

Dan Blankenship - notes on conversation at the money pit on afternoon of august 14/76. Dan is still working on 10-inch hole just a few feet west of hedden shaft; fourth he's sunk in this area this summer. today he's down to about 145 feet.

(Re Stone Triangle): The true story about that is that it wasn't either dunfield's fault or my fault that it was destroyed. Story is as follows: When dan first came to the island as an investor with dunfield in the fall of 1965 he "persuaded" dunfield to begin his first excavation over in the south cove in order to look for the south shore flood tunnel. it was done with a drag-line (not the clam shell later used) and they went through four buckets doign it because of the hard soil and rock. The trench was dug about 50 feet deep and 80 feet long and it ran about 50 feet south of wherethe triangle was still very visible. The drain was never found and the hole was abandoned in the late fall of 1965. (after dunfield had set off a whole case of dynamite in it while a helicopter took pictures). Dunfield then dug his clam-bucket holes in the money pit area and the cave-in shaft over that winter and early spring. He then gave up and went back to california around march, and never returned. Dan left then too and came back in the late summer of 1966 (with tobias now involved with him). when he came back, the south shore hole had eroded and widened over the intervening 9 months since it was dug and in the process took the triangle with it.

But prior to this ~~xxxxxx~~ fred nolan had surveyed the whole eastern end of the island and ran a couple of base lines and set surveyors monuments in certain locations. These were tied in with the triangle and the drilled rock that was near the money pit. Dan never did see the other drilled rock by smiths cove that roper and hedden saw in 1937. Anyway, dan says he could (on the basis of fred's survey) replace the stone triangle rocks today ~~xxxxxx~~ "within an inch of where they originally were" and the same with the drilled rock, which he moved away from the money pit when dunfield started ~~xx~~ his hole there. dan acknowledges that fred is "a damn good surveyor."

Since reaching 130 feet in the current hole dan has been bringing up pieces of oak and hemlock wood. It's presumed the wood is coming from the old Halifax tunnel dug in 1850. Also pieces of metal coming out but dan says these are probably coming off the drill bit or casing.

Dan plans to continue this hole to below 200 feet. He's hitting bedrock at about 140 feet; the "highest it's ever been hit in this area." In the past it had been hit at 145 to 155 feet. ~~xx~~ If he hits anything interesting, then he'll put a shaft down in the money ~~xxx~~ pit. "If I hit that steel plate I hit with the becker drilling company (back in the late 1960's) at 198 feet, then I'll put a shaft down."

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