

THE
LEY
HUNTER



THE LEY HUNTER

EDITOR - PAUL SCREETON

5, EGTON DRIVE
SEATON CAREW
HARTLEPOOL
COUNTY DURHAM

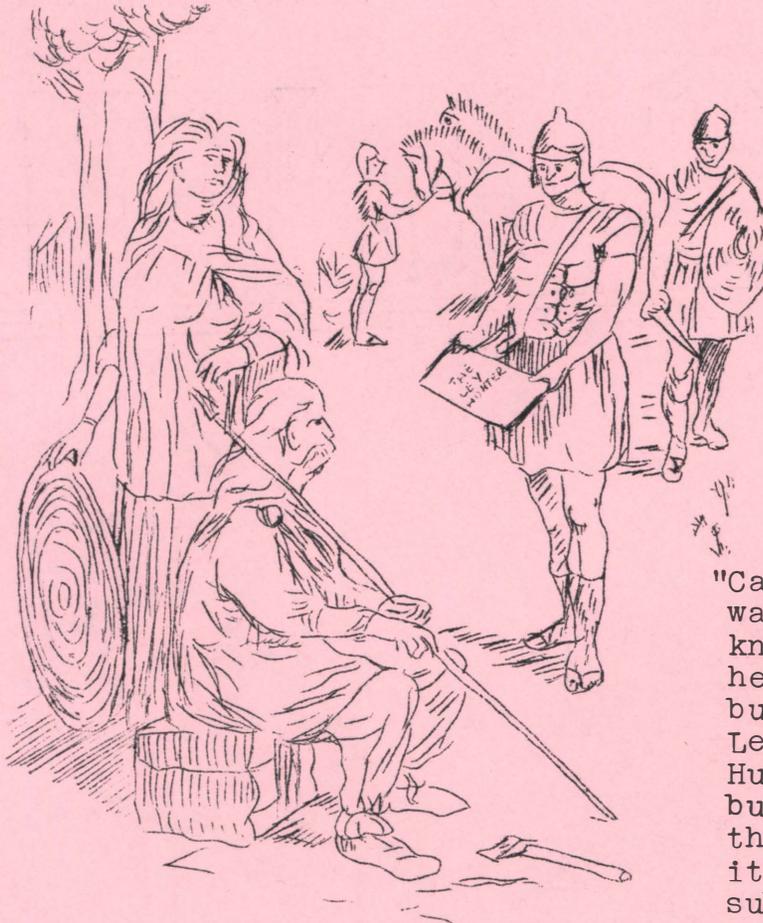
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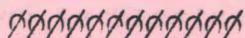
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magazine

LEAD-IN

Glyn Daniel in a fit of paranoia, seeing the tidy present-day archaeological theories crumbling to the state of the ruins they pretend to understand, lashes blindly at many people whom ley hunters respect in the March-May quarter issue of "Antiquity." Maybe it would have been as well to ignore the ludicrous put-down of Professor Lyle Borst, John Michell and Ian Rodger, but my policy has always been to present everything I can bearing on our study, and to draw attention to the fearful narrow-mindedness of those professional archaeologists who shun the evidence of the ley system and its implications - which casts grave doubts on their qualifications to pontificate on our ancestors.

Briefly, Dr. Daniel begins with an attack on Prof Borst's "highly personalized and deplorable astro-archaeology," goes on to claim the editors of "Nature" were taken in by Borst, and that Sir John Betjeman was wrong to take such a stand against possible demolition of Wing Church by the tarmacademicians who propose the site could well be made an airport. Next the B.B.C. comes in for a brickbat for letting Ian Rodger give his talk "Megalithic Mathematics." In this context Dr. Daniel comments "we were back at once to the old straight-trackers." Then he ponders in print as to whether the printing of this, a book review by Prof. R.J.C. Atkinson, and a book review by Geoffrey Grigson were maybe included purely for fun. Unsurprisingly the vitriolic trash by Grigson (who suggests in "The Shell Country Alphabet" that some Bronze Age circles "may be all that is left of circular cattle pens or stockades surrounding a homestead") on "The View Over Atlantis" is lauded as "brilliant." John Michell's impressive book is described as "one of the dottiest books to have appeared for some while."

Dr. Daniel is no doubt a busy man, but perhaps he would write an article or letter for "The Ley Hunter" setting out his conclusions on the countrywide system of prehistoric alignments. I shall send him a copy of this issue so he may judge for himself how seriously we take our study, and will gladly give him space in the magazine to reply.



AUTHORS OR WOULD-BE AUTHORS TAKE NOTE: Michael Balfour of Sago Press and Garnstone Press, both 59 Brompton Road, London S W 3, would be very interested to hear from anyone compiling or thinking of writing books or booklets on all subjects relating to leys; Sago Press, an imprint under which "The View Over Atlantis" was published, is being developed as a specialist company for books of particular interest to readers of "The Ley Hunter."

BATS, GHOSTS, OLD MOTHER MIDNIGHT AND THE WISHING
STONE

By Paul Screeton

County Durham does not, from a study of Ordnance Survey maps, seem rich in evidence of the ley system. Prehistoric man has left scant evidence of his habitation of this sector of the North East.

Yet several isolated snippets of information and features of the landscape around the scenic village of Hart suggested this village could be a ley centre. With such suspicions in mind I invited Philip Heselton, a former editor of "The Ley Hunter," to have a look around the village while on a field trip from Manchester University to study patterns of development on Teesside.

