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Chapter 1 : Masonic History: Knights Templar and Freemasonry | Universal Co-Masonry

THE Knights Templar in the new world. With evidence from archaeological sites and legends handed down by the Templar order to the Freemasons, author William F. Mann has rediscovered the site of the settlement established by Sinclair and his Templar followers, where they found a safe refuge for the Grail in the New World.

In its incidents, the elements of history and tradition are so mingled that it is with difficulty that they can be satisfactorily separated. While there are some writers of reputation who accept everything that has been said concerning the connection in the 14th century of the Freemasons of Scotland with the Templars who were then in that kingdom, or who escaped to it as an asylum from the persecutions of the French monarch, as an authentic narrative of events which had actually occurred. There are others who reject the whole as a myth or fable which has no support in history. Here, as in most other cases, the middle course appears to be the safest. While there are some portions of the story which are corroborated by historical records, there are others which certainly are without the benefit of such evidence. In the present chapter, I shall endeavor, by a careful and impartial analysis, to separate the conflicting elements and to dis sever the historical from the legendary or purely traditional portions of the relation. But it will be necessary, in clearing the way for any faithful investigation of the subject to glance briefly at the history of those events which were connected with the suppression of the ancient Order of Knights Templars in France in the beginning of the 14th century. The Templars, on leaving the Holy Land, upon the disastrous termination of the last Crusade and the fall of Acre, had taken temporary refuge in the island of Cyprus. After some vain attempts to regain a footing in Palestine and to renew their contests with the infidels, who were now in complete possession of that country, the Knights had retired from Cyprus and repaired to their different Commanderies in Europe, among which those in France were the most wealthy and the most numerous. Never before had the crown or the tiara been worn by a more avaricious King or a more treacherous Pope. Clement, when Bishop of Bordeaux had secured the influence of the French monarch toward his election to the papacy by engaging himself by an oath on the sacrament to perform six conditions imposed upon him by the king, the last of which was reserved as a secret until after his coronation. This last condition bound him to the extermination of the Templars, an Order of whose power Philip was envious and for whose wealth he was avaricious. Pope Clement, who had removed his residence from Rome to Poitiers, summoned the heads of the military Orders to appear before him for the purpose, as he deceitfully pretended, of concerting measures for the inauguration of a new Crusade. James de Molay, the Grand Master of the Templars, accordingly, repaired to the papal court. While there the King of France preferred a series of charges against the Order, upon which he demanded its suppression and the punishment of its leaders. The events that subsequently occurred have been well called a black page in the history of the Order. On the 13th of October in , the Grand Master and one hundred and thirty-nine Knights were arrested in the palace of the Temple, at Paris, and similar arrests were on the same day made in various parts of France. The arrested Templars were thrown into prison and loaded with chains. They were not provided with a sufficiency of food and were refused the consolations of religion. Twenty-six princes and nobles of the court of France appeared as their accusers; and before the judgment of their guilt had been determined by the tribunals, the infamous Pope Clement launched a bull of excommunication against all persons who should give the Templars aid or comfort. The trials which ensued were worse than a farce, only because of their tragical termination. The rack and the torture were unsparingly applied. Those who continued firm in a denial of guilt were condemned either to perpetual imprisonment or to the stake. Addison says that one hundred and thirteen were burnt in Paris and others in Lorraine, in Normandy, at Carcassonne, and at Senlis. The last scene of the tragedy was enacted on the 11th of March in James de Molay, the Grand Master of the Order, after a close and painful imprisonment of six years and a half, was publicly burnt in front of the Cathedral of Notre Dame, in Paris. The Order was thus totally suppressed in France and its possessions confiscated. The other monarchs of Europe followed the example of the King of France in abolishing the

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Order in their dominions; but, in a more merciful spirit, they refrained from inflicting capital punishment upon the Knights. Outside of France, in all the other kingdoms of Europe, not a Templar was condemned to death. The Order was, however, everywhere suppressed, and a spoil made of its vast possessions, notwithstanding that in every country beyond the influence of the Pope and the King of France its general innocence was sustained. In Portugal, it changed its name to that of the Knights of Christ - everywhere else the Order ceased to exist. But, there are writers who, like Burnes, [i] maintain that the persecution of the Templars in the 14th century did not close the history of the Order, but that there has been a succession of Knights Templars from the 12th century down to these days. Burnes alluded to the Order of the Temple and the pretended transmission of the powers of de Molay to Larmenius. With this question and with the authenticity of the so-called "Charter of Transmission," the topic which we are now about to discuss has no connection, and I shall therefore make no further allusion to it. It is evident from the influence of natural causes, without the necessity of any historical proof, that after the death of the Grand Master and the sanguinary persecution and suppression of the Order in France, many of the Knights must have sought safety by flight to other countries. It is to their acts in Scotland that we are now to direct our attention. There are two Legends in existence which relate to the connection of Templarism with the Freemasonry of Scotland, each of which will require our separate attention. In Scotland, the possessions of the Order were very extensive. Their Preceptories were scattered in various parts of the country. A papal inquisition was held at Holyrood in to try and, of course, to condemn the Templars. The others absconded, and as Robert Bruce was then marching to meet and repel the invasion of King Edward of England, the Templars are said to have joined the army of the Scottish monarch. Thus far, the various versions of the Bruce Legend agree, but in the subsequent details there are irreconcilable differences. According to one version, the Templars distinguished themselves at the Battle of Bannockburn, which was fought on St. But Oliver thinks very justly that the two Orders were unconnected with each other. Andrew of the Thistle, to which was afterward added that of Heredom, for the sake of the Scottish Masons, who had made a part of the thirty thousand men who had fought with a hundred thousand English soldiers. For this apostasy, they were excommunicated by John Mark Larmenius, who is claimed to have been the legitimate successor of de Molay. There is no evidence that the Templars ever made a part of the Royal Order of Heredom. At this day, the two are entirely distinct. Nor is it now considered as a fact that the Royal Order was established by Bruce after the Battle of Bannockburn, although such is the esoteric legend. On the contrary, it is supposed to have been the fabrication of Michael Ramsay in the 18th century. On this subject, the remarks of Bro. Lyon, who has made the Masonry of Scotland his especial study, are well worth citation. He says, The ritual of the Royal Order of Scotland embraces what may be termed a spiritualization of the supposed symbols and ceremonies of the Christian architects and builders of primitive times, and so closely associates the sword with the trowel as to lead to the second degree being denominated an order of Masonic knighthood, which its recipients are asked to believe was first conferred on the field of Bannockburn, as a reward for the valor that had been displayed by a body of Templars who aided Bruce in that memorable victory; and that afterward a Grand Lodge of the Order was established by the King at Kilwinning, with the reservation of the office of Grand Master to him and his successors on the Scottish throne. It is further asserted that the Royal Order and the Masonic Fraternity of Kilwinning were governed by the same head. As regards the claims to antiquity, and a royal origin that are advanced in favor of this rite, it is proper to say that modern inquiries have shown these to be purely fabulous. The credence that is given to that part of the legend which associates the Order with the ancient Lodge of Kilwinning is based on the assumed certainty that Lodge possessed in former times a knowledge of other degrees of Masonry than those of St. But such is not the case. The fraternity of Kilwinning never at any period practiced or acknowledged other than the Craft degrees; neither does there exist any tradition worthy of the name, local or national, nor has any authentic document yet been discovered that can in the remotest degree be held to identify Robert Bruce with the holding of Masonic Courts, or the institution of a secret society at Kilwinning. There is another Legend connecting the Templars in Scotland with Freemasonry which demands our attention. To preserve, as much as possible, the ancient

