



Fig. 1. KISTVAEN OPPOSITE "GRIM'S GRAVE."
View looking S. 13° E.

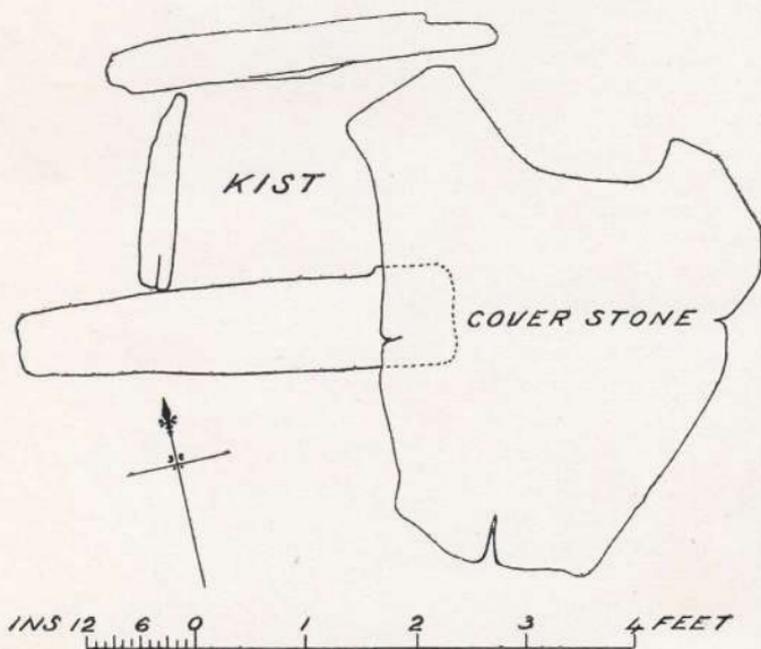


Fig. 2. PLAN OF KISTVAEN OPPOSITE "GRIM'S GRAVE."

FIFTIETH REPORT ON BARROWS.

BY R. HANSFORD WORTH, RECORDER.

(Read at Exeter, 24th June, 1931.)

[*Transactions of the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and Art.* 1931.—Vol. lxiii, pp. 81-82].

At the time that the first edition of the Ordnance Survey was prepared on the scale of six inches to a mile (approximately 1883-5), five kistvaens were known in the valley of the Plym above Shaugh Bridge. By the year 1901, I added ten to the list, and two more since that date; while the Rev. H. H. Breton discovered a kistvaen on Ringmoor; so that early in the present year eighteen kistvaens were known, of which sixteen had been described in the Barrow Reports.

It is never safe to assume that any area of Dartmoor has been thoroughly explored, and it was not surprising that a few months ago Mr. J. H. Dobson reported a kistvaen in the Langcombe Valley at the head of a gully which runs south from the Langcombe Brook, a little to the east of Deadman's Bottom; and Mr. L. Button reported another, about one hundred yards south of the kistvaen frequently, but erroneously, referred to as "Grim's Grave." Both these gentlemen are Plymothians and moorland enthusiasts.

I have visited their finds and they are both characteristic examples. Weather conditions have severely restricted my opportunity of survey, and, in the present report, I must confine myself to a detailed description of the kistvaen near "Grim's Grave."

"Grim's Grave" lies on the north bank of the Langcombe Brook, a little over sixty yards distant from the stream. The newly discovered kistvaen lies S. 8° W. from "Grim's Grave," on the South bank of the stream, from which it is rather more than forty yards distant. There is thus little more than one hundred yards between the two graves, and it is curious that the second should so long have been unknown.

Two side-stones and the western end-stone are in place, the eastern end-stone has either been removed, or has fallen out of upright, the point can not be determined without excavation. The length of the kistvaen cannot have exceeded

twenty-seven inches, its width is twenty-two inches (both internal dimensions), the depth can not be ascertained except by excavation.

The cover-stone is more irregular in shape than any other that is known to me, but its irregularity is due to purely natural causes; its greatest length is 4 feet 7 inches, and its greatest width is 3 feet 6 inches.

The direction of length of the kistvaen is N. 82° W., and thus lies in the north-west and south-east quadrants, as is usual. A low cairn surrounds the grave, margined by the remains of a retaining circle, some sixteen to eighteen feet in internal diameter.

The location of this grave is: Longitude $3^{\circ} 57' 22\frac{1}{2}''$ west, and Latitude $50^{\circ} 28' 46\frac{1}{2}''$ north. Plate I., figs. 1 and 2 give view and plan respectively.

It may be noted that the second kistvaen, above referred to, which it is hoped may be described next year, is oriented N. 53° W., again in conformity with the general rule.