



CONCEPT 2 CONSTRUCTION – TIM & GABBY LOWE

– A REAL CANTERBURY PROPERTY STORY

How we doubled our home's value in 12 months.

The inside story of how we moved our 280m² home up Worsleys Road, lifted it with a 300-tonne crane, and doubled the property's value – in 12 months.

12 MONTHS

TIME TO DOUBLE

100%+

VALUE GROWTH

280m²

HOME RELOCATED

— WHERE IT STARTED

The idea that changed *everything*.

Six years ago, Gabby and I made a decision that most people thought was unusual... Instead of building a new home from scratch, we found a 280m² home that needed relocating, purchased a section on Worsleys Road in the Port Hills, and the two were brought together by King House Removals and Smith Cranes.

The concept was straightforward. A quality established home – one with the bones, the space, and the character that would cost far more to build new – could be relocated and placed on a site we'd carefully chosen. The result would be a home our family could grow up in, in a location we love, at a total cost that left us with genuine equity from day one.

What wasn't straightforward was the execution. Moving a 280m² home requires precision planning, resource consent, engineering sign-off, specialised transport and lifting equipment, and a team who know exactly what they're doing at every stage. There's no margin for error when a 300-tonne crane is holding your home in the air.



This guide tells the story of that project — what we planned, what we built, what it cost, and what it's worth today, also why we believe the principles behind it are available to far more Canterbury homeowners than they realise.

— THE OUTCOME

What we built.

What it *achieved*.

Transparency matters to us. Here's the real story from our own project – the scale, the timeframe, and the value it created.



280m²

HOME RELOCATED

Section purchase, house purchase, relocation, lifting, foundation, consents, and fit-out. Six years ago.

12 Months

TO REALISE THE GROWTH

The current value reflects 12 months of build time and growth driven by the Port Hills location, section quality, and finish.

100%+

VALUE GROWTH

The gap between where we started and where the property stands today. Created through planning, skill, and execution – not luck.

300T

CRANE CAPACITY

Moving a 280m² home safely took precision engineering and a 300-tonne crane – with zero margin for error.

THE HONEST TRUTH ABOUT THESE NUMBERS

"This wasn't luck. It was a decision that required careful section selection, resource consent expertise, engineering precision, and a builder who understood exactly what was involved. Anyone can look at the numbers in hindsight. What matters is having the knowledge and the team to make the decision in the first place."

— THE PROJECT IN PHOTOS

The day we moved a *house*.



— HOW IT WORKED

The planning behind the *precision*.

A house relocation project of this scale doesn't happen by chance. Every stage required expert planning, the right relationships, and the kind of building knowledge that only comes from experience.

01

Section selection — the most important decision

Not every section suits a relocation home. We assessed slope, access, orientation, views, soil conditions, and the likely outcome for the finished property. The section on Worsleys Road ticked every box — the location, the aspect, and the potential value were all there.

02

Resource consent and planning

Placing a relocation home on a Port Hills section requires resource consent. We managed the consent process carefully — understanding what council required, what the neighbours needed to see, and how to present the project in a way that got approval efficiently.

03

Engineering and structural preparation

Before a home can be lifted, it needs to be structurally assessed and prepared. Piles are designed and installed on the new section to receive the home exactly. The engineering margin for error when a 300-tonne crane is involved is essentially zero.

04

The lift and placement

Moving a 280m² home with a 300-tonne crane is one of those days you don't forget. The preparation made the actual lift almost straightforward — because everything had been thought through in advance. The house came down within millimetres of where the piles had been designed to receive it.

05

Fit-out and finishing

Once the home was on its new foundations, the fit-out work began — connecting services, completing the weathertight envelope, and finishing the interior to the standard our family wanted to live in. This is where the quality of the finished home was determined.

— THE FINISHED HOME

The home we built for our *family*.

This is the result — a 280m² home on the Port Hills, built for the way our family actually lives, in a location we love, with views that remind us every day why the decision was right.



— WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Could this work for *you*?

The principles behind our Worsleys Road project are not unique to us. House relocation, clever section selection, and building equity through construction expertise are available to anyone with the right team, the right planning, and the right vision.

Canterbury has a number of factors that make this kind of project particularly viable. There are sections — some with views and character that would be exceptional for a quality home — that are priced well below what new construction would justify. There are quality established homes, built in an era when construction was more substantial in many respects, available for relocation at a fraction of what replacing them would cost.

The key insight: The value of a home on the right section in the right location is determined by that location — not by whether the home was built there or moved there. A beautifully finished 280m² home on the Port Hills is worth what it's worth. How it got there is the opportunity.

● You need the right section

Not every section suits a relocation home. Slope, access, ground conditions, orientation, and local planning rules all matter. This is where the analysis begins — and where most people need expert guidance.

● You need resource consent expertise

Every council is different. Understanding what consent is required, how long it will take, and what conditions will be imposed are critical to the financial model of the project.

● You need a builder who has done this before

A house relocation is not a standard build project. The engineering, the coordination with specialist contractors, the precision of the lift and placement — these require experience, not just confidence.

● You need to run the numbers honestly

Section cost, house cost, relocation and lift, foundation, fit-out, consent, holding costs, and a contingency. The model only works if all of these numbers are realistic from the start.

● You need to think clearly about the outcome

Is this the home you want to live in for twenty years? Is the equity your retirement plan? Are you building for family or for investment? The answer to these questions shapes every decision that follows.

— Let's talk about your options

The best property decisions start with the right *conversation.*

If you're thinking about building, buying a section, relocating a home, or simply wondering whether there's a smarter way to create the property you want — we'd love to sit down and talk it through. Tim has done this personally. He can help you assess whether a project like this makes sense for your situation, your budget, and your goals.

The conversation is always free. The honest feedback is always genuine.

Call or text tim

021 176 3928

Website

www.concept2construction.co.nz

Email

info@concept2construction.co.nz

Based in

Christchurch, Canterbury
New Zealand

