II.—NOTES ON A SERIES OF UNRECORDED INCISED ROCKS AT LORDENSHAWS.

By Edward Richmond Newbigin.

[Read on 27th May, 1931.]

Lordenshaws Camp lies on the top of one of the foot-hills of the Simonside Range, separated by a dip from another hill of similar altitude, called Garleigh Moor, to the east, and having the main range of the Simonside Hills on its south.

This camp was described and illustrated by Mr. R. Cecil Hedley, whose article on the subject appeared in vol. XIII, second series, *Archæologia Aeliana*, page 227, and was embodied by the late David Dippie Dixon in his book *Upper Coquetdale*. This and other descriptions include two incised rocks in prominent positions to the west of the camp, one being a large rock covered with cup and ring markings discovered a number of years ago in the course of quarrying, and the other the well-known horseshoe pattern rock.

Except for a slight reference in Mr. Hedley's article, to be referred to later, the existence of cup-markings on the east side of the camp appears to have escaped attention. The object of this paper is to describe a recently discovered series of such rocks lying along the slope leading from the camp to the dip towards the east, and extending about a quarter of a mile north to south on or about the 800 foot contour line.

The first of these to be discovered was a small slab lying at the lower side of a large oval cairn situated about the middle of the series, and forming a prominent object

on the sloping hillside. A few cups were noticed on this in the early part of last year, and on the turf being removed from the full extent of the stone, there were found to be twenty-two cups in all. This is the rock to be referred to later as no. 7.

In view of the connection found elsewhere between plain cup-markings and prehistoric interments, it was assumed that there was some connection between the slab and the mound.

After several visits to the hillside, which resulted in finding various other marked rocks, permission was obtained from Mr. Matthew Milburn of Lordenshaw Farm to remove the turf and excavate one or two of the mounds. The mound above rock no. 7 was accordingly carefully trenched through from west to east, the trench being dug right down to the moor-band. The hope of establishing a connection between the mound and the marked rock was, however, entirely frustrated; and the fact was a timely reminder of the danger of taking such connections for granted. At the lower part of the mound the turf had grown thickly over the stones, but when it was cut through they were found to be loosely piled up and not at all consolidated. There was no indication of interment or of anything else of human workmanship, and the moor-band below the stones was undisturbed. It seems probable that the stones were gathered and piled up in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, when an attempt was made to put to agricultural use a portion of the moor-land marked "Old Improvement" on the parish map.

Two other small mounds, one on the open moor and one close to another marked rock, also drew blank on excavation; they were both due to natural causes. There are more of these mounds round about Lordenshaws than in the case of other Northumberland camps. A few of the larger ones appear to have been opened, but the others and all the small ones are probably undisturbed.

The initial excavations having shown the danger of taking things for granted, the subsequent uncovering of

rock surfaces in the neighbourhood showed in a surprising way the equal danger of being too sceptical. In these cases numerous markings, previously observed, had been presumed to be natural weatherings or chance configurations of the rock, the temptation to regard them as artificial having been rigorously repressed. Systematic uncovering and cleaning of the surfaces, however, proved them to be undoubtedly of human workmanship.

An attempt is now made to present a schedule of the marked rocks from north to south. Some of the markings may be frankly set down as doubtful, but it has been thought best to give a description of the whole series, leaving for later decision the question as to whether all of them are artificial and of ancient date.

All the rocks on which the markings are found slope towards the east and are, with one or two exceptions, very little above the level of the surrounding moorland. They consist of hard Simonside grit, and show little natural weathering compared with the rocks on the north side of the Coquet.

A convenient starting point for the series is an open cist on Lordenshaws Moor, described in Dixon's book already quoted. (Plate II, fig. 1.) It is a typical Bronze Age cist, and lies on a slight hummock just above some remains of ancient tracks. It is distant 120 yards 20° east of south from the corner of the stone wall on the northern slope of the moor; Cartington Cairn bears due north. The cist is in very good condition, having been recently cleaned out by our member, Mr. W. A. Cocks. The large cover lies beside it. According to Dixon,[1] it was covered originally by a mound 32 feet in diameter and 5 feet high, and contained no evidence of interment when excavated by the late William Greenwell. No trace of the mound now remains. Twenty-two paces east of this cist is a marked rock which is no. 2 of the series.

