

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,200

You literally have a treasure map.

2

00:00:04,200 --> 00:00:05,200

We have a treasure map.

3

00:00:05,200 --> 00:00:09,200

Holy, check it out.

4

00:00:09,200 --> 00:00:10,200

Look at this place.

5

00:00:10,200 --> 00:00:13,200

There's something here, dude.

6

00:00:13,200 --> 00:00:15,200

There's something that'll here for sure.

7

00:00:15,200 --> 00:00:22,200

Hey, Josh, I got something, man.

8

00:00:22,200 --> 00:00:23,200

What do you got?

9

00:00:23,200 --> 00:00:24,200

Hey, hey, hey.

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00:00:24,200 --> 00:00:25,200

This is what you call discovery.

11

00:00:25,200 --> 00:00:32,200

I think this could be it.

12

00:00:32,200 --> 00:00:41,200

Fire in the hole.

13

00:00:41,200 --> 00:00:51,600

I'd like to introduce you to a man named Henry Plummer and the story of a hidden fortune

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00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:57,600

in Wild West Gold that's still waiting to be found.

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00:00:57,600 --> 00:00:59,600

The year is 1862.

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00:00:59,600 --> 00:01:07,600

A major gold strike in the Montana Territory gives rise to boom towns and bandits.

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00:01:07,600 --> 00:01:13,600

Enter Henry Plummer, a mine owner who gets himself elected sheriff and promises to bring

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00:01:13,600 --> 00:01:15,600

law to a lawless land.

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00:01:15,600 --> 00:01:21,400

But when the gold heists and gangs get worse, some begin to suspect that Plummer himself

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00:01:21,400 --> 00:01:23,400

is the ringleader.

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00:01:23,400 --> 00:01:28,400

Soon, a so-called vigilante committee is formed, and within weeks, they arrest Henry Plummer

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00:01:28,400 --> 00:01:33,400

and drag him to the gallows.

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00:01:33,400 --> 00:01:37,400

But before they can lynch him, legend says he tries to make a desperate bargain.

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00:01:37,400 --> 00:01:42,400

If the townspeople will spare him and bring him a horse, he claims he can return in two

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00:01:42,400 --> 00:01:45,400

hours with his weight in pure gold.

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00:01:45,400 --> 00:01:50,400

The vigilantes decline the offer.

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00:01:50,400 --> 00:01:53,400

And Plummer hangs.

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00:01:53,400 --> 00:01:59,400

Ever since, stories of Plummer's hidden stash of gold have haunted the hills of southwestern Montana.

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00:01:59,400 --> 00:02:03,400

But finally, there's new evidence and several promising breaks in the case.

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00:02:03,400 --> 00:02:09,400

A successful modern-day gold prospector just gained the rights to search long, forgotten mines.

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00:02:09,400 --> 00:02:14,400

A treasure hunter has other evidence that may lead to a watery hiding spot.

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00:02:14,400 --> 00:02:19,400

And one man is retracing Plummer's own footsteps all the way to the lost fortune.

33

00:02:19,400 --> 00:02:31,400

After 150 years, Montana is getting a second gold rush, and I'm staking a claim.

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00:02:31,400 --> 00:02:33,400

My name is Josh Gates.

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00:02:33,400 --> 00:02:34,400

Look at that!

36

00:02:34,400 --> 00:02:39,400

With a degree in archaeology and a passion for exploration.

37

00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:43,400

I have a tendency to end up in some very strange situations.

38

00:02:43,400 --> 00:02:44,400

This is horrible.

39

00:02:44,400 --> 00:02:46,400

This is officially horrible.

40

00:02:46,400 --> 00:02:49,400

My travels have taken me to the ends of the earth.

41

00:02:49,400 --> 00:02:52,400

As I investigate the greatest legends in history.

42

00:02:52,400 --> 00:02:54,400

We're going to try, let's go.

43

00:02:54,400 --> 00:02:57,400

This is Expedition Unknown.

44

00:03:08,400 --> 00:03:12,400

Welcome to the West, Montana to be exact.

45

00:03:12,400 --> 00:03:15,400

150 years ago, none of this was a state yet.

46

00:03:15,400 --> 00:03:17,400

It was all just a territory.

47

00:03:17,400 --> 00:03:20,400

But it was also the home of one of America's richest gold strikes.

48

00:03:20,400 --> 00:03:26,400

And that's why in the 1860s, thousands of people from all over the world rushed into this flawless land.

49

00:03:26,400 --> 00:03:30,400

Untold tons of gold were yanked from these hills.

50

00:03:30,400 --> 00:03:35,400

And I'm traveling the very same way it did, and on the very same road.

51

00:03:35,400 --> 00:03:37,400

They used to call this Hell's Trail.

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00:03:37,400 --> 00:03:45,400

Bands of armed thugs called road agents routinely held up stagecoaches carrying shipments of gold.

53

00:03:45,400 --> 00:03:50,400

And according to legend, the ringleader of this group was none other than the local sheriff around these parts,

54

00:03:50,400 --> 00:03:53,400

a man named Henry Plummer.

55

00:03:53,400 --> 00:03:57,400

This road leads to my first stop in a search for Plummer's Hidden Gold.

56

00:03:57,400 --> 00:04:03,400

The famous mining town of Virginia City, where I hope to find new clues to the mystery.

57

00:04:08,400 --> 00:04:13,400

Well, in the year 1863, gold was discovered in the streambed near here.

58

00:04:13,400 --> 00:04:17,400

Turned out to be the largest gold strike in Montana territory.

59

00:04:17,400 --> 00:04:21,400

And seemingly overnight, thousands of people from around the world came here.

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00:04:21,400 --> 00:04:25,400

Today, Virginia City is only home to about 120 people,

61

00:04:25,400 --> 00:04:30,400

but they're working hard to keep alive what was once one of the wildest towns in the West.

62

00:04:31,400 --> 00:04:36,400

Along the main street of town, people are living and working much as they did over a century ago.

63

00:04:36,400 --> 00:04:41,400

In the well-preserved Gypsy Arcade, the old-fashioned player piano offers up a tune.

64

00:04:41,400 --> 00:04:47,400

And if you peek into the handcrafted mutiscopes, you can still watch the 19th century version of YouTube.

65

00:04:47,400 --> 00:04:50,400

Wait a minute, grandma?

66

00:04:51,400 --> 00:04:55,400

There's even a scene depicting a stagecoach robbery from Plummer's Time.

67

00:04:55,400 --> 00:04:57,400

Entertainment was a lot simpler back then.

68

00:04:58,400 --> 00:05:02,400

In the nearby general store, I think about a career change.

69

00:05:02,400 --> 00:05:05,400

If you're looking for work, there are a few job openings here.

70

00:05:05,400 --> 00:05:07,400

They have an opening for a sheriff.

71

00:05:07,400 --> 00:05:10,400

Or, of course, it could be the town brothel inspector.

72

00:05:10,400 --> 00:05:13,400

I'm not saying which is a better job, but...

73

00:05:13,400 --> 00:05:17,400

This book will reveal nine secrets to gold panning.

74

00:05:17,400 --> 00:05:21,400

Secret number one, immerse the pan into the water.

75

00:05:21,400 --> 00:05:25,400

My mission in town is to learn more about Henry Plummer and the legend of his gold.

76

00:05:25,400 --> 00:05:28,400

To do that, I put my head into the Bale of Hay Saloon.

77

00:05:28,400 --> 00:05:34,400

It's the oldest bar in Montana, run by a couple of friendly proprietors named Gay and Kay.

78

00:05:34,400 --> 00:05:36,400

You two look very similar.

79

00:05:36,400 --> 00:05:37,400

Are you twins?

80

00:05:37,400 --> 00:05:39,400

She's 59 minutes older than me.

81

00:05:39,400 --> 00:05:41,400

I'll always be the older, wiser one.

82

00:05:41,400 --> 00:05:45,400

I'm here in town because I'm investigating the story of Plummer's gold.

83

00:05:45,400 --> 00:05:48,400

I'm not sure if I'm the only one who's ever seen it.

84

00:05:48,400 --> 00:05:52,400

I'm here in town because I'm investigating the story of Plummer's gold.

85

00:05:52,400 --> 00:05:54,400

What's the word on the street here in Virginia City about Henry Plummer?

86

00:05:54,400 --> 00:05:58,400

Well, we thought he was a dirty sheriff who was stealing the gold from all the stagecoaches.

87

00:05:58,400 --> 00:06:00,400

Yeah, so he's the bad guy through and through.

88

00:06:00,400 --> 00:06:02,400

Absolutely.

89

00:06:02,400 --> 00:06:10,400

Henry Plummer comes from California, where he killed two men and briefly served time in San Quentin before being pardoned.

90

00:06:10,400 --> 00:06:18,400

In 1863, he swept up in the Montana gold rush and uses his ample charm to get elected sheriff in the nearby town of Bannock.

91

00:06:18,400 --> 00:06:23,400

And if the stories are true, he sat in this very saloon to case potential robberies.

92

00:06:23,400 --> 00:06:29,400

So we think that he was sent in his henchmen in here, and they were getting all the stagecoach drivers drunk.

93

00:06:29,400 --> 00:06:35,400

And then he was finding out when they were transferring gold, and it was making it easy to steal the gold.

94

00:06:35,400 --> 00:06:39,400

So Henry Plummer or his gang, they could have been sitting right where I'm sitting?

95

00:06:39,400 --> 00:06:40,400

I'm positive of it.

96

00:06:40,400 --> 00:06:43,400

Any question in your mind that he was the ringleader of all these robberies?

97

00:06:43,400 --> 00:06:45,400

None. No, I'm positive he was.

98

00:06:45,400 --> 00:06:49,400

The twins aren't the only ones convinced of Plummer's guilt.

99

00:06:49,400 --> 00:06:53,400

They connect me with an expert in a nearby town where Plummer may have hidden his loot.

100

00:06:53,400 --> 00:06:59,400

It's an 80-mile drive from Virginia City to Bannock.

