

## Today's News - Thursday, July 11, 2013

- Gendall takes us on a tour of some of the biggest inner-city development projects in the U.S. where architects (and landscape architects) "are taking a leading role" as master planners "finding ways to reconcile Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs."
- Is urban planning useful in the developing world? (It doesn't have to always be large moves.)
- Cardin cancels plans for his Venice skyscraper: it's "a victory for the people in the defense of the historic skyline" (though now it will be harder for the city to balance its books).
- Dunlap explains how Arquitectonica's design for a Long Island City tower "may be the first to be influenced by a swirls-and-curly, Depression-era, ruby-red, neon soft-drink sign" (very cool!).
- King offers his pick of 10 good urban buildings and places in San Francisco "worth seeking out, starting with something that isn't a building at all."
- Kamin x 2 (he's back - yay!): Cheers for the demise of the recently-built "offensive metal-and-glass wall" that marred Chicago's beloved Wrigley Building, now replaced with "gorgeous new terra cotta" with details "that restore the original design's festive glory" - it's "a visual feast."
- He's less cheered by prospect of advertising on Wrigley Field's "now-unsullied clock": the plan "tells you everything about the team's brazenness and Chicago's landmarks commission's cluelessness" (please take lessons from Fenway Park).
- An "intelligent design" for an office/hotel complex in London that handily deals with a railway tunnel and protected views gets the green light.
- In the U.K., "Hull is finally getting to have a bit of fun with a new pedestrian swing bridge that moves while people are still on it" (musical chimes included!): "Of course we could have had a cheaper or simpler bridge..." (it's really lovely!).
- Sadly, Spence's soaring bridge across the River Wear has been scrapped for something simpler - and less expensive: "The simplified design will continue to embrace modern and tasteful design qualities" (or so they say - no image or designer mentioned).
- Wainwright reports on yet another young design firm claiming "design similarities" in Olympic ceremony - this time, it's the glowing duvets on the 320 hospital beds (intellectual property lawyers licking their lips - again).
- Wroe has a lively conversation with Rogers, who is celebrating his 80th birthday and a Royal Academy show this month, re: "his 50-year bid to change society - and why we never get over the shock of the new."
- Morrell mourns the demise of the 94-year-old Davis Langdon brand as it is absorbed into Aecom - it's "unutterably sad."
- An AJ survey "shows homophobia is rife in practices and on site."
- Meanwhile, Murray takes RIAS and RSUA for declining to take part in the survey: they "should get over it and be proud to represent their gay members - like the RIBA"
- Eyefuls of Chile's 2013 Young Architect's Program winner: "AMBIENT 35 60" will provide a "container for artwork and events." in Santiago's Parque Araucano.

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**Emergent Master Planning:** ...architects are taking a leading role in laying out the future of cities: John Gendall goes on a coast-to-coast tour of some of the country's biggest inner-city development projects to find out how today's master planners are finding ways to reconcile Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs. -- SOM; Sasaki; Gruen Associates; Grimshaw Architects; Hargreaves Associates; Kohn Pedersen Fox/KPF; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Bing Thom Architects; SHoP Architects [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

**Is Urban Planning Effective in the Developing World?** A common question raised by those working in the developing world is whether urban planning is useful...Since questions often focus on planning of a comprehensive type, they overlook planning's intrinsic value and flexibility. - PLANetizen

**Pierre Cardin cancels vast skyscraper behind Venice:** A victory for the people as the ministry of culture follows them in the defence of the historic skyline...The collapse of the [Palais Lumière] scheme will make it difficult for Venice town council to balance its books...it was counting on €22m from Cardin for the sale of the land... [image]- The Art Newspaper (UK)

**As a Queens Tower Rises, a Spot Is Saved for Pepsi-Cola:** Building designs are influenced by zoning, financing, engineering and marketing. The 4610 Center Boulevard tower may be the first to be influenced by a swirls-and-curly, Depression-era, ruby-red, neon soft-drink sign...preservation involved more than an accommodating developer, an imaginative architect and a growing appreciation of popular history. By David W. Dunlap -- Bernardo Fort-Brescia/Arquitectonica [images]- New York Times

**Structures with style:** San Francisco is studded with good, urban buildings, a heartening number of them from the past 15 years. Here are 10 worth seeking out, starting with something that isn't a building at all. By John King -- Roma Design Group; HOK Sports (now Populous); SOM; George Kelham (1929); Willis Polk (1918); David Baker + Partners; Herzog & de Meuron; EHDD [slide show]- San Francisco Chronicle

