

**Area Representative Monument of the Month
March 2019**

LANGSTONE DOWNS - Bronze Age cist



A short cist situated near other broadly contemporary funerary monuments close to extensive prehistoric field systems and settlements on the north-west edge of Langstone Downs.

The cist is visible as a rectangular setting of edge-set slabs, well-embedded in the thick peaty turf, forming a box-like arrangement measuring internally 0.8m by 0.5m. The long sides of the cist are formed from a single slab each. The WSW slab measures 0.75m long and stands 0.4m high; the ENE slab is 1.0m long and leans markedly due to subsidence such that its 0.6m width rises only 0.2m above the ground. The slab forming the cist's SSW side is 0.5m long and stands 0.4m high. The north side of the monument is situated on the edge of a marshy gully through the peat into which the slab which formerly closed that side of the cist is thought to have subsided. An additional edge-set slab, 0.5m long and projecting 0.2m above the peat surface, is situated 0.75m south of the cist's SSE slab and orientated parallel to it, forming a marker at one end of the cist.

Unfortunately – it seems - the fencing contractor was unaware of this monument. Remedial work is hoped to take place as part of the Heritage at Risk in the AONB project.

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