Appalachian Alternatives

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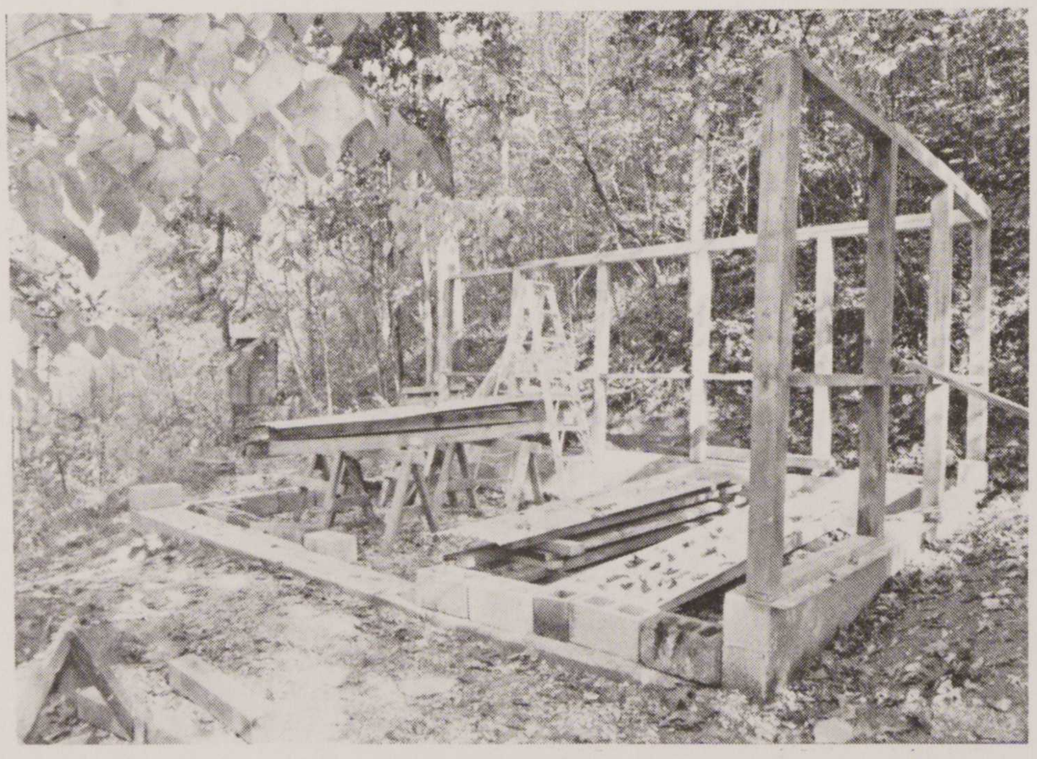
TECHNICAL OUTREACH

ASPI is currently seeking funding for a new program to assist mountain communities with design and construction/installation of various appropriate technologies. The TOP will create a full time director's position to be filled by Bob Fairchild, currently ASPI's Resource Center Director. The full time position will begin in January.

The technologies which have been chosen for initial work are: attached solar greenhouses, rainwater cisterns, and solar and wood burning water heaters. Many other possibilities exist and will be investigated as the program becomes established.

Through community groups families will be identified who are willing to use these technologies and demonstrate them in their communities. These local examples will help spread these solutions throughout the region.

It is hoped that the program will be able to attract college students from technical degree programs to internships.



Workshop under construction

PLANS FOR 1987

Here is the work we are planning to do next year:

Furnish office space, expertise, and organizational advice to the newly organized Sand Hill Community Land Trust and help organize workshops with that group;

Publicize and expand the use of the Rockcastle Resource Center Library for regional groups;

Launch the Technical Outreach Program to assist mountain communities with design and construction/installation of various appropriate technologies.

Continue work with West Virginia Mountain Stream Monitors on the development of an Appalachian Analytical Laboratory;

Celebrate ASPI's tenth anniversary with friends, neighbors, past volunteers, and associates;

Compose a 1988 Simple Lifestyle Calendar on "Crafts in Appalachia";

Help publicize the North American Conference on Christianity and Ecology for August, 1987;

Promote ASPI's recent and upcoming publications;

Develop an ASPI Advisory Board to assist in long range planning; and

Expand herb and vegetable growing potential.

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