Today's News - August 30, 2004

We lose a city planner who changed the face of Philadelphia. -- Beijing building boom a boon or boondoggle? -- Mark those eyesores with an "X" (and beware of wild construction booms). -- Security can (and should) be compatible with functionality and beauty. -- Waterfronts reviled (or hope to be revied) in Seoul, Los Angeles, and Tokyo. -- A new environment and education center that fits with the eerie beauty of Thames marshes. -- Sustainable architecture finally catching on in Poland. -- Antarctic housing a potential solution for city housing in vulnerable areas. -- Light bulbs lit by burning bananas. -- Understanding the difference between an architect and a conservation architect could save a lot of Philippine heritage. -- Holyrood (again): nothing wrong with construction management - as long as they know what they're doing, and cramped spaces may make for better government. -- New visions for Manhattan's Koreatown. -- High praise (with a few caveats) for Chicago's urban park of the future. -- Building a better sound trap.

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**Obituary: G. Holmes Perkins, 99, chief of Philadelphia Planning Commission...helped reshape vast quadrants of the city.** By Inga Saffron - Philadelphia Inquirer

Will the 2008 Olympics be a boon or boondoggle for Beijing? Suspense is building...In China..."modern" unfortunately still means car-friendly and large-scale. - Sasaki Associates; Herzog & de Meuron; Burtonhardt and Partner; Schuermann Architects; RMJM; PTW - San Francisco Chronicle

**A Building is an Eyesore and Must Go? Grade it X: Ferguson's proposal...offers food for thought to cities...engaged in wild construction booms, accompanied at times by the destruction of traditional neighborhoods.** - New York Times

**Op-Ed: We Don't Have to Live in a Fortress of Fear: Security plans can be compatible with functionality and can respect the beauty and accessibility of the public realm.** By Len Hopper, FASLA - Washington Post

Clean water in the Seoul: With the restoration of Yangjaecheon, the Cheonggyecheon and the Seoul Woods project, Seoul is undergoing substantial changes to re-emerge as a model for an ecological city. - Korea Herald

Port of Los Angeles Submits "Preferred Plan" for San Pedro Waterfront Project to Port Community Advisory Committee: "From Bridge to Breakwater" - EE&K Architects/Gafcon - Business Wire

Revival eyed for Tokyo waterfront: Tokyo Canal Project - Tele-design: Adriaan Geuze - Daily Yomiuri (Japan)

**Strictly for the birds: The Thames marshes are a place of eerie, delicate beauty. Can the RSPB's new (environment and education) centre fit in? I think it will do just that.** By Jonathan Glancey - Van Heyningen and Haward Architects - Guardian (UK)

**Battling for the environment: Sometimes called 'sustainable', other times 'eco' buildings...In Poland, it would seem, such ideas have yet to find much fertile ground from which to grow, though that might be about to change.** - Warsaw Business Journal (Poland)

Space technology could give comfy Antarctic homes: highly-engineered, eco-friendly structures could also be the future of European city housing...especially those in vulnerable areas. -- [image] - New Scientist

**Bananas could power Aussie homes: If all goes according to plan, a banana-fuelled power plant capable of powering 500 homes could be built.** - BBC News

**Pride of Place - From Taal to Laoag, heritage issue ranges: One cause of misunderstanding...is the lack of consultation with a qualified conservation architect...a difference comparable to that of an obstetrician and an ophthalmologist.** - Philippine Daily Inquirer

**Galleries "prove fiasco at Holyrood avoidable": "There is nothing wrong with construction management if it is handled by people who know what they are doing..."** - The Scotsman (UK)

**Press-panned into the littlest room in Holyrood:...it is going to feel cramped...It might even start to feel like a real, working parliament, with journalists and politicians mingling in every area, whispering conspiratorially behind pillars, unable to avoid each other.** - The Scotsman (UK)

"Beyond 32nd Street: New Visions of Koreatown in Manhattan": young NYC architects suggest new architectural and urban schematic visions at Gallery Korea, NYC, Sept. 8 - Oct. 8 - Jin Hwang, Yoon Gyoo Jang, Bockduk Jueng, Kyungil Kong, Do-Yong Um, Jeong Hyun Yoon, Hangman Zo - Korean Cultural Service

A people's park for the future: Millennium Park...a new kind of urban park, far more interactive than anything before it. By Blair Kamin - Frank Gehry, Jaume Plensa, Anish Kapoor - Chicago Tribune

**Building a Better Soundtrap: Arup Acoustics...hope that SoundLab will transform acoustical design in the same way that three-dimensional computer animations have transformed visual design.** - Coop Himmel-b(l)au; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects; Foster & Partners - New York Times