

00:21:06 Feel more [helicopter blades whirring] Narrator:THE NATIONAL GEOMANTIC SURVEY Is on a hunt for jesse james'lost treasures -- treasures they believe james may have hidden to finance the secret agenda of the knights of the golden circle.

This is rich. A non existent entity is looking for something that doesn't exist. This is what the History Channel represents as history, folks.

00:21:31 The team's focus -- three separate areas within this complex of canyons.

00:21:37 First, a rock wall covered with code glyphs located near an open meadow.

00:21:44 Next, a deep canyon surrounded by sandstone walls with more inscriptions.

00:21:50 And third, a slope of land in front of another rock wall, also marked with provocative carvings.

00:22:00 The plan is to thoroughly investigate all three sites before doing any digging, starting with the rock wall near the open meadow.

Let's recall. This is not especially about performing an archeological survey or exploration. That might require specific rules of execution and guidelines to be followed. This is all about treasure hunting. Nothing more.

00:22:10 Barlow: One of you guys got a camera back there?

00:22:13 Man: Yeah, I got one, j.d.

00:22:14 I'd really like to get this, the hash marks leading out to the field " because that might actually give us distance and reference points.

Translation: Let's act like we know what we're doing. Try to look professional.

00:22:23 Narrator: Ngs team members focus on a series of hash marks " these etchings sit above what appears to be a carved-out seat.

00:22:34 The team theorizes that this perch may have been the base for a sighting line leading to treasure.

"The team theorizes..." I'm counting that as # 12. We could also count "what appears to be..." but we'll let that one slide.

00:22:40 Those tracks are right above that hole.

00:22:43 Yeah. good point.

00:22:44 [Laughs] so this may be the start.

"This may be..." I'm slipping that into slot # 13.

00:22:47 And the "x" might mark the spot.

As "x" did before with Zerelda's name and Jesse's initials. Just in case there are more "x" to come, let's count this as "x" #2.

00:22:49 Yeah.

00:22:50 Narrator: The team speculates that each hash mark represents a pace and that treasure could be buried within the range of paces leading to each " they count out the steps.

"The team speculates..." It almost got past me, but it's now #14.

00:23:03 ...7, 8, 9... 00:23:06 .. 00:23:08 ...21, 22, 23... 00:23:11 .. 00:23:14 ..

00:23:16 Okay, 29, 30.

00:23:18 And this is the line-of-start marker from where we were looking in that chair at that point.

00:23:25 Pastore: Uh-huh.

00:23:27 Narrator: The meaning of the symbols is largely speculative, so pastore decides to conduct his first real test.

At last! We now have an established fact. The symbols are speculative.

00:23:36 He pulls out his compass, thinking that metallic objects, such as a safe for precious metals, might throw it off magnetic north.

00:23:44 Pastore: So, we've got everything aligned to north here, and we're gonna slowly walk across.

00:23:49 Narrator: His compass begins to drift directly over the area in question.

00:23:54 Pastore: It's already moved 5 degrees.

It's moved 5 degrees, or Pastore has moved 5 degrees?

00:23:58 10, 12, 15. 00:24:01 We went from 360 to 330.

00:24:03 So we have a 30-degree magnetic anomaly as we move across the terrain.

00:24:07 [laughs] Narrator: To find out what's making the compass move, pastore brings out the most advanced technology available to him -- high-powered, ground-penetrating radar that can see as deep as 30 feet below the surface.

Let me offer a recommendation. Pastore moved with the compass in hand. Then the compass moved. Ergo, Pastore made the compass move. I didn't think logic was going to come in so handy when I was forced to study it right out grade school.

00:24:24 Pastore believes that if he is standing on treasure, it's likely to be money jesse james stole after the war in service to the knights of the golden circle, for whom the civil war never ended.

One more! "Pastore believes..." That's #15. Is there some sort of Olympics qualification going on here?

00:24:39 Dr. Roy Roush is an author and historian.

I call for a break here, while we see just what kind of author and historian Roy Roush is. Who saw this one coming?

It appears Dr. Roush has written three books: (1) The Mysterious and Secret Order of the Knights of the Golden Circle, (2) How to Find the Treasures of the Knights of the Golden Circle, and (3) Knights of the Golden Circle Treasure Signs. Roush even sells DVDs on how to prospect for gold. He is a columnist for Treasure and Treasure Search magazines. And he teaches college courses and seminars on gold prospecting. He's even on YouTube.

Humph! Not exactly whom you'd call a neutral authority.

00:24:43 He has a special interest in the KGC and its efforts to raise enormous sums of money.

