

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,940

tonight a pirate treasure worth millions blackbeard looted dozens of

2

00:00:08,940 --> 00:00:13,200

ships and was able to walk away scot-free and it's still missing despite

3

00:00:13,200 --> 00:00:18,600

centuries of searching we know where he attacked ships where he hung out where

4

00:00:18,600 --> 00:00:23,040

he stopped for a time but in none of these places has blackbeard's treasure

5

00:00:23,040 --> 00:00:28,440

been found now we unearth the top theories around this legendary board

6

00:00:28,440 --> 00:00:32,800

blackbeard goes from public enemy number one to best friends with the

7

00:00:32,800 --> 00:00:37,240

governor overnight all of blackbeard's treasure now it's somewhere at the

8

00:00:37,240 --> 00:00:41,000

bottom of the ocean many of blackbeard's former crew members believed the

9

00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:45,160

blackbeard had made a deal with the devil what really became of blackbeard's

10

00:00:45,160 --> 00:00:50,080

lost treasure and where could it be

11

00:00:58,440 --> 00:01:11,360

November 21st 1996 Beaufort Inlet North Carolina a dive team led by historian

12

00:01:11,360 --> 00:01:21,320

film masters is attempting to find a lost centuries-old treasure the dive

13

00:01:21,320 --> 00:01:26,120

team is looking for a very specific pirate ship which may have been the

14

00:01:26,120 --> 00:01:31,760

most notorious pirate vessel of all time the ship is called the queen and

15

00:01:31,760 --> 00:01:38,480

revenge and it was helmed by the notorious pirate blackbeard blackbeard is

16

00:01:38,480 --> 00:01:42,000

probably the most famous pirate ever to live even though his actual pirate

17

00:01:42,000 --> 00:01:46,920

career was quite short in comparison to others he was most active between 1717

18

00:01:46,920 --> 00:01:52,600

and 1718 during the golden age of piracy blackbeard is one of the best-known

19

00:01:52,600 --> 00:01:58,000

figures of colonial American history but today 300 years later we really don't

20

00:01:58,000 --> 00:02:03,760

know much about his identity origins or even motivations for becoming a pirate

21

00:02:03,760 --> 00:02:07,960

there's a lot of questions and mysteries about blackbeard's background the first

22

00:02:07,960 --> 00:02:11,480

of which is his own name there's a few different accounts that spell it

23

00:02:11,480 --> 00:02:16,640

differently in the majority of the official records his name was written

24

00:02:16,640 --> 00:02:21,960

as Edward Thatch which has since become teach other people said he was a captain

25

00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:26,480

drummond somebody interpreted the wording in a later document to believe that

26

00:02:26,480 --> 00:02:30,840

his last name was Kentish the fact is there were many pirates who actually

27

00:02:30,840 --> 00:02:36,920

went by aliases so his identity and his real name are very much in doubt today

28

00:02:36,920 --> 00:02:43,080

much like his name blackbeard's early life is unknown the first time we hear

29

00:02:43,080 --> 00:02:47,440

about blackbeard is about 1716 and this is when he was sailing under the pirate

30

00:02:47,440 --> 00:02:53,040

Benjamin Hornigold and blackbeard was Hornigold's protege and became Hornigold

31

00:02:53,040 --> 00:02:58,320

second in command less than a year later Hornigold promotes blackbeard to

32

00:02:58,320 --> 00:03:04,840

captain of a small sloop in his fleet with a crew of 70 men how does a man

33

00:03:04,840 --> 00:03:10,800

become the captain of a sloop first of all he almost certainly would have been

34

00:03:10,800 --> 00:03:15,880

better educated than most of the men that he was with he was able to read and

35

00:03:15,920 --> 00:03:20,160

write he was able to navigate these were not characteristics that were common

36

00:03:20,160 --> 00:03:23,360

among most men at that time

37

00:03:23,360 --> 00:03:27,240

Benjamin Hornigold and blackbeard the two of them as pirates they're sailing up

38

00:03:27,240 --> 00:03:30,520

and down the American Eastern seaboard they were wreaking havoc against a lot

39

00:03:30,520 --> 00:03:34,720

of merchant ships and they're especially active between the Carolinas and down to

