

THE

Treasure Hunter

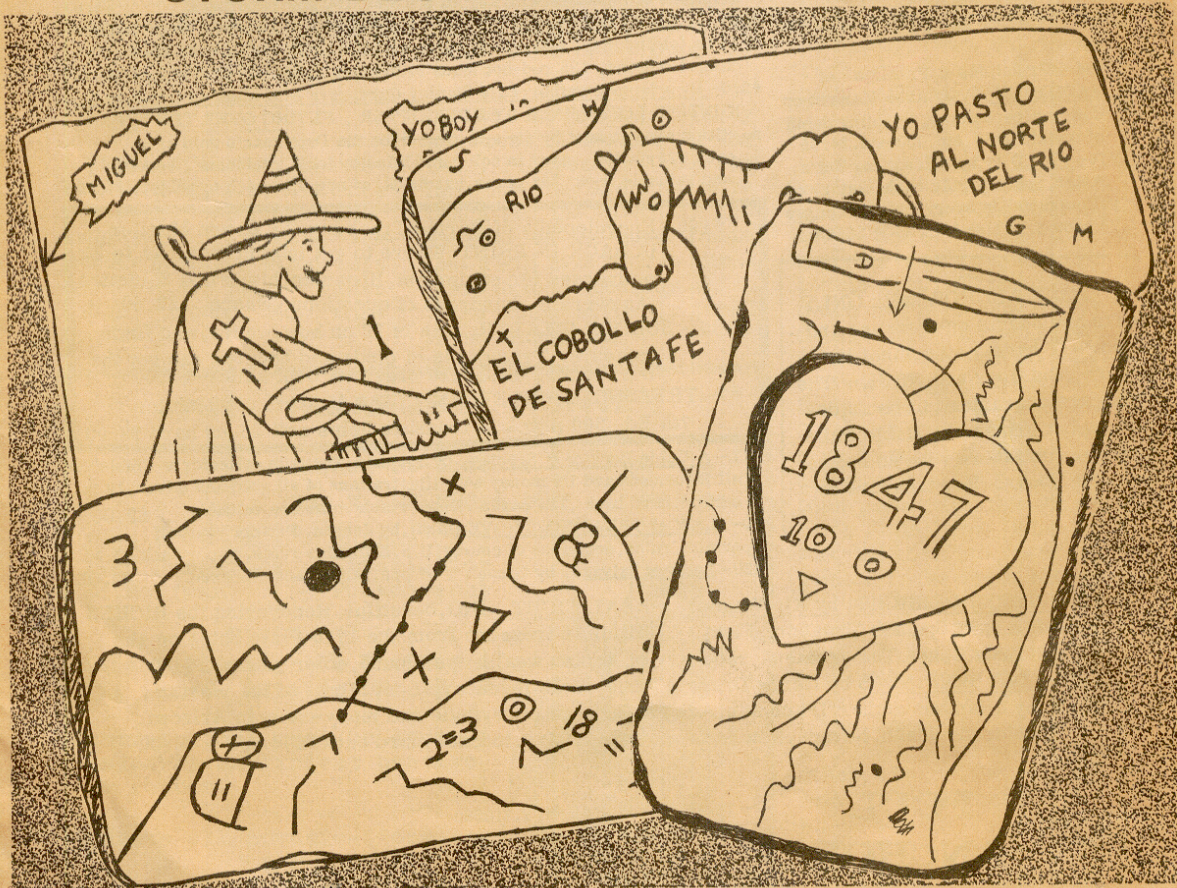


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VOLUME 3 1967

NUMBER 1

STORM DECIPHERS PERALTA MAPS!!



STORM DECIPHERS PERALTA MAPS!!

BY BARRY STORM

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Old Mines Checked for Possible Thin Gold, Silver Lodes

NEW YORK —Soaring silver prices, the highest in recent history, and a world gold shortage have touched off frenzied efforts to find new sources of both metals.

Mining companies and prospectors are looking for new deposits of low grade silver ores. Efforts are under way to find new ways of treating silver mine refuse to recover more of the metal. The U.S. government still refuses to subsidize gold mines but is financing experiments with a new way of getting gold from thin ores.

The search for new silver deposits is mostly in areas which were formerly worked for high-grade silver ores. The theory is that there may be big deposits of thin ore near the surface which could be mined cheaply.

Once Passed Over

These thin ores were passed over previously, when the price of silver was around 90 cents an ounce. (The price fell as low as 25 cents during the Depression in the early 1930s.) Now, with silver going for \$1.70 per ounce, thin deposits can be worked profitably, producers say.

These thin ore searches are not confined to the United States. Companies in Mexico, Peru and Chile are also looking over old surveys to see where the ore thinned out.

In the United States, the working of old mines may present considerable legal problems. The lodes may extend through several claims, and the present owners would have to be identified and the claims bought before work could begin.

The problem with gold, miners say, is that they cannot produce profitably at the present U.S. government price of \$35 an ounce. One Canadian mine says it cost \$48 an ounce to produce gold.

U.S. gold miners, asking Congress for a subsidy for mining (which was refused), said there was a danger that the U.S. Homestake Mine might have to close. This produces one

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"MYSTERIOUS MAPS TO LOST GOLD MINES". This is what they were called in the June 12, 1964 issue of LIFE MAGAZINE!!! You saw photographs of them, with certain key markings taped to further hide their secrets!!! Now I am happy to bring you diagrams of these mysterious stone maps, together with explanations by the well known author, explorer, Barry Storm. The article printed here is from Barry's new book, "MOUNTAINS THAT WERE GOD", and is printed by special permission of Barry Storm. "MOUNTAINS THAT WERE GOD" will soon be available directly from the author or from the TREASURE HUNTER. The price, a very reasonable, \$3.00. This book is the sequel to "THUNDER GOD'S GOLD", and will contain all of that book plus the new section on Historical Treasures. Don't miss it!!!

HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES

When Life Magazine published "Mysterious Maps To Lost Gold Mines" — partial photographs of carved rock slabs in the June 12, 1964 issue — they finally made public dated proof of 1748 Peralta de Cordoba land grant mining in mute explanation of the strange artifacts, secretive trail markers and persistent tales of lost mines and treasures found in Arizona's Superstition Mountains. I saw partial photographs of these maps several years after they were first found in 1952 near the Gila River trail on Queen Creek along with several 18th century Peralta smelters. The whole singular rock map series are technically as fine an example of epigraphic treasure trove mapping as I have seen since 17th century Texas where I discovered the Mendoza-Lopez 1683 Entrada Site in 1955. Such maps, during Spanish-occupation days, depicted identifiable landmarks and specifically marked out trails. The reason is simply that mountain peaks, outlines or hillsides, from marked trail points of observation, were the natural signboards in an otherwise trackless region. Both such maps and their matching trail signs are deciphered as ideographs.

