

# INTRODUCTION

I am excited to release this fifth volume in the Garrett treasure-hunting field guide series because treasure signs and symbols have always been a great fascination of mine. I have encountered these marks during my many years in the field and can say with experience that understanding them can truly help you uncover great riches, just as it has helped me.

Many of these early guides to treasure in the West originated from Native Americans of North America and Spaniards exploring their new land. The use of such field markings actually dates back to the beginning of mankind. Cavemen painted on cave walls with charcoal sticks. Early Europeans designed special crests or family symbols. Ancient civilizations around the globe created their own symbols for communication, identification and education.

As people hid things of value, they created treasure symbols to help guide them back to their treasure trove later or to enable them

to describe the location to others. Pirates and outlaws used signs and symbols to mark their buried booty. The outlaw Jesse James carved a particular “J” into trees to pinpoint his caches. One such Jesse James symbol—on a section of tree that was removed and sent to me—is currently on display in Garrett’s treasure museum in Garland.

There are far too many symbols and combinations of them to fully cover in this book. I will, however, present basic symbols, key signs and words that you may encounter in your quest for treasure. You should learn to properly interpret these symbols after you find them in order to be successful.

Your final step in recovering an old cache is to use a high-quality metal detector that can help you pinpoint the coveted treasure. I trust that this book will become another valuable tool in your treasure-hunting arsenal.

I’ll see you in the field...

*Charles Garrett*

Garland, Texas