On the fine evening of April 17 he, my wife Pauline, and I went to the village. We first visited the Saxon church of St Mary Magdalene, but were unable to go inside as it was locked. The first church on the site was probably burnt by the Vikings some time before 800 A.D., from which the present church seems to date. Outside, on the south wall of the chancel, a carving dated as 15th Century depicts St George and the Dragon. Intriguing as this is, there are many other interesting features of the church and village. In summer, as the sun sets, bats fly from the church tower, swooping through the lanes in erratic patterns, flitting above the yews which lead from the gate through which one enters into the churchyard from a path. Before coming to the gate into the churchyard, right in the middle of the path, is buried Ellen Thompson who was interred there for her wickedness so that everybody who walked over her would make sure she was kept securely underground. In the church grounds are buried three other witches: Allison Lawe, Helen de Inferno and Old Mother Midnight.

I was once told that in the village burials come in threes, then three births occur, then three deaths..... Ten years ago there were also three ghosts in the village.

Rumour has it that there was a tunnel from the church to caves (blown up some years ago as they were claimed to be a danger to mischievous youngsters) on the seashore 2½ miles away. There are also mediaeval remains adjoining the the churchyard. Also in the village is a purported prehistoric earthwork, known locally as Kings' Meadow. One of Hart's two pubs is The White Hart, and in "Man among Mankind," Brinsley le Poer Trench writes: "The old religion which held out in Britain until Christian times was referred to by its symbol the White Hart, the man with horns, and sometimes, even the head of a hart being the male symbol of the religion."

Such is the character of the village. But what of leys?

The most remarkable evidence came from a stone. By the side of the main road, about 100 yards from the church, is a boulder, possibly of Shap granite. Some call it a meteorite, others a glacial erratic. Youngsters call it the wishing stone, spit on it and make a wish. At about 8-30 p.m. we were looking at it and I touched it. I felt a tingling. I told Pauline and Philip to touch it and they felt the vibrations. The feeling was "magnetic" in that one's hand was drawn towards the stone which caused a feeling akin to the beginning of "pins and needles."

Earlier, in the churchyard, Philip had a distinct feeling there was a ley running from N.N.W to S.S.E.; which would go through the stone, and to a path to a disused windmill. At another point there are three trees in a line on a raised strip of land which on the opposite side of a rough road becomes a trench climbing a hill which seemed to align with a tree-covered hill on the horizon. Philip had a sensation that this was also a ley, and "felt" another running from nearby Short Cake Hill, a conical hill unlike any others in the vicinity - and possibly partially artificial.

Also worth mentioning in this article is the fact that St Mary Magdalene's was mother church to St Hilda's on the headland at Hartlepool. There is a story that there is a 5-mile tunnel from a former leper colony at Monk Hesleden to St Hilda's, and another tunnel to the former seashore caves. Also a cross was found in Hartlepool, supposedly where monks prayed on their journey from Hart to St Hilda's. Its pedestal is now in the grounds of the Gray Art Gallery, Hartlepool. The only other church of antiquity in Hartlepool is Stranton Church - on a mound.

Leys, of course, have been connected with UFOs and I will give a separate account of Hartlepool area sightings in next month's issue.

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WHY FLYING SAUCERS FOLLOWED THE LEYS

Tony Wedd, in one of his articles in "The Ley Hunter," stated that Philip Rodgers had spoken to a person from outer space on the subject of leys. I wrote to Philip, an almost sightless ufologist who lives near Sheffield, and asked if he could give an account of the conversation. He kindly replied:

"I am afraid I was not given any detailed information about leys by my space contacts, so could not write an article which would be of interest to your readers. Actually the subject came up during a conversation in a pub! All I was told was that, thousands of years ago, when the leys were first laid down, there were a number of settlements on them, among which were a number of space people who had settled on earth. It is true that the space craft did follow the leys, not because of any magnetic power which they emitted,

4.
but simply because the space ship crews hoped to contact their own people as they travelled along them. I know you will be disappointed to hear this, but this is all I was told. As for the falling leaf movement, so often observed with space craft, this is due to a different cause, (I had suggested it was done when a UFO changed from one ley to another) though I am not permitted to disclose this at present.

"You may be interested to know that I am at present working on a book called "The Saucerer's Apprentice," which describes my numerous experiences in connection with flying saucers. Among other things, there is a full description of my most important recordings, a few of which are definitely from space craft. The latter part of the book, which is called "Contact," will describe my meetings with these people and include many of the conversations I have had with them. For security reasons, however, I am able to disclose only a small proportion of the information I have obtained. However, I think the book will be of the greatest interest to ufologists, as it confirms much of the evidence given by Adamski and others, though it will correct many of the misconceptions which have arisen during the years since Kenneth Arnold's first sighting. It will also prick the huge bubble of nonsense about astral entities, holes in the earth, saucers coming from another dimension, etc. I can assure you that space craft are physical and that the people are as human and as solid as we are!

"Although I have not yet been taken for a ride in a space craft, like Adamski, I have shared the joys and sorrows of these people and have been on far more intimate terms with them than Adamski ever was. For this reason I know them in a very different light. Nevertheless, they are amazing people and what I know confirms the general ideas prevalent among ufologists."

If we accept Philip Rodgers's information as correct, and I have no doubts whatsoever as to his sincerity, it still leaves unanswered such questions as: what is the nature of the ley energy, did the space people have any part in overseeing the ley system's plotting, and why should UFOs still appear at sites of antiquity and follow leys?

** Read PERCEPTION monthly, and see what other people think about UFOs. PERCEPTION is an open forum for news and opinions on UFOs and allied subjects. Specimen copy 1/3d., six month's postal subscription 9/6d. Write to J. Graham Cowell, 14 Kingswood Close, Crofton Place, Orpington, Kent.

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LEYS AND MATHEMATICAL PROBABILITY

By Tony Northwood

Introduction

Since Watkins's original work on alignments of prehistoric sites there have been several phases of interest in this subject. Unfortunately, however, the subject is of sectarian interest only. Mainly, perhaps due to the unspectacular nature of the alignments, archaeological study in this field has been scant, once the original theory (a system of ancient tracks) was found untenable. Recent years have, however, witnessed a growing interest in a number of archaeological enigmas. In particular Alexander Thom's work on the geometry of stone circles and Gerald Hawkins's study by computer of Stonehenge have been the subject of particular discussion, and also a fair amount of controversy. Significantly, however, both works are given serious attention by archaeology, whereas the study of site alignments or "leys" is much closer to the "crank" province.

