

An Information Special from Astro Communications Services, Inc.

The house cusps of a horoscope are determined by time of birth and place (latitude and longitude). Often, people have moved from their birthplace. We never lose our natal chart; it is always symbolic of our basic character and tendencies. But we can get additional information from the location we now inhabit (or about localities we might consider). In general, the study of charts calculated for locations other than the birthplace is called **relocation astrology**.

There are three basic approaches to Relocation Astrology:

(1) you can recalculate the birth chart using the latitude and longitude of the current or desired location (see **Information Special IRELX Relocation Issues in Current Patterns**), (2) you can work with Local Space Charts (see **Information Special ILOCX, Local Space Charts**), and (3) you can study a map that has your horoscope superimposed over it in a graphic format. We, at Astro, call this mapping technique "Astrolocality." It is similar to the technique popularized by Jim Lewis under the brand name Astro*Carto*Graphy (see Astro Numeric Service's ad in our *current Astroguide* catalog.)

A slightly reduced sample of the USA map that we offer can be seen on the back of this page, with small cuts of the World and Europe maps superimposed over it. Other continental maps available are Africa, Australia, Far East, Middle East and South America.

As you can see from the sample, straight vertical lines are marked by planet glyphs with aspect glyphs to M, such as (at far left) ☉ Δ M, which means Sun trine Midheaven. The Midheaven is derived from time and longitude, so the vertical line extending down across the map from that aspect indicates a line of longitude on which a chart calculated for George Lucas' birth date and time would have Sun trine Midheaven. Now look at the line that comes right down the center of the map. At the top of the line is ☉ □ M. The same chart cast for this longitude has Sun square Midheaven. Now the Ascendant is derived from Midheaven (time/longitude) and latitude. Graphically depicted by the lines that are drawn in a slightly curved slant across the map are the Ascendant aspects. Look just to the left of the ☉ □ M line and note that the line marked ♃ σ A sweeps down across the center of Minnesota, the western border of Wisconsin, through the center of Illinois. At any longitude and latitude along that line, George Lucas (or anyone born at exactly the same date and time as he) would have a horoscope with Saturn conjunct the Ascendant. The little diamond shapes on the map represent the locations of major cities, to help orient you.

Astrolocality Maps are used to give you an overview of where planets whose themes you would like to emphasize in your life are on, or in close aspect to, an angle of your chart. Astrological tradition says that planets in such an angular relationship are particularly strong in the chart. Many astrologers have found that they (and their clients) do, indeed, report that they experience various facets of their charts more strongly when they move to locations where different planets are angular.

Some astrologers feel so strongly about this "relocation effect" that they will even make temporary moves — take vacations — to places where the planets that they wish to emphasize in their **Solar Return Chart** are on angles!

Now, if you are using relocation astrology to help you decide where to move, or where to go for your birthday / solar return, you must understand that **Astrolocality Maps** are excellent for an

overview, but not necessarily the only thing you should do before making a final decision on a city — at least, not if you are concerned about detail. This is simply because the map does not show a great deal of detail.

This is the way you might approach an analysis of "where to go": You have decided (for example) that you want romance in your life, and hopefully, to find a marriage partner. Your current location has Saturn opposite Ascendant (which means it is on the Descendant/7th house cusp), obviously not the best placement for romance and harmony in marriage. You speculate that if you choose a place to live where Saturn is away from the angles and Venus, planet of love, is angular, your prospects might improve. So you find a place on the map where Venus is in a desirable aspect and trace along its line to find a state or city that appeals to you. But before you call the airline for reservations, it would be a good idea to also look at a **Relocation Chart** for the city of choice. The broad overview of the **Astrolocality Map** makes it easy for you to spot general areas where a particular planet is angular, but it does not make it very easy for you to see what that does to the rest of your chart. Without the **Relocation Chart** you could get Venus on the Descendant, for sure, but forget to notice that in this same place the most challenging configuration in your chart is unfavorably related to the 10th House of career. Is that acceptable to you? If not, is there another place you could go that would place the planets in aspects that favor both marriage and career?

So, what can we say? There are no pat, easy answers in astrology or life, are there? This is, however, a useful technique with which you can discover — and have the fun of dreaming, even if you decide to stay at home — just where in the world you'd have Jupiter right on the Midheaven... or...

Astro's standard default for this option is as pictured on the other side of this page. As an alternative, it is possible to request (as a Technical Option, \$25 minimum order, only), **Rise/Set lines**. Due to differences in latitude, planets may be conjunct the Ascendant, but below the horizon visually (or above the horizon but still in the 1st house of the chart). The Rise/Set lines are based on a three-dimensional viewpoint of the planets. If you request this option (instead of the standard Ascendant/Midheaven lines), your maps will have only four kinds of lines: R — Rising line (similar to Ascendant), I — Lower Meridian (similar to IC), S — Setting line (similar to Descendant) and M — Upper Meridian (similar to Midheaven).

Astro offers the maps only, or we also have an interpreted report, **Astro Map Analysis**, which analyzes your chart in four areas: self (personal identity), relationships, work and home life. The report will tell you which cities, and why, have the strongest focus for you in terms of harmony and conflict. This bound, laser-printed report includes the map. See our *current Astroguide* catalog for full details on ordering map options — including rise/set.

One of our **All About Astrology** series booklets, *What Are Astrolocality Maps?* by Maritha Pottenger, clearly explains the astrolocality map technique in much more detail than can be offered on this **Information Special**. She gives "cookbook" delineations for all of the planets, including the asteroids Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta, on all four angles of the chart. (Code AAAIX.)

