Today's News - Thursday, October 3, 2013

- Some of our favorite writers delve into how the tech industry is shaping the American city.
- Bernstein looks at the legacy being left by NYC's Mayor Bloomberg: "12 years of astonishing change earns mixed marks."
- Chaban reports that Bloomberg is "going Dutch," selecting Amsterdam-based Arcadis "to study whether Hizzoner's so-called 'Seaport City' is even doable."
- Hatherley looks to 1970s London, when "authorities worked with good local architects to redistribute wealth spatially. The same should be done now" for better council housing.
- Baranes weighs in on the debate about height limits in Washington, DC: "We should not allow fear of change to stand in the way of a healthier and more sustainable downtown."
- Litt takes a long look (with lots of pix) at Cleveland's new Global Center for Health Innovation: "It may perform brilliantly as a magnet for health-related conventions," but "another service it performs is that of showing off the city itself."
- Facebook gets into housing within walking distance of its Silicon Valley HQ "to address the housing squeeze affecting the swelling ranks of tech workers" (with "a handful of low-income tenants").
- Notre Dame is given a bundle for a new school of architecture (no architect named yet, but we're taking bets on what classical architect will get the job).
- Lexington, KY's CentrePointe project gets another design revamp.
- The best response to gentrification is better council housing: In 1970s London, authorities worked with good local architects to redistribute wealth spatially. The same should be done now...What London desperately needs is a better council housing programme, not laments over the fate of its "squeezed" middle. By Owen Hatherley - Guardian (UK)
- Commentary: The case for more height in D.C.: We should not allow fear of change to stand in the way of a healthier and more sustainable downtown which embodies the spirit of the capital's original planners while addressing the needs of its future generations. By Shalom Baranes - Washington Post
- Architects designed the Global Center for Health Innovation to fit seamlessly with Cleveland's new convention center. It may perform brilliantly as a showplace...and as a magnet for health-related conventions...while its big job is to help brand the city as a hub of medical innovation, another service it performs is that of showing off the city itself. By Steven Litt -- Rafael Vinyo; LMN Architects [images] - Cleveland Plain Dealer
- Facebook, partner to build Menlo Park housing complex: ...394-unit apartment complex to be built "within walking distance" of its headquarters and campus...While open to the community, including a "handful of low-income tenants, it's one way for companies...to address the housing squeeze affecting the swelling ranks of tech workers up and down the expensive Bay Area. -- KTYG Group [image] - San Francisco Chronicle
- Notre Dame receives $27 million gift: New School of Architecture to be built at south edge of campus: The 60,000-square-foot Walsh Family Hall of Architecture is expected to be built on...a visitors' parking lot...School is known for its emphasis on the study of classical architecture and traditional urbanism. - South Bend Tribune (Indiana)
- Atlanta architecture firm submits revamped design for Lexington's CentrePointe: ...include tweaks to the facade of the development's apartment building...The project has gone through several architects since it was announced in 2008. -- EOP Architects; CMIM Architects [images] - Lexington Herald-Leader (Kentucky)
- Architects submit plans for seedy Soho alley: Matt Architecture and SODA (Studio Of Design and Architecture) propose mix of new-build and restoration..."alleyway that, while decrepit, remains to many the heart of Soho." [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)
- Revealed: designs by the finalists vying for Oriel College jackpot: ...five shortlisted schemes in the competition to overhaul part of Oriel College at the University of Oxford. -- Amanda Levete/AL_A; Allies and Morrison; Caruso St John; Panter Hudspith; Wright & Wright [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)
- Glenn Lowry on MoMA's Next Expansion: "Substantial Changes in the Way We Present the Collection": ...the status of plans for the Tod Williams Billie Tsien-designed former American Folk Art

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Technology and the City: Austin, Chattanooga, San Francisco, and Detroit demonstrate how the tech industry is shaping the American city. By John King, William Hanley, Andrew Blum, John Gallagher

Architectural Record

The Legacy of Mayor Mike: After 12 years of astonishing change in New York, Bloomberg earns mixed marks. "Next year could be a huge shock to the system, depending on who is elected." By Fred A. Bernstein - Kirsten Bibulka/Dattner Architects; Grimshaw; Tod Williams Bille Tsien; Morphosis; SHoP Architects; NARCHITECTS; Snehetta; Claire Weisz/WXY - Architectural Record

WATER WORLD! Seaport City is Mayor Bloomberg's post-Sandy vision: Residential complex would be built on berms in the East River itself: City Hall has just selected Arcadis, an Amsterdam-based engineering firm, to study whether Hizzoner's so-called "Seaport City" is even doable. By Matt Chaban - NY Daily News

The 60,000-square-foot Walsh Family Hall of Architecture is expected to be built on berms in the East River itself: City Hall has just selected Arcadis, an Amsterdam-based engineering firm, to study whether Hizzoner's so-called "Seaport City" is even doable. By Matt Chaban - NY Daily News

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Museum facility: "We're still modeling lots of different options...that include retaining the building as it is, significant changes to the building, as well as demolishing it. By Lee Rosenbaum -- Jean Nouvel; Tod Williams Billie TsienDiller Scofidio + Renfro - ArtsJournal

Special Sense of Place: To view Brown University through the prism of its buildings and landscaping is to view its varied history, including the tension between Brown's vision of itself and its evolving relationship with Providence, the city that became its home. Brown was conceived as an urban institution. By Raymond Rhinehart -- Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.; Kliment Halsband [images]- Brown Alumni Magazine

Bill Warner and the classical revival: Before almost all architects, the late William D. Warner resisted the sterilization and corporatization that have stunted architecture in America and around the world...his greatest contributions to a re-civilized urbanism. By David Brussat [images]- Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

The Great Indoors Award 2013: The jury awards four prizes with a total value of €20,000...20 nominees were selected from 271 entries from 39 countries [images]- Frame Publishers / Bureau Europa / Marres, Centre for Contemporary Culture

15 reasons to register: World Architecture Day 2013: Towards eight billion: housing the next generation: a unique mix of building tours, presentations, debates and workshops...15 of the biggest names in the business hosting workshops in their studios; in partnership with AIANY and Center for Architecture, New York City, October 6-8- World Architecture Day

Coca-Cola Sets Up A Pop-Up Park, To Make Concrete Jungles Less Gray: ...with trees, vending machines, and green turfs laid on the ground by a grass-laying truck..."Roll Out Happiness"... [images]- DesignTAX

Call for entries/ Call for Projects for the first European conference, Public Interest Design — Global, in Paris, April 18-19, 2014; categories: Products, Places, Processes; selected laureates will receive round-trip air fare to Paris and two night's lodging; deadline: November 10- Design Corps / Social, Economic, Environmental Design Network (SEED) / Ecole Spécial d'Architecture / The Fetzer Institute

Call for entries: 1916 Centenary Chapel at Glasnevin Cemetery Competition to commemorate, in particular the 232 people who died during the 1916 Rising; cash prize; registration deadline: November 29 (submission deadline: December 18)- Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI)

-- Kengo Kuma & Associates: ...works with elements of Japanese tradition to create human friendly architecture for the 21st century.
-- Zaha Hadid Architects: Serpentine Sackler Gallery
-- Snøhetta/craig Dykers/Kjetil Trædal Thorsen: ...has become one of the most discussed and sought-after practices today, due to their radical rethinking of the relationship between building and landscape