

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICES

27 July, 2012

Selection Committee Harry F. Cunningham Gold Medal c/o AIA Nebraska PO Box 80045 Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-0045

Dear Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I nominate John (Jack) Schofield Savage for the 2012 Harry F. Cunningham Gold Medal. I can think of no other Nebraska Architect that is more deserving of this prestigious award. Jack has spent his entire career dedicated to the field of architecture – both as a building designer and as a mentor. His 25 year career at Leo A Daily Co, culminated in 1981 as Vice-President for Design, completing buildings all over the world and mentoring hundreds of architects that worked under his tutelage. As a founding principal of The Architectural Offices of John Schofield Savage and K Scott Findley in July of 1981, Jack presided over a small, design-oriented practice that scaled everything he had learned at Leo A Daly Co, down to offer an intimate level of service on smaller, design oriented projects. The firm's foundation still remains; the highest quality design from the brightest designers available in an open-studio setting. From the Walter and Ruby Behlen House to the skyline of Omaha, Jack has affected the built environment in sympathetic and dramatic ways in Nebraska.

Jack has also been heavily involved in civic and educational endeavors in Nebraska. He has been heavily involved with the College of Architecture at UNL and has spent over 35 years supporting the college of Architecture. He has served on the Nebraska Arts Council, the Douglas County Historical Society, The Omaha Community Playhouse and Symphony, and was inducted into the Omaha Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame in 1994.

As a Nebraska Architect and Community Trustee, Jack has had a profound effect on this great state, and those that have worked with him carry that sense of responsibility forward. I believe Jack Savage meets the high standards that have been set by this prestigious award, and I cannot recommend his nomination highly enough.

Sincerely,

Villiam Stott, AIA

Principal

FIFTY THIRTEEN CORPORATION 4610 DODGE STREET OMAHA, NE 68132 tel: 402,551,3400 fax: 402 551 8331

www.thearchitecturaloffices.com office@thearchitecturaloffices.com

John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

b. Omaha, Nebraska 16 September 1931

Following a 25 year career as Vice-President of Design for the international ground breaking, Omaha-based Leo A Daly Co, Jack Savage co-founded The Architectural Offices of Savage & Findley. Jack took what he knew to be an international practice model for all major Architecture and Engineering firms to a studio based, award winning design firm. Jack's ground breaking leadership in Omaha urban design, community building, environmentalism and preservation stands out in the following breadth of work. He has used the practice of architecture, the collaborative design process, public lectures, teaching and board memberships to raise and advance corporate and community architectural standards and expectations in Nebraska.



EDUCATION

- Benson High School, Omaha, Nebraska | Graduate 1949
 - National Honor Society
 - o University of Nebraska/ Lincoln Regent Scholarship
 - o Rotary Club Leadership Award
 - o Represented Benson High at Cornhusker Boy's State.
 - o Elected Secretary of State
 - o ROTC Cadet Major
 - o Football Letter
 - o Managing Editor, Benson High News
 - Omaha World Herald Merit Award for "Outstanding Leadership: and "Teen of the Week"
 - o Benson High Hall of Fame 1983
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska | Bachelor of Architecture, with Distinction 1954
 - o # 1 in his class Cum Laude
 - o AIA Henry Adams Silver Medal
 - Nebraska Faculty Award: #1 Class Standing
 - o Nebraska Architects Association, a Chapter of the AIA, Award of Merit
 - o Kosmet Klub, Men's Honorary Drama Club
 - o Distinguished Military Student Award
 - o Commissioned 2nd Lt. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - o College of Architecture Distinguished Alumni Medal 2002

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts | certificate 1992

o Golf Course Clubhouse Design & Site Planning

PRACTICE

🗆 Leo A. Daly Co.

