**Today's News - Tuesday, May 19, 2009**

- An economist warns instead of bemoaning megacities and getting misty-eyed about village life, work to improve the quality of infrastructure in growing urban areas.
- Rising is rolled out of Ground Zero developments: “The original WTC was a travesty of development interests over civic interests...it’s no different today.”
- Hill agrees (somewhat) with London mayor (a.k.a. the “Blond”) and his aversion to tall buildings.
- Kelly takes an in-depth look at how the interweaving of politics and architecture are making things pretty difficult for architects - especially young talent - in Rome.
- Falconer will surely fan some flames by pointing out the “twin dangers of ‘stararchitecture’” in Chicago.
- Two things stand out on a light rail ride from Phoenix to Mesa: “how ugly most of the human landscape is; the other is how much better the architecture is getting.”
- Hume on the upside of mall closings: forget the buildings - their "oceans of asphalt are a rebuilding opportunity.”
- Bill Clinton hails Elephant & Castle as a global template for sustainable development: if you can do it here, you can do it anywhere.
- Metropolis’s 2009 Next Generation winners have visions of harvesting the wind: "an ingenious plan to use existing infrastructure to create clean energy,"
- Q&A with Alminana of Andropogon: his minimal approach to landscape architecture and the need for a "fundamental paradigm shift" in how people relate to the environment.
- Next up for the Cultural Landscape Foundation's Pioneers Oral History Series: M. Paul Friedberg.
- Q&A with Jose Alminana, ASLA, Principal, Andropogon: ...discusses [his] minimal approach to landscape architecture, how the interweaving of politics and architecture are making things pretty difficult for architects - especially young talent - in Rome.
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Meeting of the Minds 2009: Two days of intensive exchange for leaders – creating more sustainable cities using smarter design tools, sounder environmental practices and cleaner energy systems; June 2 - 3, New York City - UrbanAge Institute

PepsiCo World Headquarters Wins 2009 Landmark Award: One of the world’s top corporate campuses labeled “a masterpiece.” -- ED SA (1970) [link to images, info] - American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

-- Architects Collective & at,103: Ozuluama Residence, Mexico City
-- GRAFT: Gleimstrasse Loft, Berlin, Germany