101

00:06:59,400 --> 00:07:05,400

Back then, it took a day to make the trip by horse, but I'm adding about 250 horses to the mix.

102

00:07:05,400 --> 00:07:09,400

Bannock really is the heart of the Plummer story.

103

00:07:09,400 --> 00:07:17,400

This is the boom town where he was elected sheriff in 1863, and where he ultimately met his demise.

104

00:07:17,400 --> 00:07:21,400

As a town built on gold, Bannock was a wealthy place.

105

00:07:21,400 --> 00:07:25,400

Personally, I'm just looking forward to experiencing one of the swankiest towns in the West.

106

00:07:35,400 --> 00:07:39,400

Maybe people are sleeping in.

107

00:07:39,400 --> 00:07:43,400

Hello!

108

00:07:43,400 --> 00:07:47,400

In its heyday in the 1860s, Bannock was a rowdy and wealthy city.

109

00:07:47,400 --> 00:07:53,400

But times change, and today, Bannock is more ghost than town.

110

00:07:53,400 --> 00:07:57,400

Every step forward here carries me deeper into the past.

111

00:07:57,400 --> 00:08:03,400

I peer into the old buildings, many of which are now a part of the city.

112

00:08:03,400 --> 00:08:07,400

I peer into the old buildings, many of which are perfectly preserved.

113

00:08:07,400 --> 00:08:13,400

The town hotel seems ready to receive guests, and the silent church waits patiently for a congregation.

114

00:08:13,400 --> 00:08:19,400

But I'm most interested in the old jail where Henry Plummer ruled as sheriff,

115

00:08:19,400 --> 00:08:23,400

and was believed to have been the mastermind of a vicious gang of bandits.

116

00:08:23,400 --> 00:08:29,400

Legend says he can look up at the location of his stolen treasure from the window of the jailhouse,

117

00:08:29,400 --> 00:08:33,400

and later, as a vigilante gang drags Plummer to the town gallows,

118

00:08:33,400 --> 00:08:39,400

he claims that if they give him a horse, he can return with his weight in pure gold in two hours flat.

119

00:08:39,400 --> 00:08:45,400

It's the tent pole of the legend, but it's never been fully vetted, until now.

120

00:08:45,400 --> 00:08:51,400

I grab my finest Montana headgear from the truck and meet a guy named Darren Wedding by the old jail.

121

00:08:51,400 --> 00:08:53,400

Are you Darren? Yeah, I'm Darren. Nice to meet you, man.

122

00:08:53,400 --> 00:08:57,400

Darren is a treasure hunter who aims to put the Plummer legend to the test, literally.

123

00:08:57,400 --> 00:08:59,400

So the question is, do you have an idea where Plummer's gold might be?

124

00:08:59,400 --> 00:09:03,400

Yeah, I have a theory. He said he'd give me two hours, I'll bring you back my weight in gold.

125

00:09:03,400 --> 00:09:06,400

Okay. Which means you can't ride more than an hour there and an hour back.

126

00:09:06,400 --> 00:09:07,400

Right, maximum.

127

00:09:07,400 --> 00:09:10,400

Maximum. Okay. So basically you're trying to establish a search grid?

128

00:09:10,400 --> 00:09:15,400

Yeah, search grid. And once we get it narrowed down, we can just really hit that area hard and maybe find where to put it.

129

00:09:15,400 --> 00:09:23,400

Various historic sources claim that Plummer likely hid the gold underground, either in a mineshaft or a cave, but exactly where.

130

00:09:23,400 --> 00:09:25,400

That's what Darren's hoping to hone in on.

131

00:09:25,400 --> 00:09:27,400

Let's do it, man. All right, man, let's do it.

132

00:09:29,400 --> 00:09:34,400

We load up the horses near the site of the old gallows, then we do what Plummer would have done.

133

00:09:34,400 --> 00:09:37,400

Ride like our lives depend on it.

134

00:09:41,400 --> 00:09:45,400

We race out from Bannock to see how far our horses can carry us in an hour,

135

00:09:45,400 --> 00:09:50,400

which means that for the next 60 minutes, I get to feel like an American outlaw.

136

00:09:55,400 --> 00:09:57,400

That's 20 minutes, Darren.

137

00:09:57,400 --> 00:10:04,400

We cross buried terrain, including chilly streams and rugged ridges that look unchanged in a century.

138

00:10:07,400 --> 00:10:09,400

That's 40 minutes.

139

00:10:14,400 --> 00:10:16,400

Whoa, whoa, whoa. That's an hour.

140

00:10:16,400 --> 00:10:18,400

Okay, where are we?

141

00:10:18,400 --> 00:10:20,400

Let's find out. I got a GPS here.

142

00:10:21,400 --> 00:10:24,400

Almost exactly 10 miles out of Bannock.

143

00:10:24,400 --> 00:10:31,400

From the gallows, we've galloped 10 miles, which means we've established a 20-mile search diameter around the town.

144

00:10:31,400 --> 00:10:34,400

Okay, so where in this 20-mile diameter do we look?

145

00:10:34,400 --> 00:10:38,400

His best view from the jail would have been south or east, so it's going to be right over here in this area.

146

00:10:38,400 --> 00:10:41,400

And I've actually heard there's some caves up in there. I haven't really been explored.

147

00:10:41,400 --> 00:10:43,400

And that falls inside the search grid?

148

00:10:43,400 --> 00:10:45,400

That falls right inside the search grid.

149

00:10:45,400 --> 00:10:46,400

So south and east?

150

00:10:46,400 --> 00:10:47,400

South and east.

151

00:10:48,400 --> 00:10:54,400

Our 20-mile diameter search area is further narrowed by areas that Plummer could have seen from the jailhouse.

152

00:10:54,400 --> 00:10:59,400

So we tie up the horses and head out on foot, looking for any signs of mines or caves.

153

00:11:03,400 --> 00:11:05,400

Man, it's like a whole different world up here, though.

154

00:11:05,400 --> 00:11:08,400

Yeah, it is. A lot of trees, more foresty for sure.

155

00:11:08,400 --> 00:11:10,400

You can hide anything up here.

156

00:11:12,400 --> 00:11:16,400

Darren and I split up and search every nook and cranny in sight.

157

00:11:17,400 --> 00:11:19,400

Don't see nothing in there.

158

00:11:19,400 --> 00:11:23,400

But even with our experiment having narrowed the field, there's a lot of wilderness out here.

159

00:11:27,400 --> 00:11:29,400

There's so much area to cover.

160

00:11:29,400 --> 00:11:33,400

I got so excited at first when we said it was only a 20-mile diameter.

161

00:11:34,400 --> 00:11:39,400

We search for hours in the afternoon light, but the mountain isn't giving up any secrets,

162

00:11:39,400 --> 00:11:42,400

until we trip over a lead big enough to swallow us whole.

163

00:11:43,400 --> 00:11:45,400

Dude, look at this. Look at that.

164

00:11:48,400 --> 00:11:53,400

I'm in the hills of southwestern Montana, looking for the hiding place of Plummer's Gold,

165

00:11:53,400 --> 00:11:58,400

a fortune rumored to be concealed underground by a crooked sheriff in the 1860s.

166

00:11:58,400 --> 00:12:04,400

I'm working with treasure hunter Darren Wedding, and we've just discovered a cave in a promising

search area.

167

00:12:04,400 --> 00:12:07,400

Oh, dude, look at this. Look at that.

168

00:12:07,400 --> 00:12:08,400

Oh, wow.

169

00:12:08,400 --> 00:12:10,400

I mean, that is legit, right?

170

00:12:10,400 --> 00:12:12,400

Yeah, that is.

171

00:12:12,400 --> 00:12:14,400

That goes down way deeper than I thought.

172

00:12:14,400 --> 00:12:15,400

Yeah, it does.

173

00:12:15,400 --> 00:12:16,400

You get us down?

174

00:12:16,400 --> 00:12:17,400

Yeah.

175

00:12:17,400 --> 00:12:18,400

Then back up again?

176

00:12:18,400 --> 00:12:19,400

Sure can.

177

00:12:19,400 --> 00:12:20,400

Let's do it.

178

00:12:20,400 --> 00:12:21,400

All right.

179

00:12:21,400 --> 00:12:25,400

Luckily, Darren doesn't just hunt for treasure. He also rock climbs.

180

00:12:25,400 --> 00:12:28,400

So we unpack helmets, harnesses, and carabiners.

181

00:12:28,400 --> 00:12:33,400

Soon, we've got an anchor in place, and we're ready to lower ourselves into the unknown.

182

00:12:33,400 --> 00:12:35,400

All right, let's do this.

183

00:12:36,400 --> 00:12:39,400

The cave entrance is a long plunge straight down.

184

00:12:39,400 --> 00:12:43,400

So getting in will require a tricky repel into complete darkness.

185

00:12:43,400 --> 00:12:45,400

Looking good, man.

186

00:12:47,400 --> 00:12:49,400

How's it look down there?

187

00:12:49,400 --> 00:12:51,400

It's getting pretty icy down here.

188

00:12:51,400 --> 00:12:53,400

Just take it slow, man. No worries.

189

00:12:53,400 --> 00:12:54,400

All righty.

190

00:12:56,400 --> 00:12:57,400

You OK?

191

00:12:57,400 --> 00:12:58,400

Yeah, I got it, man.

192

00:12:58,400 --> 00:12:59,400

You OK?

193

00:13:00,400 --> 00:13:02,400

Slippery down there.

194

00:13:03,400 --> 00:13:04,400

Darren, you down?

195

00:13:05,400 --> 00:13:07,400

I made it down. It's looking great.

196

00:13:07,400 --> 00:13:09,400

All right, man, I'm coming down.

197

00:13:11,400 --> 00:13:14,400

Once Darren reaches the bottom, it's my turn.

198

00:13:15,400 --> 00:13:17,400

It's slippery as can be down here.

199

00:13:17,400 --> 00:13:21,400

I was prepared to deal with just about anything in my search for Plumber's Gold.

200

00:13:21,400 --> 00:13:22,400

And it's a long climb.