Like all great frontier mining traditions the Peralta land grant mines, both lode and placer, and the later Lost Dutchman mine can be researched in the written literature and historical record for generations. From the Peralta de Cordoba records filed in Guadalajara and such early articles as "History Of The Lost Dutchman Mine" by C. M. Clark (Ariz. Min. Jour., Vol. 8, No. 21, 1925) and "The Lost Dutchman" by mining editor John A. Thompson (Western Story, Nov. 5, 1938) to the explorations I photographically illustrated and published so widely in book and magazine form from 1937 to 1948.

But this is not to obviate the great value of thousands of tons of mine run \$5 to \$10 gold ore whether or not that ore is shot through with highgrade streaks worth dollars a pound. Such ore in quantity can still be worked for from 50¢ to \$3 a ton and thus produce a handsome profit. And while original placer beds which could once be scooped up by the shovelsful of gold and

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HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES
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black sand in a virgin country now no longer exist there are still unworked spots which can be searched out with modern detectors. Also a treasure cache could easily be worth a fortune in the mere space of a buried Spanish bronze stew kettle. To find such rich pinpoints along leagues of mountain trails is the reason for the ambiguous treasure maps in ideographic form and their matching trail signs. So first we will verify the source of these by the original Peralta de Cordoba dates.

Dec. 20, 1748: — Fernando VI of Spain granted to Don Miguel Peralta de Cordoba the title "Baron de los Colorados" and ordered Viceroy Amarillos to include 300 leagues of land in north Mexico. **Jan. 3, 1758:** — Viceroy Amarillos granted a tract north of San Xavier del Bac to include the Gila River and extending ten leagues north and south and thirty leagues east and west. **May 13, 1758:** — Don Miguel certified that he had surveyed and bounded the land grant and had formed the required maps. **June 23, 1768:** — Peralta grant documents were recorded in Guadalajara as attested by the dated certificate. **Aug. 1, 1768:** — Peralta applied to Carlos III of Spain for confirmation of his original grant, title and mining monopoly. **Jan. 22, 1776:** — Official confirmation of the original Peralta de Cordoba grant and title was formally approved by Carlos III and the Siera Azul was then mapped by Phefferkorn, a German Jesuit. Padre Phefferkorn's own later book, "Description of Sonora," published 1795 in Germany, described much of Primeria Alta.

Peralta de Cordoba was royally favored and with one of the world's largest mineral jackpots in Apacheria from which to pick his land. And he managed to have a large section of it within striking distance of later billions in gold, silver, copper and lead productions which continue to this day. To quote abridged a pertinent section of the "Handbook Of Arizona, 1878": — "Where the ore in sight now runs up into the tens of millions, the Apaches held almost undisputed possession. Camp Pinal and a "Picket Post" were established to check their ravages. Between the Gila and Salt Rivers lie the mining districts of Globe and Pioneer. There are also the Randolph and other districts from the Pinal, Apache and Superstition ranges of mountains . . . Not long after the Silver King Mine was discovered. First class ore assays \$8,000 to \$20,000 per ton; second class \$1,000 to \$7,000. Across the canyon from Silver King Camp northwest are several other mines, the ores of which assay from \$100 to \$500 per ton. The same mineral belt continues northwesterly toward Superstition Mountains where in 1877 an Arizonan named Garret discovered a ledge forty feet in width and traceable for three miles, which he named the Randolph." (This is shown upon the Bvt. Major General O. B. Wilcox 1879 military map of Arizona Territory, as are "Placers" marked across the southern part of the Randolph District.) "The district is about ten miles northwest of the Silver King, thirty miles north of Florence and about the same distance east of "Phenix." Shortly after, another ledge was discovered which was called the Sky-Blue. Several assays from the Sky-Blue and adjoining Hidden Treasure averaged \$460."

We don't need to mention the obvious — the antigua Peralta mining potholes! But it is perhaps significant that these new Superstition Mountains finds were made shortly after Geronimo

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THE QUESTION BOX

by Roy Roush

Few subjects fire the imagination like the mention of lost mines and buried treasure, and few subjects are as surrounded by mystery and intrigue. From pirates of ages ago to recent days of prospecting come stories of fabulous riches and lost bonanzas which tantalize the souls of most of us.

Who wouldn't consider it the most exciting moment of a lifetime to discover the Lost Dutchman, Pegleg's gold or one of thousands of others? Some persons have been lucky enough to have experienced such a thrill. Others, like myself, live in hope and spend hours reading and researching in quest of that elusive bit of information that, together with enough luck, will take us to that ole pot of gold. Even without research, chances are good of finding something valuable around likely places, especially if a good metal detector is used.

Research is an important part of treasure hunting and usually is well worth the time spent on it. More than once it has made the difference between a sight-seeing trip or coming back with results. As you probably know, reliable information is very difficult to obtain and even more difficult to recognize, since the subject has been badly exploited by many writers who were more interested in just selling a story than in making it authentic. Unfortunately, gathering and substantiating facts consume more time than most writers can afford. Besides, it's always easier to write a story based on hearsay and spiced with a bit of imagination to add interest.

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was captured and Jacob Walz retired to Phoenix. There is some evidence that he was backhauling supplies to Coyotero Apaches. So the original Siera Azul took in a large part of such mining country. And it was then shown by Padre Phefferkorn's map to rise up abruptly from the desert in towering cliffs north of the Gila and south of that parallel part of the Salado, Salinas or Salt River which lay east of the Rio Verde junction and the Rio de la Asuncion. The latter was that part of the Salt which flowed on from west of the Verde into the Gila.

In 1767 Carlos III expelled the Jesuits from Nueva Espana for the mining in which they were wildly engaged with slave Indian labor. Royal commissarios were entrusted with the task of impounding the treasures from many clandestine mining operations and locating the mines for the King's profit. But mines were covered and the treasures buried or hidden. Then in 1788 Peralta de Cordoba bequeathed the land and title to his son, Don Miguel. What mining went on for the next half century we do not know in detail except that both legend and records credit the Peraltas with tithes paid upon millions of pesetas. Next century, in March 1845, Texas was annexed. After the Slidell Mission to Mexico to purchase New Mexico kingdom failed in 1846 President Polk ordered the action that began the Mexican War. By Feb. 2, 1848 the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ceded all of Apacheria north of the Gila River to the United States. But it is said that in 1853, with the Gadsen Purchase to gain southern railroad rights of way to the Pacific Ocean, Mexican President Santa Ana signed a certified land grant title for aging Don Miguel, then in San Diego.