- o Vice President for Design 1966-1981
- o Project Design Group Administrator and Manager world-wide 1956-1966
- Seventeen AIA Design Awards and over 20 American Association of School Administrators Design Honor Citations

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

The Architectural Offices of Savage & Palandri

- o 1981 Co-founded The Architectural Offices of Savage & Findley
- o Expanded to Savage, Findley, Palandri & Ling
- o 1997 Founding Partner, Emeritus, The Architectural Offices of Savage & Palandri
- o Architecture from the Plains, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 1983
 - Presentation and exhibition of Firm's Work at the College of Architecture and Design
- 15 design and preservation awards, including eight AIA Design Awards

License

o Nebraska Emeritus- #A484, December 1959 o NCARB #5344, 1965

o Iowa #00286, 1991 & South Dakota #4841, 1990

COMMUNITY

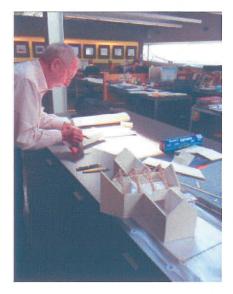
Nebraska Society of Architects (Now AIA Nebraska)

- o President 1965, 1972
- o Past President 1973
- o Vice-President 1971
- o Treasurer 1970
- o Secretary 1969
- o Director 1967, 1968
 - Brought in International Seminars and raised attendance from previous year by 30%
 - Committee Leadership in three Omaha Central States AIA Regional Conventions, presenting lecturer in 1976
 - Invited Ben Thompson, FAIA, Reynor Banham RIBA, Sociologist Ed Noll
- o Nebraska Chapter Liaison to National AIA Urban Design Committee
- o Schools Committee Nebraska Architects Association
- o Represented AIA Nebraska at Grassroots
- o AIA Nebraska Mentor Program 1995
- o AIA Nebraska Primer 7 Program 1995
- o Kansas AIA Design Honor Awards Jury Chairman, 1971

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- o College of Architecture
 - Adjunct Associate Professor at the Graduate School & Visiting Critic, 1959-1997
 - Founding chairman of the Dean's Professional Advisory Council, 1977-present
 - Board of Directors, College of Architecture Friends Association, 1997-present
- o Institute of Agriculture & Natural Resources
 - Department of Horticulture Hron Lecture and critique, 1991
- o Master Alumnus, Masters Week 1980
 - Only practicing architect represented at Masters Week of nine individuals selected University-wide.
- o Admissions Advisory Council 1975
- o Life Member UNL Alumni Association
- o Presidents Club Member

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus



- o Master Alumnus, Masters Week 1980
 - Only practicing architect represented at Masters Week of nine individuals selected University-wide.
- o Admissions Advisory Council 1975
- o Life Member UNL Alumni Association
- o Presidents Club Member

University of Nebraska-Omaha

- o Class Curriculum "The Contemporary House" 1957
- o School of Fine Arts Advisory Council, 1980

Omaha Public Schools

- o School Facilities Council, 1971
 - Inaugural planner with Omaha School Superintendent. This council grew to a national organization.
- o Art Billboard Project 1986

Nebraska Arts Council

- o Served as Leo Daly's Chief-of-Staff during Leo Daly's term as Chairman, Nebraska Arts Council.
- o In advancing the Arts in Nebraska, funding was increased five-fold and the Interstate Sculpture Program was built.

🗆 Nebraska Legislature

- o In 1962 as chief-of-staff for Leo Daly, FAIA, Jack was instrumental in lobbying the U.S. Congress to pass the Brooks Bill.
- In 1964 with his late father, Nebraska State Senator John S. Savage, Jack directed the process of successfully passing Nebraska legislation of the "mini-Brooks Bill" requiring a quality-based process for selection of architects for State of Nebraska projects.

