

~ The Bad Andy Chronicles ~

As relayed to and interpreted by that Chronicler of Chronicles...Hermanicus

It all started even before that young transplant from New York began searching for lost treasure here in the DFW area, in a time not so distant in the past...his quest, like ours, was to find... Well, let's let him describe in his own words...the thrill of the hunt...in episodes that you are sure to enjoy. Read on, dear reader, as we explore the MAN, the MYTH, the LEGEND, of BAD ANDY MESAROS as told by him, in his own words, through...**THE BAD ANDY CHRONICLES.**

Episode I - Mosquito Coast

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Mysterious events happen in this land late in the evening. Grave-size diggings appear overnight. Strange insects engulf large tree limbs in monstrous webs. Needles from people with a problem litter the landscape. Ladies of the night ply their trade only a few blocks away. The first tennis court and an ancient abandoned ball diamond are used now by the ones that came from the mud flow after dark.

It's on any Dallas map.

When Odie Perez and I arrived at this place about two years ago, it was obvious from the start that no one had ever been here with a metal detector.

I want to clarify something for the record before I go on. Technically, Odie arrived at this site a day before the day I planned to arrive there to check it out for myself. Technically, he found the place, and doesn't believe that I was going to go there the next day...

...but now for the rest of the story.

I get a phone call (**Bad Andy doesn't believe in cell phones, so it's a real phone call**). Odie says he's found what might be a good spot. He couldn't stay long, but found a few wheats, so I went the next day, for about 45 minutes, and also found a few wheats, some new money and a nice, shiny Mercury dime! With this, I called Odie to tell him of my good fortune and we both had decided to it for a full day on the weekend. I don't remember (we should have kept records on this one, but didn't) exactly what we found that day, but I recall that we had about 10 silver coins between us, plus well over a hundred others.

After that, we hunted there just about every weekend, and even after work during the week when we had daylight until at least 8 o'clock.

In three different locations around the place, clusters of clad quarters were found. One contained about 16, and another, about 35. Both of these were found by Odie. I found the third, and for this, I did keep a record. I have a notebook where I jot down my good or unusual finds, and milestones reached.

Here is a list of my finds for the whole time spent at Mosquito Coast on April 18, 1990. I hunted for only about an hour and a half after work. (You don't want to be there after dusk! The place changes into the land that time forgot.):

Clad Quarters	30
Silver Quarters	1
Clad Dimes	2
Silver Dimes	1
Wheat Cents	3

Memorial Cents	5
26 of the Quarters were found in an area of 4' X 9', dates follow:	
1965	9
1966	6
1967	6
1970 D	4
1950 D	1 (the only Silver Quarter in any of the three clusters)

In the course of our hunting, Odie found 3 Mercs in 1 hole, a Franklin Half and a Washington Quarter in 1 hole, a Silver Quarter, Dime and a few minor coins.

The oldest coin found was an 1881 Indian Head Cent. No Barbers were found. We pulled out about 6 silver rings.

Here is a list of what we found, to date. Totals are approximate, except for the Halves and Indian Head, which are accurate:

Wheat & Memorial Cents	800
Indian Head Cent	1
Clad Dimes	180
Clad Quarters	140
Nickels	5
Silver Dimes	110
Silver Quarters	20
Silver Halves	4 (2 Walkers and 2 Franklins)

That's my story. If you venture there to look for what's left, shower first in "OFF" spray, because if you haven't figured it out, all of the mosquitoes in Texas live there and are raising families. Oh, I forgot to tell you where it is. It's right where you left it.

Wouldn't you know...Odie and I went back a few weeks ago, and darned if I didn't find another Merc!