40

00:03:34,720 --> 00:03:38,480

Cuba and that's because there's a lot of major trading routes they're looking

41

00:03:38,480 --> 00:03:43,360

for things they can sell like textiles spices different types of alcohol such as

42

00:03:43,400 --> 00:03:47,360

wine and rum anything they could sell at a high price and coming out of the

43

00:03:47,360 --> 00:03:51,200

Caribbean where so much of this is being traded it's ripe for the picking

44

00:03:51,200 --> 00:03:56,800

despite their success blackbeard and Hornigold are soon at odds with each

45

00:03:56,800 --> 00:04:01,440

other blackbeard and Benjamin Hornigold had some philosophical differences

46

00:04:01,440 --> 00:04:05,120

about how to conduct piracy and really what it meant to be a pirate

47

00:04:05,120 --> 00:04:11,120

Benjamin Hornigold specifically did not want to attack British shipping but of

48

00:04:11,160 --> 00:04:15,120

course that means that his men lost out on lots and lots of plunder it upset a

49

00:04:15,120 --> 00:04:19,240

lot of the men in Hornigold's crew blackbeard on the other hand he's more

50

00:04:19,240 --> 00:04:23,920

gung-ho he wants to rob any ship he's indiscriminate about who he attacks and

51

00:04:23,920 --> 00:04:28,640

so he wants more of that freedom to be able to really hit other ships hard by

52

00:04:28,640 --> 00:04:35,480

1717 Hornigold is forced to retire and blackbeard is declared head of the

53

00:04:35,600 --> 00:04:41,640

fleet he immediately sets out to make a name for himself blackbeard projects

54

00:04:41,640 --> 00:04:47,840

this fearsome image right he's this big bold person he wears dark clothes he's

55

00:04:47,840 --> 00:04:52,240

got the dark crazy hair the big blackbeard the whole point was to be

56

00:04:52,240 --> 00:04:57,360

terrifying blackbeard knew he was gaining a reputation very quickly because of

57

00:04:57,360 --> 00:05:02,120

his looks and he began to capitalize on it in a way if you're a sailor or a

58

00:05:02,160 --> 00:05:06,320

navy man and you see this crazy man coming at you you are gonna give up

59

00:05:06,320 --> 00:05:12,720

your ship right away by late November 1717 blackbeard commands three ships

60

00:05:12,720 --> 00:05:18,120

with nearly 200 crewmen including the Queen Anne's revenge at the height of

61

00:05:18,120 --> 00:05:22,760

blackbeard's power he had more men more guns and more ships than any other

62

00:05:22,760 --> 00:05:26,920

pirate captain sailing so this heavily armed fleet of ships that he has

63

00:05:26,920 --> 00:05:30,680

including his flagship the Queen Anne's revenge blackbeard is basically

64

00:05:30,720 --> 00:05:36,320

unstoppable during this period blackbeard was an amazingly successful

65

00:05:36,320 --> 00:05:41,360

pirate he's captured you know dozens of vessels as they were approaching major

66

00:05:41,360 --> 00:05:45,920

east coast ports and is reading almost all the shipping trying to go in and out

67

00:05:45,920 --> 00:05:50,200

of the Caribbean in late May and early June blackbeard eventually makes his way

68

00:05:50,200 --> 00:05:56,880

north and blockade support of Charleston he besieges the harbor of

69

00:05:56,920 --> 00:06:01,280

Charleston for a week ships coming in and out he would intercept them he

70

00:06:01,280 --> 00:06:07,200

actually holds Charleston for for ransom and they pay it blackbeard's

71

00:06:07,200 --> 00:06:12,800

success doesn't go unnoticed blackbeard is becoming a lot more famous which

72

00:06:12,800 --> 00:06:17,040

means a lot more authorities are starting to look for him in various places at

73

00:06:17,040 --> 00:06:23,280

the time pirates were that powerful that numerous and that dangerous so the king

74

00:06:23,440 --> 00:06:29,000

had decided the only way to defeat the pirates was to divide and conquer them or

75

00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:34,080

in the case of blackbeard to send a privateer named Woods Rogers to capture

76

00:06:34,080 --> 00:06:39,440

him when blackbeard was blockading the port of Charleston one of the residents

77

00:06:39,440 --> 00:06:42,760

informed him that Woods Rogers had departed England and was on his way to

78

00:06:42,760 --> 00:06:47,320

the Bahamas to become the governor to break up this pirate republic that had

79

00:06:47,320 --> 00:06:54,680

been established I think blackbeard knew Woods Rogers was after him and so he

80

00:06:54,680 --> 00:06:59,800

goes up and topsoil inlet which is today Beauford limit presumably to fight a

81

00:06:59,800 --> 00:07:05,800

well-armed enemy and he hits a shoal and runs aground another of blackbeard's

82

00:07:05,800 --> 00:07:12,120

ships the adventure comes to his aid but it's too late this is pretty bad for

83

00:07:12,120 --> 00:07:16,560

blackbeard it is more than likely most of the loot most of the real valuable

84

00:07:16,600 --> 00:07:20,440

goods especially if it's blackbeard's flagship were stored on the queen and

85

00:07:20,440 --> 00:07:25,800

revenge at this point blackbeard's treasure is estimated to be tens of

86

00:07:25,800 --> 00:07:30,520

millions of dollars his own ledger reads about 12 and a half but it's incomplete

87

00:07:30,520 --> 00:07:34,440

suggesting that there's possibly more where that came from so this leads to

88

00:07:34,440 --> 00:07:38,520

the question what happened to the treasure the most logical place to look

89

00:07:38,520 --> 00:07:41,720

would be at its last known location on his ship

90

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:44,000

Queen Anne's revenge

91

00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:49,640

despite knowing the general location of the wreck no one is able to find the

92

00:07:49,640 --> 00:07:54,320

Queen Anne's revenge once the ship is abandoned it probably wouldn't take

93

00:07:54,320 --> 00:07:59,000

long for it to start falling apart it was already in pretty bad shape and it's

94

00:07:59,000 --> 00:08:03,720

relatively warm water so any wood that's exposed is going to be eaten by the

95

00:08:03,720 --> 00:08:09,280

Torrito shipworms and I would say within a year you might not see much of it

96

00:08:09,320 --> 00:08:15,960

above water and within 10 years you wouldn't even know it was there then in

97

00:08:15,960 --> 00:08:21,720

1987 obsessed treasure hunter Phil masters starts a new mission to find

98

00:08:21,720 --> 00:08:26,120

blackbeard's flagship Phil masters has had success in this in lip before finding

99

00:08:26,120 --> 00:08:30,000

other treasure wrecks and since we know that blackbeard's ship went down and

100

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:34,000

around the same spot masters assumes this is a good place to look for it

101

00:08:34,720 --> 00:08:40,440

finally on November 21st 1996 he locates it

102

00:08:42,040 --> 00:08:47,800

this discovery is a huge deal it makes international news it's been 278 years

103

00:08:47,800 --> 00:08:51,240

that people have been looking for this ship so discovering it means we might

104

00:08:51,240 --> 00:08:54,840

actually have some insight into the treasure that blackbeard actually had

105

00:08:55,720 --> 00:08:59,720

the excavation efforts start in 1997

106

00:09:00,080 --> 00:09:04,560

once the the wreck was found then it was up to the archaeologist to come in

107

00:09:04,560 --> 00:09:11,760

grid off the whole area and to tediously go through each square that had been

108

00:09:11,760 --> 00:09:16,760

marked off dredging the the sand up and running it through screen after screen

109

00:09:16,760 --> 00:09:27,480

soon they begin bringing up incredible objects we're finding all kinds of

110

00:09:27,520 --> 00:09:34,720

weaponry at least 40 cannons 20 have been pulled up we found grenades medical

111

00:09:34,720 --> 00:09:40,640

instruments side plates for guns the plates that they ate off it's a treasure

112

00:09:40,640 --> 00:09:46,440

trove of that time period what they don't find is blackbeard's treasure so

113

00:09:46,440 --> 00:09:51,560

even though there's no gold the blooms or or jeweled cups or anything like that

114

00:09:52,120 --> 00:09:59,880

it is a treasure of historical artifacts still the team believes they're on the

115

00:09:59,880 --> 00:10:06,000

right track there has been a small amount of gold dust or small nuggets of

116

00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:11,720

