

Today's News - Wednesday, June 24, 2009

- ANN launches a new series by research specialist Gretes about market research strategies, why they're so critical in these difficult times, and research techniques to guide you through this "information tsunami."
- An insightful breakdown of just how much of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is going to architectural services.
- U.S. Energy Secretary Chu on global warming and the importance of updating energy-efficient building practices globally: "Buildings are local. We don't ship buildings to Denmark."
- A new report offers a practical guide to "thriving in the downturn" - and yet another wave goodbye to the age of iconic buildings.
- Stephens delves deep into why cities shouldn't buy into the convention center economy: "an example of the tail wagging the dog."
- Thumbs-up and thumbs down re: Liverpool's Mann Island project (will it really "steal the sky"?)
- The death and transformation of the American architect: "It is essential to the future of the American City that architects grasp this transformation and become masters of their own future again."
- Davidson has a long conversation with Gehry - a must and most engaging read re: just about everything (his take on "starchitecture" triggers "a tirade revealing deep wells of grandiosity and resentment").
- Another take on Bata's "gutsy plan" to reinvent Batawa.
- Kamin revisits his alma mater and talks about how the "storybook New England campus" should evolve.
- BIG wins big in Estonia (great pix).
- RMJM wins big in Glasgow (great fly-through).
- Foster's Spaceport America actually taking off.
- Davidson revels in the "slightly lunatic feel of an urban encampment" that is the new Times Square.
- A good reason to head to a hot Las Vegas in July: the always cool SMPS national conference.
- We couldn't resist: Christopher Wren lived here - or did he?
- Speck offers Dwell an amusing alternative table of contents to its current issue.

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[Market Research Strategies in Uncertain Times #1: Now More Than Ever: Why market research is so critical to a firm's success.](#) By Frances Gretes - ArchNewsNow

[Follow the Money: All eyes are on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to jump-start the economy. Just how much is going to architectural services, and how will it affect the built environment? What the Agencies are Getting \(and Passing on to You\). Key provisions for the built environment...as identified by the AIA- Architect Magazine](#)

[U.S. Energy Secretary Stephen Chu: "Global Warming Is the Greatest Challenge Facing Science": ...local knowledge drives building development, and needs to be updated to ensure energy-efficient building practices go global quickly. "Buildings are local. We don't ship buildings to Denmark." - The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[Recession halts era of iconic buildings: Wave goodbye to iconic buildings and say hello to a more austere era of architecture, in which retrofitting of existing buildings is the main income stream \[says Deltek report\] "Thriving in the Downturn: a Practical Guide for Architects and Engineers" ...outlines five principles that practices can develop to cope with the new business models that are likely to emerge post recession. \[link to report\] - New Civil Engineer \(UK\)](#)

[Unconventional Thinking: Why cities shouldn't buy into the convention center economy...an example of the tail wagging the dog... By Josh Stephens -- Project for Public Spaces; Christopher Hawthorne; Rafael Viñoly; Andres Duany; Populous \(formerly HOK Sport\); Richard Florida-Next American City](#)

[Jury still out on Liverpool Mann Island blocks: As world-famous waterfront undergoes its most radical change in a century...report on the debate surrounding the new development..."We need a modern statement to showcase the aspirations of this city..."'the spaces around the building, which are as important the buildings themselves, have been vandalised and lost. They have stolen the sky.' -- Broadway Malyan- Liverpool Daily Post \(UK\)](#)

[The death and transformation of the American architect: While it is too early to predict the future of the profession - death by merging with the large, or death by attack from the small - there is surely fundamental change afoot...It is essential to the future of the American City that architects grasp this transformation and become masters of their own future again. By Rex Thomas - Winter Park Examiner \(Florida\)](#)

[The Unbuilding of Frank Gehry: Has New York lost its great chance with an architectural legend? Gehry speaks...Atlantic Yards represented an irresistible chance to do for an urban district what he had done for the museum and the concert hall: establish a new archetype...He just hasn't had a chance to change New York, which loved him too timidly and too late. By Justin Davidson - New York Magazine](#)

[The gutsy plan to bring Batawa back to life: Ten years after its shoe factory closed for good, Sonja Bata is turning the former one-industry town into a living lab for a post-industrial age...students from Carleton University...came up with radical ideas on how the faded factory town could reinvent itself. \[slide show\] - Globe and Mail \(Canada\)](#)

[A storybook New England campus: The essentials of its architecture: Last month, during my 30th reunion at Amherst College, I participated in a panel discussion on the architecture of that campus: What are its enduring principles? How should the campus evolve? By Blair Kamin-Chicago Tribune](#)

[Adams Kara Taylor and BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group bag Tallinn job: ...beat 80 design teams to Estonian city hall contract..."we have envisioned a very elastic structure – capable of adapting to unexpected demands." \[images\]- Building \(UK\)](#)

[RMJM to design £300 million athletes village for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. \[video fly-through\]- BD/Building Design \(UK\)](#)

[Construction begins on Foster's Spaceport America: Building works began last week on the world's first ever private spaceport...designed to be energy efficient and utilises a variety of green technologies... -- Foster + Partners; URS \[images\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Delirious Times Square: Without all the cars, carnival...The informality can't—and shouldn't—last. But one day...we'll find ourselves nostalgic for the early days of a car-free Times Square, when people bivouacked in the middle of the street, and when the center of the world had the provisional, slightly lunatic feel of an urban encampment. By Justin Davidson - New York Magazine](#)

[SMPS 2009 National Conference: Build Business: "Strategy. Risk. Reward"; Las Vegas, July 15–18- Society for Marketing Professional Services \(SMPS\)](#)

[Did Sir Christopher Wren really live there? A hotel in Windsor claims that the great architect built the property in 1676 and lived there with his family. However, local historians dispute that this is the case. We look at the hard facts \[images, links\]- BBC News](#)

[An Open Letter to Dwell Magazine: I hope you find this useful. Fondly, Jeff Speck, AICP - Metropolis Magazine](#)

[A Company of Generalists: An Interview with Joe Valerio of Valerio Dewalt Train \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)



[-- Exhibition: Green Architecture for the Future, Louisiana Museum, Humlebæk, Denmark](#)

[-- Nearing completion: Eric Owen Moss Architects: Art Tower, Los Angeles](#)

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