

SMITH, BENJAMIN LANE

Chapter Supporters:

Cutler, Robert, AIA )  
Bernhard, Harold C., AIA )  
Kiff, Aaron N., AIA )  
LaFarge, L. Bancel, AIA ) PROPOSERS - Chapter  
Spross, Roger G., AIA : Executive Committee  
Pomerance, Ralph, AIA )  
Woodbridge, Frederick J., FAIA )  
Lawford, Geoffrey N., AIA )  
Clark, Alonzo W., AIA )  
Frost, Frederick G., Jr., FAIA )

Abramovitz, Max, FAIA  
Hutchins, Robert S., FAIA  
Colean, Russell, AIA  
Reinhard, L, Andrew, FAIA  
Schwartzman, Daniel, AIA  
Teegen, Otti, FAIA  
Holden, Arthur C., FAIA  
Jacobs, Robert Allan, FAIA  
Arnaud, Leopold, FAIA  
Sleeper, Harold R., FAIA  
Ferriss, Hugh, FAIA  
Eiseman, Ferdinand, A.I.A.

Non-Chapter Supporters:

Cavaglieri, Giogrio, A.I.A., New York, N.Y.  
Foster, Wm. Dewey, AIA, Washington, D.C.  
Stephenson, James H., AIA, Baltimore, Md.  
Gambaro, E. James, FAIA, New York, N.Y.  
Beckwith, Herbert L., AIA, Cambridge, Mass.

**HAROLD R. SLEEPER, F.A.I.A.**  
**ARCHITECT**

25 WEST 44 STREET · NEW YORK 36, N.Y. · VANDERBILT 6-5373

November 8, 1956

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

*ack 11/13  
HRS*

Gentlemen:

Benjamin Lane Smith has been nominated for advancement to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter.

I heartily concur in this nomination as his influence on the architecture of today has been of real value.

His designs have shown distinction, good taste and dignity. The quality of performance which his works typify have an influence of lasting value.

I, therefore, recommend him for your consideration as a man who well deserves this honor.

Sincerely,

*Harold R. Sleeper*

Harold R. Sleeper

HRS:jb

Columbia University  
in the City of New York

NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

November 8, 1956

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

ack 11/19  
B

Gentlemen:

This letter will recommend and support the candidacy of Benjamin Lane Smith who, I am told, is being nominated by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute.

Benjamin Smith, now a partner in the firm of Voorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith, has proven himself over the years to be an exceptionally gifted designer. The following is a list of buildings for the design of which he has been personally responsible:

Firestone Research Laboratory, Akron, Ohio  
Columbia University's Cyclotron Building, Irvington, N.Y.  
General Electric Company's Research Laboratory, The Knolls, Schenectady, N.Y.  
Ford Motor Company's Ford Research & Engineering Center, Dearborn, Michigan;  
Dynamometer Building  
Body Styling Building  
Body Engineering Building  
Industrial Relations Building  
Scientific Laboratory & Research Building  
Maintenance Building  
Clinic Building, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan  
Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine

Aside from his well-recognized talents as an architectural designer, he has also been active in the affairs of the Institute, serving on many committees of the New York Chapter, and devoting his time and activity in the interest of the profession. I feel confident that few candidates will be as worthy as Ben Smith for the honor for which the New York Chapter proposes him.

Respectfully yours,

  
Leopold Arnaud, F.A.I.A.

Dean

LA/dpm

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING  
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

9 November 1956

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

*ack 11/19  
9/2*

Gentlemen:

The New York Chapter I am advised has nominated Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship in the Institute. As one reasonably familiar with Mr. Smith's contribution to the profession it is a privilege to support his nomination.

My appreciation of the candidate's qualifications relates to three sources of observation. Finished projects developed under his direction, association in the design of a research facility, and joint membership on the National Architectural Accrediting Board's school evaluation teams. The first two conditions have provided an opportunity to appraise the high quality and refinement of his creative effort; the final condition has revealed the depth and integrity of his architectural philosophy.

On the basis of his notable contribution in architectural design and his high ethical standards I would respectfully recommend the nomination of Benjamin Lane Smith for favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

*Herbert L. Beckwith*  
Herbert L. Beckwith  
Professor of Architecture

HLB/np

E. J. GAMBARO, F.A.I.A. • ARCHITECT

4--E-A-G-T--4--S-T--S-T-R-E-E-T • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.  
653 East 14th Street 9

November 10, 1956.

ack 11/20  
9/5

Gentlemen:

I am particularly happy to add my endorsement to the New York Chapter's nomination of Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith for advancement to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Smith and I have been friends for about twenty five years and I have followed his fine and successful career as a practicing Architect up to the present time.

