Today's News - April 25, 2005

ArcSpace gives us two views of a California house ("shoebox on pillars") - one celebrates the views, the other makes it an internal experience. -- Editorial and Op-Ed take two different views of Ground Zero. -- A decade after the Oklahoma City bombing, Washington, DC still feels the blast. -- Sydney's suburbs targeted to handle the city's future sprawl (but will it be affordable?). -- Big plans for Santa Fe's abandoned rail yard (prairie-dogs not included). -- Mumbai blocks demolition of historic mills, seeks alternative development. -- Will today's unconventional architectural geometry become tomorrow's cliché? -- It's official: NYC projects assure Calatrava celebrity status (we thought he already was a celebrity - silly us). -- The new Walker addition is "a playful, quirky, sensuous, socially vital counterpart to the elegant, yet oh-so-serious modern building to which it was added." -- Even with value engineering, Shenandoah museum shows that Michael Graves "plays by his own rules" and "creates strange buildings for strange times." -- For a library in the U.K., the hero of the day is the local authority architects' department. -- Celebrating the restoration of a "stunning, modernist" pavilion. -- Mies van der Rohe's Crown Hall auctions off "Smash Bash" to launch restoration/renovation project (not all are amused). -- Call for entries for the Best Building in Scotland.

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-- Escher GuneWardena: Jamie Residence, Pasadena, California

-- Olafur Eliasson: Jamie Residence Meant To Be Lived In

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Editorial: Rethinking Ground Zero: Freedom Tower, a stunning creation forged by the opposing architects Daniel Libeskind and David Childs, is apparently being sent back to the drawing boards...If...plan is suddenly replaced by something far less magnificent than what was promised, the public will have a right to feel betrayed. - New York Times

Op-Ed: Move the United Nations Downtown: By taking space at ground zero, the United Nations would solve its space problem, practically overnight...The Freedom Tower could, in a way no one predicted, become a true symbol of freedom. By Fred A. Bernstein - New York Times

The Force of Fear: A Decade After the Carnage In Oklahoma City, Washington Can Still Feel the Blast. By Benjamin Forgey - Washington Post

City sprawl puts urban squeeze on Hunter: Sydney's increasing transport congestion and chronic housing shortage have forced desperate planners to target...Hunter Valley towns to squeeze in an extra 300,000 people in the next 25 years...- Sydney Morning Herald

Rail-yard park design heading to Santa Fe City Hall -- Ken Smith; Frederic Schwartz Architects; Mary Miss [images] - Santa Fe New Mexican

Mumbai Court Bans Mills Redevelopments: Judgement is a stay of execution on demolition - International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU)

Regarding the 180-Degree Turn From a 90-Degree Standard: Like many once-original ideas, non-orthogonal design has gone from being special to being trendy...today's unconventional geometry can easily become tomorrow's cliché. By Roger K. Lewis -- Koolhaas; Libeskind; Hadid; Gehry - Washington Post

An Architect Embraces New York: Two high-profile New York projects have cemented Santiago Calatrava's celebrity status...Time magazine recently named him one of the 100 most influential people of 2005. [images] - New York Times

New ice cube a cool addition at the Walker: This is not another "spectacle" building...Like a lot of architecture today, the addition resembles sculpture, but it is no one-liner, uttering one loud cry with nothing else to say. By Blair Kamin -- Edward Larrabee Barnes (1971); Herzog + de Meuron - Chicago Tribune

Michael Graves Makes Himself At Home in the Shenandoah: An architectural poem in a springtime field...a whole lot simpler than the one Graves initially conceived. By Benjamin Forgey - Washington Post

Sense and sensitivity: Alton's new library has enough traditional touches to make Jane Austen feel at home...A strong and simple building...that follows its own logic and adds intelligently to the design of a market town that rightly fears "wow factor" architecture. By Jonathan Glancey [image] - Guardian (UK)

Back to the future: Deyan Sudjic celebrates the restoration of the stunning, modernist De La Warr Pavilion -- Erich Mendelssohn/Ivan Chermayeff (1935); John McAslan + Partners - Guardian (UK)

Crown Hall To Be Vandalised - To Save It: Mies van der Rohe Society raises $US2,705 by auctioning the right to smash windows in the arch-modernist's masterpiece - International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU)

Call for entries: RIAS Andrew Doolan Award for Architecture, Best Building in Scotland, £25,000 prize; deadline: May 31 - Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

Discovery and Collaboration = Chemical Reaction: University of Missouri-Columbia Life Sciences Center, By Gregory Blackburn, AIA - Anshen+Allen Architects/BNM Architects [images] - ArchNewsNow