• ArcSpace brings us "Donald Judd: Furniture" in NYC, and two tomes by Goldberger.
• Is there a future for giant public works projects?
• Hawthorne wonders "what happens when high-profile building projects stumble forward without the big-name architects that helped them gain attention."
• Orange County Great Park not exactly stumbling forward, just taking smaller steps.
• The head of Israel's Union of United Architects says not all West Bank building is political.
• It seems to be a politics of fear that has banned minarets on mosques in Switzerland, "denting the nation's image as a bastion of tolerance."
• On a brighter note, Hume cheers the demise of "Toronto the Timid": the city "has started to think big, take architectural risks" (but will it maintain the momentum?).
• Alsop has a few doubts about that: "Torontoontarians are good at just saying no" (that should endear him).
• Vietnamese architects blame poor management by municipal authorities - and architects' lack of training - for Ho Chi Minh City's "lack of character."
• Bernstein visits Pitt's "gifts to New Orleans" and finds brightly colored, modernist houses that make a big impression (good and bad, depending on who he talked to).
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Clemson builds green: New science building is for the birds, but in a good way: The design of the new Coastal Ecology and Forest Science building at Hobcaw Barony wildlife refuge was driven...was shaped by a host of environmental considerations...And then there were the red-cockaded woodpeckers. By Robert Behre -- LS3P Associates [images]- Charleston Post and Courier (South Carolina)

Birmingham Council approves Mecanoo library: ...The news comes hot on the heels of the government’s announcement that it will not to list the original 1970s brutalist library. [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Birmingham New Street Station plans submitted for planning: ...overwhelming positive response showing 91 per cent of respondents agreeing that the design was an improvement on the current station. -- Foreign Office Architects (FOA); WS Atkins; Mace [images]- The Architects’ Journal (UK)

Frank Lloyd Wright synagogue seeks more recognition: ...members of Beth Sholom [Elkins Park, PA]...are stepping forward to tell the story of how their landmark spiritual home was built...synagogue marks its 50th anniversary this year by establishing a visitors center that will be open three days a week. Previously, appointments were required... -- Paul Goldberger (AP) [images]- USA Today

Architecture firm seeks $32 million from Ohio State University for breach of contract: ...contends that...many of the discussions that led OSU to terminate its contract occurred “in nonpublic secretly scheduled meetings...” -- Karlsberger Architecture, Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK)- The Lantern

A Survey Shows Pain of Recession for Artists: ...More than 5,300 practitioners in fields like painting, filmmaking and architecture participated in the online survey...musicians and architects tend to do better than writers and painters... -- Leveraging Investments in Creativity - New York Times

When culture meets commerce: ...Design Miami could be considered the younger sibling of Art Basel Miami Beach...is proving equally effective as a force for change in an area now known as Miami Design District...”Design has been the real impetus for the changes”... -- Craig Robins/Dacra; Zaha Hadid; Marc Newson; Fernando and Humberto Campana; Maarten Baas/Baas & den Herder - Financial Times

Remembering Robert Lautman, 85, Architectural Photographer: His mastery of composition, light, and shadow made him the photographer of choice...his hospitality and sense of humor were legendary. Among the vocations listed on his business card was “Lunch”...His life and work will be remembered [at] the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, December 4. [slide show]- Architectural Record

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