

THE WARBANKS AT COCKFIELD, 1908.

BY REV. E. HILL.

(A description of them is printed in Vol. xii, pp. 236-8. Excursion of 1906.)

The Archæological Institute here, in two illustrations, provides a definite record of the condition at a definite date of the earthworks known as the Warbanks.

These sections were surveyed and drawn by Fred. George Jennings, Esq., in January, 1908. The inner side of the work is always on the left-hand of the figure.

No. 1 and No. 2 are taken across the earthworks in a ploughed field on the west of the high road between Bury and Sudbury. These are the only parts lying open; all the rest form boundaries of fields.

No. 3 is taken across the most perfect portion of the whole. Here rampart and ditch are both distinct. The rampart, however, is covered with brushwood for its whole length, so does not force itself on the notice of a passer-by.

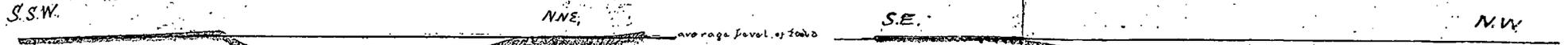
No. 4 and No. 5 are taken across one stretch, but lie in different fields. In the second field there seems to have been destruction of some kind. Probably a scarp has been cut down and a trench filled up.

No. 6 and No. 7 are likewise across one stretch. In No. 6, as compared with No. 7, the trench is much wider and shallower, probably for a like reason. The trench in No. 6 forms part of the arable field, while that in No. 7 is filled with trees, and cannot have been altered for at least thirty or forty years. There is also a piece of evidence. Between the two sections a hedge runs up to the scarp from the west—that is, from the interior of the area. Examining this hedge, we find it growing on earth

SECTIONS ACROSS THE WARBANKS.

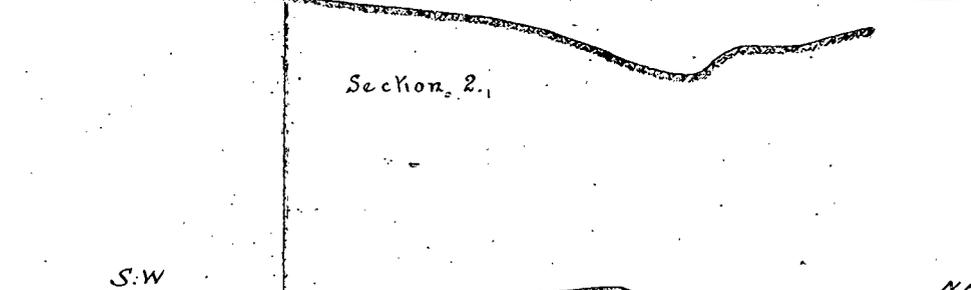
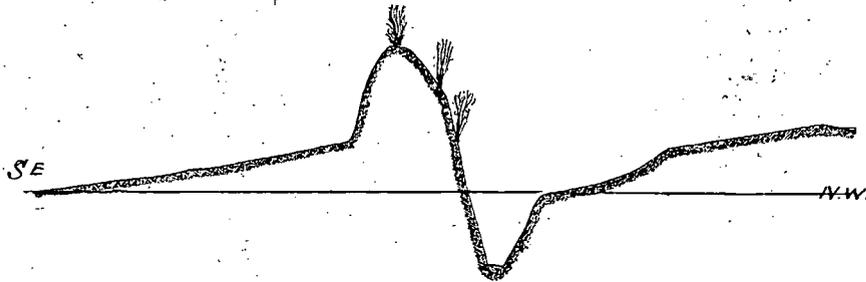
Vertical Scale four times the horizontal.

Reduced to two-fifth size of the original drawing.



