

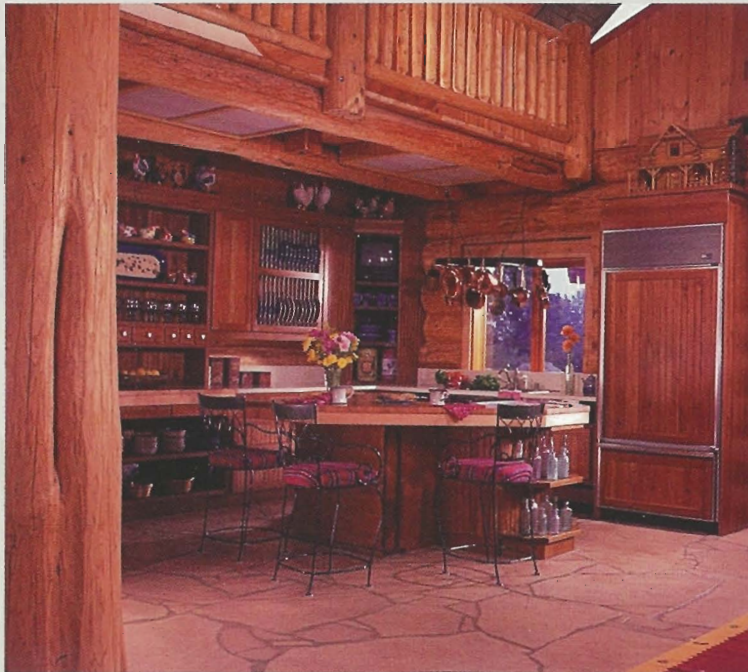
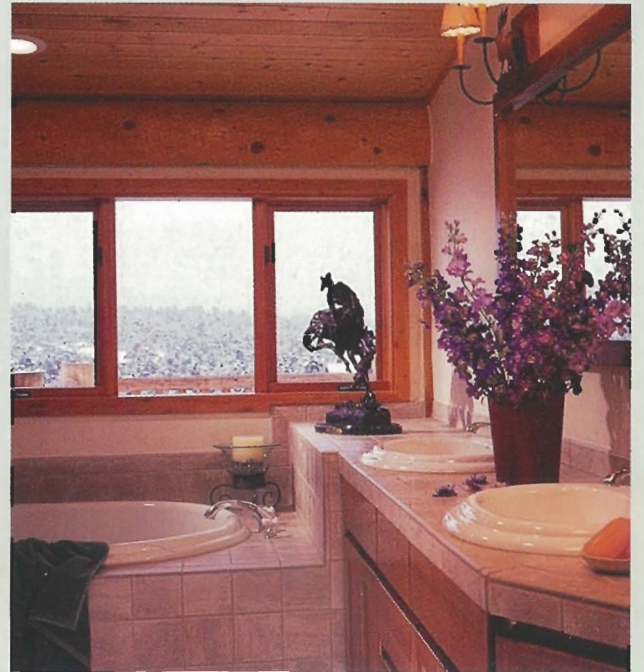
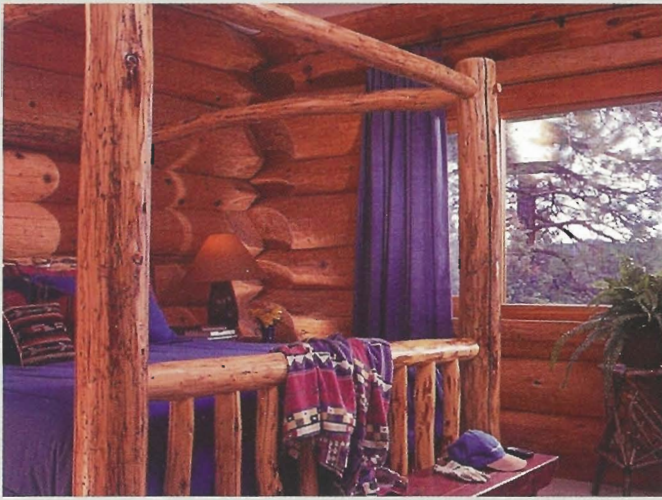


Story & photos submitted by  
Talitha Frauenknecht, Pioneer Log Homes

## *The Lost Art*

### of handcrafted log building

Pioneer Log Homes of British Columbia Ltd., a handcrafted log home building operation in Williams Lake, British Columbia, was established by Bryan Reid Sr., in 1973. Before making the career choice that Pioneer Log Homes was founded on, Bryan spent several years learning the almost lost art of handcrafted log building from a Native Indian named Samson Jack. Samson had worked hands-on with Norwegian builders for many years and took great pride in passing on his skills and knowledge to Bryan.



Previous page: Dinner guests can enjoy their meal as they look out over the rolling hills and forests that surround this retreat in Northern Arizona.

Top left: The cool blue incorporated into this Log Home's interior decor is simultaneously stimulating and soothing... an ideal environment for this weekend getaway.

Left: Custom Cabinets created by Mastercraft Cabinets, Windows and Doors fully compliment the beauty and character of this Log Home. They also fully accommodate for the natural setting of a Log Home experiences.

Above: Two antique-style sinks and a large soak tub offer personalized character and comfort to this room's already inviting setting.

Williams Lake is centrally located in British Columbia, approximately 540 km north of Vancouver. This location has provided excellent access to the world's finest stands of spruce, pine, fir, and western red cedar.

Pioneer is a family-oriented company that bases its practices on old-fashioned, time tested business values and concepts which ensure that customer service and product quality remain the number one priority. Over the years, family members have become involved in the business. Brothers, André and David Chevigny, and son Bryan Jr. trained with Bryan Sr. Today André, a Master Builder, serves as Pioneer's General Manager. A third brother, Keith Reid, operates Mastercraft Cabinets, Windows and Doors in Kamloops, BC, and provides interior

products to most of Pioneer's customers. Keith is a craftsman in his own right, creating and designing incredible kitchens, huge solid jam windows, (up to 15') and of course his beautiful carved and hand slicked doors.

Pioneer has found its niche market by targeting discriminating clientele, who are looking for something different. Their clients prefer the look of the larger butt ends of the log, which requires extensive, hands-on workmanship to produce each individual log, and in turn provides for an extraordinary amount of employment for each cubic meter used.

Each client is involved with the design and feature planning of their home, and is encouraged to get creative and let their wants, needs and dreams for their new home be known. Pioneer's design and

*Continued on page 18*

drafting department uses state of the art Computer Assisted Drafting programs, and employs three full time creative designer/draftspersons.

In 2000, Pioneer constructed a 27,000 square foot home as an addition to an existing structure for a client in Colorado. After the delivery of the log shell package and related roof package, the customer liked the look of the addition so much that he decided to tear down his original home and have Pioneer Log Homes build a 77,000 square-foot replacement. Now the two sections are joined together, the

home is well over 110,000 square feet under one roof, and according to Pioneer research, is now the largest log home in North America

“There are two things we are most fortunate about,” says André, “we work with the best people in the world, and we have the best crew in the world. Our people are very motivated and we encourage them to develop their Art in log construction. We also make sure they get to meet the customers they are building for.

“The great folks at the other end are entrusting their life-long dream to us; they have to meet the people who are actually building the reality of that dream.”

*Editors note: Watch for more exciting events as well as breathtaking photographs of Pioneer Log Homes and other great Canadian Builders in our future issues of Canadian Log Home Living Magazine.*