

CoOI S12 E23 Family Ties

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Synopsis by Jan Anderson

Money Pit

Repairs to the pad in the Money Pit area are continuing in preparation for the next dig. More than 50 tons of gravel are being used to stabilize the area for the placement of another 7-foot shaft that will reach into the solution channel.

The Lab

Marty, Charles, and Jack are meeting with Laird and Emma to hear the results from scans done on a button found on Lot 5. Laird tells the group that he was very interested in the eye of the button. He tells them it has a robust eye that is almost rectangular, which would mean the button is earlier than the mid-1700s. Next, they show the group the scan of the button, which shows a very ornate design. Emma tells them the back is mostly leaded brass, but the body is zinc and copper, which is a less technical manufacturing process and could indicate an older technique. Emma also tells them she would date the piece from the mid-1600s - 1700s.

Lot 1

Marty, Craig, Steve, Gary, and Jack are searching for valuables using the Blair treasure map that Terry Deveau, Doug, and Judi presented to the team earlier this year. The map depicted three boulders that Blair believed were placed centuries earlier to mark the location of treasure deposits. Marty removes one of the boulders, and Gary's metal detects the area and gets a hit. Jack unearths a hand-forged fastener. Marty asks if it could have been in the timber

that was also under the boulder. Marty pulls the timber out, and they also find a wedge. Marty pulls out another scoop, and they find a ring of boulders. They decide to dig a five-foot radius, and then Gary scans the area. Again, they get a hit. This time, they pull out a wrought iron pin. Gary continues to scan, and they find another piece of hand-forged iron. They will move to the next boulder.

Lot 21

Marty, Craig, and other members of the team have made their way to lot 21 to search under another boulder that was on the Blair treasure map. Steve says this stone is the anchor stone, and everything on the map was calculated from this point. Marty asks Gary to scan before they move the boulder. Gary gets a hit, and they find an ox shoe. Marty moves the stone, and when he begins to dig under it, they find angular rocks that resemble the rocks the team found in the paved area of the swamp. Gary scans the area but doesn't get a hit. Marty continues to dig until he hits the C-horizon. Marty thinks the rock was just a reference point and that it was placed.

Malta

The team is in the citadel in Gozo, where they will be taking a look at the old prison. Corjan tells the group that the people who were imprisoned here would carve symbols in the wall. The citadel known as Cittadella was reconstructed in 1599. Some believe the citadel was also used to hide Templar-related treasures. As they begin the tour, Emiliano shows the group a four-dot cross carved into the wall. Doug then points out that the four-dot cross was used to represent the presence of holy relics. The team begins searching for symbols that could relate to Oak Island. Alex points out a six-petal symbol, and Rick finds a symbol that is on the 90-foot stone. Rick and

the team are meeting with Corjan in Mdina of Rabat, the old capital of the islands. They are meeting in the Palazzo Flason, a museum that displays the collection of Captain Olof Frederick Gollcher OBE. Corjan will be presenting new research that connects the Knights of Malta to Oak Island. Corjan explains that in Jerusalem in 1187, Acre in 1291, Ruad in 1302, Rhodes in 1310, and Paris in 1307, the Knights of Malta were seeking refuge. They finally found it on Malta from 1530 to 1789. Corjan then tells them there is a family bloodline that can be connected to all of these locations and also to Oak Island. It was the family of de Villiers. Corjan explains that in 1187, Guillaume de Villiers was second in command of the Knights Hospitaller. In 1307, Gérard de Villiers was the master of France, the most powerful Knight Templar in the country. He then tells the group there is a record of the treasure leaving Paris. Gerard de Villiers escaped Paris, leading 50 horses, and sailed out to sea with 18 galleys, and it is believed that he also took the treasure. It is also believed that some Templars fled to Scotland or Portugal. Corjan tells them that wherever the knights landed, the name de Villier appeared. In 1522, the name de Villiers appeared in Rhodes. This time, it was Philippe de Villiers who was the Grand Master of the Knights Hospitaller. In 1530, they took possession of the islands of Malta and Gozo. The de Villiers line continued with Catherine de Villiers, who was the mother of Isaac de Razilly, a knight of Malta who landed in LaHave in 1632. Isaac de Razilly established the French colony of Acadia, which is now known as Nova Scotia.

Oak Island Museum

Now that Rick and other members of the team have returned from Malta, the team is meeting to hear what has happened on the island in the past two weeks. Marty tells the group that they researched the Blair map and that they searched under the two boulders, but they didn't find any treasure. Dr. Spooner says the anchor boulder has been moved and that the other boulder probably has been moved also. Marty then tells them about the button that was found on Lot 5. Alex says the scan of the button reminds him of the six-

petal carving they saw at the Cittadella in Gozo. Alex tells the team about other carvings and the cisterns. Rick talks about the pick marks in the tunnels. Alex then tells the group how Corjan connected the de Villiers family to the treasure and to Nova Scotia.