

Ecological Thread Cultural Centre

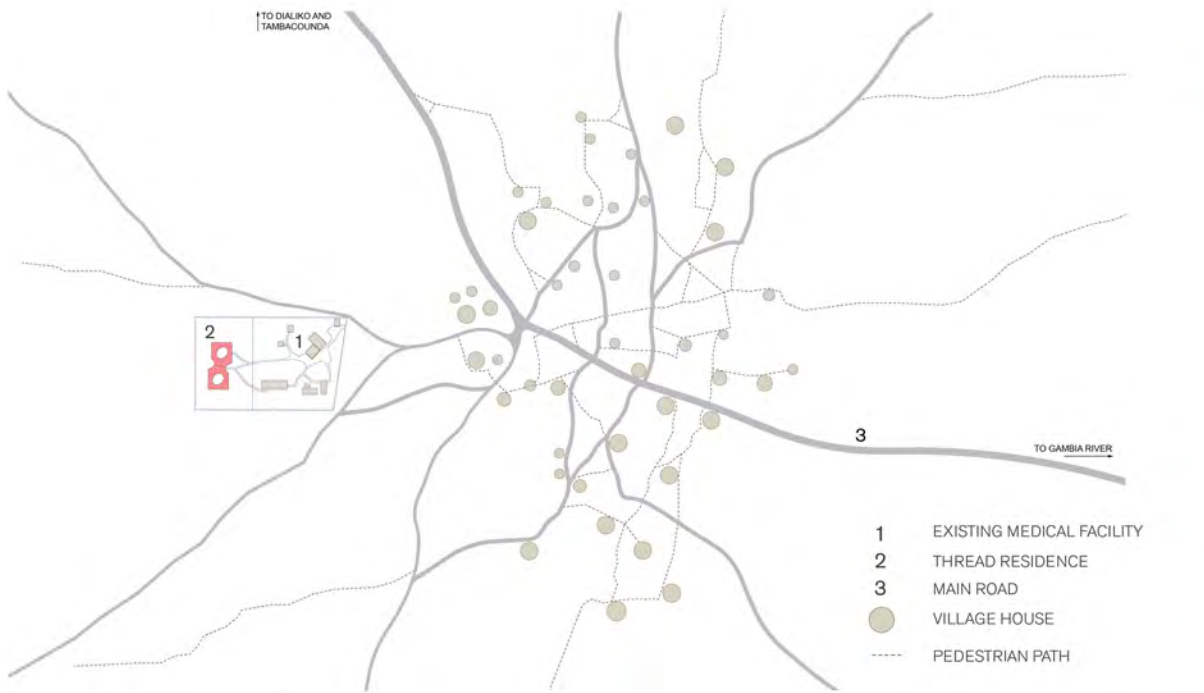
Sinthian, Senegal

Architects	Toshiko Mori New York, United States of America
Client	Josef and Anni Albers Foundation Bethany, United States of America
Commission	1995
Design	2013
Construction	2013-2015
Occupancy	2015
Site	6'232 m ²
Ground Floor	1'048 m ²
Total Floor	n.a.
Costs	USD 146'000
Programme	Thread is a socio-cultural centre that houses two artists' dwellings and studio space for local and international artists. It is a hub for surrounding villages, providing agricultural training on the area's fertile land and a meeting place for social organisation which is, in rural Senegal, the crucial mechanism for sustainable development. A parametric transformation of the traditional pitched roof achieved through a process of inversion collects rainwater, creating a viable source for new agricultural projects during the eight-month dry season. Thread exists at a crossroads between (inter)national artist residency, agricultural hub, community farm, water source, exhibition and performance venue, local library, children's play gym and village cell phone charger. The success of its atypical plurality proves why art and architecture should be the right of all people.
Building Type	Cultural Facilities
2016 Award Cycle	4503.SEN

