

## II.

PREHISTORIC REMAINS NEAR GULLANE. BY DR JAS. T. RICHARDSON  
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Arrowheads and other implements of flint having from time to time been picked up in certain bunkers lying among the sandhills between Gullane Ness and North Berwick, through the courtesy of Mr Hamilton Ogilvy a careful inspection of these bunkers was permitted to be made some months ago, with the result that evidence was found of numerous prehistoric interments in various parts of this area. The bunkers, or rather hollows, among the sandhills are of considerable extent, and run inland, in a more or less easterly direction from the coast line, at a height of twenty feet or thereby above high-water mark. Their length varies from 150 to 300 yards, while their width is from 30 to 60 yards. Their surface is almost uniformly flat, being of a tenacious soil, the result of disintegration of red volcanic rock, strewn with sand, small stones and shells. Being exposed to the full force of the westerly winds, they are comparatively free from accumulations of sand, and their surface is periodically swept bare. A few arrowheads and a considerable quantity of scrapers and knife-like implements were found, and along with them fragments of coarse half-baked pottery, evidently pieces of broken cinerary urns. Human bones were also visible, protruding here and there from the sand, or among what resembled the remains of small cairns. When these heaps of stones were removed, cists were found beneath them in some instances, but in most cases the stones were scattered about seemingly as the result of previous disturbance. In one bunker these small cairns were pretty numerous, the interments being frequently within a few feet of each other. Although the cists were carefully searched, no relics of any kind were met with beyond the broken pottery and an oval implement of sandstone, measuring 7 inches by 6 inches, with one end imperfect, and having a circular depression on either side. This implement was found about seven feet to the south

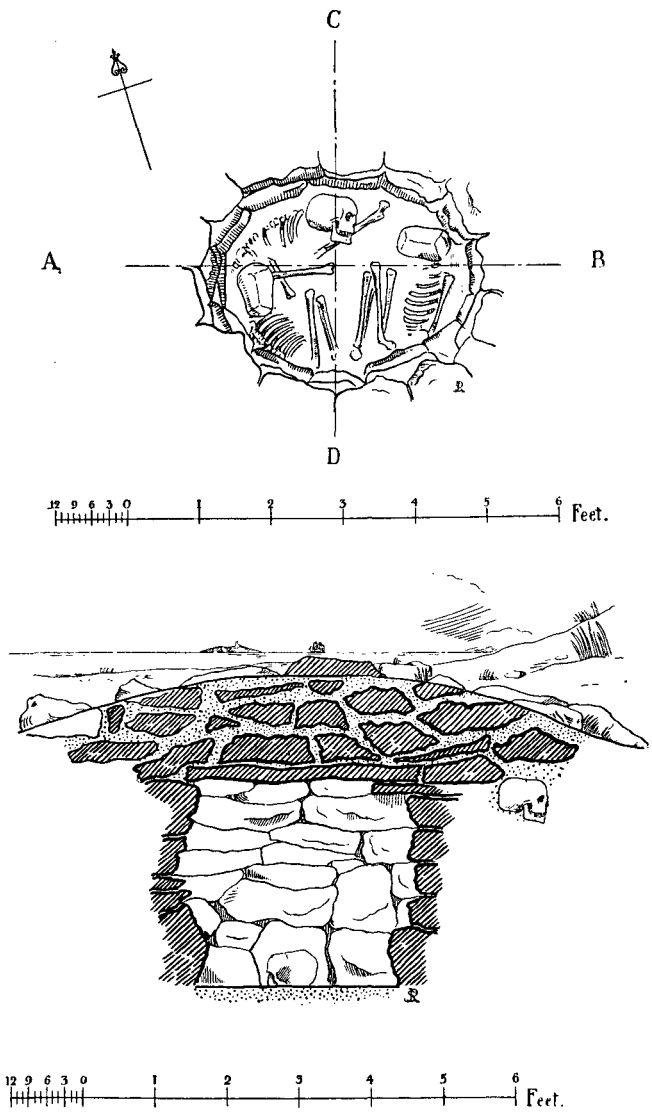


Fig. 1. Floor of Cist, showing position of Skeletons, and section through cist on line D C.

