

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

November 30, 1960

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

Re: Frederick LeRoy Confer, A.I.A.

To Members of
The Executive Committee, East Bay 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 Frederick LeRoy Confer, 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? Outstanding

Roland G. ...
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 29 1960

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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

Robert B. Miles

(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 13 1960

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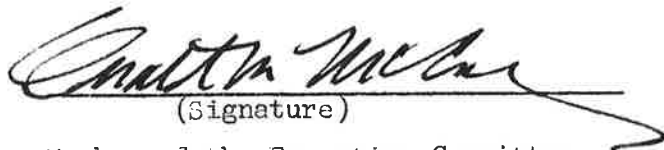
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- 1. Has he many friends who speak well of him? yes
- 2. Do they also vouch for his accomplishments? yes
- 3. Would his ethics be acceptable in business? yes
- 4. What is your opinion of his character? _____

Those who know him well state that he is of the highest possible character.


(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

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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? Good

John Smith
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 23 1960

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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? _____

see letter dated DECEMBER 19, 1960

William J. King
(Signature) SECRETARY

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

DEC 22 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



The Oclagon · 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? EXCELLENT

George M. ...
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

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DEC 19 1960

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? Very good

Paul Simonds (Simonds)
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

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DEC 9 1960

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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

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

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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? His character is of the best. I was associated with him for 6 1/2 years, and during that time he always exhibited the finest qualities one could expect of any person.

Poland K. Kuechle
(Signature)

Member of the Executive Committee, East Bay Chapter, A.I.A.

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DEC 12 1960

TREICHEL & GIBBS

ARCHITECTS

360 SEVENTEENTH STREET
OAKLAND 12, CALIFORNIA
Hlgate 4-5880

December 19, 1960

Jury of Fellows
Amer. Inst. of Architects
1735 New York Ave. N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

This letter is in support of Frederick L. Confer for advancement to Fellowship in the A.I.A.

I have known Mr. Confer for the past twenty years, and during this time have had opportunity to observe what a credit he is, and has been, to our profession during this time. Mr. Confer's work has, of course, changed with the times, but his work from the beginning to the present time has been consistently distinguished.

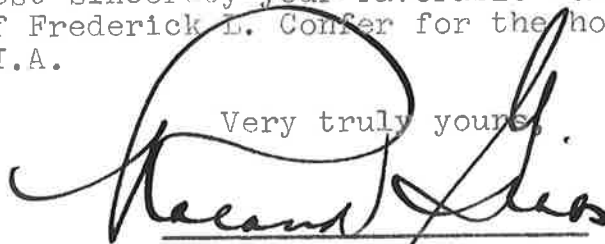
Mr. Confer's identity with public service is established locally. He has been Chairman of the Board of Architects for the Oakland Civic Center, Supervising Architect for the Pittsburgh Civic Center, and the Contra Costa Civic Center; and Director of the Contra Costa County Development Association.

Mr. Confer was honored in winning the House Beautiful Competition with his Haines Hall Residence, Sausalito, in 1937, and the C.B. Johnson Residence, Orinda, in 1938. The Jellett Furniture Building, Lafayette, built in 1947 was exhibited at the Sixth Pan-American Congress of Architects in Lima, Peru.

The American Institute of Architects has recognized his talents with it's 1953 Award of Merit for the Blue Cross Building, Oakland, and Award of Honor in 1953 for the Weinand Residence in San Francisco. Other buildings now under construction such as Hall of Justice, Oakland, and the Veteran's Hospital, Martinez, will bring further honor to Mr. Confer on completion.

Fred is presently chairman of the Oakland Housing Architects, of which our firm is a member; with the intimate knowledge of his ability that this association has brought me, I recommend with greatest sincerity your favorable consideration of the application of Frederick L. Confer for the honor of Fellowship in the A.I.A.

Very truly yours,



Roland Gibbs, President,
East Bay Chapter, AIA

CORLETT AND SPACKMAN

347 CLAY STREET SAN FRANCISCO
TELEPHONE: YUKON 2-1838

ARCHITECTS
WILLIAM CORLETT
WENDELL R. SPACKMAN
WILBUR STEELE ROGERS
PETER H. SKAER

December 8, 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 be afforded this opportunity of supporting the nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for advancement to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

I have enthusiastically observed Mr. Confer's professional practice in the San Francisco Bay Area since he started in 1933. During that period he has designed many buildings of outstanding quality, several of which have received national recognition.

The Blue Cross Building in Oakland received an A.I.A. Award of Merit in 1953 and the Wienand Residence in San Francisco received an A.I.A. Award of Honor in the same year. Both of these structures are in my opinion excellent designs as are the Jellett Building in Lafayette, the Contra Costa Administration Building in Martinez and numerous other projects with which I am quite familiar and which I believe have been admirably conceived.

Beyond his design interests, Mr. Confer has been very active in professional and civic activities having served on numerous boards and committees in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. I have personally experienced a very fine relationship with him in his knowledgeable and efficient handling of the position of Supervising Architect for Contra Costa County.

