. HEALY  
GEORGE S. JOHNSTON

November 21, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

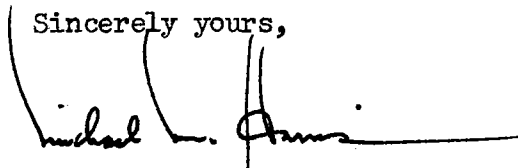
FACTUAL

Mr. William B. Tabler has a long and distinguished career in the practice of architecture. He has added a very special and outstanding quality of design to all of the work which he has undertaken.

Much of this is in the field of commercial architecture, notably hotel work; in this frequently under great budgetary handicaps, he has succeeded in achieving originality and freshness of design. His application to the specialized study of hotel work has produced some of our finest new structures in this building type, both here in the United States as well as out of the country. Good design, combined with appropriate use of materials and a fine sense of contemporary structure have been evident in his work. Through his example, the field of design has been measurably advanced.

For these achievements, I recommend that Mr. Tabler be advanced to Fellowship in the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



Michael M. Harris

MMH:rcf

NOV 22 1960

# A. GORDON LORIMER AIA

254 WEST 54 STREET NEW YORK 19 NEW YORK PLAZA 7-5010

JULIUS NICONY RA  
HILDRED ZERMANN

December 7, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

The name, Bill Tabler, has become synonymous with imaginatively designed luxury hotels both in this country and abroad, which have provided a new experience for the many thousands of hotel visitors.

Through these structures many people have had their first living experiences in truly contemporary surroundings and thereby acceptance of contemporary design has greatly enlarged. In this regard I feel the entire profession has benefited.

In addition, Mr. Tabler's abilities in organization and execution of these projects on the inevitable rush schedule has enhanced the position of the profession in dealings with the business world.

I therefore have no hesitation in recommending to the consideration of the Jury, the elevation of Mr. Tabler to Fellowship in the Institute for Design.

Sincerely yours,



A. Gordon Lorimer, FAIA

AGL z

MICHAEL L. RADOSLOVICH, F. A. I. A.  
ARCHITECT  
26 GREENWAY TERRACE  
FOREST HILLS, N. Y.

BOULEVARD 8-8141

November 30, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Most of us are familiar with some of the hotels designed by Mr. William Tabler. I had the opportunity to enjoy the comfort derived from his sound planning, and to be stimulated by their aesthetic values.

In my opinion, Mr. Tabler's successful endeavor in this specialized field of architecture merits recognition. Therefore, I recommend that Mr. Tabler be advanced to Fellowship in the A.I.A.

Sincerely yours



MICHAEL L. RADOSLOVICH

MLR:tn

CC: Mrs. M. A. Henkel

DEC 5 1960

LATHROP DOUGLASS  
518 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY 36

December 28, 1960

Jury of Fellows  
1375 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

FACTUAL

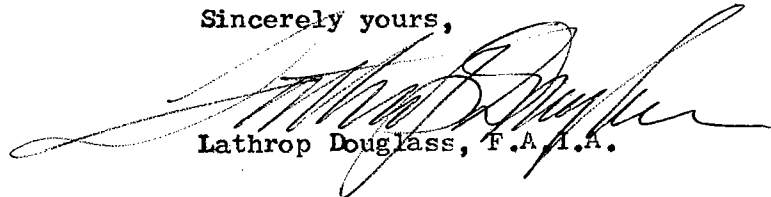
Dear Sirs:

Mr. William A. Tabler has achieved an enviable position in the field of hotel design. As an occasional guest in his Robert Meyer Hotel in Jacksonville I can personally attest to the fine concept, excellent planning, careful detailing and handsome interiors of this outstanding example of his work. The same comments also apply to the International Hotel at Idlewild.

He has made important contributions year after year to the literature on hotel design through his many articles in the professional magazines most of which I have read and found personally to be of genuine educational value.

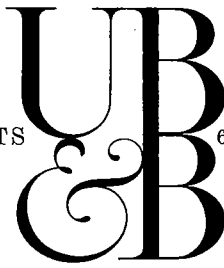
I am very happy to have the opportunity of endorsing Mr. Tabler's nomination for advancement to Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



Lathrop Douglass, F.A.I.A.

ID:is



December 15, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

There are few architects who can claim a preeminence in a particular field of architects with as great authority as William Tabler. His name is synonymous with the design of hotel facilities and he has brought to this endeavor both imagination and excitement.

Bill Tabler's name is known throughout the world wherever travelers congregate. His numerous writings on hotel design have greatly advanced an awareness of the problems of hotel design and have truly assisted other architects in their endeavors to solve the problems of multiple transient accommodations.

I take great pleasure in recommending Mr. Tabler to the consideration of the Jury for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute for Design.

Sincerely yours,

Max Otto Urbahn, AIA

MOU:mrc

DEC 19 1960



KATZ WAISMAN BLUMENKRANZ STEIN WEBER

**ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATED**

551 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17 MU 2-2134

*Sidney L. Katz · AIA*  
*Taina Waisman · AIA*  
*Joseph Blumenkranz · AIA*  
*Richard G. Stein · AIA*  
*Read Weber · AIA*  
*Jerome L. Strauss · P.E.*

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

November 15, 1960

Gentlemen:

F A C T U A L

This letter is in support of the nomination of William Tabler for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Having known Mr. Tabler for over twenty years, I know the fine buildings he has designed are the result of a thorough, painstaking, principled investigation of his clients' problems. It is impressive to me that out of this has evolved an architecture that is rich, personal and consistent in its development.

His first hotel, the Statler Hilton in Hartford, immediately established a complete set of new standards for hotel design and appearance. Following this, each successive job has developed beyond its predecessor. The growth of architecture depends on this serious, imaginative approach and practitioners like William Tabler demonstrate the high potential existing in the profession.

He is eminently well qualified to become a Fellow of the Institute.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Stein

RGS:lbk

NOV 17 1960

KATZ WAISMAN BLUMENKRANZ STEIN WEBER

**ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATED**

551 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17 MU 2-2134

*Sidney L Katz · AIA*  
*Taina Waisman · AIA*  
*Joseph Blumenkranz · AIA*  
*Richard G Stein · AIA*  
*Read Weber · AIA*  
*Jerome L Strauss · P. E.*

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

December 12, 1960

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I have known Mr. Tabler personally and professionally for over twenty years. I wrote a letter urging his nomination and am glad of this opportunity to support it further.

The aspect of Mr. Tabler's career that I find most significant is the thorough and consistent development he has made in a single building type. By the seriousness and originality of his approach he has almost singlehandedly created a whole new standard for an important sector of the building field. Having developed this new form, he was not imprisoned by it but maintained the probing spirit of investigation that finds constantly new and creative solutions to the problem he has undertaken.

I repeat my wholehearted support for Mr. Tabler's nomination for Fellowship.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Stein

RGS:lbk

DEC 16 1960

# WILLARD HAWKINS BARROWS

REGISTERED ARCHITECT  
A. I. A.

1 December 1960

*Architectural Specifications*

104 EAST 40TH STREET • NEW YORK 16, N. Y.  
TEL. MURRAY HILL 3-1530

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

It pleases me greatly to learn of the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

As a former practicing architect, and for the last twelve years an independent professional architectural specification writer, operating my own office, it has been my privilege to have prepared the construction specifications for eight of the eleven hotel structures designed by Mr. Tabler and cited as examples of his accomplishments.

As a result of this association with Mr. Tabler and his work, it became evident to me how widespread his professional and technical knowledge was, not only in design, but that of the varied and complex problems that each structure revealed in relation to the application of the contract documents, other than the drawings and the mechanics of hotel organization and planning.