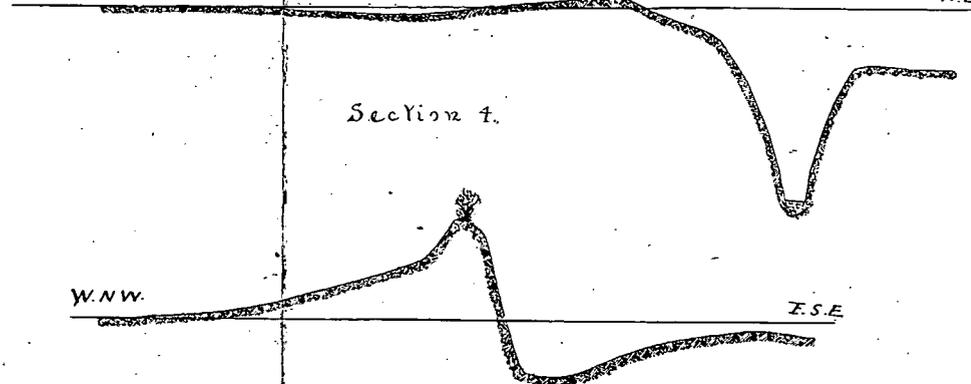
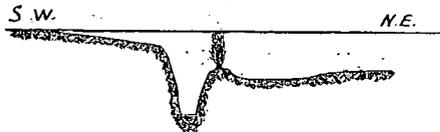
Section 1.

Section 2.



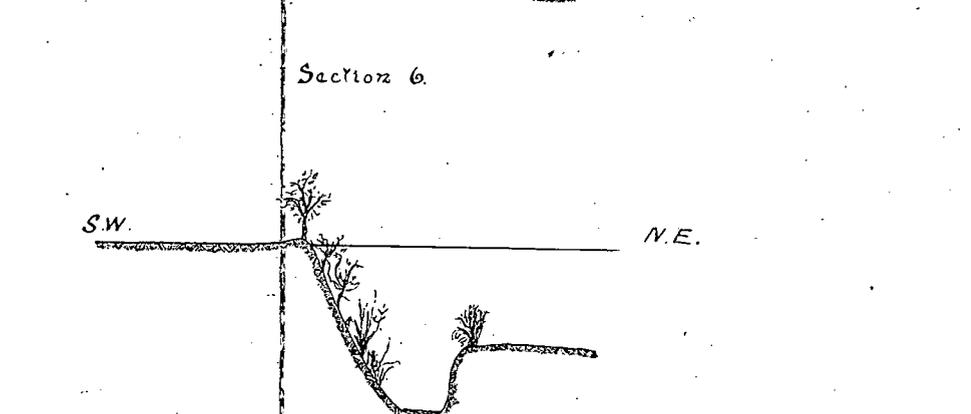
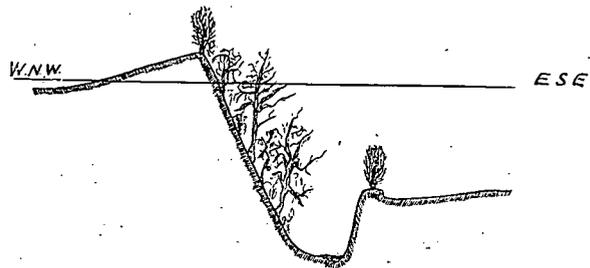
Section 3.

Section 4.



Section 5.

Section 6.



Section 7.

Section 8.

Vertical Scale 4 feet to an Inch

Horizontal Scale 25 Links to an Inch

which rises into a mound where the hedge reaches the scarp. This mound was in existence before the planting of that hedge. It is no doubt a relic of the rampart, and indicates its section before destruction.

No. 8 also has brushwood growing in its ditch.

In every one of these sections there are traces either of a rampart or a scarp on the inner side. In Section 1 this is too slight to be shown by the figure; but on the actual ground there is a quite distinct swell of the surface. In Section 7 the figure makes the rampart more conspicuous than it is generally along this stretch. The scarp alone attracts attention.

The appended map is drawn from that of the Ordnance Survey. In the arable field west of the high road, the portion running south-west seems prolonged as a shallowed depression up to the boundary hedge. This feature is not shown on the Ordnance Map. There are no such traces of prolongation elsewhere.

The ground slopes down in the direction of the parallelogram's apparent length; so that the upper open part overlooks the lower. A contour line of 300 feet, south-east and north-west, crosses about the middle of the area. The fall of the ground is about 40 feet.