It is an honor to commend Frederick Confer to you for his many contributions toward the advancement of better design within our profession and I sincerely recommend him for your favorable consideration in electing him to a deserving fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully yours,

W. Spackman
Wendell R. Spackman, A.I.A.

WRS/kg

DEC 13 1960

Robert B. Liles . . . ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER

Reply to:

340 PINE STREET
Telephone DOUGLAS 2-4175
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.

~~416 GREENWOOD AVENUE
Telephone KELLOGG 2-6973
OAKLAND 9, CALIFORNIA~~

December 20, 1960

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

Attention: Jury of Fellows

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

As a member of the Executive Committee of the East Bay Chapter A.I.A., it is my responsibility to direct a letter to you relative to Fredrick L.R. Confer, a member of this Chapter, who has been proposed for Fellowship.

As an individual, I am only casually acquainted with Mr. Confer. I am very well acquainted with his present partner, Mr. Ray Willis. Mr. Willis has always spoken most highly of Mr. Confer to me long before any mention was made of Fellowship.

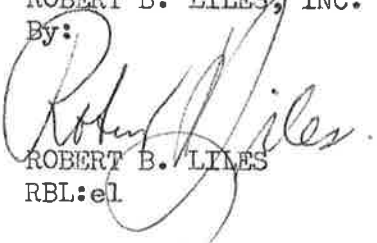
I am familiar with many of the residences and other buildings that Mr. Confer has designed throughout his many years of practice. Even the modest homes designed by Mr. Confer during the depression possessed a character and charm readily recognizable.

It is my personal opinion that he is an outstanding member of the profession. His work has developed a reputation with the general public which has given added stature to the architectural profession.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT B. LILES, INC.

By:


ROBERT B. LILES
RBL:el

architect

27 December 1960

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

Re: Candidate for Fellowship
Frederick Leroy Confer, AIA

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

As a member of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, I urge your serious consideration of Mr. Frederick Leroy Confer for Fellowship in the Institute.

Mr. Confer graduated from the University of California and has practiced architecture in the metropolitan San Francisco area since the early nineteen thirties. During this time he established himself as a vigorous and creative designer. In the late thirties and early forties Mr. Confer was one of the leaders of this area in the development of a fresh, vigorous contemporary architecture.

Mr. Confer's practice has displayed a continuous development of a sound architectural philosophy, based upon an imaginative approach to design and planning. His present work is mature and well founded and yet without loss of freshness of approach.

If there is a "Bay Area Style", then Mr. Confer must be included as a designer who has created some of the most outstanding buildings in this area. Many projects have been awarded national prizes and honors.

Mr. Confer has been active in the Institute and is an energetic, active member of the community. He is a man of integrity, well liked by his friends and all who meet him. Mr. Confer would be an asset to the College of Fellows of the Institute.

Sincerely,



Gerald M. McCue
Director
East Bay Chapter, American Institute of Architects

BELAND AND GIANELLI • ARCHITECTS

924 BROWN STREET - NAPA, CALIF.
1221 MONTEREY ST. - VALLEJO, CALIF.



December 21, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:


It was a great pleasure to have had a part in the nomination of Mr. Fred Confer for Fellowship in the A.I.A.

I am quite familiar with the high standards of design Fred's office has continually provided, from small residences to some very fine large office buildings such as the Blue Cross Building in Oakland and the County Office Building in Martinez.

This office worked with Mr. Confer in his capacity as supervising architect for the County of Contra Costa and we found him to be extremely helpful and cooperative.

Mr. Confer's activities have been, in my opinion, an asset to the profession of architecture.

Very truly yours,
BELAND & GIANELLI, ARCHITECTS


Robert J. Gianelli, AIA

RJG:dd

DEC 23 1960

PHONE NAPA BA 6-6334

VALLEJO MI 4-4069

DECEMBER 19, 1960

Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
The Octagon - 1735 NEW YORK AVE. N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

FACTUAL

CONFIDENTIAL

✓ Re: Frederick Le Roy Confer A.I.A.
Carl I. Warnecke A.I.A.

candidates for advancement to Fellowship in the Institute

Gentlemen:

Both Carl Warnecke and Fred Confer have been practicing Architecture for a long period of time. There isn't any question that these men have been associated with and in some measure responsible for some of the finer Architecture in our area (Bay Area Architecture is among the finest in the U.S.A.)

I know both of these men personally, and for some time have pondered the problem of how best to relate to the jury my recommendations for advancement.

Initially, my response is negative. A Fellow to most architects is the mark of highest achievement, and therefore the criteria should be rigorous. One begins, unfortunately, by examining and scrutinizing the failings of these men. In fact, if you would request a statement from each of the proposed candidates regarding the other - I feel - they would advise that you would be making the greatest error if you should elect the other to fellowship. There are years of keen competition between these offices, when both have strived for commissions. By contrast, they have cooperated on the same ~~com~~ Commission.

