

PEVERIL CASTLE STONES, CASTLETON.

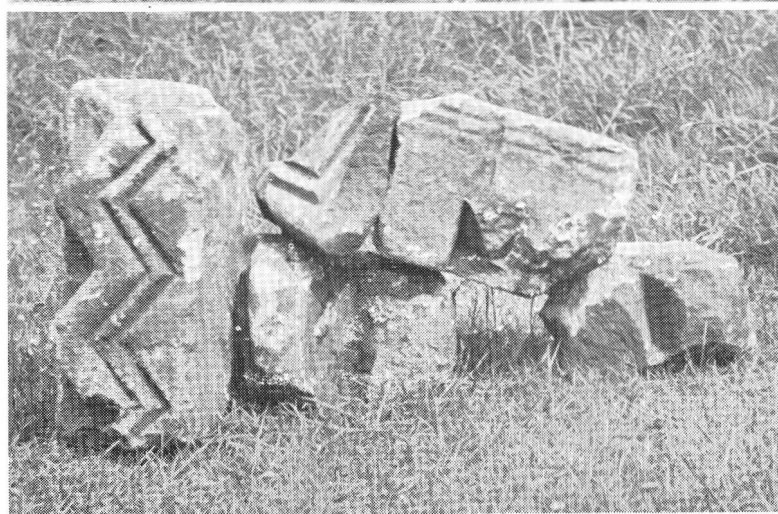
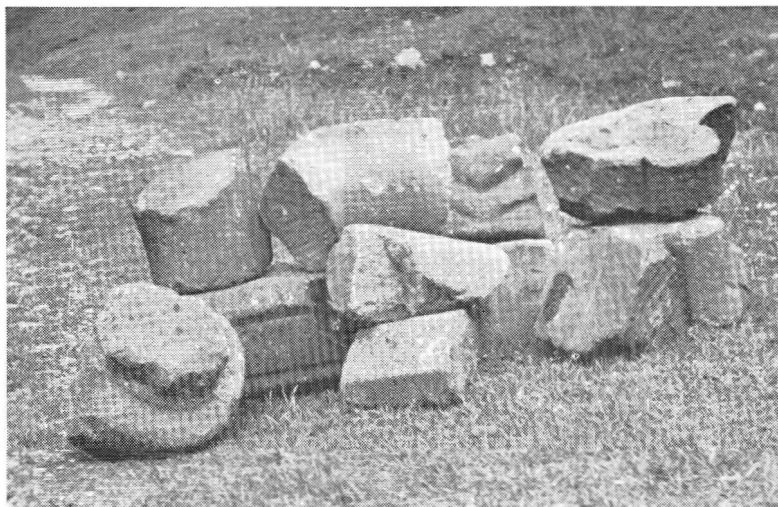
By J. BEESTON HIMSWORTH, F.R.S.A., F.S.A.(Scot.).

SIDNEY OLDALE ADDEY in his "Evolution of the English House," published about fifty years ago, gives a concise account of Peveril Castle illustrated by good plans of the structure at three heights, and two elevations, surveyed by Edmund Winder, architect, and Barton Wells, in which he states that the illustrations in the *Archæological Journal*, Vol. V, p. 214, are incorrect. The remains of this once imposing feudal edifice are now in the guardianship class of scheduled monuments cared for by the Ministry of Works.

East of the site runs Cave Dale at considerable depth, from north to south of the Keep, the latter standing almost on the verge. It was in the Dale at this spot, lying near the path in 1935, that I noticed many pieces of worked stone evidently tumbled or thrown down immediately below the Keep. They were easily recognisable by their green colour in contrast to the rough lumps of white limestone, which latter does not encourage the growth of moss or lichens. Chevron carvings and mouldings with twelfth- and thirteenth-century shapes, about twelve or fifteen pieces in all, showed them to be from the facings of the tower.

Upon reporting these to the castle custodian, I had to agree with him that adequate help could not be obtained at the time to transport them to a place for preservation. In 1947 I enlisted the help of two friends, Alfred E. Upton and C. H. Lea, both very well known for their readiness to give assistance in such efforts. The former did most of the heavy lifting, the latter took the two photographs herewith.

As will be seen some had suffered damage when we arrived, so we decided to put them in the long grass for partial concealment. On a visit in January, 1957, there were only a few pieces still to be seen; others may have been covered by limestone rubble — we were not able to make a proper search.



Stones at Peveril Castle