One hundred and twenty paces north-east of this lies no. 1, a smooth slab 9 paces by 5, situated 100 paces

[1] *Upper Coquetdale*, p. 145.

fractionally east of south from the corner of the wooden fence. It shows twelve plain cups and two cups with faint rings.

No. 2, which clearly has some connection with the cist, is a slab 13 paces by 5. It contains ten plain cups, four cups with single ring and one cup with double ring and duct, also one cluster of small cups. The surfaces of rocks 1 and 2 are considerably weathered.

Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 form part of a large group of rocks lying about 230 yards south of the cist. Mr. Hedley's article in *Archæologia Aeliana* already referred to mentions two large rocks 187 yards east from the north-east angle of the camp, containing pits and hollows, probably artificial. These would seem to be nos. 4 and 5 of the group in question.

No. 3, the first of the series, is 42 paces north of the modern turf and stone dyke, which forms one side of the "Old Improvement." Lordenshaws Cairn bears 230°, distance 300 paces. It is a smooth slab, the uncovered portion being about 6 paces by 6. There are ten plain cups clustered in the south-west corner, two on the west side and one on the south; thirteen in all. There are no rings, ducts or other features.

No. 4 lies 3 yards south of no. 3, and presents a number of interesting features, though the surface is a good deal weathered, and the details not easily made out except in sloping sunlight. The rock is approximately 8 paces east to west and 7 north to south, with an apex to the west as shown on the photograph. (Plate II, fig. 2.) There are eighteen plain cups with neither ring nor duct, all but one lying near the apex of the rock. There are also five cups with duct near the apex, and one in the middle of the long duct. There are four cups with both ring and duct, but no cups and rings without ducts. The striking feature of the rock is the unusual length of the ducts. The longest, which is approximately straight, is 22 feet in length. The next longest is wavy throughout and is 18 feet; another is 13 feet, and there are others of shorter

lengths. The maximum width of the ducts is 4 inches, and the maximum depth 1 inch. The cups have a maximum diameter of 4 inches, and a maximum depth of $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches. The ducts lead down the slope from single cups or groups of cups. In clear sloping sunlight, some approximation to a pattern may be discerned.

No. 5 is a long reef sloping from south-west to north-east, the upper portion being 7 paces to the south of no. 4. The total length of the reef is 56 paces. There are three marked sections which are not continuous.

No. 5A, the south-western section, is 17 paces long with a maximum width of 7 paces. The upper portion is flush with the ground, the lower portion bending precipitously over about 5 feet. The outstanding feature is a long, clearly cut channel running from west to east, beginning near the highest portion and continuing over the steep edge.

On first examination only a very small portion was visible, the bulk being completely filled in with turf. The lower portion ran into the ground and on excavation was found to stop about 2 feet below the ground level at a point where an overhang of the rock begins. Most of the soil dug out from the lower surface of the rock was not filled in, so as to leave the features described hereafter open to observation.

The channel is 30 feet long, somewhat wavy or serpentine in shape, maximum depth 6 inches from level of rock, maximum width 8 inches, the bottom of channel generally rounded and smooth. The character of the channel is maintained with a fair amount of regularity throughout its whole length.

Grouped around the head of this long channel are thirty-nine cups of varying diameter, maximum 8 inches with maximum depth 2 inches. (Plate II, fig. 3.) Some of these are worn oval in the direction of the slope of the rock; none of them are ringed. One is directly at the head of the channel and connected with it. Besides these there are twenty-six cups scattered on the face of the rock, all without

rings, and one with ring only, faintly visible in sloping sunlight, making sixty-six in all on the gently sloping surface of the rock.

The steeply sloping or partly vertical face of 5A presents additional features. There are twenty-seven plain cups, mostly arranged in vertical rows corresponding to ducts above.

In addition to the big channel there are four ducts, somewhat faint and weathered, and in appearance like those on rock no. 4. Some of the cups are actually in the lines of the ducts. The photograph gives a view of the general appearance. (Plate II, fig. 4.)

There are six steps or slashes, 7 inches to 9 inches long, in a horizontal line along the steep slope, in appearance like the steps cut by an alpine guide on a snow slope. They were uncovered in taking the soil away from the lower part of the rock.

