

October 17, 1951

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

Gentlemen:

This is written to endorse heartily the nomination of Eero Saarinen for Fellowship in the Institute.

His outstanding contribution is in the field of design. Eero has to contend with the reputation of his father, himself a brilliant designer of international reputation. Over a period of years I have made very frequent visits to the office and concluded to my own satisfaction that the recent design work of the firm has been quite preponderantly the work of Eero. The division could be quite easily traced between projects such as the Des Moines Art Center, predominantly the older man's, and the General Motors Technical Center or Drake University or the beautiful Christ Church in Minneapolis, all in varying degrees showing strongly the hand of the son.

Apart from the heartening perpetuation of skill, there is a perpetuation in Eero Saarinen of something even more uniquely valuable in our present time--the tradition of slow, careful, thoughtful work brought to a rounded completion. However passionately I might myself love the purposes of contemporary architecture, I must confess that the facile use of some of its cliched forms can be more of an abomination than a production of designs for which at least the stone mason performed some labor. It is in this respect that the office of Eero Saarinen continues to sort the sheep from the goats and to separate the boys from the men.

On top of that, I find him an ever stimulating thinker and an honest searcher.

In the opinion of dozens of architects and critics, whose opinions I respect and to whom I have put the current question about "the ten best buildings since World War II," a large majority have listed the General Motors Technical Center among these achievements.

The Jury of Fellows

Page two

October 17, 1951

I believe that it would be difficult to find another architect not yet granted the Fellowship who so richly qualifies for it as Eero Saarinen.

Sincerely yours,

*Douglas Haskell*

Douglas Haskell, AIA  
Architectural Editor

**PERKINS  
& WILL**  
ARCHITECTS  
ENGINEERS

September 20, 1951

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

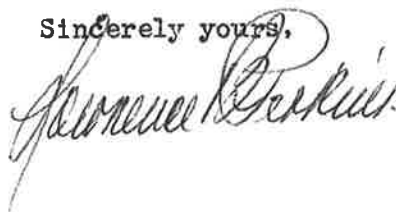
Gentlemen:

This letter is to endorse the nomination of Eero Saarinen for elevation to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

With or without his famous father, Eero Saarinen would be an important leader in architectural design in America. In my opinion he is not a but the leader in the creative phases of current architectural design.

I know him very well and have seen him tested in a variety of circumstances over a period of years. He is a gentleman of unshakable honor, an architect of great effectiveness, as well as a designer of international importance. I can't imagine anyone we would rather point to as a Fellow of our American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence B. Perkins  
LBP:cg

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LAWRENCE B. PERKINS, A.I.A. • JOHN C. GOODALL • JOHN E. STARRETT, M.E. • F. LEE COCHRAN, A.I.A. • PHILIP WILL, JR., A.I.A.

ILLINOIS: 309 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD, CHICAGO 6 • HARRISON 7-7925  
NEW YORK: 171 EAST POST ROAD, WHITE PLAINS • WHITE PLAINS 8-6490

PIETRO BELLUSCHI, F.A.I.A.

*Architect*

To the Jury of Fellows:

In my opinion very few architects in the country today are more deserving of the honor of being elevated to Fellowship of the Institute than Eero Saarinen, whom I have known and greatly admired for many years. My endorsement is wholehearted.

*Pietro Belluschi*

September 21, 1951

Dean Pietro Belluschi  
School of Architecture and Planning  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
77 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

DOUGLAS WILLIAM ORR, F. A. I. A.  
ARCHITECT  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Chairman of the Jury of Fellows      September 26, 1951  
The American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

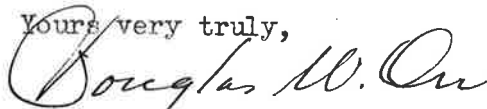
Dear Sir:

I am informed that Mr. Eero Saarinen of the Detroit Chapter has been nominated for Fellowship in The Institute, and I would like to support his nomination for advancement.

I know Mr. Saarinen very well, in fact am associated with him on projects at Yale University. He is a designer of contemporary work of the highest order, a truly distinguished son of a noted Father, recipient of the A.I.A. Gold Medal.

I believe his election to the Fellowship would contribute added strength, particularly on the design side, to that body and I whole heartily urge favorable action.

