Today's News - August 26, 2003

A small exhibition offers big ideas (and inspiration?) for Ground Zero planners. -- WTC Environmental Impact Statement draws comments. -- Rebuilding neighborhoods pays off. -- Waukegan has big plans for downtown and lakeshore redevelopment. -- Pittsburgh looks to Prague for inspiration: "...we shouldn't be doing what Baltimore did 20 years ago." -- Baltimore looks to the future. -- Parking plans in Philadelphia politics as usual? -- da Vinci town plans included an early form of prefabricated housing. -- Suburban Sydney suffers the "Americanization of global house design...buildings owe nothing to lifestyle but everything to image" (even sociologists are trying to figure it out). -- Landscaping makes condos more attractive (now there's groundbreaking concept!). -- Everyone is thrilled with Liverpool Museum project (but no one mentions the architect!). -- A new downtown library does its job well. -- A new school recalls old ideals. -- A new stadium scores (sort of). -- You, too, can own a Frank Lloyd Wright gas station (fuel not included) or a shoe house (old lady not included). -- An architect makes her mark in the world of comic books.

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Filling the WTC Void; Foreign projects offer visions that NYC could adapt for a reverent, living memorial; show at Van Alen Institute...offers a worldwide tour of civic projects; New York Newsday

Environmental Impact of Rebuilding Lower Manhattan; Gotham Gazette

Why Once-Violent Neighborhoods Stayed Calm During the Blackout; publicly financed reconstruction effort that has rebuilt neighborhoods... -- New York Times

Waukegan (IL) City Council Approves Master Plan for [400-acre] Lakefront and Downtown Redevelopment - Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)- US Newswire

Pittsburgh city planners look to Prague for inspiration - Edge Studio [images] - Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

West side's stories rising, and with them renewal hopes; Centerpoint...$80 million transformation of an entire block into shops, restaurants and rental residences - Baltimore Sun

Bring people, not parking, to Rittenhouse:...why is one square getting a glitzy apartment tower and the other a common garage? By Inga Saffron - Philadelphia Inquirer

New town planning, Leonardo-style: design is on a new British Library website...[link]- Guardian (UK)

New suburbia: crowded land of the giants: The biggest house on the smallest block for the lowest price... So is it heaven or an architectural horror? - Sydney Morning Herald

Condo-scaping: Taller, slimmer towers, more competition bring urban landscaping to the forefront - Janet Rosenberg & Associates; Kirkor Architects & Planners; Ferris & Quinn Associates; Starr Landscaping; National Post (Canada)

Liverpool Museum adopts concept of the mall; undergoing a £35m transformation - Guardian (UK)

[Salt Lake City] Main Library building still draws people; a bright success spot in a troubled downtown - Moshe Safdie; Valentiner Crane Brunes Gryn... - Salt Lake Tribune

Ritter College Prep's design shows openness to surroundings; recalls the days when education was regarded not so much as a problem but as an essential part of the civic infrastructure - Christner Inc. - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In new $295 million Lambeau Field, the inside wins; Glassy atrium scores, but traditional brick exterior is not much of a leap. By Whitney Gould - Ellerbe Becket [images] - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Cloquet's famous Frank Lloyd Wright gas station could get new owner, function [image] - Minneapolis Star Tribune

A fairy-tale existence could be yours: A shoe-shaped house that draws tourists near York, Pa., is for sale. Asking price: $129,000. [AP] link to image - Philadelphia Inquirer

Interview: Lark Pien: "Comics and Architecture both are engaged principles of design." - Silver Bullet Comicbooks

INSIGHT: A Story of a Place: Placemaking is the art of architecture connecting spaces to communities, By Alexander Wu - ArchNewsNow

- Bernard Tschumi: Construction start: New Acropolis Museum, Athens, Greece
- Frank Gehry & Partners/Herbert S. Newman and Partners: University of Connecticut School of Fine Arts at Storrs
- Rem Koolhaas/Office for Metropolitan Architecture: Paard van Troje (Trojan Horse), Hague, The Netherlands
- Snehetta: Final design phase; Museum and Hotel, Tafjord, Sunnmøre, Norway
- Santiago Calatrava: Preliminary design; Woodall Rodgers Extension Bridge, Trinity River Corridor Project, Dallas
- Cruz & Ortiz Architects: Final draft; New Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam