Commercial buildings win big in Ireland. — Libeskind project back on track in San Francisco. — Mr. Gehry builds his dream house. — Green projects in New Mexico and Washington, DC, LEED the way. — Are competitions on the way out? — A Chinese artist blossoms as an architect: "It seems to me that bad buildings give in to many temptations, and good ones are able to limit temptation. That's about all I know about architecture, and it seems enough." — A São Paulo park in a no-man's land blossoms with rocks. — A new campus "arts village" for Nashville. — Architecture students take on a jazz club in Kampala. — Call for entries to UIA student competition. — Exhibition of "superb" photos of synagogues opens in New York today. — High Point displays a low point in American design. — Perhaps designers should pick up a copy of Terence Conran's new book for inspiration.

Commercial buildings reel in top architecture awards...proving just how effective a good building can be to commercial enterprises...Opus Architecture and Construction Awards...15 winners - The Irish Times

Jewish Museum will be a test for "starchitect": With luck, San Francisco will be where Libeskind shows the "starchitect" still has substance. We'll soon find out. - By John King - San Francisco Chronicle

Mr. Gehry's neighborhood: As the celebrated architect finishes plans for a Venice home, he is quietly wooing the locals. Unlike reaction to his then-shocking Santa Monica design, they're not "as hostile this time." - Los Angeles Times

University of New Mexico to seek green certification for new architecture building - Antoine Predock - New Mexico Business Weekly

Architects Dig Going Green With their own Office Building: ...will be the first LEED-certified building in Santa Fe and the first private building with the LEED certification in New Mexico. - Lloyd & Associates Architects - Albuquerque Journal

National Association of Realtors Opens New Environmentally Advanced Building on Capitol Hill...expects to earn LEED certification - Graham Gund Architects; SMB Architects; Lucas Stefura Interiors; Oehme, Van Sweden & Associates - Business Wire

Death to design competition: ...[Newton] public facilities committee voted down the competition...it's not likely to be resuscitated - TownOnline (Massachusetts)

An Exile Ascends China's Big Stage: Thanks to his work with the Swiss firm Herzog & de Meuron on the [Beijing] Olympic stadium...Chinese artist Ai Weiwei suddenly finds himself with a rising profile in the architecture world. By Christopher Hawthorne - Michael Maltzan; Toshiko Mori [images] - New York Times

The Parks of Colors From The Dark: Amelia Toledo has created an artistic oasis in a no-man's land surrounded by the buzzing traffic of a São Paulo thoroughfare. [images] - BrazilMax

New "Arts Village" to spice up campus:...not known for its architectural edginess...exciting new architecture will alter MetroCenter's [Walkire College of Art & Design] built environment... - Gresham, Smith & Partners [images] - Nashville City Paper

MUK, Club Pilsener Jazz Up Musicians: Plans are underway to give the stuffy Musicians' Club at National theatre a new look...Makerere University Department of Architecture to redo the interior... - The Monitor (Kampala)

UIA 2005 Istanbul Congress Student Competition: "EXTREME Creating Space in Extreme and Extraordinary Conditions"; registration deadline: January 25, 2005; submissions due June 13, '05 - International Union of Architects (UIA)

Built Judaism: How Synagogue Photography Opens Worlds; "Palaces of Prayer," a new exhibit...on New York's Lower East Side includes 70 superb color prints of synagogues... - Laszlo Regos - Forward

All this schlock and not a decent couch to faint on: A trip to High Point's giant furniture show reveals an exhausting and disappointing proliferation of dated American design. By Barbara King - Los Angeles Times

Book Review: How things work better: "Designers on Design" by Terence Conran and Max Fraser - Los Angeles Times


Healing Stories: Renovating San Francisco's Ronald McDonald House - ADD, Inc.; Babey Moulton Jen & Booth; Chong Partners Architecture; Huntman Architectural Group; IA Interior Architects; RMW; SmithGroup; SMWM; TSAO Design Group [images] - ArchNewsNow

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