Today's News - February 5, 2004

A challenge of "shrinking city syndrome": what to do with buildings. — San Francisco offers lessons in density. — Downtown revitalization plans include seniors (a.k.a. boomers) - a template for the future? — In Maryland, "smart growth" no longer in the lexicon. — Manhattan to get its own "long, landscaped, car-free Champs Elysées...the easiest land grab since the city took Robert Moses' buildozers away from him" (but there's this "pesky building"). — A Mississippi town launches a design study. — Holyrood architects' row revealed. — A masters program in sustainability launched in Sweden (in English). — Design the next great streetlight for New York. — Urban planning experts in Ireland form partnership. — An architect "spins gold from straw." — A new book deals with office ergonomics. — Italian architect heads for Istanbul. — Call for entries for show about what a home should be. — Da Vinci in the news again: natural plastics (the images are great).

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Shrinking City Syndrome: New research...has shown that for every two cities that are growing, three are shrinking....leaving planners and city officials with... the challenge of preserving and reusing buildings with architectural and cultural interest.- New York Times

Suburban developments try to accommodate density: ...two Bay Area projects respond to the housing challenge in much different ways -- and teach much different lessons. By John King - Peter Calthorpe; David Gates + Associates; Gensler; Dahlin Group- San Francisco Chronicle

A New Wrinkle in Urban Renewal: Lancaster and Palmdale, far from trying to attract young hipsters, look to seniors to help revive their downtowns.- Los Angeles Times

[Governor] Ehrlich wants to end the Office of Smart Growth: Bill proposes Department of Planning take over...renaming the Smart Growth strategy as Priority Places- Baltimore Sun

City Hall Seeking Brand-New Avenue Between 10th, 11th: ...swath of privately owned buildings in the 30's and 40's that the city wants to demolish to make room for a broad, park-like boulevard.- New York Observer

Byhalia (Mississippi) launches design study. The Carl Small Town Center research unit at MSU's College of Architecture [and] students will facilitate the study.- The South Reporter

Revealed: Sir David Steel's Holyrood secret: ...decided to censor minutes of discussions about the bitter row between Enric Miralles, the Catalan architect, and RMJM, his Edinburgh-based partners.- The Herald (Scotland)

Swedish University Launches Sustainability Masters Program...based on The Natural Step Framework.- Environmental News Network

Putting A Shine On 'The Apple': "City Lights" international design competition [to] produce the next great city streetlight. Deadline: May 14 [slide show]- NY Newsday

Leading planners form new partnership: MacCabe Durney, Town Planning, Urban Regeneration and Design-Archeire.com

The Palace Maker: Peter Marino...knows how to spin gold from straw. [images]-New York Times

New Book Release: "Fundamentals of Office Ergonomics"- ErgoWeb

Massimiliano Fuksas will be in Istanbul for ARKIMEET conference February 17: third in a series that has included Wolf Prix, Coop Himmelb(I)au, and Dominique Perrault.- Arkitera Architecture Center (Istanbul)

Ever think architects talk a load of rubbish? Call for entries for...an exhibition to be run by the The Architectural Association of Ireland to compare what people think a HOME should be. Deadline: March 8- Archeire.com

<u>Da Vinci Invented Natural Plastics [images]</u>- Discovery News

On Track: Frank R. Lautenberg Rail Station at Secaucus Junction: Commuting is made easier (and grander) with a transit hub 10 years in the making. - Brennan Beer Gorman Architects [images]- ArchNewsNow

Machado & Silvetti: American University of Beirut Suliman S. Olayan School of Business, Lebanon [images]

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