201

00:13:22,400 --> 00:13:23,400

I'm going to go down.

202

00:13:23,400 --> 00:13:24,400

I'm going to go down.

203

00:13:24,400 --> 00:13:25,400

I'm going to go down.

204

00:13:25,400 --> 00:13:26,400

I'm going to go down.

205

00:13:26,400 --> 00:13:27,400

I'm going to go down.

206

00:13:27,400 --> 00:13:28,400

I'm going to go down.

207

00:13:28,400 --> 00:13:29,400

I'm going to go down.

208

00:13:29,400 --> 00:13:30,400

I'm going to go down.

209

00:13:30,400 --> 00:13:31,400

I'm going to go down.

210

00:13:31,400 --> 00:13:33,400

Plumber's Gold, and this is just pure ice.

211

00:13:33,400 --> 00:13:37,400

But subterranean snow was not something I had anticipated.

212

00:13:37,400 --> 00:13:38,400

It's looking good.

213

00:13:47,400 --> 00:13:50,400

Whoo, this place is incredible.

214

00:13:50,400 --> 00:13:52,400

There's just so much going on down here.

215

00:13:52,400 --> 00:13:54,400

Let's see what's down here, man.

216

00:13:57,400 --> 00:13:59,400

Look at how big this place is, dude.

217

00:13:59,400 --> 00:14:00,760

It is a huge cave.

218

00:14:00,760 --> 00:14:01,600

Oh my god.

219

00:14:05,320 --> 00:14:09,120

I mean, this room must be 30, 40 feet tall.

220

00:14:13,120 --> 00:14:15,000

Now that we're down here, what's the plan?

221

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:17,600

I think the plan should be looking for any kind of evidence

222

00:14:17,600 --> 00:14:18,800

of people being down in here.

223

00:14:18,800 --> 00:14:19,440

Uh-huh.

224

00:14:19,440 --> 00:14:20,360

Just to see.

225

00:14:20,360 --> 00:14:21,600

Yeah, anything man-made.

226

00:14:21,600 --> 00:14:22,840

Yeah, anything man-made.

227

00:14:22,840 --> 00:14:23,600

OK.

228

00:14:23,600 --> 00:14:25,760

And then I also have a metal detector with us.

229

00:14:25,760 --> 00:14:27,040

OK, cool.

230

00:14:27,040 --> 00:14:30,000

Well, it looks like this may go back over here to the right.

231

00:14:30,000 --> 00:14:30,600

Yeah.

232

00:14:30,600 --> 00:14:31,600

And then at the end of this chamber,

233

00:14:31,600 --> 00:14:33,000

it definitely looks like it keeps going, yeah?

234

00:14:33,000 --> 00:14:33,880

Yeah, for sure.

235

00:14:33,880 --> 00:14:35,400

OK, let's get the detector up.

236

00:14:35,400 --> 00:14:36,000

OK.

237

00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:36,600

You check over there.

238

00:14:36,600 --> 00:14:37,320

I'll go back here.

239

00:14:37,320 --> 00:14:38,120

All right, sounds good.

240

00:14:38,120 --> 00:14:39,120

All right, come on.

241

00:14:41,720 --> 00:14:44,120

Deep in the mountain, it should be simple for Darren's metal

242

00:14:44,120 --> 00:14:46,920

detector to register signs of the treasure.

243

00:14:46,920 --> 00:14:49,800

The challenge is that the caves are seemingly endless.

244

00:14:49,800 --> 00:14:51,120

The gold could be anywhere.

245

00:14:58,040 --> 00:14:59,800

Hey, Josh, I got something, man.

246

00:14:59,800 --> 00:15:00,720

What do you got?

247

00:15:00,720 --> 00:15:02,240

I don't know what it is, but it's loading it out.

248

00:15:05,240 --> 00:15:05,800

It's right here.

249

00:15:08,280 --> 00:15:09,240

Yeah, there's something here, dude.

250

00:15:09,240 --> 00:15:10,600

There's something metal here for sure.

251

00:15:18,600 --> 00:15:19,600

Ooh.

252

00:15:22,600 --> 00:15:23,840

Could be something hiding in there.

253

00:15:23,840 --> 00:15:24,640

Look at that.

254

00:15:24,680 --> 00:15:26,520

Look at that big old metal can.

255

00:15:26,520 --> 00:15:28,520

It's been down here a long time.

256

00:15:28,520 --> 00:15:30,200

Long time.

257

00:15:30,200 --> 00:15:31,720

Nothing too fancy, but still fine.

258

00:15:31,720 --> 00:15:32,840

Oh, but look, man, this is.

259

00:15:32,840 --> 00:15:34,720

Someone's been here for sure.

260

00:15:34,720 --> 00:15:35,720

It is super old.

261

00:15:35,720 --> 00:15:37,480

So now we know that folks were down here,

262

00:15:37,480 --> 00:15:38,920

and they were down here a long time ago.

263

00:15:38,920 --> 00:15:41,720

Question of the day, what's this doing down here?

264

00:15:41,720 --> 00:15:43,320

Yeah, who was here and what were they doing?

265

00:15:46,320 --> 00:15:48,640

We continue sweeping the cave, but it turns out

266

00:15:48,640 --> 00:15:50,200

this place is huge.

267

00:15:50,200 --> 00:15:52,600

And with just flashlights, we're looking for a place

268

00:15:52,600 --> 00:15:55,040

that's super huge, and with just flashlights,

269

00:15:55,040 --> 00:15:57,520

we're lost in a maze of tunnels.

270

00:15:57,520 --> 00:15:59,800

But Darren has packed a state-of-the-art tool

271

00:15:59,800 --> 00:16:02,040

to give us an edge in the darkness.

272

00:16:03,400 --> 00:16:06,160

That is the thing from Ghostbusters

273

00:16:06,160 --> 00:16:08,000

that catches ghosts, correct?

274

00:16:08,000 --> 00:16:09,000

No, not quite.

275

00:16:09,000 --> 00:16:10,800

It's actually a handheld LiDAR unit.

276

00:16:10,800 --> 00:16:12,520

It's like a rangefinder on steroids.

277

00:16:12,520 --> 00:16:16,520

It shoots out 90,000 laser pulses per second.

278

00:16:16,520 --> 00:16:17,440

I'm sorry, per second?

279

00:16:17,440 --> 00:16:18,320

Per second.

280

00:16:18,320 --> 00:16:21,400

This thing is doing super accurate 3D mapping in real time.

281

00:16:21,400 --> 00:16:23,360

It's probably one of the coolest things I've ever seen.

282

00:16:23,360 --> 00:16:24,960

All right, let's see it work.

283

00:16:26,080 --> 00:16:29,000

Darren flips a switch, and away we go.

284

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:30,480

The device is silent.

285

00:16:30,480 --> 00:16:32,320

Honestly, if it wasn't for the spinny part,

286

00:16:32,320 --> 00:16:34,200

I wouldn't even know it was on.

287

00:16:34,200 --> 00:16:37,400

But for two long, cold hours, we trudge through the cave,

288

00:16:37,400 --> 00:16:40,720

looking for clues, and letting the LiDAR scanner do its thing.

289

00:16:42,280 --> 00:16:43,800

Super muddy here, careful.

290

00:16:43,800 --> 00:16:44,640

Oh, yeah.

291

00:16:45,920 --> 00:16:48,680

When we're finished, the result is this.

292

00:16:48,680 --> 00:16:52,040

Fully rendered 3D map of the entire cave system.

293

00:16:52,040 --> 00:16:54,880

I'm astounded by the Bruce Wayne-level technology.

294

00:16:54,880 --> 00:16:56,720

But also, how little of this place

295

00:16:56,720 --> 00:16:59,800

we were actually able to see with our own eyes.

296

00:16:59,800 --> 00:17:00,640

Wow, that's cool.

297

00:17:00,640 --> 00:17:01,640

It is so cool.

298

00:17:01,640 --> 00:17:02,960

So this really shows us

299

00:17:02,960 --> 00:17:05,040

that there might be another passage over here

300

00:17:05,040 --> 00:17:06,440

that's worth exploring.

301

00:17:06,440 --> 00:17:07,800

That looks like it shoots off, yeah?

302

00:17:07,800 --> 00:17:08,680

Yeah, it does.

303

00:17:08,680 --> 00:17:11,000

For sure, no, we haven't been there yet.

304

00:17:11,000 --> 00:17:12,160

Okay.

305

00:17:12,160 --> 00:17:13,000

Let's go check that out.

306

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:13,840

Yeah, let's do it.

307

00:17:13,840 --> 00:17:15,240

All right, I love this thing.

308

00:17:15,240 --> 00:17:16,560

I'm definitely stealing it from you.

309

00:17:16,560 --> 00:17:17,400

Yeah.

310

00:17:19,680 --> 00:17:22,160

Our fingers are going numb from the frigid air

311

00:17:22,160 --> 00:17:23,840

as we venture back through the cave

312

00:17:23,840 --> 00:17:26,240

to a passage that we missed on our first sweep.

313

00:17:28,320 --> 00:17:30,800

In this new branch, we see rock formations

314

00:17:30,800 --> 00:17:32,600

unlike anything in the main tunnel.

315

00:17:33,920 --> 00:17:35,480

Look at this.

316

00:17:35,480 --> 00:17:37,120

Just beautiful.

317

00:17:37,120 --> 00:17:39,400

And then we see something else.

318

00:17:39,400 --> 00:17:40,360

Oh, look at this.

319

00:17:40,360 --> 00:17:41,280

Writing.

320

00:17:41,280 --> 00:17:44,720

This part of the cave is littered with historic graffiti.

321

00:17:44,720 --> 00:17:47,040

The fingerprints of old West explorers,

322

00:17:47,400 --> 00:17:48,640

or perhaps bandits,

323

00:17:48,640 --> 00:17:51,280

who ventured down in here a century ago.

324

00:17:51,280 --> 00:17:54,200

But why and how did they make it down here?

325

00:17:54,200 --> 00:17:56,920

We push deeper though we've seen no sign of plumber

326

00:17:56,920 --> 00:18:00,480

or his gold, but all that changes in an instant.

