

Today's News - Thursday, February 21, 2008

Bad green news for U.K.: "government apathy" sabotaging low-carbon building efforts. – National Trust and developers' study says British green housing plans will fail without more regulation. – Good green news (we hope) for China as two cities adopt WWF Low Carbon City Initiative. – Architecture students take up the challenge for Navajo reservation and a Ugandan village. – If it hadn't been named Capital of Culture, would Liverpool's regeneration happen anyway? – Hawthorne muses on the important role architecture plays in this year's Oscar-nominated flicks. – High notes and low notes for Piano (we're tired of the word play): he wins a seafront cultural complex in Athens; but LACMA still taking hits. – Struggle to save its Route 66 landmarks. – Sparks flying all over Edinburgh: city saves a 1980s "flawed masterpiece" (for now, anyway). – Will a towering hotel spoil the city's skyline? – Caltongate architect strikes back at nay-sayers who show "a real ignorance of the city" (how to win friends and influence people?). – Not much hope for stained glass masterpiece at JFK. – Ending on a higher note: take flight with first aerial footage of Burj Dubai.

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[Reasons to see red over green energy: Government apathy sabotages Britain's shift to a low-carbon economy...BERR handed out grants for part of the cost of fitting solar photovoltaic systems covering only 270 houses last year. The Germans fitted 130,000.](#) - Guardian (UK)

[Green housing plans will fail without more regulation, developers warn: The culture of the building industry...must also be changed if the government's edict that all new homes are zero-carbon by 2016 is to be achieved, according to the report.](#) - Guardian (UK)

[Chinese cities adopt Low Carbon City Initiative: Shanghai and Baoding have joined a new WWF initiative...aims to break the link between rapid economic growth and increasing carbon emissions.](#) - Green Building Press (UK)

[Architecture students think outside the box to design low-cost, less-waste housing: DesignBuildBLUFF team is to design and build a workshop, student housing and bathroom... designed around three discarded shipping containers \[for\] Navajo reservation \[and\] a medical housing center for AIDS-orphaned children in the Ugandan village of Bira. \[images\]](#) - Gizmag (Australia)

[Liverpool 08 the story so far: How much is the regeneration in Liverpool attributable to it being the Capital of Culture and what would have happened anyway?](#) - New Statesman (UK)

[The Oscars: Using architecture as a stage-setter for what progress leaves behind: With this year's best-picture candidates, conformity in buildings mirrors the erosion of individuality in their inhabitants.](#) By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times

[Renzo Piano deal hits the right notes: ...the first choice of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation for the creation of a new seafront cultural, educational and recreational complex at the Faliron Delta, comprising the new National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera.](#) - Kathimerini (Greece)

[Piano Out of Tune: Not to say that Renzo Piano's new Broad Contemporary Art Museum \(BCAM\) is a disaster. It has many of the architect's trademarks of elegance, craftsmanship, and tasteful deference to art...But it falls short of expectations...This is watered down stuff, not Renzo Piano in top form.](#) - The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[L.A. Story With Broad and Piano: "A mess" is how architect Renzo Piano described the Los Angeles County Museum of Art \(LACMA\) in 2001..."Mess" is still the operative word, though, for the museum's sprawling campus, despite Mr. Piano's best efforts.](#) - Wall Street Journal

[Albuquerque landmarks along Route 66 face slow process to preservation: ...lack of a "prototype" has made progress on the De Anza slow. But several factors would make the resurrection of El Vado easier and quicker to accomplish.](#) - Albuquerque Tribune

[Edinburgh Council comes out in favour of RMJM's 'flawed masterpiece': Post-Modernism lives...city council refused permission for SMC Hugh Martin to demolish 1985 Distillers building.](#) - The Architects' Journal (UK)

[£200m hotel plan 'will spoil capital's historic skyline': A leaf-shaped five-star hotel is the centrepiece...which will fill a gap site near Haymarket Station... -- Richard Murphy.](#) - Edinburgh Evening News

[Caltongate architect hits out at 'thoughtless' objections: ...has defended the £300 million scheme, saying the city must "move on or die" ...says the objections show "a real ignorance of the city" ... -- Allan Murray- Edinburgh Evening News](#)

[Landmark JFK Stained Glass Coming Down: American Airlines last week quietly began dismantling the 900-pane window facade at an old John F. Kennedy International Airport terminal, despite pleas to keep the piece intact. -- Robert Sowers \[link\]- AP](#)

[First aerial footage of 600m+ Burj Dubai -- Adrian Smith; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \[links\]- ArabianBusiness.com](#)



[-- Pugh + Scarpa: Brad Pitt / Make It Right, Lower 9th Ward, New Orleans](#)

[-- PTW + CCDI + ARUP: Watercube, National Aquatics Center, Beijing](#)

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