Mr. Smith is a sensitive and able master in the art of design. The excellence and high quality of his many works are in evidence not only in this area but also in various other parts of the country.

He has also contributed freely of his time and talents by speaking on topics of mutual interest and concern before groups such as the National Noise Abatement Institute and The Society of Medical Administrators. He taught architectural design at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and he served his Chapter as a member and Chairman (current) of the Committee on Education. He also served as a member of the Evaluating Committee of The National Architectural Accrediting Boards.

I feel that by his outstanding and distinguished achievements in design as well as his efforts in the field of education, he has notably contributed to the advancement of the profession of architecture. He has earned the recognition and honor for which he is now being considered and which he has so well earned.

I wholeheartedly endorse, without any reservation whatsoever, Mr. Smith's nomination for advancement to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely,



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

EJG:gn

215 EAST 37TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

November 11, 1956

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

ack 1/23/57  
H/S

Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to write on behalf of the candidacy of Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. He has been nominated by the New York Chapter particularly for achievement in design. A great deal of the most distinguished work of the important firms of which he is now a member is due to his ability.

I have known Mr. Smith well for the last ten years and have worked with him on committees of the Chapter and on joint of the BAID (now NIAA) and have always found his judgment excellent, both as to professional questions and in matters of design and taste.

He is a thoroughly going gentleman and an ornament to our profession. I consider him eminently worthy of advancement to Fellowship and sincerely hope you will consider his nomination favorably.

Respectfully yours

Julius J. Woodruff, FAIA



KAHN AND JACOBS, *Architects*

ELY JACQUES KAHN, F. A. I. A.  
 ROBERT ALLAN JACOBS, F. A. I. A.  
 JAMES B. NEWMAN, A. I. A.-A. S. C. E.  
 PIERRE A. BEZY, A. I. A.

TWO PARK AVENUE  
 NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

November 14, 1956

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

ack 11/20  
 9/8

Gentlemen:

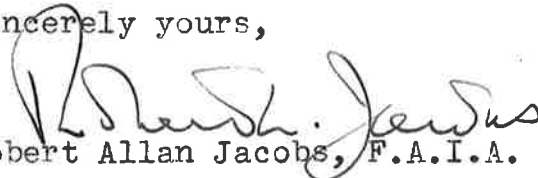
Benjamin Lane Smith has been nominated by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, through its Executive Committee for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I would like to vigorously support this nomination since I believe he is so worthy of it.

As a partner in the firm of Voorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith, I know that the work that has come under Mr. Ben Smith's responsibility has been most outstanding in design. He is an extremely sensitive architect and has, in my opinion, designed some very delightful buildings.

I have known Ben for fifteen years personally and served with him on several A.I.A. Committees in this area, as well as various committees in connection with the Architectural League and the Beaux Arts Institute of Design. He is a man who has devoted himself to his profession and who is a person of exceptional ability and integrity.

In my opinion, therefore, Ben has made an outstanding contribution in the field of design.

Sincerely yours,

  
 Robert Allan Jacobs, F.A.I.A.

# HOLDEN EGAN WILSON & CORSER

ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

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

ALFRED M. BUTTS RA  
DONALD V. WHELAN AIA  
ROBERT W. CITRON ASCE  
LOIS BALCOM EXEC. ASST.

215 EAST 37TH STREET  
NEW YORK 16 • MURRAY HILL 7-5777

14 November 1956

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

*ack 11/20  
9/8*

Gentlemen:

I have heard that Benjamin Lane Smith, of the New York Chapter, has been nominated for advancement to Fellowship. It gives me great pleasure to endorse this nomination and strongly recommend Ben for advancement to Fellowship. He is a member of the firm Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith, 101 Park Avenue. He is the partner who has been especially concerned with the design of the Ford Research Engineering Center, at Dearborn, Michigan, as well as the Henry Ford Hospital at Detroit, Michigan, and the General Electric Research Laboratories at Schenectady, New York.

