Feng-shui as Clue: Identifying Prehistoric Landscape Setting Patterns in the American Southwest

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Abstract

Feng-shui is a traditional Chinese practice used to harmonize people with their environment. This research project used detailed investigations and compared the settings of prehistoric American ruins against feng-shui criteria to explore patterns in the landscape settings chosen by ancient Americans in the Southwest. Consistent patterns, made with respect to landscape features at various scales, can be described. Ancient American settings stress horizontal spatial relationships between settlements and the surrounding landscape. Prehistoric American settlements were often located in canyons that open to the south or east. These sites often provide open views to mountain ranges on the horizon. As in feng-shui, avoiding cold winds and access to water are two fundamental criteria for prehistoric settings in the Southwest. However, from the viewpoint of feng-shui, some ancient American ruin sites, located at cliffs, canyon heads, or near huge rocks, are unfavorable home sites. Differences in criteria between the two methods may be attributable to landscape conditions, or to social needs for defense, communication, and ritual. Feng-shui—and perhaps mystical/symbolic systems of other cultures—can meaningfully inform our understanding of landscape settlement patterns, and how such settlements can be identified, exhibited, and protected.

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Feng Shui Bagua applied onto a floor plan. If you have questions or are confused, I suggest that you find a Feng-shui expert to assist you. Some experts claim that this area is a wealth area in the hiding. In other words, it has the potential to be a wealth area. Making sure that this area is not affected by negative Feng Shui can also help you gain stability and potential gains in money matters. Method #3: Wealth Area based on the House’s Facing Directions. This wealth area is usually referred to as the “hidden” wealth area. In the classical approach of feng shui we can establish two basic work streams, firstly the study of landscape with its many elements and forms and on the other hand, the mathematical aspects that do order them in time and space, where the knowledge of the directions and the terrestrial magnetism is fundamental. Obviously, the tool we need to find the space direction of a building is a compass, subject of this article. The invention of the compass is attributed to the Chinese the same as feng shui. In some texts it is mentioned the legend that the Chinese Emperor Huang-ti used the basic propert