An in-depth look at what happened/what's happening in New Orleans (and New Urbanists are relegated to being a "pod of consultants - this time a mélange of architects and planners from Miami and the city"). -- Study of the 1960 earthquake in Morocco sheds light on how cultural beliefs shape rebuilding. -- Bruegmann and Kotkin take on urban vs. suburban. -- Rybczynski asks why so many important buildings are "flops" and "what is an iconic building, anyway?" -- A not-so-nice take on Tate 2's "pile of boxes" (where's Derrida when you need him?). -- Time to shift the memorial paradigm: "No more Ground Zeros of memory." -- Javits Convention Center expansion gets a green light (sort of). -- Ouroussoff finds a new Arizona stadium is a bit too polite (blame it on value engineering - not its "ornery architect"). -- Rochon finds a "delicious and inviting" village rises on the shores of Lake Ontario. -- The future of educational spaces investigated at University of Queensland. -- Another glass tower for Liverpool waterfront. -- Thom takes on technology complex. -- P/A Awards call for entries.

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The long, strange resurrection of New Orleans: Hurricane Katrina was the biggest natural disaster in US history. A year later, Fortune lays bare this surreal tale of incompetence, political cowardice...and rebirth. -- Bring New Orleans Back; Urban Land Institute (ULI); Wallace Roberts & Todd; Reed Kroloff; Ray Manning-- Fortune magazine

How Cultural Beliefs Shape Natural Disaster Recovery and Preparedness: ...researchers have found that fatalistic religious beliefs can affect how people perceive risk and recover from natural disasters and how these attitudes shape the way cities are rebuilt. -- Newswise

Suburbia: Homeland of the American Future. By Joel Kotkin-- The Next American City

Died on Arrival: Why are so many important buildings architectural "flops"? ...what is an iconic building, anyway? By Vitold Rybczynski -- Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Libeskinds; Jem Utzon; Charles Jencks; Edward Durrell Stone; Roger Tallibert; I.M. Pei; Pei Cobb Freed & Partners; Carlos Ott; Foster; Gehry; Meier; Richard Rogers Partnership; Vlady [slide show essay]-- Slate

Making a mess of the Tate Modern extension: Herzog and de Meuron's "pile of boxes" design for the art gallery's new wing shows that architecture is embracing chaos over order...Rather than being heroic and exoticalist, the project is a mundane exercise in self-effacement. By Karl Sharro-- Spiked (UK)

Shifting the Memorial Paradigm: Let the World Trade Center Memorial be the last of this generation of the American typology. Instead, we might stake out a new approach, which is in fact a very old one: Remember by investing in the future...No more Ground Zeros of memory. By Max Page -- Maya Lin; Michael Arad-- Architecture Magazine

Javits Expansion Gets Green Light: State approves land acquisition despite rumbles from local opposition. $1.7 billion plan -- Richard Rogers Partnership; FXFowle Architects; A. Epstein & Sons International-- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Dynamism Tamed by Cost-Cutters: While Cardinals Stadium is a big leap forward for stadium architecture...it is also a strange offspring. From an ornery architect and a culture of macho aggression, we get a polite building. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Peter Eisenman; HOK Sport [images]-- New York Times

A breath of fresh urban air: Port Credit Village...built to the standards we typically associate with some of the new towns in Denmark and the Netherlands...Against all odds...something delicious and inviting has been delivered at the edge of Lake Ontario. By Lisa Rochon -- Giannone Associates Architects; Baker Turner landscape architects; John George Associates-- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Award-winning architect investigates future places of learning: Three University of Queensland buildings...will be case studies for a collaborative research project...aims to develop a new framework for the collaborative design of libraries and learning places... -- Wilson Architects-- University of Queensland

Dock development plans revealed: ...a 36-storey apartment block and hotel on Liverpool's Princes Dock. -- RMJM [image]-- BBC News

Bing Thom to design Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) Trades and Technology Complex -- Marshall Tittimore Architects-- Canadian Architect

Call for entries: P/A Awards honoring outstanding unbuilt/commissioned work by practices in U.S., Canada, or Mexico; deadline: September 8 [pdf]-- Architecture Magazine

Fine Tuning: Utah State University Performance Hall: Inspired by the surrounding mountains, a new building establishes a campus arts precinct that bridges the town/gown divide. -- Sasaki Associates [images]-- ArchNewsNow

-- Inauguration: SANAA Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue Nishizawa; Zollverein School, Essen, Germany;
-- Under construction: Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Coal Washing Plant, Zollverein Mining Complex, Essen, Germany
-- Master Plan: Rem Koolhaas/OMA; Zollverein Mining Complex, Essen, Germany