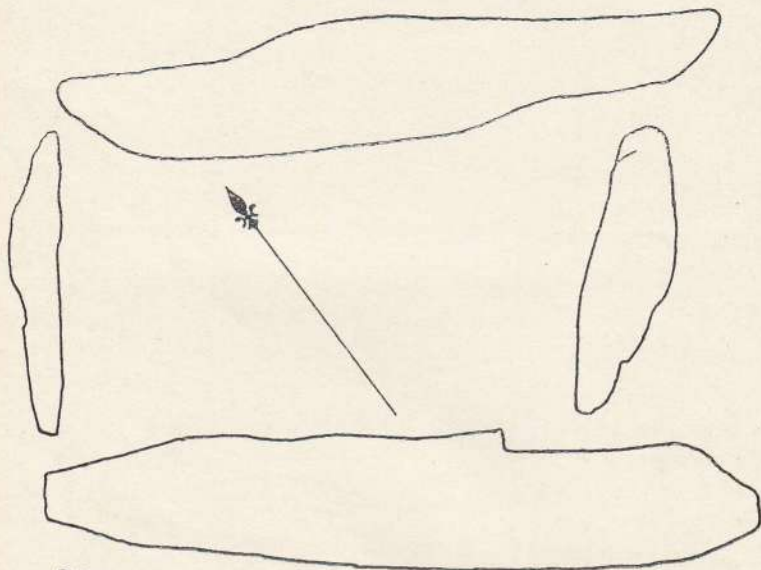




Photo R. H. Worth.

Fig. 2. DEADMAN'S BOTTOM, KISTVAEN "D."
View, looking N. 60° W.



R.H.W.

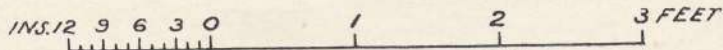


Fig. 3. PLAN OF KISTVAEN "D."
Barrow Report—To face page 39

FIFTY-THIRD REPORT ON BARROWS.

BY R. HANSFORD WORTH, RECORDER.

KISTVAENS IN PLYM VALLEY, *Langcombe, Deadmans Bottom.*

Three kistvaens found by Mr. Button, of which two are sufficiently near, each to each, to be regarded as forming a pair; and the third lies some way to the north of the other two.

The position of these kistvaens is indicated in Fig. 1, here inserted. The kistvaens are marked respectively "D", "E" and "F". The numbers "7" and "8" refer to kistvaens figured and described in the Nineteenth Report, vol. xxxii, pp. 50, 51.

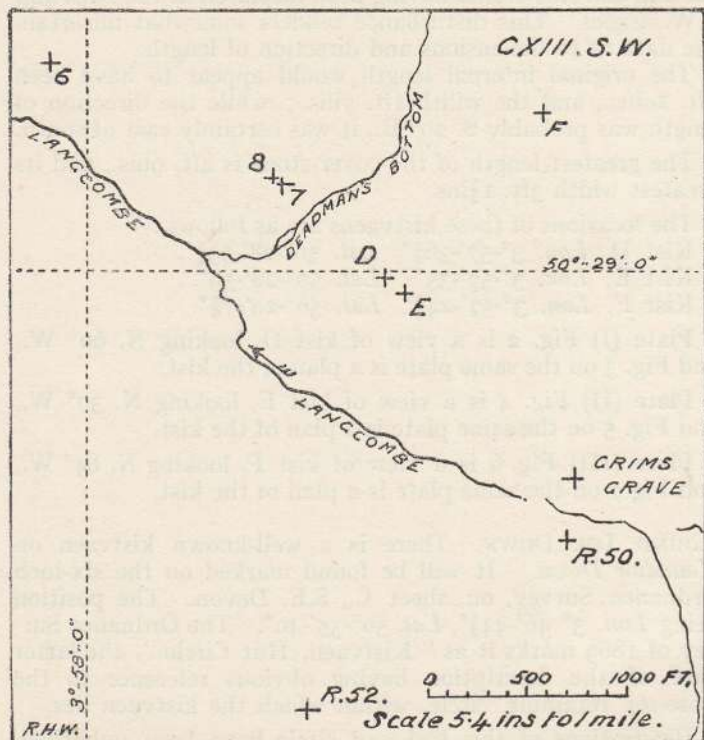


Fig. 1. R. 50, R. 52, KISTVAENS, described in Reports 50 and 52.