327

00:18:01,480 --> 00:18:02,320

Look at this.

328

00:18:02,320 --> 00:18:03,600

Hey, look at this.

329

00:18:10,080 --> 00:18:11,480

Deep underneath Montana,

330

00:18:11,480 --> 00:18:13,920

treasure hunter Darren Wedding and I are scouring

331

00:18:13,920 --> 00:18:16,640

for evidence that old West sheriff, Henry Plummer,

332

00:18:16,720 --> 00:18:18,840

used these caves as a hiding place

333

00:18:18,840 --> 00:18:21,280

for his cash of stolen gold.

334

00:18:21,280 --> 00:18:24,240

A high-tech scan has led us to a concealed chamber

335

00:18:24,240 --> 00:18:26,720

and now we've found a literal sign

336

00:18:26,720 --> 00:18:28,840

that we might be in the right spot.

337

00:18:28,840 --> 00:18:29,960

Look at this.

338

00:18:29,960 --> 00:18:31,040

Look at this.

339

00:18:32,560 --> 00:18:33,400

Plummer.

340

00:18:34,560 --> 00:18:36,400

1865.

341

00:18:36,400 --> 00:18:37,800

1865.

342

00:18:37,800 --> 00:18:39,200

Look at that.

343

00:18:39,200 --> 00:18:41,280

I got some bad news here.

344

00:18:41,280 --> 00:18:43,920

This is two years after his death.

345

00:18:44,800 --> 00:18:46,520

He died in 1863, right?

346

00:18:46,520 --> 00:18:47,360

Yeah.

347

00:18:47,360 --> 00:18:49,600

And I think he had one M in his name, not two.

348

00:18:49,600 --> 00:18:52,080

Yeah, it's a spell word, P-L-U-M-B-E-R.

349

00:18:52,080 --> 00:18:53,480

Wrong spelling, wrong year.

350

00:18:53,480 --> 00:18:54,320

But.

351

00:18:54,320 --> 00:18:55,160

Different plumber.

352

00:18:55,160 --> 00:18:56,000

Different plumber, I guess,

353

00:18:56,000 --> 00:18:57,480

but what a crazy coincidence.

354

00:18:57,480 --> 00:18:58,840

That is definitely really weird, man.

355

00:18:58,840 --> 00:19:00,160

I mean, that's nuts, right?

356

00:19:00,160 --> 00:19:02,200

That's literally a million to one.

357

00:19:05,680 --> 00:19:07,200

Even though the date isn't right,

358

00:19:07,200 --> 00:19:09,360

we continue to search the chamber.

359

00:19:09,360 --> 00:19:12,560

In the end, we found the name, but not the gold.

360

00:19:12,560 --> 00:19:13,960

Let's head for the surface.

361

00:19:13,960 --> 00:19:16,760

Still, we've performed the first ever 3D mapping

362

00:19:16,760 --> 00:19:19,920

of this remote cave, discovered historic writing,

363

00:19:19,920 --> 00:19:22,800

and given Darren a search area and wished to keep looking.

364

00:19:23,840 --> 00:19:25,680

But what if not all of Plummer's stash

365

00:19:25,680 --> 00:19:27,880

made it to his final hiding spot?

366

00:19:27,880 --> 00:19:29,480

There's another treasure hunter in town

367

00:19:29,480 --> 00:19:30,960

who believes he's very close

368

00:19:30,960 --> 00:19:34,040

to finding the true hiding place of Plummer's gold.

369

00:19:38,400 --> 00:19:40,840

The next morning, I hook up with John Dixon.

370

00:19:40,840 --> 00:19:43,240

And, well, he's in a hurry to get where he's sure

371

00:19:43,240 --> 00:19:44,640

that the gold is buried.

372

00:19:44,640 --> 00:19:48,360

I'm flying with my feet, I'm flying down the country highway

373

00:19:48,360 --> 00:19:52,160

Why don't I run free from fear?

374

00:19:52,160 --> 00:19:55,840

We've got this, I'll do it my way

375

00:19:55,840 --> 00:20:01,840

In my big, dark, near.

376

00:20:01,840 --> 00:20:03,040

I like the way you travel, John.

377

00:20:03,040 --> 00:20:04,680

I like your style.

378

00:20:04,680 --> 00:20:06,760

Yeah, you got to have the right vehicle for it.

379

00:20:06,760 --> 00:20:09,840

You got that, man.

380

00:20:09,840 --> 00:20:13,240

John's chasing a new aspect of the Plummer legend.

381

00:20:13,240 --> 00:20:15,280

Recently unearthed historical documents

382

00:20:15,280 --> 00:20:17,880

indicate that three members of Plummer's gang

383

00:20:17,880 --> 00:20:20,360

buried their share of the gold in tin cans

384

00:20:20,360 --> 00:20:22,600

near the shoreline of a local lake

385

00:20:22,600 --> 00:20:24,600

and marked the spot by making four

386

00:20:24,600 --> 00:20:27,040

clearings in the sagebrush.

387

00:20:27,040 --> 00:20:29,240

But when one of them turned on the other two,

388

00:20:29,240 --> 00:20:32,120

they shot him and buried him right on top of the gold.

389

00:20:33,840 --> 00:20:36,080

Not long after, the two remaining thieves

390

00:20:36,080 --> 00:20:37,360

were brought to justice,

391

00:20:37,400 --> 00:20:39,600

leaving nobody to retrieve the hidden treasure.

392

00:20:42,120 --> 00:20:44,920

Based on the accounts which mention a nearby canyon

393

00:20:44,920 --> 00:20:47,600

and sagebrush along the southern edge of a lake,

394

00:20:47,600 --> 00:20:50,920

John believes this is the place in question.

395

00:20:50,920 --> 00:20:52,960

The only one within 10 miles of Bannock

396

00:20:52,960 --> 00:20:57,560

that fits the profile and could contain the treasure.

397

00:20:57,560 --> 00:20:58,840

We made it.

398

00:20:58,840 --> 00:21:02,960

All right, well, fun's over, now the work begins.

399

00:21:02,960 --> 00:21:05,320

John and I unload the ATV, which is filled

400

00:21:05,320 --> 00:21:07,240

with treasure hunting gear, most of which

401

00:21:08,120 --> 00:21:09,520

is familiar, but there's one piece of equipment

402

00:21:09,520 --> 00:21:11,480

that I have never seen before.

403

00:21:11,480 --> 00:21:12,320

Okay, so what are we using?

404

00:21:12,320 --> 00:21:14,000

We've got a standard metal detector.

405

00:21:14,000 --> 00:21:17,560

Correct, yep, and then I have a molecular resonator.

406

00:21:19,040 --> 00:21:20,440

I say, oh, sorry, say what now?

407

00:21:20,440 --> 00:21:22,400

It's a molecular resonator.

408

00:21:22,400 --> 00:21:26,200

And that is to shrink people down to ant size, is that correct?

409

00:21:26,200 --> 00:21:27,520

No, that's not the answer.

410

00:21:27,520 --> 00:21:30,400

It turns out I don't know what a molecular resonator is.

411

00:21:30,400 --> 00:21:31,280

Right, let me show you.

412

00:21:31,280 --> 00:21:32,120

Okay.

413

00:21:33,240 --> 00:21:36,360

John claims, and let me stress, this is all John,

414

00:21:36,440 --> 00:21:40,160

that the resonator is tuned to the frequency of gold.

415

00:21:40,160 --> 00:21:41,880

By placing the stakes in the ground,

416

00:21:41,880 --> 00:21:43,760

he sends out a signal that's picked up

417

00:21:43,760 --> 00:21:45,600

by brass divining rods.

418

00:21:45,600 --> 00:21:47,280

When the rods move in your hands,

419

00:21:47,280 --> 00:21:49,760

well, that's your trail to follow.

420

00:21:49,760 --> 00:21:54,640

Now, I don't want to say that I doubt you.

421

00:21:54,640 --> 00:21:55,480

Right.

422

00:21:56,960 --> 00:21:58,640

But that sounds like a lot of...

423

00:21:58,640 --> 00:21:59,760

Telling like a barge.

424

00:21:59,760 --> 00:22:01,640

Are you telling me that this works?

425

00:22:01,640 --> 00:22:02,480

Yes.

426

00:22:02,480 --> 00:22:03,920

If it finds gold, I'm in, let's do it.

427

00:22:03,920 --> 00:22:05,400

You bet, all right, sounds good.

428

00:22:05,400 --> 00:22:06,400

Okay, sounds good.

429

00:22:08,200 --> 00:22:10,520

We walk the clearing with the divining rods

430

00:22:10,520 --> 00:22:13,720

until they actually begin to cross in John's hands.

431

00:22:13,720 --> 00:22:16,960

Wherever they do, we place a flag to mark the trail.

432

00:22:16,960 --> 00:22:18,720

See, then they start crossing.

433

00:22:18,720 --> 00:22:20,280

Uh-huh, so right here.

434

00:22:20,280 --> 00:22:21,120

So right in here?

435

00:22:21,120 --> 00:22:22,200

Uh-huh, yep.

436

00:22:24,640 --> 00:22:25,800

Can I try this?

437

00:22:25,800 --> 00:22:26,640

Absolutely.

438

00:22:28,920 --> 00:22:30,920

Since I don't really think this works anyway,

439

00:22:30,920 --> 00:22:32,920

I might as well make it not work myself.

440

00:22:35,640 --> 00:22:36,960

They really...

441

00:22:36,960 --> 00:22:38,800

I'm not doing that.

442

00:22:38,800 --> 00:22:40,240

I'm not doing any of this.

443

00:22:40,240 --> 00:22:44,040

Magic is real, ghosts exist, UFOs are everywhere.

444

00:22:44,040 --> 00:22:45,920

My whole world just came unhinged.

445

00:22:45,920 --> 00:22:46,880

These things work.

446

00:22:49,040 --> 00:22:50,560

After half an hour in the clearing,

447

00:22:50,560 --> 00:22:53,080

a pattern actually emerges.

