Today's News - April 8, 2005

Things not looking too sunny for Britain's solar energy industry. – The new American Megalopolis has to undertake complex planning strategies (but will it?). – New Urbanism and Smart Growth may be hip, but are they all they're cracked up to be? – Not all are pleased with development plans along Scotland's River Tweed. – Office buildings everywhere are becoming more user- and community-friendly. – St. Louis renaissance "pinning its hopes on architecture." – Ground Zero development has ground to a halt. – Opinion about design of Art Museum of Western Virginia: valid criticism or sour grapes? – Four projects shattering the boundaries of glass. – Team selected for UK’s first independent Supreme Court. – Pillars of the Industry Awards honor excellence in multifamily housing. – Harvard GSD explores the loopholes between architectural theory and practice. – Denver to throw open its doors to architectural tours. – One we couldn't resist: a short quiz (for male architects only): how sexist are you?

Sunny side down: Britain's fledgling solar energy industry fears it is being abandoned by the government- Guardian (UK)

American Spatial Development and the New Megalopolis: These regional areas transcend political boundaries...have the size, capacity and expertise to undertake complex planning strategies.- Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

City planning by Those Who Know Best: New Urbanism and Smart Growth, two planning ideologies that are the hippest thing in the world of urban design...yet they miss the most meaningful things in life because they emphasize architecture over people.- Orange County Register (California)

Battle looms for both sides of the [Scottish] Borders: The romantic heartland of Sir Walter Scott's vision and verse is under threat from developers. "Central Borders Housing Corridor" proposes 1,200 houses...740-acre village, to be known by the romantic name of Huntlyburn.- Telegraph (UK)

Global Citizens, Global Cities: Across the globe, the office building is becoming less isolated, less isolating, and more adaptable. - Kohn Pedersen Fox; Lohan Caprile Goetttsch Architects; Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum; Gensler Europe; Skidmore, Owings & Merril; NBBJ/HUS/PKA- Urban Land Institute (ULI)

For St. Louis, Great Expectations but a Slow-Rolling Renaissance: The calculus of rehabilitating any wounded city is partly about experimenting until something that works is found...pinning its hopes on architecture, specifically its stock of glorious old buildings.- New York Times

Ground Zero: Ground to a Halt: While all eyes were turned to the fight over the West Side stadium, redevelopment at the far more vital World Trade Center site crawled to a virtual halt.- Libeskind; Childs/SOM; Calatrava- New York Post

Editorial: To the contrary, [Art Museum of Western Virginia] will be a triumph: it's one thing to express a personal and subjective opinion about the design, but it is quite another to open a personal attack on the designer...smacks suspiciously of sour grapes...- Randall Stout- Roanoke Times (Virginia)

Glass Menagerie: ...four projects that use the material in fresh ways...much more than just letting the sun in.- Steven Holl Architects; Michael Bell Architect; Schwartz/Silver Architects; Lucio Blandini and Werner Sobek [images]- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Foster set to design Supreme Court: will transform Middlesex Guildhall into the UK's first independent Supreme Court.- Foster and Partners; Feilden+Mawson- Guardian (UK)

NAHB Announces Pillars of the Industry Awards for Excellence in Multifamily Housing - Hensley Lamkin Rachel; Torti Gallas & Partners; McLarand Vasquez Enseik & Partners; Looney Ricks Kiss; KTGY Group; James, Harwick & Partners; LandDesign; etc.- National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

LOOHOLES within discourse & practice: A conference at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, April 15 & 16- ArchNewsNow

The first Doors Open Denver: 82 buildings to let visitors inside for free April 16-17- Rocky Mountain News (Denver)


Holocaust History Museum at Yad Vashem: A new museum tells a dark story, and then bursts through to the light.- Moshe Safdie and Associates [images]- ArchNewsNow

April '05 Build Business: Generating the Most Profitable Fees. By Eric P. Mott

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-- Morphosis: Cooper Union, New York City
-- Erik Millers Tegnestue: Hotel Stk. Petri, Copenhagen, Denmark
-- Letter from the Editor: Exploring Copenhagen and environs