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name of Templars as well as to retain the remembrance of and to do honor to the Masons in whose clothing they had disguised themselves when they fled, they adopted the name of Masons in connection with the word Franc, and called themselves Franc Masons. This they did because the old Templars were for the most part Frenchmen, and as the word Franc means both French and Free, when they established themselves in England they called themselves Freemasons. As the ancient Order had been originally established for the purpose of rebuilding the Temple of Jerusalem, the new Order maintained their bond of union and preserved the memory and the design of their predecessors by building symbolically spiritual Temples consecrated to Virtue, Truth, and Light, and to the honor of the Grand Architect of the Universe. Having landed on the Scottish Island of Mull, they there met the Grand Commander George Harris and several other brethren, with whom they resolved to continue the Order. To protect themselves from all chance of discovery and persecution, they adopted symbols taken from architecture and assumed the title of Freemasons. In , the Grand Master of the Temple transferred the seat of the Order to the old city of Aberdeen, and from that time it spread, under the guise of Freemasonry, through Italy, Germany, France, Portugal, Spain, and other places. It was on this Legend that the Baron Von Hund founded his Rite of Strict Observance, and with spurious documents in his possession, he attempted, but without success, to obtain the sanction of the Congress of Wilhelmsbad to his dogma that every Freemason was a Templar. This doctrine, though making but slow progress in Germany, was more readily accepted in France, where already it had been promulgated by the Chapter of Clermont, into whose Templar system Von Hund had been initiated. The source whence it sprang is tolerably satisfactory evidence of its fictitious character. The inventive, genius of Ramsay, as exhibited in the fabrications of high degrees and Masonic legends, is well known. Nor, unfortunately for his reputation, can it be doubted that in the composition of his legends he cared but little for the support of history. If his genius, his learning, and his zeal had been consecrated, not to the formation of new Masonic systems, but to a profound investigation of the true origin of the Institution, viewed only from an authentic historical point, it is impossible to say what incalculable benefit would have been delved from his researches. The unproductive desert which for three-fourths of a century spread over the continent, bearing no fruit except fanciful theories, absurd systems, and unnecessary degrees, would have been occupied in all probability by a race of Masonic scholars whose researches would have been directed to the creation of a genuine history, and much of the labors of our modern iconoclasts would have been spared. The Masonic scholars of that long period, which began with Ramsay and has hardly yet wholly terminated, assumed for the most part rather the role of poets than of historians. They did not remember the wise saying of Cervantes, that the poet may say or sing, not as things have been, but as they ought to have been, while the historian must write of them as they really were, and not as he thinks they ought to have been. And, hence, we have a mass of traditional rubbish, in which there is a great deal of falsehood with very little truth. Without a particle of historical evidence for its support, it has nevertheless exerted a powerful influence on the Masonic organization of even the present day. We find its effects looming out in the most important rites and giving a Templar form to many of the high degrees. As there appears to be some difficulty in reconciling the supposed heretical opinions of the Templars with the strictly Christian faith of the Scottish Masons, to meet this objection a third Legend was invented, in which it was stated that after the abolition of the Templars, the clerical part of the Order - that is, the chaplains and priests - united in Scotland to revive it and to transplant it into Freemasonry. But as this Legend has not met with many supporters and was never strongly urged, it is scarcely necessary to do more than thus briefly to allude to it. The delusions on this subject had taken such a hold in Germany, that they were not altogether dispelled until a deputation had actually visited Aberdeen and found amongst the worthy and astonished brethren there no trace either of very ancient Templars or of Freemasonry. Lyon concurs with Burnes in the statement that the Aberdeenians were much surprised when first told that their Lodge was an ancient center of the High Degrees. The Legend relates that after the suppression of the Order the head of the Templar clergy, Peter of Boulogne, fled from prison and took refuge with the Commander Hugh, Wildgrave of Salm, and thence escaped to Scotland with Sylvester von Grumbach. In commenting on this statement, Wilke says it is

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true that Peter of Boulogne fled from prison, but whither he went never has been known. The Wildgrave of Salm never was in prison. But the legendist has entangled himself in saying that Peter left the Wildgrave Hugh and went to Scotland with Sylvester von Grumbach, for Hugh and Sylvester are one and the same person. Hugh of Salm, also Wildgrave and Commander of Grumbach, never took refuge in Scotland, and after the abolition of the Order was made Prebendary of the Cathedral of Mayence. Wilke thinks that the continuation of the Templar Order was attributed to Scotland because the higher degrees of Freemasonry, having reference in a political sense to the Pretender, Edward Stuart, were called Scotch. Scotland is, therefore, the cradle of the higher degrees of Masonry. But here I am inclined to differ from him and am disposed rather to refer the explanation to the circumstance that Ramsay, who was the inventor of the Legend and the first fabricator of the high degrees, was a native of Scotland and was born in the neighborhood of Kilwinning. To these degrees, he gave the name of Scottish Masonry, in a spirit of nationality, and hence Scotland was supposed to be their birthplace. This is not, however, material to the present argument. He concludes by saying that of course some of the fugitive Templars found their way to Scotland, and it may be believed that some of the brethren were admitted into the building fraternities, but that is no reason why either the Lodges of Builders or the Knights of St. John should be considered as a continuation of the Templar Order, because they both received Templar fugitives, and the less so as the building guilds were not, like the Templars, composed of chivalrous and free-thinking worldlings, but of pious workmen who cherished the pure doctrines of religion. The most ingenious of these is the following: Sometime before the destruction of the Order of Templars, a certain Sub-prior of Montfaucon, named Carolus de Monte Carmel was murdered by three traitors. From the events that accompanied and followed this murder, it is said that an important part of the ritual of Freemasonry has been derived. The assassins of the Sub-prior of Montfaucon concealed his body in a grave, and in order to designate the spot, planted a young thorn-tree upon it. The Templars, in searching for the body, had their attention drawn to the spot by the tree, and in that way, they discovered his remains. The Legend goes on to recite the disinterring of the body and its removal to another grave, in striking similarity with the same events narrated in the Legend of Hiram.

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Chapter 2 : Download [PDF] The Knights Templar In The New World Free Online | New Books in Politics

With evidence from archaeological sites and legends handed down by the Templar order to the Freemasons, author William F. Mann has rediscovered the site of the settlement established by Sinclair and his Templar followers, where they found a safe refuge for the Grail in the New World.

Buy from another retailer: Hints of these visits now appear to be revealing themselves through a variety of sources including classical mythology, Indian legend, and maritime folklore. If true, one would expect a wealth of solid evidence to have been found suggesting, at the very least, temporary settlement, specifically along the eastern seaboard of North America. But hard physical evidence has yet to be found in any great detail. Could it be that those who came before Columbus and Champlain, men like the enlightened fourteenth century Prince Henry Sinclair, were agents of the secret Order of the Knights of the Temple of Solomon and other earlier secret societies? And could it be that these same Knights Templar, whose secrets and mysteries provided the basis of Freemasonry in Scotland, purposely covered their tracks throughout the New World? These unanswered questions have followed me for many years and as I searched for the answers, I began to unravel the thick tapestry of intrigue that hides the keys to these and many other secrets of the Knights Templar in Nova Scotia. My story begins with my own bloodline and its peculiar interests. The Mann family is steeped in military and Masonic history. From my earliest times, I can remember my great uncles and father confusing me with little stories of intrigue and honor, both on the battlefield and amongst the shadows. They constantly enthralled me with unusual puzzles and games. Unfortunately, every time it appeared that I was starting to understand the symbolism behind their stories, the philosophy of love and harmony that was being exuded to me, someone would die before I could ask the right questions. I soon learned that to discover the answers to these secrets I would have to follow my own course. My great-uncle was a gentle and understanding man. He explained to me that everyone possesses the ability for good and evil. In this way, all individuals have to search for their own balance of human nature, a balance between good and evil. I never questioned why he always talked in a moral, philosophical manner. I was exposed so much to the spiritual level of thinking that I considered it to be second nature. What my great-uncle did to raise my spirit when I was bedridden for a month at the age of thirteen was to ask me if I wanted to know a secret, a secret that no one knew except him. What he described, and ultimately showed me, was his Masonic ring, a ring that to a thirteen-year-old appeared magical and secretive. What intrigued me and set me on a mosaic of fascinating geometric patterns was a map within the book *Holy Grail Across the Atlantic*, by Michael Bradley. Somehow, I traveled back to the ring of my great-uncle. The ring had a secret compartment. The setting was the standard Masonic emblem of a set-square and compass; but when manipulated and opened on hinges, underneath, set on a pale blue jeweled background was the intertwining of two golden rings centered on a gold bar with a round purple stone amethyst setting in the middle. I rushed to the local library and gathered as much reading material as I could. The primary trail was through the many references to the Freemasons. I was like a blind man in a train station, not knowing which way to turn. Still, a nagging feeling made me suspect that someone was guiding my hand. It was as though my great-uncle had planted a seed and that I had to feed and nourish and tend to the plant and follow its growth. This was the same Prince Henry Sinclair who offered refuge to the Knights Templar fleeing the persecution unleashed against the order by French king Philip the Fair at the beginning of the 14th century. With evidence from archaeological sites, indigenous legend, and sacred geometry handed down by the Templar order to the Freemasons, author William F. Mann has now rediscovered the site of the settlement established by Sinclair and his Templar followers in the New World. Here they found a safe refuge for the Grail--the holy bloodline connecting the House of David to the Merovingian Dynasty through the descendants of Jesus and Mary Magdalene--until the British exiled all the Acadians in

