

The Complete Book of Dowsing

belief that your subconscious will direct operations and lead you to the spot you want to find. And although the sample method can assist you in the early stages by acting as a useful reminder, in time you too may come to accept that the subconscious knows whether or not the conscious mind believes what it is saying. Ultimately any difficulties or failures encountered while dowsing can be attributed to either the conscious or the subconscious mind. Fear, which is a negative force, is the real enemy of dowsing.

Dowsing consciousness is built up over a period of time. It is the development of a subconscious power of which we are unaware until such time as we experience it for ourselves. All dowsing takes place according to the belief of the dowser. The laws of your subconscious are just as dependable as the laws of electricity, and provide equally predictable results. The law of the mind is that dowsing auto-suggestion is just as effective as the use of a sample – the equivalent of what you are searching for must be in your mind.

Conducting the Site Survey

Prior to the commencement of any site survey there are a number of preliminaries that need to receive attention. The site geology (as explained in chapters 1 and 2) must be clearly understood and you will also need to acquaint yourself with the boundaries that restrict the area of operations, the position and full details of other boreholes or supplies in the area, and (if appropriate) have a simple form of contract signed and accepted by the client.

The area under investigation may be several thousand acres or just a small site in a semi-rural area. Water may be needed to irrigate a garden or meet the requirements of a town or large factory, but in each case the method of working is the same – you have to know what you are

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looking for, and have the faith and belief that if it is there you will be able to find it.

Before you start on an investigatory survey, it is assumed that you have had plenty of practice around developed sites that produce a known flow rate from a known depth, and that you now have the confidence to be let loose on your own. Remember always that I am describing my own particular method, which has worked well for over 50 years, and has resulted in many hundreds of successful developments. In time you will develop your own method of working that will be personal to you, but it may be some time before you have some successful developments under your belt.

To help you understand the methods I am about to outline, I have included a series of illustrations. But remember, this is the ground work, which has to be both supported and directed by mind-work.

Distance Dowsing

Having first impressed upon your subconscious mind the need to find a suitable supply of water, the next thing to do is locate the general direction of the underground source by distance dowsing, using a suitable rod. Distance dowsing is done by projecting your mind forward with the instruction 'Seek and find', on the same principle as radar. But the human mind and the body's nervous system are far more sensitive than radar, even though there is a similarity between the two methods of operation: you have to sweep the area under survey, with arms extended and rod horizontal – the arms are the antennae that form an extension of the projected mind and nervous system.

Standing in a sensible position on the site, with your arms outstretched and acting as antennae, hold the rod at a high level and sweep through a complete 360° turn. If there is

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water on the site, the rod will react when facing 90° to the underground flow – provided, of course, it is held in perfect equilibrium – thus indicating by distant detection the direction in which to proceed. This method of finding the general direction of the water has an advantage over the conventional practice of walking across the whole area in that it saves a considerable amount of time – and with practice it will provide you with an accurate indication if there is a source on the site.

Walk in the direction indicated by the rod, continuing to sweep. You may not do a full 360° sweep at this stage, but go straight ahead in the direction indicated by the rod. You will soon obtain a series of evenly spaced reactions – up or down rod movements – indicating that you are in the reaction zone. These are the outer extremities or flow patterns. Still adopting the distance dowsing swing, fan out and check that you are still going in the right direction. You