I am particularly aware of many unfortunate employer-employee relations in both offices. Again, if you should enquire of their "displaced personnel" you could find many with disrespectful, and unkindly attitudes towards both men.

attitudes

(over)

DEC 22 1960

Then too, there are the unhappy clients, that if the jury would entertain their complaints, they would be strongly influenced against awarding a fellow to the candidates.

But after all is said done - These men are men
- not angels - not devils

They have had to survive economic and political patterns in order to:
- exist
- demonstrate their capabilities
- produce the architecture they have

- by comparison to most of the Architecture in the U.S.A (Bay Area Architecture rates very high)
- by comparison to most of the Architecture in our area
- on the basis of growth, integrity, and improvement
- for the work they have produced

I concur with the recommendations of our Chapter's Award and Scholarship Committee, that -

Fred Confer
Carl Warnecke

be considered for advancement to Fellow by the Jury of Fellows.

Sincerely


NATHAN KUPER

SECRETARY

EAST BAY CHAPTER A. I. A.

ALVIN FINGADO
GEORGE T. KERN
ARCHITECTS

December 8, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

This is written in enthusiastic support of the nomination of Frederick LeRoy Confer to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I believe that he should be elected in the category of Design.

Prior to World War II for a period of about ten years, Mr. Confer conducted his own practice primarily in the field of residential design. A number of his residences received national awards and recognition.

An example of this work with which I am very familiar is the Telfer house, located on Belrose Avenue in Berkeley, which established a parti which has been widely imitated. The lot was a very narrow one; the bedroom and service wing was placed parallel and close to one side-property line and the living room at right angles to this at the rear of the property, thus creating an extremely pleasant entry and living court, with privacy rendered by a double carport across the front.

After World War II, his practice developed into buildings of larger scope primarily in the realm of public and commercial buildings. Prime examples of these are as follows:

1. Blue Cross Building, Oakland, California which received a national A.I.A. award several years ago. Dominant characteristic is the stacked balconies across the front which relieve the usual two dimensional appearance of downtown office buildings.
2. Bond's Clothing Store and Smith's Clothing Store, Oakland, which are both examples of large scale commercial remodeling in which obsolete buildings were brought up to and beyond modern standards. The latter, which I think was done shortly after World War II, was clad in a kind of corrugated aluminum, quite unconventional at that time.
3. Westbrook Store and Shops, Oakland, a building of about five stories whose street floor show windows were recessed to allow a generous shelter for window shoppers, and the floors above treated as a solid facade in brick of warm variegated colors. This is a favorite of mine.

DEC 19 1960


(over)

4. The multi-story administration building for the County of Contra Costa, a fine example of the use of porcelain enamel exterior wall, detailed without use of the exterior grid which has been so overdone recently.

Mr. Confer's design and administrative ability was recognized in past years by chairmanship of the Board of Architects for the Oakland Civic Center, among other important posts, and currently as Supervising Architect for Contra Costa County, one of the most rapidly growing counties in the United States whose population is now in excess of 400,000. He was also a Director of the East Bay Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, in its formative years, and a charter member in 1947.

In my opinion, and certainly this is widely shared, he is one of the half dozen leading architects in the Bay Area from the standpoint of Design. Freshness and imagination characterizes this man's work which is entirely out of the ordinary. There is an elegance, without pretension or self-consciousness, which I admire particularly. If an exhibit only communicates partially the quality of his work to the Jury, I believe you will agree he will be a distinguished Fellow.

Very truly yours,



George T. Kern
Director and Past President
East Bay Chapter
The American Institute of Architects

GTK:em

R O L A N D K. K U E C H L E • A R C H I T E C T

MEMBER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

4132 39th AVENUE - OAKLAND 19, CALIFORNIA - TELEPHONE KE 3-5093

December 20, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

As Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, I would like to present this letter in support of the nomination to Fellowship for Frederick L. R. Confer.

I have known Fred personally for more than twelve years, having worked for him and having been an Associate Architect with him for more than six years before establishing my own practice.

During this time he has always adhered to the highest standards of ethics in all phases of his architectural practice. He always has placed the best performance of his work above any financial gain from it, sometimes taking a loss on a job rather than curtailing the proper architectural services.

He has taken a leading part in a large number of civic activities, having served as chairman of several civic improvement projects.

His architectural design has been outstanding, as he has received two awards each from the A.I.A. and from House Beautiful Magazine Competitions. His contemporaries think very highly of him, and of the good taste he exhibits in all of his work. This can be summed up by a "left handed" compliment in which one of our fellow architects stated, "Fred Confer is the only architect of whom I have ever been jealous."

By honoring Mr. Confer with a Fellowship in the Institute, you will be publically recognizing the efforts and talents of an outstanding architect and civic minded man.

Respectfully yours,

Roland K. Kuechle

Roland K. Kuechle A.I.A.

