

Large Boulder at Shore



Outline of Presentation

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Geological, Geotechnical and Hydrogeological Conditions**
- 3. Archaeological Findings at Money Pit from 1967**
- 4. Search by Ron Aston 1999 to 2001 (North Carolina)**
- 5. Search by Petter Amundsen 2003 (Norway)**
- 6. Main Theories**
- 7. Challenges for Future Exploration at the Money Pit**
- 8. Challenges for Excavations within the Money Pit**

Happy Norwegians May 2003



Eric Hauan

Petter Amundsen

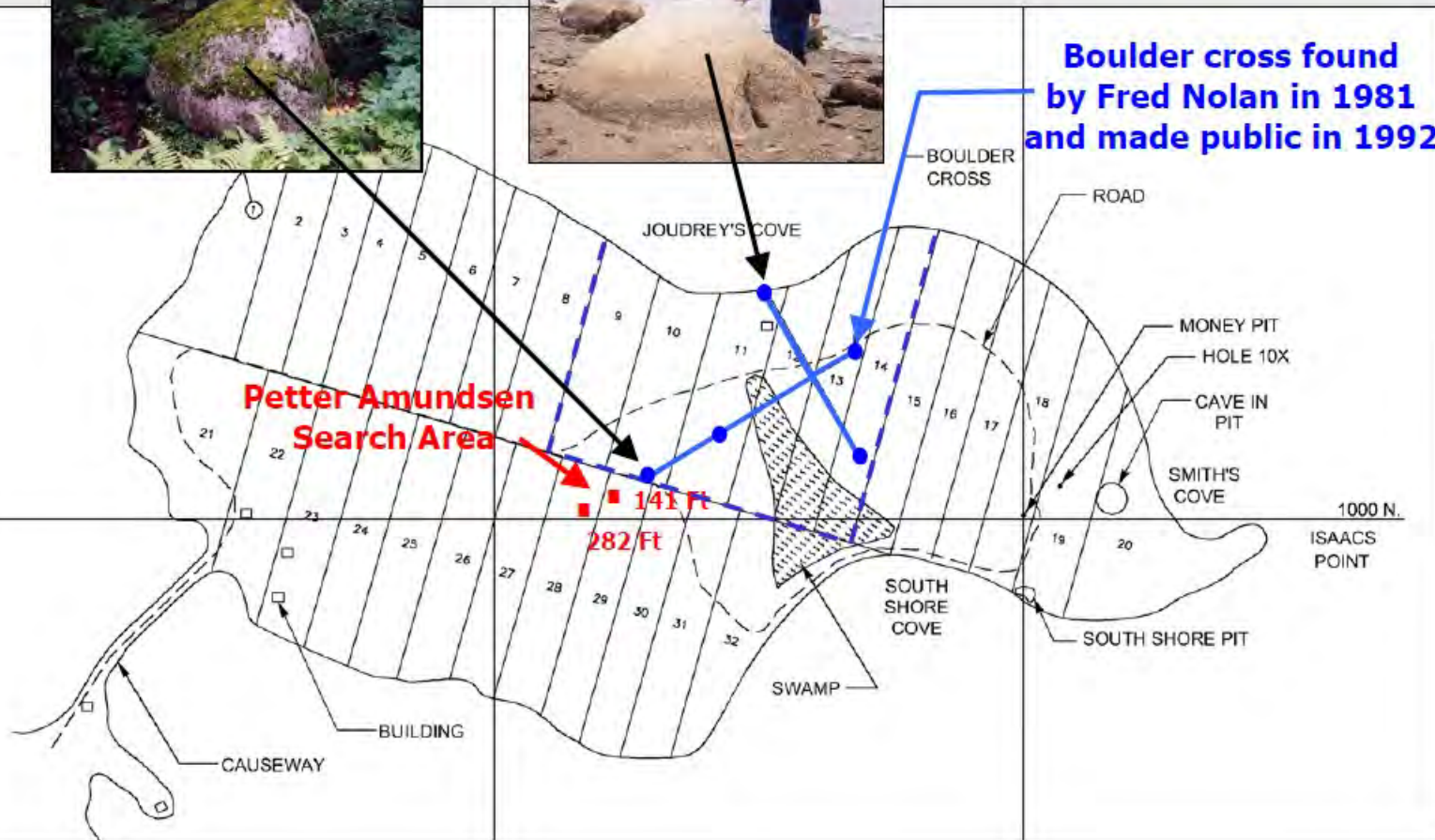
Tony Ronning

Sigbjorn Larsen

