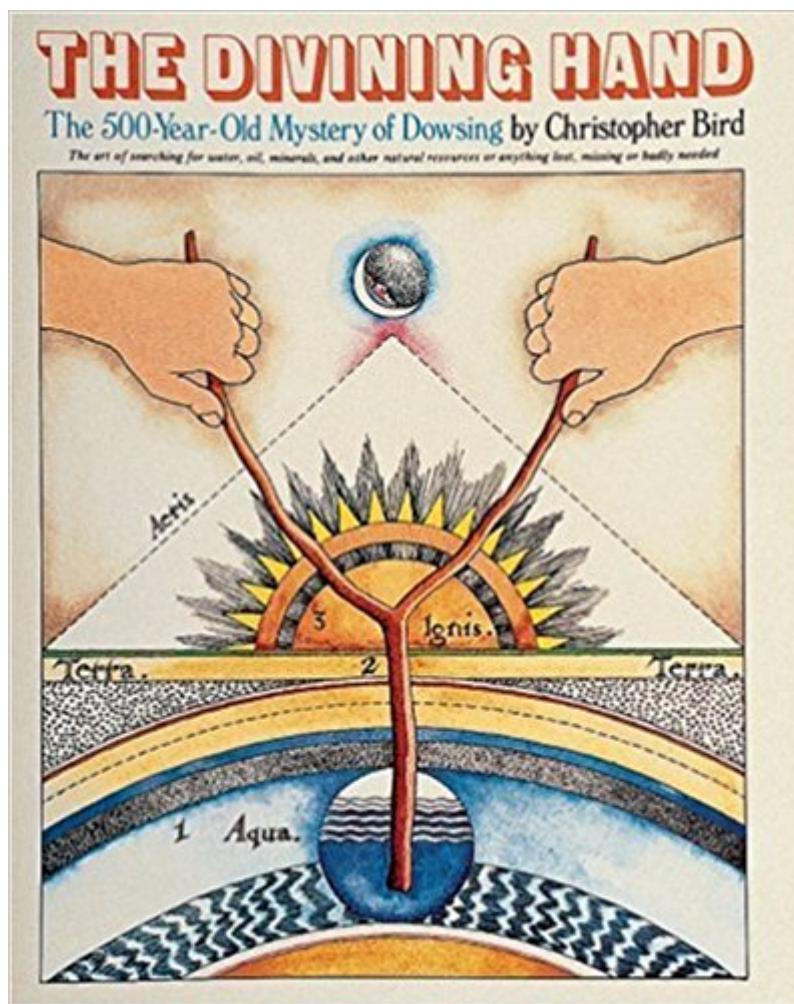


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# The Divining Hand:: The 500 Year-old Mystery Of Dowsing



## Synopsis

"To dowse," says the author of this definitive study of the divining art, "is to search with the aid of a handheld instrument such as a forked stick or a pendular bob on the end of a string - for anything: subterranean water flowing in a narrow underground fissure, a pool of oil or a vein of mineral ore, a buried sewer pipe or electrical cable, an airplane downed in a mountain wilderness, a disabled ship helplessly adrift in a gale, a lost wallet or dog, a missing person, perhaps a buried treasure."

Co-author of *The Secret Life of Plants*, Christopher Bird has filled this book with exciting, documented stories, most of them illustrated with photographs and diagrams. It provides a complete history of the art of dowsing around the world and discusses in detail the various existing theories attempting to explain this extraordinary phenomenon.

