

## Today's News - Tuesday, May 18, 2010

- Sticks and stones (isn't this an industry that just loves controversy): Booth reports on the first day in court in the saga of Chelsea Barracks and that pesky prince; and an architect bemoans all the "painstaking development work" being "undone by HRH - not so as to encourage an alternative that most local residents might enjoy more but to pander to a rich."
- Another battle may be brewing over plans for a "vast monument" (taller than Big Ben!) to Battle of Britain.
- Lest we forget the contentious plans for a hockey rink on Toronto's Lower Don Lands waterfront: "The configuration that's been floating around has been scrapped, actually" (instead of 440, only 200 surface parking spots - oh joy).
- Rochon minces no words about hockey rink plans: forget a windowless box, "intelligent, far-reaching alternatives to the suburban-style scheme are needed immediately."
- Zandberg says it's time to bury plans for Museum of Tolerance in Jerusalem along with the bones: it isn't about promoting tolerance, "but rather a desire to repeat the Bilbao effect."
- On a more positive note (we hope), a two-part report on big plans for urban regeneration in Downtown Cairo.
- King on SFMOMA and BAM/PFA shortlists: "Experience is important but so is cachet. And if your building opens as your architect's reputation crests - ka-ching!"
- A Fresno architect and students come up with tiny (and inventive) homes for the homeless - now all they need is a place to put them.
- Biemiller finds campuses "littered with bad buildings" trying to imitate their older neighbors, and "just about all of them are intellectually indefensible."
- Walker cheers "a slew of inspiring kit-style" classrooms that are modular, eco-friendly - and economical to boot.
- A report from NBM's "For the Greener Good" discussion on green schools (some good news, some not so good).
- An eyeful of London's new Routemaster that's en route; surprise to us: it's a Heatherwick, not Foster, design (great pix, video, though).
- Litt on student design finalists for a titanium bridge in Akron: it "could be just the thing for a region known for, er, rust."
- Another spotlight on SOM's Hartman: his work will "survive the magic test of time."
- British Columbia in the spotlight with eyefuls of the 2010 AIBC Architectural Awards; and Olin's 1992 Bryant Park in NYC wins ASLA/NTHP 2010 Landmark Award.

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[A tale of two princes: how Prince Charles altered the landscape with a word in the Emir of Qatar's ear: Royal letter allegedly marked opening salvo in campaign that led to scrapping of Chelsea Barracks plan, high court hears.](#) By Robert Booth -- Richard Rogers/Rogers Stirk Harbour-Guardian (UK)

[Op-Ed: Prince Charles the wrecker: As if dealing with planners for months on end wasn't painful enough, we now have to calculate a last-minute intervention from a prince addicted to retro architecture...So all that painstaking development work has been undone by HRH -- not so as to encourage an alternative that most local residents might enjoy more but to pander to a rich, vociferous clique who now might be expected to object less.](#) By Gus Alexander -- Rogers Stirk Harbour-Building (UK)

[RAF Museum plans vast monument to Battle of Britain: Royal Air Force Museum is proposing a 116m \(350ft\)...Beacon of Hendon...£85million spiralling metal structure...But the museum may first have to do battle with people living in the area.](#) -- Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios [image]-The Times (UK)

[Design panel, city of Toronto butt heads over hockey rink design: Architects appointed to review proposals accuse city of proceeding with 'suburban' design in urban setting..."The configuration that's been floating around has been scrapped, actually. We're absolutely not putting 440 surface spots on the site."](#) -- Rounthwaite, Dick and Hadley Architects - Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Waterfront rink is about more than ice and parking: Port lands project is an opportunity for inspired innovation, not a windowless box...Intelligent, far-reaching alternatives to the suburban-style scheme are needed immediately.](#) By Lisa Rochon - Globe and Mail (Canada)

[Time to bury the project with the bones: A quick glance at the plans for the Museum of Tolerance makes it clear why the...inconceivable investment in titanium and glass have sparked a protest among people who care deeply about Jerusalem...promotion of tolerance was not the entrepreneurs' first priority, but rather a desire to...repeat...the "Bilbao effect"..."Frank Gehry announced his withdrawal a few months ago..."](#) By Esther Zandberg - Ha'aretz (Israel)

