

Today's News - March 8, 2006

Saffron takes on Bruegmann and pro-sprawlers. – Langdon takes on "urban expert" Kotkin. – Planning in Ho Chi Minh City is like "a body without a spine" in need of architects. – Kamin asks how downtown Chicago can avoid becoming "a sterile home for the super-rich." – Futuristic social housing project in Scotland holds "keys to some seriously pioneering ideas." – Modernist architecture and utopias in the sky - a Socialist's perspective. – All's well that ends well: settlement reached between Viñoly and Kimmel. – A British firm that celebrates its "trad influences." – America's Top 10 green hospitals. – Another ode to Hearst's green Manhattan tower. – Finalists selected for pedestrian bridge in Pittsburgh. – A new book chronicles the sad history (and future?) of Florida's Everglades.

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[Don't confuse prevalence of sprawl with desirability: In his slyly titled book Sprawl: A Compact History, Robert Bruegmann challenges the orthodoxy of what he calls the "anti-sprawl reformers" ...The attack on so-called elites should set off alarm bells. By Inga Saffron](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Commentary: The strange career of an "urban expert": Joel Kotkin pops up seemingly everywhere... But if he is an expert, he uses his knowledge largely to fight whatever policies and designs are likely to make urban life better. By Philip Langdon](#)- New Urban News

[HCM City's planning like 'a body without a spine': That's the comparison made by architect Nguyen Trong Hoa, Director of the HCM City Planning – Architecture Department...each district must have at least 3-4 qualified architects, which is, in reality, a problem.](#)- VietNamNet

[Urban renewal and the soul index: Make downtown vital, not sterile: Now that we've figured out how to get people to invest in downtown, how do we maintain its diversity and vitality so it doesn't become a sterile home for the super-rich? By Blair Kamin](#)- Chicago Tribune

[Casting light on homes for future: You have to cross the water to the Isle of Bute to find some of the most futuristic "social housing" in Scotland...seven-storey block called A'Chrannag - or the Crow's nest... – Gokay Deveci \[image\]](#)- BBC News

[Modernist architecture: utopias in the sky: Owen Hatherley argues that modernist architecture was born out of socialist revolution, and the left should reclaim its pioneering spirit](#)- Socialist Worker (UK)

[Kimmel reaches a settlement: It had differed with its chief architect over design changes and cost overruns...agreed to an out-of-court settlement... – Rafael Viñoly](#)- Philadelphia Inquirer

[It is cheating to muck around with algorithms: Caruso St. John celebrate their trad influences. By Hugh Pearman \[images\]](#)- HughPearman.com (UK)

[America's Top 10 Green Hospitals. By Kim Weller, AIA – Architects Boulder Associates/OZ Architecture; Anshen + Allen/Gordon H Chong Partners; Guenther 5 Architects; Zimmer Gunsul Frasca; Mahlum Architects](#)- The Green Guide Institute

[The Big Green Apple: Norman Foster's Hearst Tower will be Manhattan's most environmentally friendly skyscraper](#)- Time Asia

[7 finalists chosen in West End Bridge competition: Winner's design will guide construction of pedestrian/bicycle crossing. By Patricia Lowry – Bridgescape; Endres Ware; Index Space Architecture; La Dallman Architects; Llonch + Vidalle Architecture; TEN Arquitectos; West 8](#)- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

[Book review: Visionaries and Rascals in Florida's Wetlands: "The Swamp"...Michael Grunwald chronicles the transformation of the Everglades from one of the country's great natural wonders into an ecological disaster area.](#)- New York Times

[Green Design as Great Design: The Architecture of Sustainability: A design competition and conference seek to merge technical ingenuity and compelling design. – Bruder; Gang; Mazria; Timberlake; etc. \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

[– Competition winner: Steven Holl Architects: Cité du Surf et de l'Océan, Biarritz, France – Philippe Starck: Yoo Adelgade, Copenhagen, Denmark](#)

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