

Gimmer Crag - East - NY279069 - 520m

TRADITIONAL Uphill 60 mins SOUTH facing ☀

Introduction

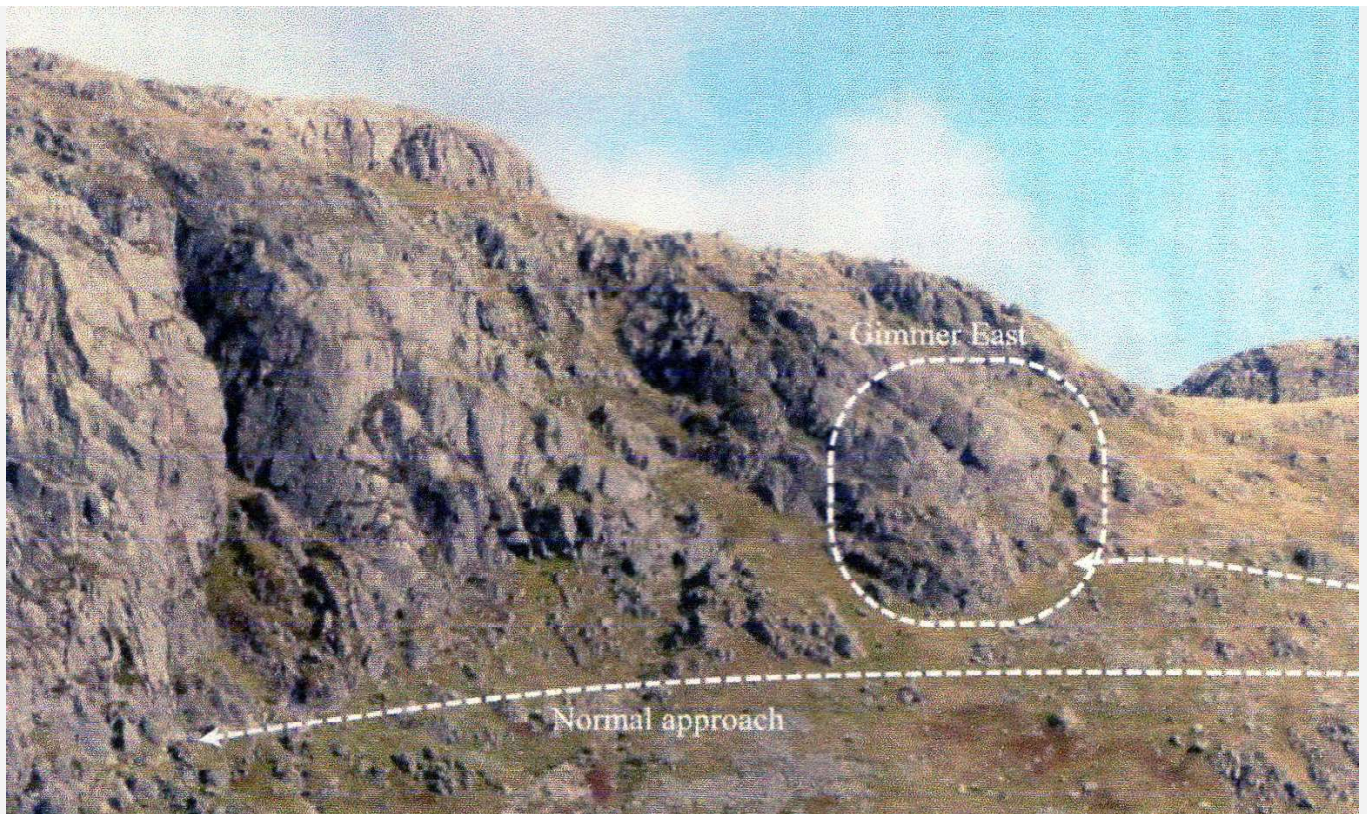
This is the buttress immediately east of the current descent route from the main crag. Hidden in plain view from both the main crag and its approaches, its potential has been overlooked. Once you know what you are looking for, the crag can be seen when [Gimmer Crag](#) itself comes into view from the plateau area on the approach. The crag has a friendly, more relaxed air than its big brother but with the same excellent Gimmer rock. It has a pleasant outlook, catches the sun all day and provides an enjoyable selection of easier routes. The crag is split into three sections, first by a lower grass terrace running up right to left. The rock above this is split again by a prominent slabby rock rake, also running right to left, that becomes terrace-like higher up. Right of the rake, the crag rears up as a steep frontal buttress. Left of this, the crag bends round to form a series of slabby walls. The rock rake is featured in the Loft Crag scramble (No 4) of Scrambles in Lakeland. There is much potential for scrambling in this area, such as the ridge defining the right side of the crag which gives a pleasant line. No doubt all done before.