448

00:22:53,080 --> 00:22:54,960

I mean, it's a perfect line

449

00:22:54,960 --> 00:22:57,560

and it is literally pointing straight to that sagebrush.

450

00:22:59,040 --> 00:23:01,480

Following the trail of flags with metal detectors,

451

00:23:01,480 --> 00:23:04,320

we find ourselves at the shoreline of the lake.

452

00:23:04,360 --> 00:23:06,080

That doesn't mean John is through looking.

453

00:23:06,080 --> 00:23:09,040

He has a secret weapon he wants to use to keep going.

454

00:23:10,800 --> 00:23:13,160

I've been dying to ask you, what is this thing?

455

00:23:13,160 --> 00:23:16,080

All right, this is a three inch suction dredge.

456

00:23:16,080 --> 00:23:18,880

So the dredge is gonna be used in the water.

457

00:23:18,880 --> 00:23:21,120

The lake itself, the shoreline,

458

00:23:21,120 --> 00:23:23,760

may not be in the same spot it was 150 years ago.

459

00:23:23,760 --> 00:23:26,360

What's underwater now may have been dry land then.

460

00:23:26,360 --> 00:23:27,200

Okay.

461

00:23:27,200 --> 00:23:28,480

So yeah, we take the dredge

462

00:23:28,480 --> 00:23:30,640

and we use it to excavate just offshore.

463

00:23:30,640 --> 00:23:32,400

This is the foot valve.

464

00:23:32,400 --> 00:23:33,240

Uh-huh.

465

00:23:33,280 --> 00:23:34,360

But you'll need to put it in the water

466

00:23:34,360 --> 00:23:36,480

in order to prime the pump.

467

00:23:36,480 --> 00:23:38,280

When you say you'll need to put it in the water.

468

00:23:38,280 --> 00:23:39,240

I'm going in?

469

00:23:39,240 --> 00:23:40,800

Well, yeah, I thought it's what you wanted to do.

470

00:23:40,800 --> 00:23:41,640

Of course.

471

00:23:41,640 --> 00:23:42,920

I just wanted to find gold.

472

00:23:42,920 --> 00:23:44,560

I'll direct you and kind of help you find

473

00:23:44,560 --> 00:23:45,400

the spot that we need.

474

00:23:45,400 --> 00:23:47,560

Oh, that's good of you, yeah.

475

00:23:47,560 --> 00:23:50,320

I wade into the lake, which is colder than it looks.

476

00:23:50,320 --> 00:23:51,160

Hi!

477

00:23:51,160 --> 00:23:53,320

Oh my God, that's warm.

478

00:23:53,320 --> 00:23:55,720

It's actually colder than Norway looks.

479

00:23:55,720 --> 00:23:57,720

The suction dredge is an underwater vacuum

480

00:23:57,720 --> 00:24:00,560

that filters away mud and catches heavier objects

481

00:24:00,560 --> 00:24:01,840

in a box at the back.

482

00:24:02,800 --> 00:24:03,640

She's alive!

483

00:24:05,480 --> 00:24:08,640

Like a tin can full of gold nuggets, I'm hoping.

484

00:24:08,640 --> 00:24:11,120

All right, guys, how's it going?

485

00:24:11,120 --> 00:24:11,960

How's it going?

486

00:24:13,480 --> 00:24:14,400

It's going great, John.

487

00:24:14,400 --> 00:24:15,240

It's going great.

488

00:24:19,640 --> 00:24:21,240

Quick update, this is horrible.

489

00:24:26,360 --> 00:24:28,800

I'm gonna say, John, the molecular thing

490

00:24:28,800 --> 00:24:30,160

was a lot more fun.

491

00:24:30,160 --> 00:24:31,160

It was really good.

492

00:24:32,680 --> 00:24:33,760

Let's see if you can come over here and try

493

00:24:33,760 --> 00:24:34,760

and shove us in.

494

00:24:36,720 --> 00:24:39,280

Finally, after feeling the mud creep into places

495

00:24:39,280 --> 00:24:41,560

where you do not want mud, I take a break

496

00:24:41,560 --> 00:24:43,840

to see if this is getting us anything.

497

00:24:43,840 --> 00:24:44,840

What do we got here?

498

00:24:47,440 --> 00:24:48,800

Oh, it looks like Leverite.

499

00:24:48,800 --> 00:24:49,680

What is Leverite?

500

00:24:49,680 --> 00:24:51,800

Leverite is you leave it right where you found it

501

00:24:51,800 --> 00:24:53,920

because it didn't worth anything.

502

00:24:53,920 --> 00:24:55,360

Okay, I see.

503

00:24:55,360 --> 00:24:57,120

I see what you did there.

504

00:24:57,120 --> 00:24:58,360

All right, moving on.

505

00:24:59,880 --> 00:25:01,640

So, state of affairs, what do we got in here?

506

00:25:01,640 --> 00:25:03,360

Well, it looks like we mostly got gravel.

507

00:25:03,360 --> 00:25:05,160

We're working right down where we've got our hit,

508

00:25:05,160 --> 00:25:07,120

but I think we need to go a little bit deeper.

509

00:25:07,120 --> 00:25:07,960

Deeper?

510

00:25:07,960 --> 00:25:08,800

Deeper.

511

00:25:08,800 --> 00:25:09,640

How does that work?

512

00:25:10,720 --> 00:25:12,160

I had to ask.

513

00:25:12,160 --> 00:25:14,400

Armed with a breathing mask called a hookah,

514

00:25:14,400 --> 00:25:16,760

which right around now I'm wishing was filled with opium,

515

00:25:16,760 --> 00:25:18,520

I decide to get really uncomfortable

516

00:25:18,520 --> 00:25:20,640

and go down to scour the lake bottom.

517

00:25:28,120 --> 00:25:31,480

I operate the vacuum in 50-degree water without a wetsuit

518

00:25:31,480 --> 00:25:33,040

and while I can't see much,

519

00:25:33,040 --> 00:25:34,800

I do have a permanent ice cream headache

520

00:25:34,800 --> 00:25:36,760

that's drilling into my skull.

521

00:25:36,760 --> 00:25:39,200

Finally, after thoroughly scrubbing the shallows,

522

00:25:39,200 --> 00:25:41,240

I head topside to see the results.

523

00:25:47,440 --> 00:25:48,800

Big rocks back here.

524

00:25:51,160 --> 00:25:52,160

What's that made of?

525

00:25:55,520 --> 00:25:57,840

Looks like it's got a little bit of quartz on it here.

526

00:25:57,840 --> 00:25:59,080

Nothing much happened in there.

527

00:25:59,080 --> 00:26:00,600

Oh, okay.

528

00:26:02,480 --> 00:26:03,480

What's that?

529

00:26:04,480 --> 00:26:06,480

That shiny ball, what did you get?

530

00:26:06,480 --> 00:26:07,480

The shiny one is heavy.

531

00:26:15,480 --> 00:26:17,480

I'm freezing my butt off in a Montana lake

532

00:26:17,480 --> 00:26:19,480

on the Hunt for Plumbers gold.

533

00:26:19,480 --> 00:26:22,480

150 years ago, a shootout among gold thieves

534

00:26:22,480 --> 00:26:24,480

allegedly took place here,

535

00:26:24,480 --> 00:26:26,480

and we're dredging the shoreline in search of the loot.

536

00:26:27,480 --> 00:26:29,480

Oh, wait, what is that?

537

00:26:29,480 --> 00:26:30,480

That's shiny.

538

00:26:30,480 --> 00:26:32,480

Oh, what is that?

539

00:26:32,480 --> 00:26:33,480

Wow, it's not gold.

540

00:26:33,480 --> 00:26:34,480

You see that?

541

00:26:34,480 --> 00:26:35,480

Yeah.

542

00:26:35,480 --> 00:26:36,480

What is that?

543

00:26:36,480 --> 00:26:37,480

No, you know what that is?

544

00:26:37,480 --> 00:26:38,480

Lead.

545

00:26:38,480 --> 00:26:40,480

That's a lead shot from a pistol, a mini-ball.

546

00:26:42,480 --> 00:26:43,480

That's from a pistol?

547

00:26:43,480 --> 00:26:44,480

Yes.

548

00:26:44,480 --> 00:26:45,480

That is insane.

549

00:26:45,480 --> 00:26:47,480

How old do you think that is?

550

00:26:47,480 --> 00:26:49,480

Probably about the 1800s, somewhere around that era.

551

00:26:49,480 --> 00:26:51,480

That's completely crazy.

552

00:26:51,480 --> 00:26:53,480

Falls in line with what we were detecting, like we said,

553

00:26:53,480 --> 00:26:54,480

this could have been dry land here.

554

00:26:54,480 --> 00:26:55,480

Right.

555

00:26:55,480 --> 00:26:56,480

There was a gunfight here,

556

00:26:56,480 --> 00:26:58,480

and who knows, maybe Plumber's Gang.

557

00:26:58,480 --> 00:27:00,480

That could have been from their gun.

558

00:27:00,480 --> 00:27:02,480

I obviously would love to have found gold out here,

559

00:27:02,480 --> 00:27:04,480

but I'll tell you what, man, this is a start.

560

00:27:04,480 --> 00:27:05,480

That's it.

561

00:27:05,480 --> 00:27:07,480

Today, a bullet, maybe tomorrow, a gold.

562

00:27:07,480 --> 00:27:09,480

Definitely leads us in the right direction.

563

00:27:09,480 --> 00:27:12,480

If you find the motherload up here, you give me a call, yeah?

564

00:27:12,480 --> 00:27:13,480

I'll sure do that.

565

00:27:13,480 --> 00:27:15,480

Hey, I really appreciate it.

566

00:27:15,480 --> 00:27:16,480

This is yours.

567

00:27:16,480 --> 00:27:17,480

All right.

568

00:27:20,480 --> 00:27:23,480

So far, I've retraced Plumber's journey with one treasure hunter

569

00:27:23,480 --> 00:27:26,480

and discovered evidence of a shootout with another.