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Chapter 3 : The Amazing Knights Templar

Chronology Notable Family Connections The Orders Introduction: From La Rochelle to Newport 1 Sun Gods and Sea Kings 2 The Sun, the Moon, and the Knights Templar 3 The Knights Templar: Death and Rebirth 4 From Scotland to the New World: The Templar Refuge in America 5 The Templar Trail in America 6 Columbus and the Knights of Christ 7 The Secret.

Archers Fate of the Templars The Scottish victory would allow them to raid deep into Northern England and allow the Scots and Templars to invade Ireland where they went as far south as Dublin. For a majority of the remaining war, the Templars would gather supplies from Iceland and Norway - two nations that did not conduct Templar purges as the order was not stationed within their kingdoms. Several great raids and cities were captured and sacked by the Scots forcing the English kingdom to accept that they were losing the war. Despite these victories Commander William was becoming further disheartened with each English castle taken. Instead of garrisoning an army to hold the positions or allowing Templar troops to use these fortresses as a temporary headquarters for their next offensive, almost all of them were either destroyed to the foundation or given to a Loyal Scottish noble. When all hope seemed lost, Templars who were tasked with gathering supplies from Iceland, brought back several stories came of an old legend that told of a wild and untamed land to the West farther than Greenland. It inspired a few experienced knights to try to search for the new land following the instructions of the tales as written in the Vinlandic Sagas. However, Commander William and the Templar leader were against searching for fairy tales and legends, and they were threatened with severe punishment if they ever dared to try and find such a land. Despite these threats over men followed Fredrick of Saxony, an idealistic Knight within the Templar Order, many of the men were young sergeants and old knights. They quickly commandeered two Templar ships under the guise of gathering supplies from Iceland and left under the cover of night leaving all who suspected their plot far behind. Finding New Acre Expedition of Two Ships Following the directions the Vinlandic Sagas gave and using a sun compass to point them in the right direction, the Templars on their two vessels set off into the unknown. This sent the entire expedition off course by making them travel farther away from the coast which hampered their ability to calculate where they were supposed to land. After a month and a half of travel they were beginning to run low on food and water in search of a land they started to believe was not there. With morale low and many prepared to return home as failures and take the punishment that was awaiting them in Scotland, they spotted it. Off in the far distance they saw huge clouds of smoke that darkened the sky. They found new land, and they had found people. All of them were afraid as they slowly made their way to the center of the village ever on guard in the event of an attack. The men of the tribe were also fearful of these new strangers as they wore strange clothing, wore strange symbols and wielded strange weaponry. Yet, instead of the two sides fighting they came together and embraced each other in a spiritual brotherhood. They exchanged gifts and ate around the fire singing songs in honor of their new friendship, even if they could not speak each others language. Two months would pass and the Templars and the Moheicans began to speak each others language bridging another gap between the two peoples from opposite ends of the world. Founding of New Acre After two months the leader of the expedition Fredrick, of Saxony, made a great request of the Chieftain of the Moheicans. He told them of his desire for land that the Templar order could live on and use in peace with their new neighbors. He knew that there was land nearby on the island not currently in use, Fredrick and his men had brought treasure and goods with them that they were willing to trade to purchase the land that they and their brothers desperately wanted so that they might live in peace with their new neighbors. Weeks passed as the tribesmen discussed the ramifications of allowing the Templars to stay. In the end it was decided that the Templars would be allowed to purchase some of the land on the Northern part of the island. This land was not used by the Manhattan and was fertile with plenty of game that they could hunt to provide for their order. With the negotiations over and both parties in agreement the Templars set out to the Northern point of the island where they started building New Acre.

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Fredrick ordered of his men to stay behind and continue building the village while he and the remaining men returned to Scotland where they could bring the tales of this world to their brethren. Exodus to the New World Trials and Travels When Fredrick and his men returned to Scotland they were arrested and brought before Commander William who was furious at the insubordination of these men. Despite this, Fredrick and his men all attested their discovery of a new land far off into the west showing the furs, food, tools, and jewelry they gathered in their time in the New World. After a month of deliberation the council and several specialists determined that Fredrick and his men did, in fact, journey to a New World as none of the items brought before the council had been seen by European eyes. The council and many of the low ranking members of the Templar Order, wanted to see this New World that was untouched by the sins that plagued Europe. This put pressure on Commander William who was still fighting with the Scottish in their war of Independence. However, when King Robert called a truce in that officially declared the Scottish free, William allowed a small expedition of men of various roles to travel to New Acre under the orders to build up the small village into a respectful town for them to call home. It would take eight years before the Scots were officially recognized as an independent nation in that time the Templar Order would transfer all of their men to New Acre where the village grew to a town and then a city. Only Templars stayed behind in Scotland to serve the house of Bruce and all other Scottish Kings to come after with their base being located under the guise of the House of Sinclair in Orkney Scotland. Icelandic Explorers and Lost Souls Join After the first Templar ships left for the New World the Icelandic peoples became intrigued by the number of ships heading west. When the sailors asked the few Templars of where they were traveling they were excited by the news. This inspired many of the poorer and adventurous Icelandic people to travel westward with the Templars to see this New World. When they arrived they were in awe of the vast amount of land ready to be tamed, completing the dream of the Norsemen who first voyaged to this rediscovered land once more. The Templar nature of charity offered a hand to these lost souls who needed a new home and it would be these people who would help build up the Templar Order in the New World. These were the inhabitants of New Acre in , people who sought out this new land to better themselves and start a new life, free of the shackles of their old one. The city of New Acre grew from a mere hundred men to a population of over 30, in less that a decade. The city was a bustling hub of people constantly at work everyone was able to find work no matter their trade. For many living in the New World it appeared to be a paradise with no worries of war or famine. Life for a time was perfect in New Acre. At first it was just a few disagreements between the locals in the Molay River The Hudson River in OTL who wanted more metal weapons and tools in exchange for the furs the Templars needed for the harsh winters. This was merely the beginning of the two sides problems, as with the lack of iron being brought from Europe Templar Surveyors searched for it deep within hostile Native Territories. After months of searching for the substance they finally found a large vein of iron 40 km 25 mi west from the mouth of the Molay River, OTL Dover New Jersey. It housed one of the largest deposits of iron that the Templar Order needed, However, there was a tribe - the Delaware, who unlike the Mohicans were unwilling to befriend them, and were openly hostile toward them. The pretext for the war pretext for war occurred when a group of 20 Templars and 30 miners tried negotiating for the ability to mine the land as it was necessary for their survival. They tried trading jewelry, books, and metal tools and weapons for the access to the land. At first it seemed as if things were going well as the Delaware were intrigued by their gifts, then suddenly they attacked and killed eight men from the party while the Templars managed to kill almost twice as many of the Delaware party before retreating. It is uncertain as to why the Delaware attacked but most historians believe that The Delaware felt threatened. The Delaware, at this time, controlled the vast amount of territory surrounding the Molay River and far to the south, they held on tho their land through strength and intimidation forcing the lesser tribes surrounding them to pay tribute to live in their territory. When they were approached by the Templars they were intrigued at first, but then they became threatened by their new technology and weapons, and attacked them in an attempt to gain their technology for their own. This attack led to the beginning of the first war that the Templar Order would fight in this New World testing them in more ways than one. War Begins The

