

CoOI S12 E6 Hide and Seek
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Synopsis by Jan Anderson

Money Pit

The team has just started a new borehole HN15.5 based on information from Jan Francke. They are currently at 29 feet and have a target depth of 120 feet. Jan Francke presented information to the team last week indicating a possible void or structure at 127 feet. No record of activity in this area has been found in the historical records for this area. Later that day, the borehole was almost at a depth of 127 feet. Rick arrives as a core from 119 to 129 feet is brought over. The team examines the core, and Terry says the material is in situ, but there is no evidence of a void. The team is drilling a new borehole, D.5-7.4, which is several feet northeast of borehole F4. Drilling is continuing in D.5-7.4 at a depth of 98 feet. Mike says they have hit wood. Terry says the wood is below undisturbed soil. The core from 108 feet comes over, and there is more wood. The group believes this could be a large tunnel. Rick and Scott arrive to examine the wood just found and hear the group's report of a possible 9-foot-tall tunnel. Rick tells them to take the borehole to bedrock.

Smith's Cove

Rick and Craig continue to observe the excavation at Smith's Cove. The team is searching for the flood tunnel that feeds seawater to the Money Pit. The team hopes to seal the flood tunnel if they can find it. Billy tells Craig that he is currently hitting rocks and clay at the bottom of the trench. Rick wants to continue to deepen the trench. The next day, the digging of the trench continues. Rick spots a board, and after Rick removes it, Gary metal detects the area and finds a large bolt that is probably modern. Gary gets another hit, and Alex digs out a modern nail. Gary continues to scan, and they find more modern nails before finding a broken spike. Gary is unsure if it is modern, so it will be sent for testing. All of the group feel they are close to the tunnel. Rick says keep digging.

Shoreline

Gary and Alex are metal-detecting an area of the beach that is 50 yards from Smith's Cove. This is an area where spikes that pre-date the Money Pit have been found, and the lead cross that dated to the 14th century. Gary gets a hit, and Alex begins to dig in search of the object. After Alex digs for a while, Gary checks the hole with his pinpointter and decides to get some help digging out the area. Rick and Peter arrive to help find the object. First, they drain the water from the hole, and then Alex and Peter continue digging. Alex finally hits the object, and they remove a large object from the hole that is heavily encrusted. The team hopes that when the object is scanned, they might also find other artifacts in the concretion.

War Room

The team is meeting to hear a new report on the groundwater testing done by Dr. Spooner, Dr. Lukeman, and Dr. Michel. Dr. Spooner shows the team a chart that shows where they thought the metals in the water might be coming from. The chart also shows water movement and the wells that have high metal values. Dr. Spooner then tells them that all the wells tested to the north show no anomalous results, and they do not think there is any metal north of the Baby Blob. Marty then asks why they have not seen any tin in the water this year, and Dr. Spooner tells Marty that every time they drill a borehole, they are diluting the sample. The team discusses the possible causes for the change in the data. Dr. Michel tells the group there is something in the water that is not natural. Dr. Spooner adds that when they were digging near the Hedden and Chappel shafts, the metal seemed to show up north of that and that maybe the Baby Blob was accepting water that was high in metal." Steve shows the group an area on a map and then tells them that in that area, F4 tested consistently for gold and silver. Steve suggests putting a borehole in that area. This area also is where the team collected soil samples from 100 feet deep that matched a mortar-like substance found on Lot 5.

Lot 5

Fiona is working on Lot 5 and has noticed that there are rocks that seem out of place. She tells Peter and Ethan that because they have found a lot of items,

they need to investigate that area first. Peter and Ethan move one of the rocks that will allow Fiona to search the soil beneath it for artifacts. Fiona begins finding shards, pieces of brick, and bone. Fiona says the items indicate a date of the 1780s. Fiona also finds a large pocket of charcoal in the same area.

The Lab

Rick and Gary are meeting with Laird and Emma to hear the report of the analysis done on the metal item found on the shore. Because of the size of the object, Emma could not use the CT scanner on it, and they had to use a hammer and chisel to remove the material that was encrusting a cast-iron stove door. Gary says the starburst design reminds him of the button they found on Lot 5 with a similar design. They plan to research the design to see where it comes from. Rick asks Emma about the makeup of the door, and she tells him there were a few things embedded in the concretion that she scanned with the XRF. She tells them the door is cast iron, but the manganese content indicates it is from the 1800s.