

## II.

NOTICE OF KITCHEN-MIDDEN DEPOSITS ON NORTH BERWICK LAW, AND OTHER ANTIQUITIES IN THE VICINITY OF NORTH BERWICK ; WITH A NOTE OF AN UNDESCRIBED SCULPTURED STONE, WITH SYMBOLS, IN THE ISLAND OF RAASAY. By J. S. RICHARDSON.

## I. NOTICE OF KITCHEN-MIDDEN DEPOSITS ON NORTH BERWICK LAW.

Near the base of North Berwick Law, and on a level with the top of the quarry, there is a considerable tract of flattish ground. This ground, extending along the entire south side of the hill, is about 350 yards long by 100 yards broad. Its surface for the most part is covered with small mounds, and near the east end are scattered about quantities of stones which probably have been used in the building of small enclosures or sheilings.

Wherever the ground has been disturbed by rabbits burrowing, the soil thrown out is of a black, loose nature, quite different from the red, native soil, filled with fragments of a coarse, rude pottery, and other objects associated with early kitchen-midden deposits. The nature and section of this soil is to be seen in the bank extending along the top of the quarry, and, in consequence of the surface-level of the bed-rock being somewhat uneven, the soil varies in depth from a few inches to close on 5 feet. In one place in particular near the centre of the quarry the section of the bank appears like that of a flattish saucer, measuring 40 yards from lip to lip, with its greatest depth about 4 feet. At some places within its area, at a depth of 2 feet 6 inches from the surface, are placed, as if for some purpose, the one on the top of the other, a number of flat slabs of whinstone. From this bank most of the objects described were gathered.

*Deer-horn and Bone Implements.*—These consist chiefly of portions of the horns of a large species of deer, fashioned into rough implements, exhibiting the marks of saws and other cutting implements. Some of

them have portions of their surface covered with peculiar pitted marks, apparently caused by some sharp-pointed instrument applied in a stabbing manner. Similar markings are on a leg-bone of a deer or small ox.

One of these horns (fig. 1) has evidently been a handle: it is 6 inches long, 1 inch thick, 1 inch broad at the upper end and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches at the lower. There is at the wide end of this horn, in the cancellous tissue, a V-shaped incision, pointing inwards, to the one side of which there is a hole bored through the entire length of the horn. Assuming this to be the handle of a knife, the socket would be the V-shaped incision, and the bore, I would imagine, for a long peg of bone or wood, project-

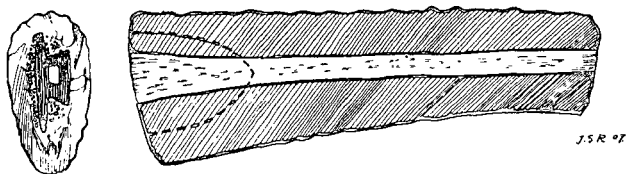


Fig. 1. Sections of Handle of Deer-horn.

ing slightly over the back of the knife, would tend to strengthen the blade and keep it socketed.

There are in this section of the bank quantities of large deer and ox bones, some of which bear the marks of saws, and others deep notches made in the attempt to split the bone with some rude stone implement. There were also found a bone pin, and a portion of a two-pronged fork-like implement, similar to three others (fig. 2) found together in a bank 20 yards to the west of this section. These are all similar, the prongs being about 1 inch long and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch across the points. Owing to the other end of the bones being fractured and weathered, it is impossible to judge the entire lengths of the implements.

*Pottery.*—Fragments of a rude hand-made pottery are to be found nearer the surface than the horns and larger bones. No fragments larger than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 3 inches have as yet been found, and all are

of a considerable thickness, the thickest being as much as 1 inch. Several of the fragments show the rims and the nail-marks of their makers. Two interesting bits have been the projecting feet, for steadying and supporting a bowl-like vessel.

