

Middle Busk Scar

OS Ref: NY 682093
Alt: 360m

Grades

10

58

Magnificently situated 2 km north of Sunbiggin Tarn and 5 km east of Orton – this tiny, extensive scar offers many problems on juggy limestone. The area below is known as Lousy Brow ! Much of the scar is quite small but has two higher sections .

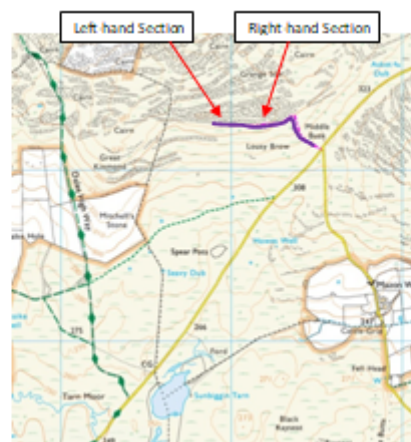
All the numbered routes were first climbed by Barry Clarke on 04/03/2008 after which he intimated - *That'll be enough to be going on with - but there will be plenty more to play on, go for it! Definitely worth a visit, but not by "serious" boulderers!*

The routes are described from right to left and are in two distinct sections above 160m apart.

The rock can be quite crumbly/loose in places, so best to test things out carefully, especially at the top, instead of jumping for the holds without checking first?

Approach

Park just below the summit of the Middle Busk road at a road junction. A footpath goes up the fellside and then along below the scar. The main landmarks are a tree and a bush at the Right-hand Section. There is a path along below the scar.



Hoppalong - Right (LHS - R)



Lousy Brow (LHS - R)



Goodies (LHS - R)



Mules (LHS - R)



The Craik (LHS - L)



Stone Scrip (LHS - L)



Route 8 (LHS - L)

Middle Busk Scar - Photos

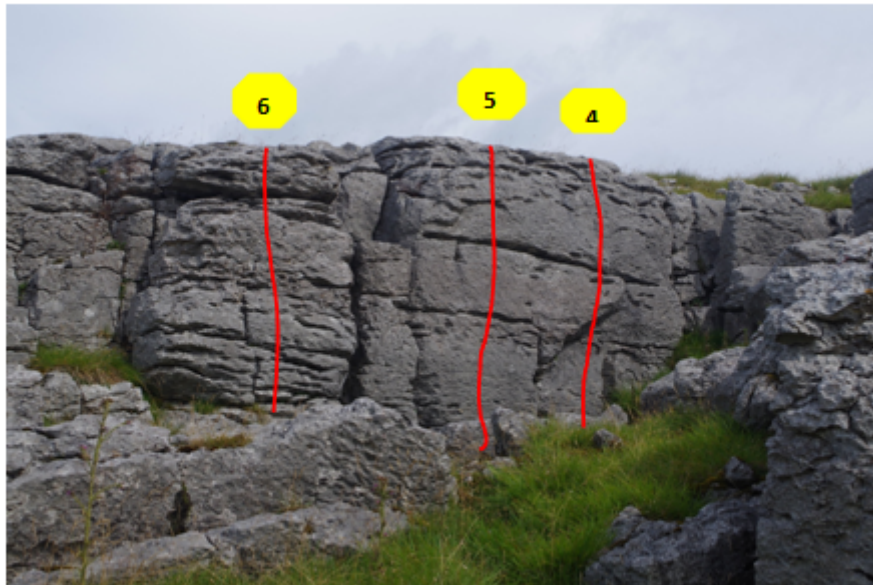
Right-Hand Section

BOULDERING Uphill 5 mins SOUTH facing ☀️
Lat/Lng: [54.477785, -2.491886](#)

Introduction

This is the first section just left of a prominent bush.

MIDDLE BUSK SCAR - RIGHT-HAND SECTION



Middle Busk Scar - Right

1 To Be Defiled - aka Route 1 f3+ V0

The first problem is 5m left of the bush and climbs the left side of the wall in a grassy defile.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

2 Grete Buttress - aka Route 2 f2 VB

The buttress in front via a sloping ledge.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

3 Mini-Roof f5 V1

The obvious mini roof left of [Route 2](#). Sit start - Pull on via the good jug on the left and pull over the roof.

