• Weinstein's Words That Build Tip #9: Work with your clients' contradictions to discover possible solutions.

• After "the calls go out to the architects: pencils down," what will become of NYC's construction pits? (corn mazes or parking lots or something else, perhaps?)

• Christensens' some resourceful reuses of vacant big-box stores sprouting up across the country.

• Rochon on Bing Thom's "radical urban-renewal design" to transform 800+ acres of Fort Worth's "derelict and dangerous downtown land."

• High hopes that New Orleans' first international biennial of art ("a shifting, healing kaleidoscope" or "the bleeding heart biennial") will "foster a love affair" with the city.

• Pogrebin's final installment on preservation in NYC: it's always "a delicate dance."

• Despite the otherwise dismal economy, the High Line "is a real bright spot" that "shows that New York can still think big and do big things."

• Hume on Torontonians' hard time adjusting to the winds of change: "Change is good, they say, as long as it means we don't have to do anything differently."

• The Pits: After an extraordinary era of construction...there will almost certainly come a long period in which little to nothing gets built...The calls go out to the architects: pencils down...you have a New York that may be frozen in time. - New Yorker

• For Sale: 200,000-Square-Foot Box: What happens to the store when Wal-Mart leaves town? ...all over the country, resourceful communities are finding ways to reuse these buildings, turning them into flea markets, museums, schools — even churches. By Julia Christensen [slide show essay]- Slate

• Preservation and Development, Engaged in a Delicate Dance: Over a decade of whirlwind development, the Landmarks Preservation Commission has repeatedly played dance partner to a potent mix of preservationists, developers and city politicians. By Robin Pogrebin [images, links to series]- New York Times

• The Big Easy's Canvas: How Art Can Help New Orleans: Prospect 1...The first international biennial of art...the largest in the United States...To foster a love affair with New Orleans, Dan Cameron spread Prospect 1 across the city and made all of the exhibitions and events free and open to the public [through January 18, 2009] [images, links]; Preservation magazine

• The Pursuit of Expansiveness Guides the Capitol's New Visitor Center: ...the one thing that you don't feel here is what the politicians. By Robin Pogrebin [slide show]- New York Times

• Despite Sinking Economy, Work Begins on Super-Tall Shanghai Tower...slated to be the tallest building in China. -- Gensler

• Q&A with Stephen Bishop, Design Sustainability Lead, IDEO: Bishop advocates for a "human-centered design process" that can be applied across all design disciplines.

• Weinstein's Words That Build Tip #9: Work with your clients' contradictions to discover possible solutions.
Cities rack up public artwork with bike racks: Cyclists can chain their bikes to a dollar sign on New York City's Wall Street, a pair of giant toothbrushes in Portland, Ore., and sea creatures in Louisville...

Bicycle racks that combine the utility of security with the aesthetics of art are popping up across the USA. [images] - USA Today

The space-age Aerohotel concept: We've seen some incredible examples of terraforming in recent years… But why shift all that dirt around if you can just use stilts? By the looks of the space-age design, we suspect George Lucas would be one of the first in residence. -- Alexander Asadov [images] - Gizmag (Australia)

-- Jørn Utzon 1918 - 2008: "I think back on my life with my father with great joy and love. To be allowed to spend so much time together with such a remarkable man, father and architect, has been a great privilege indeed." -- Jan Utzon

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