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Templars immediately called upon their fighting men for war. However, this would take three months as many members of the Order had not fought in years. Yet many of the Order believed that they did not need to worry as they had faced the far better equipped and trained armies in the past and been victorious. On June the Templars landed over men on the shores of the western bank of the Molay River, while the rest of the army was training and gathering new recruits. They marched into the Delaware territory ready to face this new foe. What the Templars had not anticipated was the lack of open fields and the thick forest that hindered their movement and restricted the use of their horses forcing many Knights to walk on foot. Battle of the Creek It would be three weeks before the Templars spotted any Delaware warriors yet they fled before the Templars could even fight them properly. It would take another two weeks before the Delaware made themselves known to the Templars. It was here that the Delaware would strike at the Templars as they were gathering water from a nearby creek. The Templars number Sergeants and knights, while the Delaware numbered 12, warriors, armed with clubs, bows, spears, tomahawks, and knives. The Delaware ambushed the Templars at three different locations separating them into three different forces all along the river. Several Templars were surrounded and killed in the first few moments of the battle yet, when they managed to tighten their ranks and form shield walls and schiltroms defensive shield circle made up of several layers of armed men to hold back the initial attacks. With the Delaware assault halted they pushed back and killing hundreds of them in their counter attack. Seeing no other alternative the Delaware began retreating in defeat. This was a great early victory with over Delaware lying dead while the Templars only suffered casualties. However, as they were deep within enemy territory and running low on food, the Templars began their trek back to the Molay River where they would gather supplies and give their dead a proper burial. This slowed their retreat to safety to a crawl as the entire army was forced to stop every time they were attacked by the Delaware. This resulted on over more deaths at the hands of the Delaware over the course of three weeks, until the finally managed to arrive at the bay. The military leaders decided to ask their Mohican allies for aid in their war with the Delaware. This would take the better part of a year and by February of the Templars were ready to go to war once more. What more the army was divided into ten separate divisions, holding over men each, allowing them to move faster through the wilderness. They were able to attack and raid several villages and forts all along the northern part of the Delaware Nation which crippled the fighting numbers of the Delaware as the Templars were able to use a hybrid tactic of hit and run tactics that managed to decimate their raiding parties. The warriors of the Delaware tribes where unable to counter the use of mounted cavalry against their raids as they were run down with ease. They were also baffled by the armor worn by the Templars and how it was able to protect the wearer from almost all attacks. With several defeats and more land being captured by the Templars every day, the Delaware Chieftains reluctantly called for peace. Peace Treaty When the eight chieftains of the Delaware met with Grand Master William, in the fall of , they were bitter with the sting of defeat hanging over them as the negotiations went on. The peace process took well over a month as the language barrier forced them to try and mark the territories that would now belong to Templar Order. There were tense moments throughout the entire proceedings with insults and brawls happening outside of the camp, thankfully there were no deaths. Then one month from the day the Delaware surrendered the Templars walked away with several miles of land rich in resources, such as timber, furs and most importantly iron. It was a great victory for the order and one that would not be forgotten by them or their enemies. The Memories from the East France Remembers While the Templars were enjoying their victory in the New World, they would not have long to enjoy their peace as an old dark shadow loomed in the distance from Europe. War between England and France came closer and closer as the days passed, with royal families on both sides of the English Channel demanding their land rights be accepted. The king of France, Philip VI, was barely able to maintain control over his court and prevent the English from sweeping in and stealing his throne. Yet there was a way for him to rid himself of these problems attacking an old enemy that managed to escape his predecessor Philip IV, The Knights Templars. However, since there had not been a Templar alive in Europe for over thirty years escaping to God knows where. Yet after receiving reports that there were men in Iceland who knew where the

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Templars had fled and traded with them frequently as they were far from the continent and Papal and French control. Philip sent several men to gather information from the Icelandic traders who were rumored to travel to a New World far to the west. After months of gathering information from the Icelandic traders the French spies brought back several Icelandic sailors and trades men to the French court. When Philip was satisfied with the multiple reports confirming where the Templars were located and how to arrive on their shores he commissioned a fleet of over ships of various sizes for the military expedition. The construction of the fleet would not be completed until four years later in , with a total of 25, men were armed and supplied for the war that would be fought on the far end of the world. This would force Philip to halt his attack upon the Templars and position his navy in a defensive blockade to protect the ports that could be used as a beachhead for the invading English.

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Chapter 4 : 10 Genuine Points Of Interest About The Knights Templar - Listverse

A Fool's Quest There is a faint whisper among traditional historians that North America, the New World, was regularly visited not only by the Vikings and Irish, but by pre-Christian mariners such as the Egyptians, Greeks, Phoenicians, Carthaginians and the Celts.

For further information, see Knights Templar Freemasonry and Self-styled order. Freemasonry has contained references to the Knights Templar since at least the 18th century; Templar symbols and rituals are incorporated in a number of Masonic bodies. Freemasonry is traditionally open to men of all faiths, asking only that they have a belief in a supreme being, but membership in this Masonic body and others is open only to Freemasons who profess a belief in the Christian religion. These Knights Templar often take part in public parades and exhibitions, wearing distinctive uniforms and have had a number of high-profile members such as Henry Ford , and Harry S. In the later 20th century, masonic Knights Templar became the subject of pseudohistorical theories connecting them to the medieval order, even though such a connection is rejected by Masonic authorities themselves [3] and the source known to historians. At the Annual Conference of the American Culture Association, their call for papers was specifically about such conspiracy theories relating to the Templars and their association with other legends and mysterious organizations. Historian Malcolm Barber writes that "Mystic Templars are omnipresent in all good conspiracy theories. This has happened precisely because the historical record concerning their sudden annihilation in the earlyth century at the hands of Philip IV "the Fair" of France has been so sparse and ambiguous. Time and revolution have damaged and dispersed the sources, and made the Templars a magnet for speculation and imagination. Pseudo-historical books such as The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail theorise that the Templars could have discovered documents hidden in the ruins of the Temple, possibly "proving" that Jesus survived the Crucifixion or possibly "proving" Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene and had children by her. Indeed, the supposition that the Templars must have found something under the Temple Mount lies at the heart of most Templar legends and pseudo-historical theories, also popularised by French author Louis Charpentier It is true that they are documented as having carried a piece of the True Cross into some battles, [18] but this was probably a portion of a timber that was discovered during the 4th century by Saint Helena , the mother of the Emperor Constantine. Schonfield [23] argued that the Knights Templar may have found the Copper Scroll treasure of the Qumran Essenes in the tunnels beneath the Temple Mount. He suggested that this might explain one of the charges of heresy which were later brought against the knights by the Medieval Inquisition. Holy Grail[edit] The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail seems to be the source of the story that the Holy Grail was found by the Order and taken to Scotland during the suppression of the order in , where it remains buried beneath Rosslyn Chapel. A book published in claims that the Grail was instead taken to northern Spain, and protected by the Knights Templar there. Further links to both the search by the order for the Ark and to its discovery of ancient secrets of building are supposedly suggested by the existence of the monolithic Church of Saint George in Lalibela , Ethiopia, which stands to this day but whose construction is incorrectly attributed to the Knights Templar. Shroud of Turin[edit] Another legendary object that is claimed to have some connection with the Templars is the Shroud of Turin. The shroud was first publicly displayed in by the widow of a nobleman known as Geoffrey of Charney, [26] described by some sources as being a member of the family of the grandson of Geoffroi de Charney , who was burned at the stake with De Molay. Frale also claimed that "the burial certificate of Jesus the Nazarene", imprinted in fragments of Greek, Hebrew and Latin writing, is visible on the shroud. Pope Clement died only a month later, King Phillip died later that year in a hunting accident. Geoffrey of Paris was "apparently an eye-witness, who describes Molay as showing no sign of fear and, significantly, as telling those present that God would avenge their deaths". Degrees in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite such as the Knight of Saint Andrew , the Knight of Rose-Croix , and the 32nd Degree in Consistory make reference to a "Masonic Knights Templar" connection, but this is usually dismissed as

