A winning Friday: Ito takes home RIBA Royal Gold. — Prizes for 22 preservation projects. — Holcim Awards honor North American sustainable construction projects. — Louvre Lens picks its design team. — An impressive shortlist for Orange County Great Park. — Designing disaster relief housing (but would anyone want to live there?). — Public housing catching on with the middle class. — Forget culture a Ground Zero? An in-depth look at how it became “a suspicious interloper.” — A half-million square feet of retail is really what is needed. — Philadelphia grows more comfortable with modern. — Google to team with NASA for a million-square-foot campus. — Princeton picks a planning team. — Restoration of National Portrait Gallery’s new digs vindicates original architect. — To close or not to close Berlin’s Tempelhof Airport. — Shipping containers as towering farms and gardens.

The Royal Gold Medal for 2006 is to be awarded to influential Japanese architect Toyo Ito. — RIBA (UK)

2005 National Preservation Award Winners announced [links to 22 winners/images] — National Trust for Historic Preservation

Holcim Awards 2005 - North America: Prizes awarded to sustainable construction projects — L’OEUF/Pearl Poddubiuk et Associés, Architects; Renzo Piano/Chong Partners/Patrick Kociolek/Ove Anup and Partners; Mark West; etc [links] — Holcim Foundation

IMREY CULBERT and SANAA win Louvre Lens competition — Archinect

Three Architectural Design Firms Picked as Semi-Finalists in Orange County Great Park Competition — Miralles Tagliabue EMBT; Peyton Haramoto Alley & Alvey; Ken Smith Landscape Architect/ITEN Arquitectos/Mary Miss Studio/Mia Lehrer and Associates — Yahoo News

Shelter From The Storm: Disaster relief housing draws designers but do their ideas fit the people? — Daniel Libeskind; Shigeru Ban; Nader Khalili; Deborah Gans/Matthew Jelacic; Dante Bini [images, links] — San Francisco Chronicle

Cut-Rate Homes For Middle Class Are Catching On: Public housing is being stretched to include people who are more likely to have Starbucks cash cards than food stamps. — New York Times

Is Culture Gone at Ground Zero? ... A lack of powerful, outspoken advocates seems to have been a significant ingredient in the erosion of culture at the site. — Libeskind; Snohetta; Gehry — New York Times

As Ground Zero Plans Shift, Focus Turns to Retail Space: ... cultural building designed by Snohetta... will effectively become an extension of the underground memorial museum devoted solely to 9/11. — New York Times

Two condos that hit the mark: Maybe Philadelphia is growing more comfortable with modern architecture, now that the initial shock of the condo boom has been absorbed. By Inga Saffron — Solomon Cordwell Buenz; SHoP Architects — Philadelphia Inquirer

Google confirms Ames plan: Search engine plans offices, partnership with space agency. At 1 million square feet, the new campus would be larger than filmmaker George Lucas’ new Presidio complex. — San Francisco Chronicle

Planning initiative announced... to coordinate both in-progress construction and new projects. — Beyer Blinder Belle Architects; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; Lynden B. Miller Public Garden Design; Two Twelve Associates — Daily Princetonian

Restoration vindicates early architect: 169 years later, plan to fireproof gallery [U.S. Patent Office] was sound — Robert Mills (1842) — Chicago Tribune

Sun Is Setting on a Temple to Aviation: Berlin’s Tempelhof Airport, once a grand reflection of Hitler’s dreams, is on its way to becoming obsolete. — Ernst Sagebiel (1930s) — Los Angeles Times

No Green Acres? Try Skyscrapers: ...empty storage containers would be ideal housing for miniature farms stacked one upon another like an agricultural skyscraper. — Wired News


Sept. ’05 Build Business: Marketing from the Inside Out

— Competition winner: Henning Larsens Tegnestue (with Olafur Eliasson): Concert and Congress Centre, Reykjavik, Iceland
— Design Hotels: Hospes Amerigo, Alicante, Spain; Palau de la Mar, Valencia, Spain
— IBI Letter: Exploring Alicante and Valencia, Spain