Today's News - Thursday, July 14, 2011

- We lose an architect who "left a legacy of elegant solutions and consensus building."
- When NYC's 9/11 Memorial opens in September, "the approach will be more pedestrian than poignant...perhaps a fitting transition to a new era."
- Jerusalem's Museum of Tolerance gets final go-ahead with "architecture that is modest and thoughtful, and contributes to the creation of a public space that is fitting for the area on a local and urban level" (though protests continue).
- Bevan bemoans Australia's lack of a permanent architecture museum - or even a wing of a museum - but cheers - and has high hopes for what's happening in "a small warehouse in north Melbourne."
- AIA has high hopes for a new database its developing that "would make available to potential investors projects that make economic sense but which lack the financing to be completed."
- PlaNYC "is chock full of urgent and unassailable proposals for 'greening' the city, but is ultimately flawed" (is the problem "two conflicting agendas" within the Bloomberg administration?).
- King finds fervent advocates (and a few ruffled feathers): re: San Francisco considering "rules for bird-safe architecture."
- Almost 20 years later, Kanner's Koreatown apartment building in L.A. that he called a "ham-and-Swiss-cheese sandwich of white-bread Modernism with a filling of L.A. funk" still "links and inspires" (we'll take one! hold the pickle."
- A judge halts renovations to Bunshaft's Manny Hanny landmarked interior on Manhattan's Fifth Ave. (but will it hold?).
- NPR looks at "landmarks of outer space-inspired" architecture and why we're still enthralled: "Perhaps it reminds us of a moment when people believed the future was inevitably going to be better; that technology would nestle us among the stars, and our best instincts would rescue us from our worst" (t'would that it were so).
- Brake offers bravos for Denari's HL23 that "bulges out" over the High Line: the "muscular little building is formally dynamic without feeling frivolous...it's a building to puzzle over, and a delight to voyeurs and architecture lovers alike."
- AIA To Develop Database of Stalled Projects Suitable for Investor Financing: ...would make available to potential investors...projects that make economic sense but which lack the financing to be completed. - American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- Making a Greener Economy a Fairer Economy: [PlaNYC] sustainability agenda is chock full of urgent and unassailable proposals for "greening" the city, but is ultimately flawed...Economic development officials considered growth as more a strategy than goal...then PlaNYC might have focused on harnessing the emerging green economy to achieve a more just and sustainable city. By Dan Steinberg - Gotham Gazette (NYC)
- S.F. considers rules for bird-safe architecture: San Francisco would join Chicago and Toronto as cities with such guidelines on the books...It's a concept with fervent advocates...But some [AIASF] members question whether the 40 pages of standards will send mixed messages in a city already known for architectural second-guessing. By John King - San Francisco Chronicle
- Fast lane to gridlock: It will hurt to lose the 405 for a weekend not because we love freeways so much but because Los Angeles is so limited in terms of mobility. We've left ourselves with no escape hatches or viable alternatives. Is it just me, or are you sort of glad that "Carmageddon" is happening? By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times
- The Terminal Reborn: The Airport of the Future Will Be... Enjoyable? New terminals are less about the grand architectural statement...and more about giving travelers the feeling that they're comfortable and well-informed - that they're cared for. By Allen Arieff -- Gensler; Skidmore Owings & Merrill (SOM); mhg Architecture & Design [images];- Technology
- Fast lane to gridlock: It will hurt to lose the 405 for a weekend not because we love freeways so much but because Los Angeles is so limited in terms of mobility. We've left ourselves with no escape hatches or viable alternatives. Is it just me, or are you sort of glad that "Carmageddon" is happening? By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times
- Judge Halts Landmark's Alterations: Renovations have been halted at a landmark office building at Fifth Avenue and 43rd Street that preservationists call a model of modernism. A former bank that was originally part of the Manufacturers Trust Company...designed by Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore, Owings
Out Of This World: Designs Of The Space Age: As the space shuttle soars one last time, we visit landmarks of outer space-inspired architecture...has stayed with us...Perhaps it reminds us of a moment when people believed the future was inevitably going to be better; that technology would nestle us among the stars, and our best instincts would rescue us from our worst. -- Armet Davis Newlove; William Pereira/Charles Luckman [images, links]- National Public Radio (NPR)

Olympic Port’s Competition Winner: João Pedro Backheuser with Ignasi Riera: The project includes the construction of facilities such as the media and referees villages, a five-star hotel, a convention center and business center that will be used during the 2016 Olympics Games and will be a legacy for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. [images]- ArchDaily

Core77 Design Awards: Results of this year’s awards in 15 categories are announced via Live Web Broadcasts over 10 days. - Core77

Happy Bastille Day / Joyeux Quatorze Juillet!!! [Google doodle en français]- France Soir

— Celebration: John Lautner Turns 100
— Belzberg Architects: Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, Los Angeles, California