Meanwhile, the Peraltas must have returned in force after the 1846 Slidell failure only to be in 1848 massacred by the outraged Apaches whose hideouts they were jeopardizing. Some descendants, hauling away ore or bullion in carretas later observed by residents of Mesa City as harmless Mexican gambucinos, apparently did not know how or where to relocate the dated proof of the Peralta grant or the antigua rock maps to hidden treasures which had been last left in 1847 at the southeast corner near several small smelters. Nor did they learn that the northeast corner was marked near once rich gold placers upon the Salt River some thirty miles or ten leagues north, by a stone cabin and corrals as originally found by Tex Barkley of the Quarter Circle U. This ten league long east end line of the Peralta grant, compass surveyed by the 1758 declination, almost centers at the Charlebois Canyon permanent running water springs. It appears to run through the hole of Miner's Needle. That this hole was cut through the peak for a landmark two centuries ago is obvious. It is not an erosion product and is as much Spanish Peralta as the rocked-up Bluff Springs on an antigua trail near where Roy Bradford found a hundred Mexican sandals in a cave — or the bronze pot which I discovered hidden near diggings further north.

When I originally scouted the Superstitions in 1937-38 in an effort to relocate what Adolph Ruth saw in 1931 before he was murdered for a Gonzales map on paper, I observed plainly visible remnants of carreta or two-wheeled oxcart tracks running up the long canyon west of Miner's Needle to the breaks at the head of Needle Canyon, sufficient evidence for the movement of much ore. I knew, too, such old-time searchers in the region as Abe

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One of the better known, old-time treasure authors published several popular books on lost mines and buried treasure and, though they are certainly interesting to read, it's soon apparent to the reader that they should not be taken too seriously. Another treasure writer (?) went to the extreme of publishing a book of hoax treasure stories with the idea in mind to sue if any of his stories were ever reprinted.

My experiences in checking out published articles usually lead to frustration. A popular booklet on California and Southwestern buried treasure describes where a piece of valuable gold float was discovered by a railroad section hand along a certain creek in a certain mountain pass. I found both the creek and the pass, but they are separated by at least 30 miles. In fact, there isn't any stream in the pass. Another article in the same book turned out to be just as inaccurate. I could cite more examples from it and other books and magazines. However, not all articles fall into that category — thanks to the few serious and conscientious writers who make their material as accurate as possible.

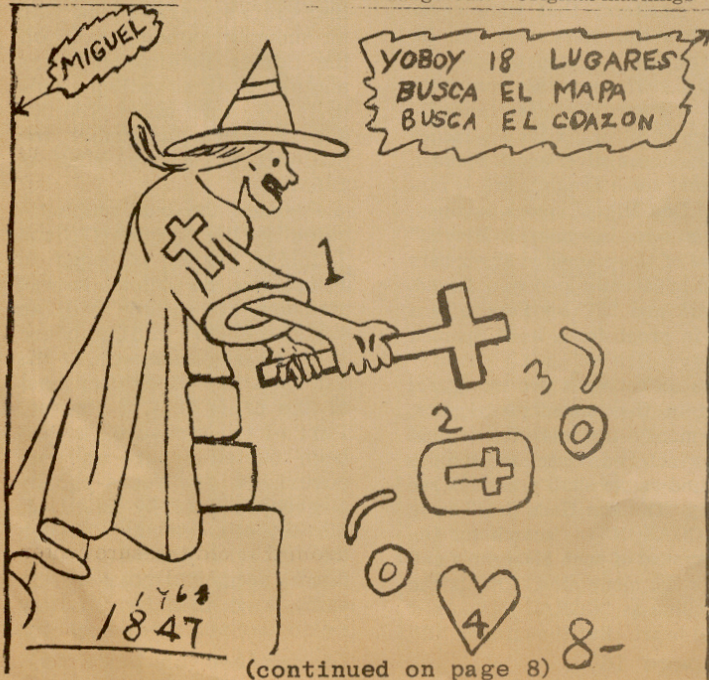
At this point you are probably asking yourself how to tell who is blowing smoke and who isn't since there is no "Seal of Approval" awarded in this particular field of journalism. Obviously, you can't, unless you are very familiar with the subject or the location, or both. So to avoid a wild goose chase, you should stick to areas that you know. Better yet, heed some advice from that old treasure hunter, Karl von Mueller, who advocates developing leads on your own treasure and leaving

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Reid and Roy Bradford who had collectively encountered many signs and artifacts over the years. It was Abe Reid who found tons of already mined gold-silver ore beside an old trail and could be pardoned for hunting for the mines from which it must have come. Roy Bradford discovered the hidden artifacts of "The Dutchman's" murdered partner, Wisner, under a huge rock in Needle Canyon where he also encountered a huge saguaro with seventeen stones embedded in it from horseback height. One of his infrequent treasure hole diggings, large enough for a cabin basement, is still there. I had no trouble myself in sampling \$8 or \$10 gold ore in a number of places. And occasionally I—and many others before and since—discovered float chunks of rich highgrade that would assay up to \$5 per pound. Some of it had admittedly been dropped by the Peralta packers. But one stringer streak which my M-Scope did turn up ran this for a few exciting pounds and then petered out. I still possess a few specimen pieces. So I feel that a partial decipherment of the original Peralta land grant maps as to purpose and the near locations of several as yet undisclosed treasure burials for the first public time will help erase a continuing considerable misinterpretation of both the maps and the frontier mining history behind them. This admittedly might lead either you or me to a hidden pot of gold!

The "Priest Map" shown first (frontpiece) is a priest in robe and the usual medieval peaked sombrero. In ideographic language he is now blessing treasure burials for safekeeping, numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4. Not visible upon the side of this rock was "MIGUEL" in original 18th century identification. Cut into the other end was the inserted instructions under the warning, "ESTA BERIDA ES PELILOGROSA" — "This trail is dangerous." Original markings



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THE QUESTION BOX

the publicized treasures to others.

This is the first of what we hope will become a regular part of the "Treasure Hunter" Magazine. These questions have been passed along from the Editor, which I'll do my best to answer, based on a few years of collecting and assessing information and visiting some sites. Of course, some questions we won't be able to answer due to the secrecy involved with many activities, and on the other hand, to the enormous amount of material (much of it false) on the subject.

Please ask questions that can be answered in a relatively short space, and needless to say, it would be wasting time to ask where to dig up a treasure. If I could figure that out, I can assure you, it would be too late by the time you could get there.

Treasure is where you find it partner, so here is wishing you the best of luck in your quest. While you are about it, please remember to respect the property of others at all times. Also, please try to help preserve our wonderful old ghost towns. Their valiant struggle for survival against the elements is damage enough. They don't stand a ghost of a chance against us. Let's let them live awhile longer.

One thing more, if we have helped you in finding a treasure, will you write in and let us know about it?

ARE THERE ANY SUNKEN TREASURES IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA, AND IF SO, WHERE ARE THEY?

