

100 0 100

SCALE OF FEET

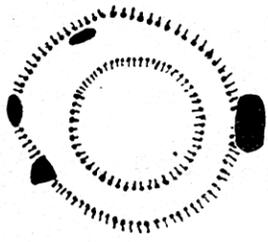
BROOMRIGG AND WALLMOOR

K. S. HODGSON 1934

FIG. I.

A MEGALITHIC CIRCLE
 B GRAVE CIRCLE
 C CAIRN "
 D " "
 E ? ?

TO FACE P. 77.



B



D

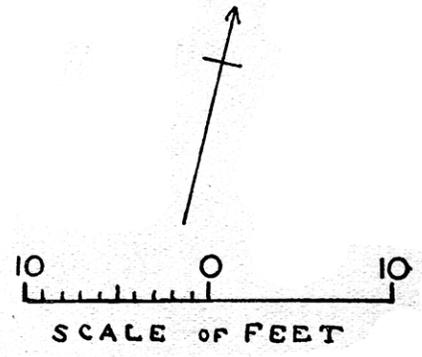
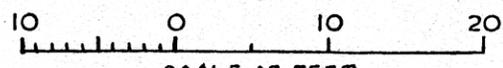


FIG. 3.

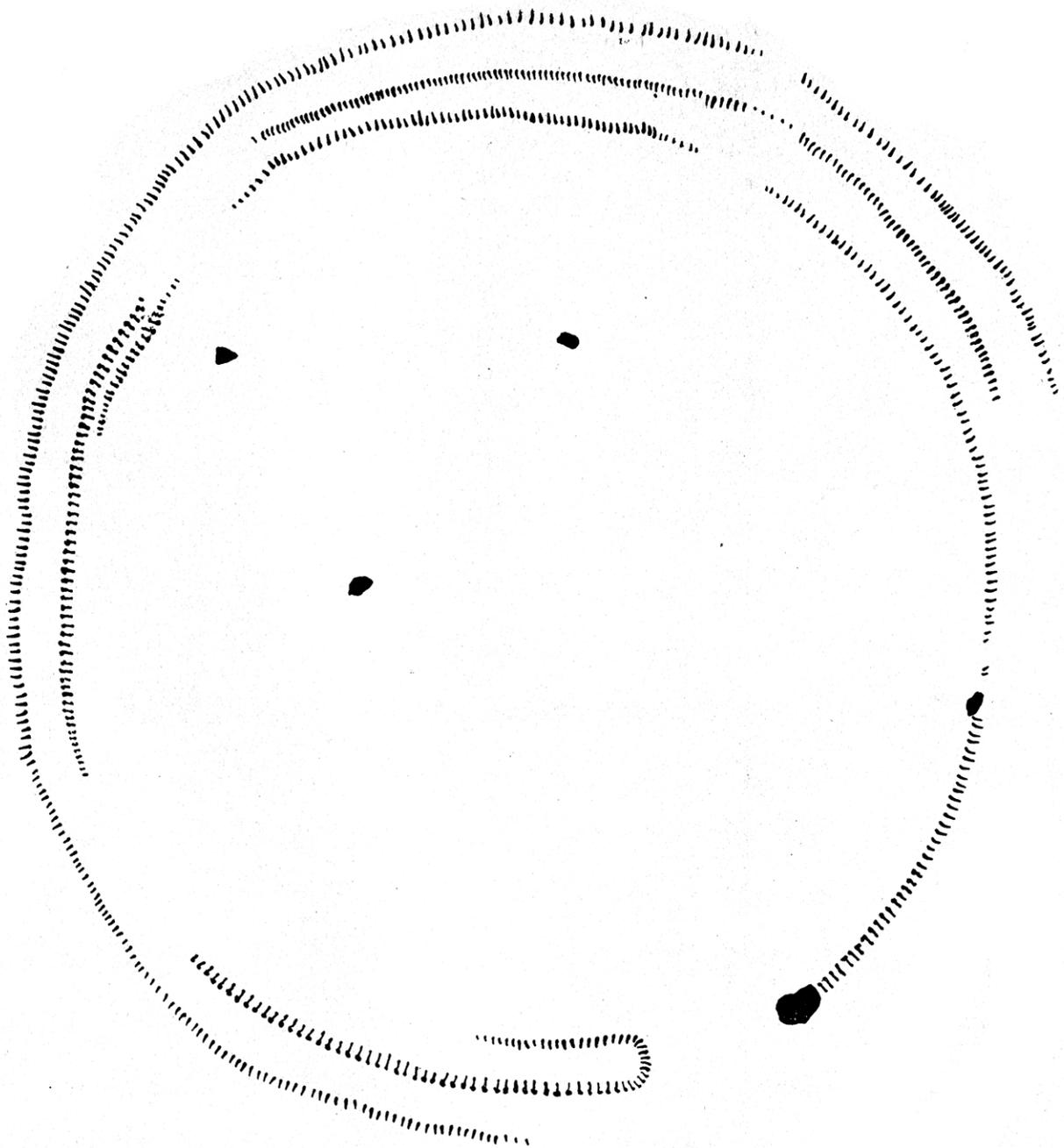