R:n

A N D E R S O N S I M O N D S , D U S E L A N D C A M P I N I
2 8 0 0 P A R K B O U L E V A R D , O A K L A N D 1 0 , C A L I F O R N I A • T W I N O A K S 3 - 2 4 1 7

ARCHITECTS A. L. A.
JAMES H. ANDERSON
GEORGE P. SIMONDS
ALVIN DUSEL
ROBERT W. CAMPINI

December 8, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

This is with reference to Frederick L. R. Confer
whose elevation to Fellowship is being considered
by your Jury.

I have known Fred Confer since we were in school
together at the University of California in the
1920's. I remember well the high quality of
design he was doing as a student. During the
depression years from 1932 until the war when
we were both struggling to establish a practice,
his residential work emerged as outstanding in
its free and simple expression of influences of
the time founded on a solid concept of tradition.
I felt at the time as I do now that he contributed
as much as any individual to the acceptance by the
public of good design. It is my feeling that he
has carried this simple straightforward and imagi-
native feeling consistently throughout his practice
which has grown in later years to projects of
larger scope.

There is no question in my mind that he is one of
the leaders in accomplishment in the field of
design in Northern California. I heartily commend
him for your consideration.

Sincerely,


George P. Simonds

GPS:dm

DEC-13 1960

A N D E R S O N S I M O N D S , D U S E L A N D C A M P I N I

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

J A M E S H . A N D E R S O N

G E O R G E P . S I M O N D S

A L V I N D U S E L

R O B E R T W . C A M P I N I

December 27, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for Fellowship in the Institute in the category of Design.

I have known Mr. Confer intimately for a period of twenty five years and it has always given me great delight to see the facility with which he handled the design of his projects. As a beginning practitioner he specialized in residences and even to this day the real estate advertisements say "Designed by Frederick L. R. Confer" as a stamp of excellence of design and quality in these homes which are now twenty years old more or less.

He has gradually increased the scope of his practice to larger structures including office buildings, schools and public buildings of many types; and in all these projects he has exhibited the deft skill with which he is so fortunately endowed.

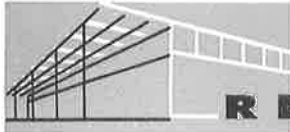
The Blue Cross Building in Oakland is just one of the many examples of his work which have been awarded special mention by national organizations for the excellence of design.

His office practice is on a very high professional basis. His integrity, honesty and character are of the highest quality.

In my opinion Mr. Frederick L. R. Confer is the finest designer in the entire East Bay and it certainly gives me great pleasure to earnestly request your consideration and approval in the granting of this Fellowship.

Sincerely,


James H. Anderson



REYNOLDS & CHAMBERLAIN

3833 PIEDMONT AVENUE · OAKLAND 11, CALIFORNIA · OLYMPIC 4-3474

ARCHITECTS

MALCOLM D. REYNOLDS, F. A. I. A.
LOY CHAMBERLAIN, A. I. A.

8 December 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

Frederick L. R. Confer

It is both a pleasure and an honor to add my endorsement to the nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for advancement to fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

This candidate has been known to me personally and intimately for a period of twenty-five years. During that entire period the high quality of his design has been consistent.

The various awards he has received attest to the competency of his design.

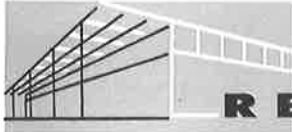
His chairmanship of the Board of Architects and as supervising architect in several areas demonstrates the recognition of his skill.

It is my opinion that the East Bay Chapter has acted wisely in placing in nomination the name of Frederick Confer.

Sincerely,

Loy Chamberlain

LC:fl



REYNOLDS & CHAMBERLAIN

3833 PIEDMONT AVENUE • OAKLAND 11, CALIFORNIA • OLYMPIC 4-3474

ARCHITECTS

MALCOLM D. REYNOLDS, F. A. I. A.

LOY CHAMBERLAIN, A. I. A.

28 December 1960

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

RE: FREDERICK L. R. CONFER

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to write a letter on behalf of Frederick L. R. Confer, who has been nominated for Fellowship in the Institute by the East Bay Chapter of the A.I.A.

I have known Fred Confer since our college days in the mid-Twenties. His ability in design was outstanding at that time and has been demonstrated in his practice in the years following.

If I were to select a single building type which Mr. Confer has done which deserves special commendation I think his residential work might be my selection.

There has been much talk and considerable print concerning the "California Style", or the "Bay Region Style" of residences. Frederick Confer's sensitive use of indigenous materials and the expression he evolved in his houses in the early Thirties are strong influences in the development of the Bay Region style some twenty years later.

I can heartily support his nomination.

Sincerely,



Malcolm D. Reynolds, FAIA

MDR: f1

WM. CLEMENT AMBROSE, ARCHITECT

FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

9 BROOKSIDE AVENUE · BERKELEY 5, CALIFORNIA

OLYMPIC 2-3163

January 9, 1961

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

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I have been informed by the East Bay Chapter, Oakland, California, of the American Institute of Architects, that Frederick L. Confer has been nominated for Fellowship in the Institute.