I have known Ben Smith personally for eight or ten years. He is a man of fine background, great integrity and the highest ethical standards. He has perhaps been less active in the local chapter than his three principle partners, Messrs. Voorhees, Walker and P. C. Smith, for the reason that their activities have been so extensive. Ben is a greatly respected member of the New York Chapter. It gives me great pleasure to write in his behalf.

Very truly yours,

*Arthur C. Holden*  
Arthur C. Holden

ACH/c



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

ALBANY 1

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY ARCHITECT

November 19, 1956

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

ack 11/30  
B

Dear Sirs:

This letter is written in support of Benjamin Lane Smith of New York, who I understand has been recommended by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter for your consideration.

I have known Ben Smith since 1940 and worked with him as an associate of the firm of Voorhees, Walker, Foley and Smith from 1945 to 1949. Subsequent to that time, although no longer connected with the firm, I have been in close contact with him as a fellow Trustee of the Beaux Arts Institute of Design (now National Institute of Architectural Education) and as a member of the Education Committee of the New York Chapter of the A.I.A.

I am, therefore, fully aware of his ability as an architect, specifically as the designer of the Washington Street Building of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, the Ford Hospital in Detroit and other buildings of outstanding architectural merit. No less important in the realm of professional accomplishments are his contributions to architectural education as performed through the N.I.A.E. and the Chapter Education Committee, especially in its Architect-in-Training program. He is worthy of the professional trust and honor provided by Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,

  
Otto T. Egan, A.I.A.  
State University Architect

LaFARGE, KNOX & MURPHY

ARCHITECTS

215 EAST 37th STREET, NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 2-8075

L. BANCEL LaFARGE, A.I.A.  
ALEXANDER D. KNOX, A.I.A.  
JOSEPH A. MURPHY, A.I.A.  
• • • • •  
JONATHAN MOREY

November 19, 1956

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

*ack 11/20  
A1 J*

Gentlemen:

With a certain awe and great pleasure this letter is addressed to you in support of the candidacy of Mr. BENJAMIN LANE SMITH for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects. His nomination is endorsed by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter which I serve as Secretary.

The awe inspired is two-fold: first, for the large and distinguished architectural firm of which Mr. Smith is a senior partner, and secondly, for his contribution to it in advancing the finest aspects of the profession. It is characteristic of our times that certain firms should grow in size to measure their skills with the immense demands of our business and industrial organizations - the present strength of our country. To be an effective collaborator within such a gigantic firm, to keep one's architectural brain and fingers lucid and crisp, and yet to retain individuality in design down to the smallest detail inspires awe and admiration.

It is undeniable from his record that Mr. Smith has demonstrated these attributes. To have controlled and guided such a project as the Ford Research & Engineering Center at Dearborn is vastly to Mr. Smith's credit, alone deserving the honor now confronting him.

Mr. Smith has also served with fidelity numerous professional committees including some of importance in our Chapter.

With no hesitation, I recommend Mr. Smith to you for elevation to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours,



L. Bancel LaFarge

LBL:cf

cc: N. Y. Chapter of A.I.A.

L. ANDREW REINHARD, F.A.I.A.  
ARCHITECT  
24 HEMLOCK ROAD  
BRONXVILLE 8, N. Y.

November 20th, 1956

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

ack 11/30  
B

DATA: Re: Benjamin Lane Smith

To the Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.

The New York Chapter, thru its Executive Committee, has nominated Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects for

ACHIEVEMENT IN DESIGN.

Having served on the Fellowship Committee that presented his name to the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, and knowing of his distinctive and distinguished quality in design as a partner of the firm of Voorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith. Among other outstanding projects that come to mind are the

Ford Clinic, Research and Engineering Center at Dearborn; and the Jewish Medical Center at Baltimore, Maryland.

Have known Ben Smith and his notable contribution to American Architecture for over ten years since his arrival in New York.

Cordially



L. Andrew Reinhard, F.A.I.A.

OFFICE OF YORK & SAWYER · ARCHITECTS  
KIFF, COLEAN, VOSS & SOUDER

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

AARON N. KIFF, A. I. A.  
RUSSELL COLEAN, A. I. A.  
FREDERICK H. VOSS, A. I. A.  
JAMES J. SOUDER, A. I. A.