gold that have been recovered archaeologically from the wreck of the

117

00:10:11,720 --> 00:10:17,800

Queen Anne's revenge and there may still yet be a chest of gold or silver or

118

00:10:17,840 --> 00:10:23,160

jewels the archaeology on the Queen Anne's revenge has recovered roughly half

119

00:10:23,160 --> 00:10:29,880

of what we you think is down there but it's gonna take a while to get it done

120

00:10:29,880 --> 00:10:35,600

if blackbeard had a large amount of valuables and lewd and plunder doesn't

121

00:10:35,600 --> 00:10:39,560

appear to have been left on the Queen Anne's revenge but would blackbeard take

122

00:10:39,560 --> 00:10:45,120

off and leave the treasure behind I don't think that makes sense

123

00:10:48,080 --> 00:10:53,160

when notorious pirate blackbeard crashes off the coast of modern-day North

124

00:10:53,160 --> 00:10:59,880

Carolina in June 1718 a mystery begins so what happens to all of blackbeard's

125

00:10:59,880 --> 00:11:03,240

treasure this is one of the really big mysteries about him because we really

126

00:11:03,240 --> 00:11:07,280

have no idea the most logical place for blackbeard's treasure would be its last

127

00:11:07,280 --> 00:11:12,000

known place which of course was on his ship the Queen Anne's revenge when the

128

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:16,000

announcement came that the Queen Anne's revenge had been located it was huge

129

00:11:16,200 --> 00:11:22,120

everybody's interested in blackbeard's flagship unfortunately no horde is found

130

00:11:22,120 --> 00:11:28,360

amid the wreckage of the Queen Anne's revenge but evidence suggests blackbeard's

131

00:11:28,360 --> 00:11:33,080

vessel didn't sink immediately after running a ground that gave blackbeard

132

00:11:33,080 --> 00:11:37,080

about a week to ten days to get everybody off the Queen Anne's revenge and

133

00:11:37,080 --> 00:11:41,920

then he could put a salvage crew aboard so that they could recover anything of

134

00:11:41,960 --> 00:11:48,440

the value that they wanted to retain could blackbeard have moved his loot of

135

00:11:48,440 --> 00:11:54,160

course in 1718 there were no banks there were no place to to put your money or

136

00:11:54,160 --> 00:11:59,480

your gold if you had accumulated it and it absolutely makes sense that it might

137

00:11:59,480 --> 00:12:02,760

have been hidden somewhere and hoping that they would be able to go back and

138

00:12:02,760 --> 00:12:07,520

retrieve it shortly after wrecking his ship blackbeard surrenders taking

139

00:12:07,640 --> 00:12:12,600

advantage of a new legal policy the pirates were that dangerous there were so

140

00:12:12,600 --> 00:12:17,440

many of them that the king was willing to issue a pardon that would absolve any

141

00:12:17,440 --> 00:12:21,240

pirate who took it from all of their crimes and they would be able to keep

142

00:12:21,240 --> 00:12:27,520

their treasure and go peacefully into retirement on September 5th 1717

143

00:12:27,520 --> 00:12:32,880

England's King George the first makes a royal decree the terms are if you stop

144

00:12:32,880 --> 00:12:36,960

plundering and turn yourself in we'll stop hunting you and many pirates take

145

00:12:37,080 --> 00:12:41,600

him up on the deal generally if a pirate is going to get captured they will be

146

00:12:41,600 --> 00:12:46,680

put on trial and they will hang that is almost guaranteed so a pardon will allow

147

00:12:46,680 --> 00:12:51,720

a pirate to survive and also keep their goods it takes blackbeard a while to

148

00:12:51,720 --> 00:12:55,160

come around but once he wrecks his flagship the Queen Anne's revenge he

149

00:12:55,160 --> 00:13:00,760

decides the pardon is the best option once he officially retires blackbeard

150

00:13:00,760 --> 00:13:07,200

moves to Bath North Carolina while the Queen Anne's revenge is unsalvageable

151

00:13:07,200 --> 00:13:12,640

he's allowed to keep his smaller ship the adventure for his own personal use

152

00:13:12,640 --> 00:13:19,840

blackbeard arrived in Bath in July of 1718 and bought a fine house where he

153

00:13:19,840 --> 00:13:24,400

would host these grand parties and invite his neighbors and the plantation

154

00:13:24,400 --> 00:13:28,880

owners he lives at a place called plum point oddly enough right next door to

155

00:13:28,880 --> 00:13:33,960

the governor Charles Eden the house hasn't survived but the site makes

156

00:13:33,960 --> 00:13:40,440

headlines in 1928 it was around Christmas time of 1928 and all of a sudden

157

00:13:40,440 --> 00:13:44,200

newspapers all across the country were reporting that blackbeard's famous

158

00:13:44,200 --> 00:13:54,160

pirate treasure had been found the story is originally attributed to two fur

159

00:13:54,160 --> 00:13:59,040

trappers North Carolina at that time was very overgrown a real wilderness it

160

00:13:59,040 --> 00:14:03,040

would have been perfect for fur trapping the fur trappers came upon a hole

161

00:14:03,040 --> 00:14:07,120

that was about eight feet deep covered with lots of trees and branches and

162

00:14:07,120 --> 00:14:11,560

leaves that sort of thing they go down to investigate and they discover down at

163

00:14:11,560 --> 00:14:16,280

the very bottom there's this brick vault sitting there at first the fur

164

00:14:16,280 --> 00:14:19,720

trappers think this might have been part of a foundation but then upon closer

165

00:14:19,720 --> 00:14:23,360

inspection they saw that the bricks were a lot of different shapes and sizes

166

00:14:23,400 --> 00:14:27,680

suggesting that they were handmade and they'd been stuck together with a lot of

167

00:14:27,680 --> 00:14:32,240

mortar more than would be used for a house and in that mortar there was an

168

00:14:32,240 --> 00:14:37,840

indentation the remnants of what very much looked like an old sea chest the

169

00:14:37,840 --> 00:14:42,920

trappers thought about who would need to bury a chest here in such a great hurry

170

00:14:42,920 --> 00:14:48,640

I mean blackbeard's really the only choice but the sea chest is gone the

171

00:14:48,640 --> 00:14:53,240

trappers estimate the chest would have been about 40 inches wide and 30 inches

172

00:14:53,320 --> 00:14:57,080

deep the trunk itself would have been a large wooden object it would have had a

173

00:14:57,080 --> 00:15:00,960

heavy lid on it and it probably would have belonged to blackbeard or maybe

174

00:15:00,960 --> 00:15:04,880

one of the other sailors on his ships because every sailor including a pirate

175

00:15:04,880 --> 00:15:08,280

had their own personalized trunk where they could keep their own special goods

176

00:15:08,280 --> 00:15:14,720

and treasure searching nearby the trappers find more clues right next to

177

00:15:14,720 --> 00:15:20,480

the hole these two fur trappers found a tripod and a pulley but they also found

178

00:15:20,800 --> 00:15:25,920

an indentation in the sand that appeared to run right down to the beach and in

179

00:15:25,920 --> 00:15:29,640

fact the fur trappers did describe that they had seen footprints and they had

180

00:15:29,640 --> 00:15:33,280

seen some disturbed earth and disturbed foliage it could have been that the

181

00:15:33,280 --> 00:15:37,200

fur trappers may have just missed the people who had taken the trunk away

182

00:15:38,120 --> 00:15:43,520

unfortunately the trail of evidence stops at the water this raises so many

183

00:15:43,520 --> 00:15:48,040

questions was this blackbeard's long lost treasure who dug the hole what did

184

00:15:48,080 --> 00:15:52,520

they find where did they take what they found to me the biggest question of all

185

00:15:52,520 --> 00:15:56,880

is how did these people know where to dig by 1928 people had been digging all

186

00:15:56,880 --> 00:16:00,600

over this property for hundreds of years and this didn't seem like a lucky find

187

00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:04,840

they dug one hole and they seem to have brought the exact right tools they would

188

00:16:04,840 --> 00:16:08,880

have needed to dig this hole people in this region passed down all sorts of

189

00:16:08,880 --> 00:16:11,920

stories about blackbeard and maybe someone actually had some information

190

00:16:11,920 --> 00:16:16,360

about where he had hidden his treasure and then on the other hand maybe blackbeard