Plan of Petter Amundsen Search Area 2003

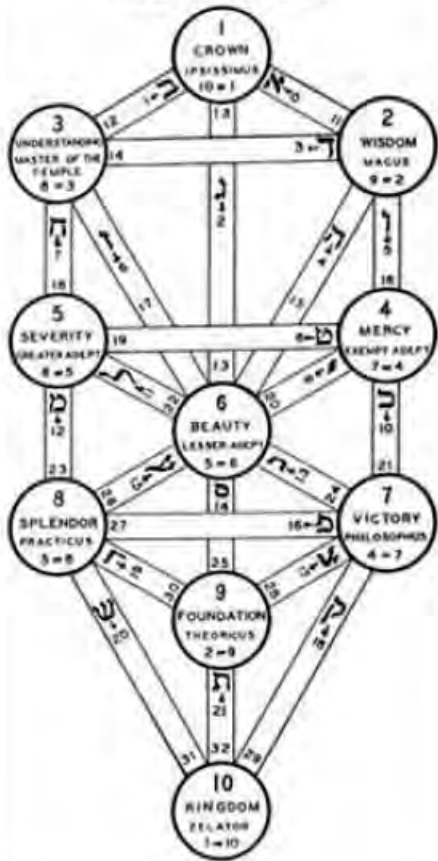


Boulder cross found by Fred Nolan in 1981 and made public in 1992

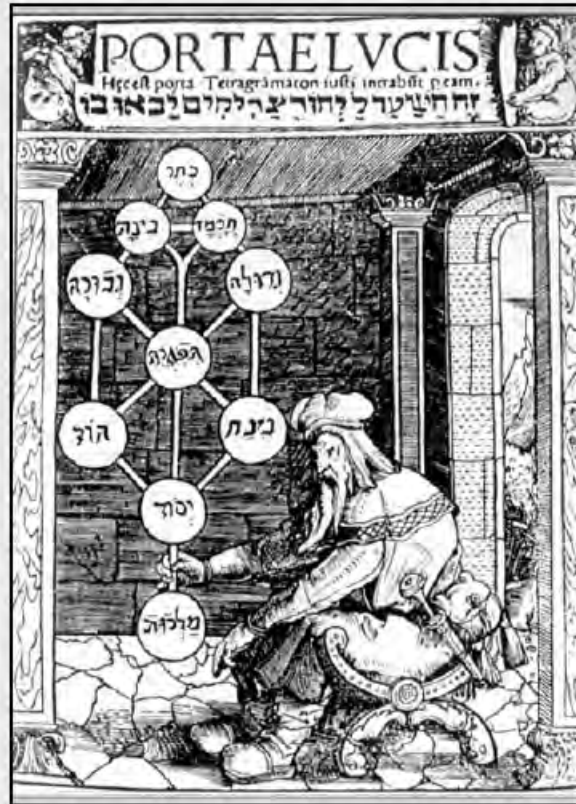


Kabalistic Tree of Life and Rosicrucian Cross

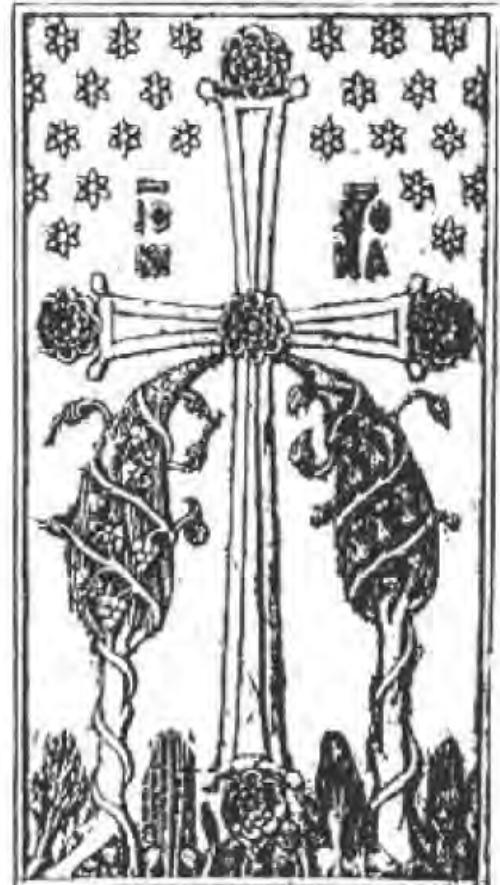
Click below for next image



Paul Foster Case



Rosicrucian Tree of Life



Boulder 282 Feet South of Cross



Boulders at Shore



Boulder 141 Feet South of Cross



**Presumed primitive
sun with radial lines**

Knights Templar



Sir Francis Drake and Queen Elizabeth 1

Does the Queen have Drake's Missing Logs?



