



Summer 2018

AT-10 WICHITA

Cadet Air Corps Museum AT-10 Wichita Restoration
by Chuck Cravens



AIRCORPS AVIATION



The cockpit section looks good with the windshield frame attached to check the fit.



Update

The cockpit section of the AT-10 continues to be the focus of restoration efforts. The frame members have been assembled and some side skin sections cut, fitted, and riveted on permanently. Meanwhile, work progresses on parts and some of the smaller assemblies.

Parts

As the cockpit area is assembled, more and more parts are needed. Each part is restored or fabricated as the need arises, so that the restoration can proceed without delay.



Forming blocks are shown here. On the leftmost block is an unformed part blank, and to the right of that is one that has been hand formed over its block with a hammer.



Hand hammered fuselage parts. In the center is the instrument panel frame, to the sides are lower formers for the fuselage.



Rudder pedal arms and parts that make up the linkage have been bead blasted and prepared for painting.



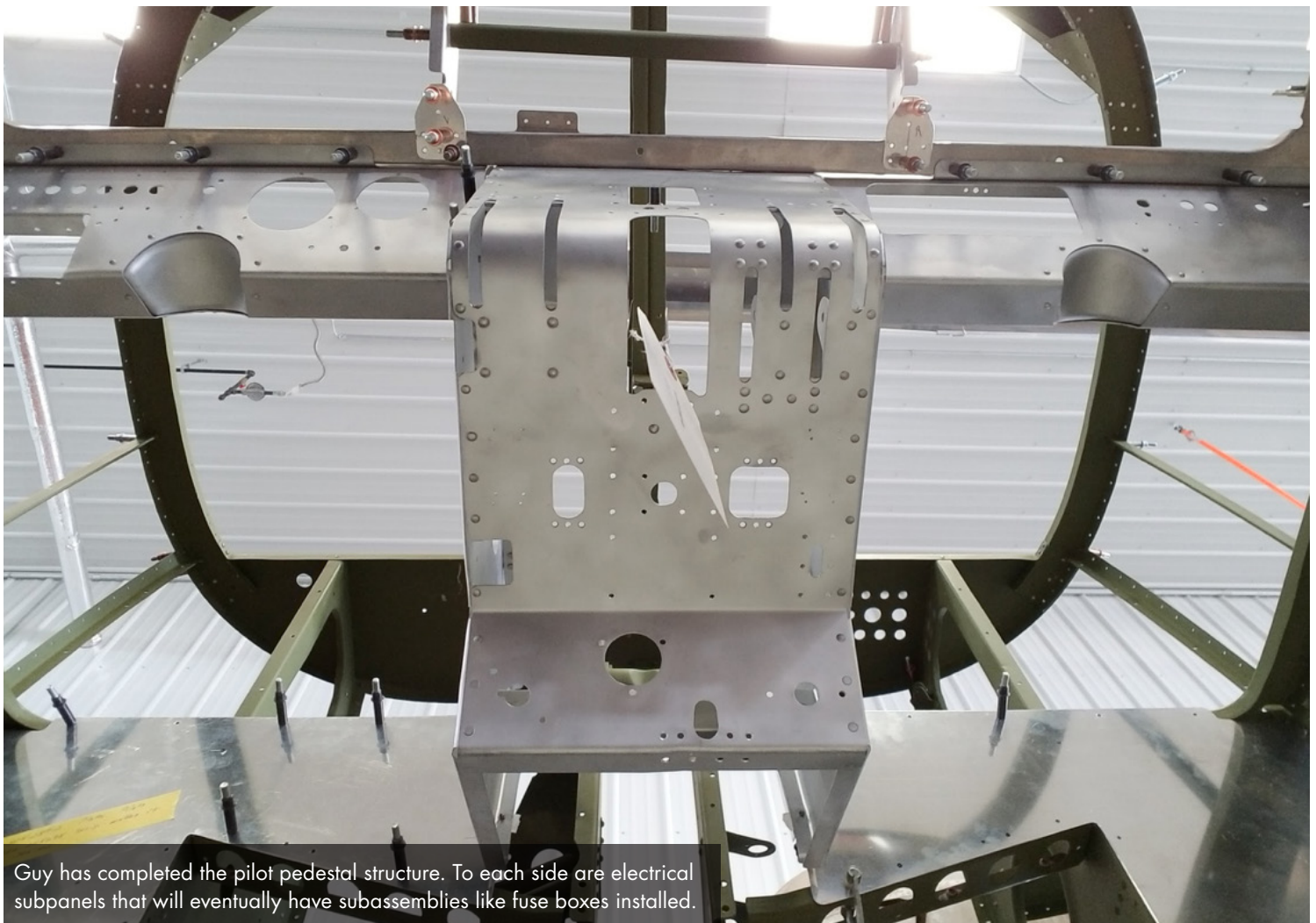
Alodined parts hanging to dry.



Guy is removing the rudder trim control handle.



Here, a tighter shot shows him driving out the pin that holds the handle in place.