EDGAR ALBRIGHT, R. A.  
HARRY R. ALLEN, R. A.  
JOHN W. FRANKLIN, R. A.  
HARRY W. McCONNELL, R. A.  
EDWARD J. OLIVINE, R. A.  
A. J. PATRIZIO, R. A.  
LOUIS C. ROSENBERG, R. A.  
JOHN O. ROSS, R. A.  
SAMUEL M. KURTZ, R. A.  
J. L. HAMILTON  
WILLIAM C. JAEGER, JR.  
JOSEPH C. RAZZA  
MARY T. WORTHEN  
DOROTHY E. WOLF

November 26, 1956

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

Gentlemen:

The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, of which I am a member, has nominated Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship. I wish to state that I am heartily in accord with the action of the Chapter's Executive Committee, as I feel that Benjamin Smith has made a notable contribution to the contemporary architecture now in the development stage in this country. His work in design has a true sincerity and stability that recommends him, in my mind, to any expression of appreciation that is in the power of the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,

  
Russell Colean

RC/JY

NEW YORK CHAPTER



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

November 26, 1956

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

Gentlemen:

The Executive Committee of the New York Chapter has nominated for Fellowship, Benjamin Lane Smith. I have known him for the past ten years.

Mr. Smith is an outstanding designer and partner of a fine firm. His achievement in design for technical and complicated buildings such as research laboratories and hospitals is especially noteworthy. Outstanding work in this field covers the Research Center for the Ford Motor Company and the Firestone Laboratory, as well as the very fine Clinic Building for the Henry Ford Hospital.

Mr. Smith has been most diligent in the affairs of the New York Chapter. Even though maintaining a very active part in the firm's practice he has given willingly of his time in the past and is continuing in the important affairs of the Education Committee, as Chairman.

I unreservedly recommend Mr. Smith to you for consideration as a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours

Robert W. Cutler  
President

RWC:Mc

HARRISON & ABRAMOVITZ  
ARCHITECTS

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

WALLACE K. HARRISON  
MAX ABRAMOVITZ

November 29, 1956.

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

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

*ack 12/6*  
*B*

Gentlemen:

Benjamin Lane Smith has been recommended for admission to Fellowship by the New York Chapter.

I want to strongly endorse Mr. Smith. In my opinion he is worthy of such advancement because of his constant efforts and distinctive results in the field of design for many years with his firm of Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith.

Over the many years I have known him, which go back to school days, he has never veered from the search of fine design, good planning, care of detail, and high quality of execution. His work has contributed to the respect of our profession and his advancement to Fellowship would be a credit to the Institute

Sincerely,



Max Abramovitz

MA:J



the office of

**DANIEL SCHWARTZMAN architect**

TWELVE EAST THIRTY-SIXTH STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • LEXINGTON 2-2375

November 29, 1956

*ack 11/30*  
*S*

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

Gentlemen:

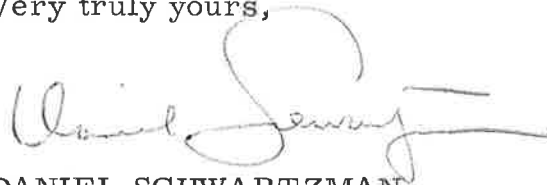
I was extremely pleased to learn that Benjamin Lane Smith has been proposed for Fellowship to the Institute by the New York Chapter.

I have worked closely with Ben Smith on many of the committee affairs of the New York Chapter, and have been extremely impressed by his devotion to the interests of the Institute, and to the profession at large, especially to the needs of the younger members of the profession.

I also know many of the members of his architectural firm, and know that he has assumed a major role in the design of the projects undertaken by Vorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith.

The quality and scope of this work, I am sure, is well know to you. I am, therefore, very happy to support the nomination of Benjamin Lane Smith for advancement to Fellowship to the Institute for achievement in design.

Very truly yours,



DANIEL SCHWARTZMAN

ds:ftd

COCHRAN, STEPHENSON & WING ARCHITECTS

ALEXANDER S. COCHRAN A.I.A.  
JAMES H. STEPHENSON A.I.A.  
EDWARD YEE WING A.I.A.

925 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE 1, MARYLAND  
LEXINGTON 9-2080  
CABLE "COCARCH"

December 3, 1956

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

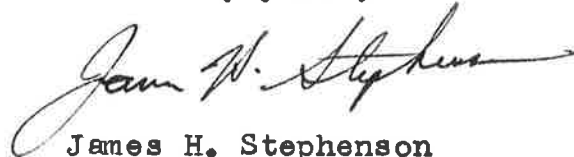
*ack, 12/20  
JHS*

Gentlemen:

It has been called to my attention Benjamin Lane Smith of New York has been nominated a fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

I have been working very closely with Mr. Smith for the last four years and feel that he deserves this honor. Although we have not always completely agreed on design problems, I have the greatest respect both for his ability and judgement in design matters specifically and for his philosophy of architecture as a profession in general. I feel that the architecture of this country is much richer because of the contributions that have been made by Mr. Smith.

Sincerely yours,

  
James H. Stephenson

JHS:fw

cc: Mr. Lorimer Rich, F.A.I.A.  
Lorimer Rich & Associates, Architects  
35 West 53rd Street  
New York 19, New York

SHREVE, LAMB & HARMON ASSOCIATES  
ARCHITECTS  
11 EAST 44TH STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

A. L. HARMON  
H. F. VANDERBECK  
H. C. BERNHARD  
S. B. FICKE  
H. P. CLARKSON  
MARGARET LIVSEY

H. M. BARONE  
G. DE PACE  
G. M. L. GILL  
W. H. LEYH  
R. E. NIELSEN

December 3, 1956

Gentlemen:

ack 12/6  
H

It is a privilege for me to write in support of the candidacy of Benjamin Lane Smith, who has been nominated for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects. Mr. Smith's candidacy was endorsed at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, of which I am Vice President.

As a design partner in the firm of Voorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith, he has contributed greatly to the success of that firm's work in recent years. His design efforts on the Firestone, General Electric and Ford Research Laboratory projects have only been surpassed by his sensitive planning and design for the Clinic Building of the Henry Fort Hospital.

To have been singled out as an employee, one in hundreds, for elevation to partnership by his firm in 1945 is indication of his high ability in the profession.

Mr. Smith has served on committees in the New York Chapter with diligence and distinction.

Without reservation, I recommend Mr. Smith to you for elevation to Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

Very truly yours,

*Harold C. Bernhard*

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

MOORE AND HUTCHINS, ARCHITECTS

215 EAST 37th STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK

JOHN C. B. MOORE, F.A.I.A.      ROBERT S. HUTCHINS, F.A.I.A.

JOHN STENKEN  
LEROY F. LENT  
WILLIAM POTTER  
RICHARD G. BERRY  
GILLET LEFFERTS, JR

December 4, 1956

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

✓ ad 12/6  
S

Gentlemen:

I have learned of the nomination of Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship and wish to endorse heartily his candidacy.

Ben Smith's qualifications as a distinguished member of a distinguished firm make him, in my opinion, fully eligible for Fellowship.

I am not familiar with all the work for which he has been responsible but such of it as I do know, I admire. He has always been willing and able in his support and participation in matters effecting the Institute, the New York Chapter and the profession as a whole.

I hope that the Jury will consider his name favorably.

Sincerely yours,

  
Robert S. Hutchins

RSH:rr

ALONZO CLARK

ARCHITECT

OLD ROARING BROOK ROAD

MOUNT KISCO - NEW YORK

December 6, 1956

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

ack. 12, 7  
B

Gentlemen:

I am privileged to be one of the sponsors of the nomination of Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith for fellowship in The American Institute of Architects. Mr. Smith's design achievements have brought him national recognition and have contributed greatly to the prestige of Architects.

Noticeable among the buildings he has designed are the Ford Motor Company Research and Engineering Center at Dearborn, Michigan; Clinic Building of the Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan; The General Electric Research Laboratory at Schenectady, N.Y.; and the Jewish Medical Center of Baltimore, Maryland which is now under construction.

His skill in design is particularly expressed in the planning of extremely complex buildings. He is able to grasp the scope of such work with complete understanding of the relationship of its various components, and translate them into functionally efficient buildings of pleasing form.

He has extended his interest in design to the New York Chapter Education Committee, of which he is the chairman, and to the National Institute for Architectural Education which he serves as Trustee.

Mr. Smith is truly deserving of the honor of fellowship for which he has been nominated.

