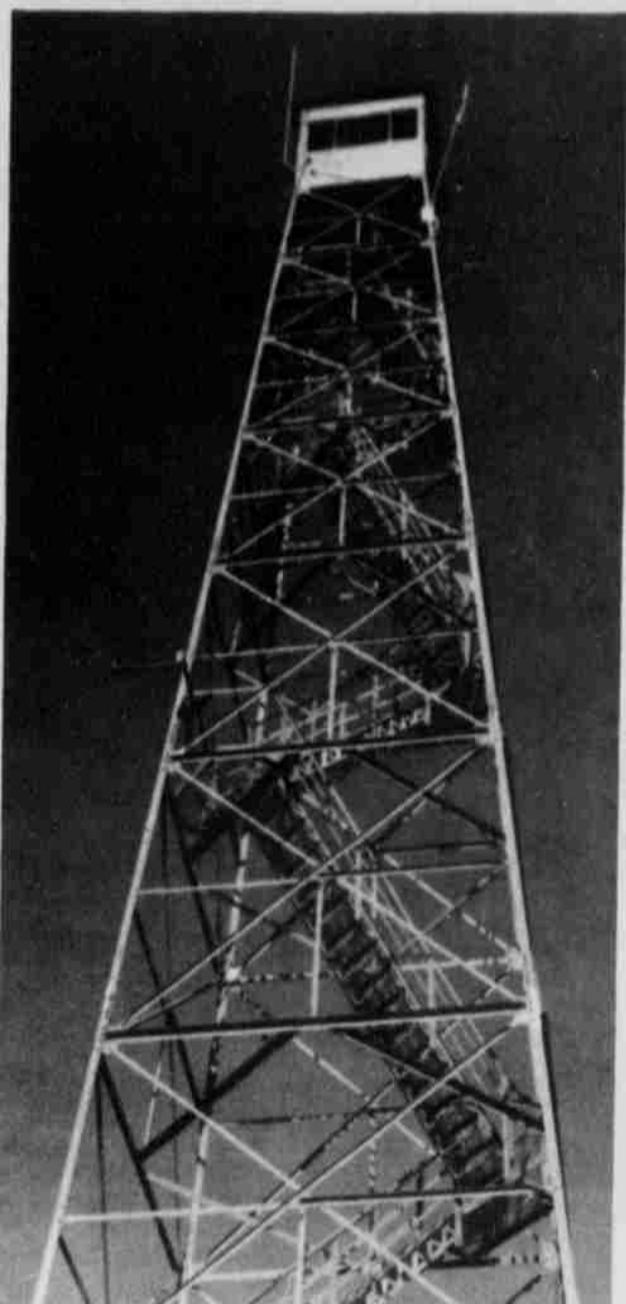


Crews complete numerous construction contracts



Three reservation lookout towers were renovated during 1987. Each received new windows, steps, walls, ceilings and paneling. The living quarters were also remodeled.

by Donna Behrend

Now that the dust has settled and the sometimes deafening sound of hammers, saws and heavy machinery has subsided, a quick look around the community reveals that someone has been busy, very busy, building, remodeling and renovating.

That someone is the Warm Springs Construction Crew. Totalling 59 at the height of the building season, the crew consisted of 31 tribal members, or 51 percent of the construction work force. "We are hiring more tribal members

and Indians than people think," said 638 Project Manager Ernie Simpson. Many of the non-members were specialists, such as the steel erectors and concrete layers.

