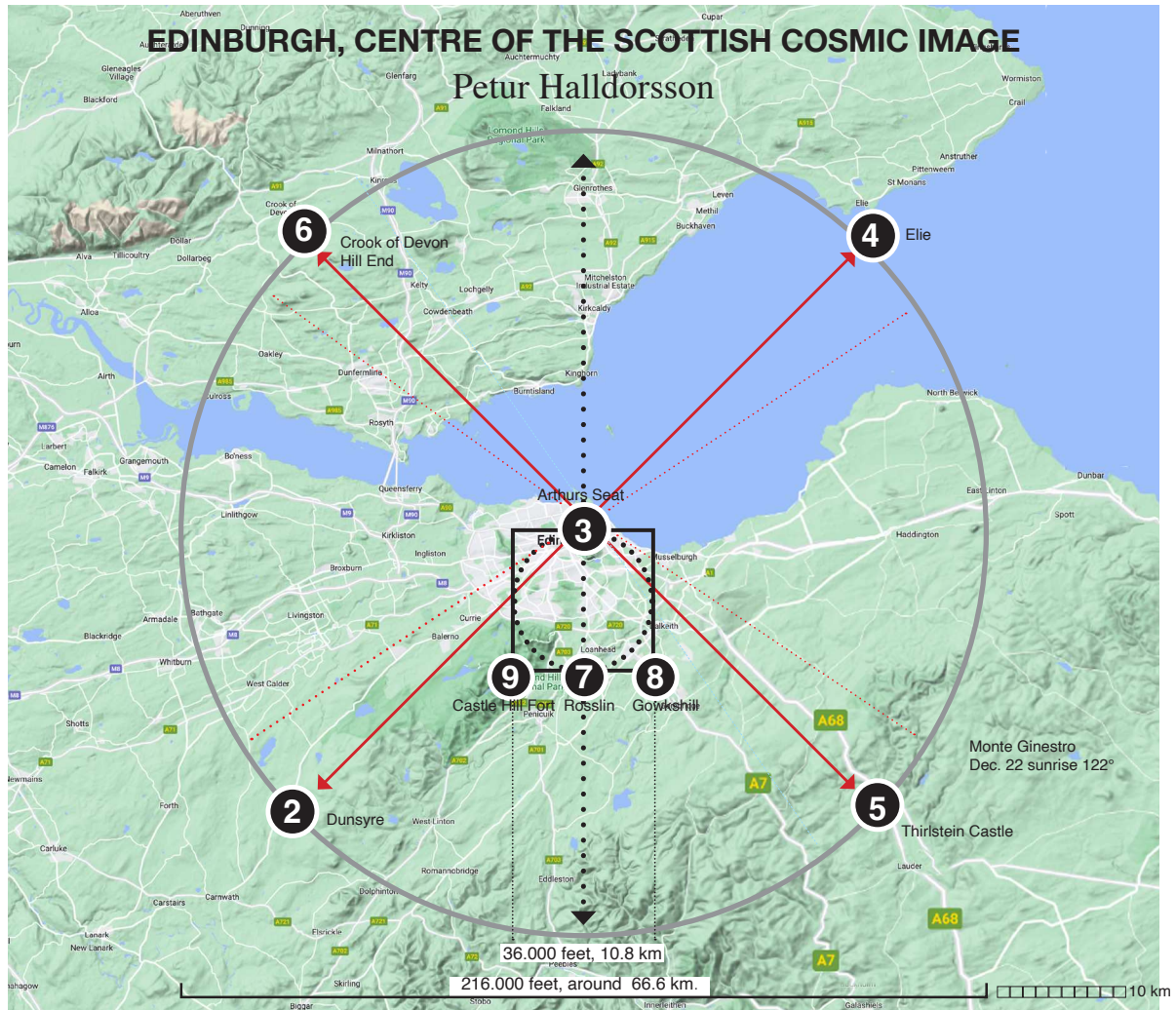


Fig 1.