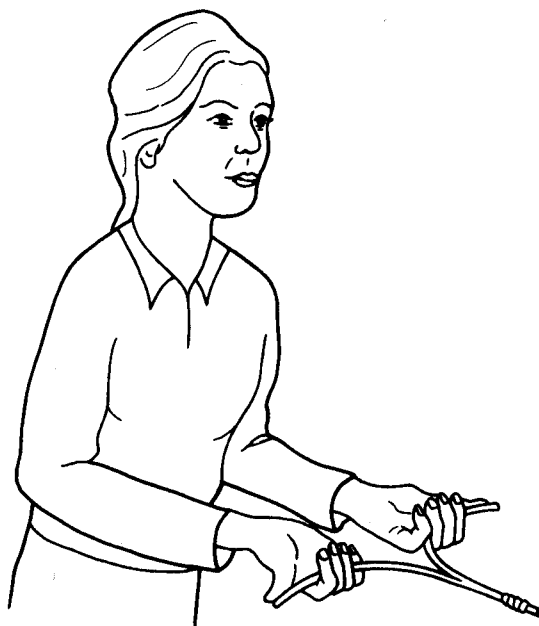


Figure 22 The traditional rod grip

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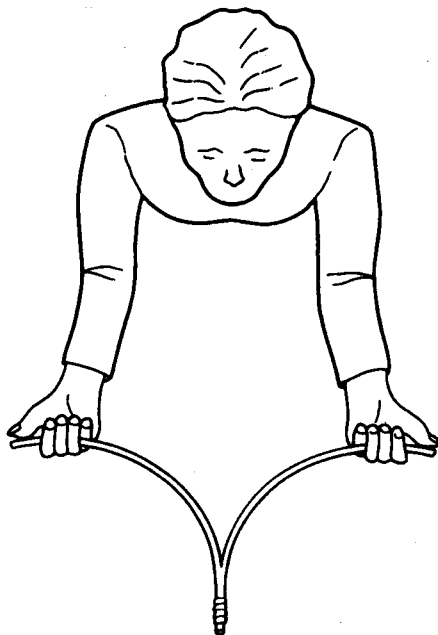


Figure 23 The traditional rod grip (from above)

will soon come to one of the outer side bands, either F or F1 (see figure 25). These side bands can provide useful information, as you will see later.

Now, having fixed your mind firmly on your objective (finding water) and established the general direction in which it lies, hold the rod in a more traditional grip, with the arms touching the sides of the body (see figures 22 and 23). Do another 360° swing to get the true direction of the flow. Your direction reaction will be stronger and definite, as you are now well inside the reaction zone.

The Reaction Bands

Set off in the direction indicated, more or less ignoring the side bands at this stage, but continue with the arc sweeps, holding the arms in the traditional way, and you will soon

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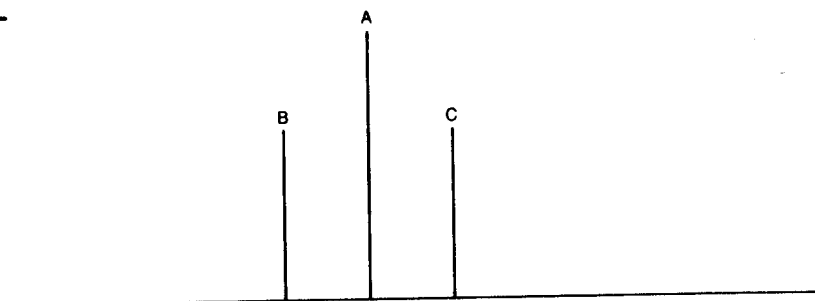
get a series of stronger reactions. These reactions will be on the line of the flow. As this is the most important part of the whole procedure, it is important to understand clearly what it involves and what has to be done. The method that follows is a simple and foolproof way of differentiating the main flow band from other reactions – it will never fail you if you work correctly. If you follow the instructions, there will be no confusion between the source and the side bands at any stage, unless you have multiple flows, when there is more than one level of water. There are still a number of danger signals of which you will have to be aware, but if you have practised around an existing developed site you will automatically recognize them.

Proceed as before, taking occasional direction swings. If you are heading towards a strong flow, you may soon get two fan-wise reactions. Bisect these – ie take a line midway between the left and right reactions – and proceed slowly. You are now entering the main stream band, and the next strong reaction should be pegged – it is probably the main flow that you are over, which is what you have been looking for. Stop and study this carefully. When you are satisfied you are in the centre, take a 180° swing. You will get a reaction in two opposite directions – ie up- and downstream – indicating that you are over the source. Mark the line with pegs because the work is just beginning.