As a personal friend of the nominee and his family I would be remiss in not stating that he possesses those qualities which make for an outstanding gentleman, and that his character is beyond reproach.

In view of the foregoing conclusions I commend Mr. Tabler's nomination as a candidate for Fellowship in the Institute to the Jury of Fellows.

Most sincerely yours,

*Willard H. Barrows*  
Willard H. Barrows, A.I.A.

J. GORDON CARR & ASSOCIATES  
**ARCHITECTS**  
80 WEST FORTIETH STREET, NEW YORK 18, NEW YORK

December 5, 1960

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

Re: Nomination of William B. Taber for  
Fellowship in the Institute

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

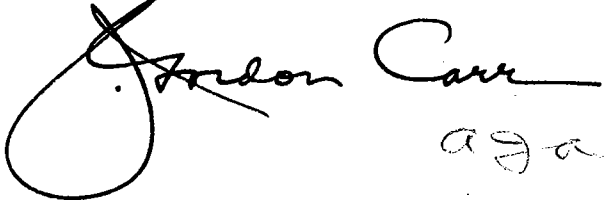
It is a privilege to speak up for Bill Taber in regard to his nomination for Fellowship. I have known Bill for quite a few years, and have worked along beside him on a project for one client.

Regardless of what one's relationship is with him - friend, associate, committeeman - he is a grand person to be with. As is well known, his works are outstanding - both to the eye, and from a business point of view. He commands the respect of client and fellow architect, employee, and associate.

It has been my good fortune to have stayed in several of his hotels. The praise of the management and the customer has always been of the highest, and the praise of the Community having one of his designs is in every case one of superlatives.

I highly recommend Bill Taber for your favorable action.

Most sincerely,

  
J. Gordon Carr  
aga

DEC 7 1960

IRWIN CLAVAN · ARCHITECT  
355 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK 16 N. Y.

ZONE 17

December 23, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has nominated William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

I have known Mr. Tabler for a number of years and, in the case of the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, dealt with him on the problem as the consultant to the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, the Owners of the land. It was in those negotiations that I learned of Mr. Tabler's eminent qualifications and of his close attention to his work.

I have stayed in several of his hotels about the country and know, as a guest, how well planned and comfortable they are.

I recommend that Mr. Tabler be made a Fellow of the Institute.

Very truly yours,



Irwin Clavan



✓

GOLDSTONE & DEARBORN • ARCHITECTS

1270 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK 20, N. Y. • CIRCLE 7-1237

HARMON H. GOLDSTONE, A.I.A.

EUSTIS DEARBORN, A.I.A.

December 31st, 1960.

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

Gentlemen,

FACTUAL

I understand the New York Chapter has nominated William Benjamin TABLER for Fellowship in the Institute. It is a pleasure and a privilege to write in his behalf.

Although I knew Bill slightly at the Harvard School of Architecture, in 1936 I think it was, I was interested to learn of his increasing success in hotel design, commencing with the Hartford Statler Hilton and later the Ponce Intercontinental.

His buildings speak for themselves. They are direct and well organized. In particular he brings architectural quality into a field where dollar efficiency is ruthless and is among the pioneers in developing the type to fit the motor age.

However, it was not till he took up the cudgels against restrictive building codes and addressed the National Convention, as well as subsequently the New York Chapter, that he and I could renew our acquaintance. It was then he showed himself to be a fighting man of extreme tenacity in the interests of his client and of professional competence.

I believe there are not enough like him in the profession and that these qualities should not go unrecognized.

Very truly yours,

*Eustis Dearborn*  
EUSTIS DEARBORN

ED:md

E. A. DENNISON, JR., A. I. A. • ARCHITECT  
4661 PALISADE AVENUE, • RIVERDALE, N. Y. 71, N. Y., • KI 3-5018

November 16, 1960

JURY OF FELLOWS

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to write in support of the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship of the Institute.

I have known Bill Tabler for 25 years and have seen his talents in design develop over this period. There is no question that in the particular area of hotel design that he has contributed more ideas and inspiration than any other architect of this generation. I feel that the Hartford Statler Hilton has had tremendous influence both aesthetically and in the technique of curtain wall design. This is one of those experiments which aesthetically was more successful than it was technically. Through its appeal it has helped bring about a complete revolution in techniques of wall construction with resultant improvements in design.

The Pittsburgh Hilton introduces a golden glow which in its particular location has tremendous appeal and does so much to brighten an area which formerly was most dreary.

In the tropical hotels in Puerto Rico and El Salvador he has introduced exciting colors and has handled the large numbers of people without permitting the scale of his buildings to become overbearing.

The variety and imagination shown in his designs always qualified by good taste make Bill Tabler well qualified for Fellowship in the Institute.

Very truly yours,



E. A. Dennison, Jr., AIA

EAD:DB

NOV 17 1960

# ROBERT MARTIN ENGELBRECHT

ARCHITECT

CONSULTANT

DECEMBER 29, 1960

575 MADISON AVE.  
NEW YORK CITY 22  
PLAZA 5-4449

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

FACTUAL

GENTLEMEN:

THE NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE A.I.A. HAS NOMINATED WILLIAM B. TABLER FOR A FELLOWSHIP IN THE INSTITUTE. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY SECONDING OF THE NOMINATION.

MEMBERS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION OFTEN ALLOW THEMSELVES TO GRAVITATE INTO SUPPLYING BASIC RUDIMENTS OF SERVICE, IGNORING THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN. IN THE IMMEDIATE POST WAR PERIOD THE BUILDING FIELD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO START WITH AN ALMOST CLEAN SLATE. ONLY A FEW ARCHITECTS EXERCISED THE DESIRE TO TAKE THE NEW TOOLS AT HAND AND INVESTIGATE THE FRONTIERS POSSIBLE IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN. OUT OF THE ENTIRE PROFESSION ONLY A PERCENTAGE RESEARCHED NEW DESIGN ELEMENTS INTO ACTUAL BEING.

WILLIAM B. TABLER IS ONE OF THESE WHO HAS CAREFULLY BLENDED THE REQUIREMENTS OF COMMERCIALLY AND TECHNICALLY SERVICING THE CLIENT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF INVESTIGATING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN. HIS DESIGN COURAGE HAS PROVED HIM BOTH INVENTIVE AND PRACTICAL. WHENEVER THERE WERE OBSTRUCTIONS TO DESIGN CHANGE AND DESIGN IMPROVEMENT, HE HAS FULLY EXERCISED HIS ARCHITECTURAL CONVICTIONS, OVERCOMING OBSOLETE PRACTICES (AND PREJUDICE).

HE HAS CREATED A FIRM AND A PERSONAL REPUTATION WHICH IS A CREDIT TO THE PROFESSION, AND CERTAINLY WORTHY OF RECOMMENDATION FOR THE HONOR OF FELLOW A.I.A.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

  
ROBERT MARTIN ENGELBRECHT, A.I.A.  
ARCHITECT

RME/RJM



FREDERICK G. FROST JR. & ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS

144 EAST 30TH ST. NEW YORK 16, N. Y. MURRAY HILL 5-9789

FREDERICK G. FROST JR. F. A. I. A.  
NEUBHARD N. CULIN A. I. A.  
CARL J. CARLSON A. I. A.  
CARL FELTZ A. I. A.  
S. HART MOORE A. I. A.  
GEORGE J. SCHWARZ A. I. A.  
FREDERICK G. FROST F.A.I.A.