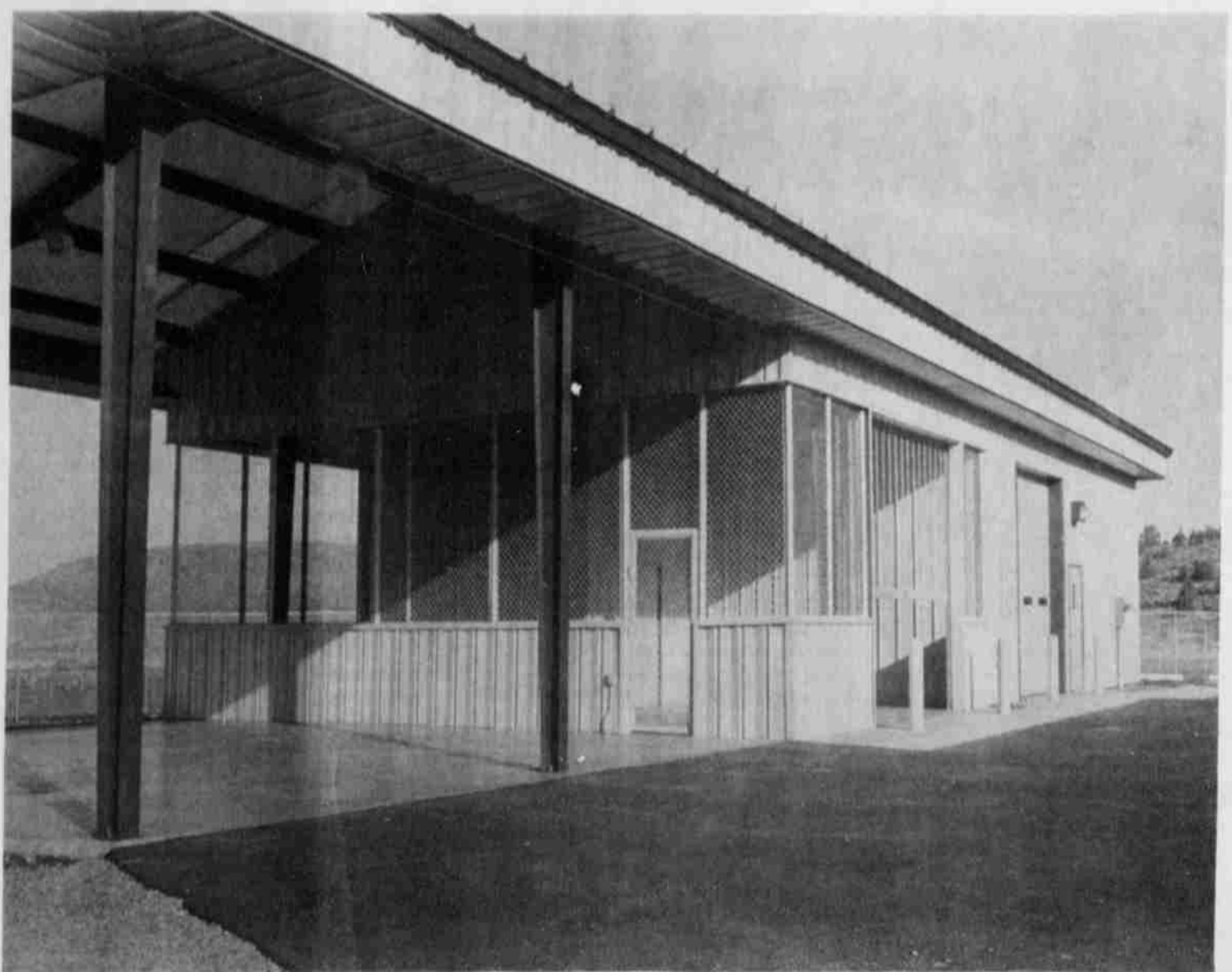
Included in that 51 percent figure is a 27 man crew that has worked on projects funded through a \$1.8 million 638 contract with the federal government. Five of those are tribal members. The 638 contract covered the expense for the construction of the three new metal buildings in the industrial park that will eventually house the BIA roads shop, facilities management and land operations equipment.

Also included in the contract was the remodeling of the old administration building, improvements on the lookouts on Eagle, Sidwalter and Shitike Buttes and work on the Cascade Loaks and Lone Pine in lieu fishing sites. All but two of the crew members have been put on furlough until construction picks up again.

In addition to these projects, the entire crew helped finish the 53 HUD homes, the garment factory addition, repairs and remodeling of numerous senior citizen homes, two homes for individuals and the new local Housing Authority offices and maintenance building.

Crew members are encouraged to gain as much experience as possible on the job. All employees learn carpentry skills, concrete work, heavy equipment operation, power tool use and basic construction knowledge. Participation in local and non-local apprenticeship programs is also encouraged.

Inspections conducted of the completed projects have so far proven to be positive. The inspectors have been very impressed with work noting that their "workmanship has been excellent," said Simpson. Final Inspection is scheduled for mid-February.