Kistvaen D. The internal dimensions are—length 3ft. 8ins., width 2ft. At present the soil fully fills the kist, and the stones are barely above grass level. One side-stone is 5ft. in length. The direction of length of the kist is S. 57° E. The cover-stone is missing.

Kistvaen E. *Kistvaen E* lies 129 feet from kist D, on a bearing S. 56° E.

The internal dimensions are rather uncertain, since the S.E. end-stone leans inward at 50° with the horizontal, and the N.E. side-stone leans similarly, but at an angle of 53° . The probable original dimensions were—length 2ft. 2ins. and width 1ft. 5ins. As is the case with kist D, the stones barely show above the surface of the ground. The cover-stone is missing. The direction of length of the kist is S. 54° E.

Kistvaen F. *Kistvaen F* lies 1160 feet from kist D, on a bearing N. $42\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E.

This is an unusual example, in that the cover-stone is still over the kist. None the less it appears to have been rifled, the end and side-stones having been displaced at the N.E. and S.W. angles. This disturbance renders somewhat uncertain the data as to dimensions and direction of length.

The original internal length would appear to have been 2ft. 10ins., and the width 1ft. 7ins.; while the direction of length was probably S. 20° E., it was certainly east of south.

The greatest length of the cover-stone is 4ft. 9ins., and its greatest width 3ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

The locations of these kistvaens are as follows:—

Kist D, Lon. $3^{\circ}57'36\frac{3}{4}''$ Lat. $50^{\circ}28'59\frac{3}{4}''$.

Kist E, Lon. $3^{\circ}57'35''$ Lat. $50^{\circ}28'59''$.

Kist F, Lon. $3^{\circ}57'24\frac{1}{8}''$ Lat. $50^{\circ}29'7\frac{3}{4}''$.

Plate (I) Fig. 2 is a view of kist D, looking N. 60° W., and Fig. 3 on the same plate is a plan of the kist.

Plate (II) Fig. 4 is a view of kist E, looking N. 30° W., and Fig. 5 on the same plate is a plan of the kist.

Plate (III) Fig. 6 is a view of kist F, looking N. 84° W., and Fig. 7 on the same plate is a plan of the kist.

HOUND TOR DOWN. There is a well-known kistvaen on *Houndtor Down*. It will be found marked on the six-inch Ordnance Survey, on sheet C., S.E. Devon. The position being Lon. $3^{\circ}46'44\frac{1}{2}''$, Lat. $50^{\circ}35'40''$. The Ordnance Survey of 1889 marks it as "Kistvaen, Hut Circle", the latter part of the description having obvious reference to the close-set retaining circle, within which the kistvaen lies.

Illustrations of this kist and circle have been published, by ROWE in his *Perambulation*, 1848, page 123 (this like all

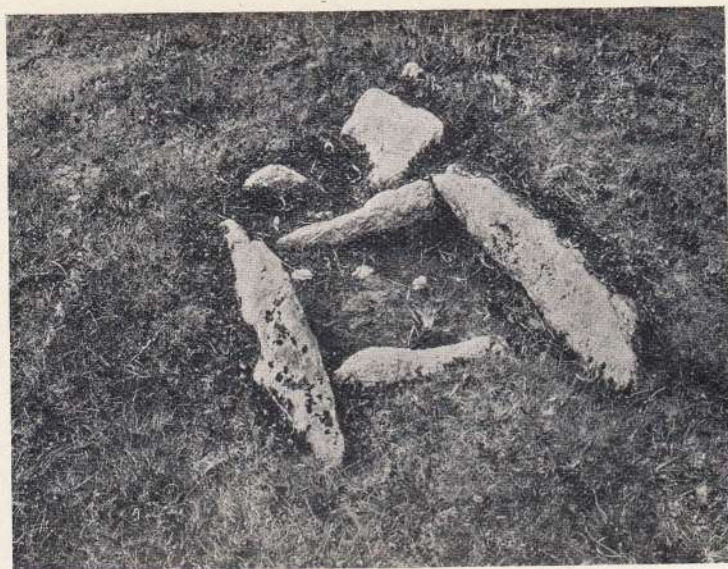


Photo R. H. Worth

Fig. 4. DEADMAN'S BOTTOM, KISTVAEN "E."
View, looking N. 30° W.