Yes, the records show that the ocean bottom is strewn with more than 100 ships which have gone down off the South-
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HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES

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(the 1847 was added later) indicate that this map was first cut in 1764 because Fernando VI had died in 1759, leaving status of the Peralta grant and mining-smelting monopoly in doubt until end of the Seven Years War in 1763. So apparently Pedro Peralta knew where to go to find previously worked mines upon the family property as well as open new ones of his own eighty-odd years later. Undoubtedly he added more treasure burials of his own. It is a pardonable error of mine that no one locally was aware of these possibilities when I wrote "Trail Of The Lost Dutchman" in 1938 and "Thunder Gods Gold" in 1943. So my original story explanations as to why Pedro Peralta came to this particular region will be requalified by the field evidence of his presence there which I originally discovered as well as by history-wise mining artifacts later turned up. Mining wise it wasn't very far wrong. Spanish explorers and outlaw mining gambucinos knew this region as the source for fabulous ores for three centuries.

"YOBOY 18 LUGARES" means "I go to 18 places," all previously marked out on trail; not that there are 18 mines involved. These would all be marked observation points from each of which the mapped features could be seen. But since this 18th century priest is not walking but is standing still "on location" symbolically there is, as is common to such epigraphic ideagrams, a dual meaning, one of them secret. The "on location" depicted would be that of the four cut and set up masonry stones which I identify for the first time as the floor and wall of a smelter. There have been three found in the Queen Creek area since Peralta days. I quote from a letter written me by W. B. Morris, March 12, 1958, shortly before his death in Gratman Hospital, Moscow, Idaho: — "These maps were found by my party on Queen Creek. We unearthed two arrastres (correction: — smelters) that were never before found, with chunks of some silver that were never put in. Also other ores. We have balls of silver size of grapefruit, so pure you can scratch it." Priorly, August 14, 1957, came this note from J. W. Cartney, Grangerville, Idaho: — "I saw the most fantastic specimens ever. This party has a piece of silver 1 x 1 x 4½ inches which had been smelted down. Also a Buddha, a silver chest, Spanish infantry buttons, some old muskets and some armor plate — fantastic! The maps have P. Peralta and Don Miguel names on them. This party lives in Prosser, Washington — his last name is Morris." I might add that I accidentally saw one of these smelted silver bars in Phoenix in 1952 which Morris had apparently sold to a friend. It had a center "V" peseta value mark and "P" for Peralta in a lower corner, certainly the ultimate in proof for a legal Spanish mining-smelting monopoly.

The priest depicted here concerns us not with two more gold burials further along but with two in the immediate vicinity. "BUSCA EL MAPA" — "Look for the map" — refers to the original Don Miguel trail maps in two parts to which Pedro later added more dated markings. These have been found as we shall presently see and locate the same region in which my "Thunder Gods Gold" early explorations centered. "BUSCA EL COAZON" — "search for the heart" — has a missing key which is typical of such ideagrams and does refer to two of the burials inside the mountains. This is the letter "R" to complete the correct spelling as "CORAZON." As it turned out there was actually a carved heart. But the missing "R"

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ern California Coast between Point Arguello and the San Luis Rey River since 1540. Many are very close to shore or against some of the eight channel islands. Among these are some old Spanish galleons and at least one Chinese pirate junk.

One Spanish galleon, wrecked on the shore of San Miguel Island, is reported to have carried a sizable amount of golden doubloons. Another rich Spanish galleon went down near San Nicolas Island. Near Catalina, once a popular place for conquistadores, buccaneers and pirates of all nations, are supposed to be at least six old ships: the Galleon San Pedro, sunk in 1548 off Arrow Point; the Galleon Santa Marta, sunk in 1582; an unidentified Spanish galleon, sunk in 1598 with 2 million aboard; the Nuestra Senora de Ayuda, sunk in 1641; the San Sebastian, sunk in 1754 carrying over a million; and the Chinese pirate junk with an unknown amount. And off the Cortez Bank nearby, lies another Spanish galleon, sunk in 1717 with about 700,000 aboard, and a gun runner, the Stillwell S. Bishop, sunk in 1865.

Perhaps the best authenticated is the Spanish Galleon Trinidad which belonged to Francisco de Ulloa. It was abandoned at anchor with an estimated 4 to 6 million aboard in 1540 at the mouth of the San Luis Rey River after most of the crew died of disease. Part of the treasure that had been buried ashore was recovered a few years ago by a group headed by Dr. J. J. Markey of Oceanside. Though the Trinidad has never been found, some old coins of the same kind that Dr. Markey recovered, were recently

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was discovered and photographed in 1958 by Dr. Oren Swearingen of Dallas, Texas, high up the 4-stone-marked-cactus ridge, cut anciently into a large saguaro. It consisted of a blaze and the letters "R P". Originally it probably had a stone stuck into the hole above the blaze, pointing south. Pedro may have removed this later when he added the arch between the two letters to make a disguised up-ended "U" in between them. The up-ended "U" is one of the signs cut upon the heart stone by Pedro in 1847. If Pedro didn't remove the stone pointer it may still lie at the base of this cactus. This is probably the marker to which the east-pointing stone in the 4-stone-cactus pointed from lower down the same ridge. The "R" reads 80 in the medieval Roman numerals, probably the distance in varas or estados between the two marked cactus. The "P" means 400. The up-ended "U" sign thus disguised between is a line of sight marker. To read the blaze you face north, down Needle Canyon. Since one of the original Miguel burials shown upon the "Horse Map" is midway up Needle Canyon one would reverse the line of sight normally taken and sight south one or the combination of these distances because the only secret meaning which a line of sight marker could have would be a reversal of the obvious direction.

However, to return to the smelter area, the blessed treasure burial symbolized by the cross inside a chest or box, while the priest stands upon the stone smelter floor, is divided into two parcels for there are two holes, with covers, ideographically depicted. Cut into the back and bottom part of the priest's robe is an "S" for "sur" or "south." The priest is then facing north by the compass declination of the 1760's. So the only thing which he can use for pointers, the longer cross arms, point from the smelter floor north from his arm and south from his hand. E. since the heart is marked "4", and we see a double distance sign in the form of two slashes beside the pointing arm cross, the distance will be double this or eight varas or estados north. But since the "8 —" makes this obvious, just add this additional distance to get a total of 16 north. The cross in the priest's hand is likewise accompanied by the double distance slashes upon his hand back so double the plainly marked "8—" but in the south or opposite

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TREASURE BOOKS WANTED
West's MINERS GUIDE; EL DORADO TREASURE MAP; Judah's BUCCANEERS; Gordon TREASURE SIGNS & SYMBOL Anything on buried treasure, pirates, or Capt. Kidd....write:

RAYMOND DOW
2922 164th Street
Flushing, N.Y.
11358

THE QUESTION BOX

WHAT AREA IS THE LOST PADRE IN? I HAVE HEARD CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT ITS LOCATION.

There is good reason for your confusion since there is more than one Lost Padre. About every western state has at least one - California probably having the most. Perhaps the most famous Lost Padre is located inside the White Sands Military Reservation, a restricted area, in New Mexico. The background of this lost mine, which really isn't lost anymore, is one of the most intriguing of all treasure stories. There has been at least one book written about it.