Near the ringed cup already mentioned are some faintly marked ducts running into each other at right angles, apparently unconnected with any of the cups. Their length varies from 10 inches to 5 feet.

5B begins 21 feet north-east of a plain unmarked section of the reef. What looks like a natural weathered channel runs about 7 yards into a cavity 2 feet by 1 foot, which may possibly have been artificially deepened and widened. But for other examples of these cavities to be mentioned hereafter, this would have escaped notice on the ground of its being a natural feature. Running parallel with the water channel is another well-defined artificial channel differing only from that on 5A in being flat bottomed with upright sides. Its maximum width is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches and maximum depth $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The length is 17 feet. It also is wavy or serpentine in its course. The bottom runs into the ground, and 3 feet of wet peat had to be dug away before the lowest portion was reached, where the channel gradually petered out. (Plate III, fig. 5.) This hole was filled in again.

Other features of this rock are two faint ducts each

about 5½ feet long which join in a faint cavity and continue thereafter for about 2 feet 6 inches; a large cup 7 inches diameter, 3 inches deep, with a 4 foot duct continuing over the steep side; a cup 5 inches diameter, 1½ inches deep, with a 2½ foot duct leading into it, and a 3 foot duct leading out of it over the steep edge of the rock; two small cups on the clear surface of the rock.

5C. This rock is on the lower end of the reef. After exposure of the surface, most of which had been obscured by turf, it showed 13½ feet long and 4 feet wide. There are fourteen cups, very symmetrical and in perfect condition, being mostly newly uncovered. (Plate III, fig. 6.) There are no rings visible and no ducts leading from the cups, but there is one straight groove or duct which runs across the rock from south-west to north-east. Length, 5 feet 2 inches, maximum width 2 inches. Another interesting and unusual feature is a broad belt of pittings or pockmarkings surrounding one of the newly uncovered cups. Pocking is also visible in an adjoining cup as though it had been left unfinished.

The outstanding features of this reef described as no. 5 are the two great channels, which are quite distinct from ordinary ducts. These channels do not appear to have been referred to or described in books on the subject of incised rocks. It is, however, a curious fact that on Chatton Law, nineteen miles north of Lordenshaws, there is one, with an extraordinary resemblance to the channel on 5A, in the course of which are two basins like those to be found on Lordenshaws rocks. It is strange that while the markings on this rock are described in Tomlinson's *Comprehensive Guide to Northumberland* and in Tate's *Sculptured Rocks of Northumberland*, the great channel is ignored as though it were something adventitious.

The Chatton Law channel is exactly the same length as that on 5A, namely 30 feet. The maximum width is 5 inches and the maximum depth 3 inches. The photograph shows a portion of the channel. (Plate IV, fig. 9.)

There is also evidence on the well-known rock at

Routing Linn of similar channels, but these are obscured by weathering and by the fact that their lower portion has apparently not been fully excavated.

In Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, there is a cup-marked stone which shows on a small scale a feature very like the big channel on 5A, namely a duct running over the surface of the rock and curving over the edge continuing down the steep slope.

It is quite possible there are more of these channels to be found in the British Isles if a search were made for them,[2] but those who have examined incised rocks in the past have probably concentrated their attention so much on the features of cups, rings and normal ducts that they have overlooked the large channels, or put them down as natural weatherings.

Rock no. 6 lies 7 paces south of the enclosure mound: Lordenshaws Cairn bears 280°: uncovered portion about 5 paces by 1. Nearly the whole of the surface is covered with markings, many of which are of unusual character.

The following are the features on this rock: fourteen plain cups, average diameter 2 inches to 3 inches; two larger cups, 6 inches diameter, 2 inches deep, and 5 inches diameter, 1½ inches deep, respectively; one giant cup or round basin, 12 inches to 13 inches diameter, 6 inches deep, sides vertical and well smoothed, lower end worn away apparently by water causing the rock to weather; this basin is partly surrounded by a groove or duct which goes through a cup on the south side and continues for a short distance further, as shown on the photograph. (Plate III, fig. 7.)