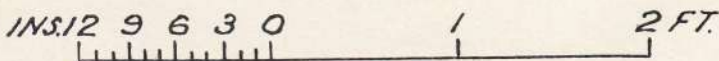
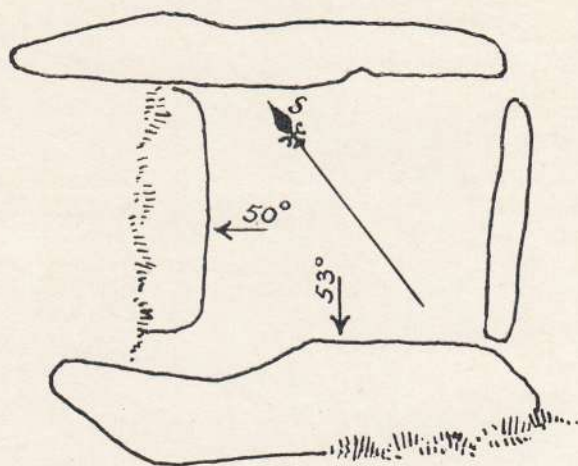


Fig. 5. PLAN OF KISTVAEN "E."



Photo R. H. Worth.

Fig. 6. DEADMAN'S BOTTOM, KISTVAEN "F."
View, looking N. 84° W.

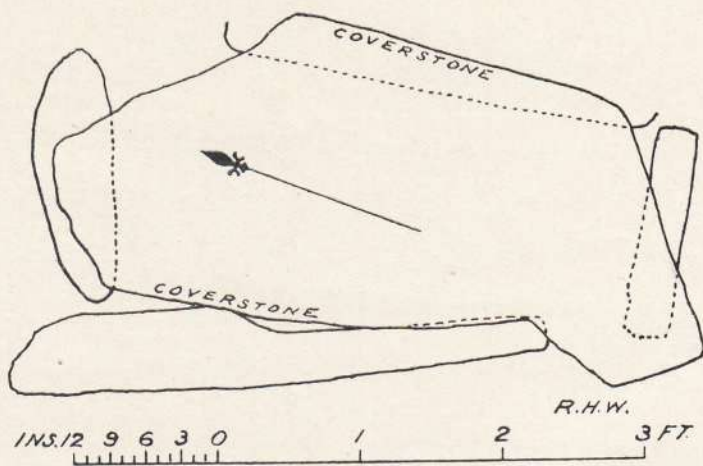


Fig. 7. PLAN OF KISTVAEN "F."

Rowe's illustrations is valueless), and by BURNARD, *Dartmoor Pictorial Records*, vol. 1, page 41.

I am not aware that any survey has been published, and I now supply this deficiency. The kist is of especial interest as presenting a type represented more fully in that neighbourhood than elsewhere on Dartmoor, the type with close-set retaining circle.

Only one side and one end of the kistvaen remain. From these it would appear that the internal dimensions were about 2ft. 4ins. in width, 4ft. 6ins. in length, and 2ft. in depth. The direction of length of the remaining side is S. 3° E.

The formal circle which most nearly conforms to the internal diameter of the retaining circle has a radius of 10ft. 10ins. Nineteen stones of the circle still stand, the highest of which reaches 3ft. above grass. The western side of the circle has been entirely robbed.

Plate (IV) Fig. 8 is a view of the kistvaen and circle, looking W. 17° S.; and fig. 9 (Plate V) is a plan.

SEVEN LORDS LAND, by *Hemsworth Gate*, which is described on the Ordnance Survey and by CROSSING as a hut circle. It is the retaining circle of a cairn, of which there are substantial remains. I have not ascertained whether the cairn covers a kistvaen. Last year I found, on the northern slope of *Top Tor*, the remnant of another of these close-set retaining circles.

BLACKSLADE DOWN. On *Blackslade Down* there is a fine kistvaen. It will be found marked on sheet CVIII. N.W., Devon, of the six-inch Ordnance Survey; the location being Lon. 3°-47'-15½", Lat. 50°-33'-54¼".

Although well known it has never yet been figured or described, in detail.

It is unusual in that the side stones are set within the end stones, in place of the end stones being set between the sides. The length internally is 41½ inches, and the width 28 inches. The present depth is 19 inches, but at the south end the whole depth of the end stone can be seen, and that is 24 inches. The direction of length is due south. The cover-stone is missing.

There are the remains of a cairn, not less than 45 feet in diameter, and, according to the author of the article, "*All around Widecombe*" in the handbook to *Widecombe*, published in 1876 under the editorship of ROBERT DYMOND, the cairn was formerly much higher, but was robbed by the waywardens for the repair of the roads.

