

# Celtic Landsurveying in the Sundgau Area

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**Key words:** Access to land; Cartography; Education; Engineering survey; History; Land distribution; Land management; Positioning; Reference systems; Surveying in History

## SUMMARY

Dear Organisers within FIG.

Thank you for the possibility to write another Abstract now for the FIG-Convention 2022.

In the same way as last year, I am in the position to send you another Abstract on Celtic Landsurveying. Recently discovered is a second area, that must have been surveyed in Celtic times in the same way as the Nördlinger Ries.

(FIG Full paper 11174).

This new-discovered area is situated West of the river Rhine, between the towns of Basle and Mulhouse in the East till just west of Belfort and far beyond Montbeliard in the West. This area is called "Sundgau".

-The acreage of this area is about 2000 kms<sup>2</sup>, with about 470 villages.

- In 375 villages, we find nowadays churches and/or chapels with graveyards cq. cemetaries exactly situated on these early lines of celtic landsurveying.

- 27% or some 100 of these churches/chapels are situated exactly on the cross-roads of this surveying system. Also in just the same way as the surveying lines in NNW/ENE-erly direction as found last year in the Noerdlinger Ries.

(FIG Full Paper 11174)

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- A total of 160 surveying lines can be found in this above mentioned area of just perpendicular crossings.
- The total length of all landsurveying axes together is about 3500 kms!
- The deviation of the axis from the ideal direction is minimal with under 0.5 degrees.
- And also we find till today borderlines between villages, which are situated some near and others exactly parallel to the celtic landsurveying-lines of some 2000+ years ago!

I think, it could be of interest to publish this follow-up conc. the second discovery of celtic landsurveying.

May I ask you to send me your input conc. this idea?

Many thanks in advance

sincerely yours,

Willem A. Joerg

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