Midget cups.—There are several groups of small cups with a maximum diameter of 1 inch, but in many cases more like the print of a finger-tip, placed so close together that they give the rock a stippled appearance; the main group shown on the photograph contains about sixty. (Plate III, fig. 8.) There are other examples of midget cups on Lordenshaws, but none so striking as this; there

[2] See below, p. 66, Addendum.

is also a small group on Chatton Law; they are described by William Jolly[3] as occurring near Inverness in large numbers, and at that time were considered by him to be unique.

One cup and ring, the ring being very uneven and containing a number of pittings, the significance of which will be alluded to later.

One cup surrounded by horseshoe pattern with cups at the terminals and one cup between the two terminals; this pattern is also found on Chatton Law, Routing Linn and elsewhere in Northumberland.

There are a number of ducts on this rock, some of them with no uniform direction or pattern; one leads from the giant cup, one from the horseshoe cup, one runs across the rock approximately north to south as shown on the photographs, and one is of inverted "U" shape leading into two cups.

The most striking feature of no. 6 is the giant cup or basin. The fact of this being surrounded by a duct is of assistance in furnishing presumptive evidence that neighbouring basins, which one might have been inclined to consider natural features, are actually artificial, wholly or in part.

No. 7 (plate IV., fig. 10) is the stone already referred to lying to the east of the large mound and containing twenty-two simple cups. These cups are generally about normal size and no rings or ducts are visible. The rock lies about 150 yards south of no. 6.

No. 8 lies 110 paces south-south-west of no. 7, and is roughly triangular. There is a cup on a boss in the centre of the rock 5 inches diameter, 2½ inches deep. It has one ring complete with vestiges of a second ring, but no duct. There are nine other ringless cups all near the centre of the rock, and three faint ducts near the lower edge, one of them leading from a simple cup. Below this rock are two mounds.

[3] Article in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* 1881-6, "Cup-marked rocks near Inverness," pp. 302-14.

No. 9 lies immediately west of no. 8. It is flush with the ground. Only a very small portion was exposed when it was first noticed. After removing a certain amount of turf, six small cups were visible, all rough in outline.

No. 10 (plate VI, fig. 17) lies 9 paces south-east of no. 8. There are two noticeable features on this rock:

(1) A single duct, slightly wavy in outline, running east and west, length 13 feet 1 inch, starting from a very faint cup and forking 3 feet from the bottom, containing a faint plain cup about 2 feet from the bottom.

(2) An unusually small and very complete cup and ring. The outside diameter of the ring is about 7 inches, and the cup about the size of a finger-tip. The ring is formed of small depressions not smoothed out, and there are very faint indications of a second outer ring.

No. 10 can be further located as being due west of the stone alignment on the slack between Garleigh Moor and Lordenshaws marked on the 6 inch Ordnance Map, and described by Greenwell as reminiscent on a small scale of the stones of Carnac.

No. 11 (plate IV, fig. 11) lies 80 paces south-west of no. 10 and 50 paces west of the intersection of the turf dykes. The rock is 33 feet north to south, and 16 feet east to west.

Its general features are: one large channel like those on 5A and 5B, together with ducts and irregular basins. The photograph gives a general view of its appearance. The channel runs west to east, starting from two shallow cups 3 inches and 4 inches wide and ¾ inch and 1¼ inches deep respectively. Its length is 18 feet; 13 feet from the top there is a large irregular shaped basin, 1 foot 7 inches north to south, 1 foot 3 inches east to west and 6 inches deep, the deepest point being just below where the channel enters. The channel does not go straight through the basin, but wriggles out, and in this respect it is very like the corresponding basin on the channel at Chatton Law. There is another cup between the basin and the foot of the channel, 4 inches wide by 2 inches deep. The

average width of the channel is 2¾ inches, and the maximum depth 2 inches. There are ten plain cups clustered round it, average 3 inches diameter, ¾ inch deep.

There is one other faint duct 6 inches north of the large channel, starting among plain cups and running for 6 feet and disappearing close to the basin.

Two feet 6 inches north of this faint duct is a round flat-bottomed basin, 15 inches wide, the lower edge being flush with the natural surface, and the depth on the upper edge 8 inches. There are no cups, ducts or rings connected with it.

