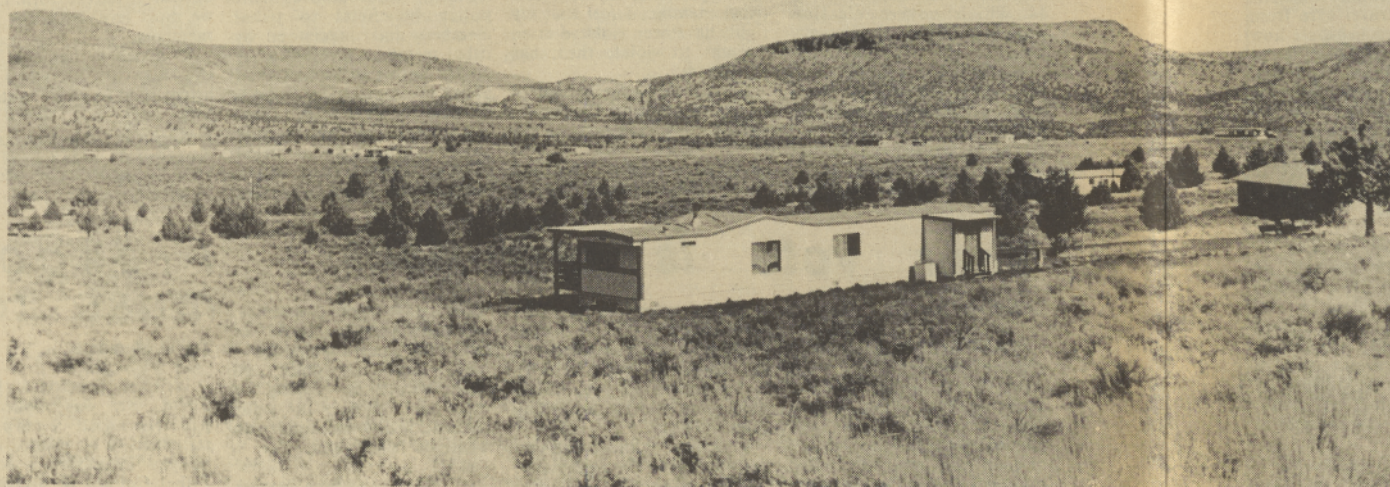


New homes becoming long-awaited reality for many



Dry Creek subdivision is just one of the four major housing developments created by the tribal Contracting and Construction department.



These hand-carved oak doors open into the dreamhouse of Alfred "J.R." and Debbie Smith. They have long awaited a new home and are presently moving in.



The Spanish-style home of the Smiths is a dream-come-true for them. The home has a custom kitchen, four large bedrooms and other amenities that make it one of largest homes on the reservation—a total of 3,500 square feet.

Nothing smells quite like a brand new home. The carpet carries a pungent rubbery smell unlike anything else, the paint carries a fresh, clean odor. Everything sparkles with newness. A fairly new tribal department has been responsible for making nearly all the new housing on the reservation possible and economically feasible.

Since the inception of the tribal Contracting and Construction department in 1980 over 100 new homes have been built, 50 rental units have been built in the Tenino subdivision and many existing

buildings and homes have been remodeled or enlarged.

The department does not do the actual, instead, all work is subcontracted through various construction companies throughout the Central Oregon area. Each phase of construction, from the foundation work to the roof, from the sheetrocking to the electrical work, is all done by experts in the field. "We're getting the best in each field," says contracting officer Les Yaw. "The houses go up better and faster for less money" using this method, says Yaw.

Just recently, the department sent

out booklets to each head-of-household on the reservation which depict just five of a dozen or so house plans available and three price ranges for different options. Once financing is secured, usually through tribal credit with a five percent down payment, and a house plan, either one supplied by the department or one from an outside source, has been selected, the only thing left up to the person is the selection of colors, stains, appliances, floor covering and light fixtures. All lot development, permit fees, sewer, water and electrical hookups are taken care of by the department. Once the home is

built, all the family has to do is move in—everything else is taken care of through the proposal agreed to by the department and the individual.

