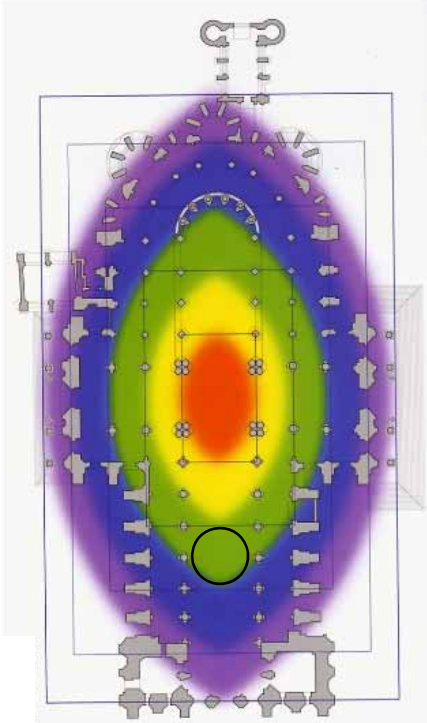


## The Chartres Labyrinth

In Chartres Cathedral, one hour South of Paris, there is a sophisticated Labyrinth path, which has gained renewed popularity over recent times, amongst 'new age'ers and some Christians. The Chartres Cathedral was built during the 12th century by the Christian order of the Knights Templar. These knights had tremendous power during their time, and from their involvement in the crusades they had access to old wisdom, from both the European and more notably the Persian traditions.



The Labyrinth was developed as a replacement for pilgrims to walk, instead of making the journey to the holy land, which in the 13th century was no longer possible. It is a symbolic walk, from the physical life to the spiritual center of one's being. The walk begins from the South West end of the church and ends in the middle of the Labyrinth. One leaves the Labyrinth by walking directly up the Cathedral, towards the altar which is in the middle of the four arms of the cross, and onto the Holy of Holies, in the North East.

While many of the cathedrals were built on the North, South, East, West axis, with the main hall focused on the East West axis, Chartres is directed to the North East, so that the Sun rises in its East window at the Summer Solstice, rather than the East, where the sun rises at the Spring Equinox. Such as Wells Cathedral in the UK.

There are many books, interpreting the architectural significance of the Chartres Cathedral, and I will leave it to them to provide the details, however there are few points of significance I would like to highlight.

In his book, "Chartres, Sacred Geometry, Sacred Space" Gordon Strachan, (from which this picture is taken) outlines many of the features of the Cathedral. There is one feature which provides an indication of the significance the Labyrinth may play in the Cathedral. Strachan showed that the Christian symbol of the Vischi Pisces was at the seat of the buildings design. He provided this picture, which shows the five Vischi Pisces layers, he sees in the cathedrals

design. It will be seen from this picture, that on the middle green ring, at top end, is the Holy of Holies. It was upon this focus, that all five of the previous churches built on this site, have been centered. This area is the spiritual focus of the whole cathedral. At the opposite or polar end of this green area is the position of the Labyrinth.

If the Holy of Holies is the spiritual center, and a place of inner experience of the 'mother and child', to whom all the sacred buildings on this site have been dedicated to, then the Labyrinth can represent, an exteriorised patterning of the archetypal form of creation. This being an inverted expression of the inner spiritual center.

Follow the path of the Labyrinth with your finger.

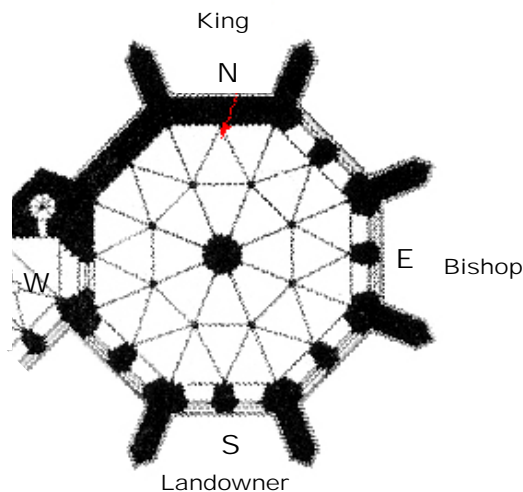
The Labyrinth conforms to the criteria I have identified in my other writings, regarding the



structure of the Astronomical gyrosopic form standing behind creation, which in turn is mirrored in many octagonal sacred buildings and forms from every major culture over the last 10,000 years at least. This is a cross form, with twelve (6 x 2) internal layers.

I have a couple of unanswered questions though, 1) What direction is the appropriate entrance 2) How should the Periodic Table be aligned to the Labyrinth.

Labyrinth's are now being made all over the world, and there does not seem to be any agreement on where / which direction, the entrance should be. Chartres has its own quirk. Unlike the majority of christian cathedrals and churches, which focus upon the East window, with their entrance from the West, Chartres is facing to the



Wells Cathedral Chapter House

North East, to emphasis the position of the Sun at the Summer Solstice, with its entrance in the South West. Thus it would make sense to say enter from the South West, however there have been many Labyrinth's in various cathedrals, and the Labyrinth always aligns with the main hall of the church, no matter which direction it is orientated too. As the majority, enter from the West then this might also be a more appropriate 'general' entrance point.

