• ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of everything from a pavilion for an ancient monument in Spain, to SANAA, OMA, Souto de Moura, and more.

• Avent narrates a terrific video about "how cities grow, slump and recover" (vintage footage is fab).

• Q&A with Dubbeldam re: the My Ideal City project to restructure downtown Bogota "from the roots up."

• Two young architects offer "highly specific ideas for how policymakers could divide Jerusalem between Israel and Palestine without doing permanent damage to the delicate urban fabric of the city.”

• Russell reviews current Hudson Yards plans with hopes that the designs "are further refined to let sun, shadow and the tantalizing river view dance among the towers" that "would make a surprising, gorgeous contrast with Manhattan's dour grid."

• Bradley concurs with Saffron's "distaste for the tacky" new Home2Suites hotel in Philly, but says the bigger issue is all those public subsidies.

• Lewis cheers plans for a Fort Totten makeover that could demonstrate "how constructive urbanization can positively enhance rather than adversely affect existing, low-density residential neighborhoods."

• Heathcote cheers a trend among young architects "frustrated by a lack of opportunity to build" who are building their own designs: "The result has been an explosion of DIY design - and often quite brilliant invention."

• Hurley looks at a RIBA campaign urging larger homes: "A policy proposal to make houses bigger? Backed by architects? To an American, it seems almost inconceivable."

• King is glad to see a revised design for the Apple Store on San Francisco's Union Square that now preserves Asawa's fountain, though for planners, "the satisfaction is more about the building architecture than the nearby art."

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Architecture star Cesar Pelli joins Louis Armstrong International Airport design team: ...an ideal choice to bring both big-name cachet and airport design expertise to the ambitious endeavor. -- Pelli Clarke Pelli; Manning Architects; Hewitt Washington Architects - The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

Vines and Vintner Beautify a Tuscan Hill: The new headquarters for Antinori winemakers in Tuscany, designed by Archea architects, doesn’t just occupy the landscape, it becomes the landscape...it is purpose-built nature on a very large scale — and a factory. But it makes peace with its surroundings. And adds a landmark to them. By Michael Kimmelman - New York Times

Made in China: The Green Futurism of Ma Yansong: ...has taken the West by storm with his organic, futuristic creations...no one can accuse him of playing it safe...His experimental designs and advances in Europe and North America have...helped propel his transformation into an icon for architecture students and studios across China. Yet with all his accolades, he is also considered something of a rebel. By Kevin Holden Platt - Der Spiegel (Germany)

The Radical Challenge of Building a Dorm for the Deaf: The first thing you notice when walking into Gallaudet University’s newest residence hall is how utterly familiar it looks...not familiar in the sense of boring...built with a series of subtle and thoughtful design choices that use the principles of DeafSpace. -- LTL Architects; Hansel Bauman - Wired

Judge OKs demolition of half-built CityCenter Harmon Hotel tower: ...MGM Resorts International...said it might take up to a year to complete demolition...testing showed “widespread, diverse structural defects...”...more than 7,000 defects were observed...100% of the elements tested contained at least one defect...Almost all elements contained multiple diverse defects. -- Foster + Partners; Tutor Perini Building Co. - Las Vegas Review-Journal

Eritrea’s unique architecture under threat: Asmara boasts buildings unlike anywhere else in Africa, a legacy of its Italian colonial past, when architects were given free rein for structures judged too avant-garde back home...while many of the buildings survived a decades-long liberation war from Ethiopia...preservation and restoration projects have been hampered... -- Arab News

Off Piste – Drawing inspiration: Austin Williams on the possibilities and limitations of ‘taking a line for a walk’: ...while it appears that drawing is being rediscovered for its innocent pleasures, I am sad to say that I am highly suspicious of the rediscovery, promotion and lauding of hand-drawing that has emerged...we are in danger of losing the very thing that I enjoy about hand-drawing: its innocence. -- Norman Weinstein; Maggie Flickinger; Alan Dunlop - Times Higher Education (UK)

Lego introduces a monochromatic, forgiving architecture set: Because the Architecture Studio includes bricks in just two shades...the buildings we’ve created all seem to be related, at least distantly, to modern architecture. This is a decidedly Corbusian color scheme; as my 9-year-old put it...“If that was hot pink, it wouldn’t look modern.” By Christopher Hawthorne - Los Angeles Times

Call for entries: Light+Building Call for projects: Luminale 2014 – Biennale of Lighting Culture, Frankfurt am Main, March 30 - April 4, 2014; pre-registration deadline: September 15 - Light+Building

Architects EAT Melbourne: How things are panning out on Melbourne’s burgeoning skyline is questionable. But in the shadow of those weird towers, firms like Architects EAT are doing work that is subtle, refined, location-appropriate, and very beautiful. By Jonathan Lerner - ArchNewsNow