*Flint Implements.*—As yet only two flint implements have been found. The one, a fine example of the slug-shape,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, of a

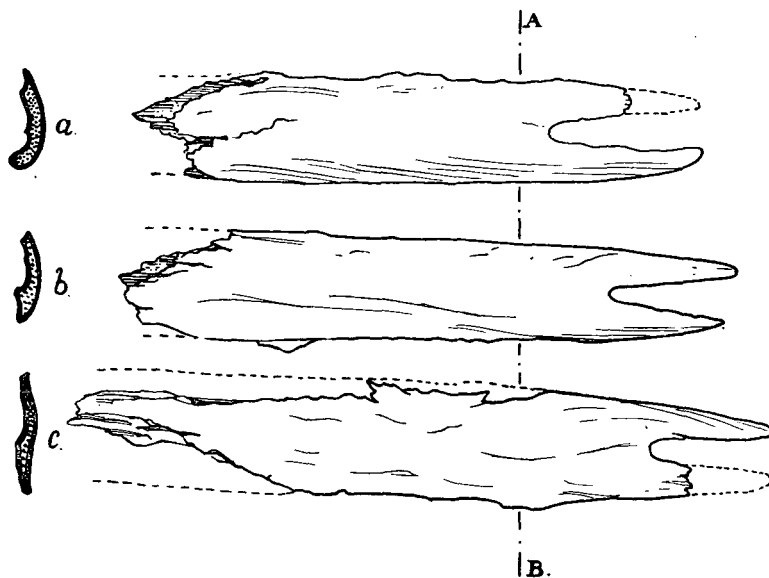


Fig. 2. Three fork-like, two-pronged Implements of Bone.

brownish flint, and finely flaked, was picked up at the westernmost end of the quarry, where some turf had been removed. The other, a small scraper, of a clear-coloured grey flint,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch across, was found in the bank at the east end of the quarry, at about a foot from the surface.

*Stone Implements.*—In the bank are a great number of small round sea-worn stones, showing evident signs of firing. All the implements

found have been of rough workmanship, and include a fractured adze (if complete, 14 inches long), and a portion of a rounded stone, oval in plan, with one side ground flat; this stone measured  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  across its shortest diameter.

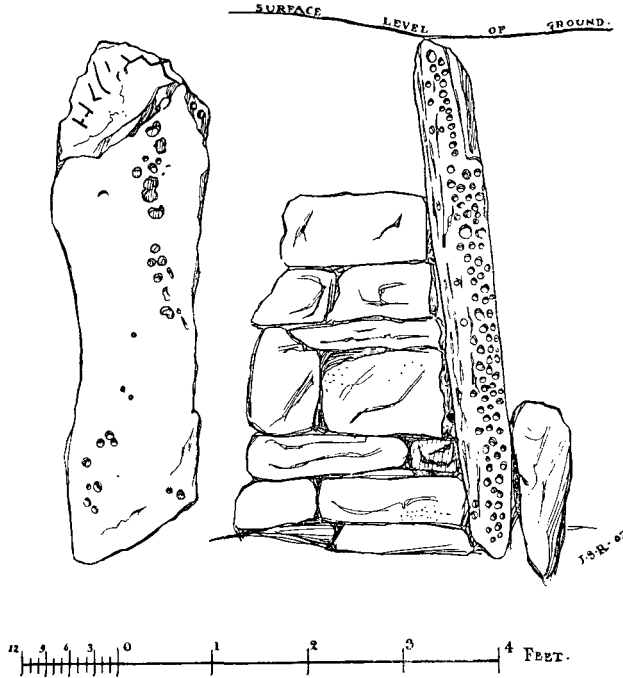


Fig. 3. Upright Slab, with its supports.

*Upright Stone Slab.*—Through the courtesy of George Dalziell, Esq., W.S., representing Sir Walter Hamilton Dalrymple, Bart., permission was granted several years ago to make some digging if necessary. Advantage was not taken of this until a few weeks ago, when, by the accidental stripping of a turf, the upper end of a sandstone slab was

exposed, buried in the black soil already described, at a distance of about 10 yards from the edge of the quarry, near its west end. A pick and spades were at once procured, and after considerable digging the true nature of this stone was revealed.

This slab (fig. 3), which was set in an almost upright position, inclining slightly towards the north, faced N. and S., measured 5 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 9 inches by 7 inches. A number of well-selected bits of the Law stone were carefully built to within 1 foot 6 inches of the top, in the manner of a buttress, against the north side. On the south side, at a distance of 4 feet from the top, were three peg-shaped bits of the same stone, each 2 feet long. This face of the slab as well as its sides were pitted with small semi-spherical depressions, naturally formed, resembling cup-marks. On these being cleared of soil, there were exposed, still adhering, shells of the sea-acorn or rock-barnacle. This stone, which is of considerable weight, must have been brought up to this spot from the Millsea rocks on the sea-shore, at the extreme east end of North Berwick.

