

4. A SHORT CIST RECENTLY EXPOSED IN THE GALLOWS KNOWE,  
LINTRATHEN, ANGUS.

The Gallows Knowe is an obviously artificial mound about 45 yards in diameter and apparently between 12 and 15 feet high, about a quarter of a mile north-east of the parish church of Lintrathen, Angus. Some time between 1820 and 1830 the then tenant of Purgavie Farm dug out part of the soil of the tumulus for top-dressing and found some stone coffins, probably not more than two in number. They are said to have contained some bones, but no urn. Recently the tumulus has been made into an Observation Post. Early in December 1939 when men were digging turf for a shelter they came upon a stone cist. It was badly damaged before any examination could be made, but one of the workmen supplied the following information.

The cist lay to the east about half-way between the summit and the circumference of the mound and 1 to 1½ feet below the surface, being orientated roughly north and south. The cist measured about 4 feet long by 4 feet deep by 2 feet wide. The sides were each composed of two stones one above the other and the ends were similarly constructed, overlapping the sides slightly. The cover was very heavy and is said to have been derived from a quarry about a mile away. There was no floor slab. The interior was covered with reddish soil quite different from the black soil of the mound. At the south end of the cist was a sort of circular pavement, 6 to 9 inches in diameter, composed of white

<sup>1</sup> *University of Michigan Studies*, Hum. Ser. 41 (1936).

quartz pebbles. A small quantity of burnt bones much broken was found, but no trace of an urn.

In digging foundations for a shed on the south side of the mound, and going down some 4 feet into the earth of the tumulus, the workers noticed several layers of red earth similar to that which coated the floor of the cist.

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