

THE EDITH



One of the two 16-foot Galloway-style boats being built to order for the Kolb brothers by the Racine Boat Company.
NAU.PH.568.816

THE EDITH was one of two boats used on the Kolb brothers' expedition on the Green and Colorado Rivers, launching from Green River, Wyoming, in September 1911. Named after his four-year-old daughter, the EDITH was rowed by Emery Kolb on their ambitious 1,167-mile journey to film their river adventure.

On Christmas Eve, Emery cracked the boat in Walthenberg Rapid. He and his brother Ellsworth dragged the boat onto the riverbank and spent a frosty Christmas Day replacing the EDITH's broken ribs with mesquite branches and patching the gaping hole.

Can you find evidence of their patch?

The EDITH is one of 19 boats comprising the Grand Canyon Historic Boat Collection. The collection comprehensively illustrates the history of river running on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, with the oldest boat dating back to 1909. The project to conserve this unique collection started in 2003 and continues today. Each boat receives a meticulous cleaning and stabilization treatment from professional conservators.



Christmas Day 1911
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