Introduction: Getting to the Build Site

Figure 1. Wall components ready for delivery in the back of a Chevy S-10 truck

Figure 2.

One of the most important, and difficult, stages of assembling Conestoga Huts is making sure all the components and tools necessary to finish the structure make it to the build site. We've had many trial-and-error experiences with this process, and after more than 100 Hut builds we still breathe a sigh of relief when we don't have to go back to the shop for that one forgotten piece. To help us succeed in this task we developed checklists (see pages 78 and 79) for materials and tools to guide us as we prepare to load them. Of course, it is always easiest to build Huts where your shop is located near the build site and not across town.

This manual doesn't present an exact process for how to load up the tools and materials. In the past, we used, almost exclusively, a small Chevy S-10 pulling a 6' X 10' flatbed trailer. With this, we hauled all the tools and materials to build one Hut. It did take some creative packing to fit it all, so our Hut building volunteers helped by taking some of the smaller items. **Figure 1** shows our small truck with two sets of walls (two front panels, two back panels). Now, we use a 7'X16' trailer behind a full-size pickup **(fig. 2)**. Volunteers help with the loading, following a process that we are continually refining, and still transport some items.