

Today's News - February 20, 2007

As new planning rules take shape, Hume hopes "the bad old days of endless sprawl are over." – For Farrelly, Green Cities conference in Sydney should make Australia green with envy. – London "super-mosque: first approved, now to be rejected "to give the Olympics a clear run." – Moscow's credo of "restoration by means of demolition" now puts St. Basil's in potential danger. – Gehry does pro bono in Pasadena. – Rochon cheers heroic architecture and a "thriller of a building" in the burbs (and a Montreal firm's much-deserved comeback). – A rising star from Switzerland making his mark in Warsaw. – He-said-he-said: Jenkins claims London's Regent's Park is being "flogged to the highest bidder"; park's executive says it must "adapt to new uses." – Gallagher bemoans the Detroit region's loss of architectural "titans" (Birkerts chose Boston). – NYC-based The Architect's Newspaper launches California edition. – Call for entries: international student competition to design "Futures of Cities." – Two new books look at an ongoing experiment to build an urban utopia in India, and an architect conjures the spirit of place.

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[A space to grow without sprawl: ...rules governing planning have been rewritten. On paper at least, the bad old days of endless sprawl are over, replaced by a new regime that values higher density and higher quality development..."It's about greening as well as growth." By Christopher Hume-](#) Toronto Star

[Green with envy, maybe, but more crazy than clever: If delegates to the Green Cities conference at Darling Harbour felt the irony of the situation, they didn't show it...any new building project starting today that isn't "as green as possible ... will be functionally obsolete the day it opens and economically disadvantaged for its entire lifetime." By Elizabeth Farrelly – Arup; Peter Head; Jerry Yudelson-](#) Sydney Morning Herald

[Supermosque for 70,000 'will be blocked': The Government source said that the planning application needed to be rejected "to give the Olympics a clear run" – Magera Yvars Architects-](#) Telegraph (UK)

[Repairs to Stalin's depot threaten St. Basil's: ...Kremlin's presidential properties department gave the order to turn the Lower Trading Rows into an upmarket hotel and auction house...defenders of Moscow's dwindling architectural heritage, wearily familiar with the city's post-perestroika credo of "restoration by means of demolition", are in uproar.-](#) Telegraph (UK)

[A new stage for a star architect: Frank Gehry signs on — pro bono — for an expansion and redesign at Pasadena Playhouse. – Ron Frink Design-](#) Los Angeles Times

[The heroic comes to the burbs: The University of Toronto Mississauga boasts a thriller of a building. By Lisa Rochon – Saucier + Perrotte-](#) Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Swiss rising star architect Christian Kerez has been commissioned to design the new Warsaw Museum of Modern Art – Architekt ETH/SIA \[images, links\]-](#) SwissInfo

[Where I see sylvan mystery, ministers see AstroTurf and late-night drinking: A magical wilderness in central London is to be flogged to the highest bidder - in a flagrant breach of royal parks law. By Simon Jenkins-](#) Guardian (UK)

[Making sure Regent's Park exists for future generations: In order to preserve this exquisite green space, we must adapt it to new uses...where Jenkins and I disagree is how best to preserve this exquisite space. By Mark Camley, chief executive of The Royal Parks-](#) Guardian (UK)

[Region loses 3 design titans: ...for many reasons, contemporary architectural output is less individualistic, more homogenized, than what Neumann, Kessler, Birkerts and others of their generation turned out. By John Gallagher-](#) Detroit Free Press

[The Architect's Newspaper Launches California Edition on February 21-](#) The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[Call for entries: International IFHP Ranko Radovic Student Competition: Futures of Cities: cash prizes: deadline: August 31-](#) International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP)

[Book review: "Auroville Architecture: Towards New Forms for a New Consciousness": An experiment in urban planning -- Roger Anger-](#) The Hindu (India)

[Book review: Designing a revolution: Architect conjures spirit of place: "The Archaeology of Tomorrow: Architecture & the Spirit of Place" by Travis Price...an amalgam of archaeology, ecology, mythology and modernism.-](#) The Examiner

[– UNStudio: Tea House on bunker, Vreeland, The Netherlands](#)

[– Gonzalo Mardones Viviani: 18th Fire Station, Vitacura, Santiago, Chile](#)

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