

Today's News - April 14, 2006

In New Orleans, plans to salvage and recycle tons of building materials "have been shot down, or gone nowhere." – A call for engineers to find innovative ways of working with architects to build sustainably - and economically. – Rybczynski's take on new skyscrapers: "Being iconic is getting harder all the time." – High hopes that talented firms step up to the plate to offer creative and cost-effective design for L.A.'s new \$100-million homeless plan. – An in-depth study of housing Nigeria's urban poor offers lessons for other urban centers (with words of advice for architectural education). – While seemingly losing its fear of architecture, "Torontonians needn't flatter themselves by imagining the world has engaged in endless chatter about their city's so-called cultural renaissance." – New museums in Connecticut and Massachusetts are a breath of fresh air with a touch of avant-garde. – A Washington, DC, museum getting a much-needed make-over. – A mini-park in California is a "quirky attraction" and welcome urban space. – Sydney's modernist houses: a guide to the classics (Modernists vs. Sydney School?). – Learning to love architecture at Yale (a rather amusing report).

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[In New Orleans, a Big Green Opportunity is Wasted, Environmentalists Say: ...there are no comprehensive, citywide plans to salvage and recycle building materials...other eco-friendly ideas have been shot down, or gone nowhere. \(AP\)](#)- Environmental News Network

["Wind, wave - or we'll go nuclear": Buildings eat up 60 percent of the country's electricity - that's why we have to build sustainably...Services engineers need to look at innovative ways of designing and working with the architects. – Buro Happold; Homan O'Brien; Davis Associates; Arup](#)- Irish Times

[Up, Up, and Away: The new skyscraper, in all its guises...Being iconic is getting harder all the time. By Witold Rybczynski – Cesar Pelli; Foster and Partners; Adamson Associates; Jean Nouvel; b720 architectos; Enrique Norton/TEN Arquitectos; Ali Rahim/Hina Jamelle/Contemporary Architecture Practice; Calatrava; Prince-Ramus/Office for Metropolitan Architecture; Gehry/Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Hadid; Isozaki; Libeskind; Maggiora \[slide-show essay\]](#)- Slate

[Yes, in your backyard: Homeless centers are rarely welcomed, but smart design can soothe neighbors' fears...it would be encouraging to see talented firms lining up to offer their services...smart architecture can save public money — and maybe help...shake off the stigma \[shelters\] still carry. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Gin Wong Associates; Jeffrey M. Kalban & Associates; Sam Davis \[images\]](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Part 1: Housing urban poor in Nigeria: With half of the world population living in urban areas, the challenge of improving the living environment of especially the poor urban dwellers cannot be over-emphasised. By Y. Oruwari](#)- The Tide (Nigeria)

[Part 2: Housing urban poor in Nigeria: In looking at the present housing finance systems, several things stand out. By Y. Oruwari](#)- The Tide (Nigeria)

[Part 3: Housing urban poor in Nigeria: ...four of the challenges ahead...the changing role of the architect in housing design...women in housing; housing and globalisation; and bridging the gaps. By Y. Oruwari](#)- The Tide (Nigeria)

[Building blocks: Architecture was something this city used to fear. Now, through regular exposure, the public has become a more discriminating and demanding client. By Lisa Rochon – Donald Chong Studio; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects; Shim-Sutcliffe Architects; Baird Sampson Neuert Architects; Gehry; Libeskind; Diamond + Schmitt](#)- Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Art Meets Nature In New Britain: New Britain Museum of American Art...What a building. What a cultural coup for the region. -- Ann Beha Architects; Frederick Law Olmsted](#)- Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

[Provincetown Museum Mixes History With Avant-Garde: ...no attempt to reconcile past and present. Yet that very in-your-face attitude is why the new museum is such a triumph. -- Machado and Silveti](#)- Hartford Courant (Connecticut)

[Museum Is Going Dark to Add Light: National Museum of American History will close for almost two years to reconfigure the core of its often-mystifying layout and build a new gallery for the Star-Spangled Banner. -- McKim, Mead, and White/Steinman, Cain, and White \(1964\); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Chermayeff & Geismar](#)- Washington Post

[Strategic Moves in Lighting: Chess Park in Glendale, CA...a quirky attraction...Glendale, CA's first urban park...designed to be a safe, stimulating environment for chess players and community members... -- Rios Clementi Hale Studios \[images\]](#)- LandscapeOnline

[So last century: Sydney's modern heritage houses have become collector's items. -- Bruce Rickard; Bill Lucas; Harry Seidler; Neville Gruzman; Docomomo Australia; Syd Ancher; Arthur Baldwinson; Russell Jack; etc.](#)- Sydney Morning Herald

[Learning to love archi-torture: Yesterday, the seniors effectively graduated...And three weeks from now, a new crop of masochists will vie to hunch over the same computers in the same concrete bunker...Why?](#)- Yale Daily News

[Northwestern University Ford Motor Company Engineering Design Center: Engineering and design education now cross traditional departmental boundaries in a light-filled, LEED Silver campus building. -- Davis Brody Bond \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

[-- Exhibition: Santiago Calatrava: World Architecture, DAC \(Danish Architecture Centre\), Copenhagen](#)



[-- Book: Architecture Now! 4 By Philip Jodidio](#)

[-- Book: Humble Masterpieces: Everyday Marvels of Design By Paola Antonelli](#)

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