

SEVENTY-THIRD REPORT ON BARROWS

BY C. E. BIRKETT DIXON (RECORDER)

DOWN TOR (north-east slopes)

Once again I am indebted to Mr. R. C. E. Carpenter for making a discovery, this time of much importance: a group of five kistvaens situated in the valley of the Newleycombe Lake in the parish of Walkhampton.

The group lies downhill from the parting between Down Tor and Hingston Hill at an elevation of *c.* 1,085 ft., and may easily be found by means of a large boulder lying 112 ft. farther down the slope. Its position is lat. $50^{\circ} 30' 54\frac{3}{4}''$ N., long. $3^{\circ} 59' 56\frac{1}{2}''$ W. (Nat. Grid ref. SX 58266942). The ground is clear and open, and an animal track runs through the group, which was clearly visible on discovery. Its having escaped notice until now suggests that many less conspicuous kistvaens have yet to be discovered. The western member of the group had been seen by someone, as a recent carcass of a sheep was found buried in it.

As the only other known group of three kistvaens is that on the Blackabrook (31st Report, *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, XLIV, p. 83), this discovery is of added importance, but a comparison of the details yields nothing of value.

The two largest kistvaens are spaced 37 ft. 6 in. apart centre to centre; the smallest lies to the north of them 12 ft. from the western and 35 ft. from the eastern member. Individual details are as follows:

107. *Western* (figs. 42 and 45)

Standing in the remains of a barrow and retaining circle some 14 ft. in diameter and complete except for the coverstone. The western sidestone is leaning outwards; the eastern is 46 in. long. The average dimensions are: length, 35 in.; depth, 29 in.; original width, between 15 and 21 in. Direction of length, N. $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W.

108. *Northern* (figs. 43 and 46)

The smallest Dartmoor kistvaen *in situ* and one of the smallest known. The south-west sidestone is 27 in. long and the opposite sidestone leans slightly inwards; the north-west



42. KISTVAEN 107 (WESTERN).

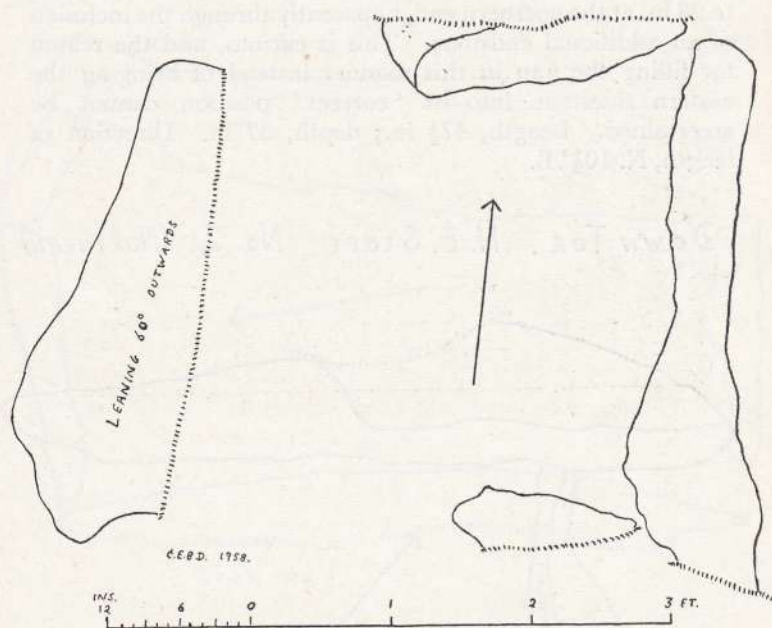


43. KISTVAEN 108 (NORTHERN).



44. KISTVAEN 109 (EASTERN).

DOWN TOW N.E. SLOPE No. 1. (WESTERN)