Approach

From the National Trust Stickle Barn car park, follow the normal approach for [Gimmer Crag](#) as far as the large cairn where the Gimmer track branches off left. Ignore this and continue along the Stickle Pike path for a further 60m to where the path becomes steps and another vague trod leads off left. Follow this diagonally across the fell for some 300m to arrive at the foot of the crag which stands at about the same level as the [Three Tiers Buttress](#) of [Gimmer Crag](#).



Gimmer Crag - East



Gimmer Crag - East - overview

1 Two Old Codgers Go Prospecting S † New 77m ★

The lowest part of the crag is marked by a 5m flake pinnacle.

- 1 12m Climb the front of this pinnacle and gain a rock shelf above it on the left by an awkward move. Belay at the back of the grass ledge above.
- 2 25m The wall on the right gives an obvious line followed by easier climbing to belay at the back of the main terrace.
- 3 20m Climb straight up to the bulging wall where moves left gain a pleasant groove. Climb this and the wall above to belay on the upper terrace.
- 4 20m The left end of the slanting headwall is split by three cracks. Gain the base of these from the left and ascend the clean middle crack. Easier climbing leads to a grassy summit where good belays are a bit sparse.

23.04.2021 I (Blue) Gray, M Biden
Alternate leads

2 Golden Fleece VS 4c † New 65m ★★

To the right of the crag base and some 15m higher is an elegant pillar seamed by cracks. Start at an upstanding flake at the foot of the left-bounding arête.

- 1 25m Starting up the left edge of pillar, climb the attractive crackline. Continue up easier ground to belay at the back of the main terrace.
- 2 20m 4b The steep wall above contains a hanging groove and right of this is a square-cut groove. Climb up and stand on a good rock ledge at the foot of the square-cut groove. Good gear in this protects a bold traverse left to gain the hanging groove. Climb this and the wall above, then traverse across the slabby rock rib to belay on a large jammed block below a crack system.
- 3 20m 4c Step off the belay block and climb to a large perched flake. Move left round this and, using handholds in the diagonal crack, step out onto the slabby wall beyond. Interesting delicate climbing leads straight up this wall to easier ground.

30.06.2021 M Biden, A Salisbury
P1&2 M Biden, I (Blue) Gray 30.05.2021

The next three routes lie on the slabby walls above the top of the main terrace (left of P3 of [Two Old Codgers](#)). They are reached by scrambling up the terrace from the right. The main belt of these slabs contains a prominent vegetated crack with an arête on its right. There is a band of easy-angled slabs below the terrace which could provide additional entertainment.

3 Bellwether VS 4b † New 45m ★

The left side of the slabby wall is bounded by a pillar. Start left of some juniper bushes growing on a ledge.

- 1 20m 4b Climb up the right edge of the pillar until holds allow a step out left onto the front. Climb delicately straight up to the terrace above and its good belays.
- 2 25m Move down the terrace couple of metres and climb the cracked wall beneath the right-hand of the three cracks above. Between the right-hand crack and a series of perched flakes further the right is an attractive red wall. Pleasant delicate climbing leads up this wall.

30.06.2021 M Biden, A Salisbury

4 Sheepshank VD † New 40m ★

This route tackles the slabby wall left of the vegetated crack. Start just right of a juniper bush growing on a rock ledge.

- 1 20m Good holds lead up the slabs left of several mossy streaks. Continue up to the good belays on the terrace above.
- 2 20m The final slanting headwall is split by three cracks. Gain the base of these from the left and climb the right-hand crack, finishing up its right-hand wall when the crack runs blind.

30.06.2021 A Salisbury, M Biden

5 Roasted Rib D † New 40m ★

Climbs the arête immediately right of the prominent grassy crack line in the slabby wall (some 20m left of [Two Old Codgers](#), P3).

- 1 20m Climb the arête on good holds, finishing up a short slabby rib. Good belays on the terrace above.
- 2 20m Climb up to the left-hand of the three cracks in the headwall and ascend this.

30.06.2021 A Salisbury, M Biden

The next three routes lie to the right of the dividing rocky rake where the right-hand buttress rears up. They start from grass ledges reached by scrambling up grass or easy rock. The entrance to the rake on the left is guarded by a large chockstone block.

6 Shear Pleasure D † **New** 35m ★

This route starts just right of the the large chockstone. A surprisingly easy route up steep rock. Climb the wall right of the block and follow the obvious line of features and good holds all the way to a grass bay and good belays.

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7 Rough Diamond MS † **New** 35m ★★

Another very pleasant route. The centre of the buttress forms something of a blunt rib. Start below this and take a direct line to the final wall which requires a move right to finish.

30.05.2021 M Biden, I (Blue) Gray

8 T'Up an' Over MVS 4b † **New** 35m ★

The right side of the buttress is split by a short groove with a large flake on its right. Climb up to the groove and move right to stand on the flake. Move further right and immediately back up left to gain the juniper ledge above the groove. Continue up to a steep wall where a short crack gains slanting rock ledges leading to another leaning wall. The left side of this contains a horizontal flake which enables the wall to be overcome. Easier climbing leads to the grassy bay belays.

30.05.2021 I (Blue) Gray, M Biden