

Mac Arthur-Wilson, Inc.: Native-owned design firm

Douglas Mac Arthur, who has worked in project management for Ahtna, Inc. and the Alaska Energy Authority, has a lot of experience in rural Alaska communities. He's got a good feel for what actually works in the village environment and the needs of the residents. His new partner, architect Jeffery S. Wilson, has wide experience in designing custom homes. Together, they have begun Mac Arthur-Wilson, Inc., and with Mac Arthur, an Athabascan Indian, as the primary owner, the firm qualifies as a Native-owned company that can gain preference in bids for various design projects.

"This has been a fantastic partnership," Mac Arthur said. "When we're together, there's a team spirit that occurs that results in us being greater than our parts."

Currently, the company has a contract pending with the Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority to design 25 single-family homes in Kotzebue. The contract will run through the fall of 1994. The project includes design work, preparation of contract documents, bidding and then construction management.

The company has also negotiated a contract with the Tok Native Association for designing the Upper Tanana Athabascan Cultural Center in Tok. Mac Arthur said ground-breaking is planned for the spring of 1994 and construction that summer.

Mac Arthur, who hopes to become an architect himself, said he's excited about the company's future. He says there are plenty of qualified Native people in Alaska, and he hopes Mac Arthur-Wilson will be able to put as many to work in the future as possible. Call him at 272-1405 if you need further information. ■