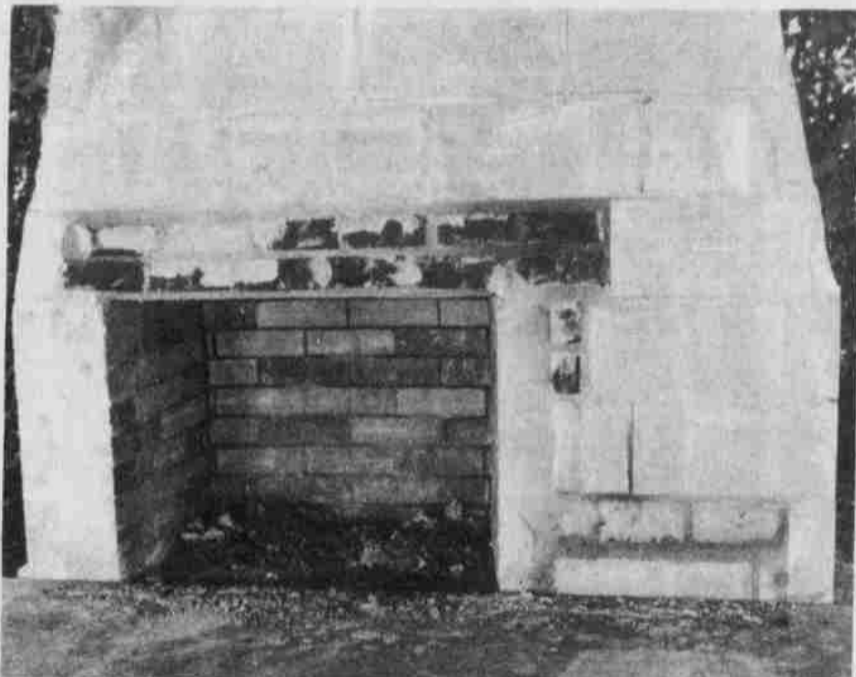
Spilyay Tymoo photo by Behrend

The new BIA land operations building features screened-in and enclosed storage areas. It is unknown if employees will occupy the building full-time.

