

CoOI S12 E20 Just Bead It

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Synopsis by Jan Anderson

Money Pit

Alex arrives at the Money Pit to check on the progress of the digging of RP3. Adam says this hole is different from the last two holes because they are coming off it on an angle. RP3 is just north of RP1 and RP2 and is just outside of Shaft 6. The hole is currently at 67 feet, and they should hit the target zone tomorrow. The next day, John tells the group they are at about 110 feet on the dig. Marty asks if they have hit any wood, and John tells him that the pressures are up now, like they are hitting wood. The next hammer grab contains many pieces of wood that could be from Shaft 6. Adam comes over and tells them they are now at 116 feet. The next hammer grab comes over, and it contains nothing but clay and soil. Marty tells Rick he thinks the reason they didn't find anything is that it went into the solution channel. Adam arrives and says they are at 120 feet. Marty says he thinks they are done with RP3 and they have time for either two shallow or one deep caisson before the season ends. The team will meet and figure out their next step.

Swamp

Rick, Jack, Gary, and Alan are continuing to search the northern edge of the swamp for clues and features. Alan begins to excavate the area, and Jack points out that they appear to be hitting the C-horizon, but there is a layer of organic material under it. Rick thinks it has been dug before and calls Gary over to metal detect the area. Gary begins to scan and gets a hit. Jack starts

shoveling and finds some wood. When the wood is pulled out, it has a large iron pin in it. Gary continues to scan and gets another hit, which is another large pin. Gary says the pin appears to be from the 1700s or earlier because of the weight and the striations going down the pin. He thinks it could be a pin from a wharf or a gate. The group also wonders if it could be from the wall that Fred Nolan found over 50 years ago in this same area. Alan begins to dig again and unearths another piece of wood that is about 10-12 inches, which Rick says is about the same size as the timbers Fred described. The next scoop of dirt is removed and reveals three boulders in a line and more wood. The next day, Rick, Tom, and Alan continue excavating the rock wall they found in the northern part of the swamp. As Rick and Tom remove dirt from around the boulders, they notice part of a cut log that is pinned against the rock. Rick and Tom discuss why the feature was placed there and what it was used for. Gary arrives and tells Rick and Tom that from the top of the spoil pile, the line of boulders stands out. Rick decides Steve should come out and pin the orientation and elevation of the rocks. Steve arrives and tells Rick he thinks it is a seawall and could have been used to create the swamp.

Oak Island Museum

The team is meeting in the museum to hear a report from Judi about information about books John Edwards found and the Knights of Malta. Judi explains that the Knights of Malta traveled with the Templars and fought with the Templars. She then says the Knights of Malta started out as the Hospitallers in Jerusalem and then became the Knights of Rhodes before becoming the Knights of Malta. They started out as a hospital group in Jerusalem, taking care of Crusaders. Judi says that after 1312, everything the Templars had went to the Hospitallers. The Hospitallers then moved to Cyprus, then to Rhodes, and in the 1550s they moved to Malta. While in Malta, they began digging tunnels and other things similar to work that was done in

the Money Pit. Judi then discusses Isaac de Razilly, who was a descendant of the de Villers, who were the grand masters of Malta, and was a Knight of Malta. Doug then tells the group that in 1632 or 1633, de Razilly came to Nova Scotia and settled his capital in the LaHave River near Oak Island. Judi then tells the group how Lot 5 could also be connected to the story. She shows them the sunburst button found on Lot 5 and points out similarities to a button from the uniform of a Knight of Malta. Judi then shows them the beads found on Lot 5 and points out that the beads were from Venice, which was close to where the Knights of Malta were located. Marty suggests that the team go to Malta.

Lot 5

The archaeology team is continuing their work at the round stone feature. Ethan says he found some blue bottle glass, and Moya tells him they also found blue bottle glass in test pit 28. While digging, Moya finds another Venetian trade bead that looks very similar to the bead she found several weeks ago.