30.03.2021 P Gunn

Further left, and 25m left of the tree is a wall with a horizontal crack, just before the rocks dwindle.

4 Stwarth Crack - aka Route 3 f2 VB

The flakey crack on the right.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

5 Stwarth Wall - aka Route 4 f2 VB

The wall just left of [Route 3](#),


4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

6 Stwarth Pillar - aka Route 5 f3 V0-

The pillar 2m left of [Route 4](#).

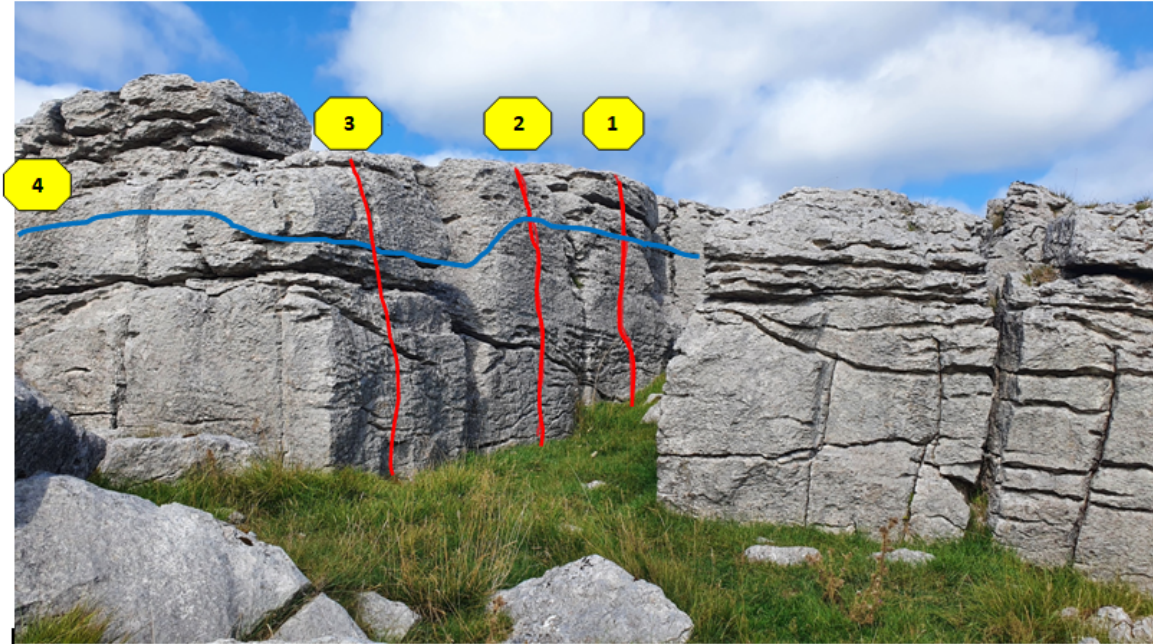
4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

Left-Hand Section - Right of Tree

SOUTH facing 
Lat/Lng: [54.477441](#), [-2.499058](#)

Introduction

160m further left of [Route 5](#), is another tree. To the right of this is a maze of walls and boulders with many delights.