December 28, 1960

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

Re: William Tabler

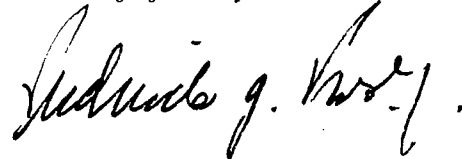
FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

As Chairman of the New York Chapter's Committee on Fellows I, along with the members of my Committee, have had the responsibility of reviewing the list of members eligible for Fellowship and proposing nominees to the Chapter Executive Committee for their action. In the process of making and proposing our selections, our Committee has reviewed each candidate's qualifications very carefully, assembled exhibits of their work, and completed the Nomination Forms for each one.

Among the candidates recommended by our Committee and nominated by the Executive Committee is William Tabler. As a result of my having known Mr. Tabler for a long time and having had my knowledge of his work reinforced by our Committee's study of his qualifications, I unhesitatingly recommend to you that you act favorably upon his nomination and advance him to Fellowship in the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



Frederick G. Frost, jr., F.A.I.A.

FGFjr/md



PRATT INSTITUTE

BROOKLYN 5 · NEW YORK

THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

December 2, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I wish to support enthusiastically the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute on the basis of Design.

Mr. Tabler's work shows maturity and consistency and is always of high quality. His particularly outstanding achievement in hotel design has made a contribution to architecture as a whole. I believe his designs for hotels to be the most outstanding now being built. In addition, I have from time to time enjoyed reading Mr. Tabler's published papers.

I feel strongly that Mr. Tabler deserves the honored recognition of being elected to Fellowship.

Sincerely,

Olindo Grossi  
Dean

OG:fe

DEC 5 1960

HARRISON & ABRAMOVITZ  
ARCHITECTS

630 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

WALLACE K. HARRISON  
MAX ABRAMOVITZ

CHARLES H. ABBE  
MICHAEL M. HARRIS  
JOHN J. HEALY  
GEORGE S. JOHNSTON

December 1, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I understand that Mr. William Benjamin Tabler has been nominated for Fellowship by the New York Chapter and I am writing in support of his candidacy.

As an architect who has specialized in a particular field, in a matter of less than ten years Mr. Tabler's distinctive hotels have set a pattern of good architecture in a type of public building that has long been neglected. I am, personally delighted that he is being considered for the recognition of our profession and I sincerely hope that he will be honored by a Fellowship.

Sincerely,

Wallace K. Harrison

Wallace K. Harrison

# FORUM

PUBLISHED BY TIME INC.

22 November 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL


I understand that William Tabler has been nominated to the College of Fellows, and I wish to add my support to this nomination.

I am familiar with William Tabler's many architectural accomplishments and I consider them to be of great importance. He is one of the few architects I know who is a real specialist. To my knowledge he has devoted his attention throughout his career exclusively to hotel design, and in doing so has probably designed more hotels and contributed more to the development of hotel design than any other architect. Qualitatively, his accomplishments in this field are equally impressive; many of the world's best designed hotels are his -- notably the Hilton hotels he has designed for Hartford, Dallas, Pittsburgh, San Francisco and, most recently, New York City and the addition to the Brown Palace in Denver and the Nassau Inn in Princeton. I personally am familiar with all of these buildings (all but one of them has been published in The FORUM) and consider them significant for their design quality and economic soundness.

In the course of his hotel work, William Tabler has been fighting a continuous battle for building code improvement across the country -- a battle which goes beyond the interests of his own clients and should ultimately benefit the building industry in general. He has written several articles on this subject (one of which was published in The FORUM) and has spoken on the subject at at least one AIA Convention. Architects everywhere owe William Tabler a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts toward code modernization.

In view of his outstanding achievements in hotel design I believe it would be fitting for the AIA to elevate William Tabler to the College of Fellows.

Cordially,

  
Joseph C. Hazen, Jr.  
Managing Editor

NOV 23 1960

# HOLDEN EGAN WILSON & CORSER

ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

ARTHUR C. HOLDEN FAIA  
JOHN TAYLOR EGAN AIA  
WILLIAM D. WILSON AIA  
JOHN B. CORSER, JR. AIA

RONALD E. WOODWARD RA  
HENRY A. RAEMSCH RA

630 THIRD AVENUE (AT 41 ST.)  
NEW YORK 17 • MURRAY HILL 7-5777

23 November 1960

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

FACTUAL

Re: William Benjamin Tabler

Gentlemen:

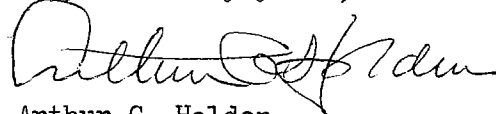
It gives me pleasure to recommend to advancement to Fellowship of William Benjamin Tabler. I have known of his outstanding work in the hotel field longer than I have known him personally.

Mr. Tabler's approach to any commission which he receives is fresh minded, and directed to the improvement of design and building techniques. He has done outstanding work in calling attention to the limiting effect upon design of local restrictive ordinances and routine rules repeated and copied from local code to local code. He has applied imaginative solutions to the commission entrusted to him. His work is thorough and painstaking.

His photographic exhibit can record the excellence of the appearance of his buildings, but cannot because of the rules of the Jury, reveal the skill which he has shown in planning, and the well balanced details of execution.

I believe Mr. Tabler worthy of advancement to Fellowship as an outstanding leader, who has made his own way in an important specialized field of design.

Very sincerely yours,



Arthur C. Holden

H/c

NOV 25 1960

T H E O D O R E   H O O D   A . I . A .   A R C H I T E C T

270 PARK AVENUE      NEW YORK 17, N. Y.      PLAZA 9-3570

*NEW ADDRESS*  
624 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.  
P L a z a 2 - 5 0 9 8

December 12, 1960.

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

Dear Sirs:

I am very pleased to write this letter in behalf of  
Mr. William Benjamin Tabler's nomination for Fel-  
lowship in the Institute.

In 1953 I was associated with Bill, for a brief time on  
the Statler Hilton Hotel in Dallas, Texas project.

He was always a man who could exhibit calmness des-  
pite constant pressure. He impressed me as a person  
who should be the author of the progressive knowledge on  
today's hotels. Young as he is, he has absorbed so much  
information on the specialized field that he is undoubt-  
edly one of the outstanding hotel architects in the country.  
His design sense is of an individual and practical.

Bill has the personality of the intelligent, talented  
and conclusively "successful architect".

I wish him success in getting the Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,

*Theodore Hood*

TH:p

DEC 13 1960

# ARCHITECTURAL RECORD



PUBLISHED BY F. W. DODGE CORPORATION

119 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

November 14, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I should like to support the nomination of William B. Tabler for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects for achievement in design.

I have had a chance to work rather closely with William Tabler in the publication of the Statler Hilton Hotel in Dallas; the Statler Hilton Hotel in Hartford; the San Francisco Hilton; the motor hotel program for Hilton; and also the putting together of an article on hotel planning for our publication.

In my dealings with Bill Tabler, I have found him intelligent, imaginative, and at the same time possessed of an outstanding practical approach in hotel design; and the high quality of the results is widely acknowledged, both by hotel owners and architects. I am, therefore, happy to urge his elevation to Fellowship.

Sincerely,

*James S. Hornbeck*

James S. Hornbeck  
Senior Editor

*a ja*

JSH:hb

NOV 15 1960

FRANCIS KEALLY · ARCHITECT

17 EAST 49<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

FRANCIS KEALLY, F.A.I.A.  
KENNETH S. CARR  
HERBERT T. JOHNSON, A.I.A.  
GEORGE W. THOMPSON

November 14, 1960

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

Dear Sirs:

FACTUAL

It is a privilege to support the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for elevation to Fellowship in the Institute.

Without doubt, Mr. Tabler is the outstanding designer in the highly specialized field of hotel planning, and as his record confirms, his distinguished executed work is not limited to the Continental United States.

Having done considerable hotel work myself, I know the complicated problems that are involved in designing a modern hotel, as this type of structure being a combination of monumental and residential concepts, demands a very special talent.