Nos. 12, 13 and 14. These rocks are fairly close together running north and south, the space between 12 and 13 being about 5 paces, and the same between 13 and 14. The group begins about 50 paces south of no. 11. They slope west to east like all the other rocks. On each rock there is a pear-shaped basin with the narrow end pointing to the south. There are no ducts or channels leading into them or out of them. The three are similar in appearance and the following is the description from north to south: no. 12 (plate IV, fig. 12) 20 inches long, 10 inches across at the broadest part, flat bottomed, sharp edged, no overflow, 1 inch deep at the bottom, 4 inches deep at the top. No. 13 (plate V, fig. 13) 25 inches maximum length, 12 inches across at the broadest part, vertical sides, bottom smooth, walls 1½ inches deep all round. The striking feature of no. 13 is that the flat bottom is parallel with the slope of the rock, whereas in the other two the bottom lies more or less horizontal.[4] No. 14 (plate V, fig. 14) 26 inches long, 14 inches maximum breadth, sharp edges, but bottom not rounded, maximum depth 3½ inches. On the same rock there is an oval cup 9 inches by 5½ inches and 2 inches deep.

Rocks nos. 15, 16 and 17. This is a group immediately to the south of, and almost contiguous with the previous group. No. 15 has six basins, four of them being well

[4] Our member, Dr. A. Raistrick, has since noticed pocking or tool-markings on the basin.

marked and the other two doubtful. They are all shallow and smooth, with no ducts, channels or rings. They vary in size from 10 inches by 9 inches to 15 inches by 12 inches. On no. 16 (plate v, fig. 15) there are four shallow basins; one of these, 13 inches by 10 inches, is very distinct and has a cup in the centre of its shallow bottom. Part of this basin has been newly uncovered. No. 17 has one or two cavities which might be artificial basins of the same kind. It has also two cups, 5 inches by 5 inches, 1 inch deep, and four ordinary small cups.

Nos. 15, 16 and 17 must all be classed as doubtful; they might, in fact, have been passed over altogether as natural, had it not been for the number of other basins found in the whole series. The position of the group may be ascertained from the south by the following particulars: the beginning of the group is 45 paces north of the hollow way or ancient avenue which takes up to Lordenshaws Camp and 35 paces west of the old track which crosses the avenue, and which is marked on the 6 inch Ordnance Map. At the point where the track crosses the avenue, and at the north-west corner of the junction, there is a flat stone about 4 feet high by 5 feet wide, which at one time has been up-ended to form part of the avenue, and now lies at an angle of about 30°. On the exposed side there are ten markings which may possibly be weathered cups, but must meantime be classed as very doubtful (plate v, fig. 16). The stone marks a point where the north wall of the avenue has taken a sweep to northwards to enclose a small triangular area forming a kind of bulge. The line of standing stones where this bulge rejoins the avenue is plainly visible. This stone illustrates a difficulty which continually besets the investigator of incised rocks, namely that of discriminating between artificial markings and natural weatherings or pittings. Natural pittings, channels, grooves and rock basins are of frequent occurrence everywhere, and one often finds them on the same rock along with those which are undoubtedly of human workmanship. This suggests various

possibilities, as for example: that natural pittings, grooves or basins may have suggested artificial ones: or that actual cup markings may have weathered into irregular forms: or that natural cavities and grooves may have been smoothed out and deepened in order to serve whatever use or significance was attached to the artificial ones. As an illustration of plain cup-markings on standing stones, a photograph is given of the Matfen stone. (Plate VI, fig. 20.) These markings are still sometimes regarded as natural, but in view of the fact that so many other examples of the same thing are now known, it is no longer possible to regard them as other than of human workmanship. Swinburne standing stone presents the same feature.