191

00:16:16,520 --> 00:16:21,720

decided to leave a treasure map behind maybe in this case X actually did mark

192

00:16:21,720 --> 00:16:25,840

the spot the trappers are unnamed obviously the thieves are unnamed we

193

00:16:25,840 --> 00:16:28,480

don't have any more information about this hole other than from this one

194

00:16:28,480 --> 00:16:32,040

newspaper article and it's led some people to wonder if these fur trappers

195

00:16:32,040 --> 00:16:36,040

were even real or was it something that the newspaper decided to print for fun

196

00:16:36,040 --> 00:16:41,080

in order to get sales maybe capitalize on a local legend so this also creates

197

00:16:41,080 --> 00:16:45,920

an even larger mystery behind what was going on in 1928 around blackbeard's

198

00:16:45,960 --> 00:16:52,520

former home if the story is fiction it may have a well-known inspiration

199

00:16:53,160 --> 00:16:57,800

well certainly Robert Lewis Stevenson had a great impact on the public's

200

00:16:57,800 --> 00:17:02,800

perception and interest in pirate treasure with the publication of treasure

201

00:17:02,800 --> 00:17:06,240

island we all think that all pirates buried their treasure but actually there

202

00:17:06,240 --> 00:17:13,880

is almost no record of any pirate burying treasure but no matter how much I

203

00:17:13,920 --> 00:17:18,320

have learned about piracy when I think pirates I think of buried treasure I

204

00:17:18,320 --> 00:17:23,600

think of peg legs I think of hooks other theorists believe the trappers tale is

205

00:17:23,600 --> 00:17:27,840

partially true it's certainly possible that blackbeard buried some treasure

206

00:17:27,840 --> 00:17:31,800

what's unlikely is that he buried all of his treasure in one spot it's more

207

00:17:31,800 --> 00:17:36,120

likely that he would have spread it out over multiple locations blackbeard would

208

00:17:36,120 --> 00:17:39,800

do this to reduce risk or just because it's more practical to have a little bit

209

00:17:39,840 --> 00:17:45,600

in a lot of different places a single chest 30 by 40 inches can hold a lot of

210

00:17:45,600 --> 00:17:49,520

blue right you know you've got silver and gold but it's not nearly enough to

211

00:17:49,520 --> 00:17:53,200

hold everything that blackbeard had there's definitely more treasure out

212

00:17:53,200 --> 00:17:56,720

there and it seems like if somebody was able to find this treasure other people

213

00:17:56,720 --> 00:17:57,920

might be able to find the rest

214

00:18:01,920 --> 00:18:06,720

during his two-year reign of terror along the Atlantic coast virtually no

215

00:18:07,640 --> 00:18:11,960

from blackbeard and his pirate crew blackbeard's most famous territory was

216

00:18:11,960 --> 00:18:15,520

the Bahamas the Virgin Islands and the Carolinas but there's evidence to

217

00:18:15,520 --> 00:18:19,800

suggest he went as far south as South America and as far north as New Hampshire

218

00:18:19,800 --> 00:18:23,160

if we're trying to think of different places that blackbeard may have buried

219

00:18:23,160 --> 00:18:26,480

his treasure there are loads of different possibilities people think that

220

00:18:26,480 --> 00:18:29,280

blackbeard traveled around with all of his treasures and I think we get this

221

00:18:29,280 --> 00:18:33,040

idea from movies like the Goonies and Treasure Island where there's just piles

222

00:18:33,240 --> 00:18:37,920

of gold and jewels but if you think about it that's not practical part of the

223

00:18:37,920 --> 00:18:43,200

problem with this is gold is very very heavy a box that's two feet by two feet

224

00:18:43,200 --> 00:18:48,360

by two feet would be eight cubic feet of gold would actually weigh about 9,500

225

00:18:48,360 --> 00:18:53,200

pounds he needed his ships to be light so he could attack other ships and avoid

226

00:18:53,200 --> 00:18:57,480

being attacked himself he needed to make room for his men and for supplies and

227

00:18:57,480 --> 00:19:01,240

for weaponry and we know even that when he would attack other ships he wouldn't

228

00:19:01,240 --> 00:19:04,640

take everything he would pick and choose what he wanted and leave the rest

229

00:19:04,640 --> 00:19:09,040

if blackbeard is really successful in several of his captures and had a huge

230

00:19:09,040 --> 00:19:13,520

haul of loot odds are he's going somewhere safe to offload it according to

231

00:19:13,520 --> 00:19:19,000

historian Robert Cahill it could be a place no one would ever think to look in

232

00:19:19,000 --> 00:19:24,240

1980 Robert Cahill published a book called Pirates and Lost Treasures in

233

00:19:24,240 --> 00:19:27,840

that book he suggests that while most people were looking for blackbeard's

234

00:19:27,840 --> 00:19:31,560

treasure in the Caribbean or along the coast of Carolina he thinks that black

235

00:19:31,560 --> 00:19:34,960

beard may have hidden some of his treasure about 600 miles further to the

236

00:19:34,960 --> 00:19:40,040

north as far north as the coasts of Maine and New Hampshire where we find a

237

00:19:40,040 --> 00:19:47,200

series of islands called the Isles of Shoals the Isles of Shoals are what they

238

00:19:47,200 --> 00:19:51,280

sound like the rocky shoals jutting out of the water between New Hampshire and

239

00:19:51,280 --> 00:19:56,440

Maine it was mainly used with the cod fisheries but there were folks that also

240

00:19:56,560 --> 00:20:02,520

dabbled in piracy as well so you had a lot of illicit behavior going on Cahill

241

00:20:02,520 --> 00:20:07,000

focuses on the Isle of Shoals because as a local historian he's found accounts

242

00:20:07,000 --> 00:20:12,000

of blackbeard and his crew frequenting a tavern on the islands it's amazing how

243

00:20:12,000 --> 00:20:16,040

many places have been suggested for blackbeard's treasure but the Isle of

244

00:20:16,040 --> 00:20:20,480

Shoals makes more sense than some of the others because it's one of those places

245

00:20:20,480 --> 00:20:25,640

that matches sort of what the pirates were looking for in a lair or a hideout

246

00:20:25,840 --> 00:20:29,000

the kind of place where you might lay low maybe nobody will notice you maybe you

247

00:20:29,000 --> 00:20:32,960

can offload treasure the Isle of Shoals are made up of three islands and in the

248

00:20:32,960 --> 00:20:37,480

middle is this dumbbell shaped lunging island and this is referred to as the

249

00:20:37,480 --> 00:20:41,800

pirate bank and the reason for this is because its location is really safe

250

00:20:41,800 --> 00:20:46,200