All round this structure, to the depth of 6 feet in the soil, were large quantities of bones, and at the north side heaps of buckie and limpet shells, of which similar heaps are to be seen in the quarry bank.

A little higher up the hill, just above this stone, is what appears to be a small stone circle of seven stones; and in a line with this, to the east, are the remains of two circular enclosures, surrounded by a low mound of soil and stones.

## II. NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF AN ORNAMENTED BRONZE PIN IN A ROCK-SHELTER AT RHODES LINKS, NORTH BERWICK.

At the extreme east end of what used to be the Rhodes Golf Links there is a large rock projecting from the bank formed by the raised sea-beach. The exposed N. and N.E. sides of this rock shelve inwards, presenting a cave-like appearance.

In consequence of one of the severe and prolonged downpours of rain which occurred last year, the sandy soil to the immediate east of this rock, and many tons from the field above, were washed down to the sea. In this soil were found a human skull and other human bones. The discovery of these bones, which had evidently been washed out of some interment, led to an examination of the ground and the base of the rock, where the soil had been cleared away to a depth of between 4

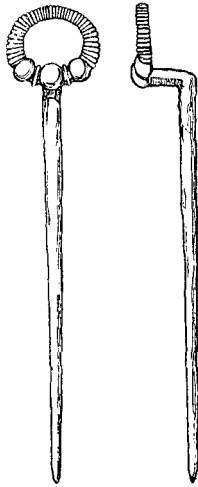


Fig. 4. Bronze Pin, from a Rock-shelter, North Berwick. (1.)

and 5 feet from the surface-level. Here, owing to the force of the torrent, the floor exposed was very much disturbed. There was, however, sufficient remaining of a dry-stone dyke, which enclosed a space at the base of the rock, to infer that this spot at one time had been used as a place of habitation.

In the west corner of this enclosure a quantity of dark soil still adhered to the face of the rock, and half buried in this was found the bronze pin shown in fig. 4. This pin, simple and effective in its design,

belongs to a class of which there are several specimens in the Museum, both of bronze and iron, some of which are described by Mr F. R. Coles in the *Proceedings*, vol. xxxviii. p. 433. It most nearly resembles the pin of cast bronze from the Broch of Bowermadden, Caithness (*Proceedings*, vol. xxxviii. p. 436), a variety for the casting of which a clay mould was found in the Broch of Lingrow, Orkney.

The head, which is set forward on a neck from the rest of the pin, is formed in the shape of an oval ring, ornamented on the front and sides. At the centre of the lower portion, where the neck joins, there is a semi-spherical bead, at either side of which is a similar bead, slightly smaller in size, and separated from the centre one by a small bead similar to others, which, gradually diminishing in width, ornament the rest of the head. These resemble small flat circular beads, oblong in section, set one against the other, the edges forming the design on the pin.

The following are the dimensions :—

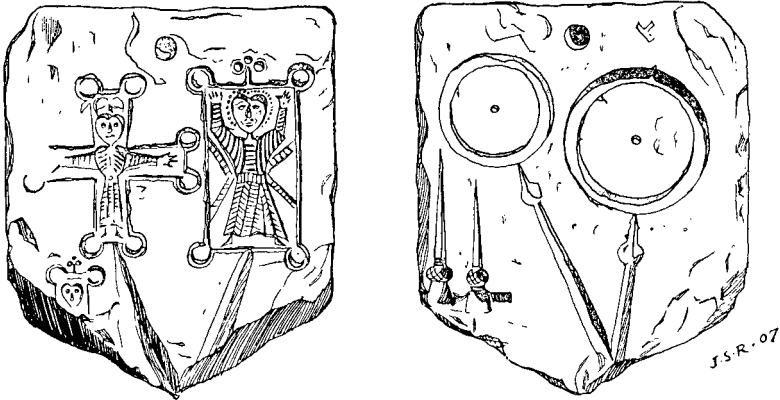
Head	{	Inside measurements, $\frac{1}{4}'' \times \frac{3}{16}''$ .
		Over all „ $\frac{1}{2}'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$ .
		Width of ring at top of head, $\frac{3}{32}''$ .
		„ „ sides „ $\frac{2}{16}''$ .
		Diameter across semi-spherical bead, $\frac{3}{16}''$ .
Neck	{	Thickness of ring, $\frac{3}{32}''$ .
		Projection from back of pin to back of bead, $\frac{3}{16}''$ .
Pin	{	Thickness = $\frac{2}{16}''$ .
		Length from upper side of neck to point, $2\frac{3}{16}''$ .
		Greatest width of pin, $\frac{2}{16}''$ .