Mr. Confer has conducted an office in Oakland and Berkeley, California for a number of years in which time he has established himself as in the front rank of the architectural designers of this region. His houses, particularly, have a fresh satisfying appearance, and are noticeable for their domestic scale and pleasing color.

In recent years his office has associated with fellow architects in a number of school projects which have also been distinguished by this same fine proportion and color.

I believe that his fresh but controlled design makes him worthy of Fellowship.

Yours very truly,

Wm. Clement Ambrose

Wm. Clement Ambrose, F.A.I.A.

CLARK AND BEUTTLER . ARCHITECTS

552 MISSION STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 5, CALIFORNIA • YUKON 6-0414

HERVEY PARKE CLARK FAIA
JOHN F. BEUTTLER AIA

ASSOCIATES:

CHARLES W. MOORE AIA
ALAN E. MORGAN AIA
JORGEN ELMER AIA

December 15, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Re: Frederick Le Roy Confer

Gentlemen:

This letter is in behalf of the nomination of Frederick Le Roy Confer of the East Bay Chapter, A. I. A. for advancement to Fellowship.

I knew Fred first over 25 years ago. We were then both among the so-called younger contemporary architects, a bit self conscious of the fact that people outside the Bay Area were saying that a Bay Area style was emerging. We felt it was up to us continually to produce something new. We probably tried too hard.

Out of all that striving and on account of it or in spite of it Fred Confer produced houses which received awards in national competitions. During the war he was Regional Director of Civilian Defense and Co-ordinator of Camouflage and Air Raid Precaution for 11 Western States.

After the war his design horizon broadened considerably. He was chairman of the Board of Architects for the Oakland Civic Center. He was also Supervising Architect for Contra Costa County and the Pittsburg Civic Center. At this time other national design awards came to him.

His civic activities include Oakland Chamber of Commerce and directorships in the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and the Contra Costa Development Association.

His leadership in the East Bay Chapter, I believe, should be recognized by elevation to Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,

Hervey Parke Clark, F. A. I. A.

HPC/hv

DEC 15 1960

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M I C H A E L
G O O D M A N
A R C H I T E C T

2161 SHATTUCK AVENUE
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA
THORNWALL 3-4330

December 23, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit to you my recommendation of Frederick L. R. Confer for Fellowship in the Institute in the category of "Design".

I have known Mr. Confer since about 1925, our college days at the University of California. He impresses me as a very purposeful individual, displaying a great deal of originality coupled with practical experience.

Shortly after the great depression years he emerged as a leading practitioner in the San Francisco Bay Area as an innovator of new awareness in the field of residential design. I think that his work has been distinctive on a Western States scale as well as important to the so-called "Bay Area Style".

I should say that in the residential field he showed not only originality, but also a great ability to recognize the timeless qualities of the past and to borrow and improve therefrom with dignity, in a universal manner. Specifically I have admired his ability to adapt from the Oriental modes rooted in California to a less exotic and more contemporary expression, aesthetically and functionally suitable for their wider use. He also has been aware of the importance of an entire site, and his early integration of garden areas to indoor space has been a major influence in this area of design. The sensitivity of his detail has made him celebrated and widely imitated.

His work has always been consistently sensitive, inventive and widely admired. It has received universal acceptance and he became a household name. Despite his popularity, however, he seriously advanced the cause of architecture in styling and adaptability to the ever changing needs and trends in the State of California. With his pace setting designs and trend making innovations, his later work of non-residential character brings the same distinction. His work can always be singled out due to its sensitivity and spatial feeling, devoid of cliches, and as ever inspiring the younger generation.

While the request to write concerning his achievements in "Design" is my privilege, herewith I must add that Fred Confer's contributions in furthering the great cause of architecture in acceptance by the public are worthy of recognition in themselves.

Very truly yours,

Michael Goodman
MICHAEL GOODMAN, A. I. A.
Professor of Architecture
University of California

MG:enm

HERTZKA & KNOWLES
ARCHITECTS

WAYNE S. HERTZKA, F.A.I.A.
WILLIAM H. KNOWLES, A.I.A.

ROBERT P. TOBIN, A.I.A.
GEORGE S. DOLIM, A.I.A.
ROBERT P. KLEIN

December 21, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

This letter is written in support of Mr. Frederick L. R. Confer, A.I.A., who has been nominated for Fellowship in the Institute by the East Bay Chapter of the A.I.A.

Mr. Confer has been one of the outstanding Architects in this area since the time he first started his practice in 1933. Although I did not know Mr. Confer at that time I became a great admirer of his work by seeing many of the beautiful homes he designed. They were outstanding in design, detail and character and I know influenced many other Architects in the Bay Area. Later on when I became acquainted with Mr. Confer I could understand why he was so successful. He is a sincere type of man and Architect with a direct purpose and approach and a man most respected by his fellow Architects.

