• Can China be green by 2020? It's just might - if there is political will.
• A "Shiny Greenish-Gold" rating for China's first "green-colored suburb city" (literally: lots of green paint and roads made from recycled U.S. currency, for starters); but experts are concerned (from pix, we are, too).
• Hume cheers that public transit is back on the agenda, but fears that "NIMBY hordes are surely bracing for battle."
• Pearman lunches with Diller Scodifio + Renfro: "rebels with a cause."
• Ouroussoff and Russell on NYC's two new stadiums: architecturally, a home run here and there, but no grand slams.
• Hawthorne on Gehry's Eisenhower memorial win, competitions, harder times for younger firms: a pity we won't get to see the other finalists' proposals when "there is still a good deal for the profession...to learn from competition entries that nearly won the day."
• Sparks might fly when Zaha, Fuksas, and Jencks cross swords at Barbican next week.
• Want your own Turnbull-designed Sea Ranch cottage? Yours for $1,500 online (a good thing?).
• A Japanese steel factory diversifies to survive the downturn: it's now growing lettuce (the edible kind).
• Another take on Corbu tome: "the man depicted in these pages exhibits few of the humane qualities" suggested by a vision of "an architecture that would celebrate color and nature."
• "Designing the Seaside" is a "fine celebration of a very English invention" (saucy postcards included).
• "One Square Inch of Silence" looks at how we're killing a national treasure.
• Weekend diversions: "Las Vegas Studio": Venturi and Scott Brown's archives offer "a glimpse behind the curtain of a significant moment in architectural history."
• Film: "Bridging Waters: Creating a Peace Park on the River Jordan" documents Yale students' adventure on the Israeli-Jordanian border working with Jordanian and Palestinian architects and Israeli students.
• An eyeful of Noouvi's "extreme" exhibition design in Milan.
• Do We Really Need Architects? Your next home may come from a Web site, not a design studio. -- William Turnbull; Garrell Associates; Nick Noyes; Dan Tyree; Ross Anderson; David Wright [images, links]-Fast Company

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Book review: "Le Corbusier: A Life" by Nicholas Fox Weber: ...despite [his] copious articulation of an architecture that would celebrate color and nature and "accommodate the physical and emotional requirements he considered inherent in all human beings," the man depicted in these pages exhibits few of the humane qualities suggested by such a vision. - Chicago Tribune

Book review: "Designing the Seaside: Architecture, Society and Nature" by Fred Gray...Although dry at times, the wonderful illustrations...more than compensate...this is a fine celebration of a very English invention. - Guardian (UK)

Book review: The Looming Death of Natural Silence: How we're killing a national treasure: "One Square Inch of Silence: One Man's Search for Natural Silence in a Noisy World" by Gordon Hempton and John Grossmann - Oblt magazine

Architects strive to achieve vision of peace park: "Bridging Waters: Creating a Peace Park on the River Jordan"...Yale architects traveled to the Israeli-Jordanian border to work with Jordanian and Palestinian architects and Israeli students from the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in an initiative to design the Middle East's first peace park. - Yale Daily News

In Milan, Nouvel Fashions an "Extreme" Exhibition: "Extreme Beauty in Vogue," a photographic survey of beauty...the exhibition design does suggest a certain wrestling with — and escape from — the current recession. [slide show] - Architectural Record

Reading between the lines: The world appears askew at Barbara Krakow Gallery...Architect-artist Peter Downsbrough's playful and witty exhibit...uses lines and words to explode his viewers' assumptions about space and language. - Boston Globe

Grand designs at Bauhaus B&B: The influential German design school now offers tourists the chance to stay in its former student quarters...If minimalism is your thing, it's a great (and, at €40 for a double, amazingly cheap) place to stay + More Meccas for lovers of architecture -- Walter Gropius; Mikhail Eisenstein - Guardian (UK)

WORDS THAT BUILD Tip #13: Re-invent Green Communication: Try the spectacular 2-step program to cut fat and reduce telltale signs of greenwash. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow


--- I.M. Pei Architect: Museum of Islamic Art, Al Corniche, Doha, Qatar
--- Experimental Urban Vision: Huaxi City Centre, Guiyang, Southwestern China
--- Atelier Manferdini; BIG; Dieguez Fridman; Emergent/Tom Wiscombe; HouLiang Architecture; JDS; Mass Studies; Rojkind Arquitectos; Serie; Sou Fujimoto Architects; MAD

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