## Book Information

Paperback: 372 pages

Publisher: Schiffer Publishing, Ltd.; Revised edition (January 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0924608161

ISBN-13: 978-0924608162

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 8.5 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #628,082 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #282 inÂ  Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Divination > Crystals #7825 inÂ  Books > Religion & Spirituality > Occult & Paranormal

## Customer Reviews

I first read this book in 1992, and I have referred to it so many times since that I now know it's content backwards. The late Christopher Bird took a documentary view of the whole subject of dowsing, from its earliest history to the present day, in the fields of water divining, mineral and oil exploration, tunnel and cave location, missing objects, animals and people, geopathic stress, and medical diagnosis, including both physical and remote sensing. As a Geologist, I found the book quite fascinating, and packed with useful information and guidelines for the would be dowser. Although one does have to cut through a lot of misconceived mysticism and folklore, and religious and scientific taboo, to get to the core of this subject, the basics and the details of practical dowsing are all there in "The Divining Hand". There is a long history of water divining in my family, but for

many generations there have been no practising diviners. I was inspired by this book to explore the potential of divining in the modern context of the earth sciences, and I found it to be so effective and successful that in 1994 I started in business as a professional diviner or dowser. Divining is a great asset in geological mapping and in the location and assessment of mineral, oil, and gas resources. For groundwater source location and assessment it can not be equalled even by the latest state-of-the-art geophysics. I have developed a systematic exploration method called Geodivining, utilising both remote-sensory map-dowsing and field divining techniques, which is successful world-wide. I have found most of the claims made for divining in Christopher Bird's book to be verifiable, and the success of my own work adds a powerful testimony.

More than 20 years since its publication, "The Divining Hand: The 500-Year Old Mystery of Dowsing" by Christopher Bird continues to serve as "The Bible of Dowsing" for many seasoned enthusiasts and new students alike to this ages-old practice. Dowsing is generally defined as the search for anything that can be thought of- lost objects, missing persons and pets, water, oil, mineral, and much more. This is truly a one-in-a-kind book, unlike most others which usually cover the subject of dowsing from a hypothetical standpoint. Bird's unique style takes readers on a journey through the history of dowsing, from its origins to the present day, and how it has shaped and defined the lives of many peoples and cultures along the way. Not merely a "how-to" manual on dowsing, Bird offers many insights into this unique art form, exposing its full potential via documented cases, scientific data, newspaper clippings, and supplemental photographs taken during actual field searches and digs, held tightly together by his narrative convictions. Dowsing is carried out through various methods, usually with a y-shaped rod cut from a tree branch, a metal rod bent at a 45-degree angle and rotating inside a tube, or a pendulum swinging freely from a hanging cord. By walking over a designated area with one of these tools in hand, it is possible to locate, for example, an underground well based on when the rod bobs, or where the pendulum points. It is also popularly used as a divination tool to forecast the weather, future events, insight and wisdom, as well as finding alternative remedies for healing. Many skeptics and naysayers have dismissed dowsing as nothing more than old-world nonsense which has no place in today's science-driven society of rationalization and reasoning.

This is in response to: "Dowsing is bogus, backwoods folk stuff at its best. Explain how I could use a cut wire coat hanger to locate subterranean water? Ugh? Am I missing something or is this just stupid? This book does nothing to educate the public about the myth of dowsing. I am ashamed to

admit that I live in the dowsing (and drowzing) capital of the U.S.--Vermont! There's so much water here you'd have to be a fool NOT to find any hidden sources of it. I can do it with a styrofoam coffee cup. Go figure."Dowsing is so much more than dowsing for water. It's used to find lost people (which has been proven), lost pets, items etc. Spiritual dowsing, healing and so forth. What Christopher Bird's book does is open people's minds to the possibilities by showing historical and scientific data. It's simplistic really, dowsing is an extension of ourselves. We are all made up of energy and water, as is our surroundings.I believe we all have a sixth sense (some more open than others) and when we are using dowsing rods we are utilizing that sixth sense to tap into that energy.Think of it this way. Animals and humans were given a sixth sense since the beginning of time. To sense danger,find water, gather food etc. Over the centuries humans have become desensitized through the use of technology. Where animals have had to maintain this sense to survive. (By the way, back to technology, just because you can't see radio waves, energy, and the like, coming out of your radio, television and so on, does that mean it's not there? Hmmm?)Dowsing has approx. a 90% accuracy rate. It does however have many variables which may effect an accurate outcome. Most importantly the dowser's ability to detach themselves emotionally from the question they're asking.

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