We begin the week with an examination of several different interpretations of and solutions to urban sprawl. – Chicago’s South Side will see major (and much needed) rehab. – Rebuilding cities shattered by wars and civil unrest is the theme of this week’s Cities on the Edge conference in Melbourne. – The architect of Brasilia has 10 new buildings planned for sister city Niteroi. – Country living reinvented by Grimshaw “a strange and rather wonderful place to be” (you have to see it to believe it, and there are lots of images). – Questioning why there’s a huge gap separating quality design in signature, award-winning houses and the thousands of homes built in subdivisions. – An architect takes on that challenge with “custom-built architecture within reach of other than top-of-the-hill clients.” – Raw nerves: Boston’s Big Dig bridge designer is displeased, and the hubris is heating up about Edinburgh’s Haymarket. – A broad view of the Venice Biennale that includes a few countries (and issues) not mentioned in most reviews we’ve seen. - Colorado students win big in the Solar Decathlon, and perhaps we’ll all win something. – A 55-year-old firm closes its doors. – Asian-based architects offer their views of Kuala Lumpur skyline and urban architecture in general, and much more.

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Antidotes to Sprawl Taking Many Forms - New York Times
New blueprint: [Chicago’s] South Side to see most significant change in massive rehab plan; investing almost $2 billion, to replace five blighted housing projects - Crain’s Chicago

Meet a Day in the life of the new Dili - Norman Day/East Timor Urban Design Enterprise: Cities on the Edge Urban Design Conference, October, 9-11 - The Age (Australia)

At 94, Brazil's Famed Architect Is Still Ahead Of the Curve - Oscar Niemeyer - Washington Post

A home with backbone, Nicholas Grimshaw reinvents the country house. In Germany. By Hugh Pearman [images] - HughPearman.com

What Home Builders and Others Might Find on a Tour of Architects' Own Homes. By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post

This Year's Modern: John Sofio/Built wants to provoke a public conversation about architecture. [images] - L.A. Weekly

Bridge designer is absent from event: Swiss engineer Christian Menn, who solved one of the Big Dig’s thorniest problems...is not happy with the way things turned out - HNTB; Rosales Gottemoeller Associates - Boston Globe

Architects find it grim in Edinburgh. By Jay Merrick - Reiach and Hall; Narud Stokke Wilir - Independent (UK)

Striking dreams of architecture: Venice Biennale offers the new and the never-to-be-seen - International Herald Tribune

Making their mark on Scotland's heritage: Architecture Heritage Society of Scotland compiles a shortlist of 20 favourite 20th century buildings - The Scotsman

Enhancing Wright: Architect's glassy design chosen for Martin House visitors center - Toshiko Mori - Buffalo News

Magic box: Tony Fretton's Faith House is low-key and low cost. But a few moments inside will change your life. By Jonathan Glancey [image] - The Guardian (UK)

FMSM Design Group shuts its doors - New Mexico Business Weekly

University of Colorado Boulder Wins Solar Decathlon on National Mall [images] - Environment News Service

Building ideas: design will have to move towards sustainability and tradition - Hijjas Kasturi; Mark Dytham/Klein-Dytham; Donald Bates/Lab; Dr Kenneth Yeang/TR Hamzah and Yeang [images] - The Star (Malaysia)