No s__t! What a coincidence.

But wait. There's more. Roy Roush, PHD, is also an author of the book Open Fire. It's his memoir of a Marine infantryman from Oklahoma. Roush then became a fight pilot in the U. S. Air Force.

If I believe he's the same Ron Roush, we now have Ron Pastore, an Oklahoman, linked with Ralph Ganis from the U. S. Air Force, both conjoined with Roy Roush, PHD, an Oklahoman from the U. S. Air Force. And all three of their names start with the letter R. Talk about three markers in a row! These guys are right. Making these kinds of discoveries is exciting!

Somebody hold me down. I'm catching gold fever.

00:24:49 Dr. Roush: After the war was over, a lot of the southerners were diehard southern rebels and did not want to accept the surrender at Appomattox by General Lee.

00:25:01 As far as they were concerned, it was just a time-out until they could restart the civil war.

00:25:06 They were not done yet.

00:25:08 [Gunfire echoing] you've heard the saying "the south shall rise again"?

00:25:13 they really meant it.

00:25:16 That was not a joke.

00:25:17 But they knew that to do that, they would have to have financing and backing and military supplies and so forth, so they started collecting it any way they could -- through robberies, through appropriation of funds.

00:25:30 As far as they were concerned, anything goes.

00:25:33 None of you move, now.

00:25:33 Hand over that money, or you're gonna die.

00:25:34 Do it now!

So it turns out that the Air Force gold digger is now the Civil War historian. I've heard of plot twists, but either these guys are twisted, or someone's twisting my shorts.

00:25:36 Narrator: The kgc's postwar agenda lines up perfectly with the path that jesse james chose.

Sounds to me like the KGC was one looney crowd. The entire South could not win the war. But the Knights of the Golden Circle thought they could achieve what half a nation could not do. I think I'm beginning to see why they had to remain secret.

00:25:41 Stiles: Jesse james faced a conundrum.

00:25:44 Was he going to turn to a peaceful life, or was he going to step forward and help to keep this pattern of crime and also of harassment of the union authorities?

00:25:55 He chose to keep it going.

Ok, I'm back in my comfort zone. We're back on solid historical ground.

00:25:57 Narrator: James would do so as a standout member of an infamous band of ex-confederate guerrillas who came to be known collectively as the james-younger gang, so named for the james brothers and their close, trusted allies, the younger brothers.

00:26:14 Ganis Well, the james-younger gang robbed banks for over 15 years all across the country. 00:26:19 .. 00:26:22 ..

00:26:24 Kentucky, tennessee, mississippi.

00:26:28 We'll never know the full extent of the robberies of the jam-younger gang.

00:26:33 [Gunshot] all of you, get down!

00:26:35 Stiles: Well, jesse james' career spanned an enormous length of time -- far longer than the typical outlaw in the west after the civil war.

00:26:46 Usually, criminal careers in this period lasted two or three years at the most.

00:26:50 Narrator: Many believe that the gang's legendary success was due in large part to jesse's ties to men of power and influence.

"Many believe..." Gotta count that as #16. As the lawyer would shout out in court, "Objection! Speculation." Nothing in this entire program has established this statement as fact. All we've have is an alphabet of letters thrown on the table, none of which spells out $a + b + c = d$. If these guys used numbers, $1 + 2 + 3$ would not come out to 6.

00:26:59 Ganis There were a lot of bandits after the civil war, so the name of jesse james would have been just another name except for the fact that his was singled out by a newspaper editor named john newman edwards.

00:27:13 And edwards took it upon himself for some reason to support this young bandit that was out there.

“For some reason”? Does the word sympathy have any meaning? Edwards was in sympathy with Jesse.

00:27:20 Narrator: James personally wrote open letters to the public proclaiming his innocence and denouncing northern authorities.

00:27:27 He sent these letters directly to Edwards, who willingly published them in his newspaper, the Kansas City Times, a newspaper with ties to the KGC.

If this was true, it would stand to reason that all other papers, including the New York Times, had KGS sympathies, too. After all, the Kansas City Times was not the only newspaper to publish the letters Jesse James sent them.

00:27:38 Stiles: Edwards really lifted up Jesse James as a symbol of what the Confederates had suffered and also of their pride and their determination never to take that sort of persecution lying down, as he depicted it.

00:27:52 Narrator: Edwards also wrote his own articles praising James, elevating him to a folk hero, in effect teaming up with James to rally support for their cause -- A CAUSE THAT FELL IN LINE WITH THE KGC's Agenda.

With all those journalists throughout the country writing about Jesse, according to this reasoning the entire nation was awash with KGC sympathizers. Winning the war, after the end of the war, then, should have been a cakewalk.