LEFT-HAND SECTION - HOPPALONG BUTTRESS

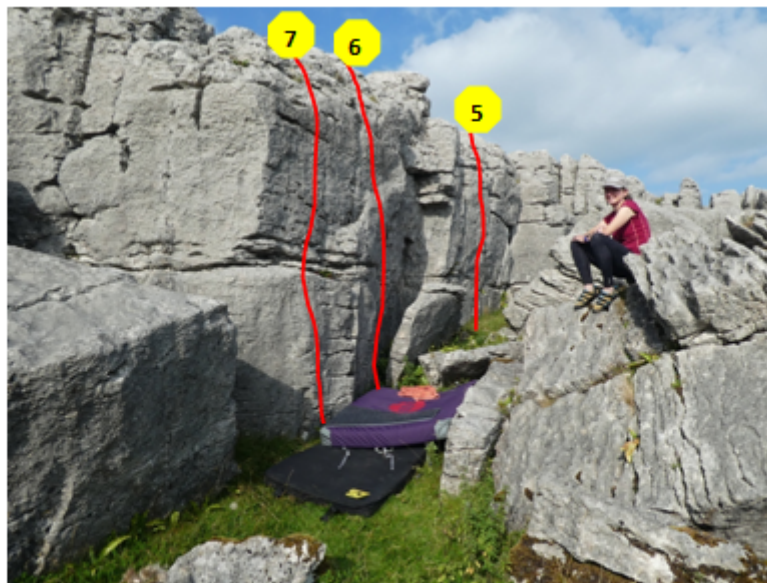
Middle Busk Scar - Left 1 - Hoppalong

MIDDLE BUSK SCAR LEFT-HAND SECTION

RIGHT OF THE TREE

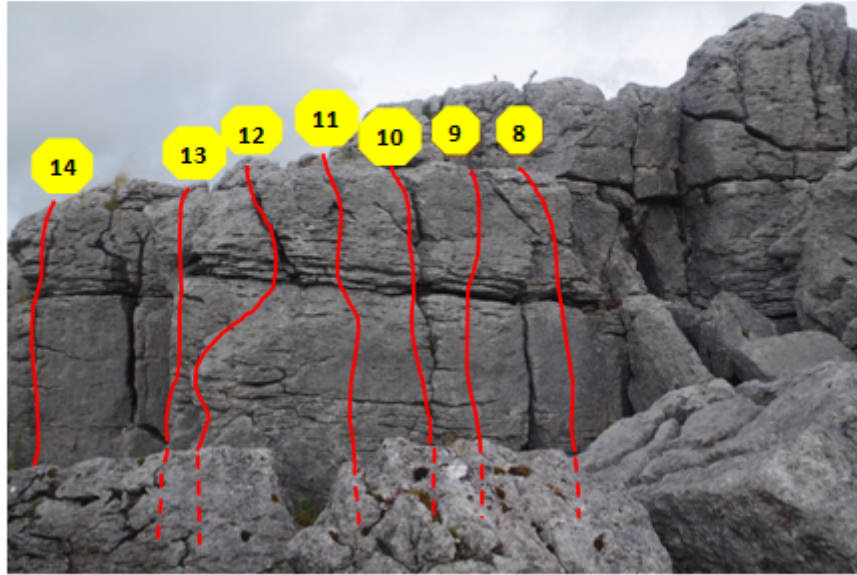


LOUSY BROW AREA



Middle Busk Scar - Left 2

HOWES WELL AREA



THE GREAT EWE



Middle Busk Scar - Left 3

More or less midway between the prominent trees at the Right-hand section and at the Left-hand Section - about 120m right (facing in) from the tree on the Left-hand Section - is this area of rock to hop onto !

1 Hoppalong Right-hand f3 V0-

Climb the wall with a sit start.

27.08.2021 Annette Smith

2 Hoppalong Left-hand f3+ V0

Climb the wall.

27.08.2021 Cath Sullivan

3 Ray of Sunshine f2 VB

Sit start - climb the wall with the mega-crack.

05.09.2021 R Kenyon

4 Hoppalong Cassidy f3+ V0 15m

Start at the left of the buttress and traverse the full length. Can be done at various levels and no doubt various grades - just enjoy it !!

5.09.2021 R Kenyon

Just right of the Howes Well area is a wall with the following routes. The rock at the top should be treated with care.

5 Tupalong f3+ V0

Sit start - climb the short with crack starting part way up.

5.09.2021 H Larden

6 Lousy Top f3 V0-

Sit start - climb the wall just right of the ledge with care at the top.

5.09.2021 R Kenyon

7 Lousy Brow f4 V1-

Sit start - gain the ledge and finish the wall and top out with care.

5.09.2021 H Larden

25m right of the tree, on the right of the Left-Hand Section, is a wall behind a series of separate boulders.

8 Spear Pott f2 VB

Sit start - use the flake to gain a horizontal crack and finish direct.

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

9 Mason Wath f3 V0-

Sit start - use the crack to gain holds at the top - for top out !

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

10 Goodles f2 VB

Climb the prominent crack.

5.09.2021 H Larden

11 Howes Well f3+ V0

3m left - climb wall to gain rightward-pointing flake and the top

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

12 Friar Biggins f1 VA

Climb the flake and crack above.