With the above thoughts in mind, and the added impetus of recent discussion concerning the possible results of mathematical analysis the following analytical method has been developed as a possible approach to the problem of "quantifying" the subject.

It will be seen that the method starts at the point where an apparent alignment is found by map examination, and using a "grid analysis" technique develops a general formula which can be used to express in terms of mathematical probability the likelihood of an apparent alignment occurring by chance. To demonstrate its use, the formula is then applied to an alignment found in my own locality.

Determination of mean error in mark points.

In considering an alignment of more than 2 points in terms of finite mathematics, as opposed to visual surveying, there are bound to be slight errors in the alignment of all but 2 points. Whether this error is small (of the order of a few feet) or large ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile or more) affects the probability of the alignment occurring by chance and it is important to the analysis that an accurate estimate of the mean error is made. This is found by taking an arithmetical average of perpendicular

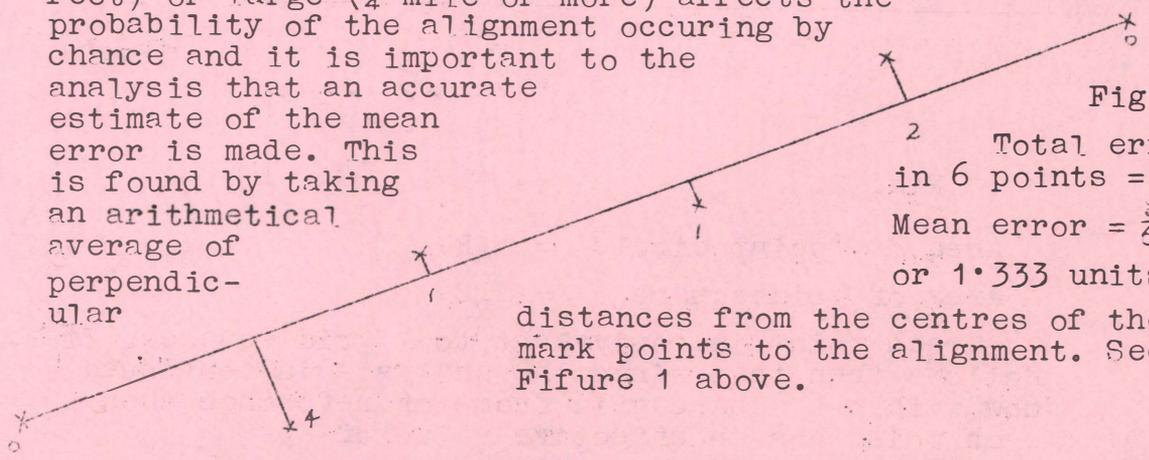


Fig. 1.
Total errors in 6 points = 8
Mean error = $\frac{8}{6} = 1\frac{1}{3}$ units
or 1.333 units.

distances from the centres of the mark points to the alignment. See Figure 1 above.

Field Grid.

In order to relate points within an area of open country a suitable frame of reference is required. The most convenient has been found to be a division of the area (or field) into a square grid whose size is the mean error in mark points.

A slight complication occurs here, however, in attempting to relate points (which with their error become circular areas) into a square grid, and this problem is illustrated in Fig 2 showing a point 'P' with mean error 'R' in square grid of size 'R'.

