Studies make a strong case linking decent, affordable housing to good health and education. -- A decidedly British accent in today's news: Stirling Prize: Glancey calls it "just a glorified game show." -- For Chipperfield, shortlisted projects show Britain is risk-averse. -- And a virtual tour of the shortlist. -- Yet another shortlist: this one for Liverpool’s tallest tower. -- Quatermille: a radical new look for old Edinburgh. -- Titanium replacing tile on roofs of Japanese temples have preservationists hitting the ceiling. -- Jobs in the green market a growing phenomenon. -- Shopping sprees: UK’s Capita Symonds gobbling up firms to become Capita Architecture. -- RTKL learns all about fire salamanders. -- Municipal Art Society’s Barwick steps down; search is on for new president. -- "Urban Meltdown" looks at why we keep making the same mistakes in urban development when we should know better by now. -- It’s Friday...how could we resist a portfolio of fantasy architecture?

First-Ever Comprehensive Look at the Impact of Housing on Health and Education
Reveals the Link Between Decent, Affordable Homes and a Brighter Future for America’s Families; Makes Strong Case for Elevating Housing on the National Agenda- Center for Housing Policy/Enterprise Community Partners

The Stirling prize is just a glorified gameshow: A cheque for £20,000 and the chance to appear in a TV makeover programme? That's Britain's leading architecture prize for you. By Jonathan Glancey -- David Chipperfield; Foster + Partners; Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Haworth Tompkins; Glenn Howells- Guardian (UK)

Shortlisted architect hits out at timid British building culture: Four of the six projects nominated for the Stirling prize...are for buildings overseas...Chipperfield...hit out against a culture of timidity in Britain, saying: "In Britain no one wants to take any risks." - Guardian (UK)

In pictures: Tour the Stirling Prize shortlisted buildings -- David Chipperfield; Foster + Partners; Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Haworth Tompkins; Glenn Howells [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

Liverpool could have UK’s tallest building outside London: £300m Shanghai Tower block, rising to 60 storeys...will be surrounded by water in the Princes Half Tide Dock...will be designed by one of four world class architects... -- AFL; Broadway Malyan; Chapman Taylor; Benoy- icLiverpool (UK)

Project offers a radical new look for old Edinburgh: Quartermile, a lavish redevelopment of the former Royal Infirmary...will mix traditional architecture and bold modern designs in a sprawling 19-acre development. -- Foster & Partners; Comprehensive Design Architects; Richard Murphy Architects- International Herald Tribune

Yen for Titanium Roofs on Japan Temples Fuels Heritage Backlash -- Koichi Kinoshita- Bloomberg News

A Green Living: Graduates of the class of 2007 are finding that being environmentally friendly is a growth industry...phenomenon is creating jobs in fields like urban planning, carbon trading, green building and environmental consulting.- Newsweek

Capita Symonds to create UK’s fifth biggest architect: Capita Architecture to be formed out of three subsidiaries, with more purchases on the cards...company aimed to be on a Stirling prize shortlist within five years. -- Percy Thomas; Norman + Dawbarn; Ruddle Wilkinson- Building (UK)

Distinction is part of deal's groundwork: Architects in one Baltimore office got a lesson about salamanders the other day. The fire salamander, to be exact...the logo of ARCADIS, the Dutch firm that early this month bought RTKL... By Edward Gunts- Baltimore Sun

Municipal Art Society president stepping down: Kent Barwick will step down as chief executive in early 2008...will become president emeritus and assist on selected projects and initiatives.- Crain's New York

Book review."Urban Meltdown: Cities, Climate Change and Politics as Usual" by Clive Doucet. Why do we keep making the same mistakes in urban development over and over when we really should know better? By Eva Ligeti- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Fantasy Architecture: 10 projects share one trait: They begin life with a thought of "What if...?" -- Steve Stew, Jason Mallard; Lewis E. Wadsworth IV/Godoxy Clancy; BHLS Design; Nate Klinge/Brad Baer; Cordogan, Clark & Associates; Adam Gumowski/Keith Van de Riet/Stephen Mueller; Eytan Kaufman; P.K. VanderBeke; Andrew Liles/Canizaro Cawthorn Davis [links]- AIArchitect

-- Foster and Partners: Millau Viaduct, Gorge du Tarn, France