Yaw says he is currently working with 17 prospective people who are looking at building new homes on the reservation—either in subdivisions or on privately-owned land. In addition, says Yaw, the Wolfe Point subdivision, located close to the Kah-Nee-Ta road, is ready to go. There are 20, 2½ acre lots currently developed for new homes. The department was responsible for the development of the Tenino, Greeley Heights, Simnasho

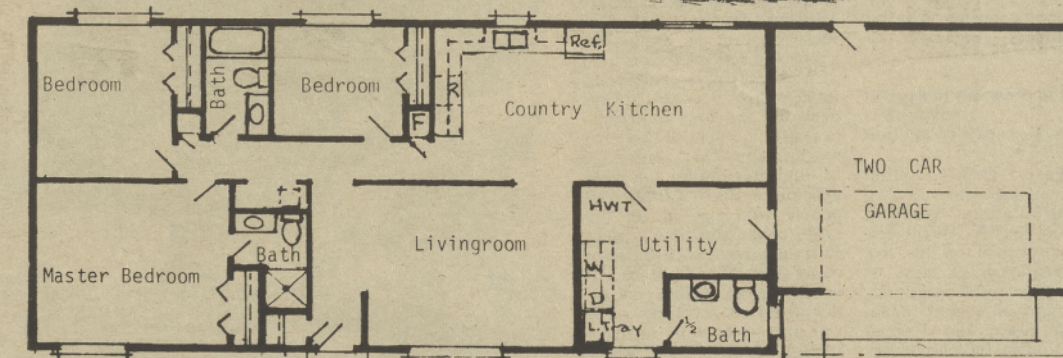
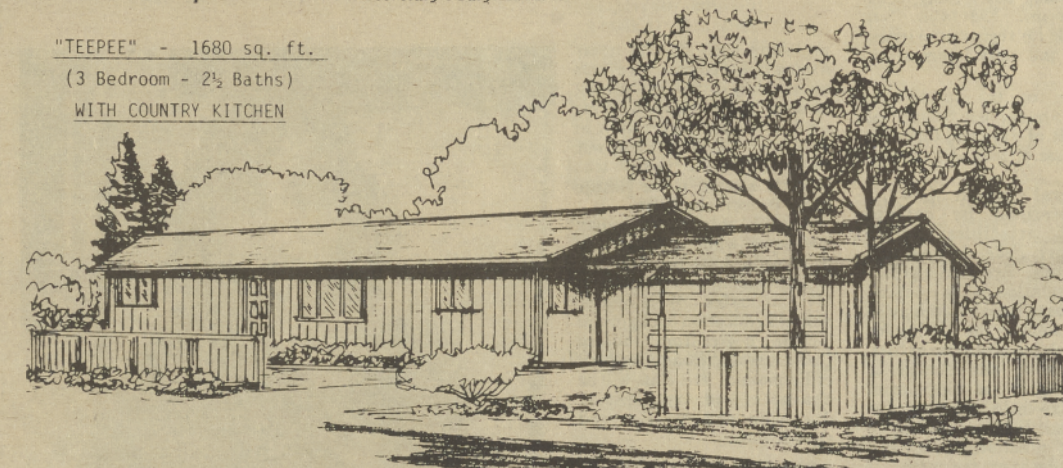
and Dry Creek subdivisions—with all lots being at least two acres in size.

The four people mainly responsible for bringing new housing to the reservation are contracting officer Les Yaw, construction technician George Moses, construction manager Ray Elkins, project superintendent Ernie Simpson and secretary Mary Hisatake. Just a few short years ago, tribal members were in dire need of housing. With the contracting and construction department, more and more people are moving into their own homes—something that has been a goal of tribal leaders for many years.



The Contracting and Construction department consists of (left to right) Ray Elkins, Les Yaw, George Moses and Ernie Simpson. Not shown is secretary Mary Hisatake.

"TEEPEE" - 1680 sq. ft.
(3 Bedroom - 2½ Baths)
WITH COUNTRY KITCHEN



This floor plan is the most popular style offered by the department. Many people, says manager Les Yaw, alter the plan a bit to accommodate their own particular needs.