Yours very truly,



Douglas W. Orr

DWO/js

CLAIR W. DITCHY  
ARCHITECT  
5 WEST LARNED  
DETROIT

October 17, 1951

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

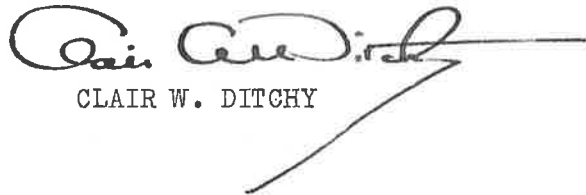
Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to have the privilege of offering a letter in support of the nomination for Fellowship of Eero Saarinen.

Following in the footsteps of his illustrious father, his record has established him as one of our outstanding younger architects. His work has brought him international acclaim as well as the profound admiration of his fellow architects in America.

He has practised with dignity and integrity and has attracted honor to the profession. I feel that his advancement to Fellowship has been richly earned.

Yours very truly,



CLAIR W. DITCHY

CWD/rh

WASHINGTON  UNIVERSITY  
SAINT LOUIS (5), MO.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

October 4, 1951

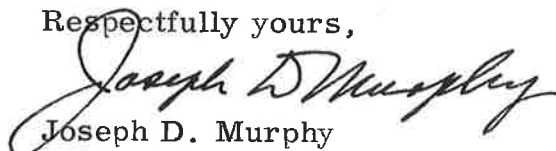
To the Jury of Fellows  
of the American Institute of Architects  
The Octogan  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is with genuine pleasure that I endorse the nomination of Eero Saarinen for fellowship in the Institute. His achievement in design is well known to all of us. It is of such high quality and distinguished character as to reflect credit upon our profession. His work expresses his personal good character, high ideals and integrity.

The bestowal of this honor of our Institute upon Eero Saarinen will do credit to our profession and I am happy to recommend him to your kind consideration.

Respectfully yours,



Joseph D. Murphy  
Dean, School of Architecture  
President, St. Louis Chapter, AIA

JDM/hw

HARLEY, ELLINGTON AND DAY, INC.  
*Architects and Engineers*

ALVIN E. HARLEY, F.A.I.A.  
HAROLD S. ELLINGTON, A.S.C.E.  
CLARENCE E. DAY, A.I.A.  
FRED M. HARLEY, A.I.A.  
JULIAN R. COWIN, A.I.A.  
MALCOLM R. STIRTON, A.I.A.

CABLE ADDRESS  
"HARELLDAY"

153 E. ELIZABETH STREET  
DETROIT 1, MICHIGAN  
WOODWARD 2-7080

October 4, 1951

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

Gentlemen:

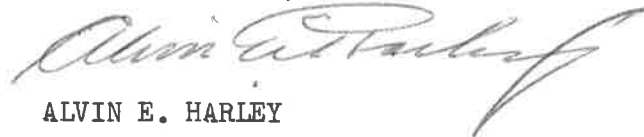
The Detroit Chapter of A. I. A. has nominated Mr. Eero Saarinen for Fellowship in the Institute.

I have known Mr. Saarinen for a great many years, have had the privilege of working with him on our Civic Development for the City of Detroit, and his contribution to civic design has been outstanding.

Mr. Saarinen has rendered invaluable service to his profession, the Chapter and the Institute. He is now President of the Detroit Chapter, A. I. A., and is doing a very excellent job. His remarkable ability in architecture and design and his contribution to progressive thinking in architecture most certainly qualifies him for Fellowship in the Institute.

I take great pleasure in endorsing Mr. Saarinen for this honor.

Sincerely yours,



ALVIN E. HARLEY

AEH:lw





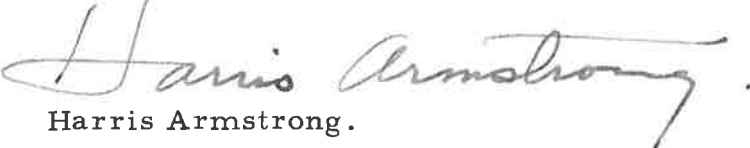
HARRIS ARMSTRONG • AIA • 3 SAPPINGTON SPUR • KIRKWOOD 22 • MISSOURI

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

Gentlemen:

I wish to support the proposal that  
Eero Saarinen be made a fellow of  
The Institute as I feel that he is a  
great designer and a very conscien-  
tious architect.

