

Development Workshop

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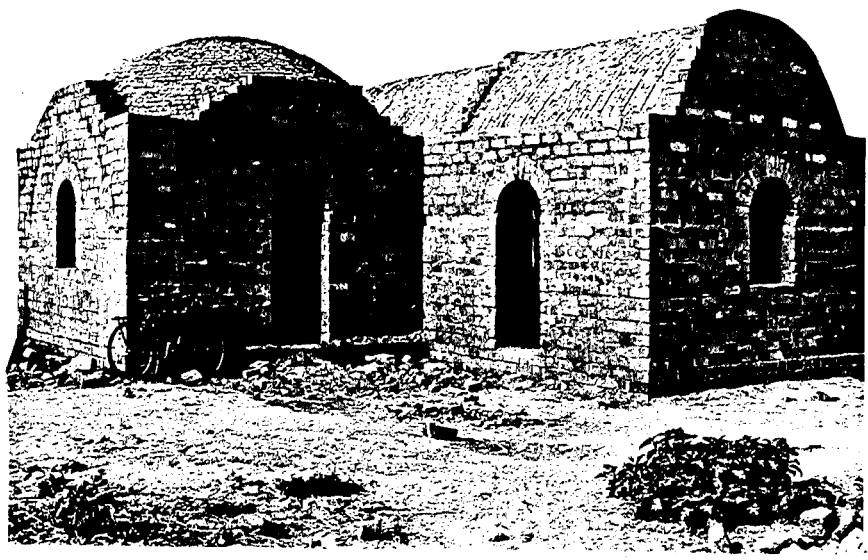
project

NIGER: Projet Habitat. Builders' training project in Niamey.

client

RHUDO West Africa/Travaux Publics Niger.

Trainee builders working on the prototype house units, building vaults and domes for roofing.



D.W. has been working with the Ministry of Public Works in Niger on the practical development of cheap and ecological housing solutions.

Technical assistance was provided in 1983 to train builders and technicians. The training included learning how to build vaults and domes without shuttering, arch building, production of laterite and clay cement stabilised blocks, setting up a brick kiln fired with peanut shells, and overall improving of building skill and quality. Site organisation and management were also carefully monitored, and the importance of good organisation stressed.

Experiments on building materials were conducted on the training site so that the trainees could understand the pros and cons of different ideas.

5 prototype house units have been built, each one demonstrating a different configuration, technology or material.

Funding for this project has been provided by USAID Niamey. The technical assistance is part of a longer term development of housing policy and action.