570

00:27:26,480 --> 00:27:29,480

Now, I'm driving through big-sky country to meet Rob Towner,

571

00:27:29,480 --> 00:27:32,480

a real-life 21st-century gold prospector

572

00:27:32,480 --> 00:27:35,480

with a long and distinguished resume of mining gold

573

00:27:35,480 --> 00:27:38,480

less than an hour's ride from the Bannock Gallows.

574

00:27:38,480 --> 00:27:41,480

So why here? Why are you interested in this spot?

575

00:27:41,480 --> 00:27:43,480

We're standing right on the edge of the Dakota Load.

576

00:27:43,480 --> 00:27:48,480

The Dakota Load was the richest mine in this entire area.

577

00:27:48,480 --> 00:27:49,480

So this is gold country?

578

00:27:49,480 --> 00:27:50,480

This is gold country.

579

00:27:50,480 --> 00:27:52,480

This is what you call the motherload.

580

00:27:52,480 --> 00:27:54,480

When did you start mining in there originally?

581

00:27:54,480 --> 00:27:56,480

In 1986.

582

00:27:56,480 --> 00:27:57,480

What'd you pull out of it?

583

00:27:57,480 --> 00:28:00,480

In 1988, we got 1,700 ounces right here.

584

00:28:00,480 --> 00:28:01,480

Right here?

585

00:28:01,480 --> 00:28:02,480

Right here.

586

00:28:02,480 --> 00:28:03,480

Worth about how much?

587

00:28:03,480 --> 00:28:06,480

Well, today, probably well over 2 million bucks.

588

00:28:06,480 --> 00:28:07,480

I'm in the wrong business.

589

00:28:07,480 --> 00:28:08,480

Yeah.

590

00:28:08,480 --> 00:28:09,480

I like it.

591

00:28:09,480 --> 00:28:10,480

Yes, yes, you are.

592

00:28:10,480 --> 00:28:13,480

But Rob hasn't excavated the area under our feet,

593

00:28:13,480 --> 00:28:16,480

an old mining claim that might just be the jackpot.

594

00:28:16,480 --> 00:28:18,480

From the research that I've done,

595

00:28:18,480 --> 00:28:21,480

this mine was a time of Henry Plumber.

596

00:28:21,480 --> 00:28:24,480

And in the courthouse, there's records with his name

597

00:28:24,480 --> 00:28:26,480

tied to the Dakota Load.

598

00:28:26,480 --> 00:28:28,480

His signature is right there.

599

00:28:28,480 --> 00:28:30,480

Plumber was here, and this would have been an ideal spot

600

00:28:30,480 --> 00:28:34,480

for him to hide his gold in one of these shafts.

601

00:28:34,480 --> 00:28:37,480

And they've all been explored except for this one.

602

00:28:37,480 --> 00:28:40,480

I've been waiting for years to get permission to come up here.

603

00:28:40,480 --> 00:28:41,480

And now I got it.

604

00:28:41,480 --> 00:28:42,480

OK.

605

00:28:42,480 --> 00:28:43,480

Let's do it.

606

00:28:43,480 --> 00:28:44,480

Are you kidding?

607

00:28:44,480 --> 00:28:45,480

I was doing it.

608

00:28:45,480 --> 00:28:46,480

I'm ready.

609

00:28:46,480 --> 00:28:50,480

This is an unprecedented opportunity to explore a long-sealed mine,

610

00:28:50,480 --> 00:28:52,480

associated with Henry Plumber.

611

00:28:52,480 --> 00:28:56,480

We hiked down to a deep gully where we meet Rob's associate, Bobby,

612

00:28:56,480 --> 00:28:59,480

a mining engineer who's here to help Rob reopen the mine shaft.

613

00:28:59,480 --> 00:29:00,480

Nice to meet you.

614

00:29:00,480 --> 00:29:01,480

Josh, how are you?

615

00:29:01,480 --> 00:29:02,480

I'm good.

616

00:29:02,480 --> 00:29:03,480

I'm good.

617

00:29:03,480 --> 00:29:04,480

Well, Josh, this is it.

618

00:29:04,480 --> 00:29:05,480

This is it.

619

00:29:05,480 --> 00:29:06,480

This is it.

620

00:29:06,480 --> 00:29:10,480

I'm not an expert, but I do not see a mine.

621

00:29:10,480 --> 00:29:12,480

You've got to look through the eyes of a miner.

622

00:29:12,480 --> 00:29:13,480

OK.

623

00:29:13,480 --> 00:29:14,480

And what would I see?

624

00:29:14,480 --> 00:29:15,480

Hey, Bobby, do you got that map?

625

00:29:15,480 --> 00:29:16,480

Map, yep.

626

00:29:16,480 --> 00:29:17,480

We got a map here.

627

00:29:18,480 --> 00:29:23,480

150 years ago, this was an open shaft, and we're going to try to find where the opening

628

00:29:23,480 --> 00:29:26,480

of this shaft that goes inside to all these old workings.

629

00:29:26,480 --> 00:29:28,480

There's a maze of workings going through here.

630

00:29:28,480 --> 00:29:34,480

Rob's been basing his research on a historic survey map that's over 150 years old.

631

00:29:34,480 --> 00:29:36,480

And you're saying all of this is inside the hill?

632

00:29:36,480 --> 00:29:39,480

This is inside the hill, and we're going to get inside there and find out if this is

633

00:29:39,480 --> 00:29:40,480

for real or not.

634

00:29:40,480 --> 00:29:42,480

I mean, you literally have a treasure map.

635

00:29:42,480 --> 00:29:43,480

We have a treasure map.

636

00:29:43,480 --> 00:29:44,480

How do we get to it?

637

00:29:44,480 --> 00:29:46,480

Well, that's what we got Bobby here for.

638

00:29:46,480 --> 00:29:47,480

We're going to do some probing here.

639

00:29:47,480 --> 00:29:48,480

All right.

640

00:29:48,480 --> 00:29:51,480

See if we can locate where the opening is on the other side of this.

641

00:29:51,480 --> 00:29:55,480

If we do find the old shaft, we can put a charge in there and try to get some of this

642

00:29:55,480 --> 00:29:57,480

overburden out of the way.

643

00:29:57,480 --> 00:29:59,480

And when you say a charge, you mean an explosive?

644

00:29:59,480 --> 00:30:00,480

Absolutely.

645

00:30:00,480 --> 00:30:01,480

Mining explosive.

646

00:30:01,480 --> 00:30:02,480

You didn't tell me we were going to blow your ass up.

647

00:30:02,480 --> 00:30:03,480

I can't tell you everything.

648

00:30:03,480 --> 00:30:04,480

Now we're talking.

649

00:30:04,480 --> 00:30:06,480

Yes, we're having fun.

650

00:30:06,480 --> 00:30:07,480

Oh, I like this.

651

00:30:07,480 --> 00:30:08,480

All right.

652

00:30:08,480 --> 00:30:09,480

So let's get into it, yeah?

653

00:30:09,480 --> 00:30:10,480

Yeah, yeah.

654

00:30:10,480 --> 00:30:11,480

Go, sir.

655

00:30:11,480 --> 00:30:12,480

Just start digging.

656

00:30:13,480 --> 00:30:16,480

Grabbing our tools, we start to probe the hillside.

657

00:30:20,480 --> 00:30:25,480

After two hours under a blazing sun, frankly, it starts to feel like a wild goose chase.

658

00:30:32,480 --> 00:30:33,480

Got it.

659

00:30:33,480 --> 00:30:34,480

Got it.

660

00:30:34,480 --> 00:30:35,480

You got it?

661

00:30:35,480 --> 00:30:37,480

Something just gave in right there.

662

00:30:37,480 --> 00:30:38,480

Oh, yeah.

663

00:30:38,480 --> 00:30:40,480

That's collapsed right there.

664

00:30:40,480 --> 00:30:42,480

Going down into something.

665

00:30:44,480 --> 00:30:46,480

All right there, Josh.

666

00:30:48,480 --> 00:30:49,480

What do you think, Rob?

667

00:30:49,480 --> 00:30:50,480

Let's blow this son of a...

668

00:30:50,480 --> 00:30:51,480

Got it.

669

00:30:51,480 --> 00:30:52,480

I'm ready.

670

00:30:52,480 --> 00:30:53,480

Come on.

671

00:30:53,480 --> 00:30:54,480

Love this guy.

672

00:30:57,480 --> 00:31:03,480

Even though we're casually talking about blowing stuff up, this actually requires a lot of precision.

673

00:31:03,480 --> 00:31:08,480

Bobby determines the exact amount of explosive to use and places it specifically in the one

674

00:31:08,480 --> 00:31:13,480

spot where the blast will open the mine without causing it to collapse again.

675

00:31:13,480 --> 00:31:18,480

Once the charges are set, we hike back to a nice safe distance from the mine and then

676

00:31:18,480 --> 00:31:19,480

the moment of truth.

677

00:31:19,480 --> 00:31:20,480

Here we go.

678

00:31:21,480 --> 00:31:23,480

Fire the hole.

679

00:31:28,480 --> 00:31:33,480

Near the mother load of Montana's Gold Rush Country, prospector Rob Towner has a theory

680

00:31:33,480 --> 00:31:38,480

that Plummer's infamous stolen fortune is hidden in a mine only a few feet below us.

681

00:31:38,480 --> 00:31:39,480

Rob's solution?

682

00:31:39,480 --> 00:31:43,480

It's as simple as three, two, one.

683

00:31:44,480 --> 00:31:45,480

Fire in the hole.

684

00:31:59,480 --> 00:32:00,480

That was a good one.

685

00:32:01,480 --> 00:32:02,480

Hit the...

686

00:32:04,480 --> 00:32:05,480

Here we go.

687

00:32:05,480 --> 00:32:07,480

Guys, we might have been a little close.

688

00:32:07,480 --> 00:32:09,480

That was just Claude's dirt.

689

00:32:09,480 --> 00:32:10,480

Don't worry about it.

690

00:32:10,480 --> 00:32:11,480

Just get the bare rock.

