

Analysis of Artifacts

Item # 123

Old two-inch brass buckle

WHO FOUND	Fred Nolan
WHEN FOUND	1963-64
WHERE FOUND	In the bottom of one of two 30' deep shafts dug by Nolan
FIRSTHAND/ SECONDHAND	
REFERENCES	Crooker's, "Oak Island Gold", Pg. 155
LOCATION TODAY	
ODDITY FACTOR	
ASSESSMENT OF AUTHENTICITY	
COMMENTS	

Sellers and acquired the land for a price of \$2,500 which he says was \$700 more than the \$1,800 Chappell had given the Beamish family in 1961 for one-third of the Island.

In April 1963, Nolan again approached Chappell and offered to trade his newly acquired lots for an opportunity to try his luck at the Money Pit. But as before, Chappell refused.

Nolan felt defeated. He had spent a small fortune in time and money on the survey, and had nothing to show for it. But his curiosity kept him busy studying his survey notes and preparing a map of all the collected data. And as he worked, it gradually began to dawn upon him that there was more to the mystery than the Money Pit and its flood system.

The three piles of stones that Captain Allan may have been searching for in the 1880s formed the corners of a triangle in the shape of an arrow head. They were situated on top of the hill just outside the eastern boundary of his property. The sides of the triangle were about 150 feet long and the base about 100 feet. Nolan said that the stone piles (one has since been destroyed) had diameters of about 12 feet and heights of about five feet and had always been considered an old observation place. The arrow-like formation pointed directly towards the center of the swamp on Nolan's property. When Nolan found these stone piles, he also found two large ring bolts set in granite boulders that were on his property. He drew lines through the stone piles and ring bolts and decided to excavate shafts where the lines intersected, expecting that one of these intersection points would mark the location of a treasure. Utilizing a six-man work crew, he dug two 30-foot-deep shafts in 1963-1964. Nothing was found other than an old two-inch brass buckle from the bottom of one of the shafts. "But where did it come from?" Nolan asks. "Perhaps time will tell."

Nolan had for some time suspected that there might be a watertight vault somewhere else on the Island with a shaft running downward. It was now time to test out this theory and he embarked on an intensive search of his lands. In 1969, he even drained the swamp. He was surprised by what he found. His property, which extends entirely across the Island on the east side, contained numerous markers and objects which he believes are related to the original works.

Nolan discovered rocks with round holes bored or chiseled into them and some had pieces of metal inserted into the surfaces. He dug up pieces of old hand-cut wood which he believes are from an ancient