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Today's News - January 9, 2006

ArcSpace takes a look at Bilbao exhibition and a Nouvel book. — Another take on rebuilding New Orleans - stop fighting nature. — Preservation of modern architecture a hot topic in Berlin, U.K., and NYC (Muschamp has a most intriguing take on 2 Columbus Circle). — Requiems for a Chicago jewel by Adler & Sullivan. — Is a Kansas project truly New Urbanism, or just a new name for

over-development? – In Manhattan, Foster takes on the "impossible task of rescuing the high-rise from creative exhaustion" - and is winning. – In the U.K., Swansea's new museum may really put the city on the cultural map. – Want to bypass planners? Design invisible houses. – Ontario pro's send up warning flags about new building codes. – Another (mostly) thumbs-up for Sudjic's "Edifice Complex." – An interesting look at the wives behind the starchitects. – It took awhile, but public art back in fashion in Melbourne.



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Rethinking New Orleans as a Series of Lagoons, Elevated Houses: Why do we stubbornly refuse to acknowledge that there are places on the earth's surface...where erecting cities endangers not only humans, but also the natural environment? By Roger K. Lewis-Washington Post

Trying to Save Berlin Relic From the Dustbin: The Palace of the Republic in Berlin has become an emblem of a failed ideology. Yet a growing chorus of voices has been rising in its defense...support for a kitschy castle should be viewed as the worst kind of architectural crime: an act of cultural parricide that rules out the possibility of redemption. By Nicolai Ouroussoff [images] - New York Times

Young fogeys to the rescue! Jonathan Glancey celebrates 30 years of the group that taught Britain to look after its greatest buildings -- Save Britain's Heritage; Foster; Stirling and Wilford; Twentieth Century Society- Guardian (UK)

The Secret History of 2 Columbus Circle: The city may not know what to make of the building, but a generation of gay New Yorkers always did. And our verdict is the one that matters. By Herbert Muschamp -- Edward Durell Stone [slide show]- New York Times

Another jewel of Louis Sullivan's legacy lost: Pilgrim Baptist Church...died by fire, only a few months after Sullivan's gray-shingled cottage in Ocean Springs, Miss., was destroyed by...by Hurricane Katrina. By Blair Kamin -- Adler & Sullivan- Chicago Tribune

Kaddish for a Legendary Church: A raging fire guts Adler & Sullivan's 1891 K.A.M./Pilgrim Baptist Church and silences the rich echoes of over a century of human aspiration. By Lynn Becker [images]- Repeat (Chicago)

Views vary on New Urbanism proposal: Bauer Farm plan features mix of housing, shops, offices and a theater...Lawrence city commissioners...must decide whether the highdensity style of development is bitter or sweet. -- Treanor Architects [image]- Lawrence Journal-World (Kansas)

Lucid in the sky with diamonds: Norman Foster has beaten New York at its own game with a tower that raises the high-rise stakes. Next stop ... Ground Zero. By Deyan Sudjic-Observer (UK)

Full steam ahead: With its sleek new museum, built by 'winking-eye bridge' architects Wilkinson Eyre, Swansea may yet become the next Gateshead- Guardian (UK)

Look - it's the invisible house: Architects are bypassing the planners by building homes that can't be seen from the outside. By Giles Worsley -- Jamie Fobert; Caruso St John; Gianni Botsford [images]- Telegraph (UK)

Engineers and Architects warn on New Building Code Requirements: New legislation fails to address public safety and streamlining objectives; could harm Ontario's building construction industry -- Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO); Ontario Association of Architects (OAA)- CCNMatthews (Canada)

Book review: Politics, economics and architecture: Deyan Sudjic's engaging new book, "The Edifice Complex"... By Alan Brake- Courier-Journal (Louisville, KY)

'I don't feel I'm selling ... I'm sharing': Publisher and one-time sexpert Elena Ochoa is a power behind Norman Foster's success and one of a growing cabal of influential architects' wives. Now she's about to launch a fabulously upmarket new magazine - a snip at £37.50. By Deyan Sudjic-Observer (UK)

Sculptures find new street cred: After having a very troubled relationship with Vault (aka The Yellow Peril), Melbourne is embracing public art with new funding and great enthusiasm- The Age (Australia)

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