In what is intended to be only a descriptive account of hitherto unrecorded incised rocks, it would be out of place to make reference to the many unsolved problems which are raised by what has been discovered, and still more so to refer to any general theories on the subject of ancient cup markings. Certain general considerations, however, should be mentioned. The whole series, numbered 1 to 17, is differentiated from other groups of incised rocks in Northumberland, such as Bewick, Doddington, Chatton, Routing Linn and Broom Ridge (Hunters Moor), in being devoid of the large circles with multiple rings[5] which appear in the other groups in question, and of which we have examples in our own museum. The series also gives no example of the knob and ridge or inverted cup and duct pattern which is found on Tod Crag and elsewhere.[6] On the other hand the channels and basins are prominent features to which there are only few analogies in Northumberland. There is an interesting analogy in India recorded by Charles Rau in his book published in 1881 entitled *Observations of Cup-shaped and Lapidarian Sculptures*. He describes a long horizontal duct across the side of a stone at Chandeshwar, which appears to correspond fairly closely

[5] See Tate's *Sculptured Rocks of Northumberland*.
[6] *Proc. Soc. Ant. Newc.*, 4th series, vol. IV, p. 86.

to the channel on 5A. As far as the basins are concerned there is a wealth of analogy elsewhere.[7] Similar features have been recorded in Scotland, Ireland, Denmark, India and Palestine. As regards the latter country, the description of Professor R. A. S. MacAlister in his book *A Century of Excavation in Palestine* might almost be transcribed word for word as applicable to the Lordenshaws series, and he states with regard to them: "That these are very ancient is sufficiently proved by the high antiquity of the layer of debris which overlies and conceals them."

With regard to the footprint or pear-shaped basins, Mr. Rau in the book already mentioned describes somewhat similar markings on the island of Zealand in Denmark.

The large size of many of the ordinary cups is a marked feature of Lordenshaws as compared with other Northumberland groups. On the other hand, the overwhelming preponderance of plain cups as against other features has also been noticed in many other groups. The great number of markings now to be found round Lordenshaws points to one of two conclusions: either these markings are more frequent than has been commonly supposed if only they were systematically searched for, or else Lordenshaws has been at some remote period something of a cult centre.

There are strong reasons for thinking that the latter is the correct conclusion. The number of marked rocks concentrated round Lordenshaws is greater[8] than on any other site in Northumberland and will probably rank with one or two similar areas in Yorkshire, which Dr. Raistrick has been investigating. In addition to the seventeen under review and the two rocks on the west side which have been known for many years, there are a few others, namely:—Two rocks with much weathered but undoubted cup markings on the top of a little eminence called Birky

[7] Romilly Allen. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* 1881-6. Two articles.
[8] See below, p. 66, Addendum.

Hill, south-west of the camp, never yet recorded. Birky Hill is a typical "High Place." Another interesting marked rock has been recently discovered by Mr. W. A. Cocks. It also lies on the west side of the camp and is 50 yards north-east of the ruins of the cottage or hemmel adjoining the thirteenth century deer park wall. It consists of a cluster of fourteen midget cups and two parallel ducts joining at the top on a piece of rock at the north end of an extra rampart thrown out where a gentle slope renders the camp vulnerable.[9]

In addition to these there are two other rocks at some little distance from the camp, which may well be classed as belonging to the same group. The first of these is at Whitton Burn old bridge. It is remarkable both for its position and its shape. The illustration (plate VI, fig. 18) gives a good general idea of the stone, which shows two large deep cups 8 inches diameter, 4½ inches deep, and 6 inches diameter, 2½ inches deep, respectively, surrounded by small ones. It lies at the side of an old trackway crossing the burn by a ford close to the present bridge. It is fair to assume that at one time there was a track by this route up to Lordenshaws. About 300 yards from this rock in the direction of Lordenshaws is another of which an illustration is given (plate VI, fig. 19), and which was described some years ago by Messrs. Parker Brewis and D. D. Dixon.[10] An interesting feature of this is that the pock markings in the ring surrounding one of the cups are plainly visible. The method of cutting was apparently to hammer these holes in the form of a ring by means of a flint or metal tool, and subsequently to cut away the stone between the pock markings and smooth out the rings. In this case, and in the case of some of the other rocks of the east Lordenshaws group, the pocking remains as though the rings had not been actually finished off.

There is a little plateau near this rock, and Mr.

[9] Our member Dr. G. Gerald Stoney has since found another rock on the west side, 25 yards north of the horseshoe rock, containing ten plain cups and sixteen midgets.

[10] *Proc. Soc. Ant. Newc.*, 3rd series, vol. VII, p. 41.

