

**Redland Past Revisited for the Redland Directory - No. 8 in a series.**

**Right on the line – The mystery stone at Redland Green** © Julian Lea-Jones. Nov 2007

**The mystery stone at Redland Green** Can you guess what some of Bristol's most historic features have in common with this ancient stone on Redland Green? By features I mean, Churches, Hills, Hermitages, Bronze-age Earthworks and Wells. The answer is that they are all in alignment. The summit of Brandon Hill where Cabot Tower is now sited was once the site of ancient chapel. The viewing platform of the Tower has direction plaques complete with a pictorial representation of one of the alignments or Ley Lines that include the tower and the Redland Green stone.

What are these alignments? Although no one has yet given a definitive explanation for their source and existence it was Alfred Watkins, business man, inventor and innovator who in the 1920's first coined the term 'Ley Lines'. His discoveries arose from his observations noticed during his travels around his native Herefordshire. The Redland Green Stone must be special because it is a node point for at least three Ley Lines that cross Bristol. One from Pylle Hill to Blaise Camp, another from earthworks at Bedminster down to a Bronze age burial mound in Southmead, whilst a third comes from the stone circle at Stanton Drew to Westbury on Trym Church. This stone must have been a marker, but for what? What was the sites significance, and what mystic happenings took place here – perhaps we will never know.

