Today's News - December 19, 2003

It's official: Freedom Tower unveiled this morning. -- Not your daddy's SOM. -- It's a long shortlist for Canadian Museum for Human Rights. -- Conspicuous by their absence? Harvard archs not part of planning task force. -- Also: master plan "more aspirational than achievable," so there will be another competition for Cross Gate development. -- Big idea: being small. -- A grand staircase endangered at Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts? -- Bold plans needed for the future of an industrial graveyard. -- Preservation awards call for entries. -- Another Best of 2003 list. -- Almost famous. -- Science academy will be reborn will be marvel in green.

Architects Unveil Revised Freedom Tower Design (AP) - Daniel Libeskind; David Childs [images] - New York Times

Oddest Couple Splices Into One At Ground Zero: Now that the compromise is complete, rebuilding authorities have only to face one more obstacle: the ornery public. - New York Observer

My Memorial By Michael R. Kuo/Imagine New York - Gotham Gazette

Not Your Daddy's SOM: Roger Duffy's quiet demeanor masks a steely determination to remake one of architecture's behemoths. By Fred A. Bernstein [images] - Metropolis Magazine

30 Architectural Firms Selected in Stage 1 of the International Architectural Design Competition for The Canadian Museum for Human Rights - PR Newswire

Harvard's architects say: How about us? Harvardologists duly noted the absence of an architect from the World's Greatest Graduate School of Design on the newly formed task forces...appointed to map out Harvard's march across the river into Allston. - Boston Globe

Lewisham scraps Alsop masterplan and starts over: £45m New Cross Gate development is reopened to competition after "aspirational" plans are snubbed - Building (UK)

Heuston, we have a project - a €120m scheme which contains the country's tallest building - Irish Independent

Days of the mega hospitals may be over: But fewer beds may not mean a smaller building...would also be greener - both botanically and environmentally. - The Straights Times (Singapore)

House at the End of the Line:...consider the extent to which "simple," "small" and "rustic" have become terms of architectural endearment in America and Europe in recent years. By Christopher Hawthorne - New York Times

Is this the right step for a grand staircase? This revolutionary space continues to be a battleground in the city's taste wars. By Inga Saffron - Frank Furness; Dagit-Saylor Architects; Robert Venturi - Philadelphia Inquirer

Time to chart a new course for the West Donlands: The Ataratiri scheme collapsed in 1993. We must think boldly again about the future of an industrial graveyard - Globe and Mail (Canada)


The Best 03 in Architecture, Landscaping and Design presented by Hochparterre and B.Magazin [links to images] - Swiss-Architects

Almost famous: Architects get all the credit, but where would they be without structural engineers? - Cecil Balmond - Guardian (UK)

Putting penguins in cold storage: California Academy of Sciences...will be razed to make way for a new $370 million structure, a marvel of eco-friendly design. - Renzo Piano; Gordon H. Chong and Partners - Environmental News Network


-- Competition winners: Shigeru Ban; Jean de Gastines & Philip Gumuchdjian, Centre Pompidou - Metz, France
-- Competition winners: Foreign Office Architects: The Music Box, BBC Music Centre, White City, London
-- Foster & Partners: Elephant House, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark
-- Half-way mark: Santiago Calatrava, Turning Torso, Malma, Sweden

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