In my considered opinion, this candidate has proven beyond any doubt that he possesses such requisite qualifications.

Accordingly, I urge upon the Jury of Fellows that Mr. Tabler be advanced to Fellowship on the basis of his achievement in design, an honor which he has well earned over the years, and which would in turn reflect credit upon the Institute at large.

Yours very truly,

  
Francis Keally, F.A.I.A.

FK:bs



October 25, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

There is no need for me to recite or repeat the many accomplishments of William B. Tabler whose nomination as FAIA is now before your honored jury. These, I'm sure, are well attested to by his nominators and other correspondents better qualified than I.

I would like to point out that even outside his professional qualifications, he is the sort of person we need in the higher councils of the Institute. As a member of the AIA staff and later as a colleague of his in New York City, I have always been amazed at his ability to take time from his busy practice to help, counsel and advise his fellow practitioners - and that this advice is to the point, can be attested by the hundreds who listened to his talk on building codes before the 1958 Convention at Cleveland.

I wholeheartedly endorse Bill Tabler's nomination for Fellowship. I only wish there were more like him.

Respectfully submitted,



Edwin B. Morris, Jr.

EBMJr/e

I. M. Pei, R. A.  
Eason H. Leonard, R. A.  
Henry N. Cobb, R. A.  
Don Page/graphics  
W. L. Slayton/planning  
  
Araldo Cossutta, R. A.  
Leonard Jacobson, R. A.  
V. de Pasciuto-Fonte, A.I.P.

November 30, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I have been informed that the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has nominated William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

I would like to add my endorsement to this nomination on the basis of his accomplishments in the field of hotel design, which are notable for economy and variety.

Sincerely yours,

  
I. M. Pei

IMP/b

DEC 1 1960

GEORGE C. RUDOLPH, AIA, ARCHITECT  
DANIEL M. C. HOPPING, SR. ASSOC.  
BASIA BENDA, DESIGNER-ARTIST  
JOHN E. RUSSELL, DESIGNER-ARTIST  
ROBERT FLEURY, DESIGNER  
RUSSELL W. MOORE, DESIGNER

RUDOLPH ASSOCIATES • 200 EAST 42ND STREET • NEW YORK 17 • MURRAY HILL 2-3772  
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNERS • • RENDERERS • • ARCHITECTURAL ADVERTISING ART

November 15, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen,

This note is in support of William B. Tabler, who has been nominated for fellowship by the New York Chapter.

Bill's work in the Hotel field has been so widely recognized that it seems superfluous for me to mention it.

The design of the Ponce Hotel in Puerto Rico, alone should qualify him from the design point of view.

Bill's personal qualities and the manner in which he conducts his business, are, to me, his outstanding characteristics.

I have prepared hundreds of renderings for the Tabler group in the past ten years. During that time I have admired the way they have combined the difficult utilitarian requirements of hotel layout with imaginative design. He does not stint on competent design help and consultation.

Please consider mine an unqualified vote for William B. Tabler.

Sincerely yours,

  
George C. Rudolph

GCR/vk

NOV 15 1960

# FORUM

PUBLISHED BY TIME INC.

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

November 15, 1960

Re: William B. Tabler

Dear Sirs:

FACTUAL

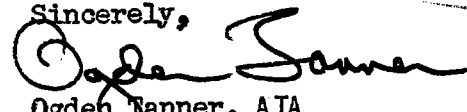
I would like to endorse the New York Chapter's nomination of William Benjamin Tabler, AIA, for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

Bill Tabler has doubtless contributed more than any other individual to the advancement of the complex science of hotel design in recent years, both in this country and abroad. A close, continuing study of the hotel industry and an intimate grasp of important detail have enabled Bill to make functional, structural, and architectural innovations and set standards for this large and special segment of the building industry. The result has been a series of hotels whose smoothly functioning and pleasant interiors have been a real service to the traveling public, and whose low cost and operating efficiencies have proved invaluable to his clients.

Among the many examples of Bill's inventiveness are carefully worked out variety of optimum room sizes, an unusually efficient and pleasant standard bathroom, flexible combinations of large and small meeting spaces which can be quickly tailored to the requirements of many convention and local groups, pioneering uses of exposed frame and metal curtain walls. The development of these can be traced from his Hartford Statler in 1954 through the Dallas Statler Hilton to the new Pittsburgh Hilton, in which they have been refined to perhaps their best total effect, at least in Tabler hotels I have personally visited. In adapting design to special conditions, Bill has also devised a "boat" foundation for Pittsburgh's water-pressure problems, special frame and foundations and nicely recessed balconies for El Salvador's earthquake and hot-sun problems, relatively soundproof rooms for Idlewild airport, designs with a regional flavor for Puerto Rico, Denver, and elsewhere, and a unique garage-hotel to solve typical downtown problems in San Francisco. As an articulate crusader against confused and obsolete building codes around the U.S., he has also been a valuable spokesman for the profession.

For further specifics, I would refer you to the enclosed article which I wrote for FORUM's July 1957 issue, and to others which have appeared in our magazine on specific Tabler hotels and building-code crusades.

Sincerely,

  
Ogden Tanner, AIA  
Associate Editor

Enclosure

NOV 15 1960

# BILL TABLER'S HOTEL BOOM

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This article was first published  
in the July 1957 issue of

## FORUM

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Architectural Forum/the magazine of building/published by TIME INC.

EDGAR I. WILLIAMS  
ARCHITECT  
101 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 1, 1960.

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

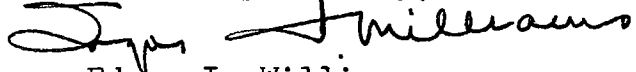
Gentlemen:

The Executive Committee of the New York Chapter has nominated William Benjamin Tabler for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.

I have known Bill Tabler for over fifteen years and have followed his career from junior assistant with the Statler Hotel architectural group to his present eminence as an expert in hotel design. He is an outstanding architect and a man of fine character.

I would like to add my name to the list of those who promote Mr. Tabler's advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.

Yours respectfully,

  
Edgar I. Williams

EIW.f

DEC 2 1960

P A C E associates

53 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago 4, Ill. Telephone WAbash 2-6140

W H Binford AIA  
Charles B Genthier AIA  
John F Kausal AIA

December 1, 1960

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

Subject: William Benjamin Tabler

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Twenty odd years ago Bill Tabler and I worked together on several projects in the office of Holabird & Root, Chicago, and I have watched his steady progress since that time.

It should be clear to all discerning architects that his professional achievement in the production of good and economical hotel design is outstanding. His work in connection with building codes also merits commendation.

I have been in his buildings in Hartford, Pittsburgh and Denver and have studied them in detail. They show that quality and variety can be had along with economy.

Bill Tabler has worked relentlessly on the hotel problem and deserves the recognition Fellowship in the Institute bestows.

Very truly yours,

PACE ASSOCIATES

*W. H. Binford*  
W. H. Binford

WHB:cs

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DEC 5 1960

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
CAMBRIDGE 38  
MASSACHUSETTS

GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF DESIGN

DEPARTMENT OF  
ARCHITECTURE  
WALTER FRANCIS BOGNER  
*Professor of Architecture*

November 17, 1960

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

FACTUAL


Gentlemen:

I was delighted to learn that William Benjamin Tabler has been nominated by the New York Chapter for a Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design. I am extremely pleased about this nomination because Bill Tabler was a student of mine many years ago at Harvard University and has since lived up to all the promise that he showed when he first started to study architecture.