Douglas County Historical Society

- o Advisory Board 2009-
- o Board of Directors 1996 2002
- o Two years term as President 2000-2002
- o Inducted into Generals Council 1998

City of Omaha Zoning Board of Appeals

 Appointed by Mayor PJ Morgan and a second term by Mayor Hal Daub, 1990-1996

City of Omaha Committee

o Mayoral appointment to rewrite City Zoning Ordinance, 1991

GSA Consultant

- o U.S. Senator Bob Kerry appointed Jack to an oversight committee for the GSA Federal Courthouse Building in Omaha, 1997.
- As the only practicing architect on the committee, Jack Savage's relationship changed the direction of the basic site concept, creating a pocket park, and directing a more sensitive approach to site design as it related to a neighboring church. Architectural elements were salvaged and reused as features at Jack's suggestion.

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Omaha Symphony

o Board of Directors, 1980-1988

Omaha Chamber of Commerce

o Hall of Fame 1994

Dundee Business Improvement District

- o Board 1987
- Appointed by Mayor Bernie Simon. Organized beautification and brick sidewalk projects and construction for Historical Dundee in 1988 which evolved into clock tower project of 1997

□ Friends of the Parks Omaha

o Board of Directors 1991

Omaha Country Club

o Board of Directors 1992-1997

🗆 First Bank, Omaha

o Board of Directors 1987-1995

Omaha Riverfront Marathon

o Race Committee 1988

• Designed stationary and graphics. Organized committee. 10K runner

Boy Scouts of America

- o Eagle Scout Board of Review 1995
- o Scoutmaster Troop 345 1970-73

Boys and Girls Club of America

- o National Building, Design & Construction Committee 1962 to present.
- o Led the rewriting of building and design standards for Building, Design and Construction (The Yellow Book)
- o National Boys and Girls Club of America for 20 years

United Way of the Midlands

o United Community Services Chairman, Professional Division. 1971

o Founding board member of South West Omaha YMCA

Big Brothers Big Sisters

o Founding board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters Omaha



Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Statement of Contribution

The candidate shall have evidenced a profound effect on the profession of architecture in Nebraska.





In 1962 Jack savage was instrumental in lobbying the US Congress to pass the Brooks Bill, requiring the selection of architects and engineers be based on their "competency, qualifications and experience" rather than by price for all federally funded projects. Later in 1964, he did the same at the State level, with the successful passing Nebraska legislation requiring a quality-based process for selection of architects for State of Nebraska projects. His involvement in The Nebraska Society of Architects, and later AIA Nebraska, show a lifelong commitment to the profession of architecture in Nebraska, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President and two terms as President – 1965 and 1972. As a volunteer and committee member Jack served on the Program Committee, bringing in internationally recognized speakers to Nebraska, served on the Central States AIA Regional convention committee three times and was a presenting lecturer in 1976. He has served as a Nebraska Liaison to the National AIA Urban Design Committee, represented AIA Nebraska at grassroots, was involved in the AIA Nebraska Mentor Program, the AIA Nebraska Primer 7 Program, and was the 1971 Kansas AIA Design Honor Awards Jury Chairman.

The candidate shall have influenced the direction of architecture in Nebraska.





Jack Savage has volunteered his time and expertise to the College of Architecture for over 5 decades, starting in 1959, and has been appointed to a number of civic regulatory organizations. He was appointed to the Dundee Business Improvement District by Mayor Bernie Simon in 1987 resulting in the beautification of the streetscape in Dundee, served two terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals (appointed by PJ Morgan in 1990 and Hal Daub in 1993) and, was appointed by Mayor PJ Morgan in 1991 to help rewrite the City of Omaha's Zoning Ordinance. However, it is the quantity of buildings that Jack was responsible for that helped shape the architecture of Nebraska in the last 50 years. From the nationally recognized Behlen House in Columbus, NE, to the Mutual of Omaha Dome, Jack was responsible for a large number of buildings that shaped the architecture of Nebraska. The Omaha skyline would not be recognizable to its current residence without the results of that work, including; The Hilton Hotel, Northwestern Bell Microwave Tower, Nebraska Savings and Loan Headquarters Building, Omaha Douglas Civic Center, ConAgra Twin Towers, Union Pacific Headquarters, US West Headquarters Building, Mutual of Omaha International Headquarters Dome Addition, and the Woodman Tower Office Building, the tallest building in Omaha prior to the First National Bank Tower in 2002.