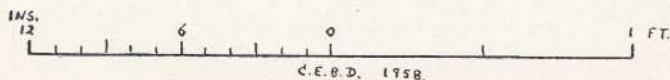
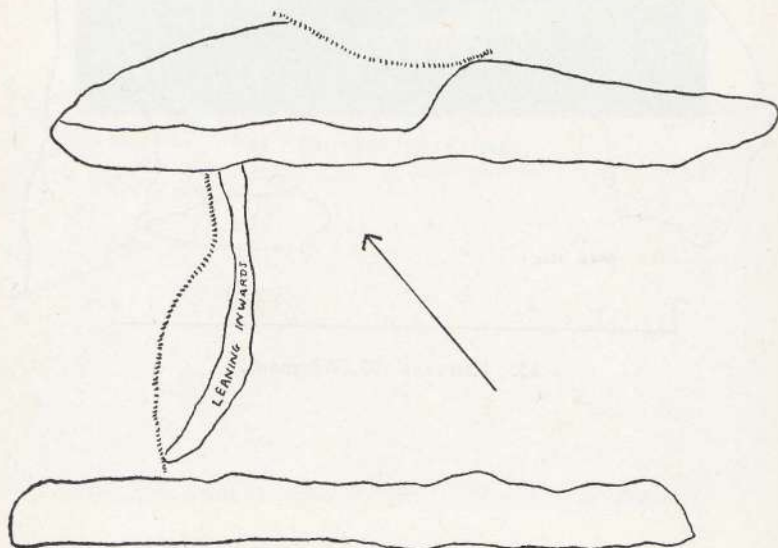
45. KISTVAEN 107 (WESTERN).

endstone also leans inwards. The other endstone and the coverstone are missing. Present width, 12 in.; depth, 21 in. Direction of length, N. 49° W.

109. *Eastern* (figs. 44 and 47)

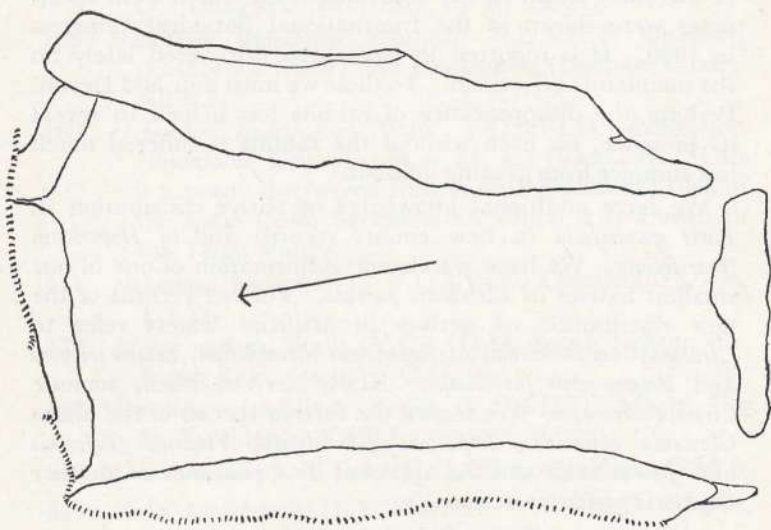
A large kistvaen with two sidestones and two endstones within the remains of a barrow 6 in. high on the uphill side and 24 in. high on the downhill side. There are the remains of a retaining circle *c.* 10 ft. in diameter. The two sides are not parallel, the width of 20 in. at the southern end increasing to 28 in. at the northern end, apparently through the inclusion of an additional endstone. This is curious, and the reason for filling the gap in this manner instead of bringing the eastern sidestone into its 'correct' position cannot be ascertained. Length, 47½ in.; depth, 37 in. Direction of length, N. 10½° E.

DOWN TOR, N. E. SLOPE, No. 2. (NORTHERN)

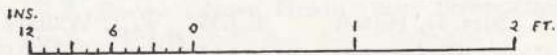


46. KISTVAEN 108 (NORTHERN).

DOWNTON N. E. SLOPE No. 3. (EASTERN)



C.E.B.D. 1958.



47. KISTVAEN 109 (EASTERN).