Plate (VI) Fig. 10 is a view of the kistvaen, looking S. 7° E., and Fig. 11 on the same plate is a plan.

HAMELDOWN. The description of a hitherto unrecorded kistvaen on the south-east slope of *Hameldown* is reserved for the next Report.



Photo R. H. Worth.

Fig. 8. HOUND TOR KIST AND CIRCLE.
View, looking W. 17° S.

*HOUNDTOR.
KISTVAEN.*

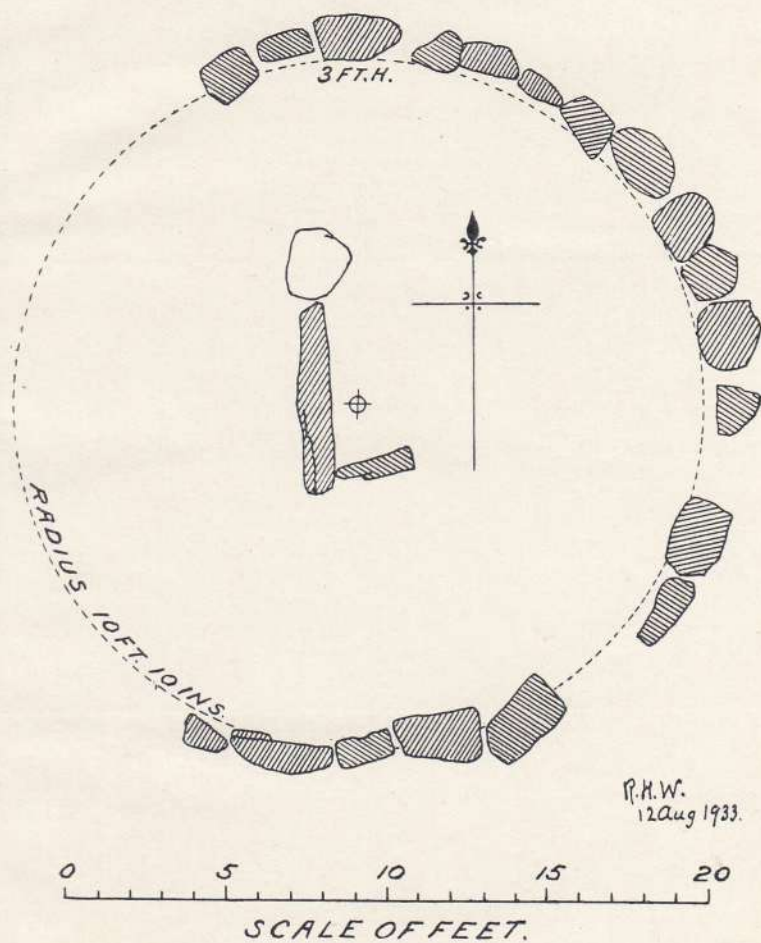
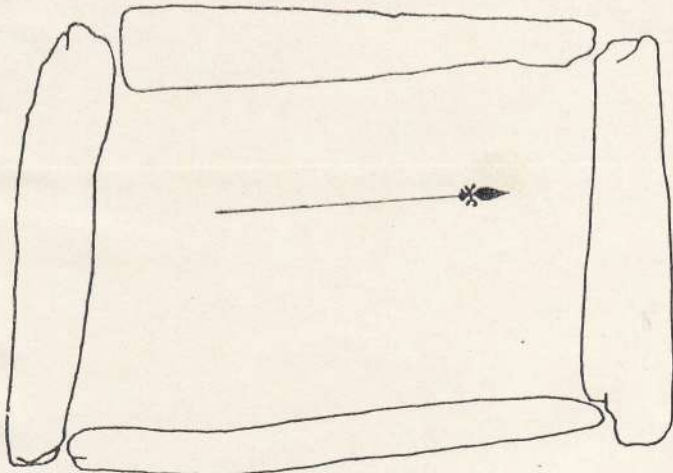


Fig. 9.



Photo R. H. Worth.

Fig. 10. BLACKSLADE DOWN, KISTVAEN.
View, looking S. 7° E.



R.H.W.

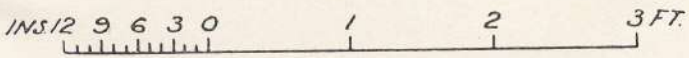


Fig. 11. PLAN OF BLACKSLADE, KISTVAEN.

Barrow Report—To follow Plate V