• AIA is up in arms re: the Small Business Administration's proposal to increase the number of businesses that qualify as a small business: "The effect on small architecture businesses would be devastating," says Ivy.

• CTBUH names 4 skyscrapers as regional best.

• On a more depressing note, NTHP issues its 2011 List of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places; it includes Goldberg's Chicago hospital, Coltrane's house, and sites imperiled by states' budget cuts and poor policies (great presentations, though).

• It looks like London's Broadgate will not dodge the wrecking ball (despite EH claim that it's a "triumph of urbanism"), meaning UBS will most likely get its "groundscraper" HQ by Shuttleworth.

• In India, state "protection" can prove to be a "bane for monuments."

• Glancey travels to Helsinki and finds too many things that could be "anywhere-ish"; does he like anything? "I love Finnish architecture - especially when I'm attacking it." On the contrary: "I love Finnish architecture - especially when I'm attacking it." (most amusing read).

• On to the future: San Francisco approves massive Parkmerced and Treasure Island developments (both in the works for how long, now?); now look for build-outs to take 20 (or even 30) years.

• Henderson, NV, gives thumbs-up to $1.5 billion Union Village, a.k.a. (very big) "integrated health village."

• Another $1.5 billion revitalization project along the Mystic River in Somerville, MA, moves ahead "after years of false starts."

• Yazdani's vision for a new federal courthouse in Toledo won't be your grandfather's version (all it needs now is federal funding).

• Ennead Architects tapped to design expansion of the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg, PA.

• Schindler's Krakow factory transformed into a contemporary art museum; the same could be in store for his factory in Brnenec, Czech Republic.

• An excellent look at pioneering women in architecture, and today's "barrier busters" who "serve as some of the very few role models and mentors available to upcoming female students of design."

• King on four-story artwork headed for Transbay Terminal: it will be either "a brilliant counterpart to its sleek surroundings or a cross between Barney Rubble and the Vaillancourt Fountain" + he bemoans the loss of one of the "best residential buildings of the young century" - Jennings' "turbo-charged Jaguar with cool pose" - to the transport project.
Future finally brightens for Assembly Square: After years of false starts...$1.5 billion revitalization of Assembly Square in Somerville will begin construction this fall on hundreds of homes, stores, and an expanded park along the Mystic River...full build-out of the site is expected to take 10 to 15 years. - Boston Globe

Design set for federal courthouse in Toledo: ...to be built on the Civic Center Mall if federal funding comes through and it comes to fruition - is expected to cost $96 million...the building is not what most would expect from a courthouse, but that it will be sustainable, high-performing, and timeless. -- Mehrdad Yazdani/Yazdani Studio [image]- Toledo Blade

N.Y. firm to give Westmoreland Museum of American Art more space: ...has hired Ennead Architects for its $15 million expansion and renovation project [in Greensburg, PA]...firm chosen from five finalists, who had been winnowed from a pool of 63 applicants. - Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Schindler's Museum: The Krakow Factory Made Famous by "Schindler's List" is Transformed Into Museum of Contemporary Art in Krakow (MOCARK): Architects Claudio Nardi and Leonardo Maria Proli designed a new building and converted six structures that belonged to the lauded industrialist...Yet another possible museum project is in the works for Schindler's factory in Brnenec in the Czech Republic. [slide show]- Artinfo France

Pioneering Women Architects of the Wild West: As with many of those who pushed the doors of opportunity open more than 100 years ago, women in architecture today appear to still be breaking through barriers...Barrier busters...serve as some of the very few role models and mentors available to upcoming female students of design. -- Mary Colter; Julia Morgan; Sophie Hayden; Jeanne Gang; Lois Lilley Howe; Norma Sklarek/Siegel, Sklarek, Diamond; Kathryn Anthony- San Diego Reader

New Transbay Terminal to have pieces of old as art: As the deconstruction of San Francisco's Transbay Terminal continues, the pile of concrete pylons and columns...grows higher...But that's no mere debris, folks. It's art on the verge - the body parts for a four-story creation...and say farewell to one of the region's best residential buildings of the young century...Steel Arc, it's a modest joy of shiny steel... By John King -- Tim Hawkinson; Jim Jennings [images]- San Francisco Chronicle


Zaha Hadid Architects: Riverside Museum of Transport, Glasgow, Scotland, UK