

Dowsing Nymet Rowland

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You may think that you are about to read about energy features at Nymet Rowland, and maybe pick up a snippet or two of some esoteric history. You will, but actually this is an article about an energy feature that Guy Underwood, writing in the 1960s, described as uncommon, a trivium. Please read on to understand what I'm referring to, and why I chose Nymet Rowland as my Trojan Horse for introducing it into our dowsing dialogue.

I was put on to the significance of the mid Devon place name "Nymet" by Alan Neal. "Nymet" is derived from "Nemeton", the sacred grove. Many of mid Devon's rivers were called "Nymet" in the past. Nymets abound in mid Devon, and I wondered what auspicious features I might find at Nymet Rowland.

The church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and anyone with an eye for pagan iconography will gaze in puzzled wonderment at the ancient spirals, sun stars and Roman Capital letters spelling "EMER" on the upper left of the inner doorway. Inside are the only examples of original wooden pillars in Devon.



The font "has been inscribed crudely with a random selection of foliage at a later date" says the church leaflet. You and I might be excited to see symbols on the font that, if found in an ancient cave by some archaeologists, would be noted as Goddess iconography.



And then there's the Lion and the Unicorn. It was customary for churches to have a painting of the symbolic animals of England and of Scotland after James VI of Scotland also became James I of England in 1603. At Nymet Rowland, the Lion is positively grinning happily. Go and see for yourself; it's like he's posing for a selfie! And so Nymet Rowland lodged in my mind as a mysterious and special place.

When I read Guy Underwood's *Pattern of the Past*, I thought I was just getting up to speed with what the dowsing community already knew. When I spoke to dowsers about what I'd read, I found that no one knew what I was on about! I've been given courage by Billy Gawn's view that "whilst Underwood certainly didn't get everything correct, the unfolding research is showing that he might have been much closer to the truth than it has been realised". So, now I'm going to tell you about the Trivium that was identified and described by Underwood, and of which there is an example at Nymet Rowland, according to my dowsing.

Underwood says (on p.53 of *The Pattern of the Past*) that the trivium (plural= trivia) is uncommon, and it usually occurs where roads fork – and only then when there is a long triangular space enclosed by "holy lines" (an aquastat and a water line ... best reach for your British Society of Dowsers Glossary of Terms!). They usually contain six Cs or 'feathers' (see **Figure 1**), which I've come to conclude are interchangeable.