sandwiched in between these other islands it's got very rocky coastlines and

251

00:20:46,200 --> 00:20:50,400

it's the perfect place to go if you need to hide yourself your ship or offload

252

00:20:50,400 --> 00:20:54,880

goods because it's unlikely people will be able to either find it or sail in

253

00:20:54,920 --> 00:21:00,000

there safely over the years several teams of scientists and treasure hunters

254

00:21:00,000 --> 00:21:04,880

search lunging island it's rumored that in blackbeard's time there was a cave on

255

00:21:04,880 --> 00:21:08,080

the eastern end of this island and if that's true it would have been a

256

00:21:08,080 --> 00:21:11,760

perfect place for blackbeard to hide his treasure but today that cave is not

257

00:21:11,760 --> 00:21:16,440

there according to Pruity Randall who owns the only house on the island she

258

00:21:16,440 --> 00:21:21,040

believes that the cave may have been hidden away after centuries of shifting

259

00:21:21,080 --> 00:21:27,560

sands and tides Randall says that shortly after World War two plane from the

260

00:21:27,560 --> 00:21:32,760

American government flew overhead and spotted the cave using sonar a few years

261

00:21:32,760 --> 00:21:36,880

later a man from a quarry and company came out and did some tests indicating

262

00:21:36,880 --> 00:21:41,360

that a cave may exist under the rock but it appears there was no further follow-up

263

00:21:41,360 --> 00:21:48,200

to either of these two investigations in 2001 a team from Hager Richter Geoscience

264

00:21:48,480 --> 00:21:53,480

picks up the search their first order of business is to use a ground penetrating

265

00:21:53,480 --> 00:21:57,440

radar to look for evidence of a cave or really anything buried underneath the

266

00:21:57,440 --> 00:22:01,280

ground ground penetrating radar doesn't take the place of digging but it does

267

00:22:01,280 --> 00:22:06,120

make your digging a lot more efficient unfortunately their initial findings

268

00:22:06,120 --> 00:22:12,920

are inconclusive but that doesn't stop them they hire a big barge mounted drill

269

00:22:12,920 --> 00:22:17,600

from Rockland main and they dig a bunch of test holes into the rock but they

270

00:22:17,640 --> 00:22:22,800

only find more rock the chance of finding a single collapsed cave is really

271

00:22:22,800 --> 00:22:27,400

one in a million it's a needle in a haystack situation like many treasure

272

00:22:27,400 --> 00:22:32,000

hunters eventually you run out of time and money and then if you're not getting

273

00:22:32,000 --> 00:22:37,840

any return you have to pull the plot some suggest the geoscience team is

274

00:22:37,840 --> 00:22:42,320

looking on the wrong island just because blackbeard drank on lunging island

275

00:22:42,320 --> 00:22:45,680

doesn't mean he buried his treasure there I mean wouldn't it make more sense for

276

00:22:45,760 --> 00:22:49,200

him to pick one of the other aisles of shoals where there would be more secrecy

277

00:22:49,200 --> 00:22:54,480

Kay Hill believes that blackbeard may have a connection to other islands in the

278

00:22:54,480 --> 00:23:00,080

chain according to legend after he retired in 1718 blackbeard married a

279

00:23:00,080 --> 00:23:04,240

woman in North Carolina it was the governor Eden that oversaw the ceremony

280

00:23:04,240 --> 00:23:08,640

then he spent his honeymoon on an island called Smuddy nose maybe the trip up

281

00:23:08,640 --> 00:23:12,240

north for the honeymoon was also a chance to get some stash spending money

282

00:23:12,400 --> 00:23:16,320

for the new couple there's one other island in the isle of shoals that makes

283

00:23:16,320 --> 00:23:20,080

an interesting contender though there's no evidence of buried treasure on

284

00:23:20,080 --> 00:23:25,280

Smuddy nose or lunging islands star island does have a history of pirate plunder

285

00:23:26,240 --> 00:23:31,200

John clutch was a pirate about 10 years before blackbeard was really active he

286

00:23:31,200 --> 00:23:35,040

oversaw a mutiny on board his merchant ship and then the crew elected him to be

287

00:23:35,040 --> 00:23:38,960

their captain they sailed down to the coast of Brazil where he captured nine

288

00:23:38,960 --> 00:23:43,200

or 10 pirate ships and made a good amount of money at that point they sailed north

289

00:23:43,200 --> 00:23:47,680

up to star island where reportedly he buried some of his treasure now this was

290

00:23:47,680 --> 00:23:53,040

just a myth a story nobody really knew about this until the 1800s then some

291

00:23:53,040 --> 00:23:57,040

people found gold inside a wall and thanks to the dates on those coins they

292

00:23:57,040 --> 00:24:03,840

believe that it may have been quelch's gold could blackbeard's treasure also be hidden here

293

00:24:03,840 --> 00:24:08,640

there's so many legends and possible locations but the isle of shoals has been

294

00:24:08,640 --> 00:24:14,080

one of the most persistent ones the problem is that the isles shoals are solid granite rocks

295

00:24:14,080 --> 00:24:18,720

so it just doesn't make a lot of sense as a place to secure your valuables it would make a very

296

00:24:18,720 --> 00:24:24,080

bad safety deposit box it's really hard to dig holes there you need miners to help you do it

297

00:24:24,080 --> 00:24:29,040

these pirates i mean they're sailors they're not engineers well let's remember what the technology

298

00:24:29,040 --> 00:24:34,400

the 18th century was like it's nowhere near what we have i suppose you could use black powder

299

00:24:34,400 --> 00:24:38,000

but to do any effect of blasting you really got to know what you're doing

300

00:24:38,720 --> 00:24:44,800

and the idea of these pirates could somehow secret this vast treasure someplace that we

301

00:24:44,800 --> 00:24:50,400

can't find now i find that difficult to believe still the legend of blackbeard's treasure remains

302

00:24:50,400 --> 00:24:57,440

tied to these islands for centuries and some locals say he left something else behind as well

303

00:24:58,400 --> 00:25:03,040

legend has it he left his wife there to guard the treasure and he would come back and visit

304

00:25:03,040 --> 00:25:08,480

he would come and go and come and go and one day he never came back and the locals say her ghost

305

00:25:08,480 --> 00:25:14,800

haunts the isles to this day i just would have to think there's gotta be a better way to hide your

306

00:25:14,800 --> 00:25:22,480

treasure but again if blackbeard's treasure is found on the isle of shoals i will be the first one

