Today's News - October 5, 2005

Hot off the press: Hollyrood wins RIAS Andrew Doolan Award for Architecture. -- A PBS discussion among urban planners about rebuilding New Orleans. -- A Dutch solution: houses that float. -- Is it time we learn to love sprawl? -- Eminent domain as a tool for curbing urban decay and sprawl (or is it?). -- Melbourne waterfront experts with some sound advice for Toronto: "It's so easy to get it wrong." -- Meanings of memorials: architects learn the hard way. -- Two experts debate the progress and pitfalls of LEED certification. -- Portland Building to sport green top (might be the best thing about it?). A thin line between what is and isn't truly public space. -- U.K.'s modernist white elephant a pleasure palace once again (now it just needs to have fun). -- A former missile base in Germany and a subdivision in Korea's DMZ blossom with art and architecture. -- NYCU's Museum of Chinese in the Americas taps Maya Lin for new digs. -- California firm tapped for University of Virginia project. -- An exhibit in Beirut looks at the "fading poetry of old Lebanese architecture. -- Call for papers for Architecture|Music|Acoustics conference in Toronto next year.

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The new Scottish Parliament building in Edinburgh has won the UK's richest architecture award: £25,000 RIAS Andrew Doolan Award for Architecture -- Enric Miralles/EMBT/RMJM; Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland - BBC News

New Orleans: Urban planners discuss rebuilding -- Mary Comerio/University of California at Berkeley; John Norquist/Congress of the New Urbanism; Paris Rutherford/RTKL [scroll down] - PBS News Hour

Dutch Answer to Flooding: Build Houses that Swim: The Dutch are gearing up for climate change with amphibious houses. -- Koen Olthuis/Waterstudio.nl [images] - Der Spiegel (Germany)

The virtues of sprawl: Sprawl isn't what it used to be, some experts contend. Is it time we stopped worrying and learned to love the subdivision? By Anthony Flint -- Robert Bruegmann; Joel Kotkin; New Urbanism - Boston Globe

Eminent Domain Revisited: A Minnesota Case: The building of Best Buy's headquarters could be used to illustrate why eminent domain is sometimes a crucial tool in combating urban decay and sprawl. - New York Times

Aussie developers eye T.O.'s waterfront: Like Toronto, Melbourne has a waterfront. Unlike Toronto, Melbourne began rebuilding its waterfront a decade ago...some advice... By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

Reading symbolism in the Sept. 11 era: Memorials are charged with meaning, architects learn the hard way. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Paul Murdoch Architects/Nelson Byrd Woltz; Michael Arad; Snohetta [images] - Los Angeles Times

Controversy Leads to Dialogue: Assessing the progress and pitfalls of LEED certification. Point/Counter-point by Ed Weaver, AIA, LEED, and Grady Dyson, IDA, LEED/DMJM Design - Contract magazine

Portland Building will get a 'green roof': Don't tell Michael Graves, but the best thing about the Portland Building might wind up being the roof. -- Macdonald Environmental Planning - The Oregonian

We need more truly public spaces: The common area at The Shops was designed to look and feel like a fine urban public space, but there's one crucial limitation...in the private realm, not the public realm. -- Alamo Architects; J. Robert Anderson - San Antonio Express-News

White elephant transformed into a palace of pleasure: The most important 1930s building in Britain was nearly turned into a pub, but now it has been beautifully restored. De La Warr Pavilion... By Giles Worsley -- Eric Mendelsohn/Serge Chermayeff (1935); John McAslan [images] - Telegraph (UK)

The Post-Military Context: Hombroich, an ex-NATO missile base near Cologne, Germany, turned into a public art and architecture park. And in [Korea's DMZ], a design-driven subdivision blossoms. The answer to post-military landscapes seems to be contemporary architecture. -- Siza; Ban; Otto; Ando; Abraham; Hoiyn Wang Partners; Mineuk Cho; Studio Himma; Yekong Architects; Ga A Architects; SHoP [images] - The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Maya Lin to design Chinatown museum: Museum of Chinese in the Americas...is the East Coast's first and only Chinese American history museum. - Downtown Express (NYC)

University of Virginia selects South Lawn architects: Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners to develop plans for first four buildings - Cavalier Daily (U. VA)

The 'fading poetry' of old Lebanese architecture: Some, particularly architects with a penchant for preserving Lebanon's modern architectural heritage...will likely grumble about this show... [images] - Daily Star (Lebanon)

Call for Papers: Cross-disciplinary conference on Architecture, Music, Acoustics at Ryerson University, Toronto, June 2006; abstracts due October 31 - Ryerson University


Oct. '05 Build Business: The International Development Scene: What's Hot for the A/E/C Industry?