Today's News - August 22, 2005

It's good to be back - and there's much catching up to do — ArcSpace brings us towers, sails, and seed silos. — New York's new "architecture district" is an unusual alliance of hot young firms. — A British take on downtown LA's "brave new architecture." — In America's big box wasteland...sameness is the new black. — Meanwhile, Target hits the "big box bull's-eye" with "streamlined examples of modern architecture." — BBC's big box HQ in Glasgow considered an eyesore by some and "really nice building" by others. — A Florida developer hopes "new ruralism" will be the new mantra for city and suburban dwellers weary of civilization. — A design-build firm challenges Philadelphia's status quo for housing with a "new model of architecture for the city." — In and near Chicago, a Mies jewel dazzles while a Burnham gem faces the wrecking ball. — In Melbourne, a new railway station will likely end up on a postage stamp, and an architect "shows a wisdom and cleverness in dealing with old places and new spaces." — A magical transformation of a former railway station in Oslo transformed into the Nobel Peace Centre. — A Stirling Prize contender "is far more than just another European Capital of Culture-style art box." — Hadid as "the inventor of the 89 degrees" and master of "young, thin, brisk worker-bee architects dressed in black." — The hits (and lows) of New York's Percent for Art program. — Exhibition review: the architect who shaped Long Island.

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New York's New Architecture District: Architects find the Lower East Side cheaper — and friendlier — than their big fancy firms. — Work Architecture; L.E.F.T Architects; Architecture Agency; Bridge Knowles; nARCHITECTS; Lewis Tsurumaki Lewis/LTL [images]- New York Times

Things are looking up, downtown: The centre of Los Angeles was once considered a cultural wasteland, but now it has become a magnet for brave new architecture. — Gehry; MayslincMcClain; Michael Rotondi; Eric Owen Moss; Rafael Moneo; Coop Himmelblau; Alexis Rochas - Telegraph (UK)

One Happy Big-Box Wasteland: Oh my yes, there is indeed one force that is eating away the American soul like a cancer...because we as a nation have lost all sense of community and place...Sameness is the new black. - San Francisco Chronicle

Hitting the big box bull's-eye: For what they are, Targets work visually in sea of similarity...new goal — at least with certain stores — is to turn entire buildings into streamlined examples of modern architecture. By John King — MBH Architects; RSP Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Angry box-watchers attack Auntie's 'eyesore': To some, [£129m BBC Scotland HQ] is a classic example of neo-minimalist architecture at its finest. To others, it's a giant, ugly, glass brick plonked next door to some of the finest modern buildings in Scotland. — David Chipperfield - The Scotsman (UK)

In Florida, a Big Developer Is Counting on Rural Chic: Florida's largest private landowner, is pushing "new ruralism," a concept he hopes will entice city and suburban dwellers who are weary of civilization. — New York Times

Model homes: Onion Flats developers seek to inspire the city to think about housing in a new way...a challenge to Philadelphia's status quo. - Philadelphia Daily News

Crown Hall dazzles in Mies simplicity: IIT renovation a design triumph. By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Bid to raze Burnham home creates a stir...developer...has a demolition permit from the village. Because Kenilworth has no preservation ordinance, officials said there is nothing they can do. - Chicago Tribune

Making waves: Spencer Street station is more than a mere building. It is the result of a high-tech solution to a design challenge...and will probably find itself reproduced as a stamp. By Norman Day — Grimsby; Daryl Jackson [link to images]- The Age (Australia)

Hits and critical mass: Melbourne needs buildings for today and the future, not icons that serve an architect's ego...Peter Elliott...shows a wisdom and cleverness in dealing with old places and new spaces. By Norman Day [image]- The Age (Australia)

David Adjaye meets Alfred Nobel in Oslo: architecture for peace. By Hugh Pearman [images]- HughPearman.com (UK)

The word made flesh: The surprise inclusion on this year's Stirling prize shortlist is a little-known art gallery in Cork. Jonathan Glancey is entranced — O'Donnell and Tuomey [image, links]- Guardian (UK)

A warped perspective: Zaha Hadid used to be better known for her fall-outs (numerous) than her buildings (non-existent). Now her astonishing, form-bending visions — including for the London Olympics — are taking shape all over the world. But that doesn't make her any easier...— Telegraph (UK)

Risks and Rewards of Art in the Open: New York's Percent for Art program has had its share of duds and crises. But it has had some triumphs, too..."City Art" at the the Center for Architecture [images, slide show]- New York Times

INSIGHT: Downtown Vancouver's Last Resort: How Did "Living First" Become "Condos Only?" By Trevor Boddy - ArchNewsNow

INSIGHT: Old Governor's Mansion: Turning a House into a Public Building: A preservation architect explains how HVAC systems were integrated and life safety codes addressed without destroying the historic fabric of a National Historic Landmark. -- Lord Aeck & Sargent [images] - ArchNewsNow

August '05 Build Business: PR Tips from Two Pros

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