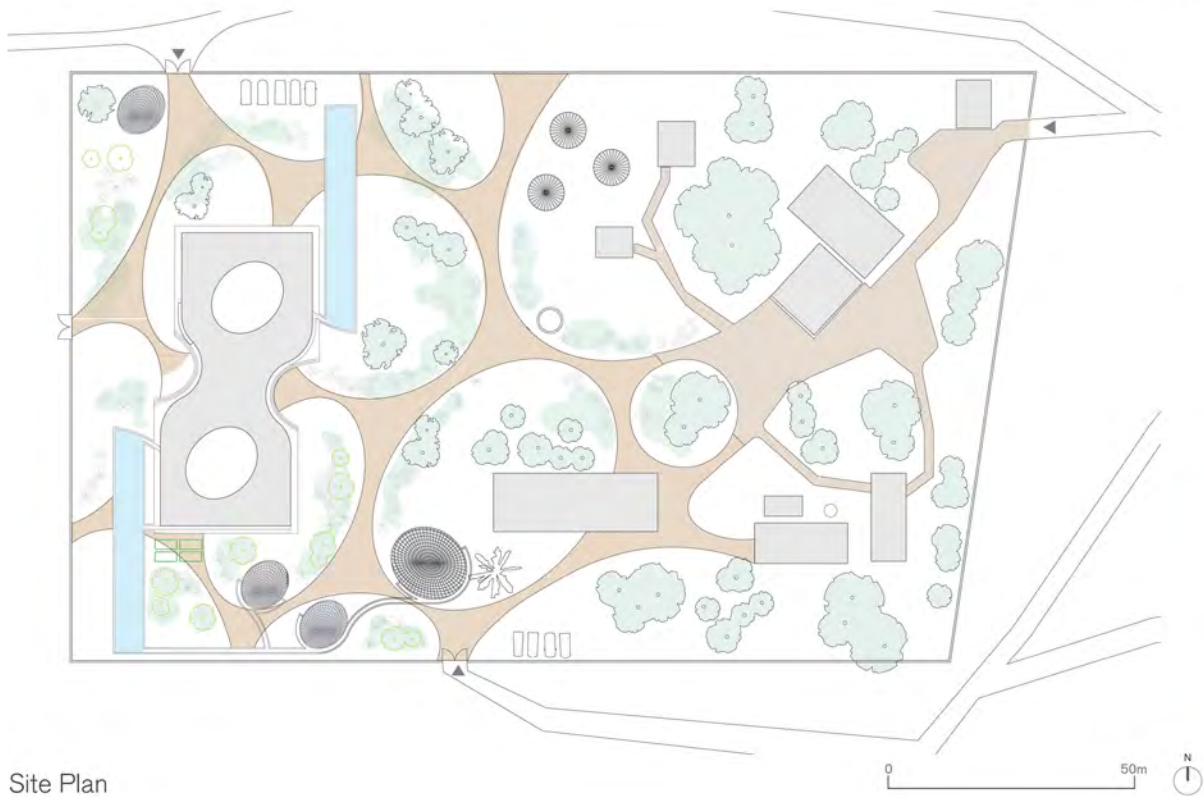
THREAD: ARTIST RESIDENCY & CULTURAL CENTER
SINTHIAN, SENEGAL

TOSHIKO MORI ARCHITECT

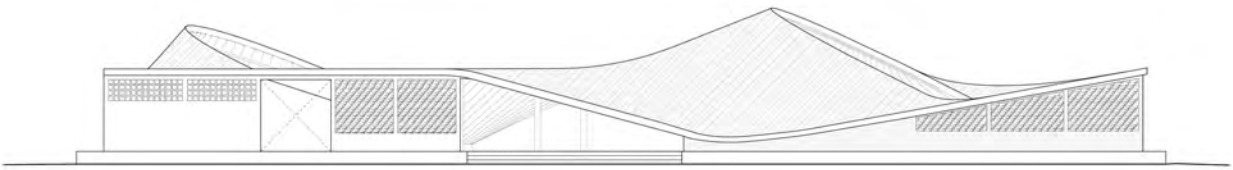
Situated in the remote community of Sinthian, Senegal, near the fragile border of Mali, this project offers multiple programs for the community, including gathering space, performance center, and residency for visiting artists. A collaboration with the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation and American Friends of Le Korsa, the cultural facility complements the existing clinics, kindergarten, and farming school on site. The shared music, art, and performance programs are a testament to the resiliency of the region.



