

Architect Talks On New Concept

The modern esthetic concept in architecture that design should show purpose, as for instance how forces actually operate to hold up a bridge, has brought a significant change in the relationship between architects and engineers working on engineering structures, Aymar Embury, II, New York architect, told an audience in Baker Hall Monday night. Formerly, he said, engineers would design the bridge and then call in an architect to decorate it. Today the architect works with the engineer from the start and sometimes, by his passion for simplicity, suggests ways in which the engineer can construct more effectively and economically.

Illustrating his talk with architectural drawings and photographs of numerous bridges, most of them in the New York area and several of them constructed from his own designs as consultant for the Port of New York Authority and the Department of Parks of New York City, Embury demonstrated that the engineer may choose any one of a number of methods to attain the same result, and that many of the possible designs give the on-looker a feeling of confusion because of their complexity. The architect can select a design that emphasizes, rather than covers up, the ways in which physical forces actually work to make the structure serve its purpose.

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