Having satisfied yourself that you have correctly pegged the site, you will, with some care, be able to locate further reaction bands, and you will find that the centre strong reaction is really made up of a strong one with a weaker one each side.

Having found the spot immediately above the flow, or at least where you estimate it to be, the operation is then repeated while approaching the spot from the opposite direction. Assuming that the site being surveyed is flat, you should find the same pattern of reactions at the same distance from each other. Depending upon your own

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A = the main reaction band directly above the flow. B and C are side bands that make up the main stream band. This always consists of three reactions. The same trio will be found at the deeping bands.

Figure 24 The stream band of trio reactions

sensitivity and the type of rod being used, you should register three reactions on both sides of the flow. However, these three reactions will not register when you use a strong forked twig as a rod – a stronger rod requires greater muscular tension, and therefore loses a degree of sensitivity. The finer work that I am about to outline is dependent on the use of a more refined rod than the old-fashioned hazel twig, which is successful in the hands of an experienced user, but will not enable you to make use of the information you have gleaned so far or of the important information produced by the various side bands. Personally, I recommend a whalebone rod as it gives excellent results, maintains reasonable elasticity and will last a very long time. Angle rods or a pendulum can also be used for this purpose.

When you have successfully pegged the various reactions, you should have a pattern that looks something like that shown in figure 25.

Although it is not entirely clear what causes these bands of reaction, they are probably created by the dowser's subconscious. Their positioning is generally precise,

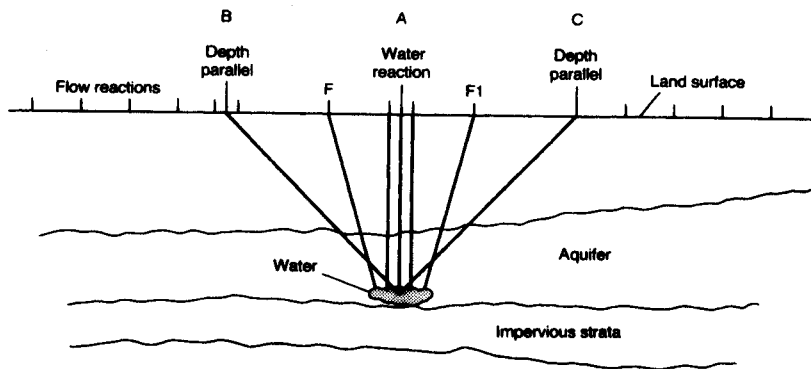


Figure 25 The reaction bands

providing the experienced dowser with extremely useful information. But they can also be something of a problem for the beginner, with the result that many boreholes have been sunk on the side bands. However, if the procedure I outline is followed, the problem of an incorrectly sited borehole will be eliminated. Instead, you will go straight to the source, and the side bands will become an asset rather than a hindrance.

Two important reaction bands, which are made up in the same formation of three reactions as the main stream band, can be found each side of the major reaction band A (situated immediately above the flow). These two side bands can be used as a depthing guide based upon the rule of the 45° principle of the isosceles triangle. The distance from A to B and A to C equals depth. This method of depthing is known as the Bishop's Rule (*see* page 142). The following illustration indicates what will be found.

To define these depthing bands clearly you will need to hold the rod differently. With your arms again acting as antennae, but this time pointing downwards, and with your back just off the flow reaction band A, slowly walk at right

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angles away from the flow. At a certain distance a further reaction will register – peg this spot. Walk on a short distance, repeating the operation. Walk this time towards the flow and a further reaction will be found a few feet from the first. Peg a midway position, then repeat the complete operation on the opposite side of the major reaction band. The 'trio' reaction of the depthing bands identifies them easily from other reactions that consist of one single movement of the rod.