He has been remarkable in improving a building type for which America has become known in the rest of the world. This is the hotel with all its services and facilities "under one roof." Tabler has added a great deal to the accomplishment of earlier architects in that area of work by harnessing modern technology and contemporary trend in architectural expression to produce hotels that express modern living and comfort not only to travelers in the United States but also to those in Latin America and in other far away countries. Bill Tabler has done not only impressive work in this field for which he is best known but also has spread out over a wider range of building types.

As a person he is quite remarkable. I have learned from those who have worked for him that he has an unbelievable energy and remarkable skill for getting fine results. He is liked by his staff, by his clients, and by all who come in contact with him. You can see from this letter that I feel very strongly that the honor of a Fellowship in the Institute should be bestowed on William Benjamin Tabler.

Sincerely yours,

  
Walter F. Bogner, F.A.I.A.  
Professor of Architecture

WFB:ms

NOV 18 1960



ALBERT J. DE LONG  
ARCHITECT

December 27, 1960.

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

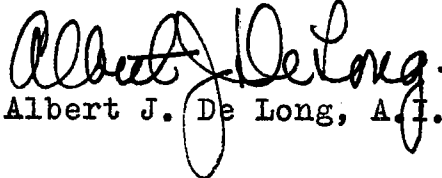
The Fellowship Committee of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has informed me of the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for consideration of the Jury of Fellows.

I have known William Tabler since 1937. This first association was as a fellow employee in the Chicago architectural office of Holabird and Root. He was even then outstanding in his design ability as well as industrious energy.

He has since compiled a notable career-record of architectural contributions in the hotel field. His crusade toward standardization of building codes throughout the country has commanded the interest of practicing architects everywhere.

I have a high personal regard for Mr. Tabler as an architect and for his professional attitude. I believe he is deserving of the distinctive honor which the Jury of Fellows may confer upon him.

Sincerely,

  
Albert J. De Long, A.I.A.

541 Arlington Place  
Chicago 14, Illinois.

GASSNER & NATHAN / ROBERT LEE BROWNE  
ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATED

128 north court square    memphis 3 tennessee

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:


I would like to take this opportunity to lend my support to the efforts being made to elevate Mr. William B. Tabler to Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

While in Mr. Tabler's employ in 1955 I had occasion to become familiar with his approach to design, and in my opinion his contribution in this field is worthy of recognition.

As a case in point, The San Salvador Hotel in Central America incorporates many of the hallmarks of good contemporary design. It shows sympathy for native crafts and materials, its organization is clean and straightforward, the building masses are direct and express their plan function clearly. The structure of the building is a direct result of local earthquake conditions and with the use of shear walls, the problem is solved with a deftness that gives great order to the building.

Mr. Tabler's hotel designs have set a high standard for the architectural fraternity, both in this country and abroad and I feel that it is fitting and proper that he be made a Fellow of the Institute.

Yours truly,



Francis Gassner, A.I.A.

FG:g

January 4, 1960



# Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

TROY, NEW YORK

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

28 November 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

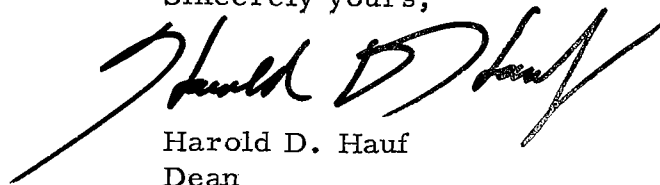
It has come to my attention that the New York Chapter of the A.I.A. has nominated William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

I have known Tabler for many years beginning with the time when he worked in Chicago with Holabird and Root. I believe him to be the outstanding designer of hotel facilities in the United States.

His keen feeling for the integration of the mechanical and electrical services of a building with the structure and the architectural plan seem to me hallmarks of his practice. In addition to his practice he has given part of his time to lecturing in Schools of Architecture and I have had the pleasure of having him visit the campus at Rensselaer. I believe his work as a designer in the hotel field has shown constant progress and I believe he is a master of coordination of the technologic, aesthetic, and economic factors which go to make successful hotel buildings.

I hope very much that the Jury of Fellows may see fit to confirm this nomination.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harold D. Hauf  
Dean

HDH:es

NOV 30 1960

**HERTEL, JOHNSON, EIPPER & STOPA**  
Architects • Engineers

950 Pine Street

Glenview, Illinois

Park 4-8200



November 30, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to make a statement about William Tabler in connection with his nomination for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Bill started to work for Holabird and Root, Chicago, shortly after I started in about 1940. At that time he was aggressive, and spent a great deal of time working overtime in order to further his knowledge of the Statler Hotel in Washington, D.C., which was in the working drawing stage at that time. Since he worked longer hours than any of the rest of us, he was able to accumulate more knowledge of the project. He was not the squad leader, he was a draftsman like the rest of us, and seemed to be able to answer many of the questions which others had to ask. He seemed to have had a goal at that time, and asked that he be transferred to the supervision department of Holabird and Root, which would enable him to obtain supervision experience. That apparently led to his later working for the Statler Hotels.

I have not seen Bill for some twenty years, and therefore I am in no position to recommend him for Fellowship.

I understand he has a very creditable record, and I can readily understand why you would consider him as a candidate.

Very truly yours,

Morris C. Hertel

DEC 5 - 1960 MCH:JC

✓  
**HIGGINS & ROOT, A. I. A.**

**A R C H I T E C T S**

W. L. HIGGINS AIA • CHESTER ROOT FAIA  
220 MERIDIAN ROAD • SAN JOSE 26, CALIFORNIA • PHONE CY 3-1427 • ASSOCIATES

December 22, 1960

FREDERICK B. BARSS  
GERALD ERICKSON  
W. LESLIE HEALD  
EDWARD G. LEE  
D. C. McFARLAND  
GORDON L. PERSKE

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is my sincere wish to support the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

I have been greatly impressed with buildings of his design. The beautiful International Hotel at the Idlewild Airport, New York, shows his outstanding ability in the manner in which he has handled the relation of areas, access and parking. This has been done with fine consideration of scale and proportion.

The Brown Palace West in Denver, Colorado, shows great skill in solving a most difficult problem on relating a famous historical building with new contemporary construction. Certainly a delightful result.

His Hilton Inn, with its fresh and imaginative design approach, gives an air of elegance to the San Francisco Airport.

Having worked with Bill as a member of the National A.I.A. Code Committee, I know him to be devoted to the highest ideals of the profession with determination to actively support and promote his principles.

It is a real pleasure to recommend him to you for Fellowship in the Institute.

Very truly yours,

*W. L. Higgins*  
W. L. Higgins

WLH:BDMc

196 Green Bay Road  
Hubbard Woods, Ill.  
December 10, 1960

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

FACTUAL

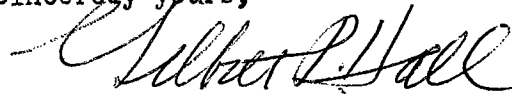
Dear Sirs:

It gives me great pleasure to support the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute. I understand that the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has nominated him.

I have known Bill Tabler a number of years and I have followed his career with a great deal of interest. I feel that he has always had a good solution for every problem he undertook, both from the standpoint of good taste in design as well as efficient planning. The nominee's contributions in the field of hotel design are outstanding. They show not only a high quality of design but a great variety and imagination. It is also worth noting how well he has solved the varied problems of climate and local customs.

In the Statler Hilton Hotel in Dallas, Texas, for instance, Mr. Tabler has shown his feeling for good proportion, lightness and a great simplicity of design. All of his large urban hotels are equally striking.

Sincerely yours,



Gilbert P. Hall, F.A.I.A.

**P A C E** associates

53 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago 4, Ill. Telephone WAbash 2-6140

W H Binford AIA  
Charles B Genter AIA  
John F Kausal AIA

November 30, 1960

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

Subject: William Benjamin Tabler

FACTUAL ✓

Gentlemen:

I am advised that the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has nominated William Benjamin Tabler for fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design. I know of no Architect in my acquaintance more deserving of this nomination.

