EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to circumstances beyond our control, we were unable to post the newsletter yesterday...so we have a lot of catching up to do!

- ArcSpace visits a magical sculpture park and an old paper mill transformed into a charming hotel - not too far from Copenhagen.
- Some Vietnamese experts are "surprised by audacity of proposed Hanoi master plan" by an international consortium.
- Planning is "*priority profession* on the immigration scorecard" as Australia looks overseas for planners to help fill a gap in rebounding building sector.
- U.S. architects, designers looking for strategic partnerships with local developers and architects for property developments in China in the Philippines.
- Kennicott comments on AIA's "Design for Diplomacy" report: perhaps a bit dull and dry, but "the fact that it exists means that the age of the American embassy as architectural wasteland may finally be coming to an end."
- Is America leading the way on sustainability? Yes, says Patrick Bello/Atelier Ten, but Gary Lawrence/Arup says it's China.
- Baillieu wonders why U.K. architects "design some of the least energy-efficient buildings in Europe* - and offers some plausible explanations that some might find "uncomfortable."
- Heathcote gives us a sneak-peek at Scheeren's Bangkok tower: "An archetypal modernist skyscraper with its erosion programmed in from the beginning - it is quite a metaphor for the contemporary city."
- West Kowloon Cultural District project seems to be back on track; Foster's back - this time teamed with OMA and Rocco Design.
- Russell reports from Yale's Kroon Hall: it "strikes a rustic note," but it's "not about quaint" as it reaches for "the Holy Grail in the battle against global warming" - carbon neutrality.
- A Detroit banker with a mission to show how to make historic preservation economically viable even in these tough times.
- Saffron strolls the High Line and finds it makes a case for not demolishing "Philadelphia's unloved Reading Viaduct" (great pix).
- St. Louis' newest urban park "brings to downtown not only an entirely new, and enthusiastic, demographic, but a new formal and aesthetic framework."
- Signs of the times: KPF UK to split from U.S. parent (let's hope they come up with a better new name than some other splitsville firms).
- McDonough goes Dutch with a new office in Amsterdam.
- Rose on the "rural renewal" of Kathryn Findlay: she's back with a new project that "could contain the germ of a new aesthetic for 21st-century rural architecture."
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- Kennicott comments on AIA's "Design for Diplomacy" report: perhaps a bit dull and dry, but "the fact that it exists means that the age of the American embassy as architectural wasteland may finally be coming to an end."
- Is America leading the way on sustainability? Yes, thanks to the LEED standard and Obama, says Patrick Bello/Atelier Ten, but Gary Lawrence/Arup argues that China is making greater strides.
- The green debate warms up: Green initiatives are all very well but UK architects need to ask why they design some of the least energy-efficient buildings in Europe. Maybe the truth is an uncomfortable one — that it has to do with our planning system and our reluctance to give up our comfortable lifestyles. It also has to do with architects, too many of whom see sustainability as a challenge to their creative freedom. By Amanda Baillieu.
- Foster back on [West Kowloon Cultural District] project, but not his canopy: ...two-year consultation exercise carries a HK$230 million price tag, with the three consultants getting HK$49 million each.... — Foster + Partners; Koolhaas/Sheeren/OFFICE for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA); Rocco Yim Sen-keee/Rocco Design Architects; Mott MacDonald - The Standard (Hong Kong)
Yale’s Rustic Kroon Hall Fits Carbon Neutral Technology: ...strikes a rustic note with its barn-like form...It’s not about quaint, since it is among the few buildings in America that can claim to be almost carbon neutral -- the Holy Grail in the battle against global warming. By James S. Russell -- Hopkins Architects; Centerbrook - Bloomberg News

Banker shows how to make historic preservation economically viable: ...when Detroit's historic buildings are slated for demolition, Richard Hosey thinks it's a waste...When the Lafayette Building — the latest historic building to make the city's demo list — was still in play, the native Detroiter wanted to prove that it could be rehabilitated, the economic climate notwithstanding. - Crain's Detroit Business

Reinventing a railroad: ...New York's High Line...should be a model for Philadelphia's unloved Reading Viaduct...Forget the huge cost of demolishing...Losing the noble stone structure would actually strip [the] Loft District of a potentially valuable amenity and make it a less distinctive place to live. By Inga Saffron -- James Corner Field Operations; Diller, Scofidio + Renfro; Piet Oudolf [slide show]: Philadelphia Inquirer

An Urban Place to Park the Kids: Architect and writer Brian Newman recently took a walk through Citygarden, St. Louis' newest urban park...brings to downtown not only an entirely new, and enthusiastic, demographic, but a new formal and aesthetic framework. -- Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; studio|durham architects [images]: The Architect's Newspaper

KPF partners look to split from US founders: UK partners of Kohn Pedersen Fox architectural practice are seeking to break away...put forward a set of proposals to buy full ownership of the business from their US counterparts...The name of the UK business...would change if the offer was accepted. - Financial Times (UK)

William McDonough + Partners opening Dutch office: The Amsterdam office will be led by David Goehring...and Kees Noorman...- San Francisco Business Times

The rural renewal of Kathryn Findlay: She made a name for herself in the 1990s with eerie, alluring buildings...Now [she] is back -- and shaking up the slow-moving, bureaucratic world of rural architecture...Poochouse 2 is disproportionately significant...could contain the germ of a new aesthetic for 21st-century rural architecture. By Steve Rose -- Ushida Findlay; Robert Adam - Guardian (UK)

Prince Charles vs. the Architects: A dust-up between architects and the Prince of Wales over a speech and a £1b development is bringing the age-old battle between traditional and modern architecture to a head...Tim Halbur summarizes the news. [links]- PLANetizen

Call for entries: AIA Show How You Re-Green Housing Awards: to recognize designs that take the existing residential building stock into new green frontiers (submissions must be located in the U.S.); deadline: September 3 - American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Call for entries: 24th Annual Mockett Design Competition for furniture parts, components, accessories, and hardware; cash prizes, royalties; deadline: October 5- Doug Mockett & Company