Today's News - January 17, 2007

Green affordable housing project in the Bronx will be a model for the future. -- Simpson walks away from Liverpool project. -- A thumbs-down for Foster’s Madison Ave. tower. -- But his Dublin hotel looks like a winner (second story has great images). -- Chicago could win 2016 Olympic bid "if, for nothing else, its novelty." -- King Alfred sports center doesn’t look very Gehry-ish, but his towering plans for Hove seafront is an “ambitious and heroic scheme” that “offers identity where none exists.” -- Holli’s “thrillingly unorthodox” museum extension is “breathtakingly simple.” -- Stern gives NYC neoclassical “Architecture with a capital "A."” -- Q&A with Libeskind. -- Trend in eco-friendly offices is good news for workers. -- A roundup of notable workplaces. -- A look at Johannesburg’s "breath-taking" churches. -- A $2 billion resort for the Bahamas. -- Books: an in-depth look at Korean style, and the history of Israel’s passenger ships is an important chapter in modern architecture.

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Working-Class Housing Complex Will Rise as Part of the Greenery: The proposed project, selected from among five finalists... "a real opportunity for this to be a project that changes the future of housing in this country." -- AIA New York; Grimshaw; Dattner Architects - New York Times

Architect quits over ‘diluted’ iconic tower: ...what would have been Liverpool’s tallest tower - a 51-storey building on Brunswick Quay. “Maro is going for a much less ambitious, non-iconic building so they’re just going to get a local architect on board.” -- Ian Simpson-icLiverpool (UK)

New York City Landmarks Commission Turns Down Proposal for Upper East Side Tower: Well-known names clash in a continuing battle over 30 stories of glass on Madison Avenue. “To be an architect, you have to be an optimist.” -- Norman Foster - New York Times

Developer joins U2 stars in €150m Clarence Hotel project [in Dublin]: ...will incorporate a number of sustainability strategies... -- Foster and Partners- Irish Times

Foster + Partners submits plans for the Clarence Hotel in Dublin [images]- Archiseek (Ireland)

Olympics race: Chicago vs. the world: Some observers think Chicago holds an edge for, if nothing else, its novelty. -- Crain’s Chicago Business

This ‘world-class’ sports centre has few facilities: Assuming Frank Gehry is, in fact, “the world’s greatest architect”, how much was he involved in the design of the [King Alfred] sports centre? ...The perimeter buildings have also generated a great deal of controversy. But were these buildings designed by Frank Gehry or Piers Gough? -- HOK Sport - The Argus (UK)

Tall is beautiful: Gehry’s proposal is of high quality... It will be Hove’s first big gesture on the seafront... The ambitious and heroic scheme... offers identity where none exists. -- The Argus (UK)

The building blocks of America’s best architect: A breathtakingly simple new museum extension puts Steven Holl in a class of his own. Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art... thrillingly unorthodox... By Dominic Bradbury- Telegraph (UK)

The Soft Touch Of Robert Stern: ...there is good neoclassical architecture, and 15 Central Park West is an example of it... what transforms this project from elegant pastiche into Architecture with a capital "A" is the sensitivity of the detailing... By James Gardner- New York Sun

Q&A: Design means controversy for architect Libeskind: “...a critic is only an opinion-maker – one person.” -- Reuters

A growing number of offices are going eco-friendly - and that’s good news for workers -- Steven Winter Associates; GreenHomeNYC; FXFOWLE; Renzo Piano - New York Post

2007 Notable Projects: Workplace – Neil M. Denari Architects ( NMDA); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; WORK Architecture Company; Leven Betts Studio; Arshia + Reza; formerly null-lab; Little; Rene Gonzalez Architect; Gensler [images]- Architype

Great churches serving small congregations: There are a number of breath-taking churches in Johannesburg that have been built to serve the needs of minority congregations. [images]- City of Johannesburg

Baha Mar Resorts, Harrah’s sign deal...to create and develop Baha Mar, the Caribbean's largest single-phase destination resort...true to The Bahamas setting and design. -- Mike Hong/MHA Studio; Hillier- Casino City Times

Book review: "Korea Style" by Marcia Iwatate and Kim Un-soo... shows the architecture and interior design of contemporary Korea in a sophisticated manner...in-depth information... - Korea Herald

Book review: The world opened up before us: "Symbols of a New Land: Architects and the Design of the Passenger Ships of Zim" by Gilbert Herbert...an important chapter in the history of shipping and of modern architecture in the second half of the 20th century. By Esther Zandberg – Eli Mansfeld; Munio Gitai; Dora and Yehezkel Gad; Aryeh Noy

By Esther Zandberg- Ha’aretz (Israel)