Today's News - Wednesday, July 20, 2016

- Budds gets input from a fab array of notable experts re: their ideas "for ways design can be a starting point for more equitable cities."

- A new report by the Centre for London think-tank "highlights design professionals' key role in combating NIMBYism," and build community "support for good-quality high-density housing."

- The art of copyrighting architectural works - who owns copyright rights "is typically one of the most heavily negotiated points in an architect's agreement."

- Toronto gets serious about requiring permanent recognition of architects on buildings over 1,000 square meters.

- Developers bring a stararchitect invasion to West Palm Beach: "The name brand recognition can only help the city" (if they get approved).

- Meanwhile, Miami looks to place "impact fees" on developers as a way to deal with climate change; one problem: the mayor doesn't believe the "doomsday scenarios" about sea level rise (yikes!).

- A fascinating look at "a prototype for new public housing in Korea" (with "Rivera-blue rooftops"), and what it borrows from European models of social housing.

- Hohenadel x 2: she cheers a former parking lot in Oakland, CA, transformed by David Baker into an apartment complex for low-income, special needs seniors that proves "housing for the homeless can and should include thoughtful, aesthetically pleasing design."

- She also cheers Peter Barber's homeless shelter in London that is "a beautiful riff on the 10th-century poor houses known as almshouses."

- Wainwright is quite taken by Walters & Cohen's "magnificent, modern Buddhist haven - on the edge of the sleepy village of Walsham-le-Willows. It feels of its place, yet totally other."

- Boeri's Vertical Forest in Milan is "a refreshing vision of how urban skylines might look in the future" and "an alternative to urban sprawl" - and which cities are taking green roofs seriously.

- Approval (finally) given to Holl's pedestrian bridges that will connect his new pavilions at the Kennedy Center to the Potomac River, fulfilling "an unrealized part of Edward Durell Stone's original plans."

- Hadid's office "is set to stay in business for a while longer yet" with a new, 38-story skyscraper for Qatar's first sustainable city.

- LIBESKIND is more than a little busy in Vilnius, Lithuania, with a faceted tower, the Modern Art Center, and a sports and wellness center.

- Davidson ponders Central Park and "the relationship between greenbacks and greenery. The difference between a romantic stream and a weed-choked sump is colossal amounts of cash."

- GWWO gives a preview of its new Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park in Maryland: "Every building, every wall, window, and possibly blade of grass has a meaning related to Tubman's legacy."

- A totally fascinating read: Bucky's daughter shares an essay that "reveals a rarely spotlighted side to the revered thinker" - his fingertips and dancing figure prominently.

- Eyefuls of Nix and Gerber's "stunning" dioramas of "abandoned urban landscape that nature has begun to reclaim" (stunning, indeed!).

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How Urban Design Perpetuates Racial Inequality - And What We Can Do About It: Recognizing that design can't solve all of our social problems, we asked architects, scholars, urbanists, and planners to share their recommendations for ways design can be a starting point for more equitable cities. By Diana Budds – Justin Moore; Isis Ferguson/Place Lab; Allison Aiken/Henjamin Grant/SPUR; Jeff Ransom/Gehl Institute; Shrih-Pei Tsay; Vishaan Chakrabarti/Partnership for Architecture and Urbanism; Richard Florida- Fast Company/ Co/Design

Report highlights design professionals’ key role in combating nimbysim: New study calls for better collaboration between architects and councilors to build support for good-quality high-density housing. Research identified poor-quality design and a distrust of developers as core reasons why communities react negatively to proposals - BDBuilding Design (UK)

Permanent recognition of architects required on buildings in Toronto: ...over 1,000 square metres...benefits including public recognition for architects, an opportunity to better engage the public in the debate about architecture, and the economic benefit resulting from architectural tourism...it has not yet been widely enforced. Now, it will become an integral part of the Site Plan Approval process. - Canadian Architect

Developers: Starchitects' invasion of West Palm Beach should boost real estate market: ...none of the new buildings have been built yet, and not all have even been approved. "But as a developer I'd like to see everything built. The name brand recognition can only help the city" -- David Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Norman Foster/Foster + Partners; Allan Greenberg; Helmut Jahn; Bernardo Fort-Brescia/Arquitectonica- The Real Deal (Florida)

Miami's plan to deal with climate change: Make developers pay up: ...four county commissioners have proposed placing "impact fees" on developers who build in environmentally sensitive areas...They may face some resistance: Mayor...said that much of the discussion about sea level rise "is of doomsday scenarios which, frankly, I do not believe." - Grist Magazine

