

IV.

SHORT CIST AND URN FOUND AT FINDON, PARISH OF
URQUHART, ROSS. BY J. J. GALBRAITH, M.D., D.P.H.

The cist was discovered in a field on the farm of Findon, about 9 inches under the surface of the ground. The field is the farthest east on the farm below the road from Conon to Cromarty, about half-



Fig. 1. Short Cist at Findon, Ross.

way down and rather nearer the east end (fig. 1). Situated on the top of a knoll, the soil had been gradually displaced and the cover almost exposed. It was trodden on by a horse and broken. The slab was lifted by the ploughman and the urn within the cist removed. It was not inverted and stood near the southern end of the cist.

Careful examination of the contents failed to disclose any bones or other relics. The cist was constructed of squared slabs of local Old Red Sandstone. The long axis lay nearly north and south, 5° east of north magnetic. The shape was exactly rectangular, with well-finished angles. The cover was irregular and projected somewhat. Inside dimensions were: Length,

4 feet; breadth, 2 feet; depth, 2 feet. The sides were 4 inches and 3 inches thick, the ends $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches and 2 inches. At a depth of 20 inches under the surface was a layer of sand, below which was undisturbed boulder clay.

The contents of the cist consisted of earth and fragments of sandstone indistinguishable from the surrounding soil. In addition to the almost complete urn (fig. 2) was the bottom of a second, slightly smaller, of which no other pieces were found. Both were of a coarse paste con-

taining sand with large angular grains of quartz. The inside of the urn was blackened and contained some peaty material. It is decorated with bands of herring-bone pattern round the neck and lattice design



Fig. 2. Beaker found at Findon, Ross.

round the bridge. The dimensions are: Diameter at the brim, $5\frac{1}{6}$ inches; of the neck, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch below the brim, $5\frac{5}{16}$ inches; of the body, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches below the brim, 6 inches; and of the base, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Height, 7 inches. Diameter of the base of smaller urn, $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

I am indebted to Miss MacIntyre, Findon, for bringing the find under my notice and giving facilities for the examination of the cist.