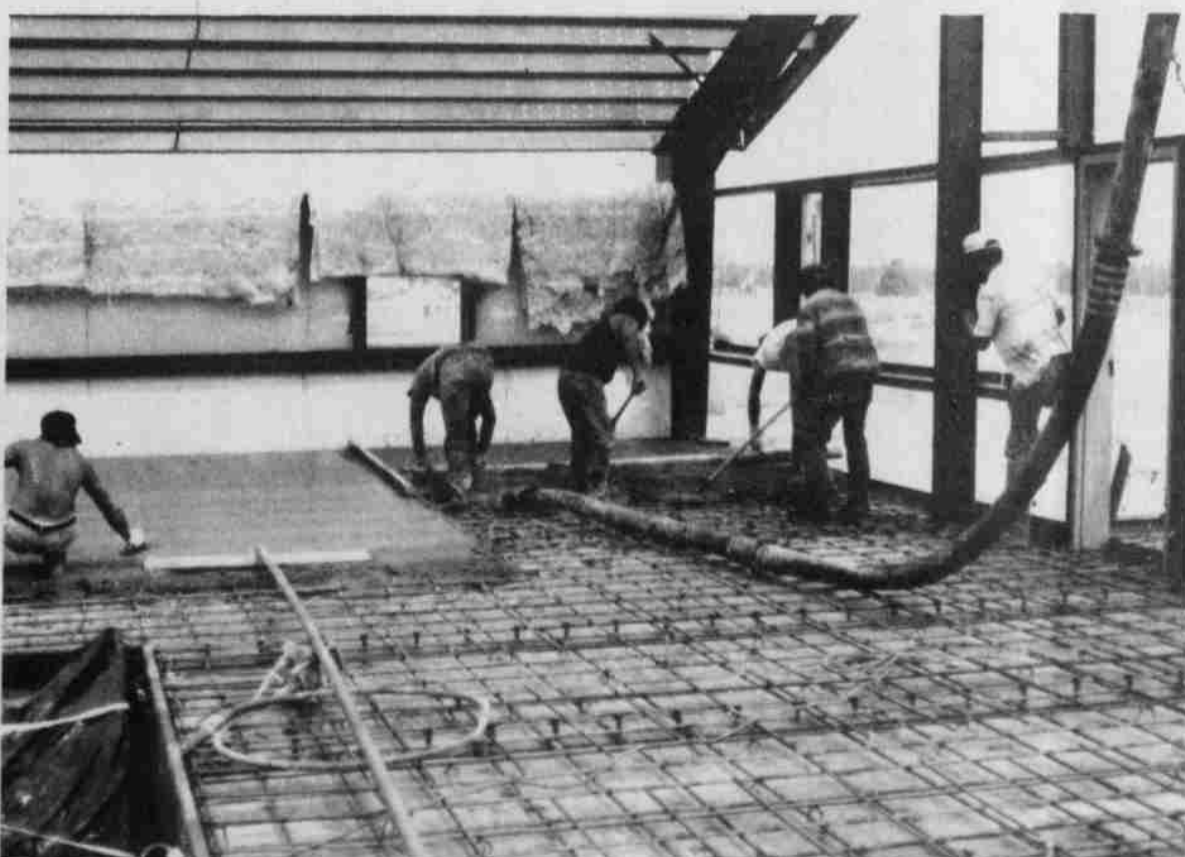


Spilyay Tymoo photo by Behrend

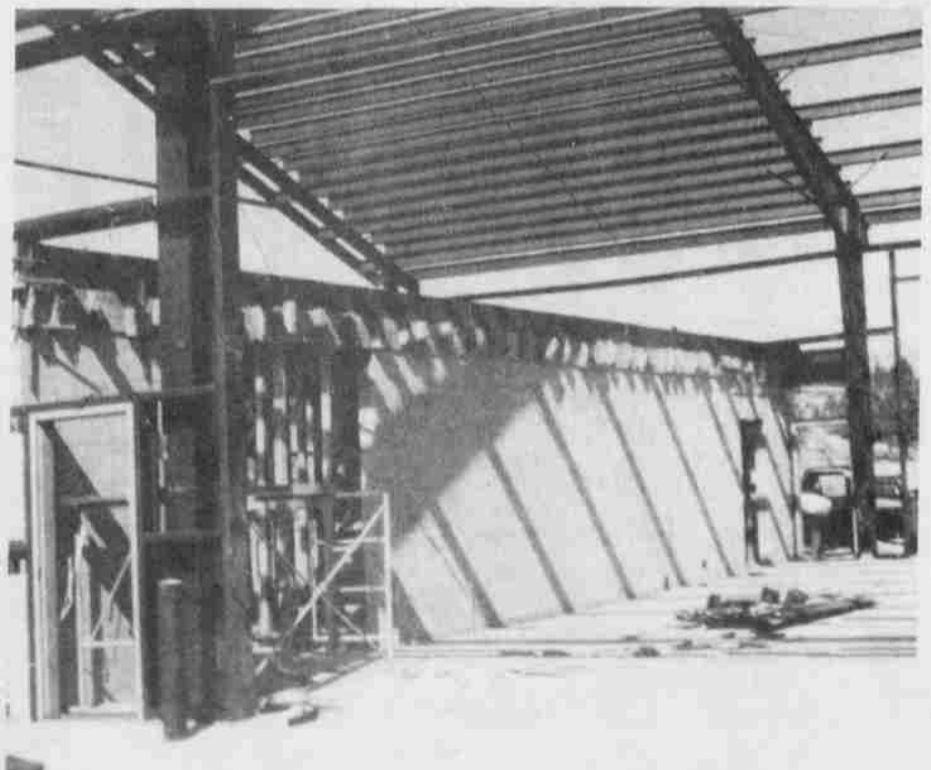
Project manager Ernie Simpson and Edison Yazzie plan strategy for the installation of a power line to a tank that will hold lignin, a product used to treat unsurfaced roads.



The fishing sites at Cascade Locks and Lone Pine received new leases on life in 1987. Crews completely rebuilt the fireplaces, repaired fish cleaning stations and replaced tables.



Crew members worked quickly to level the concrete poured for the three metal buildings. Employees gained much experience in concrete, steel and basic construction work.



The three BIA buildings in the industrial park were part of the first phase of a \$1.8 million 638 federal contract. Construction began on the buildings in March, 1987.

Construction project photos courtesy of Warm Springs Construction Department