An interesting reference for the Labyrinth, may be the chapter houses built in the 1300s, especially the octagonal ones built in England, at Salisbury, Westminster Abbey and at Wells. All of these are orientated so that they are entered from the West. The Wells chapter house is particularly interesting, as above the outside row of seats are little ornamental heads, representing who sat where. To the North sits the King, to the East sits the Bishop, to the South sits the leading Landowner. I understand the North Apse is called the kings door and is where royalty would enter the

cathedral, with the masses entering from the West. I wonder how much the design of the cathedrals built during the height of the churches era— pre 1500— were designed to emphasis the clergy and diminish the royalty?

The Chapter Houses were where the business of the parish was carried out. In the case of the Westminster Chapter house, it served as the house of parliament for many years, before they moved to the present parliament buildings. So the chapter house is where 'stuff was sorted'.

### Why the South West

With reference to my organisation of the energetic activities within the gyroscope, placed according to the archetypal electro—magnetic form, I have placed the World Spirit to the North, the World Etheric to the East, the World Physical to the South and the World Astral to the West.

'Trouble' comes from the Astrality. The astrality, is the name given to the energies coming to us as a result of the movement of the planets. It is therefore always changing, given the planets are constantly moving. As the planets move so our EM environment is influenced by their constant alteration, which in turn shows its influence upon human psychology. The Astrality is were all our issues are embedded. Hence the 5000 year old study of Astralogy, which plots these planetary movements and subsequent human effects.

So if there are issues arising for the individual, or a community, then they will come largely from planetary movement and thus the Astrality. Therefore entering a place of resolution from the West, is symbolic of bringing in a problem, to be resolved by the community. Once it is addressed then the world can be re-entered with a 'clean astrality'.

For the Labyrinth we could apply a similar picture. Given it is considered a 'spiritual walk', with the aim being to 'sort stuff', so that we can be with spirit. The stuff to be sorted would be astral stuff. So entering from the West, into the Labyrinth would do the same thing.

At Chartres though it is aligned along the NE SW axis and which places the entrance on the internal physical / internal spirit axis, but firmly in the internal physical sphere of the EM form over the Cathedral. This axis personalises everything. The World arms are about things outside ourselves and thus correct for community

related phenomena, however the internal arms make it our stuff. For the whole cathedral to have this orientation it would bring 'the issues' back to the personal and thus be a place that focuses the personal spiritual journey and what it means in ones daily life, more than when focused on the E W axis. Interestingly I believe it is the only remaining Labyrinth in French cathedrals, as all the others have been removed.

I have only had one short visit to Chartres, fairly early on in my octagon walking, with the main purpose being to identify that the energy changed as one moved about it, but as for identifying the specific energy of any one place , it was still too early for me to define clearly. Also it was covered in chairs which made moving about difficult. My visit did show me I was on the right track though.

Initially, I overlaid my basic pattern, of the energetic bodies and the Periodic Table, over the labyrinth. This was published in my earlier edition of 'Biodynamic Chemistry'. However, I have since come to see a significant difference between the path I followed, based upon the 'Astrological orientation'. Which uses the Zodiac and thus the Sun's ecliptic, and the Zenith, as seen from the northern hemisphere; and the orientation based upon the Earths, North South electro magnetic field. I have concluded that as the Periodic Table is electro magnetic in nature, it should be organised according to the Earth's North South electro magnetic field, rather than the ecliptic/Zenith orientation, and the Labyrinth as found at Chartres, is a very specific Christian phenomena, and for very specific reasons is situated on the NE SW axis. This should be honored, so now I present the image of the Labyrinth along the directional line of the Chartres cathedral ( NE / SW) with the Periodic Table to the North.

### Inside the Labyrinth

The Labyrinth is 2D gyrosopic form, having a strong emphasis on the vertical and horizontal planes. It has four quadrants and 12 rings. These 12 internal rings, are identified in my 'Apple of Life" picture, and are formed by the 2 fold nature of the 6 major dimensional rings, described in 'Biodynamics Decoded". It is therefore possible to (a) color code for the Labyrinth, (b) place my interpretation of the spiritual bodies interactions onto it. In this regard I prefer to follow the Periodic Table for guidance.

One further piece of information that is added to the overall collection of references, coming from the Labyrinth, is the relationship of the planets to each of the 12 internal layers. I have used my various sources of astrological reference to place the planets. This has the Earth at the center, with the other planets listed according to the order of their length of astronomical cycle, as experienced from the Earth. The last planet in the series is Persephone. I have talked of its influence in my "The Planets". This planetary order was confirmed as being 'correct', from documents cited from a Chartres lecturer, in Europe. This provides one more significant reference point to investigate all other accumulated information.

This pattern and form of spiritual antiquity, can be expected to have an archetypal power associated with it. With the addition of the Periodic table of elements to the Labyrinth, it could be possible this has identified the quality of various stages of the journey, around the Labyrinths 'Journey of Life'. It may also be possible to 'attract' any particular element, by standing on the appropriate place on the Labyrinth. Place your finger on a particular element and see if you can define their influence.

