

FRANK GRAD DIES; ARCHITECT WAS 85

Founder of Newark Firm
Designed Essex House

Special to The New York Times

DEAL, N. J. Jan. 20—Frank Grad, founder of the architectural and engineering firm of Frank Grad & Sons in Newark, died yesterday in Monmouth Medical Center. He was 85 years old.

Mr. Grad's firm designed the Center Market Building, Beth Israel Hospital, the Mosque Theater Building, the City Hall annex and the Raymond-Commerce Building, all in Newark, and the Essex House, on Central Park South in New York.

Mr. Grad founded the firm in 1907 and at first specialized in private homes. In recent years the concern worked on North Atlantic Treaty Organization bases in France, defense installations in England and Pakistan and government facilities in Thailand.

One of his important New Jersey commissions was the design for the state capitol development in Trenton, built at a cost of \$30-million.

As early as 1929, Mr. Grad had proposed the construction of a public parking garage under Military Park in downtown Newark. His firm's design for the project, one of the first of its kind in the United States, was built in 1959.

After his graduation in 1905 from technical school in Vienna, Mr. Grad was brought to the United States by his parents. He attended the Newark Art School and received an architect's registration in 1907. His two sons joined him in 1932.

The firm also designed the first unit plan for Rutgers University's Livingston campus and a number of high-rise buildings in downtown Newark.

Mr. Grad was a member of the American Institute of Architects, the New Jersey Society of Architects and the Society of American Military Engineers.

In 1957 he established a \$10,000 fellowship fund for architecture study at Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania.

His sons, Bernard of Elberon and Howard of Maplewood, survive.

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