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Statement of Contribution

The candidate's contributions to the profession of architecture have consistently been directed toward the future as well as respectful of the past.





In 1975 Jack led Omaha's first significant historic renovation project with the renovation of the Omaha Orpheum Theater. He moderated programming meetings for which he invited diverse arts groups to the bare-bulb lit stage of the pre-renovated Orpheum. Following the consensus program, Jack coordinated the efforts of St. Mary's College students who volunteered to clean the crystal chandeliers, brought retired craftsmen out of retirement to repair water-damaged plaster ornaments & oversaw volunteer hobbyists who renovated the Wurlitzer organ. He brought in Bolt Beranek & Newman and executed their recommendations which resulted in a critically acclaimed acoustical environment. Jack also served on the Douglas County Historical Society Board of Directors from 1996 to 2002, including two terms as president from 2000 to 2002, and still sits on the Advisory Board. In 1998, Jack was inducted into the Society's Generals Council. His involvement in education was evident throughout his career, periodically teaching as an adjunct professor and visiting architectural college graduate school critic between 1959 and 1997. Jack felt the health and vibrancy of the UNL College of Architecture would create a foundation for the highest quality of architectural design in Nebraska. He always made himself available to the administration at UNL, and was the founding chairman of the Dean's Professional Advisory Council in 1977 and is currently on the Board of Directors for the College of Architecture Alumni Association.

The candidate shall have evidenced the ability to excel in a specific area of expertise.





If there is one characteristic that would be considered Jack's area of expertise, it is the ability to see the larger picture, and how the pieces of a problem fit into the whole. He is a macro thinker; able to strategically and critically see issues and solutions during the creative problem solving process. It aided him in organizing and running many non-profit and public ventures, such as being an inaugural planner of the Omaha Public Schools Facility Council, a program that worked with the OPS superintendent and grew into a national organization. Or in serving on the Nebraska Arts Council - raising funding five-fold and creating the interstate Sculpture Program. Jack's experience in architectural master planning are significant as well, and his work includes the Westside Community Schools Master Plan, Colorado Springs Air Force Academy Master Plan in 1969, The Boy's Town Master Plan, the Shadow Ridge Golf Course and Residential Community Master Plan in 1991 and the Brownell-Talbot master plan in 1994. In 1997, then US Senator Bob Kerry appointed Jack to the oversight committee for the GSA Federal Courthouse Building in Omaha. As the only practicing architect on the committee, his relationship changed the direction of the basic site concept, creating a pocket park, and directing a more sensitive approach to site design as it related to a neighboring church.

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Statement of Contribution

The candidate shall be widely known by the quality of his or her skills or services by those who practice architecture and those who do not.











Over the course of his career, Jack has received numerous awards for the work he has completed, both from his peers within the field of architecture, and from organizations outside the profession. Jack's work as Leo A Daly Project Design Group Administrator and worldwide Manager and later as Vice President in charge of Design resulted in 17 AIA Design Awards and over 20 American Association of School Administrators Design Honor Citations. Later as founding principal of The Architectural Offices of Savage Findley he received an additional 15 design and preservation awards, including eight AIA Design Awards.

AIA Nebraska Honor Award 1994; M.J. Java, Omaha

AlA Nebraska Honor Award 1993; Krantz Photography Studio, Omaha AlA Nebraska Honor Award 1990; Barrett & Reed Clothing Store, Omaha Nebraska Society of Architects Hon. Mention Award 1988; Ima J., Omaha Nebraska Society of Architects Hon. Mention Award 1984; Moser Townhouse, Omaha

Nebraska Society of Architects Honor Award 1981; Montessori School of Omaha

Nebraska Society of Architects Honor Award 1979; Treehouse Townhome Development Omaha

Nebraska Society of Architects Honor Award 1972; Nebraska Savings and Loan, Omaha

