Crime-Friendly Neighborhoods: How "New Urbanist" planners sacrifice safety in the name of "openness" and "accessibility." By Stephen Town and Randal O'Toole - Reason

How's that for a grand design? It's the most ambitious makeover series yet. Channel 4 is attempting to regenerate a whole town. But how do its forthright residents view the arrival of sculpture-strewn greens and swanky riverfront developments? - Guardian (UK)

Determined to keep its small-town roots: What's the big idea? Ajax, the poster child for planned communities, likes to pay attention to the little things. - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Don't Do as the Romans Do: Jared Diamond's "Collapse" traces the fates of societies to their treatment of the environment. - Grist Magazine

Demand for solar energy in Thailand is projected to soar over the next six years, driven by the government's programme to promote renewable energy. - Environmental News Network

Green Expectations: From wind turbines to green dorms, from turf roofs to eco-friendly cleaning fluids, universities are exploring environmentally friendly ways to conserve energy, save money - and help the planet. - University Business (via CollegeTownLife.com)

The wow factor on campus: Universities are learning that impressive architecture can woo students and give a new identity. - Independent (UK)

Belvedere College's new block a lesson in concentration: The new science block is a dynamic space designed to serve a number of uses, including an all-round education. - Irish Times

Yawning aside, decorum fits Bay Area nicely: What's good here tends to be subtle — and subtle doesn't count for much in this age of Gehryesque spectacle...can have a certain allure — even when it doesn't leap off a magazine page. By John King - Craig Hartman/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Brand + Allen; Jim Jennings - San Francisco Chronicle

Mid-18th-Century Modern: The Classicists Strike Back: The Institute of Classical Architecture has made sweeping changes to its once-fusty agenda, and the design world is scoffing no longer. - New York Times

Rafael Viñoly tells Giles Worsley why London is the place to be for architects:...the arrival of a big New York heavyweight...is a fascinating development. - Telegraph (UK)

An Architect's Wet-Cement Dream: Just as termites build castles on Earth, robots could erect skyscrapers on the moon...It's not every day that an age-old discipline like architecture coughs up an anomaly that's unthinkable. This is one of those fine moments. - François Roche/R&Sie - Wired magazine

Mabarat restaurant wins design award: Qaryat al-saha hailed for reflecting Muslim architecture. Structure resembles traditional village in midst of urbanized environment - Daily Star (Lebanon)

Designing Woman: Angela Santerini thinks that her family architecture business can become the Dell Computer of the design world — a lean, mean, direct-marketing machine. - Fortune

Call For Entries: 2005 International Ergonomics Association/Liberty Mutual Prize; deadline: April 15 - ErgoWeb

Amazing Archigram: Pop art meets architecture in England - Peter Cook, Michael Webb, Dennis Crompton, David Greene - Daily Yomiuri (Japan)

The Copyrighting of Public Space: Millennium Park...built with $270 million in city funds - is slowly emerging as Chicago's most privatized public space. Photographers beware! - New (sub)Urbanist