







## Piece of History For Sale: Cedar Strip Canoes that Made Swift Canoes Famous

**Swift Canoes** designed by naval architect **John Winters** revolutionized Ontario paddling in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Until then, rental canoes were most often big, heavy, and aluminum, albeit almost indestructible. By contrast, John's designs, built by Swift Canoes, were *roomy, nimble, stable, and fast, and were graced with sailboat-like lines*.

In a brilliant marketing move, the Swifts began renting these gorgeous canoes to trippers (often known as poor university students). The company cornered the Algonquin Park and Muskoka rental markets and captured the hearts of those paddlers.

In 2 ads, I am selling the cedar-strip "parent" canoes of Swift Canoes' trajectory to success. They were used to form the molds for the **Mattawa** (a tandem/solo tripper), and the **Osprey** (solo tripper).

These boats are both *beautiful and functional*: they peel through the water, *no matter the wind or waves*—and surf and ferry like a dream. They are a delight to paddle: they paddle *efficiently*, without effort, needing only subtle steering strokes. They have *excellent stability*.