

What on Earth is Geomancy?

By Gaela Morrison

For those of you who don't have a clue what geomancy is... this is merely a brief overview of my understanding of the very vast field called geomancy.

'Geo' comes from the root Gaia meaning Earth goddess and 'mancy' from the root word manteia, meaning study or divination. Simply stated, geomancy involves connecting with and understanding the energies of the Earth. It's about the relationship of humans with nature and its rhythms. This definition obviously points to there being many interpretations, practices and approaches to geomancy!

An ancient practice going back eons, early geomancy was simply a natural intuitive way of life based on direct observation of nature and an awareness of the energy in all things.

Survival and well being depended on perceiving and understanding the vital forces of the Earth and nature. Humans were naturally able to recognize places in the landscape endowed with unique power.

All traditional cultures have their own form of geomancy - for example, Feng Shui is Chinese geomancy. Because it is always an Earth based practice, you could say that geomancy is closely associated with indigenous shamanic traditions worldwide. Skilled at being sensitive to the non physical aspects of the landscape, shamanic practices involve directly communicating with the earth, the plants, the animals, and the subtle worlds - often for the purpose of healing. Both geomancy and shamanism: are based on direct experience of the natural elements and energies of a place, can involve healing places where traumatic events occurred, and have a cultural recognition of particular places where communication with the gods, or spirit can take place. These special places are also frequently interwoven with local stories, history or myth.

In traditional European geomancy, dowsing is commonly practiced. Dowsing usually involves the use of an external tool to assist us in deciphering our inherent senses, our intuition. Body dowsing simply is using our inner sensing. Some geomancers take a

very scientific approach to finding and interpreting the earth energies and their various electromagnetic fields - this is often referred to as *geobiology*.

Ley lines are channels or pathways in which earth energies travel, often reinforced and enhanced by human intention and activity. These lines carry and are resonators of information and when they cross other particular lines, it amplifies the quality of the information or energy. Much like the nervous system of the body of the earth, there is a system of grids or networks of these energy pathways all over the planet, originating from deep underground water veins and fault lines. Many of these pathways organize and distribute the energy of the sun, generating a flow - and this is how the earth renews itself.

Sacred geometry or natural geometry is a study often connected with geomancy as it relates to the measurements and proportions of all things in nature, including connections with the sun, moon and various astronomical observations. Many ancient master builders have built cathedrals, chapels and temples, as well as stone circles - using this method to amplify the fields in the earth at particular powerful locations. In constructing these structures, defined measurements, proportions, and the use of specific angles were found to alter the atmosphere of a place and have the potential to affect human consciousness. To generate these angles and proportions, most traditions observe the pathway of the sun, particularly at the Solstices and Equinoxes. One way to think about this is they are creating a coherent energy field, similar to various harmonic frequencies in musical chords. Whether it is a building or stone circle, these types of construction can greatly contribute to the feeling of the sacredness of a site.

What are Sacred Sites? What is their purpose? Why is this important?

I love this lyrical definition of a sacred site, from a European geomancer, Enzo Blasco:

“A sacred site is a place where Heaven and Earth interact more strongly and the creative energy that is here is more readily available to the human consciousness. In Heaven there is the light or vital force, in Earth there is form. From their union there is life. It’s a place where the energy of life and of pure potentiality exists, and is more

accessible to us. It helps us to see who we are. These powerful places can alter our states of perception, offering a higher quality and a reality that is less limited. The purpose is to bring us to the realization of physical, emotional and spiritual well being, to refresh the relationship we have with the divine.”

Heaven points to the energies of the Sun and cosmos, Earth refers to the energy lines/ ley lines I was speaking of. The interaction of humans and the honoring of these places over time play a vital role in enhancing these energies. Or as the case may be - harming these places if they are violated or abused. Because of the ability of ley lines to carry resonant information in combination with human intention, the energy fields of many of these places are linked in relationship with other sites.

In many of these places the energetic imprints are stronger and often easier to sense. These out of the ordinary places have the potential to help us deconstruct our normal constructs, to open in us an awareness of a more awake state of being, to open to the voice of our heart. I consider it an opportunity to discover more of the sacred within us, and bring some of that back to our everyday lives. They can be places to recharge, to heal, of purification, peace, inspiration, or places where one might experience great clarity. Or perhaps it just simply feels good to be there.

Different places have different flavors, and each of us will connect in our own way with them. It is vitally important to give back to these places, to honor them, recognize and appreciate what they offer.