

Today's News - April 20, 2006

Suburbia is here to stay, so deal with it. -- An Ohio city is poster child for "creative shrinkage." -- An unusual solution for New Orleans - shantytowns. -- An overview of over-the-top skyscrapers rising on our horizons. -- A new open-air mall in Florida is designed for much more than shopping. -- Architecture billing index offers good news for commercial construction. -- San Francisco's 1906 quake offers lessons we should learn about humanitarian design and rebuilding. -- Can development and ecology co-exist on Shanghai island? Environmentalists are skeptical. -- A new group of Chinese designers and their "idiosyncratic" projects (great slide show). -- Two Copenhagen projects cater to kids. -- Copyright and the dilemma of judging "architectural scamps from the champs." -- A town in Massachusetts lays claim to have more examples of modernist houses than any other town in the state - and plans to preserve them. -- Q&A with Bangalore's "Architect of the Year 2005." -- AIA picks Top 10 Green Projects. -- Saturday is Earth Day!

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[When is a city not a city? Say what you like about suburbia, sneer at it all you want, but the truth is it's here to stay...if we can't stop sprawl, we must learn to control and change it. By Christopher Hume -- Joel Kotkin- Toronto Star](#)

[The Incredible Shrinking City: Facing steep population decline, Youngstown, Ohio, is repositioning itself...hitching its future to a strategy of creative shrinkage. -- Urban Strategies: Youngstown State University; Kent State University Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative \(CUDC\) \[images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[An Economist Visits New Orleans: ...too focused on finding "the right" master plan...the city should help create cheap housing by reducing legal restrictions on building quality, building safety, and required insurance...Just imagine the chant: Shantytowns for New Orleans now. By Tyler Cowen- Slate](#)

[Plans for fanciful skyscrapers proliferate: To some big-building watchers, the over-the-top swoops and curves reflect a top-of-the-market mentality... By Alex Frangos, The Wall Street Journal -- Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(CTBUH\); Foster & Partners; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Prince-Ramus/Office for Metropolitan Architecture \(OMA\); Kohn Pedersen Fox- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

[Shoppers just part of Gulf Coast mall: The 1.7-million-square-foot open-air project...is called a lifestyle center because it's designed to be the community's gathering place. -- Dougherty Schroeder & Associates; Site Solutions- The News-Press \(Florida\)](#)

[Demand for Nonresidential Construction Projects Continues to Impact Overall Economy: Architecture Billings Index Positive Eighteen Straight Months- American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

["100 Years of Humanitarian Design": 1906 Earthquake: ...what the 1906 earthquake taught us about Humanitarian design and rebuilding efforts, and how those lessons need to be rediscovered today. \[excerpt from new book "Design Like You Give a Damn" edited by Architecture for Humanity\]- WorldChanging](#)

[Development Jockeys with Ecology on Shanghai Island: Environmentalists are skeptical that Dongtan will be any better than many other Chinese cities... \(Reuters\) -- Arup- Environmental News Network](#)

[China's New Home Life: A group of artists and designers are changing the definition of the Chinese house one idiosyncratic project at a time. -- Guan Yi; Ai Weiwei; Mao Ran; Ben Wood Studio Shanghai/Wood & Zapata; Gravity Partnership; Ma Qingyun/MADA s.p.a.m. \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Fit for a Kid: Two new buildings by Dorte Mandrup-Poulsen ensure stylish care for Copenhagen children. \[images\]- Metropolis Magazine](#)

[Lines Often Blurred On Architectural Copycats: ...in spite of the copyright law's seeming clarity, it is often hard to tell the architectural scamps from the champs. By Michael J. Crosbie- Hartford Courant \(Connecticut\)](#)

[New group focuses on modern architecture: FoMA - Friends of Modern Architecture...dedicated to raising consciousness and appreciation of Lincoln's exceptional collection of 20th-century modern houses... -- Henry B. Hoover; Walter Gropius- Lincoln Journal \(Massachusetts\)](#)

[Building a career, brick by brick: Q&A with Dinesh Varma... "Architect of the Year 2005" award for the conception, design and execution of the sprawling Indus International School at Sarjapur in Bangalore. -- Ace Group- Deccan Herald \(India\)](#)

[AIA Announces the 2006 Top Ten Green Projects -- Bohlin Cywinski Jackson; Mahlum Architects; Mackey Mitchell Associates; Croxton Collaborative Architects; Cecil Baker Associates; Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects; Susan Maxman & Partners; BNIM Architects; Lake/Flato Architects; Pugh + Scarpa; Jackson & McElhany Architects- American Institute of Architects \(AIA\)](#)

[Earth Day 2006: April 22!- Earth Day Network](#)

[Legorreta + Legorreta: Sheraton Abandoibarra Hotel, Bilbao, Spain](#)

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[Yesterday's News](#)

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