

# PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE

REINHOLD PUBLISHING CORPORATION 330 WEST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y. ★ BRYANT 9-4430

December 4, 1950

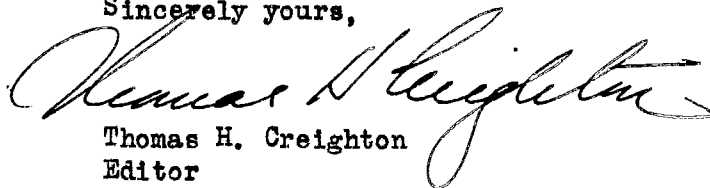
Jury of Fellows of the A.I.A.  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am informed that the Fellowship Committee of the New York Chapter has nominated Roland A. Wank for Fellowship. I have known Mr. Wank for a long time, through various aspects of his architectural practice. The work that he did as principal architect for the TVA, and later as the consulting architect for that body, not only helped to accomplish a great planning phenomenon but did a great deal to influence trends in architectural design in the United States. Later, while he was associated with Albert Kahn's office in Detroit, his design abilities strongly influenced the work of that firm in the design of important industrial centers. His abilities continue to be important in more than a local sense in his present capacity with Felheimer & Wagner.

In addition to his achievements as an architect, Mr. Wank has made his influence felt through his writings and lecturing. I believe strongly that he is an important individual figure in American architecture and deserves to be recognized by a Fellowship in the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H. Creighton  
Editor

THC: sm

EARLE S. DRAPER  
CONSULTANT  
SUITE 42  
1737 H STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.  
NATIONAL 8550

December 5, 1950

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

Gentlemen:

I am writing to indorse the nomination of Roland A. Wank as Fellow, American Institute of Architects. I knew Mr. Wank intimately, personally and professionally, during the period from 1933 to 1940 when I was Director of Land Planning and Housing, later Director of Regional Planning Studies, Tennessee Valley Authority, at the beginning of which period I selected him to be the Chief Architect for our division and gave him full responsibility for design of major architectural projects coming within the scope of our work. Included in this was the preparation of preliminary design of all major structures built by TVA, i. e., power houses and dams. I consider Mr. Wank, more than any other individual, as responsible for the modern concept of dams and power houses in this country, which concept the Norris Dam pioneered. His work had tremendous influence in causing a departure from the traditional design of structures of this type. In addition to dams and power houses, he was responsible for design of bridges, park structures, and the like.

Mr. Wank is one of the most understanding and thorough architects with whom it has been my pleasure to work. He had my entire confidence and I greatly respected his ability.

It gives me great pleasure to indorse Mr. Wank.

Sincerely yours,



Earle S. Draper

Fairleigh Dickinson College  
Rutherford, New Jersey

PETER SAMMARTINO  
PRESIDENT

December 5, 1950

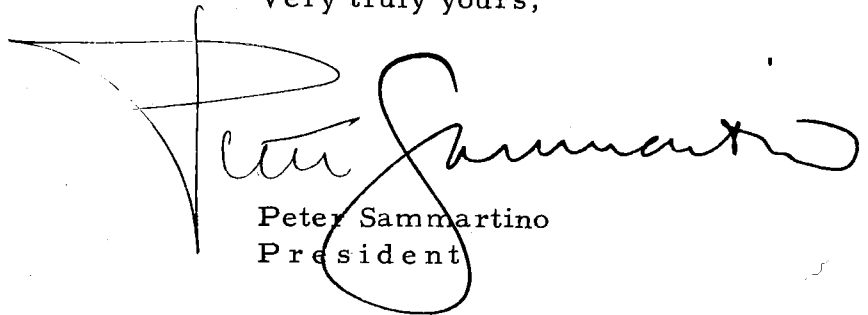
Jury on Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I think very highly of the work of Mr. Roland Wank, who has been nominated as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Wank was mainly responsible for our new Gymnasium and Student Building, and he had a very difficult task of adapting contemporary architecture to other buildings of various vintages. This he did very cleverly and the building has aroused a great deal of very favorable comment.

Very truly yours,



Peter Sammartino  
President

PS:ab

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

COPY

*Handwritten mark*

*file*

December 6, 1950

Dear Clarence:

I have made it a rule not to recommend anybody to the Jury of Fellows during my Presidency. I have only broken this one and that was in the case of Welles Bosworth who, at plus forty, has been long overlooked and forgotten.

I do think, of course, that Roland Wank is deserving of Fellowship in The Institute.

