Today's News - July 14, 2006

We lose two talents in their prime. — Are super-cities destined to become 21st century countries in their own right? — Not if they follow Vancouver and San Francisco's lead by making downtowns "attractive to residents and increasingly problematical for businesses." — A new urbanist/smart growth development in Minnesota has its own growing pains. — New Zealand developer takes inspiration from Seaside. — California developer sees prefab as way to go for sustainability and profit. — Katrina Cottages as prototypes for affordable housing on the Gulf Coast and elsewhere. — Building design must undergo rapid transformation "to avoid the catastrophic effects of global warming." — A Denver landscape architect transforms barren school yards into community centers for young and old. — Piano's plans for Chicago's Art Institute expand - for the better. — NYC's The New School wins community development competition. — On view. Athenaeum of Philadelphia presents Paul Philippe Cret, "a postmodernist before modernism was even formed." — We couldn't resist: launch of "inflatable hotel" a success (current guests: cockroaches and moths). —— Happy Bastille Day!

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Obituary: William 'Sandy' d'Elia, 59 -- architect and expert on urban planning and design marketing- San Francisco Chronicle

Obituary: Douglas McIntosh: 44-year-old architect developed restoration plans for Detroit - McIntosh Poris Associates- Detroit News

Are cities the new countries? London mayor Ken Livingstone is the latest civic leader to hanker after independence. Is the nation state under threat from the rise of the super-city? "London belongs to a country composed of itself and New York."- BBC (UK)

Extreme Makeover: After transforming its downtown into a residential mecca, Vancouver is trying to find the right balance between condos and commerce...quite a few American cities are about to face their own variant of the same problem: downtowns that are increasingly attractive to residents and increasingly problematical for businesses. — Lance Berelowitz; Trevor Boddy [slide show]- Governing

San Francisco supervisors — champions of suburban sprawl: They would rather grow the suburbs than encourage people to live and work in a desirable, transit-accessible urban environment. San Francisco Chronicle

St. Louis Park's Excelsior & Grand project a success, but still experiencing a few growing pains: ome are raising concerns over parking and density in the widely hailed "downtown" project- Minneapolis Star Tribune

Florida township inspires \$500m estates: ...using Seaside's neo-Victorian style of architecture and the town's street layout as inspiration for the Orewa development...- New Zealand Herald

Utopian Entrepreneur: Developer Steve Glenn is building prefab houses that he says will make money and still be good for the planet...concluded that developers are in a better position than architects to improve the world and turn a profit in the process. -- LivingHomes; Ray Kappe; David Hertz- Brown Alumni Magazine

Katrina Cottages: Rising from the ruins of Katrina, new cottage prototypes revolutionize the concept of affordable housing and embody a movement to rebuild the character of Gulf Coast towns. — Marianne Cusato; Bruce Tolar/Michael LeBatard; Eric Moser [images]-Cottage Living magazine

Design Renewable Energy into Carbon-Smart Buildings: Architecture and building design must undergo a rapid transformation...to avoid the catastrophic effects of global warming...a central message [at] SOLAR 2006 -- Edward Mazria-RenewableEnergyAccess.com

Injecting life into barren schoolyards: Take the example of Denver...where an innovative program has transformed these most neglected of spaces into community centres. By Christopher Hume -- Lois Brink-Toronto Star

Trusses, glass for museum Gunsaulus Hall: Art Institute passageway may get makeover as part of expansion, renovation...if properly detailed, would aptly echo both the modern wing's transparency and its clear expression of structure. By Blair Kamin — Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge (1916); Renzo Piano- Chicago Tribune

Parsons/Milano The New School Wins Community Development Contest: The plan is slated for a vacant site in Manhattanville, one of the poorest neighborhoods in New York...developed in partnership with the Fortune Society...- Interior Design Newswire

He nudged Phila. toward the future: You can't go very far in Center City without bumping into something designed by Paul Philippe Cret...a postmodernist before modernism was even formed. By Inga Saffron -- H2L2- Philadelphia Inquirer

Launch of inflatable spacecraft brings dream of orbiting hotel closer to reality [image]-Guardian (UK)

Jean Nouvel/Architectural Alliance: Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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