

THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT of the Committee—consisting of the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, Mr. R. Burnard, Rev. J. F. Chanter, and Mr. R. Hansford Worth (Secretary)—appointed to collect and record facts relating to Barrows in Devonshire, and to take steps, where possible, for their investigation.

Edited by R. HANSFORD WORTH, Secretary of the Committee.

(Read at Barnstaple, 25th July, 1917.)

KISTVAENS IN THE ERME VALLEY.

THE continuance of war conditions has again rendered impossible the excavation of any barrows, and your Committee once more presents a report consisting wholly of plan and record.

The Erme Valley, although rich in stone rows, is not as well endowed with kistvaens as is the valley of the Plym, and the latest revision of the Ordnance Survey shows all but one of those which are known to exist. The finest example lies on the open moor about 150 yards south of the south-east angle of Lower Piles enclosure (Sheet CXIX, S.E.).

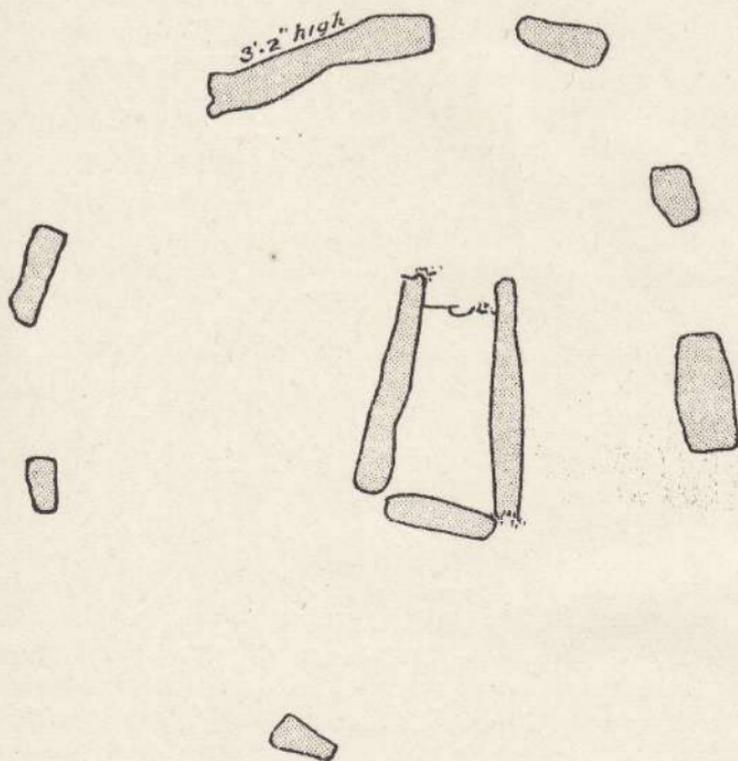
The kistvaen is of fair size, the slabs constituting the sides lean inward somewhat; at the surface it measures 3 ft. 7 ins. in length by 1 ft. 4 ins. wide at the south-eastern end, and 2 ft. wide at the north-western. The present depth is from 2 ft. 9 ins. to 3 ft., the inside width at the present floor level is 2 ft. 8 ins.

The cover-stone has gone, and there either never has been an end stone to the north-west, which is improbable, or it has been removed; the end is now formed by several small stones, probably part of the cairn. The direction of length is N. 25° W.

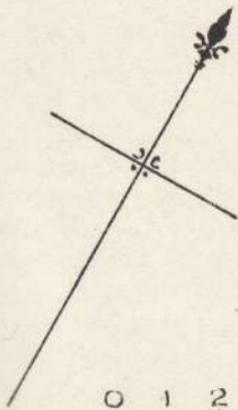
To the south-east, in the direction of the length of the kistvaen, stands a single large stone, about 100 feet distant; to the north-west, with its centre 110 feet away from the centre of the kistvaen, there is a small cairn of 20 feet diameter; this also is in the line of the length of the kistvaen.

The kist has been covered by a cairn, now removed, and seven stones of the retaining circle still stand, the diameter of the circle being from 14 to 15 feet. Six of these stones are of very moderate dimensions, but the seventh, which is on the downhill side, stands 3 ft. 3 ins. in height and is 4 ft. 3 ins. to 4 ft. 5 ins. in width. A plan is attached to this report.

Another kistvaen lies on the west of the Erme. This is not shown on the Ordnance Survey. The details will be given in the next report.



ERME VALLEY
NEAR LOWER PILES



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SCALE OF FEET