



elimo is the best known remnant of the Henge Culture that flourished on Melderyn and the surrounding isles about 3,500 years ago. The five concentric rings of stones lay on a wide expanse of heath overlooking the rocky west coast of Melderyn.

Gelimo seems to have been particularly important. The red stones of the inner circle are believed to originate from a mountainous region of Emelrene and weigh up to 40 tons. The method of transporting them to their present location is unknown but speaks highly of the energy and technological skill of the Henge Culture.

The Sindarin adventurer and seafarer Wenelyne visited the site around 2600 BT during one of his lengthy voyages around the coasts of western Lythia. His "memoirs," in the form of a lengthy poem, mention this visit. He tells of a people who inhabit an island of standing stones. Lost in a storm, his boat was dashed against rocks. Wenelyne was rescued by these folk.

*Families from this isle of stone
Pulled me from the surge of Eder
On stones in rings they laid me down
To heal my wounds fore'er
And so I rose upon the morn
So grateful for their work was I
To grant a boon of mind and heart
To these: the watchers of the sky
Of beams and sail did they learn
Of gem and mirror pure
So labored they among the stones
To forge the bowl azure*

Wenelyne dwelt for an unspecified time among these people, teaching them many things and learning something of their culture. Eventually he departed, returning some centuries later on another voyage only to find the community abandoned. The henge, he noted, "was uprooted as if by the primal forces of Kelestia. The

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sea broke against a cliff where none had been before, and stones had fallen to the shore. A hill rose where their cheerful hall once stood. The land lies desolate and empty, and the stones no longer sing of them."

Wenelyne's tales and other evidence indicates that the Henge Culture had come to an end around 2000 BT. What happened to this culture is one of the greatest mysteries of Hârn. Some scholars believe that some natural catastrophe occurred that caused a cultural degeneration; others suggest that the Henge Culture migrated south or east, pointing to the fact that similar structures have been found in both Emelrene and northern Anzeloria; a third school of thought is that some of them remained on the islands and were assimilated by the Jarin migrations that happened around 1300 BT.

The Jarin avoided Gelimo and most other Henge Culture sites for about two centuries. Gelimo remained

unvisited until 1100 BT or so, when a Fyvrian chantry was established nearby.

The Fyvrans chose Gelimo for its remoteness and the enhancing effect the stone rings have on their magic.

The Jarin used the surrounding moor to bury their dead from 800 to 300 BT. The necropolis extends south from Gelimo Creek, covers nearly 35,000 acres, and includes about 1,000 barrows. The several legends regarding the barrows have given the heathland the name of Wightmoor.



