

The world over, man's oldest building is still the most popular and is being adapted to nearly every modern construction need. In fact it covers three quarters of the earth's land surface and is free for the taking.

No wonder one third of humanity lives in buildings made of it. No doubt its raw earth name. Let it dry and you have got what it takes to build the Great Wall of China, Mosques in Mali or farm house in Great Britain.

Despite mud's image of being unfit for an things but primitive huts, architects estimate that some 20 per cent of the farm dwellings in France and perhaps as many in Scandinavia, Britain and west Germany are made of this ubiquitous material. In fact, France inaugurated in November 1985 an entire community of raw earth homes in the new town of Lisle Abequ. Early in 1982 at the Garages Pompidou national center for art and culture in Paris, an exhibit of photograph, architects drawings and models showed earth architectures achievements in 50 countries from Paris, the show set off on a five years word tour and has already covered 65 countries and five continents.

Mud built the thirst towns of the Middle East some 10,000 years ago including Jericho and its walls in Palestine and Babylon and the tower of Babel in Mesopotamia.

Thoughts these structures have since turned to dust, many of man's ancient raw-

earth building have endured to this day. Section of the Great Wall of China date from the third century B.C. The medieval African cities if Timbuktu in Mali and Marrakech in Morocco still survive after ten centuries.

The two main methods of turning mud into buildings material are pies and adobe. Both begin with a mix of earth and water pies structure is

*Misc
27-11-02
News*

Unique

architecture

Houses & building

— the mud h