Sir Francis Drake 1540 - 1596



Queen Elizabeth I 1533 - 1603

Sir Francis Bacon and William Shakespeare

The Missing Original Manuscripts and The Bacon-Shakespeare Authorship Controversy



Sir Francis Bacon
1561 - 1626



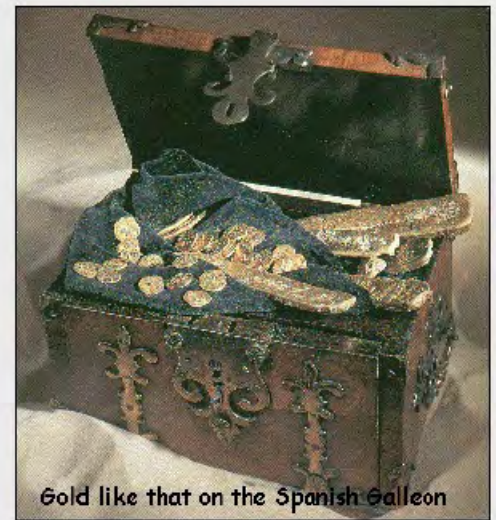
William Shakespeare
1564 - 1616



Shakespeare's First Folio
1623



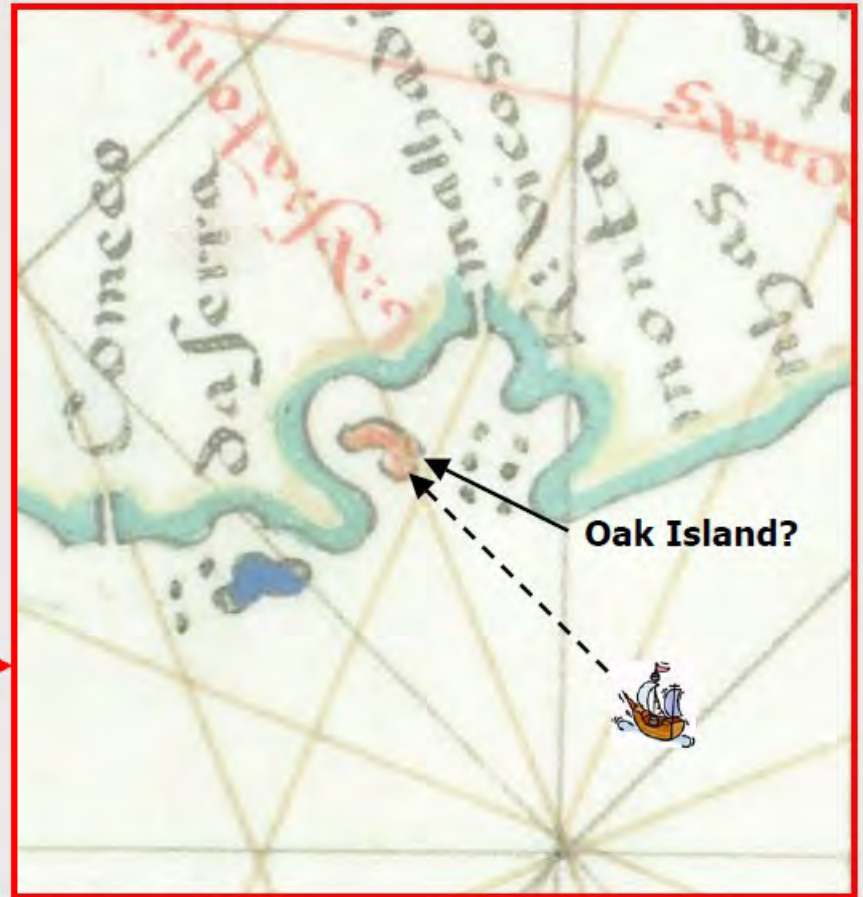
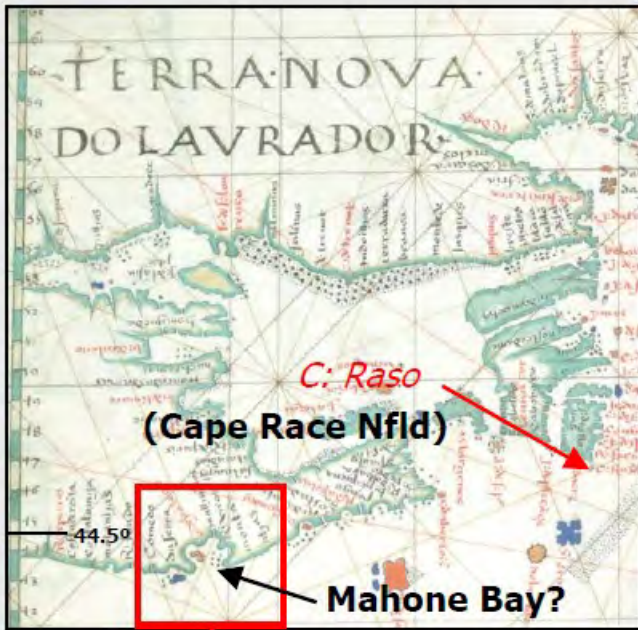
Spanish Galleon Lost at Sea



