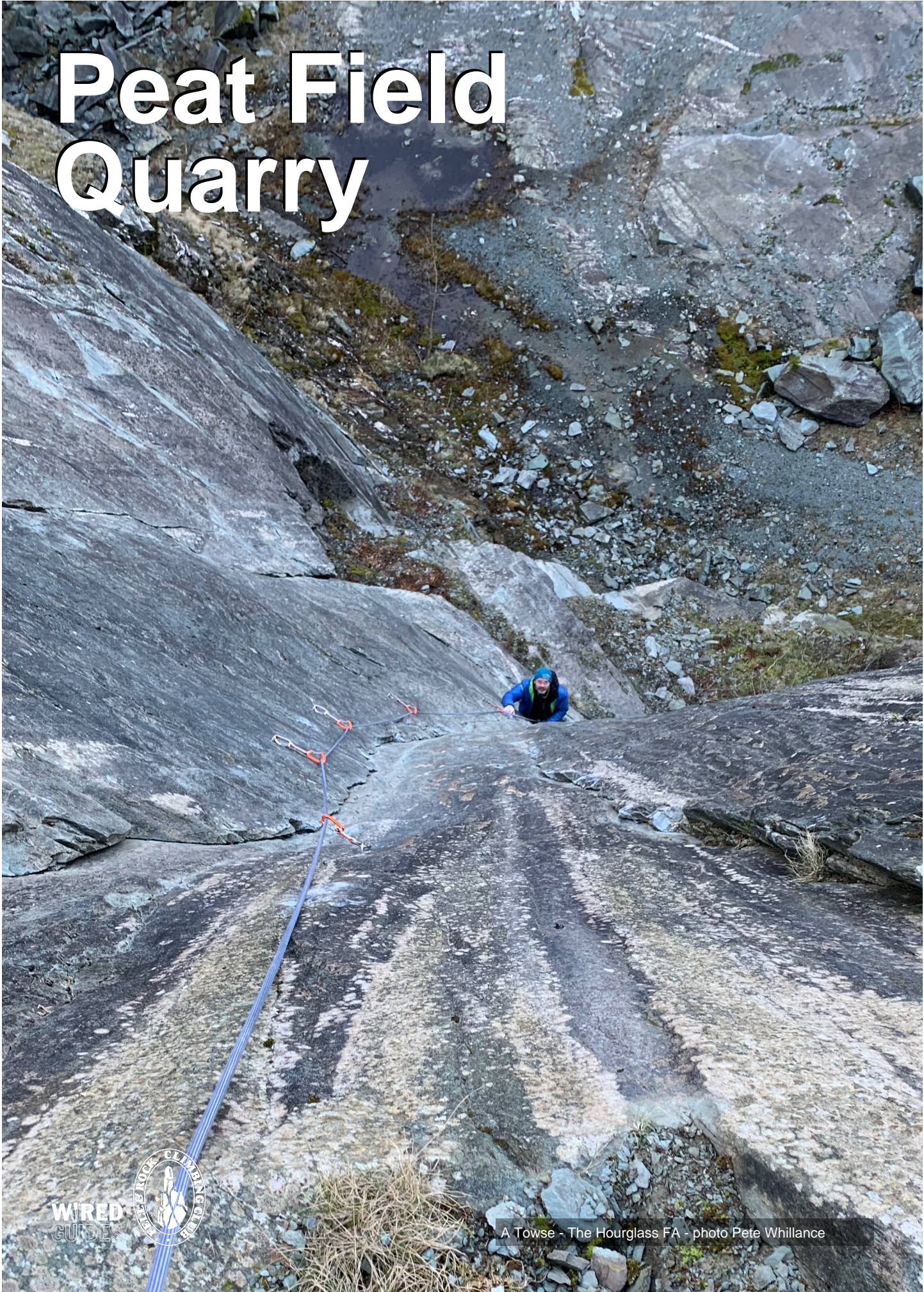


Peat Field Quarry



WIRED
GUIDE



A Towse - The Hourglass FA - photo Pete Whillance

WARNING

You climb at your own risk. Climbing is a dangerous activity carrying the risk of serious injury or death. If you climb, the presumption is that you are aware of and accept these risks together with responsibility for your activities and your safety.

You are the sole judge of conditions, the suitability of any chosen route, the ability of the party and you take sole responsibility for your actions.

Rock is a dynamic medium and rockfalls are frequent. In the mountains the weather changes quickly, climbs change unpredictably; blocks, flakes and holds become loose and fall off, rock becomes vegetated and dirty, in situ gear deteriorates or disappears. Even a minor change can have a dramatic effect on the difficulty or seriousness of a route. There can be no presumption that any given climb will be found in the condition described. It is therefore essential that climbers judge the seriousness or difficulty of any route before committing themselves.

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Peat Field Quarry

OS Ref: **NY 313 015**

Alt: **170m**

NO CLIMBING - NO ENTRY

There is currently no access agreement - Climbing is banned.

Extraction is going on in the nearby spoil heaps and the quarry is closed to climbers.