Nebraska Society of Architects Honor Award 1970; Eppley Airfield, Omaha Nebraska Society of Architects Honor Award 1968; Northwestern Bell Microwave Tower, Omaha

AIA Nebraska Children's Honor Award 1993; Ware Residence, Washington County

Central States Region, AIA Design Honor Award 1980; Mutual of Omaha Headquarters Dome, Omaha

Central States Region, AIA Design Honor Award 1972; Nebraska Savings and Loan, Omaha

Nebraska Masonry Association Award 1979; Treehouse Townhome Development, Omaha

Preservation Award Landmarks, Inc. 1997; The Skinner Macaroni Factory Downtown Apartment Conversion, Omaha

Preservation Award/ Urban Design Landmarks, Inc 1995; Townview Terrace & Pierce Point housing project, Omaha

Preservation Award Landmarks, Inc. 1991; Clifton Hills School convert ion to Girl's Inc. , Omaha

Preservation Award/ Rehabilitation 1989; The Fitzgerald Bldg, Plattsmouth Preservation Award Landmarks, Inc. 1989; Krauss Residence, Omaha Preservation Award Landmarks, Inc. 1988; Painting Studio Addition Tubach Residence, Omaha

City Beautification Award Omaha Women's Chamber of Commerce 1982; Savage Findley Palandri & Ling Architectural Offices, Omaha

Selected for House and Garden Tour 1988; College of Saint Mary City-wide recognition, Omaha

Art By Architects AIA Nebraska 2007; Gold Medal "30" Art By Architects AIA Nebraska 2007; Honorable Mention "Shadow"

Art By Architects AIA Nebraska; Best of Show "Signapore Shop House" Art By Architects AIA Nebraska 1988; Best of Category Pen & Ink "E & F Electric"

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Additional Information



Architect Jack Savage Builds a Life in the Country



From Barns to Domesticity: Material Flexibility and Innovation in the Walter and Ruby Behlen House way in a 1060s resident moder: house, but hile for d in 1058, the notice sin his curver and his decision T



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Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Additional Information

Pierce Point and Townview Terrace Housing Projects Coopers & Lybrand Office 10th Floor of Holibird & Root's Landmark Building Nebraska Savings & Loan Central States Region AIA Honor Design Award 1972 Omaha / Douglas Civic Center

> Mutual of Omaha International Headquarters Dome Central States Region AIA Design Honor Award 1980

Woodmen Tower









July 25, 2012

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus

Additional Information

Northwestern Bell Microwave Tower AlA Nebraska Design Honor Award 1968 Eppley Airfield AIA Nebraska Design Honor Award 1970 Hilton Hotel USWest Headquarters The Omaha Club AlA Nebraska Design Honor Award 1969 Union Pacific ConAgra Twin Towers **Headquarters** Tower Can April INDEATH 10011 2 28 -* # # ----.....







Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA, Gold Metal Submission John (Jack) Schofield Savage, AIA Emeritus



25 July 2012

Harry F. Cunningham FAIA, Gold Medal Selection Panel AIA Nebraska PO Box 80045 Lincoln NE 68501

Dear Panelists:

I am honored to have this opportunity to endorse Jack Savage for the 2012 Cunningham Gold Medal.

I have known Jack for forty-six years, beginning in 1966. We worked together at Leo A. Daly Company on several important Nebraska projects including the Eppley Airfield Expansion and the Omaha-Douglas City/County Building. At that time, Jack led the Design Department at LADCO and had an influence on all of the major project designs.

Subsequently, Jack and I have been involved in two private ventures which have established new directions for urban living in Omaha. The Tree House, an 11-unit townhouse project built in the late 1970's in Omaha, was designed by five architects including Jack Savage. This award-winning project set new standards in Omaha for housing density, zero lot lines, and communal living. Jack and I are currently serving as executive design architects for another new pedestrian scale housing project called "The Cottages". Our role has been to guide the site layout and establish design standards for this 35-acre new village within the city limits. Through these private endeavors, and as associates at LADCO, I can attest to Jack's passion for architecture and for his drive to improve the quality of our profession and the built environment in Nebraska and beyond.

