

## **Historic timber back on market after 200 years**

Abandoned for two centuries at the bottom of the Ottawa River, a treasure of unrivalled beauty has resurfaced, aged to perfection and seeking a new – or old – home.

Underwater salvage specialists from Ottawa-based Logs End, have recovered a cache of massive, hand-hewn white oak timbers, lost in a log run during the Napoleonic War era. The rare, square-cut beams, some over 25 feet long and 25 inches in diameter, were destined for English Tall Ships docked at Quebec City. Back then, Napoleon's savvy blockade on Baltic lumber had the British Royal Navy commandeering Canada's majestic old-growth trees for ship masts and planking.

Logs End owner and recovery expert, Gord Black, vividly recounts, "When these gigantic oaks were cut around 1810, they were already close to 350 years old! It was just like Christmas every time we pulled one up."

Preserved by a lack of light and oxygen in the depths of the river, the ancient hardwood has retained a strength and character second to none. At the mill, every timber was evaluated, quarter-sawn and rift cut to produce the highest graining and figuring possible. The result is a yield of over 2700 sq. ft. of Engineered White Oak flooring: 500 sq. ft. of 3.25" wide planks, and 2250 sq. ft. of 5" wide planks. Boasting rich colours and a vintage charm, this is the only known product of its type and history in the world today.

Since beginning eco-friendly recovery operations in 1997, Logs End has recycled thousands of sunken timbers into heritage flooring of incomparable beauty. This latest discovery of historic white oak presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to own a rare and precious piece of Canada's past. As a special keepsake, Logs End will also provide a Certificate of Authenticity, along with detailed information and a map of where the timbers were found.

For more information contact Steve McCord at (613) 738-7851.