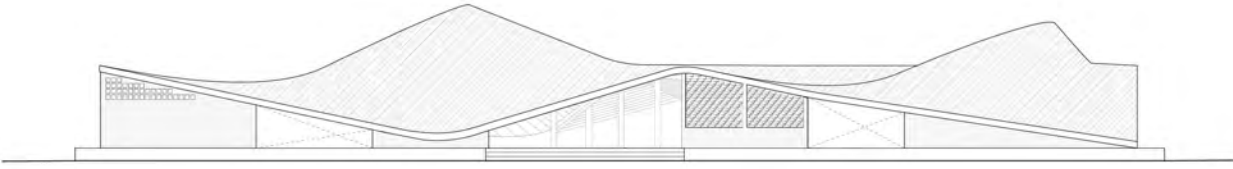
Context Map - Sinthian, Senegal



Site Plan



East Elevation

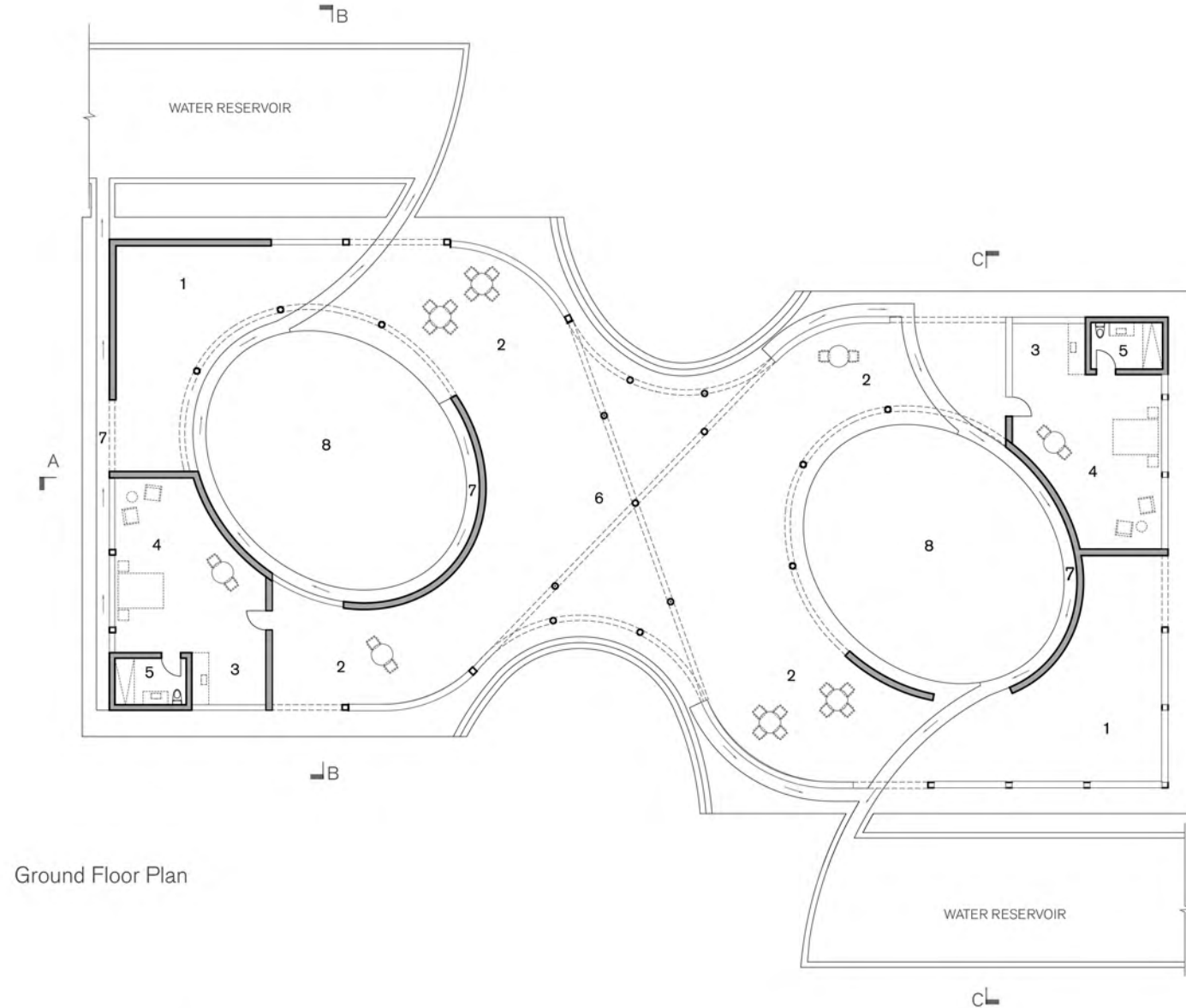


West Elevation

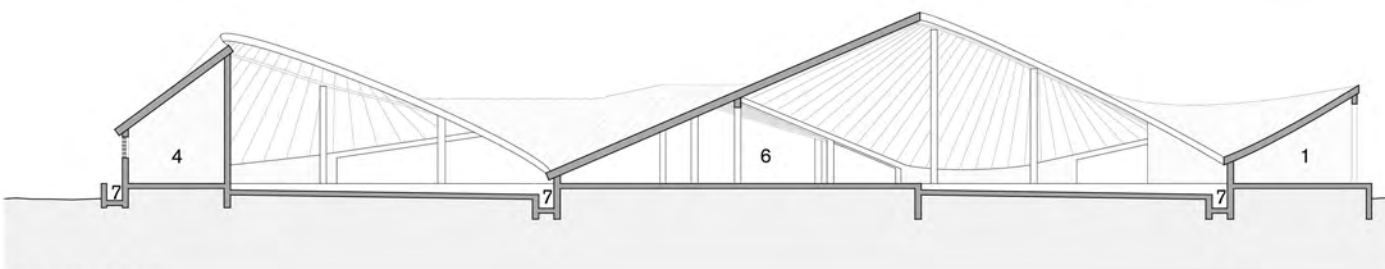


