A Green Resort Is Planned to Preserve Ruins and Coastal Waters: A Green Mountain Sustainable Development Area is the latest in a spate of recently announced projects that form a sort of environmental coming-out party for this former parish country. — Foster + Partners, New York Times

Pave paradise and put up a hotel complex: The Timna Valley is one of the most breathtakingly beautiful places in Israel. Yet the silence may soon be shattered. Four hotels are reportedly planned for the site, all linked by a winding waterway for boats and gondolas. — Joel Bireh, Jerusalem Post

Saraya and Kazemir Aktau announce Saraya Aktau Project in Kazakhstan: new destination in Aktau City along the Caspian Sea...will transform this unique and undiscovered location into a world-class tourist destination.- AME Info (United Arab Emirates)

Man's Vision to Carve Prime Real Estate From Hudson River Proves a Tough Sell: A plan to create 40 or 50 acres of downtown real estate by filling in part of the Hudson River is attracting attention from those who had previously dismissed it.- New York Times

Scottish Parliament water "hazards" face removal: features were part of architect Eric Miralles' original vision. But after several incidents where people were injured by falling into the ponds, they could now be converted into a sunken garden or paved over altogether. — Edinburgh Evening News

The puck finally drops on sad decline of Toronto: It's official: Toronto is now dependent upon the kindness of strangers...Canada's relationship with its urban centres has emerged as one of the most tortuous problems facing the country. By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

Sustainability and aesthetics in one building? If the San Francisco Federal Building is any indication, Mayne sees that place as one that fuses style and substance - with a dash of swagger..."When buildings are really working, you're changing" how people see and use the world around them..."If you aren't changing behavior, you're cake decorating." By John King — Morphosis — San Francisco Chronicle

Some startling alternatives to the status-quo: interchangeability and instantly forgettable concrete and glass condo complexes...emphasis...on the tower-on-podium formula...A forthright group of young intern architects and urbanists wants to change all this... "Poto:type" competition...By Trevor Boddy- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Saving energy at home could take 200 years to repay its cost...according to Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors...RICS data shows that putting in all eight Home Information Packs measures...would knock only £486 off fuel bills and would take 48 years to recoup.- The Times (UK)

Architect Kyu Sung Woo's design nestles nicely into campus. Johnson County Community College Nerman Museum of Art...is a quietly elegant, beautifully conceived vessel for navigating the impressive, bold collection of art within its walls...a container of calm. By Steve Paul — Gould Evans [video link]- Kansas City Star

Museum of Ventura County looks to bigger future: Ground broken for expansion...grand vision to add about 18,000 square feet of space, with galleries and a grand hall, to the existing museum... — David C. Martin/A.C. Martin- Ventura County Star (California)

Stephen Lawrence Centre opens its doors to first students:...will provide educational and training routes out of poverty into sustainable careers in urban design...— Adjaye Associates [images]- Building (UK)

Rising out of the ashes: Burned Clipper Mill building's reuse wins architecture award...reborn as one of Baltimore's trendiest communities, with condominiums, apartments, offices, artisans' studios and a "green" restaurant. By Edward Gurnt — Cho, Benn Holback + Associates; Castro/Arots- Baltimore Sun

The crack in the floor of the world: Doris Salcedo at Tate Modern, London: "Shibboleth"
is a crack snaking across the concrete floor of the turbine hall, getting wide and deep enough in places to twist your ankle in... It is a fault-line in society, of course, a crude symbol, but its scale and daring raises it above that banal concept. By Hugh Pearman [images]- HughPearman.com (UK)

Building model revealed for Trafalgar Square Fourth Plinth: "Model for a Hotel 2007" by Thomas Schütte...is an architectural model of a 21-storey building, which will collect and reflect the light. [image]- Building (UK)

International Competition to design new Abbey Theatre: will be held over the coming months to select a design for the new National Theatre (the Abbey) to be built in the Dublin Docklands... - Archiseek (Ireland)

Call for submissions: "1000x Architecture of the Americas": book to feature 1000 projects by 1000 Architects from Alaska to Chile, including the Caribbean (free); deadline: November 5- fusion publishing

Dutch Design Week in Eindhoven -- October 20 - 28- Dutch Design Week

Morphosis: United States Federal Building, San Francisco -- Thom Mayne