Gold like that on the Spanish Galleon



Portuguese Map of the New World 1560



In the 1500s, during the Portuguese voyages of discovery, islands in the New World were seeded with livestock and crops to have fresh supplies for future voyages. (Vigneras 1973)

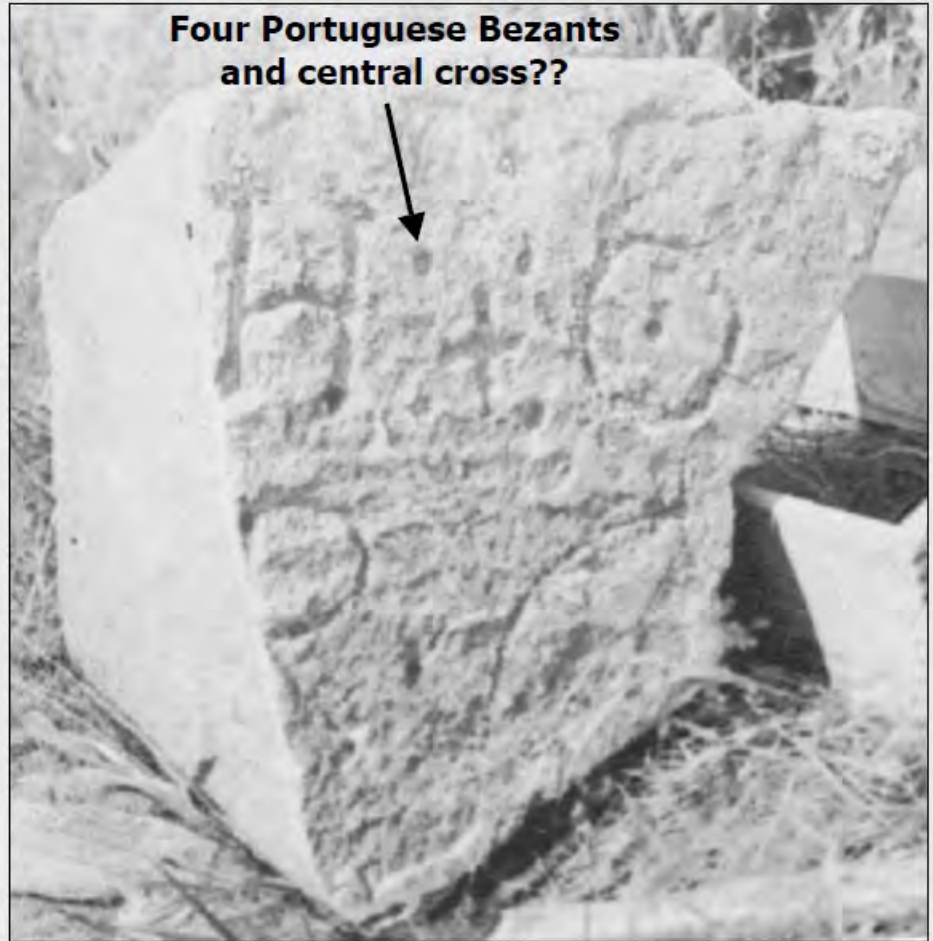
Bartolomeu Velho Map 1560 (Portuguese)

Portuguese Flag Symbol from 1500s Compared to Engraved Hedden Stone



Escutcheon
(or Quina)
containing five
Bezants (white dots)

Portuguese Flag 1495 to 1577



Four Portuguese Bezants
and central cross??