Sincerely yours,

*Alonzo Clark*

Alonzo Clark

tg

GIORGIO CAVAGLIERI  
ARCHITECT  
250 WEST 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

CIRCLE 5-4207

December 17, 1956

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

ack 12/28  
H/S

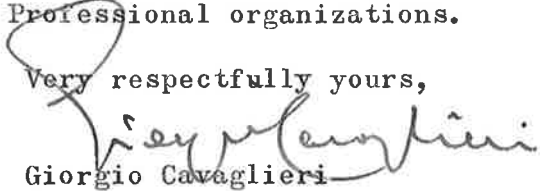
Gentlemen:

Mr. Lorimer Rich, F.A.I.A., has informed me of the pending nomination of Benjamin Lane Smith for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. Having had the pleasure of knowing Ben and his work for several years, I wish to express to you my earnest hope that this nomination be approved.

Mr. Smith's entire professional life has been one of patient dedication to competent, careful, distinguished architectural work. The firm of Vorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith, of which Ben has been an extremely active partner for several years, is certainly known to all, and not only in the U. S. I believe it represents with great distinction one of the important currents of architectural thinking in our time.

Moreover, Ben has been exceptionally active in the field of Architectural Education and his suggestions, advice and judgment are always sought after by his fellow members in Boards of Trustees and Committees of Professional organizations.

Very respectfully yours,

  
Giorgio Cavaglieri

GC:lk



# HOWE, FOSTER & SNYDER • • ARCHITECTS

1636 CONNECTICUT AVENUE • WASHINGTON 9, D. C. • HOBART 2-9193

GEORGE I. HOWE  
Fulton, Md., Parkway 5-3463  
WM. DEWEY FOSTER  
J. ROWLAND SNYDER

December 20, 1956

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

*ack, 2/21  
H/S*

Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith has been nominated by the New York Chapter for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute. I wish to submit my enthusiastic support of this nomination.

My first acquaintance with Mr. Smith came in the twenties when he won the A.W. Brown Travelling Scholarship which was then under my supervision. His work during his year abroad was highly commendable and showed an unusual appreciation of the opportunity for study of European architecture, both old and contemporary.

My next contact came when he was working in Washington for the P.B.A. and I was one of the Consulting Architects. During that year or so I saw his work as a designer almost daily and found it to be of the highest order, showing originality and good taste as well as a sound comprehension of the inter-relation of plans and elevations.

Since Mr. Smith moved to the office of Voorhees, Walker, Smith and Smith I have had various opportunities to see his work there, and my high opinion of his design abilities has only been increased.

I trust the Jury will approve this nomination, which will be an honor to the Institute as well as to Ben Smith.

Respectfully yours,

*Wm. Dewey Foster*  
Wm. Dewey Foster

WDF:b

OFFICE OF YORK & SAWYER · ARCHITECTS  
KIFF, COLEAN, VOSS & SOUDER

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

AARON N. KIFF, A. I. A.  
RUSSELL COLEAN, A. I. A.  
FREDERICK H. VOSS, A. I. A.  
JAMES J. SOUDER, A. I. A.

EDGAR ALBRIGHT, R. A.  
HARRY R. ALLEN, R. A.  
JOHN W. FRANKLIN, R. A.  
HARRY W. McCONNELL, R. A.  
EDWARD J. OLIVINE, R. A.  
A. J. PATRIZIO, R. A.  
LOUIS C. ROSENBERG, R. A.  
JOHN O. ROSS, R. A.  
SAMUEL M. KURTZ, R. A.  
J. L. HAMILTON  
WILLIAM C. JAEGER, JR.  
JOSEPH C. RAZZA  
MARY T. WORTHEN  
DOROTHY E. WOLF

December 20, 1956

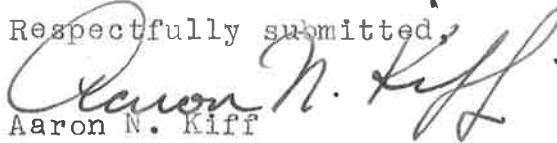
Jury of Fellows  
The American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

*ack 1/16/57*  
*B*

Gentlemen:

The nomination of Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute, has been endorsed by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter of which I am a member. I wish to add my personal, hearty endorsement to Mr. Smith's candidacy in the field of architectural design. I have known him for many years, and have found him to be an untiring worker for the Institute as well as a practitioner with the highest standards, both as to the practice of architecture and as related to the designed product itself. I heartily recommend his advancement in the profession by this great honor.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron N. Kiff  
Treasurer, New York Chapter  
American Institute of Architects

ANK/JY

VOORHEES WALKER SMITH & SMITH

*Architects*

101 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 17 • NEW YORK

STEPHEN F. VOORHEES, R.A.  
RALPH WALKER, R.A.  
PERRY COKE SMITH, R.A.  
BENJAMIN LANE SMITH, R.A.

