

Today's News - Tuesday, July 26, 2016

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to circumstances beyond our control we will not be posting the newsletter tomorrow, but we'll be back Thursday, July 28.

- Parks are in order on a hot summer day: Saffron cheers the "spiffy" makeover of Philly's Dilworth Park, but with the Democratic Convention in town, she ponders why the park "has not been able to accommodate a single legal protest in two years" (so much for free speech).
- Litt, on the other hand, says Cleveland's "great new" Public Square helped make the Republican Convention a success, where "conventioners and protesters generally co-existed peacefully in what amounted to a festive celebration of free speech."
- Brake gives two thumbs-ups to the Hills on NYC's Governors Island: "It is remarkable that such a bold vision would survive and actually get built in a city where design ambitions often collide with financial realities and bottom-line thinking."
- Studio Mumbai unveils its design for Melbourne's 2016 MPavilion, to be made of "bamboo, twigs, cow dung, and earth."
- Ricardo wanders the new Sydney Park Water Re-use Project and finds it "an impressive fusion of design, science, art and ecology."
- Abboud parses the "good, bad and thought-provoking" of Pokémon Go, and what lessons it can "teach those charged with shaping public space in the real world."
- Court says construction can continue on Pier55 - "at least until September when the full case is heard before the court."
- Hecht considers the Museum of Tolerance Jerusalem as the controversial project pronounces a completion date, but the "optimistic tenor" of the announcement "belied the project's troubled gestation and lack of clarity about its function."
- Newark, NJ, "passes nation's first 'environmental justice' ordinance" (yay!).
- McKnight x 2: eye-fuls of a low-cost housing complex in San Francisco designed by a trio of local design firms (very cool).
- She also offers eye-fuls of Gorlin's colorful affordable housing project in the Bronx for low-income tenants, including those who were once homeless (also very cool).
- Mid-century Modern fans rejoice! "Breuer's Central Library in Atlanta to be renovated and NOT demolished."
- Ulam finds lessons for the upcoming Habitat III in Burdett's "Conflicts of an Urban Age" at the Venice Biennale that "provides evidence of laissez-faire planning run amok," and how "many of the most effective urban interventions will come from grass-roots efforts."
- Casale has a great Q&A with Aravena re: "natural disasters, reconstruction, and the scarcity of meaning in architecture today."
- Salingaros takes architectural education to task, asking: "Are students encouraged to exercise their own free will in judging what is good architecture, or pressured to blindly trust received authority?"
- Eye-fuls of the AIA 2016 National Healthcare Design Awards winners.
- Call for entries: Applications for 2017 Graham Foundation Grants to Individuals + A|N's 2016 Best of Design Awards.

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[New Dilworth Park is busy with everything but protests: Not one group was able to secure a protest permit for convention week because Dilworth was booked solid months ago...how is it possible that this spiffy new surface has not been able to accommodate a single legal protest in two years? ...it would be a terrible thing if all those entertainments crowded out space for the real basis of public life: free speech.](#) By Inga Saffron -- Olin; KieranTimberlake- Philadelphia Inquirer

[Cleveland's great new public spaces helped make RNC 2016 a success: ...conventioners and protesters generally co-existed peacefully in what amounted to a festive celebration of free speech...The redesign of Public Square, effectively ground zero for protests, appeared to defuse tension, rather than concentrate it.](#) By Steven Litt -- James Corner Field Operations [images]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

[New York is rapidly evolving beyond a Manhattan-centric identity: ...West 8's recently opened The Hills on Governors Island...has turned a pancake-flat stretch of land into a platform for perceiving New York in a new way...It is remarkable that such a bold vision would survive and actually get built in...a city where design ambitions often collide with financial realities and bottom-line thinking.](#) By Alan G Brake [images]- Dezeen

[2016 Mpavilion designs revealed: Bamboo, twigs, cow dung and earth connect visitors to elements: Biljoy Jain's Mpavilion will both literally and figuratively connect visitors to the ground and sky with building materials...will open on 5 October in Melbourne's historic Queen Victoria Gardens.](#) -- Naomi Milgrom Foundation; Studio Mumbai [images]- Architecture & Design (Australia)

[Waste not, want not: Sydney Park: Occupying a former landfill site, the Sydney Park Water Re-use Project by Turf Design Studio and Environmental Partnership is an impressive fusion of design, science, art and ecology...I was lucky to visit...in wet weather, witnessing firsthand its masterful choreography of stormwater.](#) By Ricky Ray Ricardo [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

