

and old, have occurred; also part of an uncut tooth of Mammoth; teeth of Hyaena; Giant Deer; Horse; Wolf and a number of Cave Bear teeth. Teeth of Reindeer, or fragments of Antler, have been few, as have also rodent remains and molluscs.

Owing to Mr. Armstrong's absence in Rhodesia the work at Ash Tree Cave was discontinued during the summer, but his colleagues have made a valuable reconnaissance of the Whitwell and Whaley area, in search of possible rock shelters of Creswellian occupation and trial sections have been dug at three sites. Two of these, a rock shelter in a limestone outcrop, near the Parish tip at Elmton; and a site in proximity to Ash Tree Cave, yielded negative results, but a section on the line of the Whaley Cave and Rock Shelter (No. 2) outcrop, is in progress and the indications are more promising there but not yet positive.

During the progress of the Elm Tree Cave work facilities have been given this season to several students of archæology to participate in the work of excavation and gain experience in the technique of cave digging.

A PRE-NORMAN CARVING AT BASLOW.

By F. N. FISHER and F. WILLIAMSON.

VISITING BASLOW church in September 1954, the contributors of this note observed built into the west wall of the south porch a small fragment of pre-Norman carving, which was originally part of a cross-shaft.

Two edges are at right angles, the horizontal edge being about ten inches long, and the vertical edge six inches. An irregular curve joins these two points. The decoration is a plain cord interlace, but there is not sufficient to indicate a definite pattern.

According to Dr. Cox (*Churches of Derbyshire* I, 53) the earliest reference to a church at Baslow occurs in the reign of John, as recorded in Dugdale's *Monasticon* (III,

227), at which time it was a chapelry attached to Bake-well. It is well known that some of the pieces of pre-Norman stones at Bakewell must have come from some of its attached chapelries, and it is quite possible that in that church there may be fragments which really belong to Baslow.

In view of the small size of the fragment, the obscurity of the design, and above all the unsatisfactory state of present knowledge, it would be unwise to suggest a date.

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS.

(An abstract of a Memorandum issued by the Council for British Archæology.)

AS a result of the destruction of certain scheduled earthworks in the West Country which came to light recently after a long interval of time, the Executive of the Council for British Archæology has been considering ways and means of strengthening the position. It is thought likely that there are throughout the country many people who would collaborate with the Ministry of Works in this difficult task of protecting antiquities; and the Committee has therefore decided to issue this Memorandum, which summarizes the essential provisions of the Acts of 1913, 1931 and 1953 and makes one or two suggestions as to ways in which archæologists and others interested can be of assistance. The Executive is glad to acknowledge the help and advice of the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments in preparing this Memorandum.

Among the duties laid upon the Ministry of Works by the Ancient Monuments Acts 1913 and 1931 is that of preparing and issuing lists of ancient monuments which are subject to Section 12 and 6 respectively of those Acts.¹ The ancient monuments contained in those lists are those which have been recommended for inclusion by the Ancient Monuments Boards for England, Scotland and Wales (as appropriate). The Ministry must

¹ A list of all monuments scheduled down to 31st December, 1952, may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 5s. (post free) or through any bookseller.