

Today's News - December 7, 2005

Op-Ed: Give up on New Orleans unless the barrier shoreline is restored. – The problem with New Urbanists' efforts in the Big Easy is developers' focus on pattern books rather than planning principles. – New Urbanism in Virginia: are "neotraditional communities the solution to sprawl, or just sprawl slickly packaged?" – It's regulation that spawns sprawl, hinders smart growth. – Forget McMansions, now they're McFortresses. – Sydney's Luna Park a poster child for sweet deals "masked as public interest." – Plan to make over historic Irish cathedral doesn't please all. – Another Top 10 list, this time it's emerging architects from San Diego to Mumbai. – High praise for London's Unicorn Theatre. – Australia's National Portrait Gallery names a design winner. – Italian fashion house takes on high-style boutique hotels. – Big names in the running for Fan Pier project in Boston. – Meier goes LEED-green in Beverly Hills. – Steilberg was much more than Julia Morgan's engineer. – An exhibition offers the eroding stone faces over Manhattan doors.

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[Op-Ed: Giving up on New Orleans: We may as well abandon the Big Easy because the White House is killing a plan to protect the city from the next Katrina...No amount of levee building or stockpiles of bottled water will ever save New Orleans until the barrier shoreline is restored. By Mike Tidwell](#)- Los Angeles Times

[The Post-disaster Disaster: ...post-Katrina reconstruction...Perhaps I was too hard on the New Urbanists' efforts...though I'd still argue that the popular appeal of the movement is based less on its planning principles than on its neotraditional pattern books...developers often forsake the principles... By Nancy Levinson](#)- ArtsJournal / Pixel Points

[Is growth spurt 'smart'? Several Fredericksburg-area projects embrace 'new urbanism' but prompt debate over location...Are these neotraditional communities the solution to sprawl, or just sprawl slickly packaged?](#)- Richmond Times-Dispatch (Virginia)

[Free market would never pick sprawl...an artificial growth pattern achieved by laws that frustrate the free market's tendency toward density.](#)- Atlanta Journal-Constitution

[New 'Fortified' Homes Aim To Withstand Nature's Assaults: Across the country, builders and suppliers are developing new products and techniques to assemble homes that are strengthened well beyond what building codes require.](#)- Wall Street Journal

[Ride of a lifetime: The changing face of Luna Park is no laughing matter...the noise issue and the relentless drive for commercialism, masked as public interest. By Elizabeth Farrelly](#)- Sydney Morning Herald

[Destruction of St Colman's in Cobh Cathedral should not be allowed go ahead: The list of gutted interiors is numerous and reads like a roll-call of great pieces of 19th century Irish church architecture...And now perhaps the greatest of them all, prepares to join this less than illustrious club -- Edward W. Pugin/George Ashlin \(1892-1915\); Cathal O'Neill & Associates \[images\]](#)- Archiseek (Ireland)

[Design Vanguard 2005: 10 architects practice in nine different countries, from the U.S. to Mumbai... approach a range of shared themes in remarkably diverse ways... -- Luce et Studio Architects; King Roselli Architeti; Architecture studio himma; Evan Douglis Studio; Urbanus Architecture & Design; Michel Rojkind/Rojkind Arquitectos; Chris Lee & Kapil Gupta; ITERAE Architecture; Taira Nishizawa Architects; Mitnick Roddier Hicks \[images, links\]](#)- Architectural Record

[Mythical beast becomes reality: London's Unicorn Theatre by Keith Williams...To report that it does not feel remotely kiddified is high praise... By Hugh Pearman \[images\]](#)- HughPearman.com (UK)

[National Portrait Gallery \[in Canberra\] design winner revealed -- Johnson Pilton Walker \[link to images\]](#)- The Age (Australia)

[From Hollywood to Holyrood: Missoni planning...a string of new boutique hotels - including one in Edinburgh...on the doorstep of the new Scottish Parliament \[and\] London, Paris, St Petersburg, Istanbul and Dubai. -- Studio Thun](#)- The Scotsman (UK)

[Developer to start work in '06 on Fan Pier condos, office tower: ...architectural firms to compete to design the two buildings. -- Elkus/Manfredi; Robert A.M. Stern Architects; CBT/Childs Bertman Tsekares; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Kohn Pedersen Fox; Brennan Beer Gorman Architects](#)- Boston Globe

[Richard Meier-Designed Beverly Hills Condominiums Will Be California's Most Environmentally Friendly; Buildings Will Achieve LEED Gold Rating -- Olin Partnership \[link to images\]](#)- Business Wire

['Julia Morgan's engineer': 'Earthquake ambulance chaser' also designed economical, romantic, 'slightly Mediterranean' houses -- Walter Steilberg](#)- San Francisco Chronicle

[In Search of the Venus of 37th and Madison: "Over the Door: Stone Faces From a Disquieting Age"...photographs by John Yang capture the evocative, eroding faces of an aging Manhattan cityscape. \[images\]](#)- New York Times

[INSIGHT: Condos Breathe New Life into Old Offices: Historic office buildings are increasingly being reinvented as condominiums in CBDs \(central business districts\) across the country. By Mark Harbick, AIA](#)- ArchNewsNow

[Dec. '05 Build Business: Why Hire a Marketing Staff? No longer considered unethical and tacky, marketing has morphed into an essential tool for savvy A/E/C firms.](#)



[Competition winner: Coop Himmelb\(l\)au: Busan Cinema Center, Busan, South Korea](#)

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