

Today's News - Thursday, June 19, 2008

- An in-depth look at the battle for Paris's skyline.
- A long look at Krier re: New Urbanism, Modernist vandals, and "polypolis" (he's very polite, too).
- Scottish architects fear having to take a back-seat role in revision of planning policies.
- British engineers cheer as RIBA changes its tune re: bridge competition (oh - buildability is now the one of the three main criteria - what a concept!).
- Delhi's architectural face: the good, the bad, and the ugly.
- A profile of Plowden, the powerhouse behind big plans for renewal in South Yorkshire suburbs.
- More on SHoP's South Street Seaport scheme (pix included).
- Gardner on Rudolph's A&A revival by Gwathmey: it "will be far more amenable to human habitation than it has ever been before."
- Bernstein on the long-overdue restoration of Holl/ Acconci's once-temporary façade.
- Rose on The Public, Alsop's new "fun palace": the architect thinks it's the best thing he's ever done (and link to lots of pix that prove it).
- Victoria, BC, to get architecture considered a "piece of modern art" (but is the city ready for it?).
- MIT's Digital Water Pavilion debuts in Zaragoza, Spain, today (revisit ANN, July 12, '07 feature, too).
- Szenasy, eloquent as ever, challenges the Class of '08 to go forth with world-changing ideas and "to form creative collaborations that reach farther and deeper than we've seen before" (we should all take heed).
- An unusual pairing takes the "next big step in sustainable design."
- Calls for entries: Spark Awards 2008; Red Hook Bicycle Master Plan Design Competition; and Rafael Viñoly Architects Grants for Research in Architecture.

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[Looming Debate: The battle over building heights in Paris pits a popular socialist mayor against real estate developers who would love to see the City of Light enter the 21st century...Delanoë...knows that living well is the most effective business incentive... -- Christian de Portzamparc; Antoine Grumbach; Yves Lion; Bruno Fortier](#)- Metropolis Magazine

[Cities for Living: Antimodernist Léon Krier designs urban environments to human scale...The New Urbanist movement...owes much to Krier...Though he abhors modernist vandalism, he never utters an uncharitable word about its perpetrators.](#)- City Journal/The Manhattan Institute

[Scottish architects fear reduced design roles: ...have attacked the Scottish government's shake-up of the planning system, claiming it is reducing architects to the role of 'technical advisers' -- Malcolm Fraser; Neil Simpson](#)- The Architects' Journal (UK)

[RIBA backs down in bridge competition row: ...deciding to allow submissions for a bridge competition from engineer-led teams after originally excluding them. Changes...go so far as to suggest that teams need not include architects at all...buildability is now the one of the three main criteria.](#)- New Civil Engineer (UK)

[Delhi's Architectural Face: ...how do we react to the buildings surrounding us? Love them, deplore them, ignore them? Tripti Lahiri does a site inspection...the good, the bad, and the ugly. -- Lutyens; Ashok Dhawan; Lakshmi Chand/Rahoul Singh Design; K.T. Ravindran; CPWD; Joseph Allen Stein; Charles Correa; Raj Rewal; Mani Rastogi/Morphogenesis; Hafeez Contractor; Sanjay Prakash; etc.](#)- Outlook India

[Miranda Plowden...has somehow assembled an impressive line-up of both international practices and emerging talent to help with the £200 million transformation of two Housing Market Renewal Zones \(Pathfinders\)...in the targeted South Yorkshire suburbs... -- Meccano; Schmidt Hammer Lassen; Gross Max; FAT; Letts Wheeler; Zero Zero; Fluid; Stephenson Bell; Grant Associates; Bauman Lyons; Allen Tod](#)- The Architects' Journal (UK)

[Shop-ing at the Seaport: SHoP's proposal for South Street Seaport would reintegrate the historic district into its surrounding neighborhood...not as a distinct megaproject... \[images, links\]](#)- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[Revivifying Yale's Brutalist Pile: Gwathmey...is a diplomat among architects, whereas Rudolph was a mud wrestler...when the renovations of the old building and the construction of the new one are completed...Yale's Art and Architecture Building will be far more amenable to human habitation than it has ever been before. By James Gardner -- Paul Rudolph \(1963\); Gwathmey Siegel \[slide show\]](#)- New York Sun

[A Facade Like No Other: Once Temporary, Now a Fixture Worth Restoring: The badly damaged 1993 facade for the Storefront for Art and Architecture gallery in Lower Manhattan, by Steve Holl and Vito Acconci, will be restored. By Fred A. Bernstein \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[All aboard the fun palace: With its floating galleries, sloping walls and exhibits that talk back to you, Will Alsop's daring new arts centre was worth all the wrangling...He inherited Price's sentiment that architecture should be fun, that it should make people happy rather than simply fulfil its intended function. By Steve Rose](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Will Alsop's The Public, a new arts building for West Bromwich: Architect thinks The Public, his new multi-purpose arts building is the most daring thing he's done. And with its bright colours, quirky shapes and innovative ideas, it certainly is a building you couldn't fail to notice \[slide show\]](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Big buildings on horizon for harbour: Proposals for aging motel sites include a condo described as modern art...A triangular building is being proposed...heralding a dramatic change to Victoria's tourist district... "But is Victoria ready for this?" -- Roger Hughes \[image\]- Victoria Times Colonist \(Canada\)](#)

[Digital Water Pavilion Makes A Splash: An MIT-designed building with walls made entirely of water is being unveiled Thursday at the opening of the Zaragoza World Expo in Spain -- Carlo Ratti/SENSEable City Laboratory- ScienceDaily](#)

[To the Class of '08: In the season of the commencement speech, Metropolis' Susan S. Szenasy has some advice for new grads: learn what it really means to connect...!" challenge you to use your famous ability to connect with others and share information about big, world-changing ideas...to form creative collaborations that reach farther and deeper than we've seen before."- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[The next big step in sustainable design: Elogico, a new initiative, seeks to incorporate eco consciousness from blueprints to finished buildings...short for Ecological Thinking, a joint venture between Italian design branding firm Brandit, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago- Plenty magazine](#)

[Call for entries: Spark Awards 2008 innovation and design competition: deadline: August 1- Spark](#)

[Call for entries: Red Hook \(Brooklyn, NY\) Bicycle Master Plan Design Competition: registration deadline: July 18- Forum For Urban Design](#)

[Call for proposals: Rafael Viñoly Architects Grants for Research in Architecture 08-09: deadline: August 1 \(international\)- Rafael Viñoly Architects](#)



[-- Ground broken: Arquitectonica: Trinity Place, San Francisco](#)
[-- Under construction: Reiser + Umemoto: O-14, Dubai.](#)

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