• It seems BBC is having its own Denise Scott Brown moment when Patty Hopkins is Photoshopped out of pix of "The Brits Who Built the Modern World"- leaving only the good of boys (and "consistent with how women's contributions have been airbrushed out of history").
• Arch Record offers a masterful round-up of "super-sized design" with gigantic projects that "confront the gargantuan challenges - and solve them in ingenious ways."
• Speaking of gargantuan, does Queensland's Cairns really want/need a $4.2 billion mega-resort and casino: though some "refer to it as 'intrusive', 'unnecessary' and 'excessive,', the developer is hoping to wow everyone "with superiority through magnitude."
• Vertical cities "could be a solution to the challenge of high-density urbanization."
• Urban sprawl, on the other hand, is called a Ponzi scheme that "brings about countless costs, both to cities and to the people who live there."
• Though not a lot of details (like who's designing what), it's still good news for Detroit: a handful of big developments about to get underway.
• Meanwhile, Flint, Michigan's mayor declares a $70 million "war on blight," with plans to tear down nearly 6,000 buildings - and "get volunteers to take care of 20,000 vacant lots."
• Heathcote is more than a bit disheartened by the "lack of vision for Crossrail station designs," seeing it as "a rare opportunity being wasted" with designs by good architects that are nonetheless "banal" and "inoffensive but dull.
• A Swedish artist wins the competition to design three memorials to the victims of the July 22, 2011 Norwegian massacres ("Memory Wound" is stunning!).
• Avanti Architects beats out some heavy hitters to win the job of revamping Stirling's Florey building in Oxford (commenters are none too pleased, calling the plan "vandalism" and a "bastardization").
• BDP/Levitt Bernstein team wins the Royal Docks competition.
• Four are in the running to transform 17 acres in the heart of Birmingham city center.
• A conversation with McDonough re: Cradle to Cradle: "When he thinks, he thinks big."
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• A conversation with McDonough re: Cradle to Cradle: "When he thinks, he thinks big.
• Mock cheers "12 Years a Slave" for showing "not only how slavery exploited and devastated African Americans, but also how it did the same to the American environment."
• Autodesk launches a foundation to "support the most impactful nonprofit organizations using the power of design to help solve epic challenges."
Porter and GROSS.MAX to transform 17 acres in the heart of Birmingham city centre were selected. - Birmingham Post (UK)

Cradle to Cradle: An interview with William McDonough: ...a leading light in creating not just architecture, but entire systems of non-toxic, no-waste production...When he thinks, he thinks big. [images] - New Zealand Herald

Henry David Thoreau would have given “12 Years a Slave” the Oscar for best picture, too; ...a lens for examining the intersection between environmentalism and social justice...Steve McQueen was trying to show not only how slavery exploited and devastated African Americans, but also how it did the same to the American environment. By Brentin Mock-Grist Magazine

Autodesk Launches Foundation Aimed to Solve “Epic Design Challenges”: ... Autodesk Foundation...will “invest in and support the most impactful nonprofit organizations using the power of design...has already supported a number of projects... -- MASS Design Group; KickStart International; Rural Studio at Auburn University [images, links] - ArchDaily

MIPIM Architectural Review Future Project Award winners 2014 -- Osamu Morishita; Paul Lukez Architecture/CRHA Landscape Architects/Green Design Union; Mossessian and Partners/Yassir Khalil Studio; Jan Closterman; Eller + Eller Architekten; Luca Peralta Studio; Baca Architects; Sanjay Puri; Murat Arif Suyukatmaz/Hakan Demirel; Dugan Morris Architects; Herzog & de Meuron; SANE architecture; Madhusudhan Chalasani; Design Engine/Unit One; Principal Designer; Alford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM); Adam Khan Architects; Marcio Kogan; BIG/Bjarke Ingels Group [slide show] - Telegraph (UK)

National Building Museum names Laura Bush and the National Trust for Historic Preservation as 2014 Honor Award recipients; Gala celebration April 1 - National Building Museum

-- Shao Weiping: Phoenix International Media Center, Beijing, China. By Kevin Holden Platt
-- Sergei Tchoban & Sergei Kuznetsov: Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin, Germany. By Ulf Meyer

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