



Here came the steeple



The steeple of the Ogden Presbyterian Church was removed in 2001, owing to age and weather deterioration of the roof. In the interim, a committee was formed to investigate designs and options for a replacement. The group consisted of Steve Shelley, Bob Wallace, Jim Friedday, Tim Cassidy and Harry Pittman. They presented their findings in 2005 and the membership chose a design that was a compromise between the original design and those available from the manufacturer. The steeple was ordered in June 2006 and cost about \$44,000. The total height of the new steeple is several inches shorter than the old steeple. Originally traveling from Henderson, Texas, where the fiberglass components were made by the Fiberglass Specialties Company, the truck conveying the parts left Buffalo in the morning and arrived at the church around 9:15 a.m. It took quite a while for the components to be unloaded, being strapped down and further held by boards nailed into the truck bed. There was a slight mishap when the cupola was unloaded as it swung upward, forward and back and struck the truck bed. A slight tear on the bottom of the fiberglass side near the bottom and a light opening in the vertical seam at the corner of the base nearby occurred, but the damage was minimal, except to the hearts and stomachs of the parishioners watching the unloading process. The damage was quickly repaired. The other pieces were unloaded without incident and placed next to the church wall to be lifted to the roof by a crane, provided by Muchers Erectors, from Warsaw, NY. During the trip from Texas some of the plastic louvers in the cupola were lost and others had cracks where screws attached them to the main structure. Using louvers from the back wall of the unit enabled the team of Steve Shelley, Jim Friedday and Harry Pittman to fill in and repair the other three sides. The fourth side, facing the east, can more easily be repaired from the roof at a later date. Above, a view from the top. After climbing two ladders, squeezing through two narrow openings and standing on a sloping roof to examine the structure that would hold the new steeple, it was good to see the truck pull up with the parts for the new steeple for the Ogden Presbyterian Church on August 17, said Photographer Walter Horylev.

Right, members of the Steeple Committee and the Pastor stand in front of the dome. Included are **Bob Wallace**, **Steve Shelley**, Reverend **Michael Capron** and **Harry Pittman**.



**Photographs for
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by Walter Horylev.**



The dome begins its journey to the top after being picked up from the ground.



The trip is almost over as the dome approaches the cupola, under the direction of a worker on the roof.



Getting closer.



Almost there.



Touchdown.