

# *Analysis of Artifacts*

## **Item # 133**

*Sandstone Survey Markers had "marks and figures on them"*

<b>WHO FOUND</b>	Fred Nolan
<b>WHEN FOUND</b>	1963+
<b>WHERE FOUND</b>	On Nolan's property (and perhaps beyond)
<b>FIRSTHAND/ SECONDHAND</b>	
<b>REFERENCES</b>	Crooker's, "Oak Island Gold", Pg. 156, 157 & 172 (referring to "Spanish Galleon" shaped stone)
<b>LOCATION TODAY</b>	
<b>ODDITY FACTOR</b>	
<b>ASSESSMENT OF AUTHENTICITY</b>	
<b>COMMENTS</b>	

treasure chest (one piece has old iron hinges intact). He also found beach stones, bits of old wood, and metal beneath the swamp, and pieces of wood and rocks that Nolan believes are survey monuments associated with the Island's puzzle.

One of the most noteworthy discoveries that Nolan made public at the time was what he believes to be an old stone surveyor's monument which he describes as being "similar to the type used by surveyors today." Nolan verified that the stone was man-made by having it examined and analyzed by a geologist, Robert Grantham, who reported that, "The upper six or seven inches of rock have been exposed to the weather for quite some time. There were lichens growing on the upper four inches and below that are marks made by vegetation growth in the soil which surrounded the rock." He also reported that, "The rock was found on end. This is not a natural stable resting position for a rock of this shape." The monument is of sandstone. It is square in cross section with two sides smooth or natural and the other two sides rough as if cut by a chisel. Burn marks are visible suggesting that heat was applied to cut the rock. Nolan says, "Some have said that when placed on its side it resembles a Spanish galleon."

Nolan believes that the monument was definitely planted as a survey marker, bearing no relationship to a property boundary. It was found purely by accident while tracing a prolongation of the median line of the arrow-shaped triangle formed by the stone mounds. "I was crawling along on my hands and knees following this line with a hand compass when the compass actually bumped into it. That's when I found the pointed end of this stone sticking out of the ground," he recalls.

Nolan claims that numerous other rock markers have assisted him in his search, and that many are of sandstone. He told me that some of the sandstone objects had "marks and figures on them," adding that all of the rocks found in a "natural" state were granite, whereas the sandstones fitted into a pattern "placed there by others." Nolan concluded that the sandstones are not indigenous to the Island, but that they were brought there for survey purposes.

In 1971, Nolan was granted a treasure trove license and began digging. In 1973 he dug his largest hole about 650 feet northwest of the Money Pit. He picked the position from the intersection of lines projected from some of the previously found markers. But he found nothing and abandoned the hole after reaching a depth of 35 feet. "I was

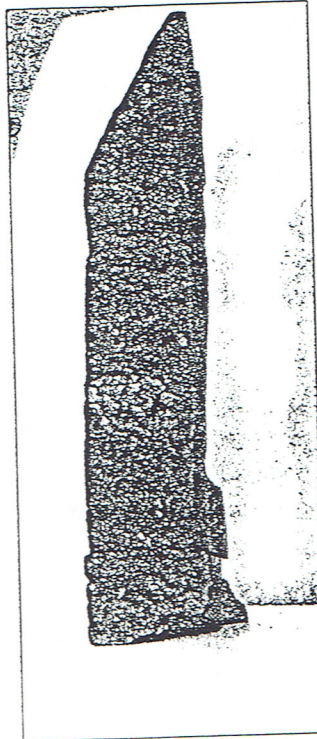
*A Parallel Search*

William S. Crooker



*Hole chiselled into granite boulder found on Nolan's property. Nolan thinks rock is a marker in a survey system associated with a treasure deposit.*

William S. Crooker



*Sandstone found by Nolan is thought to be an old survey marker. It was found in an upright position with the upper portion exposed.*



was to discover or figure out the pattern they represented.”

Now, after years of investigation, Nolan claims to have discovered a pattern for all of the markers he surveyed. He says they form a mathematical equation. It is an equation that involves trigonometry but very strangely it also involves symbolism. And, that is where the Head Stone fits in!

Nolan said that the Head Stone was laying on its side when he discovered it. The side or face of the stone was slightly slanted with the top portion or head exposed. He dug it up with a backhoe and photographed it. At that point in time it meant nothing more to him than just another rock to be examined. But it was a rock that shouldn't have been there. It was composed of sandstone and bore glacial striation lines which indicated that it had once been part of a bedrock formation. Of course this could have been a fluke of nature but as Nolan later discovered, it wasn't.

Nolan asked if I noticed anything else peculiar about the Head Stone other than its human skull shape and the glacial striations. There were scratches on the rock which had obviously been clawed by the teeth of the backhoe bucket and there was what appeared to be a well-weathered slot or groove on the face. Nolan said the groove was hand-carved in the shape of the very same dagger that he had acquired from the heirs of Sophia Sellers, daughter of Anthony Graves. (The Graves who had once occupied Nolan's property.) He said it was a "perfect fit," and concluded that the Head Stone symbolically represented "the brain" and the dagger pointed to the "heart"—the brain and heart of the equation.

On that bizarre twist to his story, Nolan turned to the physical nature of the survey markers or monuments. He explained that there was a vast scale differential. Some were average size survey monuments such as the "Spanish Galleon" shaped stone, while others were very large. "You could be leaning against one and never recognize it as a survey monument," Nolan said. "The Head Stone is, in fact, a survey monument, regardless of its size."

With that, Nolan concluded all that he was prepared to discuss that evening. He changed the subject and proposed that I transport my survey equipment over to the Island to conduct a survey of a few of the markers. He explained that he wanted an engineer to check some of his measurements and verify his findings, now that he was prepared to go public with an astounding discovery. He said he would have the press