Perhaps as important is Jack's commitment to community service. His involvement on many local, state and national governing bodies in the community is a testament to his belief that the citizen architect can have a major influence in the arts, in politics, and other aspects of life outside the profession. He has given his time on many occasions to enhance students' and young professionals' careers with his caring and mentoring.

Above all, Jack has demonstrated an uncompromising quest for excellence in the design of buildings, places and in improving the quality of life for his clients and fellow professionals in our state.

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1425 JONES STREET O 1AHA NE 03102 410 N 8TH STREET STE 100 LINCOLN NE 68508 402 345 3060 402 475 4551

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I am confident that when Jack Savage's name is placed among prior Cunningham Gold Medal recipients, it will both complement that list and serve as an inspiration for others to attain this worthy goal.

I urge you to give Jack Savage your strongest consideration for this prestigious honor.

Respectfully,

BAHR VERMEER HAECKER ARCHITECTS, LTD.

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Gary Bowen, FAIA, RIBA Principal

BAHR VERMEER HAECKER ARCHITECTS

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by h.com

Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities

Harry F. Cunningham, FAIA Gold Medal Selection Panel AIA Nebraska P.O. Box 80045 Lincoln, NE 68501-0045

Dear Panelists:

18 July 2012

I am writing to support the nomination of John S. "Jack" Savage for designation as the 2012 recipient of the Harry F. Cunningham Gold Medal.

I am pleased and honored to support this nomination because I know from firsthand observations that Jack's career in architecture has had, in both professional and academic ways, a major positive influence on architecture in Nebraska and beyond.

In my early days as Dean of the College of Architecture at the University of Nebraska Jack was one of the first professional architects to offer assistance, advice, and counseling to aid in the strengthening and development of the architectural profession in Nebraska. He immediately accepted my invitation to join the membership of the UNL Professional Advisory Committee for Architecture, where he served in constant service to the College for more than 20 years, many of those years as Chairman. In addition, Jack was always available and generous with his time and wisdom to assist students and the College with part-time teaching assignments, juries for project critiques, and internships in his practice settings.

Jack Savage exemplifies, by personal and professional role models, the qualities of excellence that the Cunningham Medal was conceived to recognize and promote in this State. The stature of the profession, and all its members will be enhanced by his inclusion in the list of recipients.

Kindly give his nomination your most careful and favorable consideration.

Best personal regards,

W. Cecil Steward, FAIA, DPACSA President/CEO, Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities

1004 Farnam Street / Suite 101 / Omaha, Nebraska 68102

t 402.933.0080 / f 402.933.0082 / e ktorpy@sustainabledesign.org / www.ecospheres.com

LEO A DALY

PLANNING

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

July 25, 2011

INTERIORS

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ABU DHABI ATLANTA AUSTIN BEIJING BRYAN CHICAGO DALLAS DENVER FORT WORTH HONG KONG HONOLULU HOUSTON ISTANBUL LAS VEGAS LOS ANGELES MIAMI MINNEAPOLIS MOSCOW OMAHA PHOENIX SACRAMENTO SAN ANTONIO SAN MARCOS ТАМРА TIANJIN WACO WASHINGTON, DC WEST PALM BEACH

Harry F. Cunningham FAIA Gold Medal Selection Panel AIA Nebraska P.O. Box 80045 Lincoln, NE 68501-0045

Dear Selection Panelist:

It is my pleasure and honor to submit this letter of support for the Harry F. Cunningham FAIA Gold Medal nominee, Mr. John S. Savage.

Jack has been a mentor and friend for 40 years. As the Managing Principal of the Omaha office of Leo A Daly, I have absorbed and beneficially used numerous insights graciously given to me by Jack Savage. His love of architecture, design and the dynamics of the practice were and are an inspiration not only to me but the entire design and construction community.