307

00:25:22,480 --> 00:25:26,400

to say how wrong i was in believing that this would never happen

308

00:25:27,360 --> 00:25:36,560

in the search for blackbeard's treasure many hunters focus on his whereabouts during retirement

309

00:25:37,120 --> 00:25:44,640

but the pirate's retirement is a matter of a few mere weeks before long he's back on the high seas

310

00:25:44,640 --> 00:25:52,560

and in a new ship you might ask yourself why was this fearsome pirate who stole millions of dollars

311

00:25:52,560 --> 00:25:59,120

looted dozens of ships blockaded entire towns able to walk away scot-free to understand that you

312

00:25:59,120 --> 00:26:06,400

have to look at the overall political situation in europe in the early 1700s during this era
european

313

00:26:06,400 --> 00:26:12,080

powers are competing to control the astonishing wealth of the new world you had a lot of commerce

314

00:26:12,080 --> 00:26:17,920

going on these colonies that are being exploited and there is a lot of raw material coming out of

315

00:26:17,920 --> 00:26:25,200

those colonies you had colonial americans sending out material to europe and you have the spanish

316

00:26:25,200 --> 00:26:31,520

colonies in the caribbean and mexico and south america chipping out a lot of gold and silver back

317

00:26:31,520 --> 00:26:38,400

across to europe when europe moves into armed conflict leaders hurry to enlist men like blackbeard

318

00:26:38,400 --> 00:26:45,360

to seize their enemies luke he and many others enroll as privateers what's the difference between

319

00:26:45,360 --> 00:26:52,320

privateering and piracy well a privateer was somebody who was given permission to be a maritime

320

00:26:52,320 --> 00:26:58,320

mercenary by their king or queen or government they have a contract called a letter of mark which

321

00:26:58,320 --> 00:27:04,080

basically states you are fighting against ships from these specific countries and in payment they

322

00:27:04,080 --> 00:27:08,800

were allowed to keep 80 percent of all the goods they could steal and the other 20 percent goes back

323

00:27:08,800 --> 00:27:13,600

to the government essentially blackbeard was given permission to go out and attack enemy

324

00:27:13,600 --> 00:27:19,360

shipping and they could keep a portion of the plunder north carolina's governor charles eden

325

00:27:19,360 --> 00:27:25,360

allows blackbeard to take his remaining ship the adventure and return to a life on the sea

326

00:27:26,400 --> 00:27:34,880

but within weeks he sheds his privateer status and begins attacking english vessels blackbeard

327

00:27:34,880 --> 00:27:42,240

is once again a pirate when blackbeard decides to leave north carolina in august of 1718 he knows

328

00:27:42,240 --> 00:27:47,760

he's probably not going back he's decided to go back to a life of piracy despite having taken the

329

00:27:47,760 --> 00:27:53,200

pardon it might be that at this point he feels like he has nothing to lose and he probably figures

330

00:27:53,200 --> 00:27:58,080

he might as well go back to piracy and do everything he can before he's inevitably going to get caught

331

00:27:58,720 --> 00:28:03,200

when you look at the story of the big empty hole on plumb point you have to wonder is it possible

332

00:28:03,200 --> 00:28:07,840

blackbeard dug up the treasure himself i mean we know he was going back and forth between his home

333

00:28:07,840 --> 00:28:12,960

and bath and the boat so is it possible that he was getting the treasure and loading up the ship himself

334

00:28:17,600 --> 00:28:23,600

whatever survives from his original hall blackbeard wastes no time adding to his fortune

335

00:28:24,240 --> 00:28:30,080

almost immediately he captures two french ships and in the meantime news of his exploits going back

336

00:28:30,080 --> 00:28:35,840

into piracy have traveled around the caribbean and the american colonies as well frustrated the governor

337

00:28:35,840 --> 00:28:41,920

of virginia decides to take matters into his own hands now alexander spotswood he has made his

338

00:28:41,920 --> 00:28:48,320

mission as a governor to eradicate piracy in any way whatsoever in the letters of alexander spotswood

339

00:28:48,320 --> 00:28:54,800

he states that he's very concerned that this pirate blackbeard has established himself a base

340

00:28:54,800 --> 00:29:01,360

at ochre coke island obviously having pirates or a pirate base just south of there would be a direct

341

00:29:01,360 --> 00:29:06,400

threat to the trade of virginia so he's going to start putting plans into motion to stop blackbeard

342

00:29:06,400 --> 00:29:11,760

at all costs governor spotswood decides to commission lieutenant robert maynard in order to try to take

343

00:29:11,760 --> 00:29:17,680

down blackbeard he gives him 57 men and two ships and is instructed capture blackbeard dead or alive

344

00:29:18,560 --> 00:29:25,040

five days after departing from kicka 10 virginia maynard's fleet confronts blackbeards at ochre

345

00:29:25,360 --> 00:29:30,560

coke inlet blackbeard and maynard face off and blackbeard immediately fires a cannon into

346

00:29:30,560 --> 00:29:36,880

maynard ships obliterating one of them during this gunfire maynard lost a number of his men and the

347

00:29:36,880 --> 00:29:42,240

air filled with clouds of smoke it became very confusing it was hard for either of the vessels

348

00:29:42,240 --> 00:29:47,920

to see each other they were basically a drift blackbeard gets off another broadside again mayhem

349

00:29:47,920 --> 00:29:53,520

he mows down more of the royal navy sailors and they jump on board ready to seize control

350

00:29:54,320 --> 00:30:01,200

and that's when lieutenant maynard unleashes his great surprise maynard's men are all hiding

351

00:30:01,200 --> 00:30:06,960

below deck and so when blackbeard and his crew come on lieutenant maynard's men rush up to the deck

352

00:30:06,960 --> 00:30:13,120

and this massive bloodbath of a battle ensues blackbeard is wounded he's stabbed in the leg by one

353

00:30:13,120 --> 00:30:19,600

of maynard's men and reportedly blackbeard shouts well done lad after he's been stabbed and in that

354

00:30:19,600 --> 00:30:25,520

moment robert maynard sees his opportunity and he takes his sword and he beheads blackbeard on the

355

00:30:25,520 --> 00:30:32,000

ship killing him once and for all maynard returns to virginia and places blackbeard's head on a

356

00:30:32,000 --> 00:30:37,840

spike at the entrance to chesapeake bay a head is a fine trophy but maynard came back without

357

00:30:37,840 --> 00:30:43,200

blackbeard ship or any gold so the question is what became of blackbeard ship and the treasure that

358

00:30:43,200 --> 00:30:50,320

was possibly on it the adventure remains missing to this day and its absence may provide a clue

359

00:30:50,320 --> 00:30:55,040

to what happened one of the theories is that one of blackbeard's most trusted crew members