December 31, 1956

MAURICE GAUTHIER  
HARRY TAYLOR GHERARDI  
CHARLES HAINES  
JOSEPH L. HAUTMAN  
CHARLES L. MACCHI  
FRANK J. ROORDA  
JAMES J. BUCKRIDGE

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

Gentlemen:

As a member of the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, I am writing to endorse the nomination for Fellowship in the Institute of Mr. B. L. Smith.

I wish to state prior to going into further detail that I have been associated with the firm of Voorhees Walker Smith & Smith since 1946 and am currently so engaged. It is because of this connection that I have been able to observe and appreciate the philosophies and attitudes which have guided Mr. Smith in his practice. This understanding leads me to enthusiastically support his nomination.

His most successful efforts have been with the design of technical buildings with complex requirements for services and equipment. The caliber of these efforts is reflected in the meeting of all such requirements in buildings which also achieve an architectural character and expression of a high order.

Complementing the handling of such buildings is the expansion of the problem into projects involving several buildings. The problems of site planning, building masses and relationships, services to many points, all executed with the same perception, care and taste, indicate Mr. Smith's particular ability in

ack 1/17/57  
B

December 31, 1956

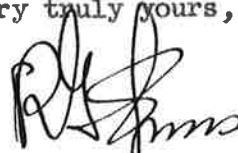
continued:

these fields.

An example of the first type is the General Electric Laboratories at Schenectady, N. Y., a case in point of the multi-building problem is the Ford Research Center at Dearborn, Michigan.

These are typical of the reasons why I recommend him to you as eminently qualified for elevation to Fellowship.

Very truly yours,



Roger G. Spross

POMERANCE & BREINES

RALPH POMERANCE  
SIMON BREINES

ARCHITECTS

33 West 46th Street  
New York 36, N. Y.  
Circle 5-8861

January 3, 1957<sup>5</sup>

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

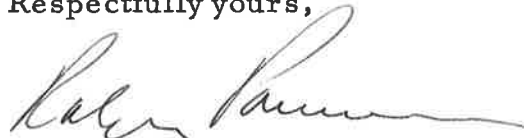
ack 1/17/57  
B

Gentlemen:

This letter is written in full support of the candidacy of Benjamin Lane Smith nominated for Fellowship by the New York Chapter.

Mr. Smith is an outstanding figure in the architectural profession in this city and has to his credit many fine buildings. He has been an active member of the chapter and has served with distinction on many of its committees.

Respectfully yours,



Ralph Pomerance

RP-S



# THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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

January 4, 1957

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

Re: Benjamin Lane Smith, 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 February 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 Benjamin Lane Smith, A.I.A. and return this sheet in the addressed envelope provided.

1. He has many friends who speak well of him but cannot vouch for his accomplishments. \_\_\_\_\_
2. His character is beyond reproach. yes
3. His ethics would be considered acceptable in business. yes
4. I prefer not to comment upon his character. \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely yours,

*Arthur L. ...*

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





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2. His character is beyond reproach.                     Yes
3. His ethics would be considered acceptable in business.                     Yes
4. I prefer not to comment upon his character.                     No

Sincerely yours,

Harold C. Bernhard

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



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2. His character is beyond reproach. yes
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Sincerely yours,

Raymond N. Kiff

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



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2. His character is beyond reproach. YES
3. His ethics would be considered acceptable in business. YES
4. I prefer not to comment upon his character. \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely yours,

L. Banul La Fuy

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



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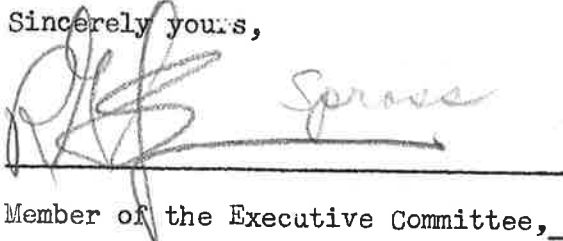
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2. His character is beyond reproach. It is.
3. His ethics would be considered acceptable in business. They are
4. I prefer not to comment upon his character. \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely yours,

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Sincerely yours,

*James H. Woodman*

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



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Sincerely yours,

Genroy H. Lawford,

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





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Washington 6, D. C.