The soil in which the pin was found was carefully examined. Fragments of a buff-coloured pottery, burnt and split animal bones, fish bones, and the shells of the usual edible molluscs were found. Below the pin level were four levels of different fireplaces.

The only human bone got, mixed up in this soil, was the left upper jaw of a small child.

III. NOTICE OF PORTION OF A STONE MOULD FOR CASTING PILGRIMS' SIGNACULA AND RING BROOCHES.

This interesting relic, which was found a few years ago among some disturbed soil in the old churchyard of St Andrew's Church, situated near the harbour at North Berwick, was exhibited at a meeting of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society, and recorded in their transactions for the year 1905. It is the centre portion of a stone mould, formed of clay-bed



Figs. 5, 6. Obverse and Reverse of middle portion of a Stone Mould for casting Pilgrims' Signs, found in North Berwick. (§.)

ironstone, measuring about 4 inches square by  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch thick, having the lower end fractured. On the obverse are matrices for casting pewter or lead badges, such as were wont to be carried in mediæval times by pilgrims, either as tokens or sewn to their garments. These badges (fig. 5) are—a representation of Saint Andrew on his Cross, set in an oblong frame, with rings at either corner, an equal armed crucifix, and portion of a smaller one. At each corner of the arms are rings, serving as loops by which to fasten the badges to the dress. On the reverse (fig. 6) are moulds for two unequally-sized ring brooches, with thistle-headed pins.



IV. NOTE ON AN UNDESCRIBED ERECT SLAB, WITH INCISED CROSSES  
ON BOTH FACES, NORTH BERWICK.

This stone was found about eleven years ago, while digging out a duck pond situated in the vicinity of the Abbey, and has since been pre-

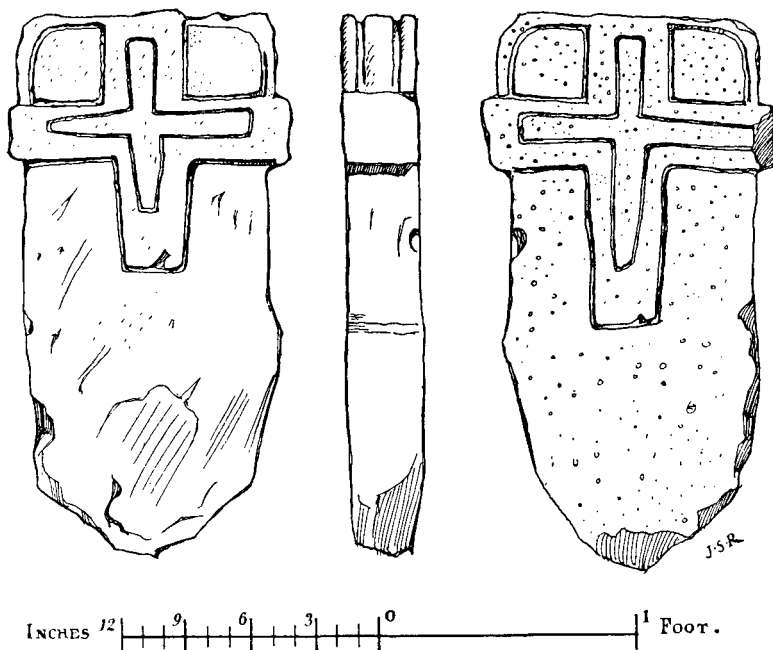


Fig. 7. Stone with incised Crosses, North Berwick.

served in the Lodge grounds. It is a sandstone slab, 2 feet high, 1 foot broad, by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. Sculptured on the one side is an incised cross, formed by parallel lines about 1 inch apart, with plain square angles and shaft, and on the other side a cross of equal arms, formed of similar incised lines. The horizontal arms of both crosses

project slightly on the sides of the stone, and on both sides, in the upper corners formed by the arms, there is bordering the edge of the stone an incised line joining the arms of the cross.