00:28:07 .. 00:28:10 Write flowery articles about a man who was robbing banks?

00:28:16 This is a big question.

00:28:18 And, in fact, the reason behind Edwards' support for Jesse could lie in the associations that Edwards had after the war that included people who were associated with the Knights of the Golden Circle.

00:28:30 Narrator: Among the strongest associations, one of the newspaper's owners belonged to a group with clear ties to the KGC.

Did “one of the newspaper’s owners” have a name? Or, was that a secret, too?

00:28:38 If you look at the officers of the Kansas City Times, the officers that were in charge of that newspaper, you had John Newman Edwards, who was the chief editor.

00:28:47 And we know he was the architect of the James boys as heroes.

Sorry, Jesse, we thought you were the architect of your fame.

00:28:52 But let's look at the president of that newspaper.

00:28:56 It was a man named Amos Green, who was the head of the Order of American Knights, a KGC-affiliated organization in Illinois.

Thank you for the name. Now, about Amos Green, taken from:

Dark lanterns: secret political societies, conspiracies, and treason trials ...by Frank L. Klement, p. 73-74.

“The Order of American Knights, saying because of inept leadership, emitted its last gasp on February 22, 1864. On that day a handful of pro-peace Democrats...met in New York City. Several had previously belonged, some only nominally, to the American Knights. They had little offer in nurturing a peace movement...Eventually the discussion turned to the desirability of organizing and endorsing a dark lantern political society...The strange pow wow proved an exercise in futility...A few thought that a secret society, with a ritual and an element of mystery, could serve the Democratic party as an auxiliary organization, but the delegates could not agree upon neither the form nor substance the society should take. In the end, the membership present named Amos Green to head a committee to draft a declaration of principles...to give shape to the organization...Most of the delegates agreed to shuck the Order of American Knights, adopt the Son of Liberty as the could-be organization...It was evident that when all was said and done, that the assembled delegates had repudiated...pretensions. The Order of American Knights was dead, dead, dead.”

So, the Order of American Knights dies on February 22, 1864, before the end of the Civil War. The Civil War dies at the Surrender at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, more than a year later. But Jesse James’ career as a secret operative with the Order of American Knights goes on after the end of the Civil War.

Did any of these authorities ever have a calendar or Timex as a kid?

00:29:07 Narrator: A report by the judge advocate general war department in 1864 lists the order of american knights and the knights of the golden circle as different names for the same treasonous organization.

Don’t forget the others, too, including...:

Heroes of America,

Southern Independence Association,

Knights of the Black Cross,

Union Relief Society,

Order of the Star,

Mutual Protection Society,

Circle of Honor,

Circle or Knights of the Mighty Host, and

Sons of the South.

But somehow Jesse joined up with the one secret society that no longer existed.

These folks can resist filling up a place that has a vacancy. If these boys came across an empty

hole in the ground, they'd immediately make an outhouse of it.

00:29:21 That same report also estimates that the kgc had between 20,000 and 40,000 members in missouri.

00:29:28 To ganis all of this evidence can only mean one thing.

00:29:32 He wasn't a simple outlaw out there for personal gain.

00:29:36 Jesse james was a political operative.

If we recap we might find the missing connection here. Ganis says the James gang had a 15 year career after the war. Ganis then says Jesse was more notable among the many robbers of the era because he self-promoted himself. Then we're told Jesse joined a group that no longer existed. Finally, Ganis concludes all this means Jesse James was a political operative.

A political operative for whom? A group that didn't exist any more? Ganis appears to have fallen into his own hole, because he didn't build the bridge necessary to cross it from there to here.

00:29:38 And I think this accounts for why jesse and frank james were defended so adamantly by very powerful men.

"And I think..." We're back to that old stuff again. Count this one #16.

00:29:44 They knew that frank and jesse james were serving a purpose, and it was a political fight, and that even though they were robbing banks, it was a propaganda piece that was enabling them to garner support from the people of the south that felt disenfranchised by what was going on.

00:30:01 He was definitely a political operative.

This is like that principle that if you repeat something often enough, it becomes fact. That might work for some people. For me? I'm beginning to zone out.

00:30:04 No doubt about it.

Yup, zoning out. No doubt about it.

00:30:07 [Helicopter blades whirring] Narrator:IN KANSAS, RON PASTORE CONTINUES His search for treasure -- a search that, if successful,could support the theory that jesse james robbed on behalf of the kgc.

"Could support the theory..." Haha, very clever. I might be zoning, but I caught it. That's #17.