Engraved granite stone found by
Hedden in 1936

Sinking of the Concepción 1641

Hazards and human error spell disaster

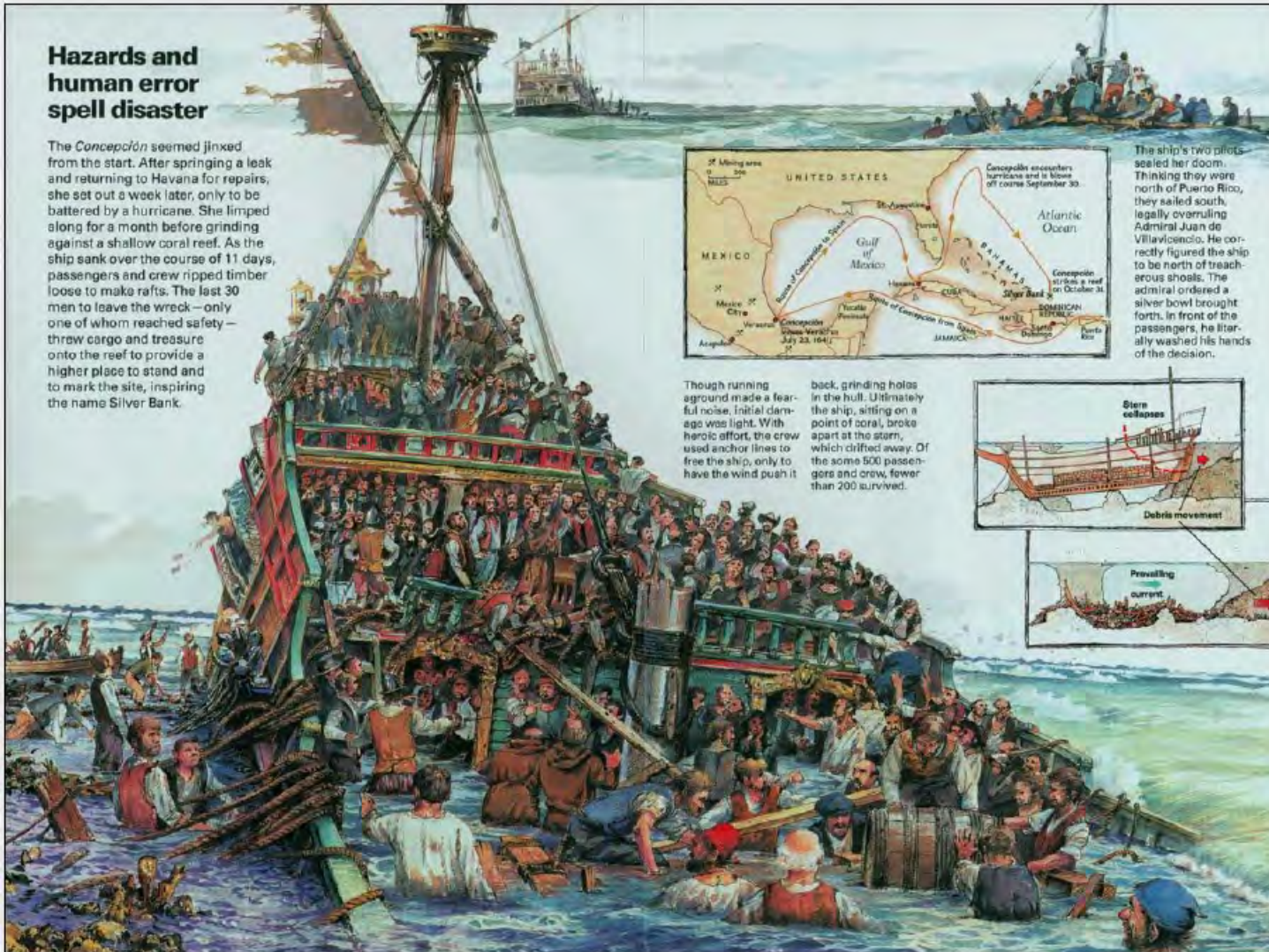
The *Concepción* seemed jinxed from the start. After springing a leak and returning to Havana for repairs, she set out a week later, only to be battered by a hurricane. She limped along for a month before grinding against a shallow coral reef. As the ship sank over the course of 11 days, passengers and crew ripped timber loose to make rafts. The last 30 men to leave the wreck—only one of whom reached safety—threw cargo and treasure onto the reef to provide a higher place to stand and to mark the site, inspiring the name Silver Bank.



The ship's two pilots sailed her doom. Thinking they were north of Puerto Rico, they sailed south, legally overruling Admiral Juan de Villavicencio. He correctly figured the ship to be north of treacherous shoals. The admiral ordered a silver bowl brought forth. In front of the passengers, he literally washed his hands of the decision.