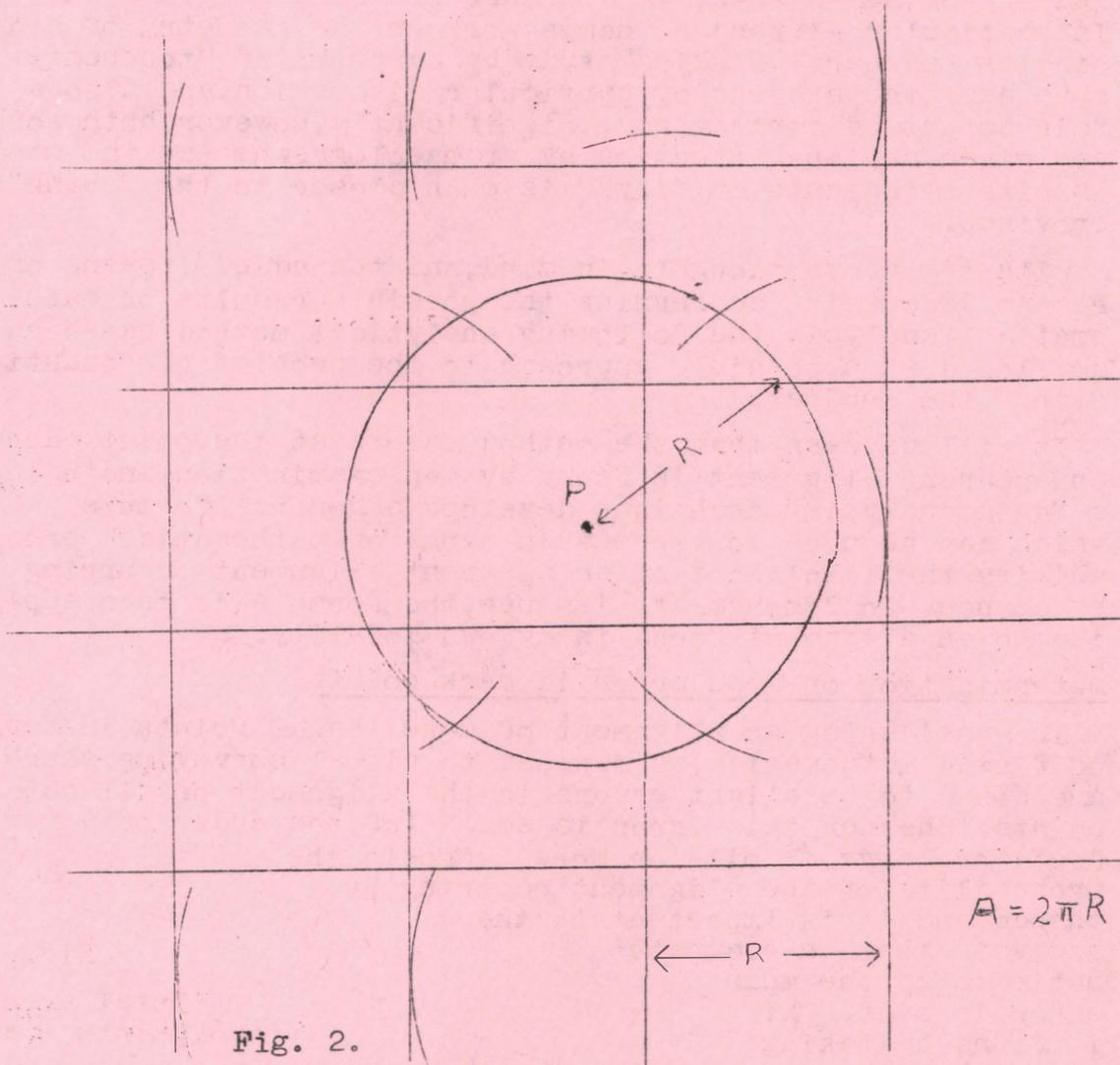


Fig. 2.

$$\text{Area of 'point circle'} = \pi R^2$$

$$\text{Area of grid square} = R^2$$

each point is equivalent to π grid squares. It follows then that since the analysis is continued now within a square grid frame of reference then each point has an effective value of π .

Total count of all possible mark points.

A total count of all features marked on the area of the map being studied which might conceivably be mark points is now made. Effectively this means that if the original alignment is of 6 churches, then a total count of all churches is made. This is a somewhat tedious operation, but if use is made of the map grid (1 km on 1" O.S. maps) this task is easy.

Main theory development.

In the formulae developed at this stage of the analysis the following notation system is used:

- L = length of original alignment in km (or miles).
- n = number of points in original alignment.
- N = total number of possible points within map area.
- A = area of map under consideration in sq. km (or sq. miles).
- R = mean limit of error in mark points in km (or miles).

The first stage in the formula development is to express lengths and areas in terms of grid size.

Thus: length of alignment = $\frac{L}{R}$ grid lengths.

and: area of map = $\frac{A}{R^2}$ grid squares.

Also effective value of each point = π .

Now: probability of 1 grid square partially containing the error circle of 1 point, i.e. effectively containing one point:-

$$= \frac{\pi \times \text{total number of possible points}}{\text{total grid squares within map area}}$$

$$= \frac{\pi N}{A/R^2}$$

Then in any line of length L/R grid lengths, probability of such a line containing one point:-

$$= \left(\frac{L}{R}\right) \frac{\pi N}{A/R^2} = \frac{L \cdot \pi \cdot N \cdot R}{A}$$

Similarly:-

Probability of 2 points = $\frac{L}{R} \left(\frac{\pi N}{A/R^2}\right)^2$

Probability of 3 points = $\frac{L}{R} \left(\frac{\pi N}{A/R^2}\right)^3$

Probability of n points = $\frac{L}{R} \left(\frac{\pi N}{A/R^2}\right)^n$

It remains now to determine the total numbers of possible lines which could exist within the map area. Consider a simple 9 square grid with squares identified 1 - 9.

8.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 |

Combinations of 2 squares:-

1 - 2 2 - 3 3 - 4
 1 - 3 2 - 4 3 - 5
 1 - 4 2 - 5 3 - 6 etc.
 1 - 5 2 - 6 3 - 7
 1 - 6 2 - 7 3 - 8
 1 - 7 2 - 8 3 - 9
 1 - 8
 1 - 9

It can be seen therefore that total combinations = $\frac{9(9-1)}{2}$

or, generalising for a grid of $\frac{A}{R^2}$ squares, then:-

$$\text{total combinations} = \frac{\frac{A}{R^2}(\frac{A}{R^2}-1)}{2}$$

Now since a straight line is defined as "the shortest distance between 2 points" we may define it within the square grid system as "any combination of 2 different squares."

$$\therefore \text{number of possible lines within grid} = \frac{\frac{A}{R^2}(\frac{A}{R^2}-1)}{2}$$

The final probability formula can now be stated as:-

Probability of an 'n' point line existing by chance within a grid is:-

Number of possible lines x probability of 'n' point line

$$= \frac{\frac{A}{R^2}(\frac{A}{R^2}-1)}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{L}{R}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\pi N}{\frac{A}{R^2}}\right)^n$$

Application of formula - example.

To demonstrate the use of the formula derived above, this is now applied to an apparent alignment found on O.S. sheet No. 147 (national grid co-ordinates: TL 125550; SP 950180).

From the map the following data is derived:-

- Mean point error (R) - 0.04 km.
- Total count of all possible mark points (N) - 56.
- Map area under consideration (A) - 40x45 km.
- Number of points in original alignment (n) - 6.
- Length of alignment (L) 40 km.

