



The 2024 (re)-discovery of the 1893 Faering rowboat at the Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum in Decorah, Iowa.

Given as a safe-keeping gift to Vesterheim by Ralph Frese of Chicagoland Canoe Base in 1999, through efforts by Harry and Josefa Anderson, Chicago.

The boat served as a lifeboat and shore-shuttle aboard Viking on its journey from Norway to Chicago in 1893. It was found in a garage in Logan Square near Minnekirken, 2614 N. Kedzie Boulevard, where it might have been stored since the World Fair, then in its 106th year since its arrival in Chicago.

Friends of the Viking Ship took possession of the boat in October 2024, and we are very thankful for Vesterheim's gracious agreement to reunite the Faering with Viking. The boat was transported to Duluth, Minnesota for necessary restoration at the Noatun Community Wooden Boat Works, before it goes on display with Viking in June 2025.

Please consider helping us fund the Faering restoration by a donation towards the \$15,500 cost estimate, and you will be invited to the unveiling of the boat in June 2025 before it goes on public display. Thank you!



The mid-keel and immediate boards are rotten due to many years of storage in a damp location in Chicago. The rest of the boat is sound including deck boards, seats, rodder, oars and sale.