Frits van Dongen exports the European model of social housing to Korea: ...a large development at Seoul's southern periphery [Gangnam District]. The conglomerate of different blocks and Riviera-blue rooftops, which elegantly follows the topography of its surrounding hills, is supposed to provide a prototype for new public housing in Korea. -- Van Dongen Koschuch Architects and Planners; de Architekten Cie. [images]- Frame / Mark Magazine

Oakland Transformed a Parking Lot Into Award-Winning Apartments for Homeless Seniors: A light, airy refuge for 91 low-income, special needs seniors...Demonstrating that housing for the homeless can and should include thoughtful, aesthetically pleasing design, the Lakeside Senior Apartments...a block from the Lake Merritt waterfront. By Kristin Hohenadel – David Baker Architects [images]- Slate

This Award-Winning London Homeless Shelter Is Based on a 10th-Century Design: ...Holmes Road Studios, a beautiful riff on the 10th-century poor houses known as almshouses...transitional studios...shelter 59 homeless people..."It will help to foster a sense of belonging, self worth and empowerment..." By Kristin Hohenadel – Peter Barber Architects [images]: Slate

Vajrasana retreat centre - magnificent, modern Buddhist haven: From the peaceful water garden to the sparkling shrine room, this Suffolk meditation complex fuses the exotic with the agricultural: It's not quite what you expect to encounter on the edge of the sleepy village of Walsham-le-Willows, but then this is no ordinary barn...It feels of its place, yet totally other. By Oliver Wainwright -- Walters & Cohen Architects [images] - Guardian (UK)

Gardens in the sky: The rise of green urban architecture: "Bosco Verticale," or "Vertical Forest" is giving rise to an entirely new take on the traditional idea of the urban jungle...a refreshing vision of how urban skylines might look in the future...conceived as an alternative to urban sprawl... - Stefano Boeri Architetti [images] - CNN Style

Steven Holl Architects Wins Planning Approval for Pedestrian Bridges in Kennedy Center Expansion: ...will fulfill an unrealized
part of Edward Durell Stone's original plans to connect the Washington cultural hub with the Potomac River...connecting three new pavilions to walkways along the river. By Deane Madsen [images] - Architect Magazine

Zaha Hadid-designed skyscraper planned for Qatar: Zaha Hadid Architects is set to stay in business for a while longer yet...a new skyscraper for Qatar's first sustainable city, Lusail...takes design cues from the desert hyacinth...38 stories...will also sport a mashrabiya latticed facade to lower solar heat gain. -- Arup Engineering; Atelier Ten [image] - Gizmag

Studio Libeskind’s Faceted Tower Wins Competition for Mixed-Use Complex in Lithuania: Downtown Tower-K18B...also currently designing the Vilnius Modern Art Centre as well as a sports and wellness centre, Vilnius Beacon. [image] - ArchDaily

Studio Libeskind design revealed for Modern Art Center in Vilnius: will be dedicated to the exhibition of work from the 1960s to the present by Lithuanian artists...concept is inspired by the historic gates of the city and the references the local architecture, both in form and materials. -- Do architects [images] - Eurobuild CEE

Will They Ever Finish Central Park?...even the army of horticulturists and maintenance workers who putt-putt around on golf carts each morning can only do so much...Fortunately, half a billion dollars will buy a lot of planting and digging, though...the relationship between greenbacks and greenery: The difference between a romantic stream and a weed-choked sump is colossal amounts of cash. By Justin Davidson -- Calvert Vaux; Frederick Law Olmsted - New York Magazine

Architects present new Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park:...complex is striking, but at the same time familiar - somewhat barn-like, somewhat contemporary...Every building, every wall, window, and possibly blade of grass has a meaning related to Harriet Tubman’s legacy... -- GWWO Architects [images] - Dorchester Banner (Maryland)

Antennae to Experience: What Bucky Fuller Taught Me: Buckminster Fuller's daughter shares a previously unpublished essay and reveals a rarely spotlighted side to the revered thinker: One of the most vivid images I have of my father is of his fingertips...his antennae to experience...his fingertips seemed to suggest that he was tuning in to, was in touch with, that special-case experience. By Allegra Fuller Snyder [images] - Metropolis Magazine

The Beauty of Decay: These Stunning Dioramas Depict Perfect Post-Apocalyptic Architecture: In a series titled "The City," Lori Nix and Kathleen Gerber modeled an abandoned urban landscape that nature has begun to reclaim...The result may be bleak, but it's also inarguably compelling. -- Nix + Gerber [images] - Architizer