Applying the formula:-

$$\text{Probability of chance alignment} = \frac{\left(\frac{A}{R^2}\right)\left(\frac{A}{R^2}-1\right)}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{L}{R}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\pi N}{\frac{A}{R^2}}\right)^n$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{40 \times 45}{0.04^2}\right)\left(\frac{40 \times 45}{0.04^2}-1\right)}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{40}{0.04}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\pi 56}{\frac{40 \times 45}{0.04^2}}\right)^6$$

$$= \frac{1.265 \times 10^{12}}{2} \times 10^3 \times (1.562 \times 10^{-8})^6$$

$$= 0.6325 \times 10^{12} \times 10^3 \times 55.9 \times 10^{-48}$$

$$= 35.4 \times 10^{-33}$$

Expressed in conventional arithmetical form this represents odds of: 1 to 35,400,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.

Conclusions.

The fact that this method of analysis expresses the existence or otherwise of a suspected alignment in terms of mathematical probability partly takes the study of this subject out of the realms of subjective speculation. I say partly because caution must be exercised in dealing with individual mark points. Objects such as churches, castle mounds and standing stones do not present any problems, since they are very definite, and a total count is fairly straightforward. If less definite objects or features are being considered (for example pieces of aligned track or road, place names or patches of woodland) extreme care is necessary to ensure that the total count includes all such features, otherwise the final result will be biased. If such features are considered at all, a systematic approach is required. For example stretches of road or track could be divided into suitable intervals which may then be treated as 'points.' Patches of woodland would require similar treatment, whilst place names are probably best dealt with by a large 'limit of error' encompassing the whole area covered by the name.

The question of subjectivity occurs also when considering what degree of probability should be taken to indicate near certainty of an alignment. Mathematically, of course, a figure of more than 0.5 could be considered positive, but for near certainty, and if offering the alignment for professional study it would be wise to require a high degree of probability, perhaps 0.95 as an indication that simple fieldwork might be worthwhile, though a figure of 0.8 or more would probably be acceptable.

A final point of possible interest could be the application of this analysis to UFO orthotenes (since the subject of leys is claimed by some to be associated with this phenomenon). In this case the approach would be simpler since the 'points' would be sighting reports. However, the 'limit of error' would need careful consideration, and would doubtless be much larger (in comparison to ley points). Possibly also the method of averaging the 'limit of error' would require a more sophisticated technique.

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AN ALIGNMENT $5\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ SOUTH OF WEST THROUGH
STONES AT FULWOOD, SHEFFIELD.

By R.D.Y. Perrett, B.Sc.

1. INTRODUCTION.

I feel that the course of my discovery of this alignment makes a rather intriguing story, perhaps rather typical. There were the initial inklings, inferences leading to further discoveries, collateral support from local legend and a place-name, the beginning of disenchantment because things thought to be old were found on enquiry not to be so, further doubts because accurate measurements indicated that things did not quite fit, yet even at the end the residual feeling that there must be something behind it all.

2. HOW IT BEGAN.

On a moorland ridge about six miles west of the centre of Sheffield, at an altitude of 1377 feet, there are two large lumps of rock some eight or ten feet high, about eight feet apart. They are the only features standing out from the ridge and can be seen for miles around, even from the centre of Sheffield on a clear day. They look like a funnel and steam-dome of an old steam locomotive - or so I have always thought of them from my boyhood. Having in 1949 accidentally started on an enquiry which led me to think that stone circles and other ancient stones were in some way connected with sunsets and sunrises, I had certain reasons for thinking that the "funnel and steam-dome" which are called the Ox Stones, might mark the midwinter sunset from some observation point. I reasoned that such a point would be close to where I live, and it was not long before I realised that there was at this spot a wall of construction quite different from the field-walls common round here in this gritstone area of the Yorkshire-Derbyshire border. The wall consisted of large stones set in the ground. At the precise spot required there were three stones, 33 inches high, leaning together, which had apparently originally been all one large block. The row of big stones, constituting the wall, ran westwards for 165 feet, then went off at an angle of about 12° N. of W. (In the reverse direction - 12° S. of E. - it pointed to the Greystones-High Storrs high point mentioned by "Circumlibra" on page 12 of the March 1970 issue of "The Ley Hunter" - but that is another story.). (Another story also lies in the purchase and removal of these stones by a local builder who, however, kept his eyes open on my advice and brought to light an Iron Age bead, Romano-British querns and lots of Romano-British pottery, to the great interest of Sheffield Museum.) The place is at an altitude of about 800 feet.

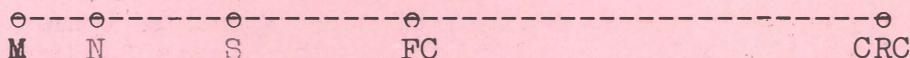
3. FIRST INDICATION OF ALIGNMENT.

From about the middle of the East-West row of big

stones I noticed that the tower of Fulwood Church, about half a mile away eastwards was exactly in line with the spire of a small church in a cemetery in Cemetery Road about two and one-third miles further east still. The ground slopes steadily down eastwards towards Sheffield and there was thus a free line of sight.

I found also that, embedded in the base of a couple of field-walls some 200 yards westwards, were other large blocks of stone on the same alignment. The more westerly of these, which I designated "Block M," was a massive cube about a yard each way.

"M" is at an altitude of about 875 feet and its Grid Ref. is about SK 29618536. From it the alignment of the two churches was perfect and the direction of this line of sight was approx. 6° N. of E. The diagram below may help to make things clear at this stage.

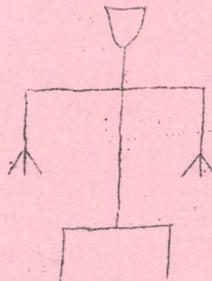


M is block "M"; N is another large rock in the base of a wall running North-South (like the wall in which "M" is embedded); S is the middle of the 165 foot run of the wall mentioned in paragraph 2; FC is Fulwood Church; CRC is the church in the cemetery at Cemetery Road. The line runs approx. 6° S. of W. (or N. of E.).