Dixon stated that there were a number of burial mounds in the neighbourhood, none of which, however, can now be found. Another rock with faint cup markings was visible thirty years ago in the immediate neighbourhood, but cannot now be found, being either obliterated by weathering or the overgrowth of the turf.

In addition to the number of incised rocks all round Lordenshaws, it is to be noted that the number of mounds, as already stated, is very considerable, though only excavation can show which of them marked burials. These mounds, moreover, are found on three sides of the camp, and are not concentrated in one locality as is frequently the case in Northumberland. Some of the lines of up-ended stones are evidently ancient boundaries, but this can hardly be said of all of them, and their existence may also lend some support to the theory of Lordenshaws having been a cult centre.

The question as to when and by whom these rock markings were made, what they originally signified, how their significance or associations were transferred from one object to another during the long centuries or even millenniums in which the cult prevailed here and elsewhere, are problems still awaiting investigation and solution by our archæologists. Meantime, the raw material from which these conclusions will have to be drawn is by no means all in our possession, and the moors and hills of our own area may still yield evidence of the activities of a forgotten age to those who care to occupy their time and energy in searching for them.

I wish to record my acknowledgments to the following for help both in the process of investigation and in recording the facts: Mr. H. L. Honeyman, who has assisted throughout, and contributed one or two photographs; Dr. G. Gerald Stoney for an invaluable set of photographs and keen interest displayed in the subject; Mr. W. A. Cocks for help and photographs; Mr. Matthew Milburn for free access to the site for purposes of exploration, etc., and to my daughter, an associate member of this society,

both for assisting in exploration and for research work at the British Museum regarding similar phenomena in other parts of the world.

ADDENDUM.

Since the above paper was read before the society, further search has been made on the moor between Lordenshaws and Whitton, resulting in the finding of another large group of marked rocks.

The group lies about the 550 foot contour line on a continuation of the slope from rock no. 1 towards the north-east. It is about midway between the cist and the two Whitton rocks already described, and overlooks the southern end of the Rothbury golf course. A complete survey has not yet been made, but no less than twenty rocks have been counted with incised markings, including one or two which have only one single cup on each.

The marked stones are within a comparatively restricted area, and lie on three separate farms. The following are the general features of the group:—

(1) The numerical preponderance of simple cups not enclosed in patterns or connected by an elaborate system of ducts as in other Northumbrian groups. Cups with rings are relatively few. There are a considerable number of large cups, 6 inches diameter and upwards.

(2) A large number of long channels generally reminiscent of those on the East Lordenshaws series, maximum width 6 inches, maximum depth 2½ inches. Two rocks have five each. One channel previously entirely hidden by turf was uncovered for 24 feet without the lower end being found. The channels are nearly all wavy in form like those on Lordenshaws. Some of them issue from basins, some from among a group of cups, and some start and finish from bare rock. Many of them are forked.

(3) A large number of basins, with regard to some of which it is difficult to decide whether they are natural or artificial. In many cases they have probably been

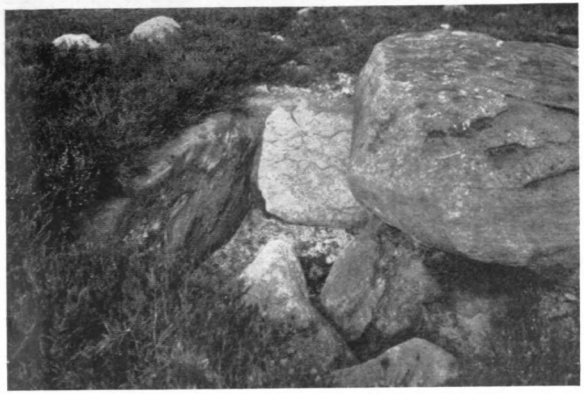

FIG. 1—THE CIST.

FIG. 2—ROCK 4.