Situation

This quarry is situated just across the road and west of the south end of Hodge Close Quarry. Park as for Hodge Close Quarry or just before on a banking on the left. The most obvious feature is a massive cave on its southern flank. All the climbing to date has taken place on the west facing walls, Western Walls. They provide excellent climbing on 30m steep grey slabs and walls, fast drying and generally getting any sun from around midday till dusk. **There is currently no climbing allowed at this quarry and the routes are recorded here for interest/information only.**

Access History

The quarry has a somewhat chequered access history. Seven routes were climbed and recorded here in 1986, 'on the Black Wall immediately on the left when entering the quarry' (see FRCC guide Scafell, Dow & Eskdale 1988). Shortly after this the then owner blew up the Black Wall in order to block the access road into the quarry and prevent illegal gatherings of youths for rave parties. The current [Western Walls](#) area however was left untouched and indeed has not been used for slate extraction for many years. During 2022 seven new routes were established here before the current leaseholder made it clear that he did not want climbing to take place. This is unfortunate as he doesn't actually use the quarry itself and only works the spoil heaps across the road from Hodge Close Quarry. Hopefully access can be restored at some point in the future.

Approach

Park above [Hodge Close Quarry](#) or to the south, on the west side of the road. The best approach is down through the woods to the left of the gated road into the quarry site arriving at flat ledges and boulders at the top of the [Western Walls](#) in about 5mins (thus avoiding the owner's main entrance to the site and the access track into the quarry itself). There are three double bolt belay stations on the boulders along the top. Abseil from one of these to the base.



Peat Field Quarry

Grades

3

4

Western Walls

  5 mins Aspect: West   

All routes finish on the top ledges.

Western Walls – Left Side

The left hand side provides four very good climbs on a steep grey wall, the main feature being a prominent peapod-shaped groove high in its centre. The first 3 routes share the same start. From directly below the peapod groove, go easily up a ramp rightwards to where the wall steepens.

1 Tick, Tick, BOOM F6b 30m

Takes the centre of the wall left of The Peapod. From the easy ramp, follow a slight groove leftwards to a grassy ledge then continue in the same line to reach more ledges. Climb the steep wall on the right, first slightly rightwards then back left and up to gain an orange scar. Go up and left to reach better holds and a crack that lead back rightwards to the top. (direct from the orange scar is 6c).

15.05.2022 P Whillance, A Towse

2 The Peapod F6b+ 30m

Start as for the previous route up a slight groove leading leftwards to the first grassy ledge. Climb the steep wall on surprisingly good holds, moving right to gain a good ledge at the base of the peapod groove. Follow the left edge of the groove then an awkward wall till a move right can be made to gain the obvious upper crackline. Up this to the top.

15.05.2022 P Whillance, A. Towse

3 Clockwise F6b+ 30m

Takes the wall and right edge of The Peapod. Start as for the two previous climbs, up an easy ramp rightwards to where the wall steepens. Move across right and climb the wall passing a large drill hole and up a slight groove to a ledge just right of the peapod's base. Follow the left edge of the wall overlooking the peapod groove then move up right to a slanting break. Climb the final headwall rightwards to the top.

29.07.2022 P Whillance, A Towse

4 Rave Rage F6c 30m

Perhaps the best route here taking the centre of the wall right of The Peapod. Start 5m right of the previous routes and go up easily rightwards to below the steep wall. Climb the centre of the wall on small holds to reach the large midway ledge. Continue up the wall above then make delicate moves up left to gain a right slanting break. Move right along the break a few metres then up to a large flake and finishing ledges.

10.06.2022 P Whillance, A Towse

Western Walls – Right Side

The right-hand side consists of open grooves and steep grey slabs. Some 25m right of [The Peapod](#) wall is an attractive cupid's bow-shaped crack and groove, [The Hourglass](#), sitting above a large triangular grass terrace. 5m to the right is the prominent flake crack and groove line of [The Pendulum](#). The grass terrace has bolt belays and can be reached by abseil or via a short easy approach pitch.

5 The Hourglass F6a+ 32m

1 12m F4 Start just right of a slanting overhang at an easy slab (often wet). Move up right then back left to reach a clean rib. Climb this to a step left onto the grass terrace. Traverse left across the terrace and up; bolt belay.

2 20m F6a+ Move up right to the base of the groove and climb this steeply to a good ledge. Follow the groove to an awkward exit right onto a ledge just below the top.

06.03.2022 P Whillance, A Towse

6 The Pendulum F6a 30m

Start as for the first pitch of [The Hourglass](#). Follow this to the step left to the terrace, but continue up the rib and slab above to a grass ledge at the base of a hanging corner. Climb the steep crack and wall just left of the corner to good holds in a break. Move up to the flake crack and groove and follow this pleasantly to the top

15.05.2022 P Whillance, A Towse (first ascent HVS 5b)

7 Tempus Fugit F6c 30m

An excellent route that winds its way up the big slab to the right of [The Pendulum](#). Start at the easy slab, as for the two previous routes, then climb up rightwards over two large detached flakes to reach a ledge below a thin left-slanting crack in the steep lower slab. Move up right then back left, passing a shot hole. Continue up with thin moves to gain ledges and a glaxis in the centre of the face. Go up left then climb a delicate scoop to a ledge. Continue up for a few metres then gradually trend rightwards up the big slab to the top.

03.04.2022 P Whillance, A Towse