4. EXTENSION OF ALIGNMENT.

(A) Westwards. I drew this line on the map and extended it westwards. Four miles away in this direction it passes over a massive rocky edge called Stanage Edge, running roughly NW-SE and sloping steeply downwards south-westwards. Many rocks weighing many tons have rolled down off this edge over the centuries and the slope below it is strewn with these massive boulders. I was intrigued to notice, however, that my line passed close to (just south of) one rock with a name "Buckstone." Of all the multitude of rocks there, only this one had a name. I had been familiar with the place since I was a boy 30-odd years earlier, and never knew, until I spotted it on the map on this occasion, that any rock there had a name. Having "discovered" it in this way, my wife and I took an early opportunity of going to look at it. It is about 24 feet square at the base, about 15 feet high, with a flat top perhaps 8 or 10 feet square. One could get up on top of it and we did. To our astonishment we found a faint figure carved in the top, thus:-

I had no idea before that it was there. It gave me a queer feeling to look at it and I soon realised why; it was not a "man" but a "skeleton."



Usually a line-drawing of a man is thus:-
 But here the horizontal lines clearly indicated the pelvis bone and shoulder blades. The direction of the spine was about $3\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ W. of S., the head being southwards; and the hollow to the east of the shoulder looked very suggestive of the sun. The overall length is about 37 inches.



I had projected a line of cemeteries and found a skeleton!

A number of years later, when I first read Alfred Watkins' "The Old Straight Track," I learned that this was not the only rock named "Buckstone" in the country.

(B) Eastwards. I extended the line eastwards. About two-thirds of a mile east of Cemetery Road Church it crossed Bramall Lane Football Ground. It is curious that there is a large lump at one corner of this ground. Compare "Spion Kop" in the Owlerton [Hillsborough] Football Ground in Sheffield, which figures in the North-South alignment on which I wrote an article in Vol.2, No.1 (Jan. 1966) of the former "Ley Hunter" run by Jimmy Goddard.).

One and one-third miles further eastwards still, the line crosses a large cemetery - the City Road Cemetery and Crematorium. The latter is on a ridge, and there is a slight dip in the line of this ridge, as seen from Block "M" at Fulwood, at the location of the Cemetery.

5. SUNSETS AND SUNRISES.

(A) Equinoctial Sunset. Fulwood Church and its cemetery are on a flat area in land which, by and large, slopes away downwards to the west and south. This flatness is achieved by virtue of the fact that it is on a sort of promontory with a steep bank, perhaps 20 feet high at its highest, on the west and south sides. The road coming from the S.W. rising towards the church divides at this promontory, one arm going round the south side and the other round the north side, of the church. As one stands by the base of the church tower, looking west, one is thus looking over ground which is lower (below the bank) before, towards the west, it starts rising up towards the points marked "S", "N" and "M" in the diagram in paragraph 3. One thus has a reasonably clear view, except for the branches of an odd tree or two growing in the churchyard itself, right up to Block "M" and beyond. Beyond M the ground continues to rise to a "high spot" perhaps 60 feet across at an altitude of 925 feet, with perhaps half a dozen trees on it, like a little grove. At the Equinox, as seen from the base of Fulwood Church tower, the sun at sunset sets in this little grove.

(B) Midsummer Sunrise. From Block "M" the skyline to the N.E. used to be a field-ridge about half a mile away. (I say "used to be" because a builder has now covered the ridge with closely-packed houses and the feature I am about to refer to has been destroyed forever.). At Midsummer, the sunrise from Block "M" was, of course, over this

ridge;but there used to be a little lane running over this ridge and at the top it joined two,if not three,other lanes, and it was just at the spot of this confluence on the ridge where the Midsummer sun was seen to rise.

6. LEGEND AND LOCAL NAME.

(A) Legend. About 100 yards south of the "high spot" mentioned in 5(A) is Fulwood Hall. About a quarter of a mile N.W. of Fulwood Hall is another old hall,Bennet Grange. When I was a boy I was told of a legend of an underground passage between the two,but it always struck me as odd,because the ground dips quite deeply and then rises again,as one goes from one to the other. Now it was only when I read "The Old Straight Track" some nine years ago that I came across Watkins' remarks (page 172 et seq of the 1948 edition) that he had found legends of underground passages along alignments - even when the ground dips between the two places supposed to be so connected. Although neither Fulwood Hall nor Bennet Grange is exactly on "my" alignment,they are not far from it,one being about 100 yards to the south and the other about 120 yards north of it.

(B) Local name. Across the road from Fulwood Church,to the S.E. of it,is a cottage with the name "Goole Green House" on the gate. In Harrison's "Survey of Sheffield" of about the year 1637 this is called "Gold Greene." Watkins (page 166) gives instances of names containing "Gold" and associates them with alignments and sunrises.

7. SUMMARY SO FAR.

So far everything seemed to "hold together" beautifully. The whole scheme,running from the East,seemed to line up, thus:- 1, City Road Cemetery;2,Bramall Lane Football Ground ("tump");3,Cemetery Road Cemetery and Church;4,Goole Green (= Gold Green) and Fulwood Church;5,Wall of large stones set in ground;6, Large rock in base of a wall;7, Large block ("M") in base of wall;8, High Spot by Fulwood Hall (Equinox sunset over high spot,as seen from Goole Green or Fulwood Church);9, Line passes near Bennet Grange - legend of underground passage between latter and Fulwood Hall;10, Buckstone with incised skeleton with Sun shown to east of it. The end-to-end distance is about nine miles,nearly all within Sheffield City boundary.

8. "DISENCHANTMENT.

(A) Fulwood Church. This is not an ancient church,but was built in 1838,being paid for by a Miss Phoebe Silcock of Whitley Wood Hall. The latter is situated about half a mile from the church,on the other side of the valley,and the story has it that the site of the church was chosen because it would stand out and be visible from Whitley Wood Hall.