**Wrigley Building's renovation goes for the glory:** Previous mistakes undone in a rapid and impressive transformation: The offensive metal-and-glass wall that marred a stretch of the building's north tower has disappeared. In its place: gorgeous new terra cotta...that restore the original design's festive glory...a visual feast. By Blair Kamin -- Graham, Anderson, Probst & White (1921 and, 1924); Gensler (2010); Goettsch Partners [image]- Chicago Tribune

**No time a good time for clock ad at Wrigley:** Wrigley Field has features worth saving — and not be reworked in Fenway Park's image: The prospect of an ad...marring that now-unsullied clock...tells you everything about the team's brazenness and Chicago's landmarks commission's cluelessness. By Blair Kamin -- Holabird & Root (1914); Harboe Architects; VOA Architects; DAIQ Architects [images]- Chicago Tribune

**Green light for Citicape Office Hotel:** Challenging site conditions in Holborn, London requires intelligent design: ...restricted below by a Thameslink railway tunnel and above by five of the six protected views to St. Paul's Cathedral... -- Avery Associates Architects [images]- World Architecture News (UK)

**Scale Lane Bridge:** Get into the swing: After years of axed regeneration projects, Hull is finally getting to have a bit of fun with a new pedestrian swing bridge: ...an inhabited bridge that moves while people are still on it - now that is a rarity... "Of course we could have had a cheaper or simpler bridge...but we wanted an iconic landmark..." -- McDowell + Benedetti Architects [images]- Building (UK)

**A Bridge Too Far: Plans For Record-Breaking Wear Crossing Are Scrapped Over Cost:** Ambitious plans to build the tallest bridge in the country across the River Wear...would be too costly...Sunderland council will now go ahead with a simpler bridge... "The simplified design will continue to embrace modern and tasteful design qualities..." -- Stephen Spence [image]- Sky News (UK)

**Olympic ceremony subject to further claims of design similarities:** Young design practice says it presented glowing duvets and pillows to Danny Boyle back in 2005: ...accusations follow claims...that the Olympic cauldron, designed by Thomas Heatherwick, was influenced by a design proposed by New York practice Atopia... By Oliver Wainwright -- Rachel Wingfield/Loop.pH [images]- Guardian (UK)

Richard Rogers: 'The street is where society comes into itself': On the eve of his 80th birthday, and a Royal Academy show ["Inside Out"], Rogers talks about his 50-year bid to change society – and why we never get over the shock of the new. By Nicholas Wroe -- Rogers, Stirk, Harbour + Partners- Guardian (UK)

Paul Morrell: Demise of Davis Langdon brand 'unutterably sad': Former senior partner mourns passing of historic name in UK construction...Aecom's plan to scrap the Davis Langdon brand...roots stretch back to 1919...- Building (UK)

AJ survey shows homophobia is rife in practices and on site: Reader poll reveals nearly half of gay, lesbian and bisexual (LGB) architects experience discrimination: "While it's somewhat reassuring to see that 74% of gay architects polled...feel comfortable being out in their practice, it's distressing to read that this figure drops when they leave the office..." - The Architects' Journal (UK)

RIAS should get over it and be proud to represent their gay members – like the RIBA: LGB architects in Scotland are worse off than anywhere else in the UK: When we asked the RIBA regional offices if they would pass on the AJ survey...to their members, just two organisations declined: Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) and Royal Society of Ulster Architects (RSUA). By Christine Murray- The Architects' Journal (UK)

UMWELT Named 2013 Winner of YAP Constructo in Santiago: 2013 Young Architect's Program in Chile...scheduled for completion in March 2014, will occupy a 20 x 27 meter site in Santiago's Parque Araucano..."AMBIENT 35 60" will provide a 'container for artwork and events.' [images]- ArchDaily

Saarenen's TWA Terminal Revisited: It was great to move once again within this swooping, multi-level building with its sunken lounges, suspended bridges, and shallow steps that invite gliding rather than climbing (and that tile work!). By Janet Adams Strong [images]- ArchNewsNow

Leon Krier Answers Norman Weinstein's Questions (and then some!): Dear Mr. Weinstein: Thank you for mentioning my Speer reprint. I will respond gladly to your questions if you respond to my "pointed" questions.- ArchNewsNow



-- Aires Mateus e Associados: Houses for elderly people in Alcácer do Sal, Alcácer do Sal, Portugal  
-- Atelier Peter Zumthor: Kolumba Museum, Cologne, Germany

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