Edinburgh cosmic image landmarks are:

- (1) Triple Rock south-west, midwinter sunset (the far horizon is invisible)
- (2) **Dunsyre** as Primeval Hill, south-west, midwinter sunset, 108,000 feet from (3)
- (3) **Holyrood Park** as Centre, 108,000 feet from the four outer circle landmarks
- (4) **Elie** as Rod, north-east, midsummer sunrise, 108,000 feet from (3)
- (5) **Thirlestane Castle** /Lauderdale as Stone, south-east, midwinter sunrise, 108,000 feet from (3)
- (6) **Hill End** /Tullibole Castle as Cauldron, north-west, midsummer sunset, 108,000 feet from (3)
- (7) **Rosslyn Chapel** as Field south border, noon sun, southward 36,000 feet
- (8) **Gowkshill** as Field south-east corner or Triangle Fort, 18,000 feet east
- (9) **Castlelaw Hill Fort** as Field south-west corner or corner-stone, 18,000 feet west

EDINBURGH, CENTRE OF THE SCOTTISH COSMIC IMAGE

The Firth of Forth on the east coast of Scotland was formed by a melting glacier at the end of the last glacial period, about 115,000 to 11,700 B.C. Scottish 'firth' follows the Norse word fjord, and Forth is the name of this wide, slow-flowing fjord, after Voritia in Celtic. The massive fjord on the north of Scotland's capital was named Bodotria in Roman times, and in Nordic sagas it was Myrkvifjörð, Dark fjord. Regularly spaced landmarks around Edinburgh indicate that the usual cosmic image, 216,000 feet in diameter, was surveyed here by early settlers. ¹

The high ground of Arthur's Seat (823 feet, or 250m) in the mid of Edinburgh, has a panoramic view over the fjord. Here, at 55°56'N, 3°10'W, solstice sunset and sunrise points are almost at perfect right angles, 90 degrees from one another, on dates 91 days or quarter years from east and west: a perfect calendar landscape. Sight-lines extend to hills and mounds under the two solstice sunsets and the two sunrises, on the horizon over the former marshes. This geometry "must have been significant to people in this area in the third millennium B.C." ²

Romans already had old perceptions of Britain when they arrived in the Isles in 40 B.C. Their conquest took three centuries, yet never brought Scotland fully under Roman administration. Romans never ventured far north of latitude 55°N, the line of former oracles and shrines, where they built Hadrian's Wall (under Hadrian and Antonine), from 122 to 142 A.D. The reason for the wall was to suppress the ritual 'ownership' of the landscape at the 'square corner' of 'cubed' earth. Barbarian raids continued, and symbolic ownership of this land was resolved centuries later in a theological transition. In the clerical meeting in Whitby in 663 A.D., Roman Catholic orthodoxy finally overruled Celtic Christianity by recognising the bearer of the 'crossed keys' of heaven, symbol of godly solstices and seasons, as St. Peter of Rome, no longer St. Columba of the British Isles. Glastonbury tales recall that when St. Wilfred forced Roman teaching on the Christians of Northumberland, he posed the fatal question to the king and the surveyor priests: "Did the Lord give the keys of heaven to St. Peter, or to St. Columba?" Colman answered: "To St. Peter". Thus, the King of Northumberland had to rule that the Pope in Rome held the mandate.

Hadrian's Wall was erected across England along latitude 55° North. On that latitude summer and winter solstice sunset and sunrise form a perfect right angle, making a 'square year', which must have been significant to local people of the 3rd millennium BC, and to Roman astrologists who century earlier, had introduced the Julian calendar, which was based on the ancient Egyptian calendar.

