

Analysis of Artifacts

Item # 168

"Pieces of old wood from Borehole 201X some of which were cut by an ax."

WHO FOUND	Dan Blankenship
WHEN FOUND	1971 (January)
WHERE FOUND	Map coordinates B-12 about 97 feet northeast of borehole 10X and about 257 feet northeast of Money Pit at depths from 86' to 170'.
FIRSTHAND/ SECONDHAND	
REFERENCES	Dan Blankenship's "Summary of Operations on Oak Island January 12 to Feb 2, 1971"
LOCATION TODAY	Dan Blankenship states he kept samples
ODDITY FACTOR	
ASSESSMENT OF AUTHENTICITY	
COMMENTS	This wood would not float.



THE OAK ISLAND EXPLORATION

A PROJECT OF TRITON ALLIANCE LTD.

Summary of operations on Oak Island. Jan 12th thru Feb. 2, 1971

The last two weeks have been quite cold with occasional snow and freezing rain. However, we managed to work every day although some days were of necessity short. We have had some very high winds with high tides, but the log boom which we installed on the ocean side of the causeway has held and so far has prevented any further damage to the causeway.

Due to bad weather in P.F.I. where they were using the large bit, they were not able to finish the hole they were working on until about 10 days ago. We finally received the 24" bit last week and it took most of the week to build it out to 27". However, it was delivered on the island Mon. Feb. 1st, 1971. We moved from Hole #201-X and set up over Hole #10-X by the shed. Monday evening our driller, Parker Kennedy, received word that his mother had passed away in New Brunswick and he left Tuesday morning. He expects to be back Thursday and ready to go to work Friday Feb. 5th. Harold Verge didn't have anyone to send in his place so we are losing three days this week.

From Jan. 6th thru Jan. 30th we accomplished the following: 1. Increased the pumping capacity from about 150 G.P.M. to 300 G.P.M. in hole #206. By raising the pump and removing the fine screen. 2. Drilled with a 20" bit from 86' to 170' in hole #201-X. This hole proceeded smoothly, uncased to about 165' at which point it started caving and we only succeeded in reaching 170' with difficulty. We lowered 12" casing into this hole (which we had) and it can be deepened at any time to 225 - 250' for a large capacity pump installation when needed. The 12" casing will prevent any further caving but limits the hole into bedrock to 12", which is still plenty for pumps. In hole #201-X while drilling from 86' to 170' we were getting small pieces of old wood in our cuttings. This wood would not float. The odd thing was that at no time did we recover a large amount, as would be the case if we were going thru it. So I conclude that this wood is coming in with the water. Some of this wood has been cut with an ax. All of these pieces are in my possession. The total cost of this churn drill from Jan. 6th thru Feb. 1st is \$2490.00. The actual cost to date on hole 201-X, after the churn drill was set up and not figuring gearing up, amounts to \$12.40 per foot for a 20" uncased hole.

ITEM:
PIECES OF
OLD WOOD
FROM
SUBSHELL
201-X

The present plan is to advance in hole #10-X with a 27" bit to the first area of interest of approx. 125'. This hole is now cased to 78' and was dug to 80' by Statesman. We are set up over the hole now, and must only put on our bit and start drilling when Parker returns Friday.

We expect to hit wood at this depth, at which point we will dewater and examine the area. However, I still feel that the metal found a year ago came from deeper. I do not believe we can lower the water to this depth without changing the present pump in #205 to one of at least 300 G.P.M. at 150' setting, or install one directly in hole 10-X for observation purposes when needed.


Daniel C. Plankenship