Urban and suburban communities are a focus today, from Baltimore and Boston to Los Angeles and London - and then there are the "penguins" of Sydney. We're sure to see preservation battle lines drawn at 2 Columbus Circle. The Cooper-Hewitt has announced a few winners and its shortlist of National Design Awards nominees. There are exhibitions in Boston, New York, and Chicago that sound like they're worth checking out. And Muscovites will soon be able to "sample dishes from the Last Supper and watch temple adulteresses dance in Canaan."

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Craft Project at 2 Columbus Circle: Out of the crumbling marble cocoon... a new American Craft Museum emerging... and not one that will please preservationists. - Edward Durell Stone - New York Times

City Observed: The Future of LA's Architecture - However engaging the various high profile projects may be...they really are not where the future of the city lies. By Sam Kaplan - KCRW.org (Los Angeles)

Community hopes to tell of its past: Remington leaders campaign to turn this humble city neighborhood into a historic district. - Baltimore Sun

Preserving paradise: The Architects Collaborative 1952 residential development at Five Fields, Lexington - Boston Globe

Safety in numbers: Penguins keep danger at bay because they look alike. On Sydney's outskirts a new type of housing estate uses sameness as a selling point. - Sydney Morning Herald

Lord Rogers demands urgent action on urban regeneration [includes link to speech transcript] - The Architects' Journal

Town Planning Forum: Objecting to new building projects will become more difficult under new government proposals, campaigners warn. - BBC News

Construction industry 'skeptical' about sustainability - The Architects' Journal (UK)

GSA/ASID Partnership Promotes Interior Design Excellence in Federal Buildings - PR Newswire

Ford plans to redevelop 337-acre former Packard Proving Grounds: includes an Albert Kahn-designed gateway and lodge, Lindbergh airplane hangar... to be restored [AP] - San Francisco Gate

An Award That Was Made in the Shade: Museum honors landscape architect Daniel Urban Kiley with Lifetime Achievement Award. - Washington Post


Exhibition Review: Architectural Visions Keep Dreamers Awake: "Artists Imagine Architecture" (Boston); "Out of Site: A Group Show of Fictional Architectural Space" (New York) - New York Times

"Unexpected Chicagoland": Exhibit's saving grace is preserving the past By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Diamond and Schmitt Architects to design University of Ontario Institute of Technology - Canada NewsWire

A Bible Fun Park Wholly Planned: A Chechen mogul, an Israeli exporter and a Russian poet are joining forces... - Moscow Times (Russia)

Seizing the Throne of Good Taste: Ralph Pucci, the powerful mannequin manufacturer, looks for breaking talent in the world of furniture design. - Vladimir Kagan; David Weeks; Andrée Putman, etc. - New York Times

Le Clos Jordan Winery by Frank O. Gehry & Associates - ArchNewsNow