Edinburgh is almost a full degree north of latitude 55. Its cosmic image is similar to the one in Rome (Halldorsson 2022), but may be of equal age. The Edinburgh passage to Heaven lies along its north-south axis, through Rosslyn Chapel and its sacred centre at Arthur's seat. In Rome, the equivalent points are at San Lorenzo fuori de Mura, and Settebagni. Celts were regarded as a fearsome race by the Romans. They sacked Rome in 387 B.C., and Celtic influence on Roman culture was extensive. Celtic wisdom says that the posts of the Gate to Heaven in Rome are at St. Peter's, but the name of the Piazza de la Cupis (Square of Colman's Cube) recalls the Celtic pope.

In Edinburgh, the east-west border of the sacred field is marked by Gowkshill on the south-east corner, Rosslyn Chapel on the centre meridian, and Castlelaw Hill Fort at the south-west corner. These three survey points could be allocated to St.

Colman, St. Claire, and St. Peter. They stand on a field border of 36,000 feet or 60 stadia, a sermon readable in British or in Roman measures, both pre-dating Christianity. In the Christian era, both St. Colman and St. Peter remained 'cornerstones' of religion, until Roman imperialism resolved the dual authority and took charge at Whitby. The Roman Empire was over, but Roman Catholicism ruled Catholic Christianity for at least two millennia more.

Roman excursions to Scotland coincided with the natural transformation from culture to civilisation, spirituality to religion, and polytheism to monotheism. In Scotland, this transformation was contested along Hadrian's Wall, about a degree of latitude southward. Canons summed up doctrine at early ecclesiastical councils. Calendar reforms remained one of the main mechanisms to synchronise nature and culture, heavenly bodies and day count, politics and religion, as it did in Babylonia, Egypt, Greece, India, and China. The title Colman, of the Celtic rod-bearing surveyor, meant 'measurer', and 'king', or 'royal scientist'. Celtic Christianity kept the sacred survey function into the Roman era, and into the Protestant era, notably during Iceland's Age of Settlements, and up to the last major survey by esoteric Masonic Christian surveyors at Washington in the New World, outside the reach of Rome.

2 Dunsyre

Dunsyre as midwinter sunset primeval hill. The first and second point of the Edinburgh sun watch, under midwinter solstice sunset, is at Dunsyre hill, 108,000 feet south-west from Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh. Here ends the Pentland range that hides the landscape further inland. Dunsyre means 'Hill of the Seer or Prophet' in Celtic. There were several castles in Dunsyre vale, at the entrance to the glen along the Roman road to Cleghorn camp, where Roman items are still found. The English border are, like the Orkney Islands further north, has a rich prehistory, here traceable up to 7,500 B.C. This glen links east and west Scotland, and was the route of Agricola's army. The bottleneck is a dyke of earth, where cairns cover funeral urns of burnt clay. Point 2 in Iceland is at Bergthorshvoll, also a notable hill used for survey and ritual.

3 Arthur's Seat

Arthur's Seat in Holyrood Park as Edinburgh cosmic image centre. Arthur's Seat is the main height of the group of hills in Holyrood Park, rising to 251 metres

(823 ft). It has panoramic views, is quite easy to climb, and a popular walk. The easiest ascent is from the east, where a grassy slope rises from Dunsapie Loch, a small artificial lake between Dunsapie Hill and Arthur's Seat.

Sunrise landmarks seen from here include Stirling on April 20; Dollar and Solsgirth on May 15; Crook of Devon on June 22 (midsummer, see point 6), and Tullibole Castle on, June 22 (midsummer). The name Holyrood, 'Sacred Rod', confirms its function as a survey point. Point 3 in Iceland is at Steinkross, also a survey centre.

4 Elie

Elie as midsummer sunrise rod, Earlsferry Point, or Elie, may derive from Elijah, the most frequently quoted prophet in Scripture, variously pronounced in Latin, French, and Celtic. His authority remained in the New Testament, as evidenced by a Pharisee asking John the Baptist a trick question: 'Why do you baptise, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, or the prophet?' The Gospel of Luke implies that John was born six months before Jesus, in late June, a Christian feast day on June 22, Midsummer, observed in Roman Catholic, Anglican, Eastern Orthodox, Carmelite, and Lutheran churches. Jesus was born at Midwinter, half a year later.

