

## Akshay Pratisthan School New Delhi

“Concerned with educating and imparting skills to physically disabled children along with able-bodied ones to enable them to learn to live together, the shelter for the children at Akshay Pratisthan was designed to meet the evolving needs of the curriculum. While the main school building was being constructed it was to serve as classrooms for five sets of children. Later, it was to serve as a centre for the non-formal activities of the school catering to crafts, a gymnasium and play-space, as well as an amphitheatre.”

“The plan form evolved from a sensing of the flow and movement, with intervening spaces. The main building of the school was to be a grey grit finished assortment of familiar rectilinear compositions which seemed to have little to do with the world of the child. The activity centre, therefore, attempts to create elements of joy, excitement, beauty and a

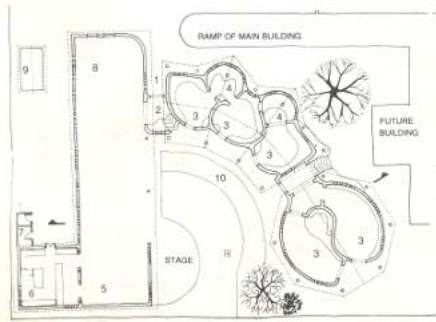
sense of scale, seeking all the time to establish a strong tactile relationship with material, built form and space, qualities that are missing in the deprived resettlement colonies that most of the children come from.

“Exigencies of time allowed only two months to design and build, and necessitated the separation of the roof and enclosing walls as independent entities that could come up simultaneously. Since the roof was to be of asbestos (a gift), the clients were advised to cover it with thatch or a layer of soil and evergreen creepers.

“Simple and easily comprehensible vernacular elements of the building have led to a situation where the clients have been able to undertake further additions on their own in the same vocabulary and spirit, even though we feel the poetic quality of the original core has perhaps been reduced to prose in the recent interpretations of the plan.”

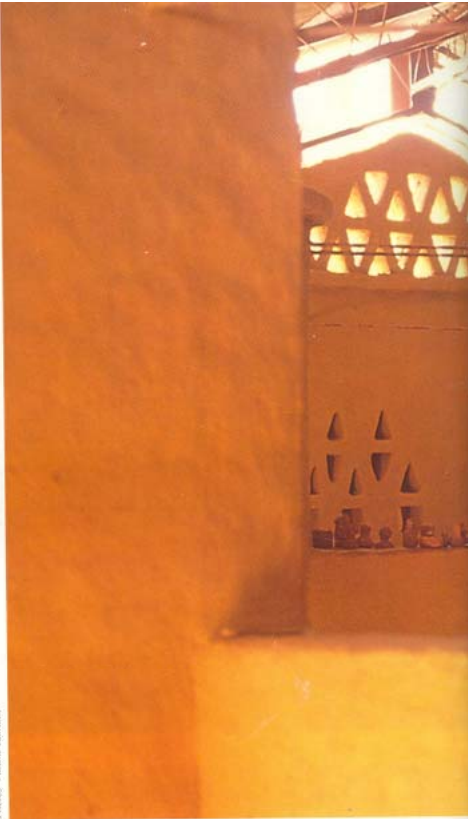


SECTION

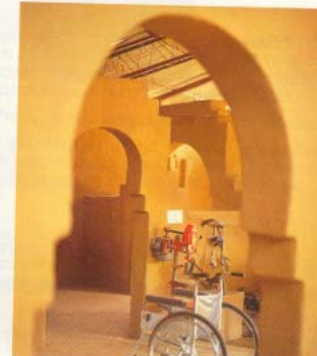
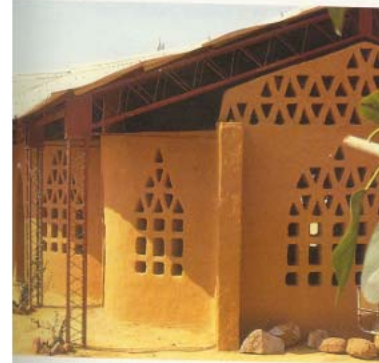
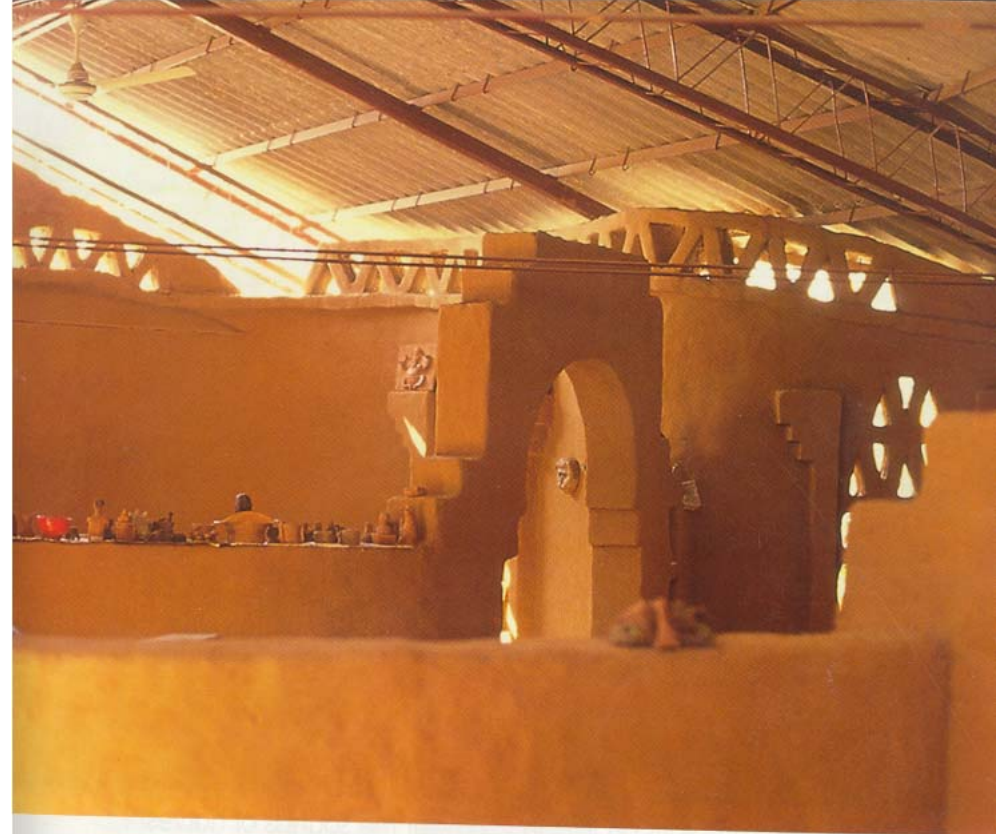


GROUND FLOOR

Photos: Vasant Kamath



- 1 ENTRY
- 2 PASSAGE
- 3 CLASSROOM
- 4 STORY TELLING
- 5 DINING
- 6 KITCHEN
- 7 STORE
- 8 GYMNASIUM
- 9 TOILET
- 10 AMPHITHEATRE



Architect Revathi Kamath (Revathi & Vasant Kamath)  
Plinth area 90 sq m (phase I), 180 sq m (Phase II), 60 sq m (phase III)



