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Plan for New Orleans Hospitals Draws Outcry: Preservationists and neighborhood activists oppose a plan that would lead to demolitions in a historic district. "That some will lose their homes as a result is just the reality of life."...So why get rid of a neighborhood that is functioning...when so much of the city lies empty and unused? -- Moe/National Trust for Historic Preservation

Edward J. Blakely - New York Times

Smashing a jewel: It looks as if the old Shreve, Crump & Low building is history...in favor of nine stories of corporate glass and stone...If you're going to break people's hearts by erasing a beloved building rather than incorporating it into a new development, then for heaven's sake, propose something truly spectacular in its place. -- Cesar Pelli - Boston Globe

Melbourne crunch brings golden architecture era: ...in which those projects that do go ahead are of a higher quality than those of the recent boom period...Architects have confirmed times are tough, and many are not expecting much new work after March next year. -- NH Architecture

Billard Leece Partnership - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Germaine Greer on Barratt's Home for the Future: The first person to design a gracious zero carbon home will have to be a genius at least as innovative and epoch-making as Brunelleschi....The shortlist of nine designs displayed all the usual shifts adopted by the eco-architect...The public was...to respond to what the judges called the 'wow factor'. -- Gaunt Francis Architects - The Architects' Journal (UK)

The house you built: the property awards: ...nine shortlisted entries for the 'Zero Carbon Home for the Future'...Mail on Sunday British Homes Awards... -- Gaunt Francis Architects; HTA Architects; Stride Treglown; 56.46 Design Group; AEW Architects; Avanti Architects; SMAL; Bell Phillips Architects; Grafik Architects; ECD Architects; Richardson Architecture

[images] - Mail on Sunday (UK)

Ellis Woodman on I.M. Pei's Museum of Islamic Art in Doha and suggests the handsome building offers a clear rebuke to flamboyant architecture elsewhere in the Gulf... -- BBCBuilding Design (UK)

The theatre that's inside-out: Leicester's £61m Curve is a revolution in the world of stage - and it's just one of five new arts venues in the East Midlands. How much art can the country take? It could be that the golden age has just begun. By Steve Rose -- Rafael Vinoly; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Caruso St John; Feilden Clegg Bradley; Peter Cashi

Guardian (UK)

OSKA's Noah's Ark exhibit huge hit in LA: The exhibit at Los Angeles' Skirball Cultural Center uses found materials, a clean design and a sophisticated palette to teach children lessons on diversity and cooperation. -- Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen

[images] - Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce

Northwest Passage: A great building begins as a gleam in the eye of an architect. Getting it built may require the vision of a lawyer...despite the success of the campaign, the school is still in search of more major support for the project... -- Robert AM. Stern Architects [images] - Harvard Law Bulletin

Q&A: The Mentor: R. Steven Lewis: Reversing the low number of minority architects, says NOMA's new president, requires addressing future generations through nationwide community efforts and institutional partnerships. By Edward Keegan -- National Organization of Minority Architects - Architect Magazine

Rockwell Follows Nobu to Dubai [images]: Metropolis Magazine

Public Good: Architect clubhouse introduces everyday citizens to good design: So much educational design activity surrounds the Center for Architecture...it's hard to believe a resource like this exists without everyone in the city knowing about it. -- Libeskind; Gehry; Moore Ruble Yudell; Bernard Tschumi; Mack

Architectural Magnets: Build it (Boldly) And They Will Come: ...we drove up through Kentucky and Ohio and witnessed the Bilbao effect emerging in several of their respective cities. -- Libeskind; Gehry; Moore Ruble Yudell; Bernard Tschumi; Mack
Architect as Artist: "Frank Gehry: On Line" at the Princeton University Art Museum... As a study of architectural process, this show is fascinating. [images]- New York Times

Revisiting Ron Arad and his spirited showmanship: The furniture designer and star of "design-art"... is the subject of a retrospective at the Centre Pompidou in Paris... is now regarded as a design grandee, not a subversive... purists may sneer at his showmanship, but collectors love it. By Alice Rawsthorn [slide show]- International Herald Tribune

Faith, hope and sub-prime: Nathan Coley reveals England's seaside favela... Brooklands Estate. This 1930s bungalow colony is, let's not beat about the bush, a slum, a favela. Just the place for a Turner-shortlisted artist to insert an enigmatic object. A sculpture generated by its flaky surroundings, a house that is not a house. By Hugh Pearman [images]- HughPearman.com

Book review: A Wrench in the Machine for Living: Frank Gehry Comes to Brooklyn: "From a Cause to a Style: Modernist Architecture's Encounter with the American City" by Nathan Glazer... story of modern architecture's willingness to subjugate people to its utopian fantasies... how a style that had aspirations to represent a populist vision became an elitist one. By Charles Taylor -- Koolhaas; Ouroussoff; Serra; Maya Lin; Jane Jacobs; Robert Moses - Dissent Magazine

Saving That Landscape, in Pictures at Least: Cultural Landscape Foundation has commissioned photographers to capture for posterity significant landscapes at risk of being lost... "Marvels of Modernism"... -- Charles A. Birnbaum; Lawrence Halprin; Tom Fox/SWA Group; Ltd; Pei; Dan Kiley; John Ormsbee Simonds; Edward L. Daugherty; M. Paul Friedberg; Minoru Yamasaki; Thomas D. Church/Robert Royston- New York Times

Designing for simplicity: Architecture books don't have to be big to be bold: ... a handful of small-but-beautiful (well, sort of) books... mostly about reading, rather than looking... By Steve Paul -- Ada Louise Huxtable; William J. Mitchell; William S. Saunders; Jennifer Segal; Anthony Vidler - Kansas City Star

Top 10 Books - 2009:... best books in the planning field. With titles covering some of the most timely issues in planning -- from form-based codes to exploding growth in China... -- Ricky Burdett/Deyan Sudjic; Thomas J. Campanella; Richard Florida; Michael Kwartler/Gianni Longo; etc.- PLANetizen

NAREE Names Best Real Estate Books of the Year in Robert Bruss Book Competition -- "Prefabulous: The House of Your Dreams Delivered Fresh from the Factory"; "Creating Value - Smart Development and Green Design" by Vernon Swaback; etc.- National Association of Real Estate Editors (NAREE)

World's most expensive kennel: Great Dane owner shells out £250,000 for doghouse complete with spa and plasma TV -- Andy Ramus [images]- Mail on Sunday (UK)