



Indian  
Institute of  
Science

# Koenigsberger's Buildings at IISc



Otto Koenigsberger was a German architect who fled Nazi Germany and arrived in India in 1939. He had been invited to become the chief architect of Mysore State upon the recommendation of his uncle Max Born, who was a visiting professor of physics at IISc.

During World War II, the building that now houses Prakruthi was a hydrogen gas plant, designed by Koenigsberger. At its peak, it supplied 20,000 cft of hydrogen gas per month to Hindustan Aircraft Ltd (now Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd) where American WWII planes were serviced.



Koenigsberger also designed other new buildings at IISc in this period: the Dining Hall and Auditorium (now Hostel Office) in 1944, the old Aerospace Engineering building (including India's first closed-circuit wind tunnel) in 1946, and the Metallurgy building (now Materials Engineering) in 1948.



*The Dining Hall and Auditorium,  
which is now the Hostel Office*



*The old Department of Aerospace  
Engineering building*



*The Department of  
Metallurgy building*

He designed many other buildings in Bangalore, such as the Kalasipalayam bus terminus, and, as India's first Housing Director appointed by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, planned towns such as Bhubaneswar.