Elijah is celebrated by the Carmelite Order of Mount Carmel in Palestine /or Israel since 1200 A.D., a cult that spread to Cyprus, France, and to England in 1242.

Elie lies the usual 108,000 feet from Arthur's Seat at Holyrood. Survey distances were regular fractions of earth's daily rotation and annual orbit, involving cosmic numbers, distances, symbols and meanings. Point 4 in Iceland is at Stöng, 'Rod', also a survey marker.

5 Thirlestane Castle,

Thirlestane as midwinter sunrise stone combines the Scottish words thirl, a hole, and the verb, 'to make a hole'; and stane, stone, meaning 'holed stone', here of the large anchor-stone used to support a beam holding scales, as in a market for weighing produce or wool.

Thirlestane Castle stands just outside the 108,000 feet south-east marker of Arthur's Seat, under New Year's Day sunrise (the morning after Old Year sunset at Dunsrye, see 2 above). This castle is in the Border hills, of rose-pink sandstone, with turrets over a vital strategic point on the route to the heart of Scotland. For more than seven hundred years there has been a fort here in the Leader Valley,

guarding Edinburgh from southern invaders. But the new era did eventually enter here. The Maitland family had lived here since 1590.

Point 5 in the Iceland cosmic image is at Goðasteinn, God's Stone. Earth Stone at the dawn of a new year is also expressed at God's Stone in the Rome cosmic image; at Stonehenge in the Salisbury plain cosmic image in England; and at Odense in Denmark.

6 Hill End

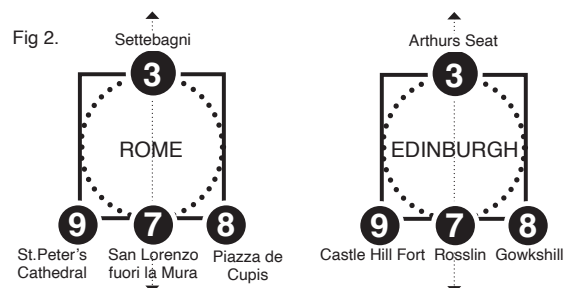
Hill End, Crook of Devon, Tullibole Castle, as midsummer sunset cauldron. Edinburgh's Hill End has many mythic and heritage sites where chiefs, leaders, and later bishops gathered or lived to legislate the affairs of their nation. This area is a place of learning and law, including the usual abuses when some principles sanctioned macabre deeds. In 1662 the court of Crook of Devon sentenced eleven people to death because they were accused of witchcraft. Those who survived the trials were taken to a small mound near the current village hall, strangled by the hangman, and thrown on a bonfire. Some cosmic images have cauldrons, grails, and other symbols of abundance at point 6.

This place name is also familiar in Iceland's Njáls saga. And Iceland's Hill End also stands on a point 6 axis. Point 6 in Iceland is at Skálholt, 'Grail Hill'.

7 Rosslyn Chapel

Rosslyn Chapel as Field south centre border. On a small hill above Roslin Glen, Rosslyn Chapel was founded. The site is near the Battle of Roslin village, a Scottish victory in the First War of Scottish Independence. Rosslyn castle had a scriptorium in the 15th Century. Five St. Clair manuscripts date back to 1488, including the Rosslyn-Hay manuscript, perhaps the earliest remaining work of Scots prose. The castle was damaged by fire in 1452, when legend says the valuable manuscripts were saved by the chaplain at risk of his life.

Tradition says that the Sinclairs came from Saint-Clair-sur-Epte in Normandy, and that William of



Carefully marked 36,000 x 36,000 feet centre area of the Cosmic image in Rome and Edinburgh Scotland.

