

Analysis of Artifacts

Item # 139

Spruce coated with pitchblende from 10X

WHO FOUND	Triton Alliance(Dan Blankenship) Parker Kennedy, Driller
WHEN FOUND	1971
WHERE FOUND	From 27" reboring (10X) at a depth of 167'
FIRSTHAND/ SECONDHAND	
REFERENCES	D'Arcy O'Connor, "The Big Dig", pg 189
LOCATION TODAY	
ODDITY FACTOR	8
ASSESSMENT OF AUTHENTICITY	Carbon dated to A.D. 3005 due to having been coated at one time with Pitchblende.
COMMENTS	According to O'Connor Pitchblende, "centures ago was often used as a preserving agent on ships' hulls and mine-shaft supports.

thick steel casing was put down to bedrock at 180 feet, with the rest of the hole left uncased to 235 feet.

While it was being drilled, a large quantity of spruce was brought up from 167 feet. The wood, to everyone's bewilderment, was carbon-dated to the future date of A.D. 3005. It was later found that this impossible reading was due to the wood having at one time been coated with pitchblende, which centuries ago was often used as a preserving agent on ships' hulls and mine-shaft supports. (Pitchblende is a uranium ore and would render the dating process meaningless by affecting the radioactive carbon-14 content of the wood.) Some wood and metal came up from about 140 feet, and pieces of wire and broken chain were also brought up from between 155 and 165 feet. The chain was analyzed by Stelco and found to be hand-forged prior to 1750.

The drill also extracted chunks of cement from the 165-foot level. It was later analyzed by W. S. Weaver, manager of research and quality control for Canada Cement Lafarge Ltd. In his report Weaver stated, "It is likely that these materials reflect human activity involving crude lime. . . . Furthermore, the presence of rust [on some of the samples] indicates contact with a man-made iron object."

In addition, bits of seashells, glass, and bird bones—apparently from the beach area—were often churned up by Kennedy's drill. This debris and the fact that seawater filled the shaft to forty-four feet from its top (which is sea level on that part of the island) convinced Blankenship that the cavities in Borehole 10-X were connected to one or more flood tunnels. Several pumping holes were sunk around the shaft in an attempt to drain it, but the water, entering at a rate of about 500 gallons per minute, could only be lowered to about the 100 foot level.

Triton now had more than enough evidence to proceed with the next stage of exploring this promising hole. The first visual investigation of 10-X was made in August 1971 when an underwater television camera was lowered into its depths. No one was quite prepared for the pictures it would send back.

Blankenship was sitting in a nearby shed watching the