



### ***1890's Dey Brothers Board & Batten canoe***



**Owner & Restorer: Paul Miller  
Home Port: Elburn, IL.**

The canoe is 16' long 31 ½ wide, 11 ½ deep, 63 lbs. The canoe is built with White Cedar planking 3 boards on each side. Rib, keelson, and outwales of White Oak.

Only one other Dey Brothers canoe is known to exist. The vast collection of the Canadian Canoe Museum does not include a Dey Brothers canoe.

In 1863 we find Joseph Dey, listed in the Ottawa Citizen Directory as a boat builder, located on Duke St, LBF (we have assumed this to be left bank front) . Joseph Dey got into the boat building business and established a "Boat Works" on the Rideau Canal system in Ottawa.

By 1881 Joseph Dey and his son Edwin are found to be an active part in the boat building business. Edgar Frank Dey appears in the directory listing as a boat builder about 1883, providing Joseph with two sons active in his business. The name Dey Bros., Dey Brothers, and or Dey's Boat Works does not appear in the various city directories until 1885, up until that time the Deys themselves are listed individually as boat builders.

In 1895 they became know as the Capital Boat & Canoe Works on Bank St.

The Dey Brothers got involved in a favorite Canadian pastime that was fast becoming the rage of the day. They built the first indoor skating rink along side their boat works on the canal. The first directory listing for the skating rink was found in 1885. The Ottawa Directory shows Dey's Bros. boat works and skating rink at 201-203 Canal Street East, where Rideau Street intersects.

Edwin Peter Dey specialized in racing canoes which competed in many championship regattas. But E P Dey was best known as an arena and hockey team owner. After managing the first Dey's Skating Rink on the premises of their boat business, E P and his brother William in 1896 built the city's first rink meant specifically for hockey. It was the site of Ottawa's first Stanley Cup victory in 1903