

Today's News - Wednesday, January 8, 2014

- We lose Lamb, the original "L" in RTKL.
- Moore's take on 2013 is that it was both "a year of unintended consequences for architectural icons" (amusing), and that the "consumption of public space by financial speculation" really "matters to people" worldwide.
- Litt looks back on architecture and planning in Cleveland where "community development, big downtown projects, and a rising debate over streetscapes and bike paths dominated 2013."
- Heathcote offers a most thoughtful progress report on what is (slowly) "emerging from the mud of Ground Zero": "If New York manages to reclaim a piece of its city as true public space, rather than making do with the leftovers of corporate gigantism, that alone will be an achievement."
- Gunther is impressed with the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, but thinks "few memorials will maintain their cathartic and 'hero'-worshipping intent, suggesting "architectural leaders" should come up with "a toolbox of formal and material templates" that would satisfy those "in search of a precise historic impulse, but also for those who merely encounter it and feel better as a result" (like that will happen any time soon).
- Eyefuls of the "Top 10 Innovative Memorials You've Never Heard Of" (some real stunners!).
- Two fascinating studies "illustrate how city residents perceive their surroundings" that "can potentially shed some light on why urban populations continue to grow."
- O'Sullivan reports on Brussels' plan to turn a central axis into a pedestrian-only, "spacious, rambling open-air living room" that would finally make it "a likeable European city."
- Birnbaum wishes the "rather frothy debate" about developing the Presidio's Crissy Field in San Francisco would get more national attention, and that deciding what to build "requires more thought and consideration."
- Hawthorne, Glancey, Volner, Zacks, and Milgrom weigh in with great profiles of the seven 2014 Metropolis Game Changers who "specialize in big-picture thinking rooted in the idea of community."
- Wainwright spends the night with Bauhaus ghosts: "the history of 20th-century design is compressed and blended into a primordial soup of originals and copies" (and you don't have to go to the basement for a shower).
- The amusing (and not commonly known) tale of Kahn's encounter with The Commodores in Manchester, UK (he toured the city's architecture, too).
- Bergren Miller brings us more details re: the attempt to build an unbuilt FLW house in the U.K., and why it "would have been the last of Wright's posthumous works to be built with the blessing of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation" (great pix!).
- Call for entries: Moved to Care international competition for a mobile healthcare facility in Southeast Asia + 2014 IES Illumination Awards for lighting design.

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Obituary: Charles E. Lamb, 87, noted architect won national recognition for his modernist designs that stressed practicality and clean design...a founder of RTKL... - Baltimore Sun

The best architecture of 2013: Starchitects learned the folly of their ways while Istanbul defied the march of the mall...a year of unintended consequences for architectural icons...The consumption of public space by financial speculation is a worldwide issue...Gezi Park protests show how much it matters to people. By Rowan Moore -- Santiago Calatrava; Zaha Hadid; Haworth Tompkins; Thomas Heatherwick/Dan Pearson; Herzog & de Meuron; Caruso St John; Niall McLaughlin; McDowell and Benedetti; Stephen George and Partners [links]- Observer (UK)

Whew! Looking back on art, architecture and planning in Cleveland: Regional planning, community development, big downtown projects and a rising debate over streetscapes and bike paths dominated 2013. By Steven Litt -- James Corner Field Operations; LAND Studio; Cooper Carry; Weiss/Manfredi; Denver Brooker/Vocon/Marcel Breuer; Frank Gehry/Peter B. Lewis - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Rebuilding the World Trade Center: a progress report: Emerging from the mud of Ground Zero...the rusty steel skeleton of Santiago Calatrava's new transport hub evokes the fossilised carcass of a dinosaur...a symbol for a construction project that seems to be progressing at an almost paleontological pace...If New York manages to reclaim a piece of its city as true public space, rather than making do with the leftovers of corporate gigantism, that alone will be an achievement. By Edwin Heathcote -- Daniel Libeskind; David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners; Foster + Partners; Snøhetta; Fumihiko Maki; Michael Arad- Financial Times (UK)