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being ceremonial and not historical fact. Robinson argues for the Templar-Masonic connection in his book *Born in Blood: The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry*, in which he alleges that some French Templars fled to Scotland after the suppression of the Order, fearing persecution from both Church and state. He claims they sought refuge with a lodge of Scottish stonemasons within which they began to teach the virtues of chivalry and obedience, using the builders tools as a metaphor; and eventually they began taking in "speculative masons" men of other professions in order to ensure the continuation of the Order. According to Robinson, the Order existed in secret in this form until the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717. An example of Templar-Masonic transitory symbolism can supposedly be found in Rosslyn Chapel, owned by the first Earls of Rosslyn, a family with well-documented ties to Scottish Freemasonry; however, Rosslyn Chapel itself dates from at least years after the suppression of the Templars. Knights Templar in Scotland [edit]

Main article: Knights Templar in Scotland

Since the 19th century, there has been a growing body of publications in both popular fiction and pseudohistory which construct a continuity between the historical presence of the Knights Templar in Scotland with the emergence of Masonic Scottish Knights Templar in the early modern period. De Villiers had escaped with 50 horses and eighteen galleys. Johnson, however, turned out to be a fraudster who was probably called Johann Samuel Leuchte. After a chequered career based on alchemy and forgery, "Johnson" convinced a masonic lodge in Jena that he possessed the highest secrets of masonry, and having declared the rest of German masonry irregular, brought a surprising amount of lodges under his control. Exposed as a fraud by Karl Gotthelf von Hund in 1784, he was later apprehended by a previous victim, and spent the rest of his life in prison. He had been received into the Order of the Temple by high ranking Jacobites in Paris during the 1740s, being introduced to Charles Edward Stuart himself. After the failure of the rebellion, his masters were either in hiding or dead, and had lost interest in maintaining their Templar offshoots, leaving Hund with a depleted ritual book which he had to reconstruct from memory. Again, the foundation myth alleged that Freemasonry was started by Templar refugees under the protection of Robert the Bruce. This time, they had travelled from France through England disguised as stonemasons, and their use of masonic symbols in their allegories paid tribute to this deception. Six years after his death, a convent meeting in Wilhelmsbad from 1786 to 1787 finally agreed that Freemasonry had no connection to the Templars, and Strict Observance ceased to exist, most lodges being absorbed into the Rectified Scottish Rite. For most of the previous two decades, the most common foundation myth among German masons stated that Freemasonry came from the Knights Templar, protected and allowed to flourish in Scotland. Andrew for masons who had supported him at Bannockburn, which was later joined to the Order of Heredom, which he founded at Kilwinning. He introduced the Knights Templar as the bearers on Freemasonry to Scotland, and had the Templars play a crucial part in the battle. This appears to be the basis of subsequent tales of Templar involvement at Bannockburn. The contemporary Royal Order of Scotland makes use of a similar foundation myth, which is no more intended to be taken as historical fact than any other piece of masonic allegory. Swedish author Jan Guillou has written a trilogy about Arn Magnusson et seq. Katherine Kurtz has written many books with Templar characters and themes, and edited the *Crusade of Fire* anthology. Lewis, relates an alternate history of the Knights Templar, aligning them with an age-old order whose primary role is to defend the world from the powers of darkness. In this book, the Templars still exist and operate today from the shadows of an underground organization. The *Templar Legacy* by Steve Berry is a story which revolves around the possibility that the Templar Treasure is close to being discovered, and that it may fall into the wrong hands. The book also brings into question the contents and significance of the treasure. Their primary military units are heavy cavalry, possibly supplemented by the more "regular" army of the nation Amadicia, the seat of their power. Fictional tale set in France, where the protagonists must stop an assassination against the royalty of England and France. Along the way, they find that the assassins are trying to find the Templar treasure. The protagonists must then find the treasure before anyone else. The mythos of the Knights Templar presented as the fictional "Knights of the Cruciform Sword" as keepers and defenders of the Holy Grail is also a central plot point in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. Dolph Lundgren plays the role of a modern-day member of

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the Knights Templar in the movie *The Minion*. The film *Revelation*, in which the order tries to clone Jesus Christ for evil purposes. The cult seen in the movie is also supposedly a rogue Templar organization, originally sent by the Pope to teach the King of France a lesson.

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Chapter 5 : Templar America | Alternative History | FANDOM powered by Wikia

Uses the principles of sacred geometry, archaeological evidence, and Native American legend to discover the site of a secret Templar settlement in Nova Scotia *Offers evidence that Scottish prince Henry Sinclair not only sailed to the New World years before Columbus, but that he also established a refuge there for the Templars fleeing persecution* *Shows that the Grail, the holy.*

Despite their fearsome, battle-hardened reputation, the Knights Templar were learned men, dedicated to protecting travellers and pilgrims of all religions, not just Christians. They were great statesmen, politically adept, economic traders, and they were apparently allied with the great sailor-fraternity that had created a worldwide trading empire in Phoenician times. Despite a great deal of negative propaganda against the Templars at the time of their suppression, they are still known today as the preservers of knowledge and sacred objects. The Knights Templar began when a group of nine "French" knights came to Jerusalem in the year A. These knights petitioned the king of Jerusalem to allow them to live in the ancient Temple of Solomon, then partly a mosque and partly in ruins. In that year it is historically recorded that nine "French" knights presented themselves to a Christian King Baldwin II of Jerusalem, and explained that they planned to form themselves into a company with a plan for protecting pilgrims from robbers and murderers along the public highways leading to the holy city. King Baldwin II had been a prisoner of the Saracens and knew of their infighting. Factions such as the Assassins were active in Moslem politics. Ten years later the nine knights presented themselves to the Pope, who gave his official approval to the Knights Templar. Although only nine mysterious knights existed, a tenth joined them, who was the Count of Champagne, an important French noble. In fact, none of the "poor" knights was apparently poor, nor were they all French. Several came from important French and Flemish families. Of the ten original knights, four have not been identified, although their names are known. Furthermore, it seems unlikely that the Knights of the Temple of Solomon were formed to protect the pilgrims to Jerusalem because such an order of knights already existed. They were the Knights Hospitallers or Knights of St. John, later to become the Knights of Malta. It is important not to confuse the Knights Templar with the Knights of Malta, as many readers, and some historians, do. The Knights Templar are quite different from the other crusaders and were sometimes said to fight in combat against each other, even in the "Holy Land. Today the Knights of Malta reside in Italy, still have their own "sovereign country" and are said to be a secret society for the Vatican. Charles Addison, a London Lawyer, who wrote in his book *The History of the Knights Templar* 6 mentions in the first few pages how it was commonly believed the Templars were at odds with the Vatican and their military arm, the Knights Hospitallers. Addison denies the rumors, but admits such rumors existed. Charpentier likens the original band of Knights Templar to commandos who raided the ancient Temple of Solomon in order to uncover its engineering secrets and possible lost treasure such as the Ark of the Covenant, possibly hidden deep in a strange cavern system beneath the temple. With the money that they accumulated, a cathedral at Chartres was built. Later, other cathedrals were built around Europe and the legends of the "Master Stonemasons" became common. Incorporated into Chartres Cathedral are beautiful stained-glass windows, many of the colors difficult or impossible to duplicate today. Hidden within the cathedral are various ancient "cubits" of measure, plus such esoteric devices as the famous Chartres Maze and other visual tools such as sacred geometry, for personal transformation - a sort of personal alchemy of the soul. Included in the image was the quest for the Holy Grail. When a nobleman would join their ranks, he would surrender his castle and property to the Knights who would use revenues generated from the property to purchase weapons, war-horses, armor and other military supplies. The ranks of the Knights Templar grew rapidly. Other noblemen and kings who were not members often gave them gifts of money and land. He also made arrangements for high-ranking members of the Knights to visit nobles of England and Scotland. Pope Eugenius decreed that the Knights Templar and only the Knights Templar would wear a special red cross with blunt wedge-shaped arms called the cross patee on the left breasts of their white robes, so that they could be