691

00:32:14,480 --> 00:32:21,480

When the dust settles, we go to look into our newly opened mine shaft, which isn't quite open yet.

692

00:32:22,480 --> 00:32:26,480

Well, everything we blew out, a bunch more fell on top of it.

693

00:32:26,480 --> 00:32:27,480

Yeah.

694

00:32:27,480 --> 00:32:28,480

That's pretty much the way that went.

695

00:32:31,480 --> 00:32:37,480

We tried dynamite, now for the mining equivalent of a scalpel, a backhoe to scrape away the last

696

00:32:37,480 --> 00:32:42,480

tons of earth separating us from what is hopefully Henry Plummer's secret stash of gold.

697

00:32:49,480 --> 00:32:50,480

Got to be getting close.

698

00:32:52,480 --> 00:32:53,480

He's on the right angle.

699

00:32:53,480 --> 00:32:54,480

Yeah, I don't know.

700

00:32:55,480 --> 00:33:00,480

Holy f***, I think we hit the son of a...

701

00:33:01,480 --> 00:33:02,480

You got it!

702

00:33:02,480 --> 00:33:03,480

Come on, check it out.

703

00:33:03,480 --> 00:33:04,480

Holy...

704

00:33:04,480 --> 00:33:05,480

Josh...

705

00:33:05,480 --> 00:33:06,480

Bobby...

706

00:33:06,480 --> 00:33:07,480

Right there, yeah?

707

00:33:07,480 --> 00:33:08,480

Look at this.

708

00:33:08,480 --> 00:33:09,480

There's a big crack right there.

709

00:33:09,480 --> 00:33:10,480

Look at that.

710

00:33:10,480 --> 00:33:13,480

The son of a f*** doesn't open in a hundred years.

711

00:33:18,480 --> 00:33:19,480

You're close, buddy.

712

00:33:21,480 --> 00:33:22,480

Look at that.

713

00:33:22,480 --> 00:33:23,480

Look at that.

714

00:33:23,480 --> 00:33:24,480

There's a mine down there.

715

00:33:24,480 --> 00:33:25,480

Yeah.

716

00:33:27,480 --> 00:33:28,480

Look at that, Josh!

717

00:33:28,480 --> 00:33:29,480

Woo!

718

00:33:29,480 --> 00:33:30,480

Hey, hey, hey!

719

00:33:30,480 --> 00:33:31,480

Nice work, dude.

720

00:33:31,480 --> 00:33:33,480

This is what you call discovery.

721

00:33:34,480 --> 00:33:35,480

We don't want to waste any time.

722

00:33:35,480 --> 00:33:40,480

As soon as we've checked to make sure the opening will hold, Rob and I venture into the mine.

723

00:33:44,480 --> 00:33:45,480

Josh, can you believe this?

724

00:33:45,480 --> 00:33:46,480

Look at this.

725

00:33:47,480 --> 00:33:48,480

Check it out.

726

00:33:48,480 --> 00:33:49,480

Look at this place.

727

00:33:50,480 --> 00:33:54,480

You're seeing a place that nobody has laid eyes on for a century.

728

00:33:54,480 --> 00:33:59,480

And there's a potent feeling of possibility and danger as we move deeper inside.

729

00:34:00,480 --> 00:34:01,480

Look how far back it goes.

730

00:34:02,480 --> 00:34:04,480

What a great place to hide something.

731

00:34:04,480 --> 00:34:05,480

Oh, for sure.

732

00:34:07,480 --> 00:34:09,480

Plumber wasn't just a sheriff.

733

00:34:09,480 --> 00:34:10,480

He was a mine owner.

734

00:34:10,480 --> 00:34:12,480

His name is Anna Dakota Lowe.

735

00:34:12,480 --> 00:34:13,480

He was part of it.

736

00:34:13,480 --> 00:34:14,480

Right.

737

00:34:14,480 --> 00:34:16,480

This tunnel is part of what he owned.

738

00:34:16,480 --> 00:34:18,480

What a great place to hide your gold.

739

00:34:18,480 --> 00:34:19,480

Right.

740

00:34:19,480 --> 00:34:20,480

This is where I'd look.

741

00:34:20,480 --> 00:34:21,480

Okay, I'm totally convinced now.

742

00:34:21,480 --> 00:34:22,480

Let's go get ready.

743

00:34:24,480 --> 00:34:29,480

We keep going, but as we travel through the mine, a sobering thought occurs to me.

744

00:34:30,480 --> 00:34:31,480

It's like a maze down here.

745

00:34:33,480 --> 00:34:35,480

Are you remembering where we are?

746

00:34:35,480 --> 00:34:36,480

Yeah, kinda.

747

00:34:37,480 --> 00:34:38,480

Kinda, kinda.

748

00:34:38,480 --> 00:34:39,480

Okay.

749

00:34:39,480 --> 00:34:42,480

I mean, it's really easy to get turned around.

750

00:34:42,480 --> 00:34:44,480

I have been lost underground before.

751

00:34:44,480 --> 00:34:46,480

Is now one of those times?

752

00:34:46,480 --> 00:34:48,480

Well, you know, it wouldn't take much longer.

753

00:34:49,480 --> 00:34:50,480

Okay, good.

754

00:34:50,480 --> 00:34:52,480

Good, good, good to know.

755

00:34:52,480 --> 00:34:53,480

Good to know.

756

00:34:55,480 --> 00:35:00,480

Instead of leaving a trail of breadcrumbs to find our way home, we have glow sticks.

757

00:35:01,480 --> 00:35:04,480

Which is the first time I've ever seen them used for anything productive.

758

00:35:06,480 --> 00:35:10,480

Soon, we begin to see signs that this was once an active operation.

759

00:35:11,480 --> 00:35:15,480

There are old rail tracks everywhere, and the passages here just keep going.

760

00:35:15,480 --> 00:35:17,480

Give or take the occasional dead end.

761

00:35:19,480 --> 00:35:21,480

End of the line in this tunnel.

762

00:35:23,480 --> 00:35:28,480

We've been underground for hours, when it suddenly occurs to us that even though we haven't found Plummer's treasure yet,

763

00:35:28,480 --> 00:35:31,480

we may be surrounded by the raw material.

764

00:35:31,480 --> 00:35:34,480

This place looks like it could still have un-mined gold.

765

00:35:34,480 --> 00:35:35,480

What's this?

766

00:35:35,480 --> 00:35:37,480

Ooh, this is where you find the gold at.

767

00:35:37,480 --> 00:35:38,480

What is this stuff?

768

00:35:38,480 --> 00:35:39,480

This is limonite, Josh.

769

00:35:39,480 --> 00:35:40,480

Limonite.

770

00:35:40,480 --> 00:35:44,480

And that's what carries the gold bearing solutions that enrich this whole Baelic area.

771

00:35:44,480 --> 00:35:46,480

So where you find this, you find gold.

772

00:35:46,480 --> 00:35:49,480

Usually you always find gold where you find this limonite.

773

00:35:53,480 --> 00:35:58,480

We begin scraping at the walls, and soon I understand how people get so caught up in this.

774

00:35:58,480 --> 00:36:00,480

I feel a primal need to keep searching.

775

00:36:01,480 --> 00:36:05,480

Perhaps it's this feeling that drove Henry Plummer to commit the heinous act of which he was accused.

776

00:36:06,480 --> 00:36:09,480

Either way, I just really want to find some gold.

777

00:36:11,480 --> 00:36:12,480

That is limonite there.

778

00:36:13,480 --> 00:36:14,480

That's shiny under it.

779

00:36:14,480 --> 00:36:16,480

See that behind it, behind the quartz there?

780

00:36:16,480 --> 00:36:17,480

Wow.

781

00:36:17,480 --> 00:36:19,480

That's kind of glinty.

782

00:36:20,480 --> 00:36:21,480

Something there, Rob.

783

00:36:24,480 --> 00:36:25,480

It's shiny.

784

00:36:26,480 --> 00:36:27,480

Yeah, I think this could be it.

785

00:36:27,480 --> 00:36:28,480

Is that limonite?

786

00:36:28,480 --> 00:36:29,480

Look at that.

787

00:36:29,480 --> 00:36:30,480

That's gold.

788

00:36:31,480 --> 00:36:32,480

Ooh!

789

00:36:36,480 --> 00:36:50,480

In share of Henry Plummer's own gold mine, some thereof, my desire to find his cash of stolen loot

has been put aside for a moment, because I may have just found my own treasure.

790

00:36:50,480 --> 00:36:51,480

Is that limonite?

791

00:36:51,480 --> 00:36:53,480

I think he got a piece of gold there.

792

00:36:53,480 --> 00:36:54,480

Shut up.

793

00:36:55,480 --> 00:36:56,480

I think it is.

794

00:36:56,480 --> 00:36:58,480

Josh, it is.

795

00:36:59,480 --> 00:37:00,480

That's gold?

796

00:37:00,480 --> 00:37:01,480

Yep.

797

00:37:01,480 --> 00:37:02,480

That's gold.

798

00:37:02,480 --> 00:37:03,480

That's real gold.

799

00:37:03,480 --> 00:37:04,480

He just found some gold.

800

00:37:04,480 --> 00:37:05,480

Some real gold.

801

00:37:05,480 --> 00:37:06,480

Are you f***ing kidding me?

802

00:37:06,480 --> 00:37:07,480

I'm telling you, that's gold.

803

00:37:07,480 --> 00:37:08,480

That's it?

804

00:37:08,480 --> 00:37:09,480

Yeah.

805

00:37:09,480 --> 00:37:10,480

I quit.

806

00:37:10,480 --> 00:37:11,480

I quit the show.

807

00:37:11,480 --> 00:37:12,480

Thanks everybody.

808

00:37:12,480 --> 00:37:13,480

Thanks for tuning in.

809

00:37:13,480 --> 00:37:14,480

Hope you enjoyed it.

810

00:37:14,480 --> 00:37:15,480

How much is this worth?

811

00:37:15,480 --> 00:37:16,480

A hundred bucks.