GRAVE CIRCLE (C)

K.S.H 1934



SCALE OF FEET
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FIG. 2.



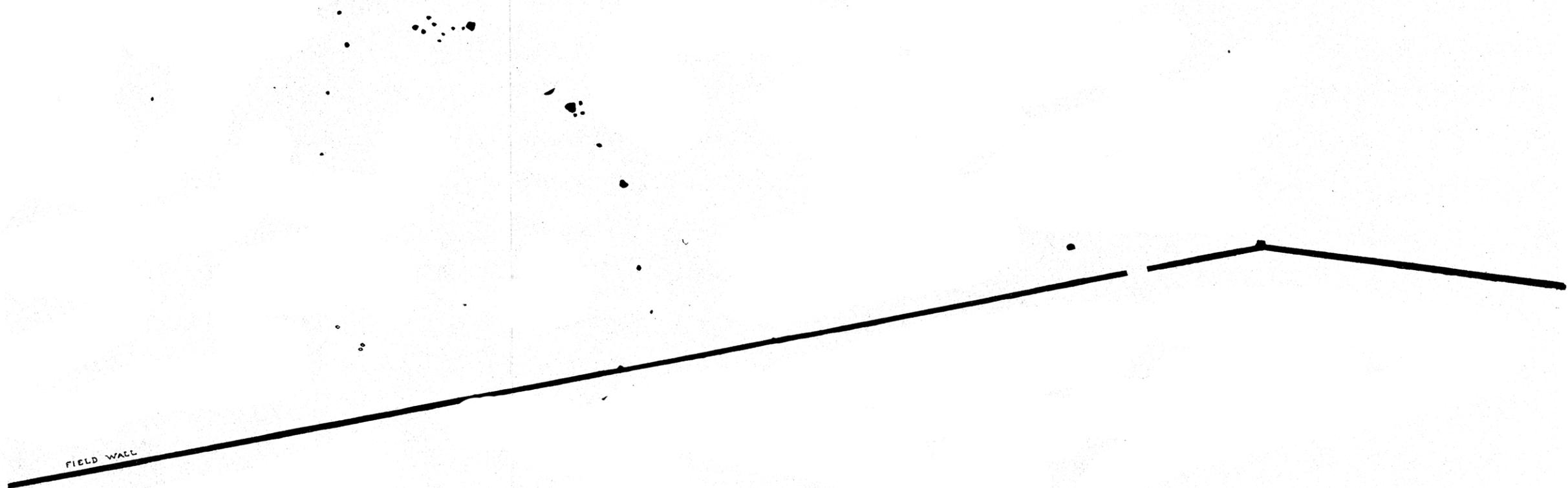
10 0 10 20
SCALE OF FEET

TO FACE P. 77.

FIG. 4.

BROOMRIGG PLANTATION
MEGALITHIC CIRCLE
K.S. HODGSON 10. VII. 1934

0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET



FIELD WALL

TO FACE P. 77.

