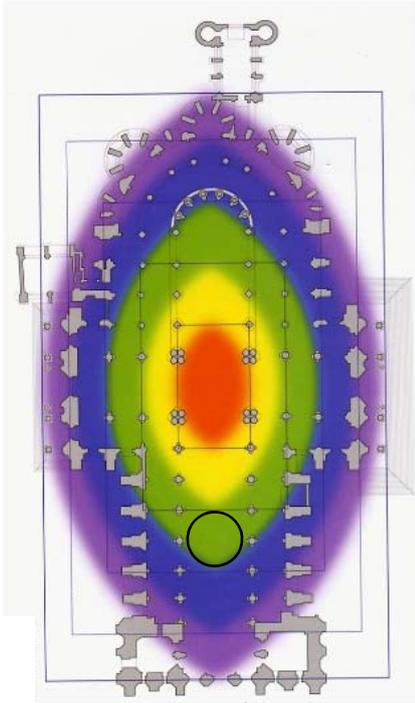


The Chartres Labyrinth

In Chartres Cathedral, one hour South of Paris, there is a most sophisticated Labyrinth path. The Chartres Cathedral was built during the 13th century by the Christian order of the Knights Templar. These knights had tremendous power during their time and from their involvement in the crusades had access to old wisdom from both the European and 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. The walk begins in the South East and ends in the middle. One leaves the Labyrinth by walking directly up the Cathedral towards the altar and the Holy of Holies.

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, 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 *Visci Pisces* was at the seat of the buildings design. He provided the adjoining picture, which shows the five *Visci 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, upon which 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 placed the Labyrinth. If the Holy of Holies is the spiritual center, and a place of inner



Prologue

As I came to the end of the process of 'birthing' this book, I was pleased to notice the synchronicity of the number at the bottom of the last diagram - The Chartres Periodic Table. Viewers and appreciators of "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" will enjoy that such a basic material form as the Periodic Table of Elements, when placed over the ancient symbol of Universal Order of the Chartres Labyrinth, should be honoured by being just above 42 - The answer to the great question of "Life, the Universe and Everything". What more can I say. This has not been by design. This book has grown as it has needed with no regard for limits. I will take it as a sign that I have done well in my enjoyment of finding the order in Chemistry.

This journey began in 1996 with the help of John Perham, who tutored me in Brookside Soil Science, and Grant Patton who encouraged me with his Biological Agricultural Scientific understandings. In the later stages of this process, Hugh Lovel has been an inspiration with his Quantum view of life, filtered through and beyond the Biodynamic method. Thank you all for the prods and nudges you have given me which have been vital in this picture being what it is.

I also wish to make a special thanks to the Astrological Vortex, Dr Rudolf Steiner, Dr Rudolf Hauschka and Dr Eugen Kolisko for the work they left behind them, from which this 'idea' has been developed. I trust it was their intention that this sort of endeavor would arise from their great works.

Last and certainly not least I wish to thank my partner Caroline Lowry for her generous and seemingly unlimited support of my many endeavors. It is her day to day gifts that have made this book physically possible and a joy to undertake.

1 July 2005