00:30:21 barlow to help. 00:30:25 Barlow is a certified specialist in the operation of ground-penetrating radar, the most advanced technology available to the team.

That wakes me up. I studied this gizmo during the Vardeman cemetery disinterment and archeological study. For me, though, “the most advanced technology available” would have been an archeological team, headed by a prestigious university. But the gizmo is fun.

00:30:34 Barlow will use it to get a subterranean view of the area where they think treasure may be buried.

One more. “They think...” # 18.

00:30:41 Utilizing gpr is a definite benefit to this expedition, because we do get the advantage of being able to see some of what is down under the soil before we actually break the ground.

WRONG! GPR will not show what’s beneath the ground. It shows anomalies in the subterranean earthen structure. You still have to dig to see what’s down there.

00:30:52 Barlow: Look at those boys go.

00:30:54 Oh, they're doing a great job. look at that.

00:30:57 They're soldiers. they're rocks.

00:31:03 Narrator: They scan a predetermined grid to create a consistent and accurate pattern.

00:31:08 6 Feet. 00:31:10 .. 00:31:12 3, 2, 1.

00:31:15 Engaged.

00:31:18 Barlow: Ground-penetrating radar is radio waves being sent down into the ground, and we're getting a collection of the reflections off of the different variations in the strata layers.

00:31:28 So we'll see anomalous events that are, say, from zero to 30 feet down fairly clearly.

More fairly. Less clearly. Definitely not a definitive image.

00:31:34 And we will get much the same image back as they do in some of the medical-technology imaging when they do an mri or a cat scan.

Little hyperbole here. Medical imaging can display layer upon layer of substance that gpr doesn't. You won't find doctors using a gpr gizmo to learn if a pregnant mother is carrying a boy or a girl.

00:31:42 You get this image of what's going on below the surface without breaking the surface.

00:31:50 Narrator: Barlow has a portable monitor that receives real-time readouts from the gpr.

00:31:57 Check it. ooh, man.

00:31:59 Do you believe that? yeah. no, I don't.

00:32:01 [Both laugh] I see it, but I don't believe it.

00:32:04 I'm telling ya!

00:32:05 Whoa!

Sounds like you boys believe you've discovered something.

00:32:06 Narrator: Pastore and barlow gather 10 separate files which cover 1,600 square feet.

00:32:12 That was like the first or second pass, we hit that.

00:32:15 [Sighs] I don't know what it was.

00:32:17 I've never seen anything like it.

00:32:19 " there you go. okay.

00:32:24 The parabolas represent objects under the ground.

Not entirely true. Those "objects" may be nothing more than disruptions of earthen structure. In other words, a different kind of dirt.

00:32:29 Breaks in the strata could mean the ground has been disturbed.

That's better.

00:32:32 We get the two parabolas on either side, and then there's disturbed earth in between.

00:32:38 Looks like a mine shaft to me.

00:32:40 It looks like somebody's dug something up.

00:32:41 It looks like somebody maybe dug something up, buried something under.

00:32:44 That disturbed earth no longer has the soil stratification of the natural sedimentation that occurs over time.

"Looks like..." "Looks like..." Looks like..." "dug something up..." dug something up..." Somebody count those for me.

00:32:51 The results of the scan indicate something is underneath them.

What happened to "dug something up"? These boys pivot like ballet dancers.

00:32:55 This is also where we got the magnetic anomaly on the compass, you know, that 30-degree variance on the compass.

Has Pastore been moving around with that compass again?

00:33:01 And we do have that low-lying trough there.

00:33:03 For some reason, the soil is settled.

00:33:05 And there's no real reason for that, other than maybe an aquifer.

I'm thinking rainfall, runoff, and absorption.

00:33:08 You know, if there's some hydrological action going on here, and it's causing the soil to get wet enough that it's sinking over time.

00:33:14 But, you know, we've even buried a target, and that's the only thing that I say looks close to this, is a test target that we buried before.

00:33:23 He wants me to get the track-o out now.

00:33:26 Track-o!

00:33:27 He wants to dig now.

00:33:28 I want to dig some ground, man!

00:33:31 Oh, geez!

Yeah! Dig, baby, dig! Oh, I wish Sarah Palin was here.

00:33:34 Narrator: No digging yet.

Ah, come on.

00:33:36 Pastore still wants to search treasure clues at two more sites.

00:33:41 Patience, laddie. patience.

00:33:44 Yeah.

00:33:45 What will they find?

00:33:46 so now I'm getting a little excited, all right?

Yeah, patience. Means sit tight, we're gonna sell you something...as if they haven't been doing that all along.

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