

NOAD'S EARTHWORK.

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(6in. O.S. Hants LXXIII S.W. Lat. 50° 50.8' N. ; Long. 1° 25.9' W.)

THIS earthwork consists of a bank about 2 feet high with an exterior ditch, and is situated close to the eastern side of the Noad's Wood near its southern extremity ; it is about $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile from the large Noad's barrows near the Beaulieu—Hythe road.

The extent of the enclosed area is about 250ft. $\times$ 200ft., the N. and S. sides being nearly straight and E. and W. sides partly curved. It lies on the western side of a plateau which falls sharply to the west, and becomes boggy a short distance down the slope. In the Noad's Wood are large excavations (possibly marl-pits) and a number of yews, most of the larger ones being on the undisturbed portions of the ground.

There is a deep pit dug for shelter purposes during the late war on the crest of the nearest large excavation in the wood and quite close to the earthwork, the exposed section shows 1ft. white gravel, then sandy clay or gravelly clay and sand all quite distinct but irregularly disposed.

The surface inside the earthwork is fairly level in the eastern part but falls rapidly towards the gap in the bank in the west.

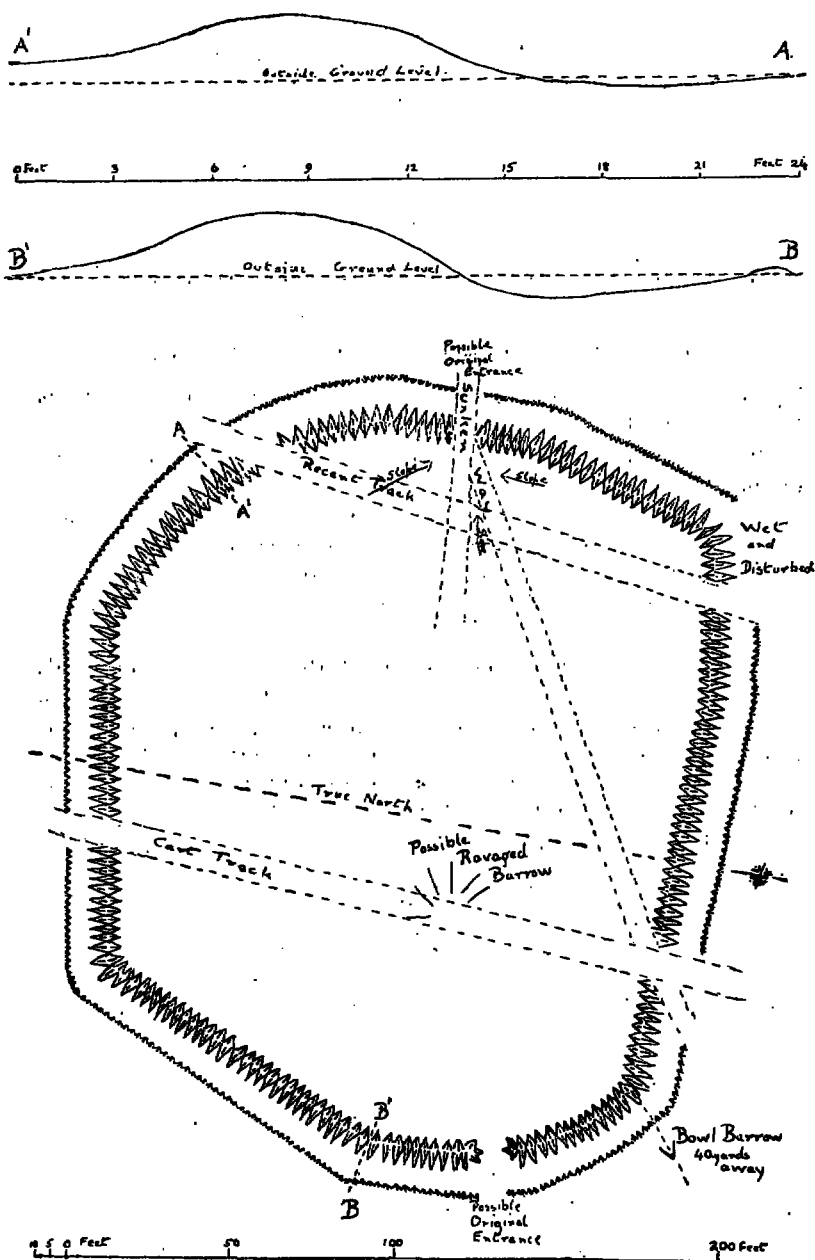
There is what might be a ravaged bowl barrow in the eastern portion of the enclosure and a complete bowl barrow (no ditch) 40 yards 050 degrees from N.E. angle ; this barrow is approximately 44ft. in diameter and 3ft. high.

There are a number of tracks passing across the area, all of which are subsequent to its construction, some quite recent.

The sunken way is pronounced and water is apt to settle in it in wet weather (it is also inclined to be boggy outside N.W. corner of earthwork). This track enters by the western gap and proceeds in a north-easterly direction breaching the bank on its way out. There is a less pronounced off-shoot which branches off towards the remains of the barrow and peters out.

The ditch varies in visible depth from about 1in. to 8in. or more where water has lain.

The bank is in a reasonably good state of preservation except where tracks have crossed it, and the angles where the various sectors join are clearly defined and sharp ; the banks run in straight lines with the exception of the N.E. and S.W. sectors and N.W. angle which is rounded. The small gap in the N.E. section and the gap used by the sunken way in the W. sector might possibly be the original entrances.



SKETCH PLAN OF NOAD'S EARTHWORK, BEAULIEU HEATH.