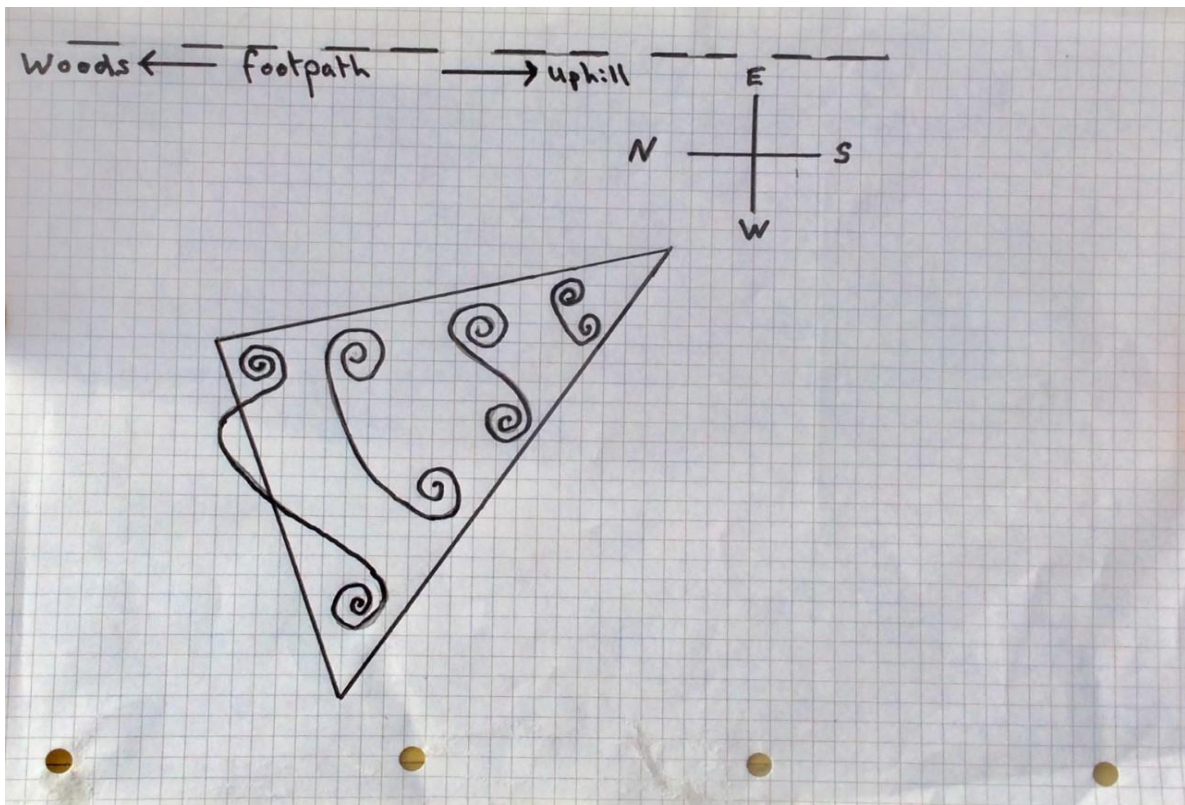


Figure 1: The Nymet Rowland trivium, showing the four feathers and Cs as they appeared to me on 24/9/18. The spirals flip fortnightly with the moon. The northernmost one can only be described as a feather C. It is a mix of both.

My dowsing told me that there are four trivia in Devon – and I think I’ve found them all. I am disconcerted that the term doesn’t appear in the BSD Glossary, and would urge you to make locating them a fun dowsing challenge for 2019! Are trivia a mere thought form, or a feature deserving for an entry in the BSD Glossary?

I’ve chosen to tell you about the Nymet Rowland trivium, because it seems to me that our Bronze Age ancestors also thought it was really there. Walk north out of Nymet Rowland towards Nymet Bridge, and take the only footpath on the left across a field sloping down to woods. The trivium is at Grid Reference 089712. When I first went there, I had no flags so I put my daysack on the first corner of the triangle and marked the other two corners with large twigs. As I was walking back towards my daysack, my rods turned to point behind me. Mystified, I followed where my rods were leading me, asking if I was being shown something? Yes. I arrived at what I recognised as Underwood’s solifluction lines, which I have a lot to say about, but will briefly describe as mini-terracing. I share Underwood’s view that our Bronze Age ancestors constructed them to somehow channel energy lines. I don’t buy the explanation that they are sheep tracks, and I have many photos to support my conclusion.

The solifluction lines here are localised to this section of the field, channelling energy lines from West to East towards the trivium. My big question is: Underwood thought trivia existed; I think they do and whoever dug out the solifluction lines in honour of the Nymet Rowland Trivium thought they did too. So, should “trivium and trivia” have an entry in the BSD Glossary? Please can you find the others in Devon? Let’s see how our results compare! I have written down my answers to the following points, put them in a sealed envelope and given it to the Devon Dowers’ Committee for safe-keeping. You can send your findings to Gwynn Paulett, Chair of Devon Dowers, gwynnpaulett@btinternet.com. I would hope to have some sort of “Big Revealing” at the end of 2019.

1. Describe the location of each of Devon’s Trivia as closely as possible.
2. How many feathers/Cs are there in each?



Figure 2. The Nymet Rowland Trivium. The red flags mark the corners of the triangle. I touched them up on my iPad so they could be seen better. The blue flags mark the spiral at each end of the feathers and C’s. The paired blue and red flags nearest to the camera marks a blind spring.