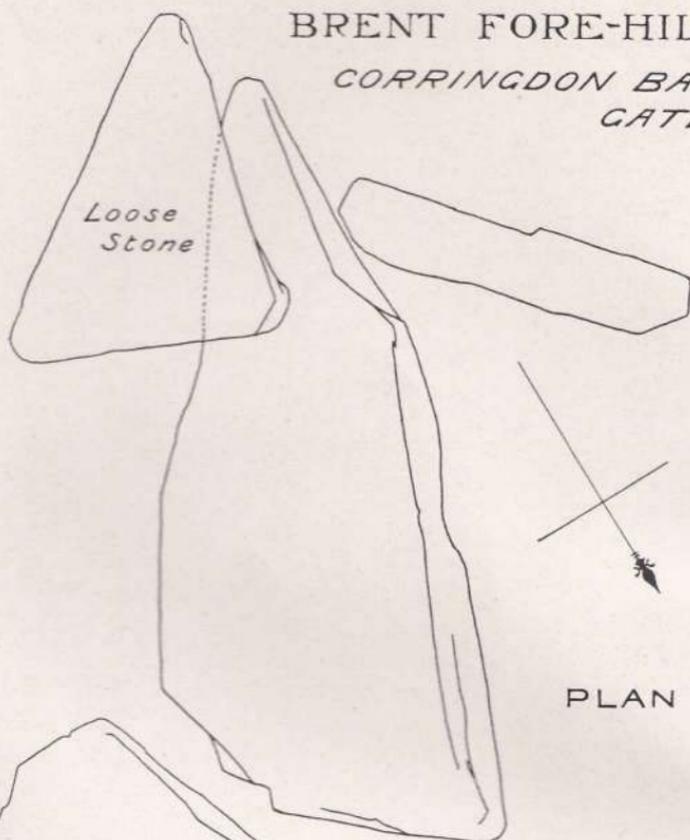


BRENT FORE-HILL
CORRINGDON BALL
GATE



PLAN

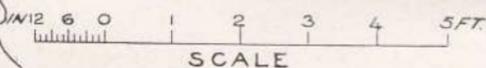


S.W. ELEVATION
of END STONE



ELEVATION

R. H. WORTH. 1909.



TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT of the Committee—consisting of the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, Dr. Brushfield, 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 Launceston, 28th July, 1909.)

YOUR Committee has no exploration work to record, but the supply of barrows and sepulchral remains, as yet inadequately described, is still so large that much work may be found for many years to come in the publication of detailed and accurate plans.

BRENT FORE HILL.

Ordnance Survey, Devon, CXIX, S.E. On *Brent Fore Hill*, without but very near the enclosure hedge of *Corringdon Ball* and but a little to the north-west of the Ball gate, stands a kistvaen of considerable magnitude and importance.

It has been described in the previous literature of Dartmoor as a cromlech, and its magnitude almost justifies that description. In the last edition of the Ordnance Survey it has been named as a kistvaen at the instance of the Secretary of your Committee.

Only two stones are still in place, one side and one end; from these it may be judged that the kist was 5 ft. 3 in. in width internally, and at least 7 ft. in length. Its external dimensions were considerably greater; but the cover-stone gives a probable limit, and measures 11 ft. in length by 7 ft. in width, its thickness being 1 ft. 5 in. This

cover-stone is now lying between the kist and the hedge of Corringdon Ball and is quite intact.

The original depth to the floor of the kistvaen is not known; excavations would be likely to be dangerous, since the long side leans inward at an angle of about forty-five degrees. The end-stone stands 4 ft. 9 in. above the present surface of the ground; hence the depth of the kistvaen must have been well over 5 ft.

This end-stone is upright and firmly set; it gives evidence of a reliable nature as to the direction of length of the kist, always assuming, as one is entitled to assume, that it stood square-set to that direction. Thus ascertained, the angle of the long axis with the true meridian would have been $47^{\circ} 30'$ E. of N. This is an exceptional direction; the north-west quadrant is so uniformly followed by other Dartmoor kists that the divergence in this particular instance is suspicious. The only possible escape from it lies in the very improbable supposition that the apparent side-stone, notwithstanding its greater length, was really one of the end-stones; this would involve a want of conformity to the customary form of structure in place of an unconformity to the customary direction. I prefer to believe that the direction varied from the usual rather than the form, and in this I am encouraged by the fact that the only other known instance of a N.E. orientation is to be found in another exceptionally large kist at Roundy Park, Post Bridge. (See 21st Report, Vol. XXXIV.)

