



**Area Representative Monument of the Month
December 2018**



The Hurlers Stone Circles

On the gentle south-facing slope of Minions Moor, a landscape heavily scarred by mining and quarrying, stand the three great stone circles known as the Hurlers. Folk tales explain that the stones represent local people turned to stone by a humourless deity for playing the game of hurling on the Sabbath. To the south-west are a pair of standing stones known as the Pipers – presumably Hurling was played to a musical accompaniment.

Although not set out in a straight line, the centres of the circles trend towards the ridge to the north, with the still impressive bulk of Rillaton Barrow on the near horizon and the summit of Stowe's Hill with its Neolithic tor enclosure and the striking natural granite formation known as the Cheesewring on the skyline. Dating to the early Bronze Age, the Hurlers lie in a remarkable 'ceremonial landscape' of stone circles, stone rows, standing stones, cists and cairns. A particular feature of the monuments in this area is their tendency to 'refer to' significant tors and horizon features, especially the tor enclosure on Stowes Hill and the group of large barrows on Caradon Hill. The numerous alignments apparent in this area suggest that the Hurlers may have been part of an important processional route

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www.historic-cornwall.org.uk/a2m/bronze_age/stone_circle/hurlers/hurlers.htm

http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MCO18447&resourceID=1020