360

00:30:55,040 --> 00:30:59,280

caesar actually had plans to scuttle the ship meaning to destroy it before anybody could

361

00:30:59,280 --> 00:31:04,800

actually go capture him the idea is it's better to have all the treasure fall down into the sea

362

00:31:04,800 --> 00:31:09,600

rather than let any of it go into maynard's or any other authority's hands of course it could

363

00:31:09,600 --> 00:31:14,880

have been maynard himself it was common practice at the time after defeating an enemy to burn their

364

00:31:14,880 --> 00:31:19,840

ship maybe maynard didn't search the ship properly and that would mean that all of blackbeard's

365

00:31:19,840 --> 00:31:24,960

treasure what he had dug up from plum point now it's somewhere at the bottom of the ocean if the

366

00:31:24,960 --> 00:31:30,720

treasure remains on the adventure there's still hope for its recovery this might be our single

367

00:31:30,720 --> 00:31:35,120

best chance to find blackbeard's treasure if we can find the wreck of the adventure we know it's
the

368

00:31:35,120 --> 00:31:40,560

last place that he was and there was probably some plunder on there in 1989 the same company that

369

00:31:40,560 --> 00:31:45,600

found the queen and revenge gets a permit from the state of north carolina to salvage the adventure

370

00:31:45,600 --> 00:31:50,480

if they can find it so far they have not but the record just still out there somebody's probably

371

00:31:50,480 --> 00:31:53,920

going to find it eventually and if they do who knows maybe they'll get rich

372

00:31:58,960 --> 00:32:04,800

perhaps no other figure features more prominently in the story of blackbeard than north carolina

373

00:32:04,880 --> 00:32:13,040

governor charles eden blackbeard was in need of the king's pardon but had committed acts of piracy

374

00:32:13,040 --> 00:32:18,000

after the deadline stipulated by the pardon south carolina would not have been happy since he had

375

00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:22,960

deceived charleston and virginia they sure didn't like him i think his options were pretty limited

376

00:32:22,960 --> 00:32:28,720

at that point so blackbeard goes to governor charles eden because he knows that governor eden

377

00:32:28,720 --> 00:32:32,480

tends to have decent relationships with pirates we don't know if the two men knew each other

378

00:32:32,480 --> 00:32:36,960

beforehand but after blackbeard receives the pardon their relationship takes a strange turn

379

00:32:37,680 --> 00:32:41,760

blackbeard's house is right next door to governor eden's there are even reports that there was a

380

00:32:41,760 --> 00:32:47,360

tunnel dug between the governor's house and blackbeard's when blackbeard marries a woman named

381

00:32:47,360 --> 00:32:53,680

mary ormond it's the governor who oversees the ceremony blackbeard and eden seem to be very good

382

00:32:53,680 --> 00:32:59,200

friends what is the reason for this does eden think he can rehabilitate blackbeard is eden star

383

00:32:59,200 --> 00:33:04,240

struck by the guy or something else going on one of the most comprehensive histories of north

384

00:33:04,240 --> 00:33:12,080

carolina comes from dr. hue williamson published in 1812 according to hue williamson governor eden

385

00:33:12,080 --> 00:33:18,000

is very charismatic he's charming he's intelligent however he is also sort of covered in this cloud

386

00:33:18,000 --> 00:33:22,560

of disgrace and this is because of his assumed association with one of the most notorious pirates

387

00:33:22,560 --> 00:33:27,440

of all time blackbeard goes from being public enemy number one to best friends with the governor

388

00:33:27,520 --> 00:33:31,600

overnight history tells us that usually only happens when there's a payoff

389

00:33:34,800 --> 00:33:42,000

in other words blackbeard's hard-earned treasure might have been given an exchange for his freedom

390

00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:46,320

one of the basic conditions of the pardon was that you had to turn yourself in by september 5th

391

00:33:46,320 --> 00:33:54,080

1718 but you were only pardoned for the crimes that you committed before january 5th of 1718

392

00:33:54,080 --> 00:34:00,000

nothing after but of course blackbeard committed loads of crimes after january 5th including his

393

00:34:00,000 --> 00:34:07,840

well-known blockade of charleston in may of 1718 which should have been punishable by death so why

394

00:34:07,840 --> 00:34:13,600

wasn't it blackbeard had amassed millions of dollars of worth of goods and treasure and it's

395

00:34:13,600 --> 00:34:18,160

very likely he brought all of this into north carolina and gave a huge chunk of it to the governor

396

00:34:18,960 --> 00:34:25,920

did blackbeard use his wealth to buy his own pardon when blackbeard turned himself in in june

397

00:34:25,920 --> 00:34:30,800

he should have been killed but he wasn't and maybe this explains why and why blackbeard's

398

00:34:30,800 --> 00:34:34,720

treasures never been found because he gave it up i mean if it's your money or your life what are you

399

00:34:34,720 --> 00:34:41,760

gonna do and the bribes may not have stopped there at one point blackbeard returns to north carolina

400

00:34:41,760 --> 00:34:48,080

with a french ship called the rose emily but he tells the governor that he just found this ship

401

00:34:48,640 --> 00:34:55,440

perfectly seaworthy filled with plunder and with not a soul aboard and by sadmony hearing

402

00:34:55,440 --> 00:34:59,680

with the governor present blackbeard has awarded the rights to this french vessel whether or not

403

00:34:59,680 --> 00:35:04,720

the governor believed blackbeard's story how gullible do we think he is more likely he was

404

00:35:04,720 --> 00:35:10,000

getting to keep a little piece of the treasure himself if eden did accept blackbeard's treasure

405

00:35:10,880 --> 00:35:18,400

what did he do with it edward mosley was a rival of governor charles eden and when mosley

406

00:35:18,400 --> 00:35:24,240

kind of caught whiff of what charles eden was doing with blackbeard he definitely wanted to use

407

00:35:24,240 --> 00:35:30,720

that against him he outright accused the governor of deliberately colluding with a pirate for bad

408

00:35:30,720 --> 00:35:37,040

purposes not to help the community but just to help himself in retaliation governor eden arrests

409

00:35:37,040 --> 00:35:43,840

mosley finds him 100 pounds and bars him from ever holding any sort of public office for the next

410

00:35:43,840 --> 00:35:50,160

three years however after blackbeard's death in battle a letter was found that vindicates

411

00:35:50,160 --> 00:35:56,480

mosley proving that everything mosley was accusing governor eden of doing was true the letter is

412

00:35:56,480 --> 00:36:02,480

written to blackbeard from tobias night eden's secretary of the governor's council in the letter

413

00:36:02,480 --> 00:36:09,360

to blackbeard at ochre cope governor eden wants to send a meeting the purpose of which was not known

414

00:36:09,920 --> 00:36:15,920

after blackbeard is killed they actually find a whole bunch of his pirate plunder from the last

