A grumpy sort of news day: Moore weighs in on the Stirling Prize shortlist: it's "a shortlist of second-bests - the prize has a knack for recognizing the good-but-not-great" and bemoans "at least two outstanding works" that didn't make it.

Ben Wilems bemoans how the architecture of "brandcentric" national chains "is destroying our sense of place" - it's "a sad irony that as the diversity of the American population is increasing, the diversity of our built environment is decreasing."

Sorkin takes a New York-centric view about the city's "architectural renaissance" as "gaming the system" for the 1% that produces "works of both genius and horror - the deck continues to be stacked against the public."

Elsea tackles the conundrum of perfecting an architectural language "that the 99% can understand. How many really know what we're talking about when we go on about placemaking, mixed use or fenestrations?"

Piano cuts 94 stories off his Paddington Pole, instead proposing an 18-story "floating" glass Paddington Cube (the Skyline Campaign cheers!).

Jenkins minces no words about what he thinks of the "squashed down" Paddington Cube: "So what of the box itself? The answer is, it is awful - a huge 18-floor glass box flown in from somewhere in Dubai" (and then a-cough - augh!).

Kadri, the "man who designed some of Mumbai's most iconic post-Independence architecture," talks about "his love and recent hate for the city," and "explains what led to its disastrous growth."

Davidson attempts to find a few good things to say about NYC's new 53rd Street Library - "a sleek but shrunk out pit" with "a smattering" of books: "Neither architects nor librarians shaped this branch; a real-estate deal did," resulting in "a basement instead of a building."

Moore, on a brighter note, cheers a "notorious" London housing estate transformed into "some of the best housing in the neighborhood. What Ely Court achieves is not rocket science, but it is still too rare to see it done well."

Byrnes has a great Q&A with Leslie Koch re: "how Governors Island became New York's best new public space" (we couldn't agree more!): "We were picking a team, not a rendering."

Chaban cheers the Lowline, a "mole-man-style park," getting a thumbs-up from NYC's powers-that-be - as long as it hits certain benchmarks, "like proving that their gonzolight-movers can effectively sustain an acre of vegetation underground."

Morgan marvels at "one of the best examples of Modern architecture" - a former livestock pavilion in Raleigh, NC, "an engineering marvel" that "bears positive comparison with some of the magnificent grand spaces of history" (with pix to prove it).

UNESCO adds 17 Corbu sites to its World Heritage List.

It also warns that the Liverpool waterfront could lose its heritage site status if it doesn't comply with a two-year moratorium on new development; the mayor says no way.

Walker walks us through how Pokémon Go "actually turns the whole urban planning concept of placemaking on its head" with cities "already looking at ways to capitalize on this phenomenon" (no mention of walking off cliffs or into traffic, however).

Hearkening back to olden days, Yoo looks at SimCity's legacy, and how "gamification" has become "a powerful tool" for architects and planners "in the smart city era."

Sydney architect Thalis gets political, joining Mayor Clover Moore's team in her bid for re-election, bringing "influence and expertise to the chambers on planning decisions."

Walker walks us through how Pokémon Go "actually turns the whole urban planning concept of placemaking on its head" with cities "already looking at ways to capitalize on this phenomenon" (no mention of walking off cliffs or into traffic, however).

Diller takes home the 2016 ACADIA Lifetime Achievement Award for her "pioneering work at the intersections of architecture, art, technology and philosophy."

Call for entries: Call for Papers: UrbanPromo 2016 International Conference "A New Cycle of Urban Planning between Tactics and Strategy," in Milan this November.
debris from demolished Coast Guard buildings and gives users a public space that can't be matched in New York. "We were picking a team, not a rendering." By Mark Byrnes -- Adriaan Geuze/West 8 [images]- CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

The Lowline Just Got a Thumbs-up From City Hall: ...[it] is one of the most intriguing urban propositions to come along in some time...a mole-man-style park under Delancey Street...so long as they can meet certain...benchmarks, like proving that their gonzo light-movers can effectively sustain an acre of vegetation underground, year-round. By Matt A.V. Chaban -- James Ramsey/Raad Studio; Daniel Barasch- New York Magazine

One of the Best Examples of Modern Architecture is a Former Livestock Pavilion in Raleigh, North Carolina: ...Dorton Arena...like much bold modern architecture, the arena is an engineering marvel...being inside is as exciting as experiencing some of the most notable Olympics structures...bears positive comparison with some of the magnificent grand spaces of history. By William Morgan -- Matthew Nowicki (1952) [images]- Slate

Le Corbusier's Work Added to Heritage List: Unesco has singled out 17 of this Modernist architect's sites to its World Heritage List, calling them a "testimonial to the invention of a new architectural language that made a break with the past." By Robin Pogrebin- New York Times

Liverpool waterfront heritage status at risk as mayor rejects Un plea: Unesco urges two-year moratorium on new development at world heritage site but Joe Anderson says it would stifle development...could lose its heritage site status if it fails to comply.- Guardian (UK)

How Pokémon Go is improving your city: Millions of new eyes - and feet - on the street: ...represent the kind of civic engagement that cities have previously tried to achieve with well-funded improvements. But the notable thing...is that this all has happened with no public health initiative, no marketing campaign, no infrastructural changes...City leaders are already looking at ways to capitalize on this phenomenon...this actually turns the whole urban planning concept of placemaking on its head. By Alissa Walker- Curbed

SimCity legacy: smarter cities when urban planners play for keeps: Architects and planners brought up on SimCity are using the principles of gaming to encourage sustainability: ...gamification...a powerful tool in the smart city era because...the new breed of urban and building designers need to be adept at multiple disciplines, or at least be able to communicate with experts from different fields. By Tony Yoo/CRN -- Matthias Haeusler; Tygron; Block'hood- Guardian (UK)

Architect Philip Thalis joins Clover Moore for City of Sydney election: ...will run as an independent candidate in September... While [he] would no doubt bring influence and expertise to the chambers on planning decisions, his influence and the power of the city on important planning decisions are restricted. -- Hill Thalis Architecture and Urban Projects- Architecture & Design (Australia)

Liz Diller awarded 2016 ACADIA Lifetime Achievement Award: The Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture award...was last given in 2014 to the late Zaha Hadid...cited Diller's "pioneering work at the intersections of architecture, art, technology and philosophy." -- Diller Scofidio + Renfro- The Architect's Newspaper


Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.