

Today's News - June 16, 2006

Why city-dwelling "snobs" have suburbanites (and the 'burbs) all wrong. -- Bruegmann's "Sprawl: A Compact History" poses some provocative questions, but "strategically chosen statistics combine in arguments that ultimately are only momentarily tantalizing." -- The tear-down wars spawn a new vocabulary. -- D.C. wants to sell off its only Mies: either the city doesn't know what it has, or it just doesn't care. -- Shigeru Ban on architects' social responsibilities. -- "Power space" to the max in a new Vegas pleasure palace for Middle America (including a Vegas-style London Eye). -- A new "vision of dense urban living" in Vancouver. -- A "love-in" for Jane Jacobs: "Jane would probably have disapproved of this gathering - seriously disapproved." -- Weekend diversions: Celebrating Price Tower's 50th anniversary. -- A documentary focuses on Thomas Jefferson's life as an architect. -- More takes on Gehry flick: "childlike mischief," "curveball wit," and "whimsical portrait."

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[What are you calling 'fake'? Suburbanites like a little urbanism, too... New urbanist developments are a reaction against the mall and the sameness that exudes in big-box stores and strip shopping centers.](#)- Dallas Morning News

[Book Review: "Sprawl: A Compact History": Robert Bruegmann has become a favorite sprawl apologist...But in fighting fire with fire...often neglects to explain his logic or acknowledge even a glimmer of wisdom in the theories he attempts to combat. -- New Urbanism; Kunstler; Duany; Jacobs-](#) PLANetizen

[The Teardown Wars: ...communities across the nation are enacting stricter guidelines for home renovations and demolitions....also known derisively as bash-and-build...a new vocabulary is emerging.](#)- New York Times

[Through Glass Darkly: D.C.'s Poor Vision for Library: ...a fundamental lack of respect for the building...It would seem that the mayor and his colleagues have no idea what they have here. Or don't care. By Benjamin Forgey -- Mies van der Rohe \(1972\) \[image\]-](#) Washington Post

[The Duty of Design: Shigeru Ban has pioneered the art of designing housing for people in disaster zones-](#) Vancouver Sun

[Aging New Frontier to become Montreux on the Strip: ...a \\$2 billion hotel...intended to appeal to Middle America rather than design experts who favor urban, minimalist architecture...observation wheel, Las Vegas' version of the London Eye, would tower more than 450 feet in the air... -- Paul Steelman Design Group-](#) Las Vegas Sun

[A thundering cry in the urban landscape: The Roar, one development of stacked homes in Vancouver is a vision of dense urban living...scenario planning means that each unit can be configured to suit the lifestyle of a variety of occupants... -- Lang Wilson Practice in Architecture Culture; Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden Architects \[image\]-](#) Globe and Mail (Canada)

[A tribute to a late champion of our city: Though the intentions were the best, one can't help but wonder what Jane Jacobs herself would have made of the love-in. By Christopher Hume-](#) Toronto Star

[National Building Museum Marks Wright \[Price Tower\] Skyscraper 50th Anniversary \(AP\) \[image, links\]-](#) Washington Post

[Poplar Forest to be seen across America: The episode, titled "Jefferson's Other Revolution," will focus on Jefferson's life as an architect.](#)- News & Advance (Virginia)

[Drawing on Gehry's imagination: Sydney Pollack's doc reveals a childlike mischief behind the blockbuster talent...What's extraordinary...is that he's managed to convert so much iconoclasm and curveball wit into actual structures.](#)- Maclean's (Canada)

["Sketches Of Frank Gehry": Whimsical portrait of a genius: An intelligent film that avoids being a hagiography. Pollack's is a coolly provocative film that highlights his friend's neuroses and connects the dots from that to his arguable genius.](#)- Toronto Sun

[UN Studio: Mercedes-Benz Museum, Stuttgart, Germany](#)

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