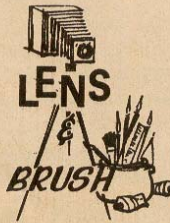
WHICH OF THE TWO TYPES OF METAL DETECTORS (TRANSMITTER-RECEIVER OR LOOP TYPE) WOULD YOU RECOMMEND IF YOU COULD ONLY AFFORD ONE OF THEM?

That would depend upon what you expect to search for - the size of the object, its depth, and the type of terrain. The best all-around detector is the loop type, preferably one with interchangeable loops. Use small loops for small objects,

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ILLUSTRATION FOR THE QUALITY MINDED...

THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART

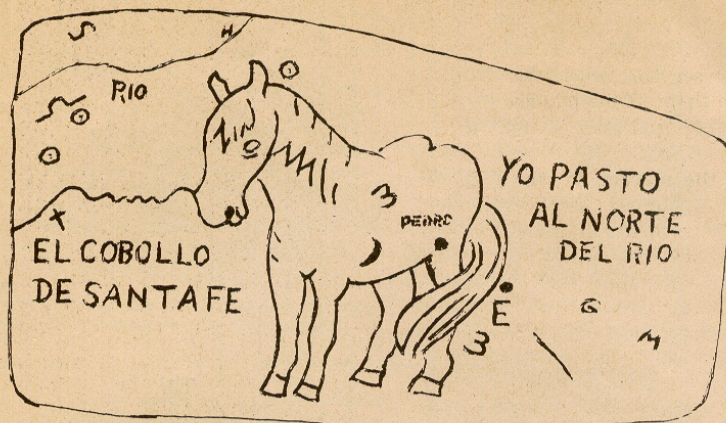


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direction would be also 16 varas or estados. Can this particular smelter be identified? Or is it yet to be found under nearly two centuries of rubble and flood debris?

Then what of the other two numbered "blessed treasure burials" of the products of this smelter somewhere on a marked out trail to 18 places? By turning the map up (priest's face up) we see a small, sharp, spire-like peak, noted upon the page 20 photograph, secretly hidden in the "S" design. This peak stands in the breaks at the head of Needle Canyon and can be recognizably seen from the northwest. Reverse the map and two peaks, near each other, come into view, also hidden in the "S" design. They appear much as they look when approached from the south or southeast on the old trail. From both north and south then the head of Needle Canyon region is identified in ideagraphic representation that this particular canyon holds the two additional smelter burials. Additionally cut upon the back of the "Priest Map" is another which we can call the "Horse Map." The key is the "EL COBOLLO DE SANTA FE" legend. "Cobollo" is an archaic term meaning "old horse road" in the 18th century sense of a packtrain trail. This "Horse Map" is sketched upon the copyright page and the disguised "S" peaks at the head of Needle Canyon are a turning point in an "old road" antedating the Peraltas.

This on south side of the Four Peaks where I once did some considerable prospecting myself from my Tonto Trail Copper Lode claims. But it was new Governor of Santa Fe, Luis de Rosas, who in 1638 opened trade with the Opatas Indians of upper Sonora by the "Old Road" which came down the western side of the Four Peaks and struck through the Sierra Azul, the only safe water between the Salt and Gila Rivers. This "Old Road" was lost with the Pueblo revolts of the 1680's two generations after Onate had been appointed Procurator of Mines by the Spanish King for his knowledge which was then never used.

This "Old Road" which the Peraltas found already crossing their grant is distinct from the later Gila River trail which, except for shortcuts across country, went on easterly past New Mexico's 18th century Mesa del Oro then north via Albuquerque to Santa Fe. It connected to trails running to Guaymas and on down the Gila

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THE QUESTION BOX

like coins, and large loops for larger and deeper objects. The greater the variety of loops, the better. Some have waterproof loops for searching in water for nuggets and etc. - a big advantage over transmitter-receiver types. Loop types are not as susceptible to false readings from ground effect, black sand and other conditions. Also, they are lighter and easier to use and usually cost less. Though the transmitter-receiver type lacks the ability to pick up an item smaller than a coffee can, even at close range, if its something big and deep that you are after, the transmitter-receiver type is the one you should use.

Next time you meet someone with a metal detector in some remote ghost town or deep in an old mine tunnel, or perhaps skin diving around an old shipwreck, stop and say "howdy". If it turns out to be me, I'd like to get acquainted and discuss with you my favorite subject, lost mines and buried treasures.

Walden, Colo. -- LIKE WOW!!!! Delbert Roy Leatherman, spokesman for a 12 man group, states that the group has filed claims on 324 square miles of rugged, semi-desert Colorado land that could be worth up to \$46 billion per square mile in platinum deposits!!! Leatherman said the find is probably the largest ever discovered in the USA. Total value could be (you read it!) \$14,904,000,000,000!! The land is against the Wyoming border and not too far from Utah -- up above The Dinosaur National Monument. So rugged that wild horses still run there. The deposits were discovered by Herbert Tonn of Idaho Springs while hunting coyotes.

HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES (continued from page 17)

to the fabled Copalla or Lake of Gold in California which Onate himself had traced. There is a shortcut part of this Gila River trail which passes by the location which Don Miguel chose for the southeast corner of the ten by thirty league grant, thus utilizing this crossroads of the two trails as an already known marker. The nearby smelters and other 18th century artifacts discovered in 1952 through a series of persistent accidents are proof enough of the Peralta de Cordoba occupancy and mining though most of these are now scattered to the four wild winds from the hands of incompetent and historically unwise searchers. To make the comparative position of the horse depicted clear in relation to the "S" or south area, the line marked "RIO" (the Gila River) is obviously south of the hat peak shown and later called "La Sombrera" until Pauline Weaver rediscovered it as Weaver's Needle while he was sniping placer gold in the region. The horse's nose is against a mountain to the southeast then; the same black-topped, Peralta-mapped mountain sought by unlucky Adolph Ruth. Also the horse is obviously west-northwest and is looking northeast past the sharp peaks depicted upon his neck. By reference to the trail maps it will be seen that these sharp peaks are at the foot of Needle Canyon, near semi-permanent springs a short ways above its Boulder Canyon junction. These sharp peaks are so recognizable from the trail across the front of the Peralta-mapped mountain upon which, he says, "I pasture."

Behind the horse is "E" for electrum — gold and silver — the same "E" carved upon the "master map" in La Barge Canyon a short ways south of the Charlesbois Canyon permanent water. This, of course, is some three and a half trail miles "behind" the horse in its travels to the "on location" point depicted. So ideographically, the way to three gold and silver mines have been passed. In the horse's flank is a hole, with its much deeper counterpart drilled into the face of the "master map." This would tell even an illiterate peon that mining drills were used in the region even if it weren't for the crude sketch of a miner walking north (down canyon) with ore sack on back and the underground-lighting candles in hat. From the "master map" in La Barge Canyon one follows the antigua trail on up in front of the north face of Bluff Springs Mountain where Ruth's decapitated head was found, down Needle Canyon and up over the north face of the Peralta-mapped mountain and then down across East Boulder Canyon, near the Old Barkley brush corrals. Near here the intermittent springs to this day must have furnished permanent water a century or two before. From this point the trail strikes north up Black Mesa where I first saw in 1937 parts of it worn inches deep in solid rock.