(B) Cemetery Road Cemetery. So far as I can ascertain this is not an old cemetery. It is stated ("Sheffield Morning Telegraph" newspaper, 12/7/69.) to have been

started in 1835 by the Sheffield General Cemetery Co., Ltd., which put up the money for the "eligible piece of land belonging to Henry Wilson of Westbrook." "At first only five acres of land were enclosed as a cemetery."

(C) Inaccuracy of Alignment.

(i) My "original line" - Cemetery Road Church, Fulwood Church, Block "M" - misses the Buckstone by some 200 yards. From my other researches I give the "ancients" credit for greater accuracy than this. The line $6^{\circ} 10'$ S. of W.

(ii) The line joining the Buckstone to Block "M" (the only two points almost certainly in their original positions and small enough to pin-point precisely) passes through Goole Green, but misses Cemetery Road Church by about 65 yards (passing it on the south; and the church itself is on the south side of the cemetery). This line is $5^{\circ} 30'$ S. of W. (N. of E.).

(iii) The Bramall Lane Football Ground and the City Road Cemetery are so wide in the South-North direction that both line (i) and line (ii) pass through them.

(iv) One cannot know for certain what the ancients reckoned as the Equinox or as "sunset," but my researches have led me to believe that "sunset" was when the lower limb of the sun just touched the skyline, and that possibly it suffices to take the present-day astronomical equinox. If I do this, allowing for the rise of the ground, the direction of the equinoctial sunset from Goole Green comes out at just over $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ S. of W. This agrees neither with line (i) nor line (ii).

9. CONCLUSION.

In spite of the doubts in Section 8, I still cannot feel that there is "nothing in it." The promontory carrying Fulwood Church is shown clearly in one of Fairbanks' maps of Sheffield about the end of the 18th Century, and looks to me as if it might well be artificial. My discovery of the incised skeleton by inference from cemeteries, the legend of the underground passage, and the name Goole (Gold) Green all seem to me to point to something. In that unsatisfactory state I must leave it.

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MESSAGE TO POSTERITY

Review

It seems that the ley system of Great Britain, of which this magazine is primarily concerned, is only a small part of a worldwide system of alignments. In also considering the Somerset Zodiac and other such possible astrological designs in the landscape, a passage from the introduction to Maria Reiche's "Mystery on the Desert" (Sago Press, 21s.) will show similarities to our own study: "Several centuries before the time of the Incas, the inhabitants of the southern Peruvian coastal region created a monument which, being unique in its kind, was intended to

transmit an important message to posterity. Its enormous extension and the accurate lines of its contours could remind us of the Pyramids of Egypt. But instead of looking up to a work of monumental three-dimensional simplicity, we look down from great heights on flat surfaces, which over miles are covered with geometric patterns which spread, as if drawn by giants with rulers of hundreds of feet." But what is the message?

And is it significant that the pattern only becomes clear from the air? The author mentions their similarity to air-field patterns, as did Pauwels and Bergier in "The Dawn of Magic," and they developed the idea to suggest "the builders could only have been guided by some sort of machine floating in the sky?"

The alignments form triangles, rectangles and trapezoids, but other shapes, instead of being abstract and geometrical, represent animals, among the straight lines. Alignments we understand, as the British Isles are laid out in remarkable patterns, but what of these intriguing animal shapes? The hill figures of southern England hardly bear comparison. Maybe the prehistoric South Americans mixed their geometry and wildlife drawings to reveal harmony between the animate and moments when the lines become animated by some energy, as is a feature of some - or all - leys.

Maria Reiche suggests further research into the measures and direction of Peruvian, English and Californian figures might suggest a hidden significance. Could, I wonder, Prof. Thom's Megalithic yard be applied?

As with the now apparent misconception by Alfred Watkins that leys were purely trackways, Maria Reiche states that the Nazca alignments could not have been built as footpaths, being extensively time-consuming to climb straight up a plateau.

It has been found that leys mark certain positions of stars, so it is no surprise to read such statements as "the bill of this bird ends at a group of lines, the last of which pointed to the rising sun on December 21." (Incidentally Prof. Mason has referred to pre-Inca mythology which asserts the stars are inhabited and gods have come from the constellation of the Pleiades.)

Whereas man has partially obliterated the British ley system, only occasional roads have affected Nazca, where it rains on average only half an hour every two years!

Obviously the tracing over 30 miles of desert of such complex shapes and animal figures was not created without good reason. Maria Reiche does not know why. In fact this book is a preliminary for a scientific interpretation of the figures and an introduction to their study. By buying this book, ley hunters will find much of interest and will be helping finance a worthy project.

Rightly the author states that the figures presuppose a culture in advance of present-day thinking towards pre-historic civilisation, and states that painstaking research must be undertaken to discover how and why such figures were produced.

The book is lavishly illustrated in colour, and black and white, and printed in English, German and Spanish together. It is available from Sago Press, 59 Brompton Road, London S W 3.

- Paul Screeton.

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LETTER FROM FRED O. GARDNER

I was surprised to read in the current issue that my name was being used in reference to a little misunderstanding, and to put the records straight I would like to comment on the reference (page 3) that I am reported as "having silenced your S.F. angle in the Ley Hunter." When I read that bit, I said: "Oh dear, what's this? This, of course, I did not do, nor would I presume to do such a thing. What I did do was advise the editor that in my opinion it would be wiser to leave out any mention of S.F. in a UFO publication. There is surely a difference between "silencing" and "advising;" the former I did not do, but the latter I did.

And why did I advise against publishing S.F. in what I considered was a UFO publication? 1, Perhaps I was wrong in assuming that The Ley Hunter is a UFO journal, but I am open to correction on that aspect. 2, So much adverse criticism, and also bad feeling, has been aroused among UFO circles in the South owing to one of the Southern UFO groups releasing a handout to sections of the London Press to the effect that UFOs (or flying saucers) are due to a lively imagination, the influence of S.F.... that I was concerned lest people get the idea that ufology and S.F. are either inter-related or even synonymous, which I, personally, do not accept to be the case. I am all for S.F. as such, and on occasion I like to read a S.F. novel for a change, i.e. "light" reading, but that does not mean that I am a S.F. addict and it has nothing to do with my interest in UFOs, etc.