V. NOTICE OF A STONE CARVED WITH A MALTESE CROSS.

This stone (fig. 8) is built into a stone wall on Kingston Hill,

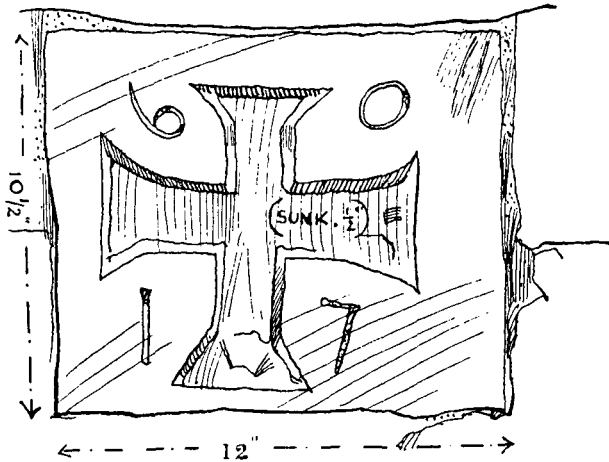


Fig. 8. Stone with Maltese Cross, near Fenton Tower.

within 200 yards of Fenton Tower, a sixteenth century dwelling. It is a square dressed block of yellowish sandstone, bearing a sunk Maltese cross, evidently of early workmanship. The adjoining farms are called Chapel and Sydserf. These names suggest the existence at some early date of an ecclesiastical building, to which this stone may have originally belonged. The date on the stone has no doubt been added at the period when the stone was built into the wall.

VI. NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF HALF OF A HOG-BACKED  
MONUMENT IN EDROM KIRKYARD, BERWICKSHIRE.

While visiting the kirkyard of Edrom, in Berwickshire, recently, I noticed at the corner of a coach-house, within the kirkyard gate, a pall-stone, both sides of which were ornamented with the scale pattern so frequently met with on monuments of the hog-backed type. I

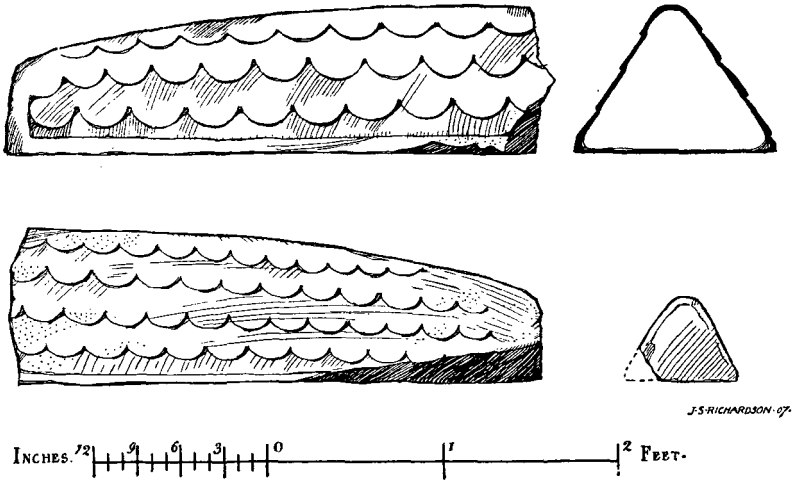


Fig. 9. Hog-backed Monument (broken) in Edrom Churchyard.

acquainted the Rev. Mr Simpson, minister of the parish, of this find, and asked him to have it raised. This he kindly did, and on examination it proved to be half of a hog-backed monument of white sandstone. The monument (fig. 9), when complete, must have measured about 6 feet, 3 feet 1 inch of which is remaining. There are three rows of well-defined scales on the one side and four rows of smaller ones on the other. This monument must have been a very low one, being only 10 inches at the centre of the back and 6 inches at the end. The

width at the centre is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches and 8 inches at the end. On plan, the stone is slightly curved to the side ornamented by the three rows of scales, and the under side bears still the chisel-marks. Mr Simpson will have this relic kept in future in safety.

VII. NOTE OF AN UNDESCRIBED SCULPTURED STONE WITH  
SYMBOLS IN THE ISLAND OF RAASAY.

A few weeks ago Mr Fleming, head green-keeper of the Municipal Golf Links, North Berwick, showed me two small photographs of a sculptured stone which he had taken while gardener at Raasay House, on the Isle of Raasay. I made a rough drawing of this stone from the photographs and sent it to Mr Cameron, estate manager of the island, requesting him to figure on it the dimensions, compare and correct the sketch, and otherwise give me any particulars about the stone. This he has kindly done, and I have been able to make a correct measured drawing of this interesting Early Christian monument. I am also indebted to Mr W. Norrie, Photographer, Fraserburgh, for copies of photographs of the sculptured stone, and of the incised cross on the rock-surface near the pier, taken while on a cruise with Mr J. A. Harvie Brown in 1903, and to Mr Harvie Brown for permission to use them if required.