Ideographically then this horse is standing still to watch locations near this "Old Road" to Santa Fe and upon a high point which appears to be about north-northwest of the hat peak by around three miles. This would place it upon the edge of Black Mesa, over a cave in which a woman's skeleton was found in the 1920's, overlooking West Boulder Canyon where it turns south into the main range past Willow Springs. Also, symbolically, we see one of the hole signs above the horse's neck to show another burial to which this canyon leads. This particular hole sign along with the "3" and "Pedro" upon the horse's flank appear to have

(continued on page 19)

VISITORS GUIDE TO MINING OPERATIONS IS PUBLISHED

Ghost towns and abandoned mining camps of the past, as well as the most up-to-date examples of modern mining engineering, can be found easily by tourists and vacationers with a sight-seeing guide just published by the U. S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Mines.

The illustrated booklet covers mineral-related points of interest in all 50 states, from the 150-year-old iron mines of Alabama to the new uranium pits and oil fields of Wyoming. Designed especially for the automobile tourist, it includes on a state-by-state basis sections on "Mines You Can See From The Highway" and "Mines You Can Visit."

History—from early colonial days to the turbulent frontier era—can be traced from coast to coast with the bureau's booklet. Chapters on Massachusetts and New Jersey guide the visitor to seventeenth-century sites where iron and steel were first produced in the Colonies; Pennsylvania boasts the famous Drake well, the first ever drilled for oil in this country. In Texas, Montana and other western states, tourists will find scores of ghost towns built by pioneers on the trail of silver and gold.

Many of the sights listed in the booklet rank among the world's most spectacular industrial achievements. In Utah, for example, there is the titanic Bingham open-pit copper mine, a "man-made Grand Canyon." In North Dakota, visitors are directed to a lignite-mining machine 10 stories tall and as long as a football field—one of the largest such devices ever built.

Unique entertainment for tourists is provided at several of the attractions. At Park City, Utah, skiers can pass through the active workings of a lead-zinc-silver mine on their way to the top of a favorite mountain. In Arkansas, at the site of North America's only known diamond deposit, visitors pay a fee to search for gems, keeping whatever they find.

"Mining and Mineral Operations in the United States: A Visitor's Guide," can be purchased for 35 cents a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. The guide is not for sale by the Bureau of Mines.

JOIN

THE

PROSPECTORS

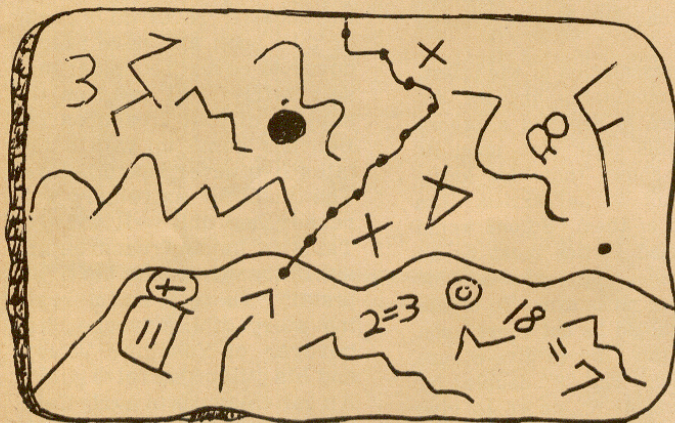
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HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES (continued from page 18)

been added later. The crescent shaped cover sign shows that these are covered burials and include the two shown by comparative position as being up the Needle Canyon region which had been made by Don Miguel. We can also note the considerable side distances from trail markers for "E" also means 250, the "G" 400 and the "M" 1,000 in the medieval Roman numerals system. These side trails would have been originally marked out — like the "R P" blazed cactus upon the opposite side of the depicted mountain which originally pointed "400" south. In fact, other old trails converge toward this "blessed mountain" with the cross upon it, from Needle Canyon, from the head of Hieroglyphic Canyon upon the main range high above and from Carney Canyon to the south where so much gold ore was available upon the other side of the mountains that later Americans erected a large mill with cement foundations



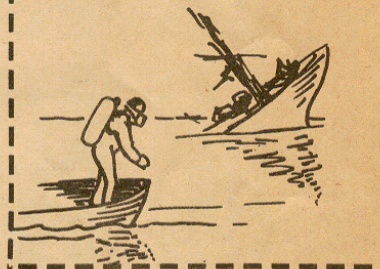
there to work it. This Carney Canyon gold mine, I was told decades ago, was finally closed because of a miner's quarrel and gunfight which cost one of the owners his life. And in the next canyon east, upon the old Adam Stewart claim, my M-Scope detector turned up six dollar a ton gold-silver-lead ore on a 20 microamp reading near the cabin. Further east there were 80 microamp readings which didn't surface and are still undug and unassayed. Is it the Thunder Gods' curse?

We are not here concerned with all of the trail map's markings shown except to prove that from marked places along the original trails various peaks, buttes and outstanding hillside features will still appear as outlined in each of its own ideographic representation in spite of two centuries of erosion. Most of these, like the jagged peaks shown upon the horse's neck and the trail map which we are now deciphering should be easily recognized if seen from the proper place, direction and time. In the trail map published in Life Magazine and here decoded for the first time — it had "DON" cut into the back in 18th century identification — the trail to mines originally began at watering springs in East Boulder Canyon. The arrow climbs upward, much as the original and present trails, toward the front face of the Peralta-mapped mountain. From the higher part of this trail one can look down upon the jagged peaks shown which mark

(continued on page 20)



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SOURDOUGHS MAY STRIKE GOLD— JUST PASS CIVIL SERVICE EXAM

Uncle Sam needs three experienced gold panners, reported James E. Bylin, staff reporter of the Wall Street Journal, in a special dispatch from Tiburon, California, the home base of the Virginia City which this summer is to undertake the underwater exploration for heavy metals, including gold.

The catch, he said, is that the gold panners, if they work for Uncle Sam, must pass Civil Service examinations—but the Civil Service Commission hasn't compiled an exam for gold panners! "So, unless some exceptions are made, or unless one of the bright young men in Washington quickly whips up a set of standards for grading grizzly gold diggers, a government expedition that sails for Alaskan waters this week for off-shore mineral exploration will have to rely on less-efficient machines or inexperienced crew members to pan soil samples for gold content," he added.

Bureau of Mines officials estimated that a veteran panner can handle up to 10 pans an hour, each containing 20 to 25 pounds of raw dirt, sand and gravel, he said.