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quickly recognized at any time by Christians and by other Templars on the field of battle. The white robes with red crosses became their required dress. The warrior-knights fought bravely in the Middle East, and were highly respected by their Moslem counterparts for their strategy and bravery. In the Templar Grand Master, Hugh de Payens, led a company of knights, recruited from the noblest houses of Europe, to accompany a huge train of pilgrims to Jerusalem. During this time the Templars formed part of a contingent which, allied with the Assassins of Persia, tried to take the important city of Damascus. According to Arkon Daraul in his book *A History of Secret Societies* 7, the followers of Hasan Ibn Sabah, leader of the Assassins, were definitely in contact with the Templars and apparently the Assassins were prepared to become "Christians" should their goals be met, which they were not. At one point, a payment of gold pieces from the Syrian branch of the Assassins was made to the Templar order, apparently as some form of tribute. The exact association between the Templars and the Assassins has remained a mystery. The Templars, it must be said on this regard, were not noted for political assassinations, as were the Assassins. Rather, the Templars fell victim to political intrigue and were either publicly executed or assassinated as was Henry Sinclair, Grand Master of the Templars, in 1312, when the Templar Fleet returned from North America. Many Templars were of Palestinian birth, spoke perfect Arabic, and were familiar with every religious sect, cult, and magical doctrine, including the Assassins. Their head is the Aga Khan, and their followers reside largely in Pakistan and India, today. The Aga Khan, a hereditary leadership descended from Mohammed, maintains residences in both London and Bombay. By 1492, King Alfonso of Aragon and Navarre northern Spain had fought the invading Moors in 29 battles, and willed his kingdom to the Templars. However, the Templars were prevented from claiming the kingdom because of the Moorish victory over Spain. Meanwhile, there was a parallel religious order, the Knights of St. John, founded at Amalfi, Italy, in the 11th century. They went to Jerusalem to protect and minister to the Christian pilgrims but soon extended their mission to tending to the sick and poor all over the Holy Land. As the years went by the Knights of St. John Knights Hospitallers became increasingly militant and, generally speaking, fought along-side the more mystical Knights Templar and the Germanic order of the Teutonic Knights of St. With the fall of Jerusalem in 1099, the Knights of St. John retreated first to Cyprus and then to Rhodes. As the main base for the crusaders in their struggle against the Ottoman Empire, Rhodes was a fortress, a prison, and a supply base for the ships and armies on their way to Palestine and Asia Minor. When the Ottoman Sultan Mehmet Fatih failed to clarify the succession question of the newly powerful Ottoman Empire, in 1480, a battle between his two sons at Bursa resulted and Cem was defeated by his brother Beyazit. Cem fled to Egypt but was denied asylum by the Marmelukes who controlled that country for the Ottomans. Cem took the irreversible step of fleeing to Rhodes where he appealed to the archenemies of the Ottomans, the Knights Hospitallers, or Knights of St. With his brother now in the hands of the crusader army, Beyazit knew he was in trouble and the Ottoman Empire had to respond quickly. Beyazit shrewdly contacted the Knights of St. John and negotiated a contract to pay 45,000 ducats of gold annually - a huge sum at the time - in return for the imprisonment of his brother on Rhodes and later in the English Tower at the castle in Bodrum, on the Turkish mainland. The Knights eventually handed their valuable prisoner over to the Vatican, where Cem was made an interesting offer: To stop this final threat from his wayward brother Beyazit spared no expense paying to the Vatican 100,000 gold ducats and a number of sacred relics from Jerusalem including the famous Spear of Destiny. This was also known as the Lance of Longinus and was reportedly the Spearhead of the Roman centurion Longinus that was used to pierce the side of Jesus while on the cross. Another artifact offered was the sponge of the last refreshment. According to the legend of the lance, "Whosoever possesses this Holy Lance and understands the powers it serves, holds in his hand the destiny of the world for good or evil. With this hefty payment, the Pope abandoned Cem and the plans for him to lead an army against Istanbul. Cem died alone at the Terracina prison in 1481. Rumor had it that he was eventually poisoned. Today Cem is but a footnote in history, a victim of the diplomatic maneuvers that brought the Spear of Destiny to the West. The Knights stayed on Rhodes for years, transforming the city into a mighty fortress with meter thick walls. They withstood two Muslim offenses in 1480 and 1499, but in the Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent staged a massive attack with 100,000 troops. A

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mere Knights with 1, mercenaries and 6, Rhodians eventually surrendered after a long siege. John as their permanent base and they began to build fortifications around the Grand Harbor. In the Ottoman fleet arrived at Malta and immediately attacked the fortifications. With ships carrying a complement of over 30, men, the fleet bombarded the fortress with over 7, rounds of ammunition every day for over a month and finally took St. But the Turkish marines had suffered many casualties and could not take the other heavily defended forts that were around the bay and inside the island. News of reinforcements coming from Sicily caused the Turks to retreat from the island and the Great Siege was over. The Knights of St. John changed their name to the Knights of Malta and were said to be fanatically loyal to the Vatican , and the Pope apparently used them as his personal crusaders and soldiers. Other Orders such as the Knights Templar and the Teutonic Knights were far more independent, and if anything, were trying their best to subvert the church that was centered on Rome. In fact it was sometimes said that the Knights Templar and the Knights of St. John later to be known as the Knights of Malta sometimes fought in combat against each other. This deal with the Russian Tsar particularly enraged Napoleon. Napoleon sailed to Malta and made anchor just outside the Grand Harbor in June of When he was refused entry by the Knights of St. John, he began to bombard the fortress. After two days of shelling the French landed and gave the knights four days to leave, thus ending their year presence on the island. John still exist today. They are known as the Knights of Malta, though they no longer reside in Malta at all, but have offices in various cities in Europe. Even though they have no actual territory, they are still recognized as a separate state by 40 or more countries around the world, similar to the recognition of the Vatican. Critics of the Knights of St. Office of Strategic Services O. They owned over nine thousand manors and castles across Europe, all of which were tax-free. Each property was farmed and produced revenues that were used to support the largest banking system in Europe. The Templar wealth and power caused suspicion and jealousy among some members of the European nobility. Slanderous rumors were spread of secret rituals and devil worship. King Philip IV of France was responsible for many of these rumors. Philip IV had taken refuge from an angry mob in Paris at the Templar headquarters there. The Templars gave Philip IV refuge from the mob, but it is said that the King saw the magnificence of the Templar treasure and wanted it for himself.