As the years developed so did Mr. Confer and this has been attested by many awards that he has been given for his design work. He was one of the founders of the East Bay Chapter of the A.I.A. and has also been active in many civic organizations. He is recognized by the City of Oakland and the County of Contra Costa as not only an Architect but as an advisor to many of their groups.

Last year we became associated with Mr. Confer on a large hospital job and were extremely impressed with his design ability, helpful criticisms and suggestions. His approach to the problem was simple and yet forceful and the results were most satisfactory.

I am very proud to endorse the nomination of Mr. Confer for Fellowship and hope that you will agree that here is a man that should be honored by the Institute.

Very truly yours,

HERTZKA & KNOWLES

By 
Wayne S. Hertzka, F.A.I.A.

WSH:jl

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DAVID H HORN
ARCHITECT A.I.A.
M D MORTLAND
ARCHITECT A.I.A.

ASSOCIATE
2016 MERCED ST.

ARCHITECTS
FRESNO 21, CALIFORNIA

22 December 1960

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

FACTUAL ✓

Re: Nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for fellowship.

Gentlemen:

I feel it is a distinct privilege and honor to support the candidacy for fellowship of Fred Confer, and I feel particularly well qualified to do so by reason of being a classmate of Fred's at the University of California from 1924 to 1928, and also because I have been fortunate enough to observe Fred's work since that time and know that his distinguished practice of architecture has added considerably to the profession's prestige.

The high quality of design of Fred's work is well known; however, it should not be overlooked that his proficiency and high standards prevail in all other phases of his architectural practice.

Above all, Fred is a gentleman and will add distinction to the College of Fellows and the AIA, and in every respect is deserving of this honor.

Respectfully submitted,


DAVID H. HORN, Architect

DHH:mo

MASTEN, HURD & GWATHMEY . ARCHITECTS

526 POWELL STREET • SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

CHARLES F. MASTEN, F.A.I.A.

LESTER W HURD, A.I.A.

CABELL GWATHMEY, A.I.A., A.S.C.E.

WILLIAM E. SELLIER, A.I.A.
HAROLD D. CROSBY JR., ARCHITECT
CHARLES F. B. ROETH, ARCHITECT
CHARLES F. LAMB, CONSTR. MGR.

December 20, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

With reference to the nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects, it is my pleasure to add a sincere indorsement.

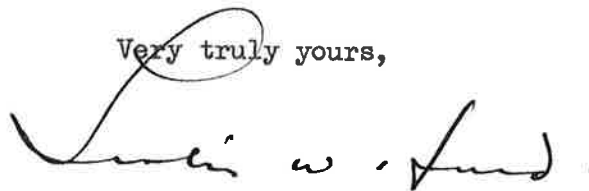
For many years I have been a sincere admirer of his architectural efforts.

I look upon Fred as an able and completely rounded exponent of all the things we seek in Architectural Design.

His work has been and is now a credit to the profession.

I know of no one in the West I would more particularly indorse in this category than Frederick L. R. Confer.

Very truly yours,



Lester W Hurd, AIA

LWH:cm

DONALD BEACH KIRBY - ARCHITECT

FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

28 December 1960

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

FACTUAL

Frederick Leroy Confer, nominee

Gentlemen:

I have followed Mr. Confer's career very closely since 1935 and I am greatly impressed by the consistently high quality of his design.

Very few architects seem able to adjust so successfully to new tastes and new problems over a twenty five year period. The photographs before you illustrate Mr. Confer's fine solutions for a variety of structures ranging from major public works to charming residences.

In addition to his active practice Mr. Confer has found time to serve his country and his community. I trust you will agree that this nominee is well qualified to receive recognition for excellence in design.

Very truly yours,


Donald Beach Kirby, F.A.I.A.

DBK/s

L O U B E T & G L Y N N

Architects

ALBERT J. LOUBET AIA
WILLIAM B. GLYNN AIA

400 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA
SUTTER 1-2186

December 22, 1960

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

Gentlemen:

Having been advised by the East Bay Chapter of the A. I. A. that Mr. Frederick L. R. Confer has been nominated for Fellowship in the Institute in the category of "Design", I am happy to take this opportunity to write to you in support of his nomination.

I have known Mr. Confer since he attended the School of Architecture at the University of California. I followed his student work with interest. The design solutions of his projects were outstanding, and he was usually at the top of his class.

After his graduation he was employed in the office of Mr. Edwin Snyder in Berkeley, California, where he was in charge of the design of a great deal of residential work so much admired throughout the East Bay.

After opening his own office, his outstanding design in residential work continued and he received Awards of Merit and Honor as follows:

1. House Beautiful Competition - 1937
Haines Hall Residence - Sausalito
2. House Beautiful Competition - 1938
C. B. Johnson Residence - Orinda
3. Jellett Building - Lafayette - 1947
Exhibited Sixth Pan-American Congress of Architects, Lima, Peru.
Published in The Architects & Building News, London, England - 1948.
4. Wienand Residence - San Francisco - 1953
Award of Honor, A. I. A.

Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

-2-

December 22, 1960

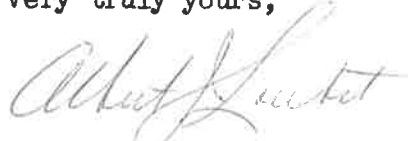
As for his commercial buildings, he has done various schools, banks, etc. of which one of the most outstanding is the Blue Cross Building - Oakland - 1953, for which he received an Award of Merit, A.I.A.

Other well designed buildings are the Contra Costa Administration Building, Martinez, California and the Westbrook Store, Oakland, California. In progress of construction is the City and County Justice Building in Oakland, California, which promises to uphold Mr. Confer's design ability.

He has served in numerous public and professional capacities, such as Chairman of the Board of Architects, Oakland Civic Center, Supervising Architect for Contra Costa County, Chairman of the Board of Architects, Oakland Housing and many others.

Having known Mr. Confer so long, my observations of him form the belief that his character and integrity are of the very highest.

Very truly yours,



Albert J. Loubet

AJL:mdv



CHARLES LUCKMAN ASSOCIATES *planning architecture engineering*
9220 sunset boulevard, los angeles 46, california, crestview 4-7755

December 28, 1960

Gentlemen:

FACTUAL

I am pleased to have the opportunity of writing this letter in behalf of the nomination of Frederick LeRoy Confer of the East Bay Chapter A. I. A. for advancement to Fellowship.

I have known Fred for some years, and his firm and our firm have been associated in joint ventures. We have, therefore, had the opportunity of observing at first hand his personal design capabilities and his general contributions to the field of architecture. Throughout our experiences with Fred, we have observed his willingness to stand firm in matters of creativity, judgment, and taste.

Our firm has been associated with the University of California for seven years, and in connection with this relationship, we are thoroughly acquainted with Fred's development of the Memorial Union Building on the Davis Campus of the University. This project, involving concrete flat plate, exposed concrete columns, brick veneer, and integral colored concrete floors with terrazzo divider strips, is another example of the consistently high quality of Fred's work in design over a period of years.

While consideration of Fred's advancement to Fellowship is based primarily on design, I could not close this letter without paying my respects to the very substantial contributions which he has made to his community and to his chapter of the A. I. A.

Sincerely,

Charles Luckman, A. I. A.

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

CL:nh



PADEREWSKI · MITCHELL · DEAN & ASSOCIATES A.I.A.
PLANNING · ENGINEERING · ARCHITECTURE

1017 FIRST AVENUE · SAN DIEGO 1, CALIFORNIA · BE 4-6183

C. J. PADEREWSKI AIA DELMAR S. MITCHELL AIA LOUIS A. DEAN AIA
ASSOCIATE RICHARD ALBRECHT AIA GEN. MANAGER M. DAVIS ALEXANDER CSI

December 16, 1960

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

FACTUAL ✓

Gentlemen:

It is with extreme pleasure that I support the nomination of Architect Frederick L. R. Confer to the honor of Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Having known Mr. Confer for approximately fourteen years, I have had an opportunity to follow his activities as an architect and an active participating citizen in the East Bay area of California.

His outstanding leadership in the Practice of Architecture both as to the quality of the buildings he has designed personally and those in which he was chosen by his confreres as chairman to direct the design of such projects as the Oakland Civic Center, the Oakland Housing Project, and the Pittsburg Civic Center.

He has been recognized on national and international levels for several projects including

House Beautiful Competition - 1937
Haines Hall Residence - Sausalito

House Beautiful Competition - 1938
C. B. Johnson Residence - Orinda

Jallett Building - Lafayette - 1947
Exhibited Sixth Pan-American Congress of Architects, Lima, Peru
Published in The Architects & Building News, London, England, 1948

Blue Cross Building - Oakland - 1953
Award of Merit, A.I.A.

Wienand Residence - San Francisco - 1953
Award of Honor, A.I.A.

DEC 19 1960

American Institute of Architects
re: Architect Frederick L. R. Confer
December 16, 1960 -2-

I wholeheartedly subscribe to honoring Mr. Confer with a
Fellowship in the Institute.

Sincerely yours,



C. J. Paderewski

CJP:dgv

WILLIAM L. PEREIRA
& ASSOCIATES
PLANNING &
ARCHITECTURE

5657 WILSHIRE BLVD LOS ANGELES 36
CALIFORNIA PHONE WEBSTER 3-8341

December 27, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I have been informed by the East Bay Chapter of the American Institute of Architects that Frederick L. R. Confer has been nominated for Fellowship in the Institute.

I have known Fred Confer for more than twenty years and during the war I worked with him closely for a period of two years. He is an extremely competent architect, has great integrity, and his design awards speak for his talent.

I am most happy to support his nomination.

Sincerely yours,



William L. Pereira, F. A. I. A.

WLP/kb

WARREN CHARLES PERRY, F. A. I. A.