Other reaction lines for volume estimation will be explained later, but we must first consider the problems created by intervening strata, as these can have a considerable effect on the reliability of the Bishop's Rule depthing method, which is very reliable in some formations – eg chalk – but completely unreliable in others, such as limestone, shale and oolitic formations containing bands of clay. Problems can arise beyond a depth of 400ft, particularly when there are two or more different water levels or sources. And the problems are increased when these flows are quick-flowing – as in fissures – or at right angles to one another. Tapping into more than one source of water from a single borehole is an added bonus, but this is not at all common.

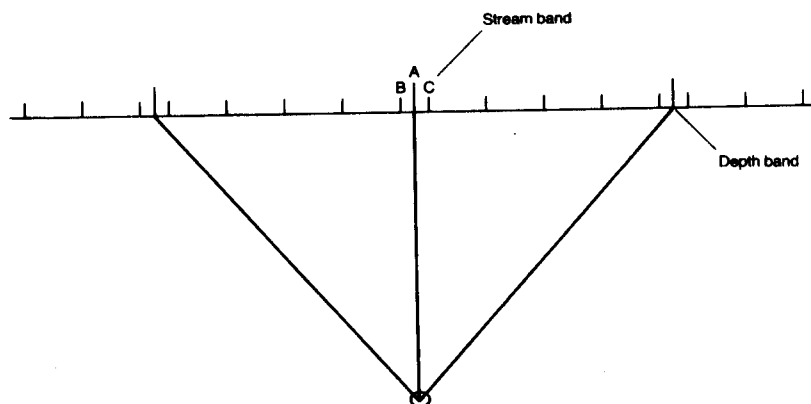


Figure 26 The Bishop's Rule depthing bands

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Clay located between the surface and the water-bearing strata can mislead you. Saturated clay is deadly, and it is best to steer clear of any geological areas that have clay in various thicknesses, particularly where it overlays the oolite, as in the Cotswolds. Care must be taken to ensure that the site will provide water from the limestone strata. Large supplies can be obtained in such areas where open oolite catchment areas fill the lower strata. Due to the peculiar properties of clay one can underestimate the depth and overestimate the volume, and shales (limestones) have the same effect.

Water moving in fissures will produce reactions, particularly in near-vertical fissures, but confusion can arise when you find a multi-fractured fissure – ie a fairly wide water-bearing fissure. Such fissures, which can be up to 20ft wide, occur from time to time in oolite and chalk formations, and provide a multiple series of reactions on the surface.

The location of water in near-vertical fissures requires great care and precision, because if you miss the fissures you will end up with a dry borehole. If you do end up with a dry bore, rock shattering by explosives can sometimes solve the problem.

I recently experienced a site in a drought-affected area of Spain. There were flow A reaction bands within a small area. The first problem was to find the angle of inclination so that the borehole would penetrate the lower part of the fissure, which would still produce, even if the water level dropped further. A number of older boreholes on the site were all failures, and dry from the start – one was only 25ft away from a successful development.

The tapping of an inclined fissure is best located during a period of drought, when the water level is at its lowest. Depthing a large saturated area or underground 'lake' can be achieved with half-wave-length reaction.

Subterranean detection is the opposite of distant detection. Holding the rod point downwards, and with both arms

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pointing down, again as antennae – walk slowly away from A, and at an equal distance from both sides of A you will find reaction bands F and F1, which equal the width of the flow band (F + F1) (see figure 25). For certain known geological conditions, the width of F and F1 can be used to estimate quite accurately the volume of the flow. And by careful research and the recording of known sites, with known records, graphs can be prepared and used for further estimating purposes.

The flow band measurements vary in width, depending upon such things as drought conditions. Water tables can drop a considerable amount, and water volumes can be drastically reduced. A survey during drought conditions is therefore best.

