The Swiss Tradition of Bridge Design (deck stiffened arches)

Themes

Swiss context for establishing excellence in bridge innovation History, ETH Zurich, Culmann, Ritter, Maillart, Amman, ... Ritter's research, teaching, and role in Maillart's arches Maillart's constructional evolution of the deck-stiffened arch deck vs. arch, curved roads, approaches, details (railings) U.S. arches vs. Maillart's arches and optimal design Maillart's deck-stiffened arches as Structural Art



























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Simply for review... What are methods for providing stiffness to suspension bridges?























Aarburg - 1913





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Valtschielbach - 1925















































Discuss the scientific reasons behind Maillart's design choices. Discuss the aesthetic implications of these choices.













The Deck Stiffened Arch

Scientific: Stiffness from the deck leads to a slender arch

Social: Economical bridge solutions in primarily rural areas

<u>Symbolic</u>: Some of the most slender arches ever constructed, possible only because of Maillart's engineering creativity