ARCHITECT

---200 CALIFORNIA STREET--- 2530 Vallejo Street,
SAN FRANCISCO 23, California

December 7, 1960.

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I understand that Frederick F. L. Confer is being nominated for Fellowship in the Institute by the East Bay (California) Chapter and it is with the most sincere pleasure that I offer my hearty endorsement of this proposal. I have known Mr. Confer for some thirty-five years, first as student in the School of Architecture in the University of California in Berkeley, then as a candidate for his License to Practise when I was serving on the Board of Examiners, and since as very successful practicing architect.

Because I became "Emeritus" in the University over six years ago, and closed my own office here in San Francisco nearly three years ago, perhaps my best contribution in this instance will be to recall, as I do very clearly, certain qualities that Fred Confer displayed early and throughout his School career - this from among the literal thousands of students whom I have known. He is one of the very few of those who from the very beginning of our acquaintance stood upon his own feet in matters of invention, judgment and taste. He knew what he wanted to do, and was his own severest critic. In short, he had the inborn qualities of a good architect. It has always seemed to me that this should be the prime grounds for the selection of those for the honor of the Fellowship.

Mr. Confer's professional career has fully, I believe, borne out this early promise, though, as I say, I have been rather out-of-touch these last years. In addition to the demands of his practice, I know that he devoted a very large proportion of his time to public and professional service in the rapidly expanding community across the Bay as well as in the State at large.

I warmly second his nomination.

Cordially yours,


Warren C. Perry

ROCKRISE AND WATSON ARCHITECTS

GEORGE T. ROCKRISE, A.I.A.
WILLIAM J. WATSON, A.I.A.

ASSOCIATES
ROBERT MOUNTJOY
MATTHEW MYERS

7 December 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure for me to write in support of the nomination to Fellowship in the Institute of Frederick L. R. Confer.

I have known Mr. Confer for a number of years and esteem him highly as a professional colleague. His design work has been of high caliber and consistency, and reflects great credit upon him and his profession. Mr. Confer has also been actively interested in the education of the young architect and in his community.

I therefore recommend to you without reservation that Mr. Frederick L. R. Confer be elevated to Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely,

GEORGE T. ROCKRISE

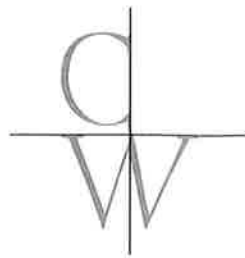
GTR/cn

DEC 8 1960

WORLEY K. WONG ARCHITECT A.I.A., JOHN CARDEN CAMPBELL

737 BEACH STREET BY AQUATIC PARK SAN FRANCISCO 9 CALIFORNIA ORDWAY 3-6604

ASSOCIATES TERRY TONG EVA F. LOW HARRY W. NAMITZ ALLEN D. FONG A.I.A.



CAMPBELL & WONG

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

Gentlemen:

I am most pleased to be able to speak of Architect Frederick Leroy Confer's qualifications for Fellowship in the category of Design.

FACTUAL

My first admiration for Mr. Confer's work was while I was a student in 1933 when Fred Confer began his work in the East Bay Area. He is very much a pioneer in the field of good design in this area and takes his proper place with other famed Bay Area pioneers William Wurster, Gardner Dailey and Hervey Parke Clark. These gentlemen have been duly honored by your Board.


Fred Confer's residential work has great warmth, charm and dignity. Much of his early work has contributed in no small measure to the development of our famed "Bay Area" architecture.

I was chairman of the 1953 Honor Awards Program for the Bay Area Chapter and a distinguished Jury composed of Pietro Belluschi, Richard Neutra and Edward Stone conferred upon Mr. Confer two top awards for the Blue Cross Building in Oakland and the Wienand residence in San Francisco, both magnificently detailed structures.

In 1947, his Jellett Sales Building in Lafayette was selected by the Pan American Congress of Architects for exhibit in Lima, Peru. In addition to this he has won several House Beautiful competitions.

His work has most definitely made marks of beauty in the architecture of our Bay Area. I most certainly wish to add my name to the many who commend Mr. Confer for his design abilities and the dignity in which he has conducted his practice.

Very truly yours,


Worley K. Wong
Architect, A.I.A.

WKW: der

20 December 1960



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

HENRY L. WRIGHT, F. A. I. A., FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
 1125 WEST SIXTH STREET
 LOS ANGELES 17, CALIFORNIA

December 29, 1960

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

FACTUAL

Gentlemen:

I should like to add my support to that of the East Bay Chapter, AIA, in the nomination of Frederick L. R. Confer for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Confer for many years and have admired him not only as a friend but as one of our outstanding architects in California. He is an excellent designer, as demonstrated by the many fine buildings in the northern part of our State which have served as an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. Confer has consistently conducted himself according to the highest standards of professional practice, and I am proud to recommend him as a Fellow of the Institute.

Very truly yours,

Henry L. Wright
 Henry L. Wright, FAIA

HLW:mb