

Today's News - Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Greening existing building stock is the "grandest urban sustainability frontier." – Climate change skeptics gather (links are most informative, too). – More on Moscow's dwindling architectural heritage. – Cheek finds some bright spots amid Seattle's townhouse pox. – Jones on Stonehenge's final insult: "Why don't we just get Banksy to decorate it?" – New gallery will bring an end to Ryerson University's days of invisibility, says Hume. – High hopes (and some wariness) for Roanoke's new museum. – Breuer's Minnesota church still dazzles. – Russell revisits a Neutra teardown-turned-\$25 million piece of art. – For the images if nothing else: FOA's medicine ball in Madrid. – Make makes crystals for Croydon. – SHCA returns to Moscow. – A fab profile of one of our faves, Inga Saffron (and why she makes developers tremble). – The architect as university president: a perfect fit. – More on the "kerfuffle" over Coney Island's Parachute Jump. – Things are not knotting right for Disney Hall bow tie. – We ran item awhile ago re: McDonalds a la feng shui; now we found images. – Editor's note: a great slide show has been added to Kamin's review of Trump Tower restaurant; click "Yesterday's News" to review.

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[When Starting Over Is Not An Option: Undertaking high performance, building alterations...is the grandest urban sustainability frontier. But the momentum for large-scale transformation is not yet here. The only way to have a scalable, deep and durable impact is changing the rules, not just the options.](#) - The Sallan Foundation

[The Never-Ending Story: ...tussle between opponents of limits on greenhouse gases who are using holes in climate science as ammunition and those trying to raise public concern about a human influence on climate that an enormous body of research indicates... \[links\]](#)- New York Times

[Russian Rubble: Moscow's building boom may be driving the city's architectural heritage into ruin...some 400 historically significant structures have been razed since 1992... -- Moisei Ginzburg; Konstantin Melnikov](#)- Portfolio

[The townhouse scourge: A rash of identical homes weakens the city's individuality: Seattle has the townhouse pox...The good news is that a handful of architects and developers are defying the dismal standard... By Lawrence W. Cheek -- PB Elemental; Eggleston/Farkas Architects; Freiheit & Ho Architects; b9 Architects \[images\]](#)- Seattle Post-Intelligencer

[The final insult: It is our greatest monument, on a par with the pyramids. But soon it will be plagued by Tesco juggernauts. Why don't we care about Stonehenge? ...MegaShed is just another callous graffito on the memory of its unknown creators. Come to think of it, why don't we just get Banksy to decorate it? By Jonathan Jones](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Portrait of a century: Ryerson University's days of invisibility are fast coming to an end...new photography gallery...will instantly become Canada's most important such venue, and one of the most significant in the world...The beauty of the scheme is how it will help bring Ryerson to the city and the city to Ryerson. By Christopher Hume -- Diamond and Schmitt](#)- Toronto Star

[Old railroad city in Virginia goes avant-garde in museum design: Art Museum of Western Virginia...While some locals have expressed wariness, the bold design of Frank Gehry's protege is playing well elsewhere. -- Randall Stout \[images\]](#)- USA Today

[Breuer's Ascent: How the monks of Saint John's University hired a Modernist to defy gravity with concrete...in north-central Minnesota...Architects who work around these buildings have to tread lightly. -- Gregory Friesen; Vincent James \[slide show\]](#)- The Chronicle of Higher Education

[Once a Teardown, Neutra Masterpiece May Fetch Up to \\$25 Million: A willingness to pay top dollar for architecture would help business owners and bankers see that design per se adds value. After all, you can build an entire museum wing for the price of a Picasso. By James S. Russell -- Marmol Radziner & Associates \[images\]](#)- Bloomberg News

[Medicine ball by FOA: Foreign Office Architects has revealed the final designs for its Institute of Legal Medicine in Madrid. \[image\]](#)- BD/Building Design (UK)

[Make Architects to submit Croydon towers for planning: ...latest designs for a set of crystalline towers making up part of the vast regeneration of Croydon, south London...working to Will Alsop's 2020 Vision masterplan for the area... \[images\]](#)- The Architects' Journal (UK)

[SHCA Heads Back to Moscow: Russia's development rage is showing no sign of fatigue, and few know that better than Swanke Hayden Connell Architects...just signed on to design its third project in the country, a four-building complex in the 36-acre Park City development... \[image\]](#)- Interior Design Newswire

[Why Are Men Who Build Skyscrapers Afraid of This Woman? Maybe because she isn't afraid to call a much-hyped downtown condo "a Frankenstein mix of historical elements." Which is how architecture critic Inga Saffron has become the Inquirer's most powerful voice in the city.](#)- Philadelphia Magazine

[The Architect as University President: Architecture is the ideal background for my job](#)

[for reasons that are both philosophical and practical — very practical...I learned everything from plumbing to poetry in architecture school, and I use every bit of that knowledge as president of Clemson University. By James F. Barker- The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

[The Boardwalk and the Bling: ...the latest kerfuffle over the Parachute Jump...it needs "blinging up" ...there had always been a divide between partisans of the two approaches: "the evocative and the sublime and the mysterious, and the more gaudy and the more upbeat." -- Leni Schwendinger/Light Projects- New York Times](#)

['Collar and Bow' statue draws a suit: Giant sculpture lies in fragments...while a \\$6-million action against artists Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen and others proceeds in a courthouse near its intended Disney Hall site. -- Frank Gehry- Los Angeles Times](#)

[I'll Have a Big Mac, Serenity on the Side: The use of feng shui in a McDonald's goes against the traditional premise of a fast food restaurant...-- Brenda Clifford/JBI \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)



[-- Steven Holl Architects: Sliced Porosity Block, Chengdu, China](#)  
[-- Neil Denari Architects: HL23, New York City](#)

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