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Sincerely yours,

(Alonzo W Clark)

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



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Washington 6, D. C.

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Sincerely yours,

Frederic G. Lusk, Jr.

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

GUGLER, KIMBALL AND HUSTED, ARCHITECTS

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

ERIC GUGLER  
RICHARD A. KIMBALL  
ELLERY HUSTED  
FERDINAND EISEMAN

BERNARD BECK  
DUANE H. EVERSON  
ALBERT E. FLANAGAN

January 7th, 1957

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

Gentlemen:

It gives me the greatest pleasure to add my enthusiastic recommendation to those you have undoubtedly received that Benjamin Lane Smith be advanced to Fellowship. He richly deserves this distinction.

As a member of an important partnership for the practise of architecture he has had the opportunity to design numerous projects, large and small, and has acquitted himself with distinction.

He is much to be respected. I hope that he may soon become a Fellow.

Respectfully yours,

*Ferdinand Eiseman*

Ferdinand Eiseman

FE/rf

*Edo -  
1-18-57*

January 9, 1957

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

*ack 1/17/57*  
*g*

Re: Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith

Gentlemen:

This is to convey to you my recommendation for the election of Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. I understand that his nomination is based primarily on his achievement in architectural design.

The work of Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith, of which firm Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith is a partner, is of course well known to me. I am not, however, familiar with the extent of Mr. Smith's contributions to such of their outstanding projects, including the Firestone Research Laboratory at Akron, Ohio, Columbia's Cyclotron Building at Irvington, New York, General Electric Company's Research Laboratory at Schenectady, New York, Ford Motor Company's Ford Research Engineering Center at Dearborn, Michigan, The Clinic Building at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan and the Maine Medical Center at Portland, Maine. Still, knowing the high professional standards of Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith, I feel sure there can be no question but that Mr. Benjamin Lane Smith has made substantial contributions to all of their work, both before and since he became a partner.

I have had the pleasure of serving with Mr. Smith on several Boards, including that of the National Institute for Architectural Education, formerly the Beaux Arts Institute of Design. From these contacts with him, I have gained a very high opinion of his ability and the contributions he has made to the general advancement of our profession.

I feel sure that Mr. Smith's advancement to Fellowship is well merited.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick G. Frost, jr.

FGFjr:mjh

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HUGH FERRISS, F.A.I.A.

ARCHITECTS BUILDING  
101 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

January 14, 1957.

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

Gentlemen:

*ack 1/17/57*  
*H*

Regarding the nomination of Benjamin Lane Smith, by the New York Chapter, for advancement to Fellowship:

I have known Ben Smith since he joined this Chapter over ten years ago. Regarding his standing among his professional confreres in this area, his activities as a member of the Chapter and the Institute, and his personal character everything is entirely in his favor.

I would say that principal reason for his advancement to Fellowship at this time rests on the fact, well known in this area, that he has been individually responsible for many of the projects carried out by the firm of which he is a member: Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith, reference being to execution of the projects and very pointedly to their design.

Respectfully yours,

*Hugh Ferriss*

1957  
JAN 14 PM 1:27  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
THE AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

January 18, 1957

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

Gentlemen:

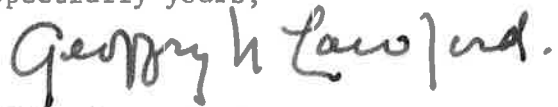
It is a pleasure indeed to write you in support of the candidacy of Benjamin Lane Smith, who has been nominated for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Smith's candidacy has been endorsed by the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, on which I am serving as a member.

Mr. Smith is a distinguished member of a noted firm of architects. His special achievement is in the field of architectural design - design in the fullest sense of the word. He has been actively engaged in the planning of a large number of complex structures of wide variety, showing a degree of skill, ingenuity, and sensitivity in their various solutions, which reflect great credit on him and the profession alike. A notable example is the Ford Research and Engineering Center at Dearborn, Michigan.

Mr. Smith's interests extend also into the field of architectural education. He has taken a most active part in the educational work of the New York Chapter, and has lectured and taught as well.

He is a responsible and talented member of his profession,  
I recommend his elevation to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects without reservation.

Respectfully yours,



Geoffry N. Lawford

GNL:es