For your information Mr. Tabler and I were classmates in the 1938-1939 class at the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, and had the good fortune to study with Dr. Walter Gropius and Marcel Breurer. During this period I had the opportunity to observe Mr. Tabler's marked ability to attack a problem in design and through persistent research and analysis endeavor to create better and more economical methods of solving building construction problems.

Later on I worked in the same office in Chicago with Bill, namely Holabird & Root, and it was here that he became acquainted with, and interested in, hotel design. He had an opportunity here to do drafting on hotel jobs and later to supervise their construction giving him an excellent background for a private practice specializing in hotel planning.

I have studied some of Tabler's recent works which have been published in various architectural magazines and also have had an opportunity to visit some of his buildings during construction, namely the Brown Palace West in Denver, Colorado; the Hilton Inn in San Francisco, California; and the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His work continues to reflect sound analysis of the problem and his results are honest, integrated, functional solutions of unusual merit.

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**P A C E** associates

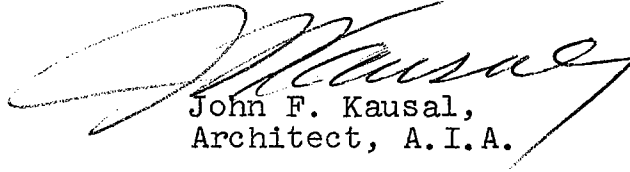
53 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago 4, Ill. Telephone WAbash 2-6140

Page 2.

Mr. Tabler is a credit to our profession and a person of high integrity and excellent character. It is a pleasure to recommend him for Fellowship in the Institute.

Yours very truly,

PACE ASSOCIATES



John F. Kausal,  
Architect, A.I.A.

JFK:cs

DEC 2 1960



J O H N L O R D K I N G

ARCHITECT A. I. A.

244 KEARNY STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 8  
DOUGLAS 2-8175

HAROLD BLEWETT A.I.A.  
IRVING G. HAMILTON A.I.A.  
PETER MACGOWAN A.I.A.

21 December 1960

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

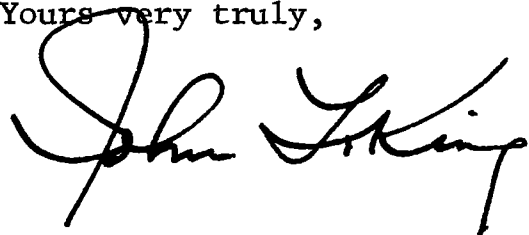
Gentlemen:

I am very glad indeed to have the opportunity to write this letter in support of William B. Tabler's nomination for Fellowship in the Institute. ✓

I have known Mr. Tabler for many, many years and, in fact, worked very closely with him twenty years ago. As a consequence, I have always admired his ability as an architect and certainly since the opening of his own office he has done an outstanding job in design.

I am familiar with many of his hotel projects and feel them worthy of everything that Fellowship stands for.

Yours very truly,



JLK:q

DEC 29 1960

SAMUEL ARTHUR LICHTMANN F. A. I. A.  
ARCHITECT & ENGINEER Financial 6-2661  
134 S. LA SALLE STREET CHICAGO 3, ILL.

December 14, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

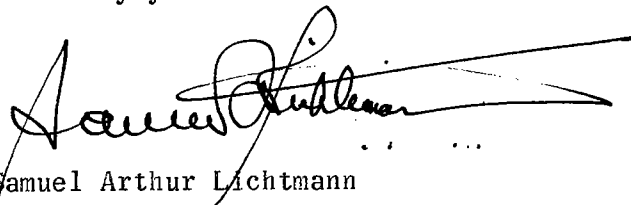
FACTUAL

It is my understanding that the New York Chapter has nominated Mr. William Benjamin Tabler, for Fellowship in the Institute, for outstanding achievements in design.

I have worked with Mr. Tabler on the Building Code Committee of the Institute, and have been impressed by his general competence and the thoroughgoing manner in which he addresses himself to any assignment that may be given to him. I am also familiar with his achievements in the field of hotel design. I spent many years during the early period of my activity in the profession, in the office of Holabird and Root, which firm was extremely active in the field of hotel construction throughout the country.

Having seen several of the hotels that Mr. Tabler has designed in recent years, I feel that they constitute outstanding contributions in this field. His buildings have been outstanding in their quality, freshness of design and variety. I believe, Mr. Tabler, well merits elevation to Fellowship in the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



Samuel Arthur Lichtmann

SAL:eb

DEC 19 1960

EDWARD M. HODGMAN •  
CHALMER GRIMM, JR. •  
N. JACK HUDDLE •  
DONALD E. JOHNSON •

November 17, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

This letter is in support of the nomination of William B. Tabler for Fellowship in the A.I.A.

I have known Mr. Tabler personally since we were in Architectural School together at Harvard in 1937 - 39. Mr. Tabler's approach to a design or planning problem has always been analytical, thorough, conscientious, and comprehensive. He has, incidentally, specialized in hotel planning since his beginnings in Architectural School --- a rather surprising singleness of direction in the profession.

I have seen or visited a number of Mr. Tabler's hotel projects, and I believe he has made a significant contribution to this field of building. His designs combine clear logic in planning and structure, ingenious arrangement of volumes and masses, and sound, well-integrated engineering. The results have, in my mind, made a major advance in the art of hotel building, and, by osmosis, in the standard of present-day Architecture as a whole.

Sincerely yours,



Robert A. Little

RAL:vt

NOV 21 1960

LEE CHAS. MIELKE AIA  
LAWRENCE L. SMITH AIA

MIELKE & SMITH

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

Re: Nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship  
in the American Institute of Architects

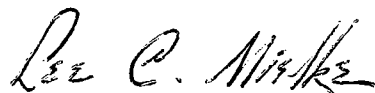
Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

It has been my privilege to know Bill Tabler for the past twenty (20) years. For the whole of those twenty (20) years he has been tremendously interested in hotel work, which he has developed to a superb degree. The scope of operation necessitated by local conditions, custom and climate have been extremely well handled. From Wisconsin to Texas and from Florida to California and also in the Carribean, the variations in climate, conditions and local problems have been masterfully solved.

The imaginative solutions and the functional excellence of his work should be recognized. Our profession, through you gentlemen, should act favorably on this nomination for fellowship in the Institute.

Cordially,



Lee C. Mielke, A.I.A.

MIELKE & SMITH

December 5, 1960

LCM:pc

cc: Benjamin Lane Smith, F.A.I.A.

DEC 7 1960

# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 4

*The School of Fine Arts*

G. HOLMES PERKINS, *Dean*

November 18, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

More years ago than I like to think, Mr. William D. Tabler was one of my students in the Graduate School of Design at Harvard. I have followed his career with the deepest interest and have been extremely pleased with the very fine record he has made for himself.

First of all Mr. Tabler's close association with the affairs of the Institute and his generous contribution of time to the advancement of the profession have made him a leader. Professionally, however, his greatest contribution has been in the field of hotel design, where he has pioneered new solutions which have led the way in many areas. The designs he has prepared have not only been functionally efficient and economical but have contributed new ideas in hotel design. His various hotels have recognized the peculiar problems of climate and local conditions and in every case have been aesthetically good solutions. Furthermore the designs have been marked with variety and a breadth of imagination which to my mind entitled him to recognition as one of the finest architects in this field.

I recommend him whole-heartedly to your favorable consideration for advancement to fellowship.