Sincerely,

  
Harris Armstrong.

September 20, 1951

BIGGS, WEIR AND CHANDLER  
ARCHITECTS, CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
224 NORTH CONGRESS STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

20 September 1951

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

Gentlemen:

I wish to endorse the nomination of Mr. Eero Saarinen, A.I.A. for Fellowship in the Institute on what I consider to be the worthiest of bases.

- a. For his devotion to his profession.
- b. For his outstanding contributions to the art and science of its practice.
- c. For his unselfish and inspiring leadership of the young men of the profession.

Very truly yours,

  
Thos. J. Biggs, A.I.A.

TJB/h

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

1 October 1951

The Jury of Fellows  
American Institute of Architects

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that it is proposed to honor Eero Saarinen with the title of Fellow.

This is most appropriate for Eero Saarinen represents the very highest type of architect. His studies have never ended, nor ever will; his work is superb; his ethics are of the very best. He does not seem to aspire to power or wish to rear up an administrative colossus, which in the end has always defeated artistry.

He has somehow escaped by his own hard work and genius the shadow of a famous father and yet given no hurt in the process.

In my touch with young people I hold Eero Saarinen's ideals as being those which should examine for they bear scrutiny.

With all his success in a materialistic surrounding he will take the opportunity, I think, of growing in social consciousness.

Sincerely yours

*William Wilson Wurster.*

William Wilson Wurster, Dean  
School of Architecture

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN • ANN ARBOR  
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN  
WELLS BENNETT, DEAN

September 7, 1951

JURY OF FELLOWS  
The American Institute of Architects

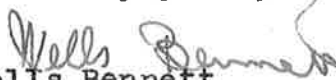
Gentlemen:

I have just been informed that Eero Saarinen of the Detroit Chapter is being considered for nomination to a Fellowship in the Institute.

The brilliant son of a brilliant father, Eero Saarinen has developed not only as a designer but as a thoughtful architect and a person. In these respects he stands squarely on his own feet and eventually may well surpass his father's attainments. I believe the Institute will honor itself in honoring him among our brilliant younger men.

It is a great pleasure to add my recommendation to the others that will reach you.

Sincerely yours,

  
Wells Bennett

WB/rjr

OFFICERS

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DETROIT CHAPTER  
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
TALMAGE C. HUGHES, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
120 MADISON AVENUE  
DETROIT 26, MICHIGAN

September 5, 1951

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

Gentlemen:

Mr. Eero Saarinen, nominated by the Detroit Chapter for Fellowship in The Institute, is known to me personally as a member of a distinguished family. It has been my good fortune to know his father, mother and sister, and to visit at the family home.

Ever since Mr. Eliel Saarinen came to Cranbrook, He and Eero have contributed a great deal to the architectural profession in this state, and have been most cooperative in helping others, both young and old, to gain higher education in city planning and other attributes of our profession.

Not only is he a most distinguished practitioner, but he has been willing to contribute of his valuable time to currently serve as president of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. While he has held that office for only a few months, he has already shown marked aptitude toward elevating the Chapter and initiating projects that are bound to reflect great credit to the profession and to The Institute.

It is my sincere conviction that Mr. Saarinen deserves the high honor for which his Chapter has nominated him.

Sincerely yours

  
Talmage C. Hughes

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

JOHN N. RICHARDS, DIRECTOR, GREAT LAKES DISTRICT  
518 JEFFERSON AVENUE, TOLEDO, OHIO

September 4, 1951

Re: Mr. Eero Saarinen, A.I.A.,  
Bloomfield, Hills, Michigan

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

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to support the nomination of Mr. Eero Saarinen, A.I.A., for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Saarinen's ability as a designer is well known to all members of his profession. His feeling for use of materials in their correct locations and in the spirit of present day construction methods is most commendable.

As a planner of cities and great areas, he has been an inspiration to architects over the nation.

His deep and serious thinking relative to the basic concepts of architecture is invigorating to his profession.

As President of the Detroit Chapter, he is very capably directing the affairs and business of that group.

He is most deserving of the honor tendered to him by his fellow architects in his nomination for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Very truly yours,

John N. Richards  
Regional Director

JNR:hs