Though running aground made a fearful noise, initial damage was light. With heroic effort, the crew used anchor lines to free the ship, only to have the wind push it

back, grinding holes in the hull. Ultimately the ship, sitting on a point of coral, broke apart at the stern, which drifted away. Of the some 500 passengers and crew, fewer than 200 survived.



500 People on board
200 People Survived
Ref: Bowden 1996
(National Geographic)

Sir William Phips and Recovery of the Treasure from the Concepción 1688/89



Ref: Bowden 1996 (National Geographic)
**Treasure found,
lost, then
discovered anew**

The sea did not easily yield the secret of where *Concepción's* riches lay. Recovery expeditions were mounted by private consortiums in the 1680s and '90s to no avail.

But success came to William Phips, a brash young seaman from New England who wheedled financing from several English noblemen. He located the wreck in 1687, recovered an enormous amount of treasure, then quit the site because of low provisions, threatening weather, and French pirates. As a reward, Phips was knighted by James II—and received a share of the goods.

Once the site was found, Phips relied on the astounding abilities of native pearl divers. Clutching rocks to aid their descent, they could hold their breath for up to five minutes.

An illustration of an underwater scene where several divers are recovering treasure from a wreck. One diver is pulling up a large chest, while others are holding onto ropes and rocks. The scene is set in a dark, rocky underwater environment with some green coral or seaweed.

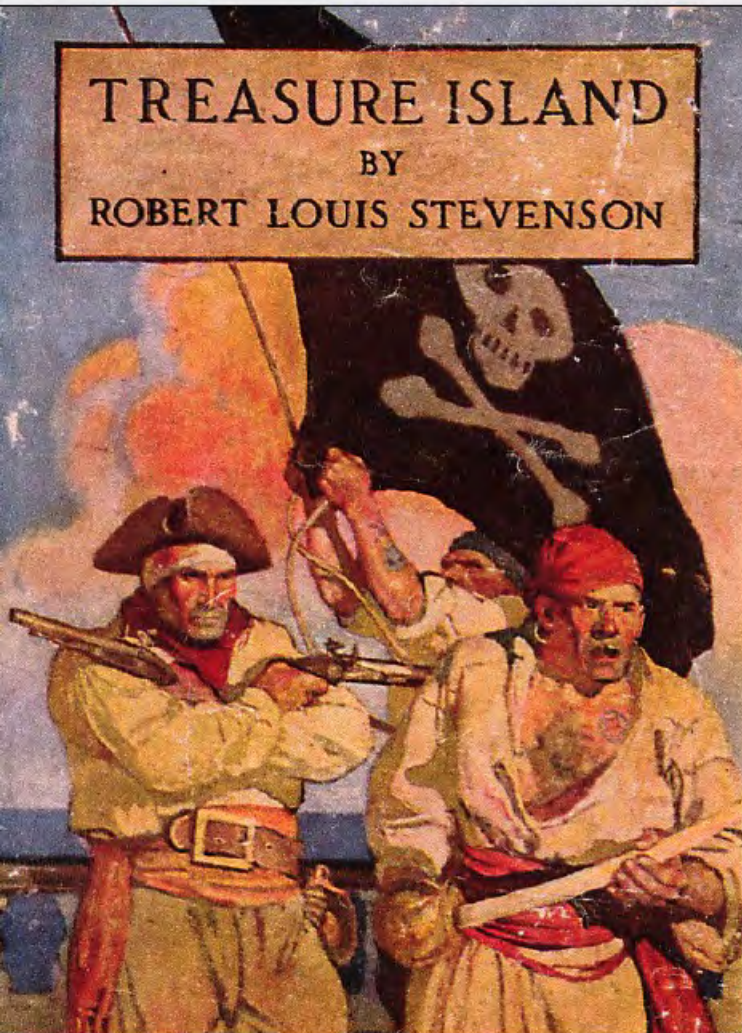
Treasure from the Concepción (Leftovers)

(Nuestra Señora de la pura y limpia Concepción)



Articles recovered in 1978 by Burt Webber
Ref: Bowden 1996 (National Geographic)

Pirates



1883



2006

Theories - Who Buried What and When?