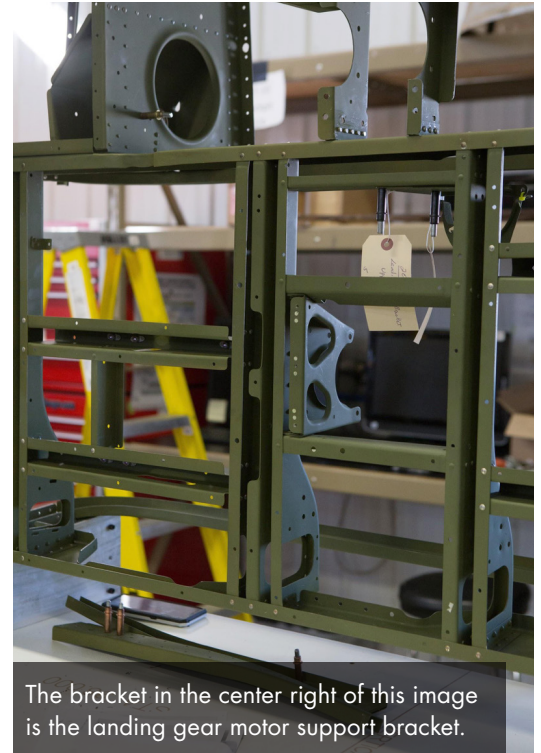


Guy has completed the pilot pedestal structure. To each side are electrical subpanels that will eventually have subassemblies like fuse boxes installed.



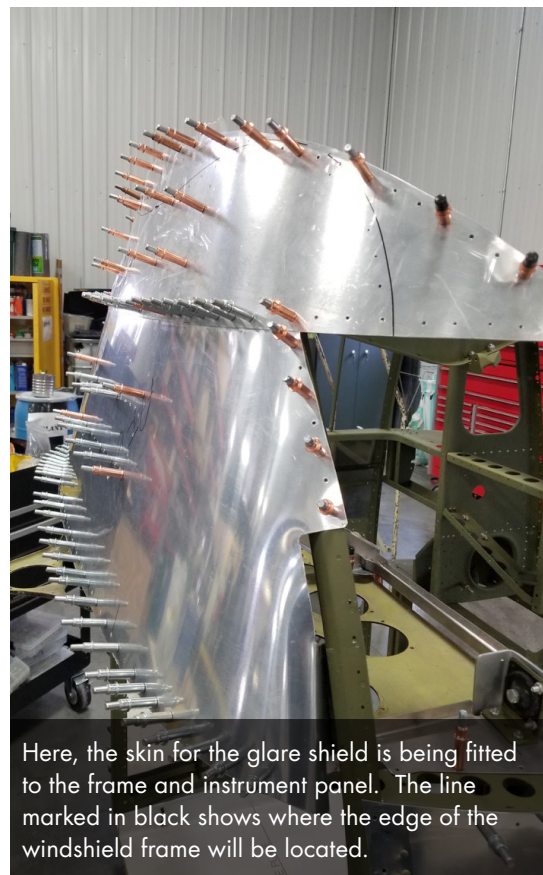
Cockpit Section Assembly

Frames, skins, and brackets have been going together to shape the cockpit section of the Wichita's fuselage.





A side view as the windshield frame is mounted for test fitting.



Here, the skin for the glare shield is being fitted to the frame and instrument panel. The line marked in black shows where the edge of the windshield frame will be located.



The right side skin is now permanently riveted.



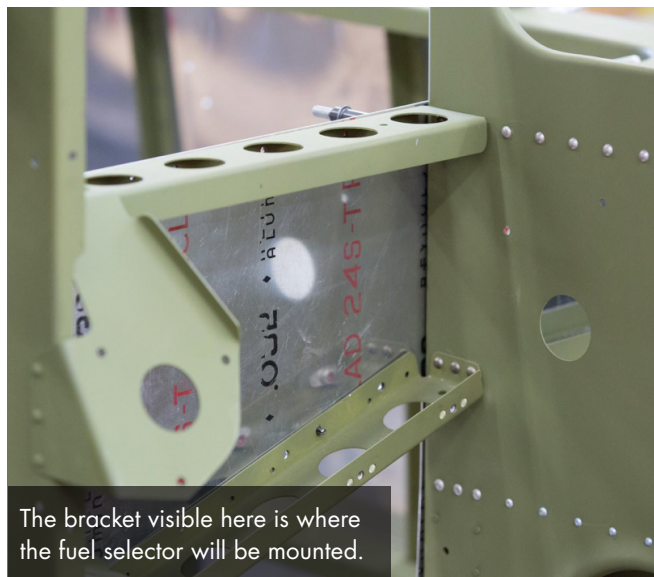
In this view from above of the same area, the instrument panel is clearly visible.



The left side is also riveted.



The forward most skin section of the glare shields also shows the lines marking the future location of the windshield frame edges.



The bracket visible here is where the fuel selector will be mounted.

Our final photo for this update shows the hinges for the nose cone (or as Beech refers to it, *the demountable forward fuselage*)