Sincerely,

Ralph Walker

Mr. Clarence S. Stein  
1 West 64th Street  
New York 23, N. Y.

cc: Mr. Purves ✓

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
1735 N. Y. AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

PETER A. FRASSE & CO., INC.

17 GRAND STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

LESTER BRION  
PRESIDENT

December 5, 1950

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

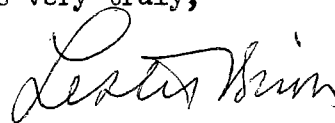
Gentlemen:

I am honored to be permitted to recommend Mr. Roland Wank as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Wank has worked with me, designing several buildings for my company, some of which are in the process of erection at the present time. I consider him a man of outstanding ability in his profession.

I hope the Jury will consider his name favorably.

Yours very truly,



LB:MS

OTHMAR H. AMMANN  
CHARLES S. WHITNEY

MILTON BRUMER  
WERNER AMMANN  
BOYD G. ANDERSON  
JAMES S. WHITNEY

MILWAUKEE OFFICE  
611 N. BROADWAY  
MILWAUKEE 2, WISCONSIN  
BROADWAY 6-8374

## AMMANN & WHITNEY

*Consulting Engineers*

76 NINTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

WATKINS 4-8282

DESIGN AND SUPERVISION  
OF CONSTRUCTION  
OF  
BRIDGES  
SPECIAL STRUCTURES  
INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
FOUNDATIONS AND BUILDINGS  
AIRPORT FACILITIES  
EXPRESSWAYS  
INVESTIGATIONS & REPORTS

December 7, 1950

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

Gentlemen:

Mr. Roland Wank, as architect for the New Jersey Turnpike, has been closely associated with me on the design of about forty bridges on Section 6 of the New Jersey Turnpike, including the Passaic River Bridge, the main span of which will be the longest plate girder span in this country.

I hold Mr. Wank in very high esteem, and am pleased to add my recommendation to those of his other sponsors.

Very truly yours,



Milton Brumer

MB:cml



ESTABLISHED 1928

# MAHONY-TROAST CONSTRUCTION CO.

INCORPORATED

657 MAIN AVENUE

PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY

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PAUL L. TROAST  
PRESIDENT

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE  
1500 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 2, PA.

December 8, 1950.

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

Gentlemen:

It has been my privilege to know Mr. Roland Wank over a period of years and I can unqualifiedly endorse his nomination as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

In my current position as Chairman of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, I have had occasion to meet rather regularly with Mr. Wank in the discussion of all of the architectural features of the New Jersey Turnpike as it refers to major bridges, administration building, concession areas, maintenance buildings and other features.

Prior to this association I have greatly admired his contribution on other major projects as well as his standing in the profession. I believe that he has well earned this honor for which he has been nominated.

Sincerely yours,

MAHONY-TROAST CONSTRUCTION CO.

Paul L. Troast, President.

PLT:dm

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



FREDERICK H. ZURMUHLEN, P.E., R.A.  
COMMISSIONER

MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

December 8, 1950

In Reply Refer To:-

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

Gentlemen:

I was delighted to learn that my good friend Roland Wank was nominated as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

I have known him ever since our college years and I had a chance to observe the development of his professional career. His contribution to make the T.V.A. one of the outstanding Architectural Engineering Achievements of the country is well known to all of us. Being in personal contact with him, I had many opportunities to observe his keen analytical mind and creative ability at work, not to speak of the many literary contributions from time to time.

At present his firm is engaged on two major hospital projects for the City of New York, and I believe that his association with the work will add a great deal to the excellence of the design. These are the addition of a new Surgical Suite and Operating Rooms at Bellevue Hospital, the alterations to the Out-Patient Clinics at Bellevue Hospital, and in partnership with York and Sawyer, Architects, the new 750 bed Elmhurst General Hospital, New York.

I was very glad that you called on me for references.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert B. Bauer".

ALBERT B. BAUER  
Senior Architect - Hospitals



JOHN W. RYAN CONSTRUCTION CO.

INCORPORATED

369 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 5-5065

December 8, 1950

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

Gentlemen:

It gave me great pleasure to learn that Mr. Roland Wank has been nominated as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

The New York Chapter can be proud at having sponsored Mr. Wank and the Institute could not extend it's welcome to a finer individual.

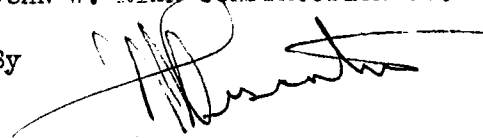
Having worked with Mr. Wank on Projects involving several million dollars over the past few years, we in this office have found him to be sound and practical, his vision and foresight coupled with his creative ability is of the highest degree, his spirit of cooperation and willingness to help get things done is unsurpassed in his field.