Now that I have been pulled into something I did not seek or merit, I feel I would like to add this: the reverse, of course, might be the case, the UFO phenomenon may have given some S.F. writers creative or inspirational urges in their literary and pictorial fancies. Some S.F. books or stories come very near to UFOs and allied phenomena, especially from a title or thematic point of view.

I might add that one remembers the proverb: "coming events casts their shadows before." Does it mean that some creative writers along S.F. lines have caught some premonition or mental picture of what there is in the beyond, present or futuristic?

Making allowances for a lively imagination and picturesque phraseology, the essence of their creative or inspirational thought maybe in effect what could come to pass. For example, the basic ideas of Jules Verne or H.G.Wells, spring to mind. The nuclear-powered submarine, the bathysphere, to mention but a couple of modern hardware which are rather marvellous to "old codgers" like me, are accomplished facts. Man's conquest of space as far as the Moon is concerned, and the controlled probes by man of some of the inner planets is, of course, common knowledge. These things were to me in my middle age, like my forebears, but dreams!

Barring mutual destruction by nuclear warfare, interplanetary travel to the inner planets can conceivably be achieved before the turn of the century, indeed this may become a global necessity if the various scientific prognostications re. population boom, depletion of essential food and basic sources and resources vital to the maintenance of human life and the provision of the three necessities - food, clothing and shelter, come to pass!

However, if I write any more on this strain, I may end up by writing some S.F. myself, and then the "fat would be in the fire." And what a chortle of yells would emerge from those who allege that UFOs are nothing less than S.F. or the ravings of the hallucinated! They would then spout Fred Gardner is converted at last. But there's no danger, this hard-headed Lancashire lad is not easily swayed.

I don't know whether the editor or readers of *The Ley Hunter* are aware of a fellow padre, who is an experienced UFO researcher - I refer to the Rev. Norman Cochburn, M.A., B.D., Ph.D. (degrees obtained in British universities), who is a fair expert on S.F., and he has done considerable research. Incidentally, he addressed a UFO meeting at which I was present, and he tested it by asking those present who read or were interested in S.F. fiction to indicate in the customary fashion. Less than one third raised their hands!

The moral of all this, of course, in future, I must be extremely careful what I say (or write) and to whom, lest I be quoted or misquoted and then have to resort to a lot of negative stuff, proving and fending instead of utilising one's precious time and energies in more positive work!

Editor: I printed Keith Walker's nonsense simply to state publically to anyone in contact with him that I would not be stampeded into changing my editorial policy because a handful of people did not favour one aspect. In fact Mr Walker writes in "Egg" of my exclusion of S.F. in these words: "Paul Screetonthe poor lad having been pressured by his ufological friends into dropping anything which might suggest that UFOs were not 100 per cent the real thing." In replying to Mr W., I failed to say that never did I believe Fred would claim to have "silenced" the S.F. One other point, Fred, this magazine treats UFOs as only a part of the leys mystery, and only discusses them when there seems to be a connection.

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TIME FOR THE TIMES TO COME TOGETHER

An anthology of selected articles from issues 2,3 and 5 of The Ley Hunter. Tony Wedd writes about how he came to link UFOs and leys, writes about leys in Somerset, and in a third article discusses Stonehenge. Philip Heselton writes an account of the history of ley hunting. Barbara Crump refutes the belief that The Fosse Way is wholly Roman. Circumlibra writes about the ley on which he lives, and also writes about the "power centres" on leys. With 21 pages of articles, the anthology costs 2/- (plus 4d. postage).

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THE LEY HUNTER. From next month's issue the cost of The Ley Hunter will be 1s. 4d. This means that subscriptions by post will now be 5s. for three months and 10s. for a half-year. The rise in price has been necessitated by extra cost of paper and increased number of pages each issue.

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The South Herts. Unidentified Flying Objects Investigation Group publishes SHUFOIG JOURNAL. Single copies by post 1s. 6d. Out each quarter. Edited by Fred O. Gardner, FRGS? and obtainable from: The Editor, 28 Southsea Avenue, Watford, Herts. Occasional bulletins also issued.

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PROPOSED NEW MAGAZINE. Bram Stokes, of "Dark They Were and Golden-Eyed" bookshop, is one of a group of people planning to start a new magazine with the accent on British mysteries. It will look similar to "Gandalf's Garden," though will be slanted towards investigation of British antiquities, witchcraft, the Tarot etc., rather than yoga, Zen, and Eastern mysticism. Its format, it is proposed, will chiefly be in the form of a digest, with chapters reprinted from various books. They are also accumulating new material and when sufficient is available, and a suitable printer found, then the magazine will be launched, aiming for a circulation of several thousands.

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MAGICAL MYSTERIES TOUR. Kenneth Knight writes: "I will send you an article in due course on the orientation of the various sites in the Somerset area which are associated with the 'Somerset Giants.' This is much greater than may be generally supposed, extending from South Wales, Barry Island, Cardiff, across the new Severn Bridge, through Gloucestershire, down through Bristol and Bath, and extending as far as Montacute. All this area alone is the 'Kingdom of Logres' mentioned in the 'High History' which centres on Glastonbury. I am taking some people on a conducted tour of these sites, by car, and am giving a lecture with colour slides, maps, diagrams, etc., before the tour. Some others might like to participate, and they could make a long weekend of it by staying nearby for a few days. For those interested Mr Knight's address is Box Farm, Panborough, near Wells, Somerset. BA5 1PR.