

DOWSING THE ANCIENT LANDSCAPE

WITH MARIA WHEATLEY

By Mary Hullen

Why did the ancients build sites where powerful earth energies are located, and what was the purpose of these sites are questions that still remain largely unanswered today, although many theories abound.

For the dowser, these ancient sites provide the opportunity to explore some of the most powerful and documented earth energies, so it was with much anticipation that Peter and I joined Maria Wheatley for her dowsing workshop at the Uffington complex, during our visit to the UK.

Maria must have dowsed for the perfect day for the workshop, as the weather was glorious, sunny blue skies, and not too much wind to affect our dowsing rods. Maria took us to Wayland Smithy to commence the workshop. Wayland Smithy is about half a mile from the Uffington White Horse complex. Maria described Wayland Smithy as “atmospheric” and it certainly lived up to her description. Wayland Smithy is a Neolithic burial site. It is located within a copse of trees which creates a general energy that is hard to define. It seemed like we were stepping back in time. A series of large standing stones, the tallest being 10 foot, is arranged in line at the south end. From the entrance extends a passage to a chamber with a capstone. The barrow mound is 185 feet long and 43 feet wide at the south end.

It is one of many prehistoric sites associated with Wayland, the Norse god of blacksmithing. It is believed that an invisible smithy may be linked to this site as according to legend, if a traveller's horse lost a shoe, he could leave his horse and money at the capstone of the tomb and return the next morning to find the horse shod and the money gone. It is said that offerings are still left today, and when we went to enter the terminal chamber I found that offerings had been left there, so we did not dowse inside the chamber, out of respect.

We began our dowsing by trying to find the energy bands on the standing stones. I had never experienced these energy bands before and found it very interesting. We dowsed a branch spiral into the monument and according to the late Guy Underwood, branch spirals are “small spirals diverging from geodetic lines”¹ We then went onto the top of the barrow and dowsed the energy lines that ran along it, we also found some other spiral energy spots, one of which Maria's dog, Hunter, found very comfortable to rest on. Prior to him settling there, he had been quite restless. Maria assisted those in the group who were less experienced dowsers.

We then headed back towards the White Horse complex, and at a crossroads on the walk back, Maria had us dowsing for track lines, provoking some interest from passing walkers. Underwood describes track lines as “parallel lines of triple triad”,¹ and that animals follow these track lines. Maria told us that track lines can be found on ancient trails and old country roads. They are found around the world, for example, the Aboriginal trails. They are double triad energy lines separated by a small gap.

We stopped for lunch at one of the most panoramic spots I have ever picnicked at, on the slopes below the walkway to the White Horse. From here we looked out over the Vale of the White Horse and the surrounding landscape from our elevated position.

After lunch we headed up the hill to the Uffington Castle complex. Uffington Castle is an ancient Iron Age hill fort that stands on the highest point in Oxfordshire. It covers 3 hectares, although there is little left to distinguish it from surrounding fields apart from a ditch and bank that formed part of the fortress. Here we dowsed the Belinus line and other track lines. I also found some strong spiral energy in places. Maria told us the Belinus line is the longest ley line in Britain. The Elen and Belinus lines were discovered by Gary Biltcliffe. The Elen and Belinus line are considered to be Pagan lines, unlike the Michael and Mary lines which are found to connect many Christian sites.

We then moved on to the White Horse, which is the largest chalk cut hill figure in Britain. It was a little challenging dowsing on the steep slope, and care had to be taken not to stand on the chalk outline of the horse. However, we found a number of spiral patterns especially around the head of the horse. Underwood found that this White Horse figure is aligned on geodetic lines, like so many prehistoric sites.



After a steep climb downhill from the White Horse, we climbed up to Dragon Hill. Dragon Hill is a low flat-topped hillock in the valley below the White Horse. There is still controversy about whether it is natural or artificially made. On its flat top is a large patch of chalk where no grass ever grows. It is associated with the legend of St George. It is said this is where St George had slain and buried the dragon, and the grass never grows where the dragons blood was spilled.

I found Dragon Hill a very interesting place to dowse as there were many energy lines emanating from the chalk patch, there were also some very strong energy spirals on the mound. This was obviously a site of very powerful earth energies. Maria and I could detect some of the energy just by standing on some vortexes.

After making our way across the hill to the car park, we travelled to St Mary's church, and as the name suggests, this church is located over a Mary line which we were able to dowse there. We were also able to dowse the pagan feminine line, Elen as well. As most of you will know, the Michael and Mary lines were dowsed by Hamish Miller and Paul Broadhurst and many Christian sites are located over these lines, e.g. many churches called St Michaels or St Mary's. We also found some spiral energy curling around the font, and water lines. Even Peter, a novice and somewhat sceptical dowser, had rods reacting to spiral energy, much to his amazement, and to the amusement of myself and Maria. We then located a hidden power source behind the altar and tried some auric expansion by dowsing the aura of a person prior to standing on the power point, then dowsing again after they had stood on the power point for a few minutes. An interesting experience for some of our group!

To finish the day, a few of the group stopped for a cool drink at a nearby pub along with Maria, and Busty Taylor a renowned crop circle investigator, photographer and dowser who had accompanied our group.

It was a truly memorable day of dowsing and discovery, and I would recommend it to any of our members travelling to the UK. We found Maria to be a very experienced, knowledgeable dowser

and an approachable and encouraging teacher. Maria also takes dowsing tours of Avebury in summer, and we were disappointed that we didn't have time during our visit to spend time dowsing there.

Maria's website is: www.theaveburyexperience.co.uk

References: Underwood, G *The Pattern of the Past* Pitman Publishing 1969

Mary is a valued and active member of The NZ Dowsing & Radionics Society Inc.