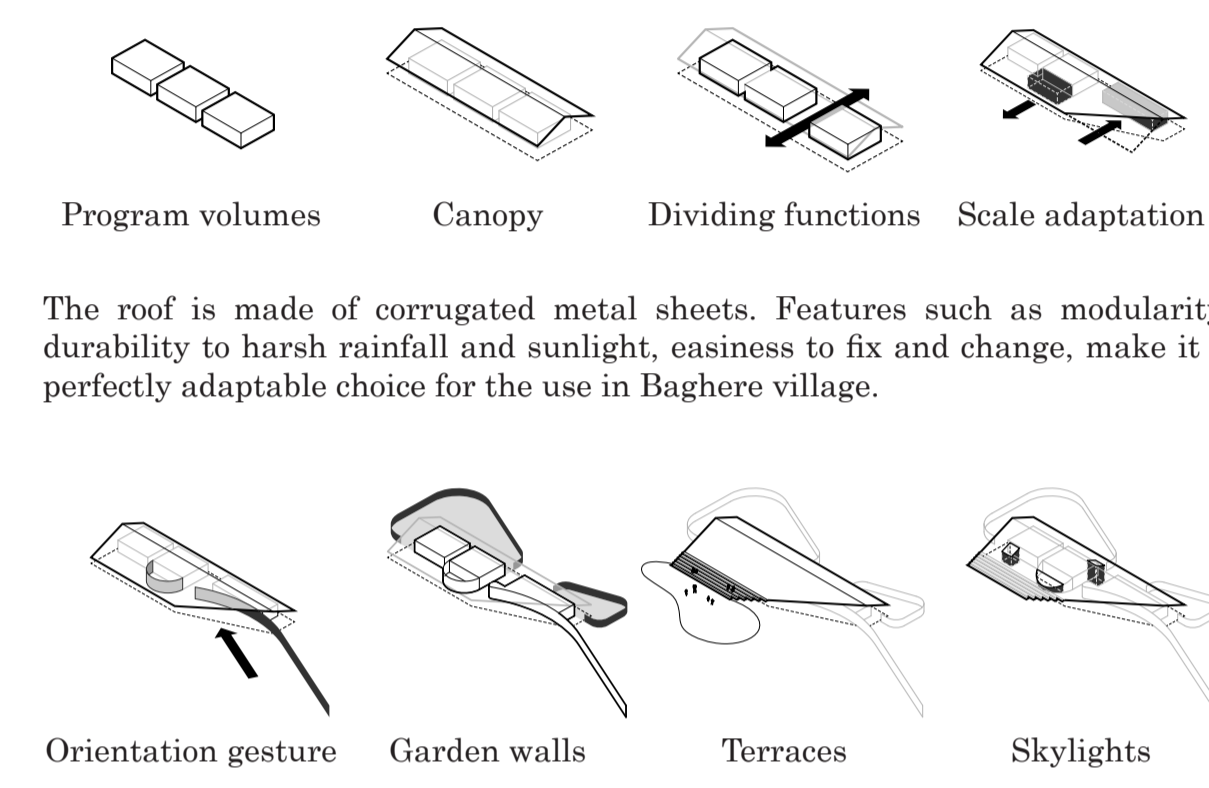


**OPENNESS & ENCLOSURE**

Located in Baghere village, south Senegal, the children's house with its modest stance demonstrates itself as a succinct design, which derives from the idea of forming a balance between openness and enclosure.

Facing towards the village in an inviting stance, the design also seeks to establish multiple spatial dialogues of publicity and privacy with defined elements. Three main volumes are extracted from major programs required for the healthcare house, and sheltered by light-weight roof canopy. Base volumes are subsequently divided, stretched, compressed and morphed. Curved walls speak as a language of duality, reinterpreted from vernacular Senegal traditional architecture languages, they are introduced both to create a dynamic strong gesture of orientation, and to enclose tranquil spaces with intimacy for cared children. The diagonally cut roof on the corner close to the road creates an welcoming entrance and waiting space to the village side. The diagonal momentum of the roof continues down until reaching the ground, the meanwhile phase transforms into a public terrace. A public open space is hugged by the terrace steps, which is shared by the children's house and the village community together for events, gatherings and sports.

Vernacular and simplicity in assemble are principles for building materials of the children's house. Laterite rammed earth walls are erected first as weight-bearing elements and enclosure. Their curved shapes are adorned with adobe bricks, offering dynamic routes and letting in more sunlight. Bamboo beams are rested on top of rammed earth walls. The strong sunshine in West Africa is filtered by lattice of bamboo veins, gently flows through and sheds on the earthy walls.



Lands for agricultural use are reserved on the back side of the house and in gardens for potential self-supporting needs and honing the living skills for cared children. Also based on the same principle, heavy rainfalls during wet-season in Senegal are able to be stored in small reservoirs in the gardens for the use.