Images (Top to bottom): Soccer game outside Thread; View of north entry.

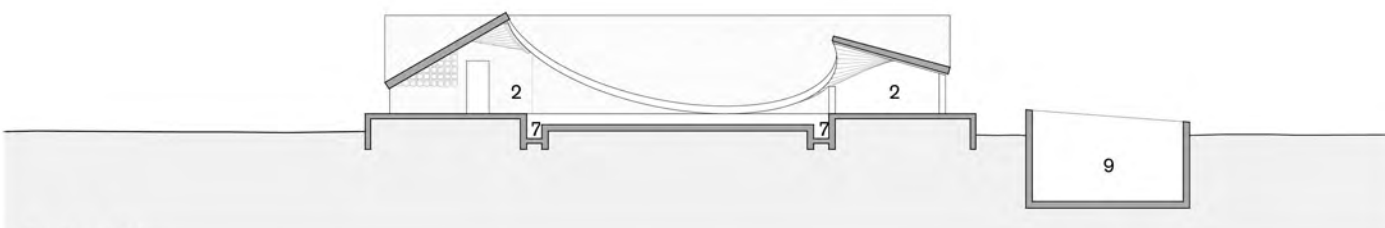
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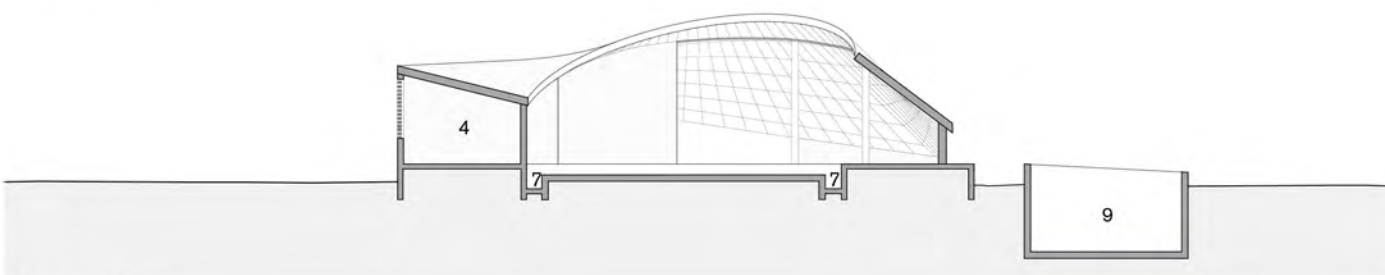
Ground Floor Plan



