THE STONE ROWS OF DARTMOOR.

PART VIII.

BY R. HANSFORD WORTH.

Two more stone rows have to be recorded, both in the Erme watershed, and on Ugborough Moor.

NEAR CANTRELL.

A double row, well marked in character, situate on Ugborough Moor, but little outside the enclosed ground, and near Cantrell. Ordnance Survey, Devon, CXXV, N.E., long. 3° 53′ 23″, lat. 50° 23′ 54¾″. The exact position given being that of the terminal cairn or barrow.

This row is 153 feet in length, from the end stone now existing to the centre of the terminal barrow. It is double. The southern line is the more complete, and consists of nine stones in all, of which one is almost buried and one has fallen. The northern line consists of three stones only, all standing. The distance between the lines is about ten feet. The direction of the row as a whole is N. 44° 30′ E., and at the eastern end it terminates in a cairn, which encloses what may be the remains of a kistvaen. The cairn is longer in the direction of the row than at right angles to it, 26 ft. 6 in. as compared with 18 ft., but there is no indication that it is a " long " barrow. The largest stone now standing in either line measures 27 in. by 9 in. by 29 in. high. It would appear that the stones were originally placed at about 5 ft. 6 in. intervals ; and evidently many have been removed, probably for the adjacent enclosure walls and hedges.

Eastward the cairn forms the horizon, with an elevation of 20° 25′ 0″ ; westward the sea horizon is visible, with a depression of 1° 0′ 0″.

This is a very good example of a plundered row, as may be seen from the plan annexed. Neither cairn nor row is marked on the Ordnance Survey.

NEAR SPURRELL'S CROSS.

Ordnance Survey, Devon, CXIX, S.E., long. 3° 53' 19½", lat. 50° 25' 21½". The exact position given being that of the terminal cairn or barrow.

The nearest cairn to Spurrell's Cross, southward, shown on the Ordnance Survey is the termination of this row, but the cairn is incorrectly placed, it really lies about 60 ft. north of the assigned position ; from it the row proceeds N. 20° W. to a total distance of 372 ft. as measured from the centre. Of this distance the last 15 ft. is somewhat uncertain. The row is not quite straight, but shows a slight convexity to the east. Apparently it has been double, but since only seven stones still stand, and with six sunken stones form the fixed points now determinable, it is difficult to ascertain the original spacing. Thirty-six fallen stones appear to have belonged to the alignments. The distance apart of the lines may probably have been about 3 ft. 6 in., and the spacing about 3 ft.

It would appear that many of the stones were fixed with "triggers," and the presence of these adds much to the confusion of the ruin. There are also natural blocks not far below the turf. The largest standing stone, still obviously in place, measures 22 in. by 8 in. by 24 in. high. The cairn has a diameter of about 50 ft. It once had a circle of large uprights, of which two, now fallen, measure 4 ft. 9 in. by 1 ft. 3 in., and 3 ft. 7 in. by 1 ft. 2 in. respectively.

Looking northward the horizon has an elevation of 0° 50' 0" ; southward the cairn forms the horizon with an elevation of 0° 15' 0".

In its northerly trend this now agrees with nearly all others in the Erme Valley, with all, in fact, in the actual valley of the river itself. In having, at its southern end, a cairn with a circle, it agrees with the Erme Long Row, the Burford Down and Butterdon rows, but differs from the Brown Heath row, near Erme Pound, where the circle and barrow are at the north end.
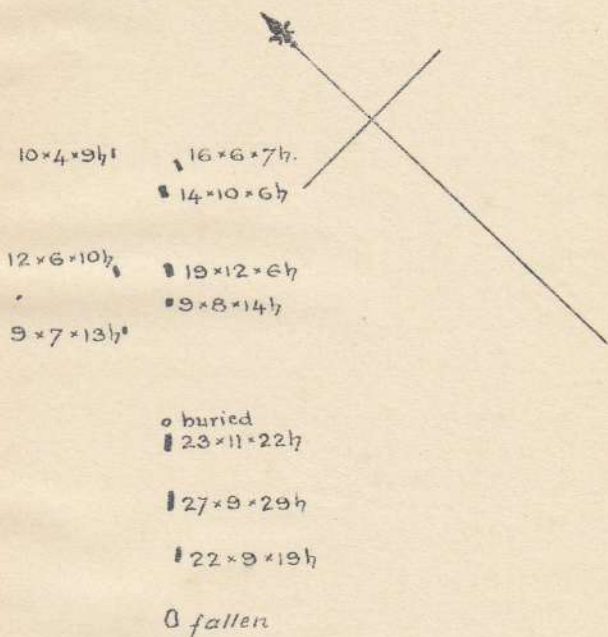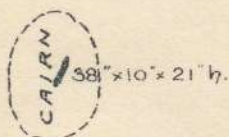
The attached plan requires no explanation.

CAIRN 38'×10'×21"h.

10×4×9h'

16×6×7h.
14×10×6h

12×6×10h

19×12×6h
9×8×14h

9×7×13h'

o buried
23×11×22h

27×9×29h

22×9×19h

O fallen

Scale 40 feet to 1 inch.
Stones 20 ft. to 1 in.

R.H. Worth.
1908.

NEAR SPURRELLS
CROSS

CXIX.S.E.
lon. 3°·53´·19½
lat. 50°·25´·21½.

Confused
Stones

Confused
Stones

·10×3×3h
−11×8×13h

·16×12
·16×5
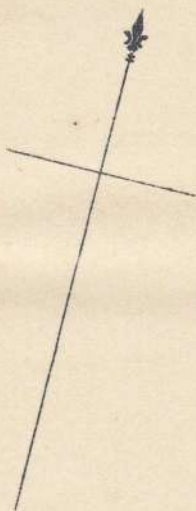
·9×9×18h

·14×5×6h

·41×19×20h

·22×8×24h

CAIRN

Scale 60 feet to 1 inch.

R.H.Worth
1908.