415

00:36:15,920 --> 00:36:23,360

phase of his career in tobias night's barn hidden under a pile of hay which didn't look very good

416

00:36:23,360 --> 00:36:28,160

the governor of virginia alexander spotswood really wants to get involved in this he wants to

417

00:36:28,240 --> 00:36:34,480

arrest governor eden to bias night and everybody responsible of working with blackbeard the problem

418

00:36:34,480 --> 00:36:39,840

is being the governor of virginia means he has absolutely no legal jurisdiction within north

419

00:36:39,840 --> 00:36:46,560

carolina so there's nothing he can do eden spends the next few years trying to get what he feels he

420

00:36:46,560 --> 00:36:53,440

deserves from governor spotswood eden claims spotswood's virginian sailors illegally invaded north

421

00:36:53,440 --> 00:37:00,640

carolina to apprehend blackbeard and that any plunder captured on the mission belongs to him eden

422

00:37:00,640 --> 00:37:07,520

dies in 1722 in his will eden leaves his fortune which might be blackbeard's fortune to spotswood's

423

00:37:07,520 --> 00:37:13,600

political rivals that same year governor spotswood was ousted from power this might be blackbeard's

424

00:37:13,600 --> 00:37:18,240

last act of revenge against the man who was most responsible for seeing him killed

425

00:37:18,640 --> 00:37:28,800

for 300 years scholars and treasure hunters alike have been trying to solve the mystery behind

426

00:37:28,800 --> 00:37:34,960

blackbeard's missing treasure we know a lot about blackbeard's movements throughout his pirate career

427

00:37:34,960 --> 00:37:41,440

where he attacked ships where he hung out where he stopped for a time but in none of these places

428

00:37:41,440 --> 00:37:48,080

has blackbeard's treasure been found some theorists believe blackbeard's first biography

429

00:37:48,080 --> 00:37:53,600

may tell us why captain charles johnson is the author of a book called a general history of

430

00:37:53,600 --> 00:37:58,960

the pirates which was published in 1724 and it was a smash hit almost immediately because it's

431

00:37:58,960 --> 00:38:04,800

basically a large collection of pirate biographies all of whom are of the most famous pirates out of

432

00:38:04,800 --> 00:38:10,640

the golden age of piracy no one has really been able to identify who captain charles johnson was in

433

00:38:10,640 --> 00:38:15,840

some authors have said that he was actually a pirate himself so we have him as a fairly reliable

434

00:38:15,840 --> 00:38:22,240

source johnson interviewed a number of blackbeard's former crew for his book and they told him a

435

00:38:22,240 --> 00:38:28,720

kind of a wild tale according to blackbeard's crew one day they noticed the stowaway they have no idea

436

00:38:28,720 --> 00:38:34,240

who he is they have no idea how he got there or even how long he'd been with them even more mysterious

437

00:38:34,240 --> 00:38:40,240

he disappears just days after he arrives they haven't docked anywhere he just vanishes the

438

00:38:40,320 --> 00:38:46,720

crew believe this is no ordinary stowaway the crew says blackbeard knows he's being hunted and

439

00:38:46,720 --> 00:38:52,400

that he's likely to die in the next few days they're convinced the stowaway is the devil himself

440

00:38:53,520 --> 00:38:57,680

this may sound like a silly idea but the crew doesn't pull this out of nowhere blackbeard

441

00:38:57,680 --> 00:39:03,840

does exhibit some very strange behavior on his final voyage it was like his mind wasn't fully there

442

00:39:03,840 --> 00:39:07,920

he'd been saying things about how he'd been working with the devil it's like blackbeard knew

443

00:39:07,920 --> 00:39:13,280

his death was coming and it was causing a sort of madness that nobody could explain one of the

444

00:39:13,280 --> 00:39:18,960

examples of the madness that blackbeard's crew spoke about was how blackbeard took three members of

445

00:39:18,960 --> 00:39:25,520

his crew locked them into the hold and set it on fire when he does this he says let us make a

446

00:39:25,520 --> 00:39:30,640

hell of our own and see how long we can bear it the men hold out as long as they can but they cry

447

00:39:30,640 --> 00:39:35,920

out under the intense heat and the suffocating conditions shortly after that some of the crew

448

00:39:35,920 --> 00:39:41,200

asked blackbeard if his wife knew where any of his treasure may have been hidden blackbeard told them

449

00:39:41,200 --> 00:39:46,960

nobody but myself and the devil know where it is after the disappearing stranger the unusual

450

00:39:46,960 --> 00:39:51,360

rituals and the comment about the devil the crew is convinced that blackbeard has made a deal with

451

00:39:51,360 --> 00:40:00,240

the devil to hide the treasure not figuratively literally according to johnson's book blackbeard

452

00:40:00,240 --> 00:40:06,960

is killed the day after the alleged brimstone ritual look devil or not the crew believe blackbeard

453

00:40:06,960 --> 00:40:11,920

had a large amount of treasure hidden somewhere besides his boat and i think that that night

454

00:40:11,920 --> 00:40:17,280

blackbeard confirmed it now this story is very likely embellished it makes for good entertainment

455

00:40:17,280 --> 00:40:22,400

it really feeds on the rumors about blackbeard the legends about blackbeard that are coming out even

456

00:40:22,400 --> 00:40:27,600

while he's alive blackbeard is an eccentric and he's been through a lot and he likes to put on a

457

00:40:27,600 --> 00:40:32,400

show whether the devil story is true or not it doesn't surprise me that towards the end of his

458

00:40:32,400 --> 00:40:39,920

life blackbeard has become unhinged my suspicion is that blackbeard didn't really have a massive

459

00:40:39,920 --> 00:40:45,840

treasure cache at the end of his career blackbeard had offloaded a lot of it he had sold many of the

460

00:40:45,840 --> 00:40:52,960

goods he had gathered more sold more what treasure there was probably ended up in the families of

461

00:40:52,960 --> 00:40:58,640

the crew members that blackbeard had sailed with i think for legend makers it was irresistible to

462

00:40:58,640 --> 00:41:04,720

have the great pirate also have a great treasure i just think it didn't happen that way just because

463

00:41:04,720 --> 00:41:11,840

blackbeard was unlucky who knows blackbeard was the greatest pirate of his time and the treasure's

464

00:41:11,840 --> 00:41:20,080

got to be somewhere i believe it's out there although the location of blackbeard's supposed

465

00:41:20,080 --> 00:41:26,800

treasure remains unknown the man's life itself has proven quite lucrative it's estimated that the many

466

00:41:26,800 --> 00:41:33,600

books films and adaptations of his story have earned over two billion dollars not bad for two

467

00:41:33,600 --> 00:41:47,360

years of work as a pirate i'm larence fishberg thank you for watching history's greatest mysteries