Sincerely yours,



G. Holmes Perkins

GHP:dic

NOV 21 1960

M I L T O N J . P R A S S A S & A S S O C I A T E S

A R C H I T E C T S E N G I N E E R S

5915 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 16, D. C.

T e l e p h o n e :

O L i v e r 4-7535

M. J. PRASSAS

E. H. WILCOX

V. PRASSAS

December 20, 1960

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

Re: Fellowship Nomination, William Benjamin Tabler.

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

This letter is in support of the subject nomination.

I am aware, from AIA Document No. 9, "Proposers...should remember that the personality and popularity of a fellow member do not, of themselves, constitute a notable contribution..." I am also aware that the nominee's work must reveal "...notable individuality and mastery in the art of design..."

While supporting letters of proposal, submitted in Mr. Tabler's behalf by his host of professional admirers, will cover in specific detail the design excellence of each of his hotel projects, I should prefer to comment on William Benjamin Tabler prior to the era of his fabulous achievement as the Nation's leading hotel architect, with the hope that this report of that period of personal acquaintanceship with the nominee will reveal to you the ambition, determination, integrity, and character of the young man that today is reflected in the nobility of his work and in his notable individuality and mastery in the field of design.

Postgraduate. Locale: Chicago, Illinois. With a BS in Structural Engineering, he returned to Harvard to achieve a degree in Architecture. Immediately thereafter, in the employ of Holabird and Root, with theory behind us there opened the avenue of fascinating practicability. This quiet, serious young man quickly emerged as a

(over)

skilled craftsman. His draftsmanship was fast, sure, and thorough. Whether detail, or revisions issued from the "sanctum", there was reflected a spirited determination to accomplish properly the finished work.

During many free periods together, it was apparent this young man already was aspiring to the heights, not with hopes and wishes, but with objectives, goals and plans.

The two scholastic degrees were a part: he believed an architect could not achieve greatness without disciplined understanding and appreciation of the structure of his buildings.

Discipline was a part: he believed successful architecture evolves from the success of minute details.

Analysis was part: he believed in postmortems of firm designs as well as other buildings surrounding our environment. Leaning on a Wacker Drive ballustrade looking up at the AIA 1930 Gold Medal 333 Building: by Holabird and Root, he pointed out bas-relief statuary on the corners at about the 27th floor and inquired of the essentiality in the design of this costly décor: he believed that through analysis, mastery in design is achieved.

Pearl Harbor. Locale: Washington, D.C. The firm sent Bill to the Statler Hotel as assistant Clerk-of-the-Works, and later as Clerk-of-the-Works. Here was field practicability. Here was revealed in this young man a mature dedication to professional responsibility.

Being in the Builder's party at formal opening of the Hotel, I was proud to hear the accolades for Bill. The contractor couldn't praise him enough for his foresightedness and profound judicious interpretations of contract documents. The owner credited him for an expedited opening of the hotel under wartime conditions. The firm lauded his initiative; where details were lacking or did not fit, it was not beneath him to get on the "board" and "whip out" ones that did fit and which did the job. I particularly remember his original design for the beautiful Embassy Room bandstand.

(over)

Our sessions together were less frequent since I was in uniform, but all during this period "analysis" was constantly at work in him. His inquisitiveness, searching for the "why" of each and every facet of this hotel environment, was constantly on the alert for answers. When construction of this last word in hotel design at that time was complete, this young man had all the answers to the "why's" good or bad.

Post War. Locale: New York City. The war over, his Naval uniform in moth balls, the firm (H&R) offered re-employment. The Statler people wanted him to work for them. This was tough. I and others were already in practice starving, but happy and independent. He went with Statler.

There followed a period of discipline and analysis, profound, vast and concentrated, rarely afforded to architects. Additions and modernizations in fast succession. Holabird and Root was well along on the L.A. Statler. Under this banner exists the most talented men of our profession, particularly in hotel design. Yet, the contributions made to the design of this one project by this fertile mind were so vital and extensive, that H&R placed his name alongside theirs as Associate.

I remember during a flying visit to New York, Bill showed me the experimental "pullman" hotel room he had built, tore apart and rebuilt: analysis.

Efficiency: in this vast chain, this young man, beyond and above the expectations of his employer, and I suspect on much of his own time, crystalized data we now call time-motion studies of practically every function of hotel operation. Much of this data he released to various architectural publications for the benefit of the architectural profession.

In the later '40's and early '50's, some of us in practice were doing well. The average person in this young man's position as an unsung employee of a large corporation, could have been envious, impatient and rash. Not so. He was unhurried. His sights were aimed higher and purer. On this matter, he indicated his desire to excell in this special field (mastery in this art of design) before taking the step.

(over)



M I L T O N J . P R A S S A S & A S S O C I A T E S

4

Finally, the break through came on the Hartford Statler; establishment of private practice. The fabulous Dallas Statler, and one after another in rapid succession.

Today, he has outrun, outstripped, and ascended to greater heights than any of us his contemporaries of that by-gone era of pink clouds and lofty ideals. Where we still struggle for our bread and butter seeking out our clients, his clients seek him out. Where our work is mediocre, his is pure, clear and inspired.

I have been out of touch with William B. Tabler for the past several years now, and yet as I read about each new project or magazine article he turns out, I can see further expression of his magnificent mind, rigid discipline, and analysis anchored on that solid foundation of practicability, into which I was permitted a glimpse long ago.

A truly great designer of our profession, we the AIA should be honored to bestow our highest mantle on his name.

Respectfully,



Milton J. Prassas, AIA, FASCE.

MJP/aw

SHEPLEY BULFINCH RICHARDSON AND ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS

AMES BUILDING, BOSTON 8

HENRY R. SHEPLEY  
FRANCIS V. BULFINCH  
JOSEPH P. RICHARDSON  
LEWIS B. ABBOTT

27 December 1960

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

Dear Sirs:

FACTUAL

It gives me great pleasure to endorse William B. Tabler's nomination for Fellowship in the Institute.

Mr. Tabler has been nominated for achievement in Design. I believe he also deserves recognition for achievement "in service to the Institute" because of his pioneer work with obsolete building codes and his devoted service to the profession as Chairman of the Codes Committee of the Institute.

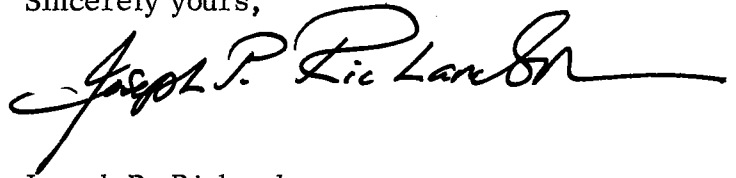
Most of Mr. Tabler's professional life has been devoted to the study and competent design and construction of hotels in our fast moving age. He leaves no stone unturned in the search for solving every detail and in arriving at the best solution untrammelled by obsolete laws or building materials. In short he has courage of his convictions.

William Tabler's versatility and aesthetic understanding are evident in his hotel designs in varied climates from Puerto Rico to Connecticut, to Pittsburg and California.

I have known Mr. Tabler for 25 years, particularly from 1935 to 1938 when we were architectural students together. Then as now he showed the same qualities of devotion to his work and thoroughness for which he is so well known the world over.

I sincerely hope that the Jury will act favorably on Mr. Tabler's candidacy.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph P. Richardson

December 1, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Please permit me to urge you to consider favorably the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler of the New York Chapter for Fellowship in the Institute for outstanding achievement in design.

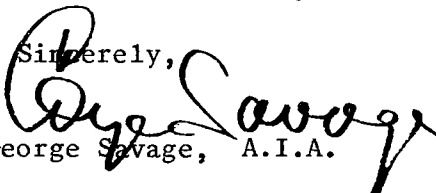
Although I have never had the pleasure of stopping in one of the many hotels he has designed, I was particularly impressed when approaching Hartford by rail last winter to notice how well his design fitted the urban facade as a whole and added to the existing ensemble.

