



With shear walls on the inside and support beams extending through window and door openings, the trading post is fully levitated.

# Rescue PHASE 3

(MAY 23-29, 2019)



Concrete forms were set at the same height of the building's slab floor.



Specialized equipment was used to maneuver the wet concrete.



An inventive device created by a Co-Op member allowed for controlled dispensing of concrete into the footing.



Bottoms of exterior walls were trimmed to match the level of the slab floor inside.



Once set, the concrete forms were backfilled with earth for support.

With the walls elevated and the roof replaced, the trading post was ready for a new foundation. Supported by the shear walls and other bracing, the building was levitated. This allowed for a trench to be dug below the existing exterior walls and a new base plate to be attached to the bottoms of the wall studs, most of which had been "sistered" with new lumber attached to their sides and trimmed to the correct length. The exterior stucco and sheathing were also trimmed to line up with the new base plate, which was now on plane with the top of the concrete floor. This would bring the newly poured concrete to the same elevation as the slab when it reached the bottoms of the walls.



As concrete filled the trench, workers troweled it to a smooth finish.



New concrete hardens at a corner of the trading post.



With the foundation trench completed, rebar was placed into the new footing.

Once reinforcing steel bars were installed in the trench and concrete anchors (called J-bolts) were inserted through the base plate at intervals, plywood forms were constructed and braced, completing preparation for the new foundation. Concrete, requiring two trucks, was delivered from sixty miles away in Joseph City, most of it dispensed with an auger-driven bucket that had been designed and built by one of the Co-Op members.

Forms were removed the following day, revealing the new foundation.



New base plates were wrapped with protective tape for a longer lifespan. Note the "J-bolt" concrete anchor hanging through the plate (upper left of photo).



The first truck arrived at 9:00 a.m., signaling the start of a busy day.

After being troweled smooth and left to set up overnight, concrete forms and temporary bracing were removed, and the landscape re-shaped for proper drainage.



Backfilling and grading of the landscape brought the third phase to a close.