Cataloging Catharsis: The 9/11 Museum And A Time For Leadership In Designing Memorials: Probably no greater investment or direct survivor engagement has ever been made to a tragedy...few memorials will maintain their cathartic and "hero"-worshipping intent...architectural leaders should address it head on with a toolbox of...formal and material templates that...would not only stand as memorial...for those specifically in search of its precise historic impulse, but also for those who merely encounter it and feel better as a result. By Paul Gunther -- Snøhetta; Davis Brody Bond; Michael Arad; Peter Walker; Peter Zumthor/Louise Bourgeois; Bruce Kelly [images]- Architizer

Top 10: Innovative Memorials You've Never Heard Of -- Gaeta-Springall Arquitectos; Studio Kuadra; Butzer Design Partnership; Peter Zumthor/Louise Bourgeois; KBAS; Libor Šenekel; oficina de architecture - Emilio Marin + Nicolás Norero; Wodiczko + Bonder; Louis Kahn; Zaha Hadid [images]- Architizer

Why Your Big Move to the Big City May Be Your Last: A pair of recent studies might help to illustrate how city residents perceive their surroundings in a way that encourages them to stay put...findings can potentially shed some light on why urban populations continue to grow. By Eric Horowitz -- Sarah Foster/University of Western Australia; University of Surrey- Pacific Standard

Europe's Most Congested City Contemplates Going Car-Free: A new mayor in Brussels wants to turn a central axis into a pedestrian-only zone....turning its core into a spacious, rambling open-air living room...new plan is going over well with locals, meaning Brussels might finally gain its deserved place as a likeable European city. By Feargus O'Sullivan- The Atlantic Cities

What's the Big Idea? Debating the Future of a Great Urban Park: ...the current, rather frothy debate about proposed development at Crissy Field in the Presidio [in San Francisco]...deserves more national attention...The frustration of those who want a decision now is understandable...I think this decision requires more thought and consideration. By Charles A. Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation -- WRNS Studio/Chora; Presidio Trust; George Lucas [images]- Huffington Post

The 2014 Metropolis Game Changers: 7 architects, designers, developers, and community leaders...specialize in big-picture thinking...engaged in ambitious pursuits...rooted in the idea of community...And that's ultimately what gives them real power. By Christopher Hawthorne, Jonathan Glancey, Ian Volner, Stephen Zacks, Melissa Milgrom -- Jonathan F.P. Rose; Susan Weber; Alastair Parvin; Phil Jones; Eric Owen Moss; Frederick and Laurie Samitaur Smith- Metropolis Magazine

A night with the Bauhaus ghosts: The parties lasted for days, the students slept with tutors -- and their sleek designs changed the world. As modernism's most famous school reopens, Oliver Wainwright books a room...the history of 20th-century design is compressed and blended into a primordial soup of originals and copies...it is hard not to feel a wave of

[nostalgia for the Bauhaus experiment. -- Walter Gropius; Marcel Breuer; Mart Stam; etc.- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[Louis Kahn and the Commodores: In 1972 Kahn travelled to London to receive the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture. What is not commonly known is that the next day he travelled to Manchester..."Do you know who just pushed your car up the ramp? The Commodores!" By Theo Bishop -- John Proctor Bishop; Manchester Society of Architects \[images\]- RIBA Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Wright for Wrexall? Bid To Construct an Unbuilt Masterwork in England Quashed: ...intended for a site in Santa Barbara, California...would have been the last of Wright's posthumous works to be built with the blessing of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation...no additional unbuilt projects will follow in the wake of the Pratt Residence... By Anna Bergren Miller \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[Call for entries: Moved to Care two-stage international competition: design a healthcare facility that is safe, secure and can be relocated with relative ease in Southeast Asia; open to professionals and students; registration deadline: January 31 \(submissions due February 28\)- Building Trust International \(UK\)](#)

[Call for entries: 2014 IES Illumination Awards for professionalism, ingenuity, and originality in lighting design; deadline: February 14- Illuminating Engineering Society \(IES\)](#)



[OMA: The Speed of Shenzhen: Rem Koolhaas' new Shenzhen Stock Exchange in China...people look down onto a sterile ideal city. By Ulf Meyer \[images\]](#)

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