From publications I judge that his other designs also embellish their surroundings. Emphasis is used where desirable; conformity where that is desirable. Aesthetically, for the general amenity, the relation of building to building is a major consideration if chaos is not to result in our cities and towns. Tabler considers this, in my view, although I have never happened to discuss it with him. It is not too commonly a consideration by architects who should know better.

As part owner of a resort inn (by inheritance) I can appreciate, more than most architects the efforts he has made to make his buildings commercially possible. The examples of this are well known: thin partitions making possible a whole extra guest room on a given floor in the space normally used by thicker partitions, piping and plumbing simplifications, the design of a dresser-lavatory to suit an angular placement of a water closet in a tight bathroom, ample room for services and great flexibility in their arrangement - all these are not small accomplishments.

I went through the School of Design with him; we received our degrees in 1939. He appreciated the designs of others and once made a model for me which presented my problem in a far more favorable light than I could have accomplished without his help. Mr. Gropius gave me the highest mark in the class for it. I had a good design but was generally weak in presentation (still am).

No one deserves a Fellowship more than Bill Tabler.

Sincerely,  
  
George Savage, A.I.A.

ALLISON AND RIBLE · ARCHITECTS

500 SOUTH VIRGIL AVENUE, LOS ANGELES 5, CALIFORNIA · PHONE DUNKIRK 8-1361

GEORGE B. ALLISON F.A.I.A.  
ULYSSES FLOYD RIBLE F.A.I.A.  
RODNEY T. ROBINSON A.I.A.  
RAYMOND ZIEGLER A.I.A.

LAWRENCE E. MAWN A.I.A.  
EMIL J. BURESH  
THOMAS A. GOULD  
PEYTON E. KIRVEN A.I.A.

19 Nov 1960

Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Ave., North West  
Washington 6, D.C.

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

It is my privilege to write in support of the nomination of William Benjamin Tabler for Fellowship in the Institute. I am personally familiar with the work he has done on the Statler Hilton Hotel in San Francisco and though not built at this time, this project is a significant contribution in the field of hotel design.

Another of Mr. Tabler's notable contributions to the advancement of the profession is his effort towards improving Building Codes throughout the Nation. His personal efforts have contributed significantly to the proposed modification of Building Codes in many cities of the United States.

Your favorable consideration of Mr. Tabler's nomination will be a just recognition of his outstanding achievements.

Very truly yours,

ALLISON and RIBLE

  
Raymond Ziegler  
RZ:ch

Interior Designers  
Furnishing Contractors  
Joiner Contractors

CHANDLER CUDLIPP ASSOCIATES · INC.

231 EAST 51ST STREET · NEW YORK 22, N. Y. PLAZA 1-1660

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ERNEST R. PARCHEFELD  
JOHN MACGREGOR

January 14, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

William B. Tabler's name has been presented, I understand, for consideration by your Jury of Fellows and I am pleased to have an opportunity to write a letter on his behalf.

I have known Mr. Tabler now for several years and have worked closely with him on several projects.

Besides being a very personable, attractive individual, we find that he and his associates have an unusually thorough grasp of the problems of hotel architecture, which is his specialty. Without overlooking any esthetic phases, he has an exceptional knowledge and concern for costs, suitability of areas, the functioning of the building and especially the uses of materials, which make it very easy from our point of view to work with them and I think that goes for the owners as well.

His method of arriving at decisions on many details before the working drawings are completed, (I'm speaking now of course of decisions relating to furnishing) enables the owner to secure the best possible bids and avoid extras and the attendant difficulties which so often develop when changes are made later on, even in matters of color.

Perhaps it sounds presumptuous for me to endorse Mr. Tabler as a candidate for a Fellow in the A.I.A., but it is a pleasure for me to say that I have a very high regard for him professionally and personally and hope that the Jury will take favorable action in this instance.

Sincerely,

Chandler Cudlipp

CC:jl

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

December 5, 1960

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: William B. Tabler, A.I.A.

To Members of  
The Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

An architect is advanced to Fellowship in recognition of exceptional ability or of exceptional service. The Jury of Fellows always tries to choose wisely and with discrimination, but it is limited in precise knowledge about the nominees.

To complete Nomination, this form must be filled and returned before January 1st. Otherwise, no action will be taken at the forthcoming Jury meeting.

It is the opinion of the Jury of Fellows that a designer, however talented, should not be advanced to Fellowship if he possesses deficiencies of character which reflect discredit upon the profession; and that no architect, regardless of outstanding service, should be advanced if the buildings which he has designed are so notably inferior in architectural design as to reflect discredit upon the profession.

To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to William B. Tabler, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Excellent

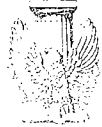
Frederic J. Woodhams  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

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DEC 7 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

December 5, 1960

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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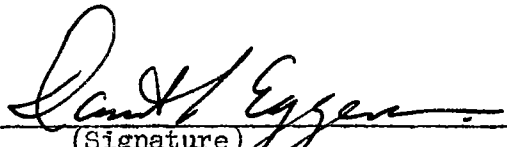
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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? excellent

  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 7 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? Good

Robert Anderson  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 29 1960

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? Mr. Tabler's character is beyond reproach; he is well thought of among both his friends and associates.

Richard W. Davis  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 9 1960

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

December 5, 1960

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Re: William B. Tabler, A.I.A.

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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
4. What is your opinion of his character? Of high character and a good representative in the public eye of the truly professional man.

  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? ye/
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? ye/
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? ye/
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? \_\_\_\_\_

Honest, Trustworthy

[Handwritten Signature]  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

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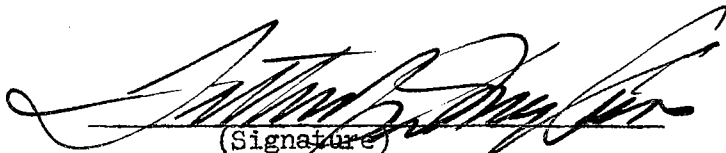
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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? YES
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? YES
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? YES so far as I know
4. What is your opinion of his character? Very good - so far as I know  
I do not know Mr Tabler personally

  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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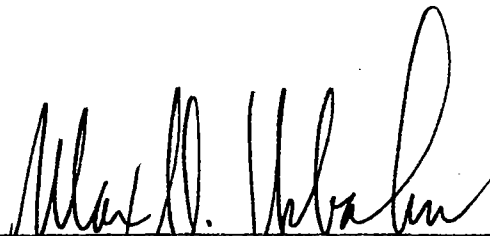
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1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? YES
2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? YES
3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? YES
4. What is your opinion of his character? Mr. Tabler is refreshing and stimulating; he is truly creative.

  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

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An architect is advanced to Fellowship in recognition of exceptional ability or of exceptional service. The Jury of Fellows always tries to choose wisely and with discrimination, but it is limited in precise knowledge about the nominees.

To complete Nomination, this form must be filled and returned before January 1st. Otherwise, no action will be taken at the forthcoming Jury meeting.

It is the opinion of the Jury of Fellows that a designer, however talented, should not be advanced to Fellowship if he possesses deficiencies of character which reflect discredit upon the profession; and that no architect, regardless of outstanding service, should be advanced if the buildings which he has designed are so notably inferior in architectural design as to reflect discredit upon the profession.

To help the Jury learn such aspects, which are not normally completely supplied through regular nomination procedure, fill in the lines below which in your opinion apply to William B. Tabler, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? Yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? Yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? Yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? Purposeful but principled. Very directed.

Richard G. Stein  
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, New York Chapter, A.I.A.