Section AA



Section BB



Section CC

A

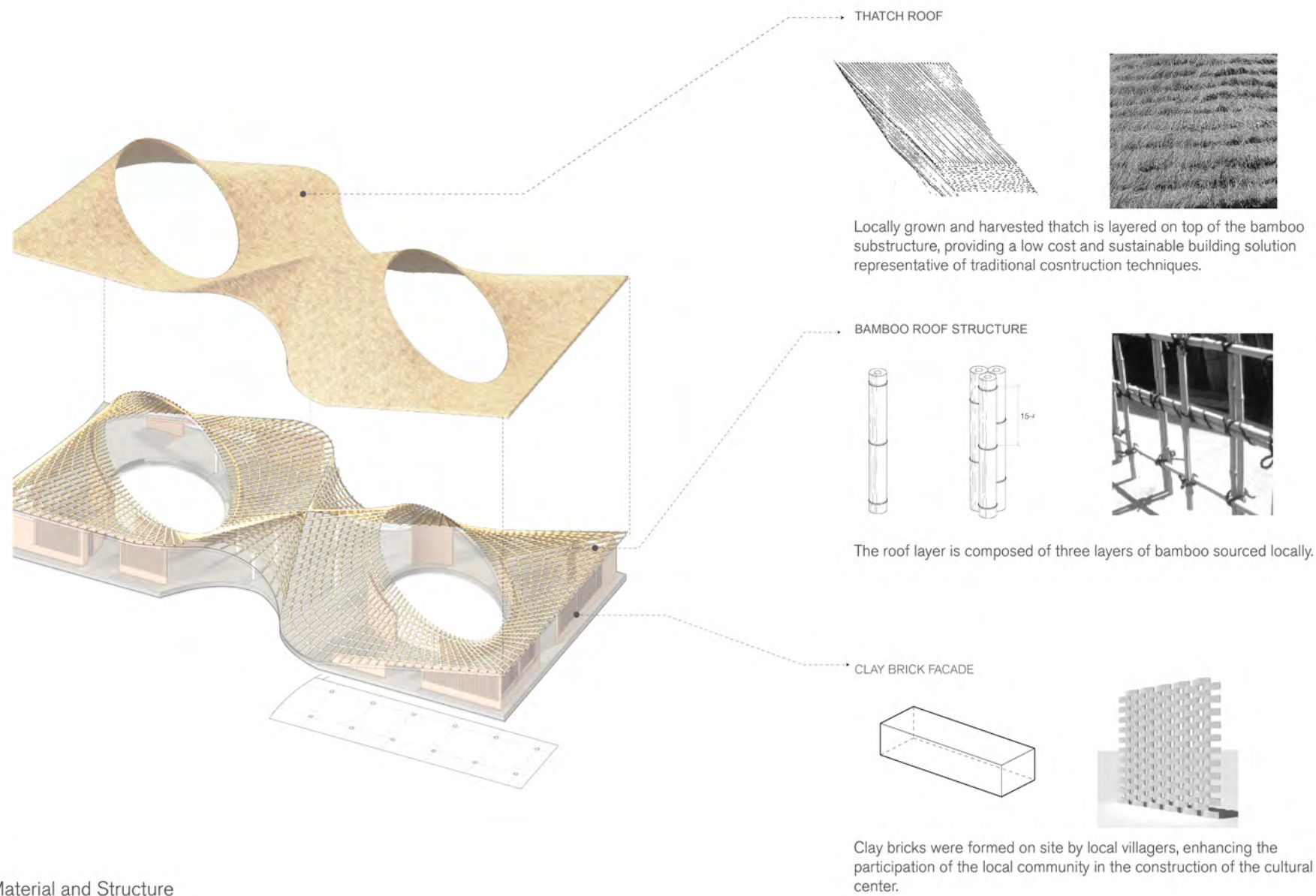
- 1 FLEXIBLE WORKSHOP
- 2 BREAKOUT SPACE
- 3 KITCHEN
- 4 BEDROOM
- 5 BATHROOM
- 6 GATHERING SPACE
- 7 WATER CANAL
- 8 COURTYARD
- 9 RESERVOIR

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Images (Top to bottom): View of thruway from courtyard; Sinthian children in front of Thread; View of central gathering area.

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Material and Structure



Images (Clockwise from top right): Local villager with thatch used for the roof; Magueye Ba, village doctor, overseeing construction of Thread; children on site during construction; construction team applies layers of thatch to the roof.



Images (Clockwise from top left): Mother standing in front of residence entry; Mother with child cleaning entry; Sinthian women reading in the library; Mothers inside north residence; Performance in gathering space; Thread center at dusk.