• McDonald cheers signs that Limerick is going in the right direction in terms of design, development, and public space. By Frank McDonald -- Murray O'Laoire; Nicholas de Jong; Wilkinson Eyre/Arup [images] - Irish Times

Violy's Walkie Talkie tower gets planning permission, but recession casts doubt on timetable. Committee members welcomed the redesigned building...conservation groups, including the City Heritage Society and Historic Royal Palaces, objected to the proposals on the grounds of scale and design. - BDBuilding Design (UK)

The Case for Architectural-Design Competitions:...a design competition can produce exceptional architecture that might otherwise result from conventional procurement methods...Yet design competitions can be problematic and risky...Carried out properly, a design competition can be a win-win experience, even for competitors who don’t win. By Roger K. Lewis - The Chronicle of Higher Education

Six shortlisted for £21.5m LSE students centre:...a prestigious £21.5 million project for the London School of Economics. --- O'Donnell & Tuomey; Alfred Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM); de Rijke Marsh Morgan (dRMM); David Chipperfield; Felden Clegg Bradley; 3xN - BD/Building Design (UK)

Glascow's big 'Mac' in architectural feeding frenzy: Big-hitting names from the world of architecture...are expected to put designs forward for the new Glasgow School of Art students' building...Paul Finch, described the competition as an opportunity for architects to win a major cultural commission in Scotland untainted by either nationalist politics or royal interference. By Jay Merrick - Independent (UK)

University of Greenwich launches contest for new £80 million school of architecture and construction building in Greenwich town centre, south London. - The Architects' Journal (UK)

The Power of Place on Campus:...too often colleges overlook the influential role that campus landscape can play...First, university officials must identify spaces that have great power and importance to the campus community. By Earl Broussard/TBG Partners - The Chronicle of Higher Education

World Trade Center Derailed Monahan Station? Plans to expand Pennsylvania Station...face fresh hurdles, as a new cost estimate for the project...leaves a funding gap of up to $1 billion...In the works since...1992, the planned station has proved repeatedly to be a textbook case of the inability to execute large-scale public projects in New York City. - New York Observer

Deadline extended for bridge design: After declaring...that they were ending an effort to design architectural elements for the new South Street Bridge, Philadelphia officials reversed course...becoming clear that the Art Commission might reject the rendering of the stripped-down version... - Inga Saffron -- Gannett Fleming; H2L2 [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Whiff of mystery is hanging over Iron Cove: Having practised on the Alfords Point Bridge, Georges River, the RTA mob now wants to duplicate that duplication at Iron Cove...One native, architect Michael Morrisey, sketched a quick alternative...a serious alternative of such blinding simplicity...Why knowingly ignore a cheaper, quicker, cleaner, prettier, more heritage-minded, more intelligent proposal than a "dumb doppleganger." - The Power of Place on Campus

No Sale: Bank Wreckes New Houses: A Texas bank is about done demolishing 16 new and partially built houses acquired in Southern California through foreclosure, figuring it was better to knock them down than to try selling them in the depressed housing market...to provide a "safe environment" for neighbors of the abandoned housing tract... - Wall Street Journal

Portland green housing scheme goes in for planning: HTA-designed development will have 77 new low-carbon homes at Osprey Quay, of which 23 will be affordable [images] - Building (UK)

The Big Apple Store: New York tourism gets a 21st-century interface...the city's new official tourist office, in a storefront at the northern edge of Times Square. This isn't Ye Olde New-York visitors' center...By Andrew Blum -- Local Projects; WXY Architecture + Urban Design [images] - Metropolis Magazine

One Mies building on IIT campus can go: Squat brick building isn't his best work, and preservationists need to fight other battles...Mediocres buildings by world-class architects sometimes have to make way for pieces of civic infrastructure that uplift the community as a whole...advocates are vastly overstating the merits of a building that is utterly dispensable. By Blair Kamin -- Mies van der Rohe; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Dirk Lohan [images] - Chicago Tribune

Government to Condemn Land for Flight 93 Memorial: US to resort to land condemnation to get property for memorial in Pennsylvania (AP) - ABC News (US)
Chicago design firm OWP/P merging with Cannon Design of New York: The deal would make it the nation's 11th largest architectural firm. By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

The New Dean: USC's Jennifer Wolch To Lead University of California, Berkeley's College of Environmental Design... "Given all the challenges around climate change and sustainability and questions of globalization, poverty, public health and social justice, we now realize just how urgent it is to address these issues." - The Architect's Newspaper

WORDS THAT BUILD: Tip #14: Cluster symbolic and mythically-charged keywords in communication with clients. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

Stylish Stacking: Shipping containers will jump off the rails to form an innovative multifamily apartment complex near a Salt Lake City commuter rail station. -- Group 41 [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- KK Letter: From Graz, Austria to Ljubljana, Slovenia
-- Design Hotel: Augartenhotel, Graz, Austria

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