The stone (fig. 10), which is said to have been found during the lifetime of the late James M'Leod, of Raasay, when he was forming the road from the pier to Raasay House, is a rectangular slab of native grey granite, measuring 7 feet high by 1 foot 9 inches broad and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. Sculptured on the side with incised lines are—near the top of the stone, a cross and shaft of an as yet unrecorded type; below this, the notched rectangle, with curved end, or, as it has sometimes been called, the “tuning-fork” symbol, and below it the crescent and V-shaped rod symbol.

A similar cross (fig. 11), but larger than that on the monument which has just been described, is incised on a rock close to the pier, below the old fort, 9 feet from high-water mark, and about 100 yards distant from the spot where the sculptured stone (fig. 10) was found.

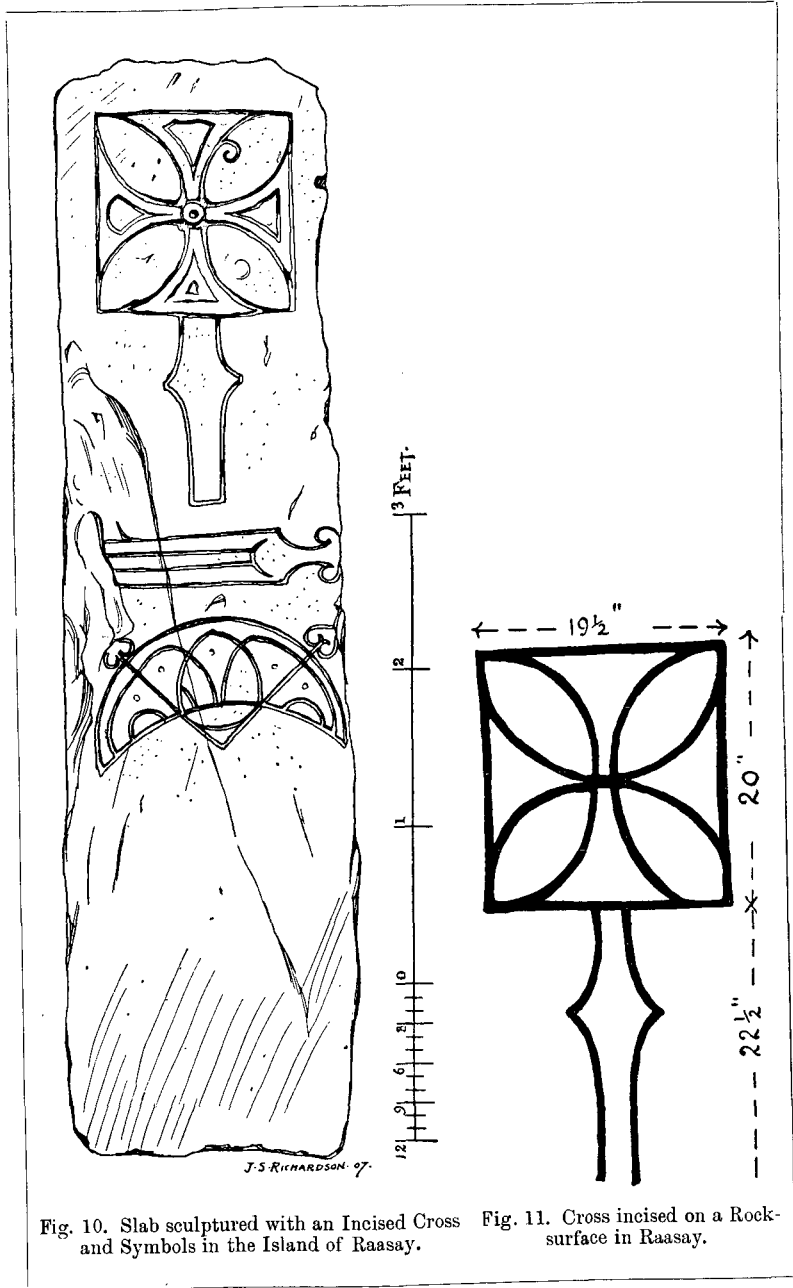


Fig. 10. Slab sculptured with an Incised Cross and Symbols in the Island of Raasay.

Fig. 11. Cross incised on a Rock-surface in Raasay.