"Hand panning is the most laborious way, but it's also the surest way ever devised of recovering gold," said J. Howard Heginbotham, coordinator for below-deck operations aboard the Virginia City, a converted World War II tug that is outfitted with \$100,000 of modern research and drilling equipment.

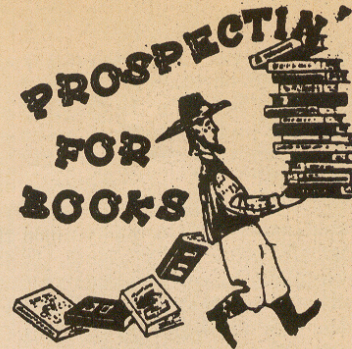
HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES
(continued from page 19)

the north side of Needle Canyon near its mouth. However, the mining trail simply passes down into Needle Canyon far above this marker and strikes off toward the three red hills of "The Dutchman." There should be a mine tunnel in a small hill of the shape shown. Three mines (3) lie toward the north upon the reddish mineralized formation that strikes that way between Boulder Canyon on the west and La Barge Canyon on the east — heart of the later Randolph Mining District. There is no record of the now-called "Paint Mines" upon this formation, near Second Water, having been found unopened. And there was certainly no dump to justify the deep shaft and winze into which I first climbed in 1937. Most of whatever ores came out of these holes was carried away long before Americans got there in the 1870's. This mine, one of three Peralta diggings in the region, is located upon the trail map by the butte pictured as beyond the Needle Canyon sharp peaks.

The treasure shown in symbolical representation of the priest, the cross upon the Peralta-mapped mountain, appears to have been buried in two parcels for there is depicted a bronze stew kettle with handle removed, a double slash sign upon its side. Symbolically, the removed handle shows that this kettle is buried "on location" and is not meant to be carried. The double slash sign says that there are two of them. So one would presume, ideographically, that these buried kettles must be on around the depicted mountain's backside, near the hillside features shown, as pointed to by the longer cross arm. To obtain the distance from a local marker which should be cut there upon rock, tree or cactus, the "2" is added to the "18" to give a sure distance of twenty in a horizontal direction. The "3" doubled by the twin slashes is six added to the doubled "7" or 14 to give the same distance the opposite direction in estados or varas. The unusually large "F" which dominates this part of the trail map is, of course, the Roman numeral 40 which is the exact sum total of the two distances. The "8" shown near the "F" is ideographic of the double kettles for one of these twin holes has the iron handle holders added to its circle. This is no accident. It tells us that there are two more kettles buried besides those generally located upon the "Horse Map." Pedro Peralta must have certainly known about the Don Miguel burials when he added others of his own in 1847. But there was nothing he could do. In May Monterey had fallen to invading American forces. This may have been the reason for the "Sonora, Mex" notation added to the "Priest Map" later. Treasures would have been confiscated in Chihuahua.

However, to return once more to the trail map shown, the trail point "4" is upside down in ideographic representation that it is located on the other or Needle Canyon side of the Peralta-mapped mountain. That four stones had been driven into a large saguaro there is identification enough. The accompanying cross is itself identical, as elsewhere shown, to that which I found and photographed in 1937 upon the southeast corner bluff with other signs. This is about a mile and a half north of Weaver's Needle. The 4-stone-marked saguaro, which formerly stood just east-southeast far below in Needle Canyon, was destroyed between

(continued on page 21)



TREASURES OF THE DEAD;
Ben Trawick; \$2.50

I recently received a copy of this book and have read it cover to cover! I consider myself fairly well read on the subject of lost treasures but Ben has come up with a few tales I've never heard before. The book is extremely well researched and well written. Tales of Indian treasures are skillfully woven into the tribal history. There is an interesting story of Jim Savage, discoverer of Yosemite Valley, and his "flour barrel of gold". A real treasure in early California history. I strongly recommend this book to my readers.

GEORGIA'S FABULOUS TREASURE HOARDS; Ernest M. Andrews; \$6.95

Very little has been written about Georgia's treasures and many people are not even aware that they exist. Ernie Andrews has written a book that should be on the shelf of every "dyed-in-the-wool" treasure hunter. Ernie spent about thirty years researching his material and put it together in a thoroughly interesting vehicle. Contains treasure stories of the Indians, slave traders, and Confederates. Also gives locations of rich gem stones. Has maps and charts included with many photos and illustrations.

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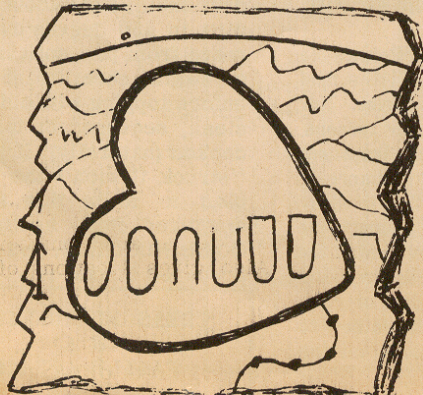
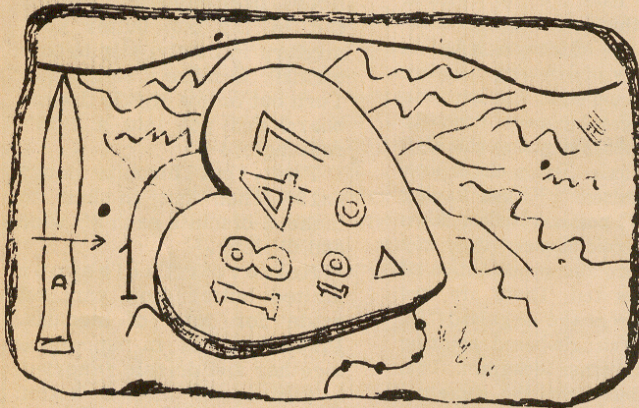
HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES

(continued from page 20)

the time I was inducted into the AAF in 1943 and the time I was CDD'd out with spinal arthritis in 1944 and had recovered enough to hike back into the mountains again. I am now of the opinion that all of these stone-marked cacti were originally made by Don Miguel in the 1760's or later rather than by Pedro Peralta as I formerly thought. They seem to match the ancient trails.

The point "4" cross then is upon the southeastern bluff face, high above the stone-marked-cactus ridge in Needle Canyon. An antigua trail, the brush overgrown parts of which were still visible in 1937, led up the slope toward the cross and other signs. Adolph Ruth must have discovered this and the fact that one of the stones pointed west toward a cave upon the southern side of the same mountain. As elsewhere shown, besides the cross high above, the direction ideographs say: — (half moon with dot) "in a hole or kettle below" (spoked circle) "is mined gold" (flat-covered hole on end of direction line) "in covered hole" (three bottom lines) "three varas or estados away to one side." This seems to be an additional burial added by Pedro which utilized these original signs. I must confess that I misread this in 1938 when we dug up the cave floor like the amateurs we then were. The treasure guessed at by Adolph Ruth — and his small-footed murderer — may still be there off to one side.