The above observations are based upon a typical, clearly defined underground flow. The position changes with water which is flowing over a widely saturated area and is different again, say, in a vertical or inclined fissure where water is running at a high velocity. This can provide a difficult problem, as the point of penetration has to be taken into consideration to ensure that there is water at a lower depth, which will ensure continuity of supply during a period of drought.

Having pegged the site where you are confident water can be found, you then have a number of additional factors to explore:

- Is the volume sufficient to fulfil the client's requirements?
- Is the depth economic?
- Is there power available to allow pumping at the required volume?
- Has the geological structure been fully understood? (a well-boring contractor will require data on this before submitting a quotation)

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Step-by-step successful water-finding

- 1 Take up the distance dowsing stance and having given instructions to your dowsing consciousness, slowly rotate 360°, holding the 'V' rod horizontally out in front. If you get a reaction it will be at 90° to the stream flow. Proceed in the direction indicated and other reactions will be found as you pass on.
- 2 Provided you are using a fairly sensitive rod you will find the triple make-up of the depthing parallels – Bishop's Rule – and will not confuse these with the flow band; by swinging 180° the rod will indicate a straight line to take you to the main flow band.
- 3 Before you reach the main flow band you will find other reaction bands. Take a 360° swing – provided the rod reacts in a straight line – and follow its direction.
- 4 You will have reacted to the triple stream band of the source of the underground water you are seeking. At this position, just in front of the site – make a 180° swing. You will get a fan-wise reaction (two rod movements). Bisect the two, and proceed very slowly. You will get a strong reaction at the centre line of the flow.
- 5 Standing directly over the centre line of the flow, make a 180° swing and if you have done your work correctly you will get a strong rod reaction. Repeat the procedure facing the opposite direction and you should get a strong reaction.

NOTE: No such 'up and down' reactions are produced on any other reaction band. It is proof positive that you are over the flow and you can now peg the site for the development.

All other procedures for depthing and estimating volume can now proceed.

- 6 Follow through the procedures from the opposite direction to give yourself the proof that you require.

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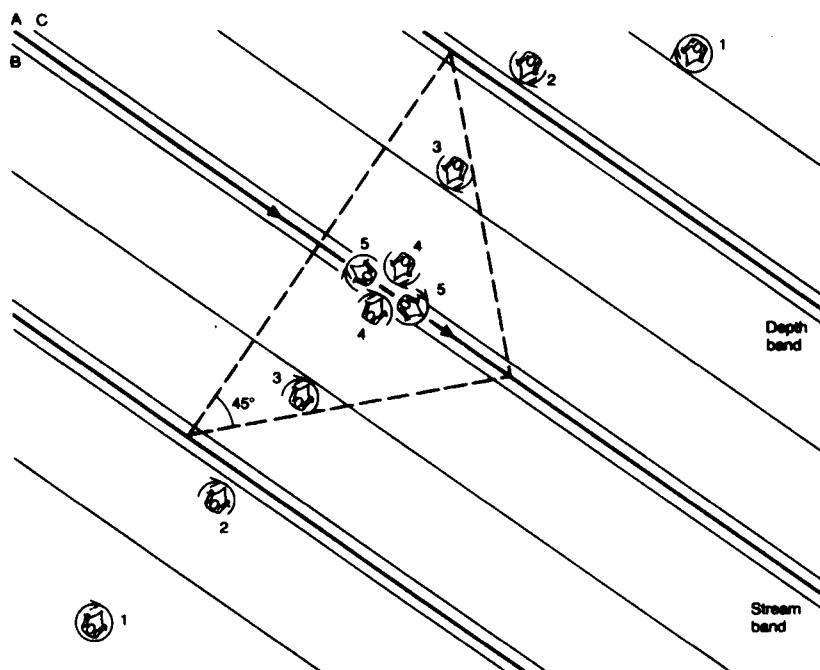


Figure 27 Step-by-step successful water-finding



The author obtaining a reaction immediately above an underground flow of water.