

Today's News - Tuesday, October 28, 2008

- A credit crunch and a presidential election: How is the financial crisis impacting urban planning policy; and an in-depth look at the presidential candidates' very different positions on urban issues.
- U.K.'s building regulations chief says sustainable design will go into hibernation because there won't be any profit in it for awhile (let's hope he's wrong).
- Q&A with Kongjian Yu about the environmental crisis facing China, and what landscape architects can do.
- Rowan Moore tells London mayor "it's time for some blue sky thinking": he has great opportunities to make the city "a genuinely better more beautiful, more civil, better functioning place."
- Preservationists fire first volley in battle for NYC's historic South Street Seaport.
- Kamin finds at least one silver lining in the economic slowdown: Zell holds off plans to alter old Chicago Daily News Building and plaza.
- Behin's Stack City tackles a zero carbon city "from a pragmatic point of view, but ends up asking us whether we're ready to re-engage utopia."
- Boston Architectural College at the forefront of bringing more African-American architects into profession.
- An explanation of how Montreal managed to snag Andreu for a "tout petit" project.
- King finds "a fresh twist on preservation" on San Francisco's Union Square: "like nothing that we've seen before, here or anywhere else" (even though he liked Koolhaas's "cheese grater" that never happened).
- Merrick marvels at Viñoly's "coup de théâtre" in Leicester: "this is beam-me-down-Scotty architecture; a 21st-century building that challenges the city's unfortunate motto, Semper eadem - "always the same."
- Davidson says new JetBlue terminal at JFK takes care not to overwhelm Saarinen, but it's certainly not "dainty."
- Thompson admires the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial for its "restraint and extremely elegant" design, but "can even the most elegant design succeed in a place that's no place at all?"
- Istanbul's newest mosque is the first in Turkey to be designed by women.
- A high-tech makeover of Rome's Mind's Museum overturns preconceptions about mental illness.
- An impressive shortlist for Lea River Park scheme.
- We couldn't resist: a leaning tower of Abu Dhabi seeks Guinness Book of Records as the "most inclined in the world." - A gallery of 10 of "the world's ugliest buildings for your viewing displeasure."

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[Cities and the Financial Crisis: How is the financial crisis impacting urban planning and land use policy? Tim Halbur takes a look at some early indicators drawn from recent news headlines and conversations with planning professionals. \[links\]- PLANetizen](#)

[Among Heartland Homages, Pols Address Urban Issues: The presidential candidates have staked out very different positions on housing, schools, crime, infrastructure and other issues key to urban America. - City Limits \(NYC\)](#)

[Sustainable design to go into hibernation, expert says: Building regulations chief sees no profit in sustainability...However, he said that it was crucial that industry kept up the pressure to move towards a more sustainable built environment. - Building \(UK\)](#)

[Battling China's Environmental Problems: Q&A with Kongjian Yu, designer of the Red Ribbon, Tang He River Park, talks about the environmental crisis facing China, and what landscape architects can do to limit adverse environmental change. -- Turenscape \[links\]- American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[It's time for some blue sky thinking, Boris: ...the Johnson mayoralty has the means to create and carry out policies for making London a genuinely better more beautiful, more civil, better functioning place. The question is what he is going to do with these opportunities. By Rowan Moore - Evening Standard \(UK\)](#)

[Seaport Thwart: Preservationists fire first volley in battle for historic South Street Seaport -- SHoP Architects; Jan Hird Pokorny Associates \[image, links\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[A silver lining to the slowdown: Zell holding off on altering old Chicago Daily News Building and plaza. By Blair Kamin -- Holabird & Root- Chicago Tribune](#)

[Student Works: Putting Utopia Back To Work: Starting with an adaptation of Jorg Schlaich's solar chimney power generators...Behrang Behin uses his strong understanding of technology to enter the problem of the zero carbon city from a pragmatic point of view, but ends up asking us whether we're ready to re-engage utopia. -- Stack City \[images, links\]- Archinect](#)

[Boston pushes to bring more black architects into profession: Boston Architectural College is in the forefront of the effort. -- Ted Landsmark/BAC - Boston Herald](#)

[The personal touch paid off in attracting star architect: Thinking outside the box paid off in wooing designer for Quartier des spectacles...How did Montreal manage to attract one of the world's better-known avant-garde architects? It has everything to do with individualism. -- Paul Andreu; /Edifica- Montreal Gazette](#)

[185 Post St. gets the museum treatment: ...a fresh twist on preservation. It's very much of the place; it's also like nothing that we've seen before, here or anywhere else...adds to a treasured landscape already defined by architectural craft. The fact that it's by a local? Icing on the cake. By John King -- Koonshing Wong/Brand + Allen \[images\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Leicester: a new theatre and no boundaries: From its radically adaptable stage to its public make-up room, Leicester's box-fresh Curve Theatre rewrites the script for dramatic design...architecture is, quite literally, a coup de théâtre...this is beam-me-down-Scotty architecture; a 21st-century building that challenges the city's unfortunate motto, Semper eadem -- "always the same"... By Jay Merrick -- Rafael Viñoly \[images\]- Independent \(UK\)](#)

[From Idlewild to Just Plain Mild: How TWA's swoopy little eagle fits in its giant, generic JetBlue nest...taken care not to overwhelm Saarinen...a facility designed for 20 million travelers a year can't be dainty. By Justin Davidson -- Eero Saarinen \(1962\); Gensler; Rockwell Group- New York Magazine](#)

[The Mind and the Soul: The Pentagon Memorial mood is somber, elegiac. It inspires you to reflect on the lives lost here without telling you what to think about them...admirable in its restraint and extremely elegant in its design. But soul shaking?...Can even the most elegant design succeed in a place that's no place at all? By J. William "Bill" Thompson, FASLA- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects \(ASLA\)](#)

[In Turkey, Mosque Gets A Woman's Touch: Istanbul is about to get a unique new addition...Sakirin Mosque, the first in Turkey to be designed by women. -- Zeynep Fadilliglu/ZF Design \[images\]- National Public Radio \(NPR\)](#)

[In Rome, a New Museum Invites a Hands-On Approach to Insanity: Overturning preconceptions about mental illness is the leitmotif of the eight-year-old Mind's Museum, which reopened after a high-tech overhaul. -- Studio Azzurro- New York Times](#)

[Five landscape designers shortlisted for Lea River Park scheme: ...will connect the Olympic Park to the Thames at the East India Dock Basin. -- Agence Ter; Field Operations; Gardner Stewart Architects; Latz and Partners; PROAP - HorticultureWeek \(UK\)](#)

[Abu Dhabi tower leans towards the record books: ...to be built at an angle of 18 degrees...Developers...have submitted a joint application to the Guinness Book of Records to recognise the tower as the "most inclined in the world" -- RMJM \[image\]- Building \(UK\)](#)

[The world's ugliest buildings: ...you cannot simply define one category of hideous architecture. There is ugly, and then there is Ugly...a gallery of ten of the world's ugliest buildings for your viewing displeasure. \[slide show\]- CNN International](#)



[Rafael Moneo: Prado Museum Extension, Madrid, Spain](#)

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