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Chapter 6 : Templar Gold: The Knights Templar in the New World

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN THE NEW WORLD HOW HENRY SINCLAIR BROUGHT THE GRAIL TO ACADIA
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Missing since the fourteenth century, the treasure of the Templars is reputed to contain massive amounts of gold and silver bullion, the crown jewels of royal European families, religious artifacts sacred to both Judaism and Christianity and documents that may be as explosive now as when they were buried. The current owner of what has been dubbed "the Money Pit" estimates the value of the potential treasure to be over one billion dollars. After digging two feet down they reached a level of carefully laid flagstones, not normally found on the island. They dug further and at ten feet reached an oaken platform. Successive platforms were found at twenty and thirty feet, encouraging the diggers but surpassing their abilities. Several years later a company, the Onslow Syndicate, was formed by several prominent citizens to explore further. The oak platforms continued until at the foot level an inscribed stone with a simple code revealed that treasure would be found only "forty feet below". The code may have been a false clue leading them into a booby trap. The shaft was soon filled with seawater that would not only stop further excavation; it would remain an unbeatable obstacle for the next two centuries. A series of flood tunnels had been dug from coves on both sides of the island. The seawater entered from clog-proof drains concealed with coconut husk and eelgrass. For nearly two hundred years work has continued in an on-and-off fashion as one treasure hunter after another would invest one fortune after another in pumps, in drills, in coffer dams to stop the seawater, and even heavy construction machinery. To date the money pit has yielded only a handful of items in exchange for millions of dollars and five lives it has claimed. Gold chain, an iron scissors, a piece of undecipherable parchment are among the paltry rewards to date. There has been a wealth of theories. Hidden payrolls of French and British ships are possible, but the motive of constructing such a massive vault is thin. One plausible theory has a battered Spanish treasure ship driven off-course by storm, diverted by currents to Nova Scotia. Mining engineers construct the booby-trapped vault, hide their precious goods, and attempt a return to Spain to get a stronger ship. On route, another storm finishes the work of the first. The crew and their secret perish. Until the Money Pit gives up its treasure, the debate will go on unresolved. Concurrent with the two-hundred years of excavation, the owners of the Money Pit and several independent researchers have been attempting to determine just what treasure does lie below the surface. In the owners of the Money Pit received a letter informing them that the treasure below tiny Oak Island was not pirate gold but a treasure of far greater value. From other sources, the belief that the documents concealed may include the earthly genealogy of Jesus Christ. The Holy Grail, according to Holy Blood, Holy Grail authors, may not actually be a chalice or dish, but a bloodline extending from King David through Jesus to modern times. One intriguing clue is that Sir Francis Bacon wrote of preserving important documents in mercury. Flasks with a residue of mercury have been found on Oak Island. While the debate remains unresolved, the indisputable truth is that someone with a great deal of knowledge and engineering expertise went through a lot of trouble to conceal something. And that they finished their complex project at least before

The carbon dating process pushes the dates back as early as and as late as the s. Who might have had the motive to construct such an elaborate complex before European colonization reached Nova Scotia? Who would had such an important treasure to protect? And who might have had the ability and the manpower to design and construct such a device? Around the year , the nine men that made up the original Knights Templar returned to France from Jerusalem. The real purpose might have been completely different. When they returned, they received a heroes welcome and were the subject of St. Bernard of Clairvaux preached so powerfully on behalf of the Christian warriors that he built the tiny group into an order, rivaling his own Cistercians. The difference was that the Knights Templar were warrior monks. Pledged to the church and their order, answering to no earthy power otherwise. Young men from wealthy families of Europe flocked to join

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the order, pledging their inheritance. Nobles donated land and estates. Nobles grew envious of the wealth and power of the order, but it was not until the Crusading armies lost Jerusalem and the Templars surrendered the last Christian outpost that anyone would challenge the order. And then the challenge was so great the order would fail. The debt of King Philip of France to the Templars was great, in terms of both the money they had lent the king and in saving his life from the mobs of Paris. There was, however, no mutual admiration between the borrower and the lender. When the King asked to join the order he was refused. His hostility to the order induced him to mount false charges against the Templars and to bring in the Roman Pope. In one fateful day, Friday, October 13, the armies of France would attack Templar headquarters and arrest hundreds of knights. They would be tortured until they confessed to any charges leveled by their torturers. These included devil worship, homosexuality, spitting on the Cross and worshipping an idol in the form of a severed head. Many would die during torture; others would be burned at the stake. While the goal of defeating the order had succeeded, the real goal of King Philip had failed. The treasures had been loaded on wagon trains and carried overland to the port of La Rochelle. There the wealth of the order was placed aboard Templar ships. The Templar fleet then simply disappeared. The destination of the Templar fleet has been debated since. Templars might have found refuge in Portugal where their organization survived as the Knights of Christ. They might have found refuge in England under King Edward, who would take his time in seeking out and prosecuting Templars. The numerous islands off the west and north coasts of Scotland are a very likely refuge. Templars and the King of Scotland had much in common. Both suffered under the ban of excommunication, and both would soon be under attack by King Edward of England. Robert the Bruce earned his excommunication by stabbing his rival to death on the altar of the Greyfriars Chapel. He gathered two important bishops and several nobles and had himself declared king on the Stone of Scone. After Robert the Bruce declared himself king of Scotland, he had ironically become an outlaw. He spent years living in caves, losing one family member after another to the English, only to emerge victorious at the Battle of Bannockburn. While history records many wars and battles where the English army was the better-trained and better-armed force and went to battle against Scots who were reduced to throwing spears and rocks, Bannockburn was different. The Scot forces at first seemed to be retreating, only to pull the English army in. Then a fresh force of knights emerged. The surprise to the English was devastating; they had expected an easy rout of their enemy only to find themselves fleeing for their lives. Scotland won its most critical battle in the war for independence. And the day was June 24, sacred in Templar tradition as St. Robert Bruce was from a Norman family that had been part of the invasion. So were the Sinclairs of Rosslyn. The Sinclairs and their French relatives the St. Clairs were instrumental in creating the Knights Templar. In a time where families were often as powerful as nominal kings, both French and Scottish St. Clairs wielded great power. The Scotland branch would soon command a navy as great as any in fourteenth-century Europe and their ancestral home became Templar headquarters in hiding. In , almost a century before Columbus, Henry Sinclair of Rosslyn would lead an expedition to lands in eastern Canada and New England that had been visited by the Norse for centuries. His pilot was Antonio Zeno who kept detailed records and maps of the voyage. Landing in Nova Scotia on the second day of June in , Sinclair sent a small army to explore. He would send his Italian navigator home and he would remain for at least one winter. From a base in Canada, Sinclair led a small army south. In Westford, Massachusetts, a skirmish with the native residents culminated in the death of Sir James Gunn. The Scottish force would leave a detailed carving in stone with the Clan Gunn coat of arms, which is still visible today. Another knight, unidentified, died or was killed on the route south, his skeleton and suit of armor to be discovered in Fall River in colonial times. The most remarkable monument to their expedition was the construction of an octagonal Templar chapel in Newport, Rhode Island. Modeled after the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, Templars would erect such structures in various places in Europe. The only other such temple in Scotland was in Orkney where the Sinclair family ruled. The "Newport Tower" would later become a matter of great debate, although the earliest European explorer to view the Rhode Island coast was Verrazano who recorded it on his map. Evidence of the pre-Columbian expedition would be brought home as well. Starting in the Sinclair

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family planned the construction of a remarkably complex chapel in Rosslyn with carvings of pagan heads, and items allegedly unknown in Europe until after Columbus, like cornhusks and aloe. The brought construction workers, masons, from all over to build the chapel and to construct a massive hiding place in rock that could hold a treasure as well as an army. While the masons arrived in , actual work in Scotland did not begin until It would make little sense to employ workers for five years without putting them to the task. More likely, they were at work. The Sinclair fleet had brought their army of masons to the soon-to-be-discovered New World. There they would construct the booby-trapped Money Pit. Using engineering skills known both to the Templars and St.

