

"Redigging" Feb. 1966 Job Starts On Oak Island

OAK ISLAND — A bulldozer labored on the beach of this tiny Nova Scotia island Thursday, preparatory to a new attempt to recover the elusive treasure that legend says is buried beneath the clay soil.

Los Angeles fortune hunter Robert R. Dunfield said he is trying to block off seepage of ocean water in a 130-foot pit in which he has found only frustrating setbacks.

He now plans to "redig the hole" with a digging crane in a final attempt to find pirate loot.

The petroleum geologist said he hopes to shut off the leakage with clay plugs by the first of next week and get down to the business of excavation. The original hole, started last August, was partially filled by sliding earth during numerous mechanical breakdowns and labor troubles.

The new hole, at the same site and supposedly located at the "money pit" discovered by two boys in 1795, will be 100 feet in diameter. Mr. Dunfield said he will dig to a depth of 184 feet before calling it quits.

Disappointed about past failures, Mr. Dunfield said drilling over the last few weeks located an underground chamber containing wood and gypsum. He thinks the gypsum was used as primitive cement by whoever buried the fabled wealth.

He is still convinced "with reservations that there is something there."

The new hole will be his last try, he said. After that he will go back to drilling oil wells and "try to recover some of my losses." The operation has, so far, cost an estimated \$120,000.