[Public space versus Pokémon Go: What lessons can this game...teach those charged with shaping public space in the real world? ...public spaces...transformed into virtual battlegrounds, leading to a host of real-world interactions - good, bad and thought-provoking...has clashed with some sites' real-world significance...offended the sites' real-world custodians.](#) By Rana Abboud/BVN- ArchitectureNow (New Zealand)

[NY court lifts injunction on Pier55, allows construction to continue: ...at least until September when the full case is heard before the court...City Club of New York has sued to block the project.](#) -- Heatherwick Studio- The Architect's Newspaper

[Museum of Tolerance Jerusalem Moves Forward: Long embroiled in controversy, the troubled project now has 2018 as its completion date...statement's optimistic tenor belied the project's troubled gestation and lack of clarity about its function.](#) By Esther Hecht -- Frank Gehry; Chyutin Architects; Aedas; Yigal Levi Architects [images]- Architectural Record

[Newark passes nation's first 'environmental justice' ordinance: Requires city planning officials to get more information from developers to ensure healthy, sustainable projects.](#) - Building Design & Construction (BD+C)

[Three architecture studios complete low-cost housing complex in San Francisco: A trio of local design firms teamed up to create an affordable apartment building that occupies a full city block...Called 1180 Fourth Street... By Jenna M. McKnight -- Mithun-Solomon; Kennerly Architecture & Planning; Full Circle Architecture \[images\]- Dezeen](#)

[Alexander Gorlin Architects creates colourful affordable housing for single adults in The Bronx: ...small studios for low-income tenants, including those who were once homeless. Called Boston Road...contains 154 rental units...that measure 300 square feet \(28 square metres\)...project was backed by...Breaking Ground and Services for the Underserved... By Jenna M. McKnight \[images\]- Dezeen](#)

[Marcel Breuer's Central Library in Atlanta to be renovated and NOT demolished: ...commissioners now indicated their support for the building's preservation and adaptive reuse...Architecture and Design Center joined forces with local practice Praxis3 to generate a proposal showcasing the library's potential.](#) [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Lessons for Habitat III from the Venice Architecture Biennale: "Conflicts of an Urban Age"...curated by...Ricky Burdett...amplifies the agenda of this architectural extravaganza...research provides evidence of laissez-faire planning run amok...exhibit showcases various types of interventions that have helped...many of the most effective urban interventions will come from grass-roots efforts. By Alex Ulam - [Citiscopes.org](#)

Alejandro Aravena's Architecture of Improvement: How the Pritzker Prize-Winner is Changing the World with Beautiful, Practical Buildings: [He talks] about natural disasters, reconstruction, and the scarcity of meaning in architecture today. By Rocky Casale -- [Elemental \[images\]](#) - [Surface magazine](#)

On Cognitive Dissonance and The Architectural Canon: Are students encouraged to exercise their own free will in judging what is good architecture, or pressured instead to blindly trust received authority? ...currently-accepted architectural theories have no predictive capacity, but are instead intended to justify built forms after-the-fact...embarrassing design mistakes...could have been easily corrected beforehand. By Nikos A. Salingaros - [Metropolis Magazine](#)

AIA selects seven projects for 2016 National Healthcare Design Awards: Facilities showcase the best of healthcare building design and health design-oriented research. -- Yazdani Studio of Cannon Design; Stephen Yablon Architecture; EwingCole; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); ZGF Architects; NBBJ [\[images\]](#) - [American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

Call for entries: Call for Applications: 2017 Graham Foundation Grants to Individuals: funding for projects about architecture and its role in the arts, culture, and society; Inquiry Form (Stage 1) deadline: September 15 - [Graham Foundation](#)

Call for entries: A|N's 2016 Best of Design Awards (international): submit completed works in 26 categories; projects submitted must be located within the U.S.; deadline: September 30 - [The Architect's Newspaper](#)



7 Abandoned places: Haunting. Chilling. Yet fascinating. Abandoned places remind us of the life that once was. But what happens when the humans leave and nature takes over? ...visit the Danish Architecture Centre for the newly opened exhibition "Abandoned"... -- Jan Elhøj; Morten Kirckhoff [\[images\]](#)

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