Today's News - June 29, 2005

Freedom Tower redesigned (lots of images…reviews are sure to follow); landscape by Walker. -- Grimshaw's nearby transit complex gets its dome clipped a bit. -- China experiencing architectural growing pains; hopefully, "the days of Chinese schools churning out assembly-line architects" are numbered. -- Pearman takes on Britain's "40 under 40." -- Austin battles big boxes. -- Low-income housing project in San Francisco proves "tight budgets needn't be a barrier to good design." -- Research shows how architecture can make a difference for older adults. -- Siza's Serpentine beast is a "fusion of boldness and subtlety, casualness and precision." -- A U.K. car park has a "lynch mob" nipping at its heels; the architect is not pleased. -- Saudi Arabia to build its first-ever private university. -- Palm Beach high school takes its cue from the Chrysler Building and Fritz Lang. -- Washington, DC, to get a new Gustafson-designed oasis. -- MoMA curator makes his mark Miami. -- Western Pennsylvania has Fallingwater - and a Gropius/Breuer gem.

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New Design to Be Unveiled Today for Freedom Tower: appearance evokes the sky-piercing twins it is meant to replace. -- Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Daniel Libeskind (slide show), New York Times

Peter Walker Accepts Second Ground Zero Commission: ...to design landscaping for 1,776-foot-tall Freedom Tower, Architectural Record

M.T.A. Scales Back Lower Manhattan Transit Complex, Citing Cost: most noticeable revision to the original design is in the crystalline dome...now considerably shorter and smaller... -- Grimshaw; James Carpenter (images), New York Times

Growing pains of Beijing architecture: ...China's limited reserves of architects and Big-Bang-like explosion of its cities are forcing building designers to work harder and faster...artists-turned-architects are gaining the limelight...could be forerunners of a new class of Chinese "renaissance designers." -- Koolhaas; Andreu-China Daily

The rising stars of British architecture. Or are they? ...when an architecture exhibition called "40 under 40" surfaces at the V&A, be aware that these are people barely getting into their stride. By Hugh Pearman -- Brisac Gonzalez; David Adjaye; FAT; Hakes Associates; Surface Images, link, HughPearman.com (UK)

Big Box Battles: Austin...has focused on altering the big-box landscape as a key to curbing sprawl...has adopted design standards and environmental guidelines for commercial development aimed at maintaining the city's unique historic and architectural character. -- The Slatin Report

Urban design that's smart, practical: Visitacion complex shows how to add new homes to old cities...built for low-income residents by a nonprofit developer -- showing that tight budgets needn't be a barrier to good design. By John King -- Fougeron Architects; Van Meter Williams Pollack (images), San Francisco Chronicle

Texas A&M senior lecturer redesigns way of life: ...how architecture could make a difference in the lives of older adults. Now...taking her research to architects, landscape architects and residential care facilities through an educational CD funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). -- Susan Rodiek/Center for Health Systems and Design

The beast that came to tea: Something odd is squatting in Kensington Gardens in a slightly malevolent way, ready to gobble up...the Serpentine Gallery itself in one terrifying bite. -- The Times (UK)

Faulty towers: If buildings have feelings, Gateshead multi-storey car park must be hurting..."It's a lynch mob mentality. It doesn't look right, so knock it down." -- Owen Luder-Guardian (UK)

King Faisal Foundation Signs Agreement to Build First-Ever Private University -- Hijas ibn Kastur; Arab News (Saudi Arabia)

Art Deco style lends panache to school: Taking a cue from the Chrysler Building in New York and the industrial skylines of Fritz Lang's landmark 1927 film Metropolis... -- Palm Beach Post

Landscape Architect Kathryn Gustafson, Going With the Flow: Her first Washington project will be a 1.8-acre oasis...Washington Canal Park...By Linda Hales, Washington Post

Art curator puts mark on city's house designs -- Terry Riley; John Keenan; John Bennett/Proun Space Studio -- Miami Herald

Shadyside home an architectural gem: Built in 1939, it is known as the Frank House and it was designed by Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer...[image], Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

June '05 Build Business: Presentations Wanted: Alive, Not Dead. By Carol Doscher

-- Richard Meier & Partners: Ara Pacis Museum, Rome, Italy