FIG. 5.

ART. XI.—*Notes on Stone Circles at Broomrigg, Grey Yauds, etc.* By MISS KATHARINE S. HODGSON.

Read at Melrose, September 11th, 1934.

THE first mention of the stone circles of Broomrigg Plantation, near Ainstable, was by Mr. T. H. B. Graham, in these *Transactions*, N.S. viii, 373. After that, no notice was taken of them until the President asked me to examine them, when by the kindness of the owner, Inglewood U. Parkin, Esq., I was able to get full measurements and photographs which are reproduced here.

The circles are four in number, or five if a doubtful one in the adjoining moor called Wallmoor is included. First come the remains of a megalithic circle (A on plan Fig. 1), then a small cairn-circle (B), then a large grave-circle (C) opposite this another small cairn-circle (D) in Wallmoor, and lastly the doubtful circular ditch (E).

The megalithic circle, A, seems to be of the second rank for our district, being by no means equal to Long Meg or the Keswick Circle; for although its probable diameter (180 ft.) is rather large, none of the four remaining stones is more than 3 ft. high. Its near neighbour, Grey Yauds, with a diameter of 156 ft., must have been very like it, for though the one survivor of the Yauds measures 4 ft. 2 ins. by 1 ft. 5 ins. by 5 ft. in height, this is supposed to be the "single stone *larger* than the rest, . . . about 5 yards to the North West" (Nicolson and Burn, II, 495) in which case the stones of the circle would not be much larger than those of Broomrigg, though perhaps differing from them in kind—the old accounts describe them as "sparry" (? granite) whereas most of the Broomrigg stones are the local hard crystalline

red sandstone, and only a few of the small stones are granite. The large number of these lesser stones, which are too large and too independent for packing-cobbles, seems rather unusual. This circle has five possible "outliers."

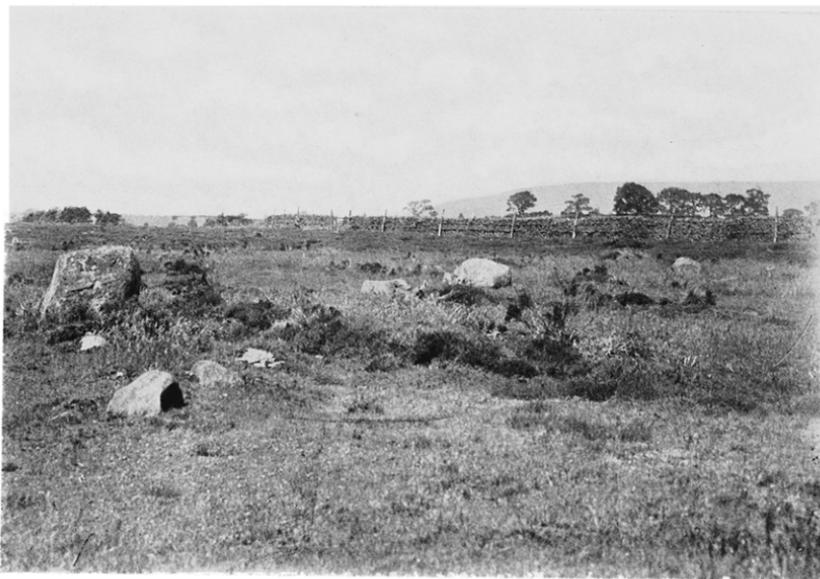
The next circle southwards (B), is small; only 13 ft. 8 ins. diameter. It consists of four stones apparently set towards the inner side of a slight bank, probably the remains of a tumulus which has been removed. They are all of the hard "Lazonby" type of sandstone; the large one is deeply ridged by weathering, which shows in the photograph.

Circle C measures 55 ft. 6 ins. by 50 ft. On the whole its stones (granite and sandstone) are even in size and pretty evenly spaced. The ground inside the circle is extremely stony, in strong contrast to the soft turf outside, and I have little doubt there has once been a large tumulus there.

