- A look at local rebuilding efforts in New Orleans that may not be the fastest or cheapest way to go, but they're working - and could be models for recovery from future disasters anywhere.
- A call to stop mourning the decline of traditional British high streets and return "sacrosanct employment space back to its natural use as residential accommodation."
- Forgey is only halfheartened by "a grand collaborative effort" to revive the National Mall and D.C.'s city center: alas, the vision falls short.
- An ancient Silk Road city in China faces an onslaught of bulldozers; some cheer, some fear.
- Dittmar defends Prince Charles: his foundation is not trying to dictate design, but he "speaks for most people's ideas about buildings, towns and cities, and architects can't stand that."
- Meanwhile, Chelsea Barracks residents voice concern about modernist architects on the new shortlist.
- OMA's Commonwealth Institute plans "significantly reduced" (should we have expected otherwise?).
- SWA Group's big win for 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games gets bigger.
- Anderton chats it up with an L.A. architect who goes on an Abu Dhabi version of "The Apprentice"; the co-writer of "(500) Days of Summer"; and a historian who talks about the secret history of the 100-year-old Santa Monica Pier.
- Kamin cheers the return of two Sullivan facades in Chicago's Loop.
- FLW's Guggenheim might never have happened without the intervention of an unlikely champion: Robert Moses: "Damn it, get a permit for Frank, I don't care how many laws you have to break."
- How Wright's love of the automobile inspired his architecture.
- Deadline reminder: Google/Guggenheim Design It: Shelter Competition closes this Sunday.
- We couldn't resist: Glancey waxes oh-so-poetic about Lego.
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- Floating around NYC is an experiment in self-sustaining community living and artistry: an eco- and art-friendly sphere.
Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum: Fifty years after its opening, has the art finally caught up with the architecture? NYC Buildings Department, leery of unconventional designs, would probably have nixed the project were it not for Robert Moses..."Damn it, get a permit for Frank, I don't care how many laws you have to break." [slide show essay]- Slate

The Auto as Architect's Inspiration: Frank Lloyd Wright was an early adopter of the internal-combustion engine and an auto aficionado all his life...[his] love of the automobile inspired some of his most innovative architectural concepts and ultimately his most radical design, the Guggenheim. [slide show]- New York Times

Call for entries reminder: Google and Guggenheim Design It: Shelter Competition; deadline: August 23- Guggenheim Museum

Little bricks that breed: Lego has defied the slump. Little wonder...In a world in which our children are encouraged to demand any amount of luridly coloured (usually pink) bleeping, winking, throwaway electronic plastic tat made by less lucky children in far-away countries of which we choose to know little, Lego is a source of comfort as well as play. By Jonathan Glancey- Guardian (UK)

Waiting at Heathrow, the Literary Experience: Alain de Botton has been named Heathrow airport's writer in residence, and will spend a week writing at a desk in the middle of a terminal..."I'd like to be a writer in residence at a nuclear power station."- New York Times

Life, Art and Chickens, Afloat in the Harbor: Artists have been floating around New York City on the Waterpod, a 3,000-square-foot experiment in community living and artistry...envisioned as a self-sustaining living space, an eco- and art-friendly sphere that could be recreated in the future, when land resources might be scarce. [slide show]- New York Times

Steven Holl Architects: Knut Hamsun Center, Hamarøy, Norway