Most interesting is the fact that cut upon the "heart stone"



(continued on page 22)

The Gold Bug

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TREASURE NOTES (from page 10)

A year ago two children digging in the sand near San Diego, found a treasure of \$551 in silver coins and a \$10 gold piece. Judge Geo. E. Bryans decided that the coins belonged to Roy F. Warren, who claimed the coins had been buried in the dirt floor of a garage. How the coins got to the area where the children found them is not clear, nor is the method of identification used. The Judge did rule that the children should each get \$125.00. Maybe I should not be a judge (which I aint) cause I would have given the kids the whole kaboodle!!!

BOOK REVIEW (from page 20)

GHOST TOWN BOTTLE PRICE GUIDE: Wes & Ruby Bressie; \$3.00

An absolute MUST for bottle collectors! Wes and Ruby have done a great job with this one! Covers most all old bottles and lists the \$\$\$ value of each. Many fine illustrations and photographs. This is the first book I have seen that can actually help you establish the cash value of your collection. Well written and interesting. Order direct from the authors at Route 1, Box 582, Eagle Point, Oregon.

HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES

(continued from page 21)

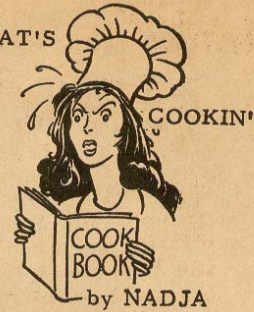
illustrated is the egg-shaped "O" as center of this ideagram, and one of the flat-covered "U" holes at end of the direction line. Perhaps there were originally other such identifiable symbols carved about which my own searches missed in 1937-38. But the "ORO" or "gold" signs, elsewhere shown, did indicate a cavern or cave. It may be that this handy cave was originally used by Don Miguel to openly store placer gold as accumulated, smelted silver bullion or other treasures deep within the heart of their own land grant until circumstances forced its burial while a new Spanish king investigated the Crown's previous profits and then recertified to the Peralta de Cordoba monopoly. There were known to be thirteen such royal mining concessions and smelting foundries operating north of the present Mexican border to give lie to the assertions of some historians that no Spanish mining was ever done. Legally or illegally the search for precious metals was the sin qua non of all Spanish explorations.

The heart stone sketched and the hole into which it fitted in another Peralta map merely shows ideagraphically just which mapped features located the golden heart region. The sharp four pointed peaks at the foot of Needle Canyon indicate this as the Peralta-mapped "blessed mountain" region again. Upon the heart stone itself Pedro had cut the various "U" signs which are inside the mountains. In the rock map hole under the heart stone is 1847, obviously added by Pedro, and under the date the "10" with a double circle hole sign beside it. Under this is an upside down triangle. At the base of the south-pointing line of ideagraph beside the cross is a triangle also. There is no way of knowing whether or not this was added to an original Don Miguel sign. But it points to the "gold below" sign shown in the photographic inset, obviously made much later than the cross and others. At first glance this sign has twelve lines radiating from its round circle. But a closer look will disclose that two of these form a disguised "U" thus leaving ten lines to match the number. Thus "U" pointer strikes down slope easterly and is far more than mere coincidence. It is key to a separate burial. For distance there are the probabilities of the "10," ten plus ten or the "10" times ten. There are two direction possibilities, that down easterly from the disguised "U" in one sign or down southerly from the triangle-based pointing line with the covered pot upon its end in the other ideagram. This variant of two distances and two directions from the same set of signs indicate that Pedro buried two treasures through his reuse of these symbols.

We have now proven the historical facts of the Peralta de Cordoba land grant mining and smelting by records and the field evidence which has been pieced together from two centuries. Nor is this exhaustive. Many records for financial and other reasons, are beyond my reach. But we have shown why many such treasures were buried and reburied to start with and why the mischance of politics often kept them buried. We have demonstrated how to apply the ideagraphic method of deciphering the epigraphic treasure trove maps common to the Spanish southwest and have thereby located the secret areas as has been well proven by the artifacts therein found by myself and many others. We have obtained examples of gold, silver, lead and copper ores from the region and have shown how to check the antigua suppositions with accurate if promotional mining

(continued on page 24)

WHAT'S



GOLD NUGGETS (BISCUITS)

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
 2 cups flour
 1 Tablespoon baking powder
 3/4 teaspoon salt
 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
 1 1/4 cups buttermilk
 PLACE 1/4 cup butter in pan & place in oven just long enough to melt. Sift together flour, baking powder & salt. Cut in 1/2 cup butter until mixture is mealy; stir in buttermilk to make a soft dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured board and pat into a 9x12" rectangle;

First, cut biscuits dough 3x12. Then cut in half to make 6 biscuits each 3" wide and 6" long.

Remove 1 Tablespoon melted butter from pan; set aside for tops of biscuits. Place biscuits in pan, close together and drizzle reserved 1 tablespoon melted butter over them; bake about 20 minutes in 450 degree oven. Remove from pan, split and place on baking sheet; toast in oven before topping with old miners steak, seasoned to taste, and cooked (naturally). If you have "struck it rich" the day you plan to make this and are too tired from hauling your GOLD NUGGETS, you can use prepared biscuit mix.

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HISTORICAL TREASURE TROVES

knowledge from later frontier days. We have detailed a bit of the discoveries of smelters, bullion, artifacts and trail markers which will undoubtedly be added to in the years to come. And lastly we have proven the definite historical validity of the unorthodox and often secret historical occurrences which many ill-informed people put down as mere legends. There is no ghost gold. And ghostly legends don't leave marked trails and mining artifacts, bullion and smelters behind. In fact, many such legends have already made fortunes for treasure trail hunters and mining explorers. Many of today's best mines — to the mineral credit of the United States — are based upon such antigua prospect holes. Does the fact that they are antigua make their value any less!

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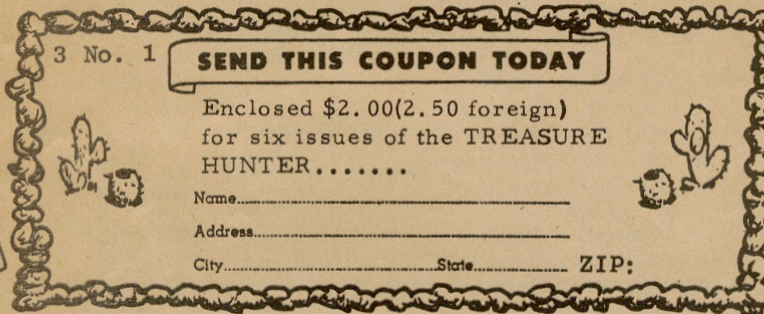
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