

2004 AWARDS COMPETITION WINNERS



Tallest Structure Moved Under \$30,000



**McCann's Building Movers, Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada**



Pat McCann

Martin Shannon, a central Alberta pioneer, built a house in Olds, Alberta, in 1910. It was a large beautiful structure with three levels and a copula, or Widow's Walk, high on top. Over time the building became a landmark in downtown Olds. Ninety-three years later this once venerable stop-off point for priests working the area was no longer a respected focus of attention but was in the way of new development. Its use as an antique shop for the past several years notwithstanding, Martin Shannon's former residence had to go.

Rick Sarsons, an employee of Husky Oil Company and Kristy Chiles, an artist, both residences of Sundre, and engaged to be married, had purchased land in Sundre, and were planning to build a new house. Hearing in December 2002 the Shannon house was available they decided to purchase it, move it a distance of sixteen miles to their land in Sundre and renovate it for their new home. Moving quickly Sarsons and Chiles contacted McCann's Building Movers to determine the feasibility of such a project. After a site visit McCann's concluded the structure could be moved but due to the height of the building the distance would be crucial in determining the viability of such a move due to utility wires. The owners received an

estimated cost for the move based on a ten-mile radius, excluding any utilities costs.

Sarsons and Chiles made contact again with McCann's in April to proceed with the project. The building was just over thirty feet in height, weighed 90,000 lbs with the main floor measuring 27 x 56. McCann's obtained estimates from all utility companies that would be involved. Total cost of the move was \$45,000.00 with \$29,000.00 going for utilities expense. "It's worth it," said the new owners. While the project was a "go" the logistics of scheduling the move were just beginning. The property owners where the house was sitting wanted the structure moved as

soon as possible in order to begin the new development. It would take time, however, to establish a schedule involving two electrical utilities, one Cable Company and one railway company (Utilities).

Normally, for loads this height, utility companies require....

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The structure weighed 90,000 pounds.