812

00:37:17,480 --> 00:37:19,480

Okay, I'm going to still be hosting next week.

813

00:37:19,480 --> 00:37:20,480

I think.

814

00:37:20,480 --> 00:37:21,480

I'll still be here.

815

00:37:22,480 --> 00:37:24,480

Well, no sign of Plummer's treasure down here.

816

00:37:24,480 --> 00:37:27,480

This is certainly not a man's weight in gold.

817

00:37:27,480 --> 00:37:28,480

No.

818

00:37:28,480 --> 00:37:29,480

But I'll tell you what.

819

00:37:29,480 --> 00:37:30,480

It's a start.

820

00:37:30,480 --> 00:37:31,480

It's a great start.

821

00:37:31,480 --> 00:37:32,480

Yeah, it's a great start.

822

00:37:32,480 --> 00:37:33,480

I'm going to get you a new one.

823

00:37:33,480 --> 00:37:34,480

I got my knife.

824

00:37:34,480 --> 00:37:35,480

I want to dig some more.

825

00:37:35,480 --> 00:37:36,480

So that all came right out of here.

826

00:37:36,480 --> 00:37:37,480

Your eyes are better than mine.

827

00:37:37,480 --> 00:37:38,480

Okay, I'm going in.

828

00:37:38,480 --> 00:37:39,480

Give me a light.

829

00:37:39,480 --> 00:37:42,480

And that's how Rob and I spend the night.

830

00:37:42,480 --> 00:37:45,480

Deep underground with a full blown case of gold fever.

831

00:37:49,480 --> 00:37:50,480

By the light of a new day,

832

00:37:50,480 --> 00:37:52,480

I've got a few more flakes of gold in my pocket

833

00:37:52,480 --> 00:37:55,480

and one last stop on my expedition.

834

00:37:55,480 --> 00:37:58,480

A historian has come forward with an explanation

835

00:37:58,480 --> 00:38:00,480

for why no one in the last 150 years

836

00:38:00,480 --> 00:38:02,480

has brought home the prize.

837

00:38:02,480 --> 00:38:04,480

To hear his solution to the Plummer puzzle,

838

00:38:04,480 --> 00:38:06,480

I go to the nearby Beaverhead County Museum

839

00:38:06,480 --> 00:38:08,480

in the town of Dillon,

840

00:38:08,480 --> 00:38:10,480

where mining records going all the way back

841

00:38:10,480 --> 00:38:13,480

to Henry Plummer's Day are curated by Mark Webber.

842

00:38:13,480 --> 00:38:15,480

I am really excited to see what you've got to show me.

843

00:38:15,480 --> 00:38:17,480

Yeah, well, I got to show you this book.

844

00:38:17,480 --> 00:38:20,480

This is an incredible volume that's been hidden

845

00:38:20,480 --> 00:38:21,480

for a long time.

846

00:38:21,480 --> 00:38:23,480

A lot of historians don't know about it.

847

00:38:23,480 --> 00:38:24,480

And where does it come from?

848

00:38:24,480 --> 00:38:26,480

It comes from the county records.

849

00:38:26,480 --> 00:38:28,480

It's a collection of records of different things

850

00:38:28,480 --> 00:38:30,480

that the sheriff would have done

851

00:38:30,480 --> 00:38:32,480

of different deeds that were recorded.

852

00:38:32,480 --> 00:38:33,480

What year are we in here?

853

00:38:33,480 --> 00:38:35,480

1863 to 1865.

854

00:38:35,480 --> 00:38:38,480

Wow, and these are all original pages handwritten.

855

00:38:38,480 --> 00:38:41,480

The documents not only refer to Plummer by name,

856

00:38:41,480 --> 00:38:43,480

but they also mention the vigilantes.

857

00:38:43,480 --> 00:38:45,480

The citizens of Bannock that banded together

858

00:38:45,480 --> 00:38:48,480

accused Plummer of mastermining the local robberies

859

00:38:48,480 --> 00:38:51,480

and dragged him to his execution.

860

00:38:51,480 --> 00:38:53,480

One of the really shocking things

861

00:38:53,480 --> 00:38:55,480

that the Historical Rical reviews

862

00:38:55,480 --> 00:38:57,480

is that there is a motivation for the vigilantes

863

00:38:57,480 --> 00:39:00,480

and the motivation is that they can get the property

864

00:39:00,480 --> 00:39:01,480

of those that they hang.

865

00:39:01,480 --> 00:39:02,480

Wait a minute.

866

00:39:02,480 --> 00:39:04,480

So you're saying that the vigilantes as a group,

867

00:39:04,480 --> 00:39:06,480

when they hang somebody, they get their stuff?

868

00:39:06,480 --> 00:39:08,480

Yeah, they get their stuff.

869

00:39:08,480 --> 00:39:12,480

That seems like a crazy, dangerous system.

870

00:39:12,480 --> 00:39:15,480

So far from being the righteous agents of justice,

871

00:39:15,480 --> 00:39:18,480

the vigilantes were seizing the property of their victims,

872

00:39:18,480 --> 00:39:21,480

making the line between them and the local bandits

873

00:39:21,480 --> 00:39:23,480

a blurry one indeed.

874

00:39:23,480 --> 00:39:26,480

What we're looking at here is Henry Plummer

875

00:39:26,480 --> 00:39:28,480

owned the Dakota Mine,

876

00:39:28,480 --> 00:39:31,480

and he gave half of that mine to his good friend, Chrisman.

877

00:39:31,480 --> 00:39:34,480

So it turns out Chrisman was a vigilante.

878

00:39:34,480 --> 00:39:36,480

The documents show that Plummer signed over part

879

00:39:36,480 --> 00:39:38,480

of his lucrative stake in the local mine

880

00:39:38,480 --> 00:39:41,480

to one of his friends, or so he fought.

881

00:39:41,480 --> 00:39:44,480

Plummer's thinking Chrisman is a good friend of his?

882

00:39:44,480 --> 00:39:46,480

No.

883

00:39:46,480 --> 00:39:49,480

So he signs it over to one of the vigilantes,

884

00:39:49,480 --> 00:39:52,480

and then not too long after the vigilantes hang Plummer.

885

00:39:52,480 --> 00:39:53,480

Right.

886

00:39:53,480 --> 00:39:55,480

Very suspicious timing.

887

00:39:55,480 --> 00:39:57,480

Yes, it is.

888

00:39:57,480 --> 00:39:59,480

By arresting Plummer, his supposed friend

889

00:39:59,480 --> 00:40:01,480

and the rest of the citizen vigilantes

890

00:40:01,480 --> 00:40:04,480

could have taken complete control of his holdings

891

00:40:04,480 --> 00:40:07,480

and hanged him without so much as a trial.

892

00:40:07,480 --> 00:40:10,480

This is incredible because it takes this story

893

00:40:10,480 --> 00:40:12,480

and turns it entirely on its head.

894

00:40:12,480 --> 00:40:15,480

I mean, it may be that every element of this,

895

00:40:15,480 --> 00:40:16,480

we've been looking at the wrong way.

896

00:40:16,480 --> 00:40:18,480

Absolutely.

897

00:40:18,480 --> 00:40:20,480

If Plummer was killed for his gold claims

898

00:40:20,480 --> 00:40:22,480

and not for his crimes,

899

00:40:22,480 --> 00:40:25,480

he would have hanged as an innocent man.

900

00:40:28,480 --> 00:40:31,480

If Plummer's innocent, do you think there's no gold

901

00:40:31,480 --> 00:40:33,480

up in them, their hills, as it were?

902

00:40:33,480 --> 00:40:35,480

No, I think there may be gold up there,

903

00:40:35,480 --> 00:40:37,480

and there was a lot of gold taken out of the mines.

904

00:40:37,480 --> 00:40:38,480

Right.

905

00:40:38,480 --> 00:40:40,480

But it's not here any Plummer's.

906

00:40:40,480 --> 00:40:42,480

So why do you think everyone is so convinced

907

00:40:42,480 --> 00:40:44,480

that Plummer's the bad guy in all this?

908

00:40:44,480 --> 00:40:47,480

Well, they're convinced because that's what all the books say.

909

00:40:47,480 --> 00:40:50,480

But unfortunately, history is told by those who survive,

910

00:40:50,480 --> 00:40:52,480

not those who are hanged.

911

00:40:54,480 --> 00:40:56,480

Was Henry Plummer really innocent

912

00:40:56,480 --> 00:40:58,480

of the crimes for which he was hanged?

913

00:40:58,480 --> 00:41:01,480

Was his promise to return with his weight in gold

914

00:41:01,480 --> 00:41:04,480

the last act of a desperate but honorable man?

915

00:41:04,480 --> 00:41:06,480

We may never know for sure,

916

00:41:06,480 --> 00:41:08,480

but the many highway robberies around Bannock

917

00:41:08,480 --> 00:41:11,480

were real and a fortune in gold was never recovered.

918

00:41:11,480 --> 00:41:15,480

And as I've galloped across the pages of Plummer's story,

919

00:41:15,480 --> 00:41:18,480

I've discovered the unknown in hidden caverns

920

00:41:18,480 --> 00:41:22,480

and lasers are creating a 21st century map of natural treasures.

921

00:41:22,480 --> 00:41:26,480

The chilly waters have yielded up evidence of bygone ballistics,

922

00:41:26,480 --> 00:41:28,480

clues that link us to Plummer's legend.

923

00:41:28,480 --> 00:41:31,480

And I even got to blow stuff up.

924

00:41:31,480 --> 00:41:32,480

Fire in the hole!

925

00:41:32,480 --> 00:41:35,480

Helping to rediscover a lost tunnel to the past

926

00:41:35,480 --> 00:41:37,480

that's still lined with riches.

927

00:41:37,480 --> 00:41:39,480

He just found some hole.

928

00:41:39,480 --> 00:41:42,480

As for Plummer the man, he remains just out of reach.

929

00:41:42,480 --> 00:41:45,480

A character who gave rise to a mystery

930

00:41:45,480 --> 00:41:49,480

and inspired a legendary treasure hunt for the ages.