[Part 1: Imagining Downtown differently: Karim el-Shafei...explains the Ismaelia consortium's concept of urban regeneration and its initial works in Downtown Cairo..."We contracted the International Institute for Urban Development, which is an offshoot of the Harvard School of Architecture and Urban Design, and they are going to do the urban plan for our buildings."](#) - Al-Masry Al-Youm (Egypt)

[Part 2: Downtown reborn? The Ismaelia Consortium's vision for downtown Cairo's urban regeneration - Al-Masry Al-Youm \(Egypt\)](#)

[Artful selection of architect makes statement: The market in architectural futures is one way to make sense of the current hunt for firms to design the new wing of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and...a new home for the Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive. Experience is important but so is cachet. And if your building opens as your architect's reputation crests - ka-ching!](#) By John King -- Foster + Partners; David Adjaye; Snohetta; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Ann Beha Architects - San Francisco Chronicle

[Tiny buildings for Fresno's homeless need a home: architect is building eco-villages for transients, but a suitable location is needed...first](#)

structures -- some measuring only 80 square feet -- are already under construction...built with recycled materials...working with Fresno State students... -- Arthur Dyson [slide show]- The Fresno Bee (California)

Should Your New Buildings Look Old? The campuses of Jefferson's republic are lined with bad buildings designed to imitate their older neighbors...some of them are cartoon-grade terrible...An enlightened, engaging, entertaining conversation among designs of different eras [is] what a 21st-century college or university could - and should - want from its buildings. By Lawrence Biemiller -- Robert A.M. Stern; Einhorn Yaffee Prescott; Le Corbusier; Gordon Bunshaft; Louis Kahn; Paul Rudolph; Eero Saarinen; James Gamble Rogers; Charles Moore; Robert Venturi; Frank Gehry; Eric Owen Moss; James Sterling; William Pereira; Machado and Silvetti- The Chronicle of Higher Education

School's Almost Out, but These Modular, Eco-Friendly Classrooms Are In: ...a slew of inspiring kit-style classrooms can be constructed on site before the start of the next school year - and at a fraction of the cost. By Alissa Walker -- Gen7; Project Frog; Jennifer Siegal; Toby Long; Kita Design Company [images, links]- Fast Company

Building Green and Healthy Places to Learn: National Building Museum's "For the Greener Good" discussion on green schools...how do we build green schools? ...Using data to make the case...Obstacles preventing their growth... -- Perkins+Will [links]- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Routemaster 2.0: The City of London unveiled a new version of its iconic red doubledecker bus...Set to hit the road by 2012...In addition to being super sleek, the new buses are super sustainable hybrids. -- Foster + Partners/Aston Martin; Thomas Heatherwick/Wrightbus. [images, video]- The Architect's Newspaper

Titanium bridge design competition for University of Akron narrowed to five finalists: A bridge made out of the metal could be just the thing for a region known for, er, rust...As the best of the student designs show, titanium can inspire some very creative design. By Steven Litt [images]- Cleveland Plain Dealer

Wielding Light as a Tool to Shape the Cityscape: Craig Hartman's Ideas Reconfigure the Region...[his] work...will "survive the magic test of time." By Therese Poletti -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) [slide show]- Wall Street Journal

Historic Preservation and Innovation Take Gold at 2010 AIBC Architectural Awards -- Acton Ostry Architects; Walter Francis Architecture/Pechet and Robb; Gair Williamson Architect; Gates\_Suter Architects; Birmingham & Wood; Hughes Condon Marler; WMMV Public: Architecture + Communication; mcfarlane green biggar; Stantec Architecture; Matthew Soules Architecture [images - pdf]- Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC)

New York City's Bryant Park Wins 2010 Landmark Award: Thoughtful [1992] redesign transformed derelict space into a model of urban sustainability. -- National Trust for Historic Preservation; OLIN; Davis Brody Bond; Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer [link to images, info]- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

An Open Letter to Susan Szenasy re: Frank Gehry: Susan, I love and admire you. But I think you are wrong... By Fred Bernstein- ArchNewsNow



Under construction: Gehry Partners: New World Symphony, Miami, Florida

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