Saint-Claire accompanied St. Margaret of Scotland, daughter of Edward the Exile, to Scotland in 1068, where she eventually married king Malcolm III of Scotland. In return for his supports, the king supposedly granted Sinclair the barony of Roslin. However, the unknown owners of Roslin before William St. Clair, and the surname Sinclair, has been controversial ever since. Rosslyn Castle became the main stronghold of the Sinclair Earls of Orkney and Lords of Shetland, who lived like princes. Henry Sinclair was one of the nobles to add his seal to the Declaration of Arbroath, a letter by barons of the kingdom of Scotland to the Pope in 1320 to asking him to recognise Scotland's independence and to acknowledge Robert the Bruce as the country's lawful king. The role of point 7 in law and administration is confirmed here.

Sir William Sinclair, who probably built the tower, was one of the knights who set out on crusade with Robert the Bruce's heart, and was killed fighting Moors in Granada in 1330.

This castle was probably intended as a final defence point protecting Edinburgh. The gatehouse ruin is on the north. The west has a 15th Century curtain wall ruin, perhaps imitating the Jerusalem Temple. This wall has six openings at the base divided by rounded buttresses, one as a postern or retreat or secret gate (Wikipedia). South was the keep or yard, about 16x12 metres, with walls 2.9 metres thick, rising to a machicolated parapet. A mound of collapsed stone lies here. In the crypt or burial vault below, ten Earls of Roslin were said to lie in armour, without coffins, as though they were final defence casualties.

Point 7 in Iceland is at Helgafell, 'Holy Mountain', also at the border of a sacred and administrative field, and a final defence point.

8 Gowkshill

Gowkshill as Field south-east corner The name of this little hill means 'Cuckoo's Hill', from Scots gowk, after Old English geac. As a good omen, all is fair if a cuckoo crows here. The hill is 18,000 feet due east of Rosslyn Chapel.

Point 8 in Iceland is at Þríhyrningur, 'Triangular Fort', also at a sacred field south-east corner.

9 Castlelaw Hill Fort

Castlelaw Hill Fort as Field south-west corner The Iron Age fort at Castlelaw Hill, now a ruin, had earthwork ramparts, ditches, timber palisades, and an underground store for produce. It is a scheduled monument (Wikipedia), and the area has many heritage sites. The fort commands views over the

forth, Lothian, and the Iron Age centres of Traprain Law, and Berwick Law.

The Castlelaw refers to a common dictum: a man's home is his castle, as legislated since the Roman Republic, and in English common law since Sir Edward Coke wrote *Institutes of the Laws of England* in 1628, providing for 'protections and immunities, permitting in certain circumstances to use force up to and including deadly force to defend oneself against an intruder'. The legal principle of the right to self-protection is usually attached to the final stage of survey, settling, ownership, ritual, or hallowing.³

Latitude 55°North includes the symbolic meaning of law as a measurement, and the Cube of Creation, Word manifested in earth and flesh. To measure is to rule⁴ and to lay down law, as politics does in society, and as science does in nature.

Point 9 in Iceland is at Hof, 'Court' or 'Temple', home of the first law speaker. In Washington D.C. it is at the Court House, and in Rome it is the Vatican City or religious jurisdiction.

Conclusion

Many indications confirm that unoccupied regions were surveyed by settlers, to a particular geometric pattern symbolising creation, cosmic space, and time. Close study of visual art, emblems, ritual, calendar, legend, myth, legendary sagas, history, place names, and maps, could reveal this pattern. The Icelandic settlements, and Washington DC, were the last to be surveyed according to an old innate instinct, and to pagan traditions. Viewed from a specific central vantage point, traditional survey markers are aligned to solstices, or quarter-days, or historic calendar dates, and the four cardinal directions. The two known Icelandic settlement survey patterns offer a template to reveal the pagan survey system and some eternal spiritual ideas of earth's position in the cosmos, and people's position in place and time. Among the basic tools of the pagan system were angles, distances, and numbers themselves, in a base-12 or base-60 numerical system. Among the key documents to unlock modern access to the integrative pagan survey system and world view, are the Icelandic sagas, and the remaining landmarks.

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