

## **CoOI S12 E14 Sinking In**

**Aired March 4, 2025**

**Synopsis by Jan Anderson**

### **Money Pit**

As ROC Equipment is continuing to work on TB1, Jared Busby of ROC Equipment calls Vanessa over because the pressure on the oscillator has started to drop. He also tells her it is like they went through something. Rick arrives and Vanessa tells the group they are at 95 feet and for the last four feet the casing has gone in very easily. She then tells them that they are not oscillating, and the casing is just dropping in. Rick asks what she thinks that means and Vanessa tells him that they are in really soft material or something like a void. Terry mentions they are still about three feet from their first target. They agree they should watch what is coming up in the hammergrab. Later, Rick, Marty, and other members of the team meet at the Money Pit. TB1 has reached a depth of one hundred feet and the hammergrab is about to start bringing up material. The first hammergrab contains wood and short timbers. Gary scans the material but does not find any metal. Terry picks up one piece of wood and notices a dowel in the end. Gary finds a piece of wood that has Roman numerals carved into it. Marty mentions that this is similar to the beams used for the construction of the U-shaped structure. Vanessa comes over and tells the group they are now at 117 feet. The next day the excavation of TB1 has reached 147 feet. Jared later tells Vanessa that the pressures are getting high and they are on something. Alex asks what depth they are at and Vanessa tells him they are at 160 feet. Vanessa asks if they are cutting through the object and Jared informs her they seem to be trying to go through it. That afternoon Rick arrives and Vanessa tells him that the pressures are dropping, so whatever they were cutting through was hard at first, but now they are doing fine. Alex then asks Marty if he is feeling he tremors and Marty says no. Soon after, a member of the ROC team calls for the oscillator to stop because

they have a cave in. Vanessa tells the team they have a cave in, but even though she did expect some cave-ins, this one is bigger than she is comfortable with. Rick and Marty go to take a look, and there is a large 30 foot drop around the can. Vanessa tells the team they will backfill the area and they will proceed, but will check for more cave-ins every couple of feet. Vanessa says she cannot guarantee they will be able to keep advancing. The team agrees to proceed with caution.

## **Swamp**

Alex, Katya, and Billy continue to look for more of the stone path recently found in the northern part of the swamp, which is located very close to the brick and slate structure. As Alex and Katya search for clues, Alex finds what looks like the handle of a jug. They continue to search and find more pieces of pottery. Alex suggests that Billy pull some dirt from the other side to see if the rocks there are undisturbed. Rick arrives and asks for an update. Alex tells him that they have found pottery, but they have reached the end of the path. Rick says since they are at the end of the permitted area, they will call it quits. Rick says they should expand the permit so they can continue to work in the area.

## **War Room**

The team is meeting with Scott Clark and John Edwards to hear new information they have found regarding their research. John reminds the team of the books he purchased in 2019, *The Whole Genuine Works of Flavius Josephus*, published in 1812, and the second book, *Holy Week*, was published in 1763. He tells them that he hopes the map in the book could help solve the Oak Island Mystery and possibly help the team find a treasure. John then points out a square structure that according to the map seems to be in the northern end of the swamp. Scott tells them someone went to a lot of trouble to encode the books. John then shows them underlined letters that spell out names and phrases. He shows them the first name, which is John

Easson. Scott tells them that John Easson was a Freemason in Annapolis Royal, the oldest lodge in Canada. Annapolis Royal is just 62 miles from Oak Island and was established in 1605 by French settlers. Annapolis Royal then became the home of the first fraternal organization of the Freemasons in 1738. John goes on to tell the group that other members of Easson's family were also Masons. Scott tells them the Masonic lodge was held at the Sinclair Inn, which has painted murals on the walls, and one painting contains a Crusader tent or Templar tent. These tents were used when holy artifacts were traveling, according to John. Scott also tells them that the book suggests that there are Biblical treasures connected to Crusaders going to Nova Scotia. John then tells them that in 1312 when the Templars were disbanded their assets were given to the Knights Hospitaller. Scott says the Hospitallers eventually became the Knights of Malta, and they continue to this day. John and Scott believe some of the Templar's treasures were entrusted to other organizations such as the Knights of Malta, who are present in Canada as far back as the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Scott then says that the colony of Arcadia was founded by a Knight Commander, Isaac de Razilly, a member of the Knights of Malta. John goes on to show the team that drawings of a menorah and an eight-pointed cross are in the books. The eight-pointed cross is associated with the Knights of Malta. John then shows them a page where the Malta cross and the word Malta is placed next to a section where the Temple of Solomon and the Temple of Jerusalem are referenced. Scott says they believe the books show this is a multigenerational endeavor that links biblical treasures to Oak Island.

## **Lot 5**

Marty, Jack, and Gary are metal detecting on Lot 5 in an area near the rounded stone foundation. Gary begins scanning and gets a hit and Marty digs out a copper nail which Gary says he has found these in Florida because they are connected to 1600s and 1700s shipwrecks. As early as 3500BC copper nails were used in the construction of European ships because they did not corrode when exposed to salt water. The group begins scanning the area, and the next

hit is a smaller copper nail. Marty says they need to get the nails to the lab for analysis.

## **The Lab**

Carmen arrives to examine the copper nails found yesterday on Lot 5. Carmen says the nails are sheathing tacks or “clouts” and are used for fastening the sheathing sheets to the underside of boats. He does tell the group they could have been used for other purposes if they had extras on the boat. Carmen wants to know if the nails have lead or arsenic to help him date the nails. Emma tells him it is a copper alloy. She also says it is a pure bronze alloy and there is lead and arsenic in it. Carmen says that in his opinion the nails are from 1720 to 1760. The group discusses who could have been in that area during that time. Jack mentions the Knight of Malta.

## **Wash Plant**

Marty arrives at the wash plant to check on the search of the spoils from TB1. Charles shows Marty a piece of leather that they think is from a shoe. Next, Charles pulls out what looks like a piece of concrete that was also found in the spoils.