In accepting Mr. Wank the Institute can truthfully boast of having added another great Architect to it's Association of Great Fellows.

Yours very truly,

JOHN W. RYAN CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.

By



N. J. Pescatore  
Treasurer

NJP:le

HAHNE & COMPANY  
NEWARK AND MONTCLAIR

J. C. BUCK  
PRESIDENT

December 9, 1950

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

Gentlemen:

In answer to your inquiry regarding Mr. Roland Wank I am happy to say I have worked with Mr. Wank and the other members of his firm over a period of the last couple of years.

During this time I have always had genuine respect for his opinions. He has always been most cooperative and always a gentleman. I am glad to recommend him to you.

Yours very truly,



JCB enm

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY  
RUTHERFORD, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 11, 1950

Gentlemen:

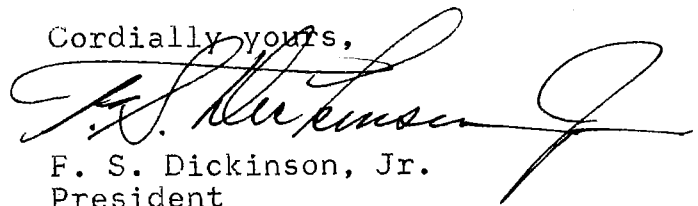
It is my understanding that Mr. Roland Wank has been nominated and is being considered as a fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Wank and I have worked together on building projects for this Company for the past four years. I am not, of course, as a layman qualified to judge the technical aspects of Mr. Wank's capabilities. It is possible, however, for me to have formed the clear opinion that he has been of outstanding assistance in our construction program.

It is additionally my opinion that he has successfully combined the pragmatic criteria of industrial architecture with the aesthetics of good design to an extent which is all too seldom seen. I feel, also, that our industrial properties are immeasurably improved as the result of his work and assistance.

It is a privilege to endorse Mr. Wank's nomination and I do so without qualification.

Cordially yours,



F. S. Dickinson, Jr.  
President

FSD,Jr:h

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

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

December 12, 1950.

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

Gentlemen:

This is in response to Mr. Clarence S. Stein's request of December 5 for information concerning Mr. Roland A. Wank.

Mr. Wank was employed with TVA from August 1933 until September 1944, when he resigned from his position as Head Architect to re-enter private practice. Since 1944 he has served TVA as a consultant in connection with architectural work being performed by TVA.

Mr. Wank's contribution to TVA architecture is generally considered outstanding. At the time of his resignation his supervisor made the following comment, which is typical of previous evaluations of his services:

Mr. Wank's architectural contribution to TVA has been that of a genius. It is my opinion that Mr. Wank is the outstanding architect in the United States in the design of dams and powerhouses. He made his contribution under circumstances which required great perseverance, initiative, persuasiveness, and diplomacy which he demonstrated he possessed in unusual degree.

There is little that I can add to these comments except to say that members of the staff hold in highest esteem Mr. Wank's professional and personal qualifications.

Sincerely yours,

  
Gordon R. Clapp  
Chairman of the Board

# Johnson & Johnson

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.  
December 7, 1950

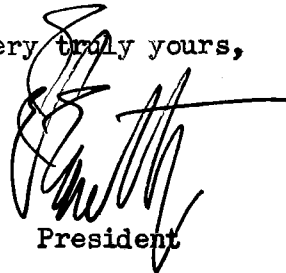
Jury on Fellows  
American Institute of Architects  
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is gratifying to write on behalf of  
Mr. Roland Wank who has been nominated as a Fellow  
of the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Wank served Johnson & Johnson with  
outstanding satisfaction to us in at least one phase  
of our building program. Moreover, as the architect  
of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, of which I am  
a member, Mr. Wank is more than living up to our ex-  
pectations.

Very truly yours,



President

Geo. F. Smith  
MJ

# Johnson & Johnson

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

December 18, 1950

Jury of Fellows of the A.I.A.  
1741 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stein:

Your recent note concerning Mr. Roland Wank is before me.

Mr. Wank was the director of our recent Shipping Center project in behalf of Fellheimer & Wagner.

If I were a member of the Jury of Fellows I would be happy to welcome Mr. Wank to become one of us.

He has shown to us that he is extremely able and competent to meet conditions as they exist. We are very proud of his accomplishment on an industrial building and we feel sure that we would have been equally proud had we asked him to design a memorial.

We would heartily recommend him.

Very truly yours,  
JOHNSON & JOHNSON



F. Nason Manley  
Director of Construction