The circle in Wallmoor (D) measures 15 ft. by 18 ft. The largest stone has probably fallen from an upright position. Here there is no sign of a tumulus that I can see.

Lastly there is the site E which is possibly only the fence round a circular plantation. It is 167 ft. by 163 ft, and consists of a shallow ditch (only 8 ft. wide by 1 ft, 6 ins. deep) with a low bank about 8 ft. wide outside it, surrounding the top of a small rise. It is very slight for any form of earthwork, on the other hand, it has a definite entrance, with a large stone on one side and the ditch distinctly butt-ended on the other.

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Broomrigg is the site of the better-known circle called "Grey Yauds," on King Harry's Common. Here, with the help of Miss Jean MacInnes, I was able to find a second and more distant "outlier" of grey granite. There are two mounds about 2,000 ft. to the south-east, which may be tumuli, or may be mere



BROOMRIGG. The Megalithic Circle (A).

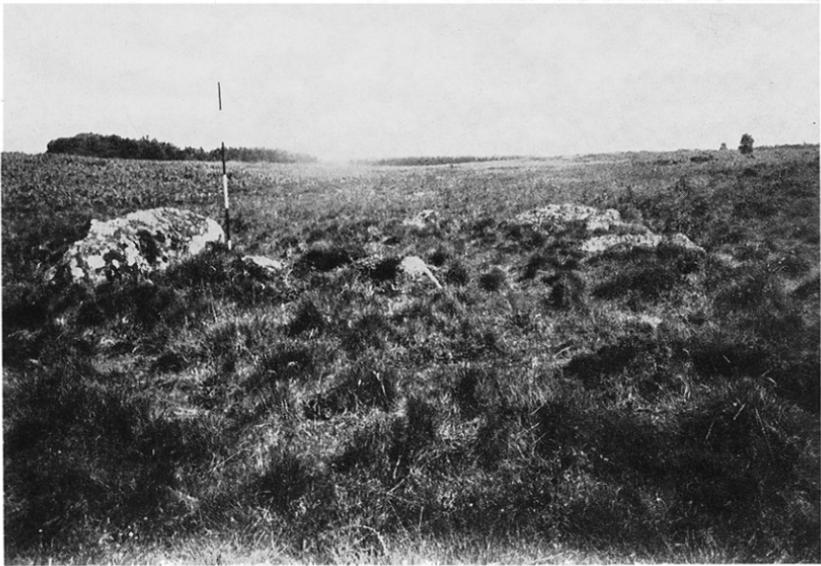


BROOMRIGG. Cairn Circle (B).

TO FACE P. 78.



BROOMRIGG. The Large Grave-circle (C).



BROOMRIGG. Cairn Circle (D) in Wallmoor.

TO FACE P. 79.

heaps of stones from the field, as some small mounds to the N.E. certainly are.

About 1,200 ft. to the N.W., above Gateshaw Mill, there is a large stone with a small one beside it, perhaps another grave-circle, and lastly, near Carlatton Desmesne, there is a single upright stone which it has been suggested may be the last survivor of a circle.

A study of the Ordnance Map shows that all these sites (and Long Meg as well), lie in the same region, the lower ridge parallel with Cumrew Fell and the line of the Pennines but above the deep trough of the Eden, being chiefly between the 300 and 800 ft. contours.

I have gathered some bits of folklore in the neighbourhood. Some years ago a friend of mine asked why the villagers were so reluctant to use the extension of the Churchyard at Cotehill, and got this answer, "Well, you see, there's no wall round it, only a fence, and *they think 'they' don't keep in.*" Secondly, while exploring one of the mounds already referred to near Grey Yauds, a farmer told me that "in his grandfather's time" they shifted several of the stones of Long Meg, and then couldn't get a crop "whatever, danged if they didn't put them all back again." I heard the same story about the great tumulus near Carlatton Hall—the son of a man who was employed on that farm as a boy told me that his father remembered helping to clear away another "girt heap o' steans," on the same farm (was this where the so-called bronze arrowheads were found?) and that they also carted away the existing mound, but were obliged to put it back, because the field went so dry that it wouldn't grow a crop.