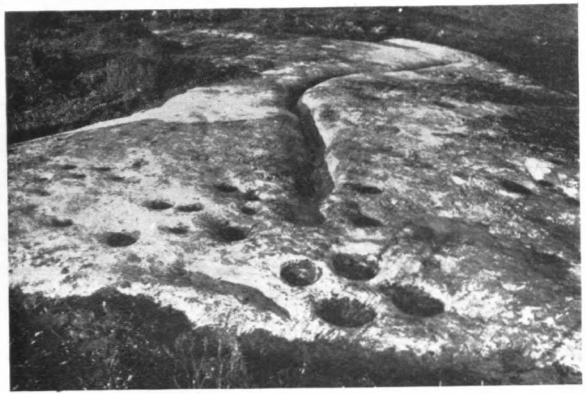

FIG. 3—ROCK 5A.

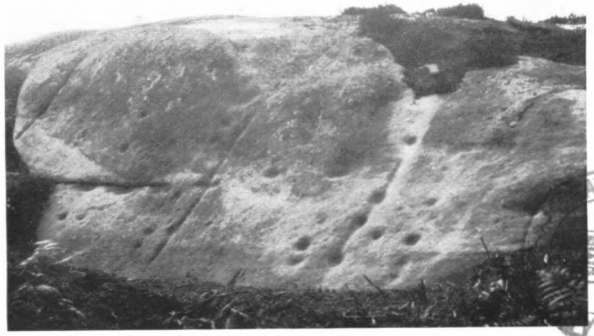

FIG. 4—ROCK 5A.

CIST AND INCISED ROCKS.

FIG. 5—ROCK 5B.

FIG. 6—ROCK 5C.

FIG. 7—ROCK 6.

FIG. 8—ROCK 6.

INCISED ROCKS.

FIG. 9—CHATTON LAW.

FIG. 10—ROCK 7.

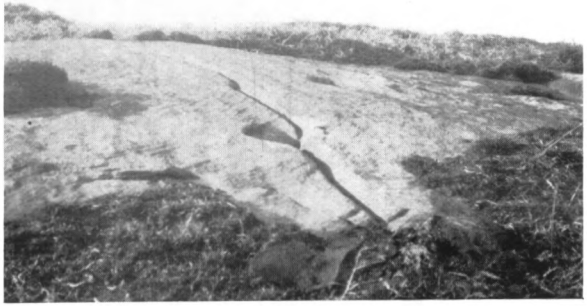

FIG. 11—ROCK 11.

FIG. 12—ROCK 12.

INCISED ROCKS.

FIG. 13—ROCK 13.

FIG. 14—ROCK 14.

FIG. 15—ROCK 16.

FIG. 16—MARKINGS DOUBTFUL.

INCISED ROCKS.

FIG. 17—ROCK 10.

FIG. 18—WHITTON ROCK, NO. 1.

FIG. 19—WHITTON ROCK, NO. 2.

FIG. 20—MATFEN STONE.

INCISED ROCKS AND STANDING STONE.

originally natural and have been smoothed out. The rounded basins run up to 24 inches across, and there are some of irregular shape with channels leading from them. One very symmetrical basin has a well-formed cup in the centre of it; another of irregular shape has a cup and ring within it, and two long channels leading from it. These basins are generally shallow relative to their width.

There is a rough line of stones 68 paces in length running north-east to south-west across the area, and an interesting feature of this is that two of the stones show a number of well-marked and symmetrical cups. None of the stones show any signs of having been upended. Near one of the large rocks containing a number of channels and basins is what appears to be a cist 2 feet 10 inches by 2 feet 4 inches inside dimensions, lying north and south. It is not known whether this has been dug out or not. There is also a standing stone 4 feet high, other dimensions 3 feet by 2 feet, now leaning over at an angle.

On the moor at no great distance from the marked rocks, there are several mounds, but it is not possible to say whether these are burial mounds or not.

The marked rocks on Chirnells Moor, mentioned but not described by Messrs. Parker Brewis and D. D. Dixon,[11] have also been visited and examined to see if they throw any light on the newly discovered Lordenshaws groups.

The most striking analogy is a shallow round basin, very symmetrical, about 10 inches in diameter and 1 inch in depth. It is newly uncovered and is on the upper part of a rock containing a number of plain cup marks. It shows what appears to be tool marking or pocking like the pear-shaped basin, no. 13, of the East Lordenshaws series.

It is hoped later to give a brief description of the Chirnells rocks to the society with the object of putting the facts on record.

[11] *Proc. Soc. Ant. Newc.*, 3rd series, vol. VII, p. 42.