of the interment about to be described. The cist (figs. 1 and 2) merits a detailed description, as its form was unusual, and of quite a different type from the others; it had, moreover, not been previously disturbed. Its position was indicated by a circular flattish mound of sand and stones, about two yards in diameter and one and a half feet high. When this had been partially cleared away a slab of blue-coloured sedimentary rock four feet by three feet, and three inches thick, was laid bare. At its northern end were two other slabs of red whinstone, three feet by one foot, lying one on top of the other. These were found to cover part of a cavity, the main portion of which was under the larger stone. When with considerable difficulty this larger stone had been removed, the cavity was seen to be oval and more or less cup-shaped, three feet in depth, with sides formed of stones of a moderate size, built up like a wall, showing some amount of skill and carefulness of construction. The floor of this cavity was covered with black mould, and beneath this was a coarse pepper-and-salt coloured sand, differing entirely from any sand in the neighbourhood, and appearing to be partly composed of comminuted shells. On the floor were lying the remains of three adult human skeletons in good preservation. Nothing further was found in this grave. At its northern end, but quite outside it and beneath the sandy mound, were four human skulls facing the north-east, and below them the remains of the skeletons of which they had formed part. The position of these bodies made it evident that they had been placed there in connection with the circular cist, but whether at the same time or subsequently cannot be known.

In several of the bunkers large mounds are visible, covered with bleached periwinkle and limpet shells. The substance of these mounds consists of a compact mass of dark mould, in which are embedded shells, flints, split bones and pieces of urns, bearing traces of carefully executed designs, and occasionally smooth rounded pebbles of quartz, along with charcoal.

The flints, found to the number of upwards of one hundred, consisted of five arrowheads, three of which were barbed, and the remainder leaf-

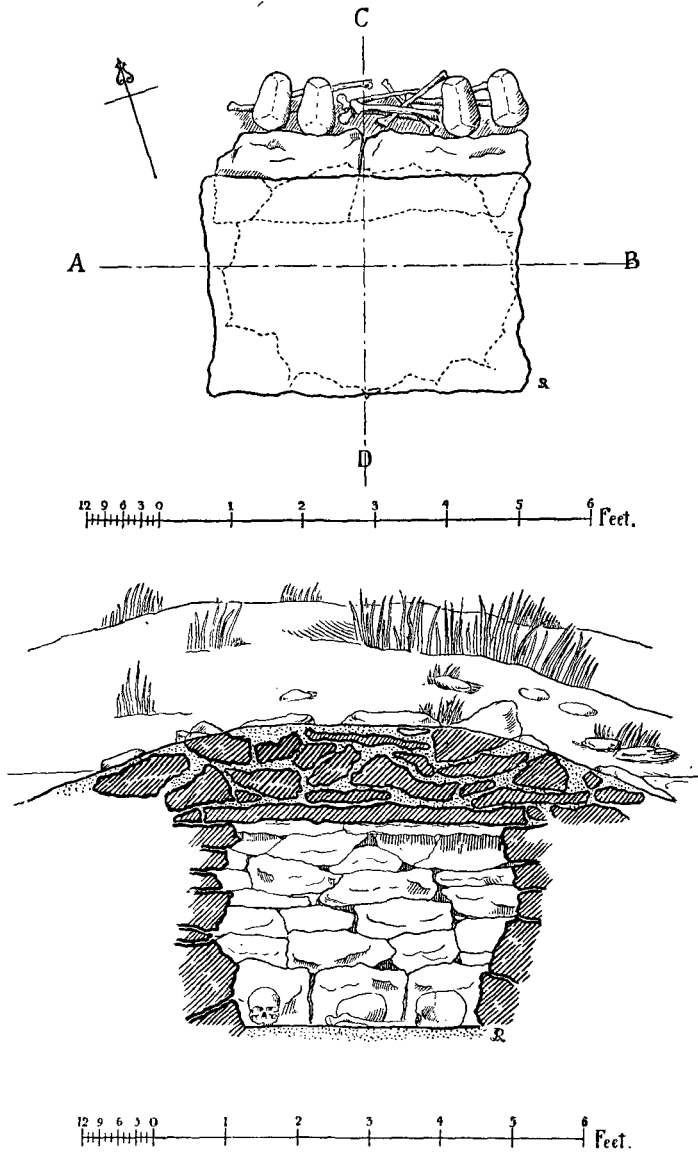


Fig. 2. Plan of Cist-cover showing position of bones outside cist, and section through cist on line A B.

shaped, five knife-like implements, and forty-five scrapers, the largest of which measured  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, the smallest  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch. Some of these flints were highly finished, and bore traces of careful workmanship.