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3 *The Knights Templar: Death and Rebirth.* 4 *From Scotland to the New World: The Templar Refuge in America.* 5 *The Templar Trail in America.*

Share Shares 48 In light of such films as *The Da Vinci Code* and, to a lesser degree, *National Treasure*, the Knights Templar have enjoyed a revival of interest in their much-storied history. As such, the group remains an enigma to many today. The influence of the Knights Templar in history is undeniable. Here are ten intriguing points of interest concerning one of the most powerful and respected organizations on record, and one whose true history continues to be studied today. The English should have defeated the Scots with ease. Despite their recent victories, the Scots were now severely outnumbered and were starting to succumb to the grind of such battles. The engagement ended, however, with the English army retreating in a panic, with the men trampling each other to death trying to escape. Only the Knights Templar were so feared at the time, and given the connections they already had to Robert the Bruce through the Sinclair family who themselves had entered England and then in turn Scotland from France with William the Conqueror in 1066, it makes sense to think they would come to the aide of their friend and ally when required. Indeed, it has been claimed that many Templars came to Scotland during the years prior to the battle, and their presence tipped the scales. This is partly the reason for the Templars having such large numbers in Scotland at the time of the battles between the Scots and England. Following the aforementioned Battle of Bannockburn, it is said that Robert the Bruce established the very first Scottish Masonic lodge, which, in reality, was a beacon to other Knights Templar also seeking sanctuary. The Sinclairs were and still are an influential family line. Aside from their contributions to the Masons and the Templars before that, as we will look at over our next entries, they were also important contributors to many mysteries still pondered today. There is supposedly plenty of evidence of a Templar presence in North America, too. In addition to several graves and remains purportedly of named and recorded Templar knights on the upper East Coast of the US, Newport Tower in Rhode Island is said to be unmistakably a Templar design. To some, it is quite simply their calling card, preserved in stone for all to see. It is thought that Sinclair and other Templars were aware of the land that would be called the United States several centuries later by using maps that had been handed down through generations going back to the time of the Library of Alexandria. It is also said by some researchers of Templar history that Sinclair wished to build a new land where a person could practice any religion of their choosing, as well as indulge in science and art without fear of persecution from the Church. Although he would ultimately die before beginning such a colony, those sentiments are extremely similar to the ones expressed by the eventual Founding Fathers of the United States, who we also know had a genuine connection to Masonic lodges of the time. From there, opinions and theories differ as to where the treasure went. Some believe Portugal offered safe enough sanctuary, while others point to Scotland. Still others believe the Templars sailed the seas, with their riches constantly on the move for several decades, if not longer. It could be all of the these, but many believe the vast majority ended up in America, at Oak Island in Nova Scotia. A series of complicated drainage traps have simply perplexed all who have attempted to enter what many believe to be a vault packed with riches somewhere below the island. One of the other places that reportedly holds the treasures of the Templars or at least clues as to its location, is the next entry on our list. Perhaps it lends credence to the notion that the Templars did explore North America long before Columbus. If not for these stone carvings of corn, any assertions of a Templar presence in America might be all too easily dismissed. Also of interest are the empty spaces under the foundations of the church. These are unlikely to be excavated due to safety concerns. While there is most likely nothing of interest down there, the fact that the space remains unexplored keeps such notions alive. Writing about the movement and layout of the constellations at this time in history, Nisbet states: As dawn, Taurus the bull stands on the horizon, facing north in a sky already too bright to see him. The uppermost stars of Orion the Hunter have just risen. Bringing up the rear is Leo the lion, with the war planet

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Mars below its breast. He then goes on to state how this relates to the activities of the day: First, an event at midday that becomes the single most memorable of the entire two-day engagement: Earl Gilbert de Clare of Gloucester commands one horn. Earl Humphrey de Bohun of Hereford commands the other. De Bohun sees the chance to singlehandedly win the battle before it begins and takes the shot. He couches his lance and charges, full-tilt, toward Robert, but Robert is ready. It is a tidy tale stirring enough to survive down through time, as was perhaps intended. Incidentally, one of their clients was King Philip IV, who would eventually order the arrest and execution of many Templars, in part because of the vast amount of debt he had built up, no doubt. Many other well-wishers would make donations to their cause, which, although in much more modest amounts, were still substantial in themselves. Caravaggio One of the legends that consistently arises concerning the Knights Templar was their worship of John the Baptist, who some say they believed was the true lord and deity. Many believe the Knights Templar also carried the head of John the Baptist with them and would, on occasion, pray to the grisly remains. A possible point of interest here is the secret society known as Skull and Bones, of which former US presidents Bush Sr. Aside from the name which has possible Templar connections which we will look at in our last entry , they, if the gruesome stories are to be believed, have the head of Geronimo in their secret headquarters as well as the silverware of Adolf Hitler. While there are no rumors of the group holding either of these two people in divine status, perhaps the energy they wish to absorb from such powerful individuals is the reason behind the holding of such grim possessions. What is interesting here is the esoteric and ancient mysticism that the number nine holds, particularly if we accept that the Knights Templar, like the Freemasons, had such an interest. For example, the Aztecs worshiped the Nine Lords of the Night, and even the ancient Egyptians believed in the Ennead, a group of nine gods who formed the tribunal in the Osiris myth. However, the links between the Jolly Roger and the Knights Templar, whose flag it was in reality, are intriguing, to say the least. They used the flag of the skull and crossbones as their own, for those in the know, as they could no longer fly their white flag with the red cross openly. In reality, the Knights Templar, under the Jolly Roger flag, would only attack ships of the Vatican and royal ships which were not favorable to their cause.

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Chapter 8 : Knights Templar in popular culture - Wikipedia

Uses the principles of sacred geometry, archaeological evidence, and Native American legend to discover the site of a secret Templar settlement in Nova Scotia – Offers evidence that Scottish prince Henry Sinclair not only sailed to the New World years before Columbus, but that he also established a refuge there for the Templars fleeing.

Episode 10 - The Fleet Venice had long been a significant maritime power in the Mediterranean, controlled by the Doge and the Council of Ten. They withstood the power of Rome, the threat of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire and the ambitions of Napoleon. Now the Venetian coat of arms bears the Cross-Pattee of the Knights Templar, and the connection would appear to be with th They logged their travels with Henry Sinclair, and they were only discovered recently among the family archives. They traveled with Sinclair between the years of to Their map was most accurate, identifying two cities in Nova Scotia. This map appears to have been based on a much older chart drawn by the Knights Templar in the Middle East, and secretly carried by them for safekeeping in Rosslyn Castle. Among these were a few documents relating to the Templar trials. In one of these records was the statement of Jean de Chalons, a member of the Order from Nemours in the diocese of Troyes. Portugal was one of the few places where they could find some asylum, and it is likely that the Templar fleet made a stop at Almourol castle before continuing to its final destination. It should be noted that many Portuguese explorers and royalty were Knights Templar. Many believe that the Portuguese Knights Templar were instrumental in Portugal acquiring its transatlantic colony, Brazil. While Portugal was an important haven for the Knights Templar, their main base of operations, until they were outlawed was southern France and Cataluna, the area of the Cathars and the Merovingian kings. Barcelona, the capitol of Cataluna, was originally a Phoenician port and this area along the border of Spain and France has long thought of itself as Cataluna, a state, people and culture separate from the rest of Spain. The populace speaks their own language, Catalanian, a language that may have originated with ancient Phoenician. Outside of Barcelona is Montserrat monastery, site of religious pilgrimage for a long time, probably going back even before the Christian era. It is a mountain rising 4, feet above the coastal plain which eventually became the site of a celebrated Benedictine monastery. It was at Montserrat that Saint Ignatius of Loyola vowed to dedicate himself to a religious life. The monastery can be found about halfway up the steep, barren mountain. Only ruins can be found of the 11th-century Benedictine monastery and the new monastery on the site was built in the 19th century. There were chests hidden on the carts, which contained the entire treasure of the Visitor Hugo de Pairaud. Since many of the Templar ships were galleys, they were ideally suited for piracy, because becalmed ships were always easy prey for those that did not depend upon the wind. Robinson, Born in Blood " Is it mere coincidence that his flagship, the famous Santa Maria, bore Templar crosses on her sails when Columbus set sail from Palos? And is it only coincidence that Columbus weighed anchor on August 3, just a few hours before the deadline for all Jews to be out of Spain?

Chapter 9 : The Lost Treasure of the Knights Templar - Unexplained - IN SEARCH FOR TRUTH

The lost colony of the Templars by Steven Sora, From Scotland to the New World: the Templar refuge in America: The Templar trail in America.