

Testament of Pedro José Blanca, known also as "pete the Pirate".

Being in my ninety second year and being feeble of body yet strong of mind, and realizing that my seafaring days are over, I put these final words on paper that they may outlast my earthly existance.

For years I had roved the seas prying on rich merchant ships of Spain and Portugal and any other unfortunate enough to cross my path. In the Spring of the year of our Lord 1678 I musted a crew on the coast of Africa at the Port of Tripoli. Having a strong seaworthy vessal we set sail rounding the Cape of Good Hope stoping at rich towns and coastal cities to pillage and rob. Fortune favored us and when we reached the Indian Ocean we had amassed so much gold and jewels that our ships hold was ~~held~~ filled and all my men were rich with booty. For two years we sailed Westward stoping on deserted islands to bury treasure and replenish our supplys. Finally we reached the Port of Havana in the Spanish settlement of Cuba. We continued raiding and being persued by ships of the King of Spain we were forced to flee Northward along the Atlantic coast. During a violant storm we were able to lose our pursuers, and fearing of falling into their hands we continued Northwood till we reached an area only recently discovered called the Isles of Shoals. There on a long stretch of sandy beach called Hampton, we rested and lay at anchor going to the shore in long boats to fill our water easks with fresh water. On the third day of our stay we spotted sails on the horizon. Afraid of being captured I decided to bury a large portion of my treasure on the beach. we did this in the dead of night not wanting to be observed by the enemy. By the light of the full moon on September 30th, 1680 I had my men dig a deep hole about 20 yards from the shore at low tide. There I placed a large treasure chest containing my most precious valuables. To mark the spot I, myself alone, hammered a cross and the date 1680 in this manner (16^T80) on a large granit rock along the dune of sand up above the waterline. I chose a large bolder so that it would always be there waiting my return. I also drew a map of the place which I attached to this testament along with the key that opens the treasure chest.

We rowed back to our ship and sliped away in the darkness unseen by those sent to capture us.

When we reached the vaeinity of San Paulo in Brazil through much hardships and difficulties, tradgedy struck. A storm, the most severe I have ever encountered in my long years at sea broke our ship on the rocks. Only three of us managed to reach land alive. The other two died soon after of their injuries. I alone survived to tell the tale.

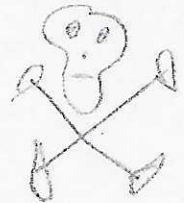
After wandering about for many days In which I lost track of time, suffering from thirst and hunger, I was rescued by a Franciscan missionary priest who carried me to San Paulo and cared for me ever,since. The only possession, save myself,

which I was able to save was a packet containing my treasure maps which were wrapped in oil cloth and thus escaped destruction by the salt water.

As my life comes to a close, I leave these maps and keys with my dear friend Padre Victor de Troy, who had the kindness of caring for me these many years and who is writing this for me now. Perhaps in the distant future someone will be fortunate enough to rescue my treasures. May God have mercy on my soul.

Given at San Paulo, Brizil a colony of His Majesty the King of Portugal, on the 9th day of June in the year of our Lord 1720; to which I do affix my signature: Pedro Jose Blanco, (Pete the Pirate).

Pedro Jose Blanco



I also attach a list of the most valuable and prized jewels contained in this chest.

Partial list of treasure buried in a chest on a sandy beach called Hampton near the Isles of Shoals.

Great pearl necklace of the Maharaja of Magadore.

Ruby and diamond pendent once belonging to Queen Isabela of Spain.

The eight great jewels of the temple of Isis on Egypt.

The golden charm bracelet said to belong to Cleoptra.

The great strand of pearls once belonging to Shaw Jehan of Iran.

The golden belt of King Solomon.

The gold and ivory necklace set with rubies, emeralds and sapphires from the King of Baroda.

The silver pendent of the King of Siam.

A large gold necklace with a cluster of leaves set with a fine yellowdiamond.

A fine gold chain with three magnificent emeralds taken from the Duchess of Savoy.

Many costly pieces of jewelry and hundreds of pieces of gold worth a king's ransome.