The kistvaen on *Brent Fore Hill* was formerly covered by a barrow, the material of which was thrown back at some time long since by treasure seekers, and now forms a large mound touching the kist and on the north of it.

One hundred and five feet distant from the centre of this kistvaen, and bearing 85° E. of N. from it, lies the centre of a cairn of 63 ft. diameter. This cairn has been much robbed, but is still quite clearly defined.

The plans and view, herewith, require no further explanation.

[R. H. WORTH.]

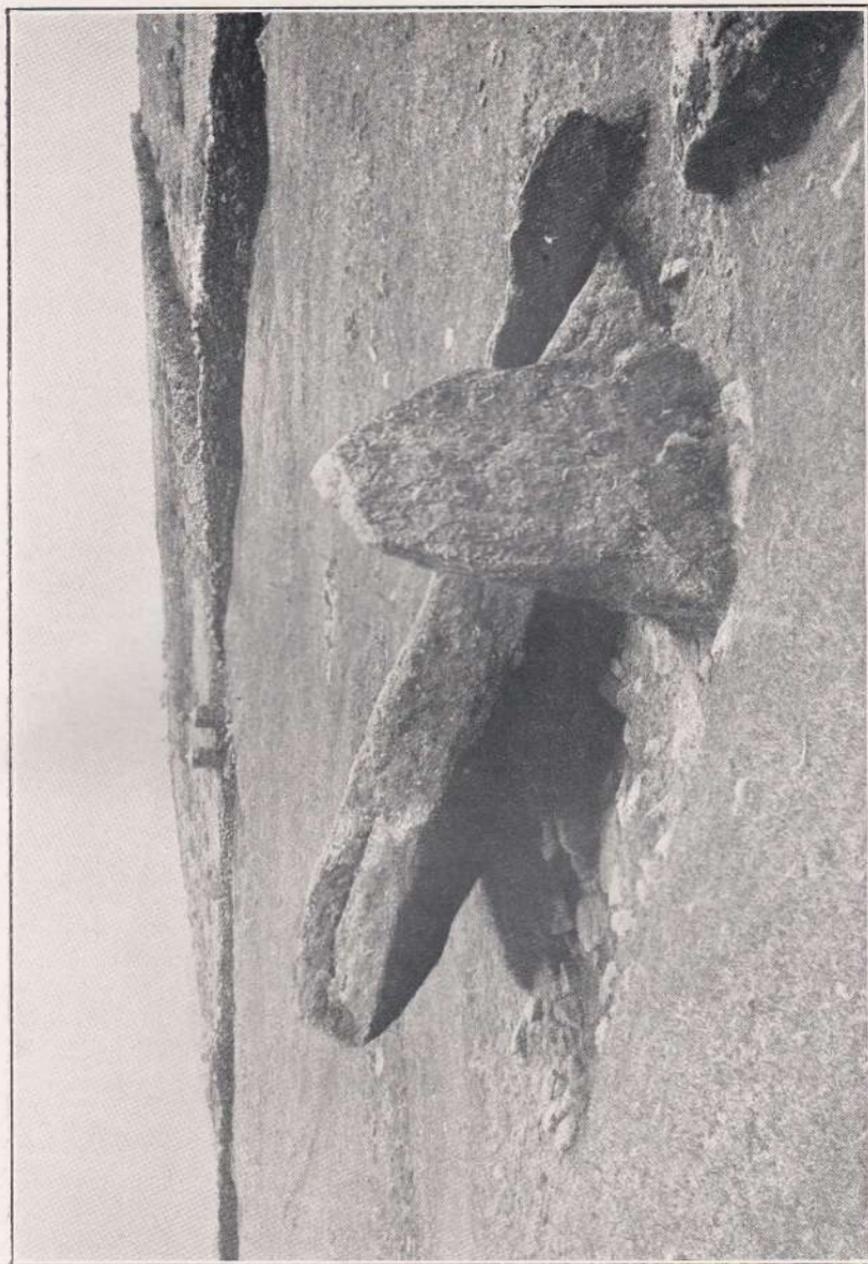


Photo by R. H. Worth

KISTVAEN NEAR CORRINGDON BALL GATE (LOOKING 107° E. OF N.).