Who	What	When
1. The Knights Templar	The treasure of the Knights Templar (The Holy Grail)	1300s to 1400s
2. Spanish	Treasure from damaged Spanish Galleon which sunk on way home	1500s
3. Spanish	Treasure stored on several occasions in underground vaults	1500s
4. Portuguese	Treasure from the Azores	Mid 1500s
5. Sir Francis Drake	Plundered Spanish treasure	Late 1500s
6. Sir Francis Bacon	The original Shakespearean Manuscripts	1600s
7. French	Treasure from French pay ship destined for Fortress Louisbourg	Mid 1700s
8. Sir William Phips	Treasure from the Spanish Galleon Concepción sunk in 1641	Money Pit 1688-89 Flood Tunnel 1752-54
9. Conspirators from the British Military	Spoils from the sack of Havana in 1762	Shortly after 1762

Note: Other less credible theories include Early Civilizations, Egyptians, Incas, Mayans, Aztecs, Mi'kmaq, Vikings, Acadians, Pirates and Aliens.

Challenges for Exploration at the Money Pit

- 1. Define specific targets for investigation by remote sensing or drilling based on available evidence.**
- 2. Evaluate the suitability of geophysical methods to find the presumed treasure chests in the overburden and to identify specific targets for exploration, including possible offset chambers.**
- 3. Evaluate the suitability of geophysical methods to define the contents and configuration of the chambers in rock and to identify specific targets for exploration.**
- 4. Evaluate suitable small diameter drilling methods to recover samples, to reach targets and to control/measure lateral drift.**
- 5. Evaluate large diameter drilling methods for man access and identify limitations due to expected water conditions.**
- 6. Evaluate suitable tools for down hole inspection below the water level in small and large diameter holes and identify the best method to manage turbid water for better visibility.**
- 7. Define a suitable testing program for recovered samples of "puddled clay" for positive identification of origin.**
- 8. Search for historical construction projects similar to the Oak Island Money Pit and Flood System.**
- 9. Develop a program of exploration with a high chance of success.**

Objectives of Excavations within the Money Pit

Preamble

Objectives for excavations can be defined based on present evidence or based on additional evidence to be obtained from an exploration program.

Based On Present Evidence

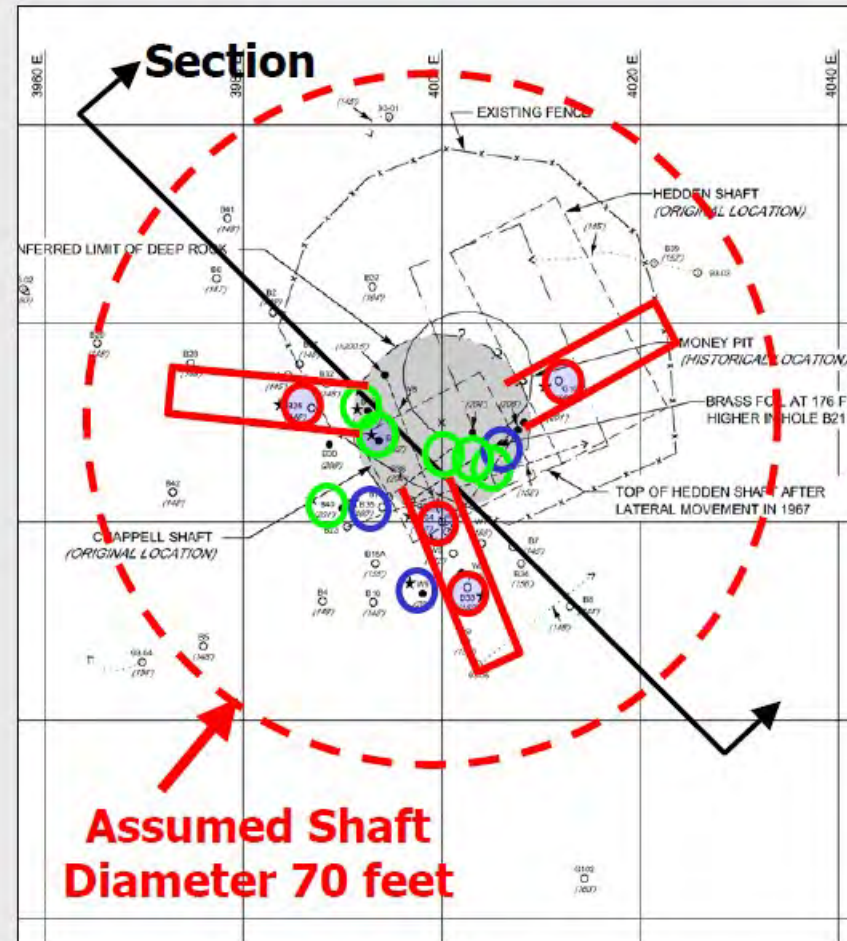
1. Small shaft to access a specific area for exploration and possible recovery of treasure and artifacts (not likely to be done before additional exploration, Chappell and Hedden were not successful).
2. Large diameter shaft to find the chests in overburden and to access the chambers in bedrock (not likely to be done unless one has lots of money and only wants to solve the mystery).