Jack's dedication and hard work has resulted in numerous design awards. Perhaps, equally if not more importantly, he has developed and matured scores of young architects into viable contributors for the betterment of the built environment.

I am most pleased to give my whole-hearted support to this nomination and would ask for your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours, LEO A DALY

leyer Lloyd A. Meyer, AIA Vice President

8600 INDIAN HILLS DRIVE OMAHA, NE 68114 TEL 402.391.8111 FAX 402.391.8564 www.leoadaly.com

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ARCHITECTURE MASTER PLANNING LANDSCAPE SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH INTERIORS

HONG KONG SHANGHAI DENVER EDINBURGH

2011 July 28

Re: The Harry F. Cunningham Gold Medal Nomination

My professional association with Jack Savage began in 1976 while collaborating on the AIA award winning design and construction of the 'Tree House'. Jack, along w/ Tom Findley conceived of this landmark project, the first of its kind to consider new in fill development within an aging residential community as a specific a response towards curbing the ubiquitous urban sprawl of the 60' and 70's. The Tree House collaboration effectively re-wrote the Omaha zoning and building regulations promoting higher density quality of life alternatives while assisting in rejuvenating declining but notable neighborhoods.

Jack played a major role personally and professionally. As usual, Jack & Tom approached this project with unbridled enthusiasm; working to imprint a principle while promoting professional collaboration which always promised to deliver unique 'collective innovation'. The influence of this project went beyond the profession to inspire numerous local developers to rethink inner city redevelopment.

As a young professional, this was how I came to know Jack Savage: as an inspirational leader promoting a culture of shared ideas. Jack was a mentor, a leader, and a friend to myself and to many others over the span of his impressive career.

In fact I had learned of Jack years before. While being quietly inspired by my elder brother Tom during his early tenure at the Leo A Daly Company; Tom himself was being inspired and mentored by Jack in his role as Design Director for the Daly group. This was a role Jack would fill time and time again over the course of his professional career.

Jack and I eventually became partners forming The Architectural Offices of Savage & Findley in 1981. It was a tough time to form a new office during a recession and attempting to build a new brand from scratch. I was too young and ambitious to know better, but when others in Jack's position would be considering a comfortable retirement, he was reinventing himself. Having just left a 25 year career at the Daly Company, Jack fearlessly pursued a 'new beginning', clearly realizing his work was not done.

For the next 15 years we followed our principles and continued to provide Omaha examples of 'thinking architecture' and 'value' driven planning and for public and private development. We continued to demonstrate how housing was much more than a track of land.

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Savage & Findley focused efforts on projects which offered opportunities to explore new ideas in housing rooted in fundamentals of human nature and need. From public community housing such as Town View Terrace and Pierce Point in Omaha, to the high end Spring Green.

A belief in promoting a quality of life by investing into community regeneration proved to be a primary tenant of our 'sustainable' design approach. As many of the projects approach 35 years of age, they still offer the values we set forth.

Jack was fully invested in these efforts at the grassroots level. It was not just a means to income, it was built on the principles that our work could make a difference and change peoples lives. This was how Jack wanted it. Anyone can build, but to build w/ purpose was at his core.

Jack's influence on me personally promoted personal growth exponentially as I progressed onto a broader international stage. My mentor from Nebraska gave me the foundation to compete and excel in the expanding and exhilarating Asia market for the last 18 years. I would not have been as well equipped for this but for Jack Savage and his willingness to teach and share his personal and professional values. Values I hold fundamental to my work today.

Without reservation, I nominate Jack Savage for the Harry F. Cunningham Gold Medal.

Jack's imprint and influence from his body of work to his leadership, inspiration and influence of numerous young architects will be felt for many years to come. Jack was and remains today a cultivator of the best in human spirit with architecture as its vehicle.

It is men such as Jack who have made our Nebraska a place of purpose and lasting example for generations to come.

Yours truly,

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Scott Findley Partner

For and on behalf of 10 Design Group Limited