Based on Additional Exploration

3. Small shaft to access a specific area for recovery of treasure and artifacts.
4. Large diameter shaft of a size and depth which is based on specific evidence.

General Challenges for a Large Diameter Deep Shaft Excavation at the Money Pit Based on Present Evidence

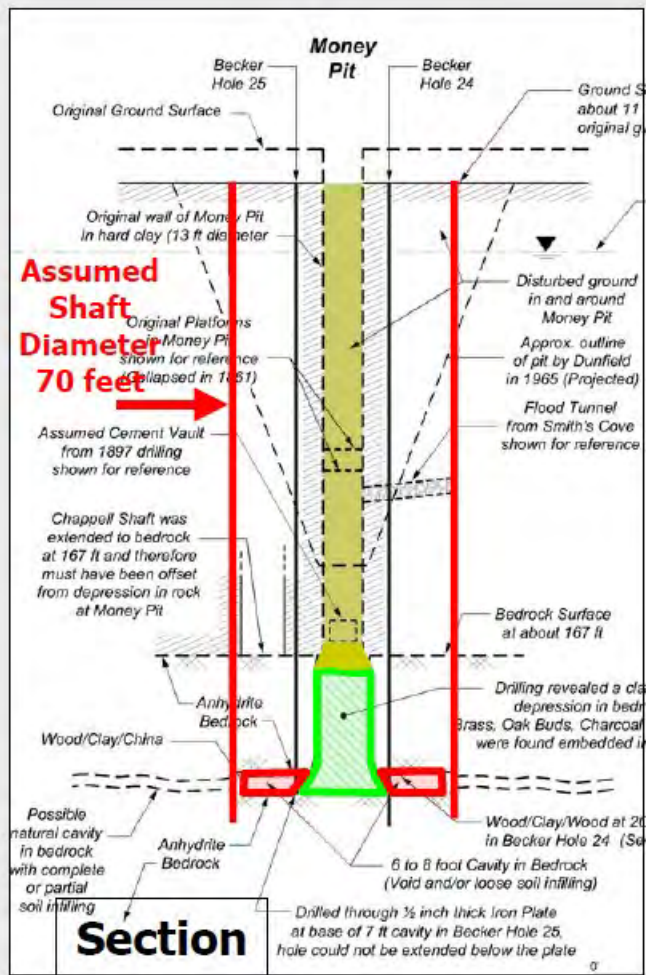
1. Select a shaft diameter which is consistent with the required objectives.
2. Allow for the numerous obstructions in the overburden and the difficult water control issues associated with pervious broken anhydrite zone.
3. Select a design concept and construction procedures which are consistent with the need to minimize disturbance to original works.
4. Allow for lateral excavation along original tunnels (to possible offset chambers) which may extend beyond the walls of the shaft.
5. Respect archaeological regulations while maintaining a reasonably efficient construction schedule.



Plan of Archaeological Features and Assumed Shaft Location

Specific Challenges for a Large Diameter Deep Shaft Excavation at the Money Pit Based on Present Evidence

1. Boulders in glacial till
2. Open and soil filled cavities in broken anhydrite
3. Saline groundwater in anhydrite
4. Cyclic groundwater movement in anhydrite due to tides
5. Very high permeability zones in broken anhydrite
6. Reworked soil zones resulting from events such as collapse of the Money Pit in 1861 and the Dunfield excavation of 1965/66
7. The presence of timbers and debris from numerous previous shafts and tunnels in the area of the Money Pit
8. Steel casings and pipes remaining in the ground from previous drilling operations



Expected Outcome of a Large Diameter Shaft Excavation at the Money Pit

- 1. A large diameter shaft excavation to bedrock surface is expected to resolve the nature of the presumed chests with coins drilled at 100 feet in 1849 and 155 feet in 1897, and the parchment may be recovered.**
- 2. A shaft excavation to 200 feet is expected to recover significant evidence (and possibly artifacts and treasure) which will result in:**
 - An obvious solution to the mystery is obtained (possibly by recovery of the parchment).**
 - A solution is determined in conjunction with related historical and archaeological studies or verification.**
 - The Oak Island mystery is not resolved (very unlikely outcome).**

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