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

13 Ethical Perching f3 V0-

Climb the arête to gain the perched block and overcome it ethically.

05.09.2021 H Larden

14 Black Rayseat f3+ V0

3m left of [Howes Well](#) - climb the cracked arete to finish directly.

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

The Great Ewe - this is a prominent boulder 10m right of the tree.

15 The Great Ewe f2 VB

Climb the crack on the right of the wall and finish on the right of the top overlap

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

16 Mules f5 V1

Using the crack climb up to gain good holds and finish over the nose.

5.09.2021 R Kenyon

17 Broken Mouthed - a.k.a Life Carries on at 70 ! f5 V1

Sit Start - using the crack and the down pointing flake climb the wall on its right and finish directly over the nose of *the Great Ewe*.


28.07.2021 R Kenyon

18 Fell Rough f4 V1-

Climb the crack to finish just left of the nose.

5.09.2021 H Larden

Left-hand Section - Left of Tree

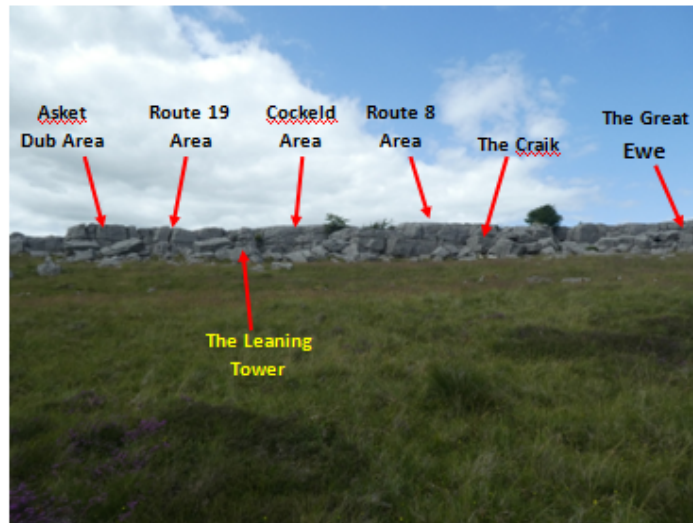
BOULDERING Uphill 10 mins SOUTH facing 
Lat/Lng: [54.477441, -2.499058](#)

Introduction

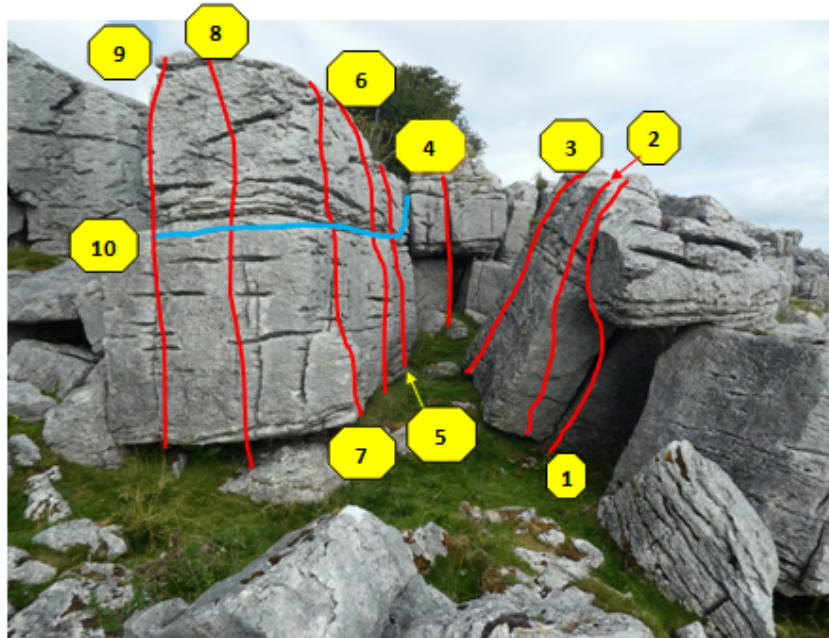
160m further left of [Route 5](#), is another tree which indicates a pleasantly sheltered area, with many delights; the **Hidden Garden**.

MIDDLE BUSK SCAR - LEFT-HAND SECTION

AREA LEFT OF THE TREE

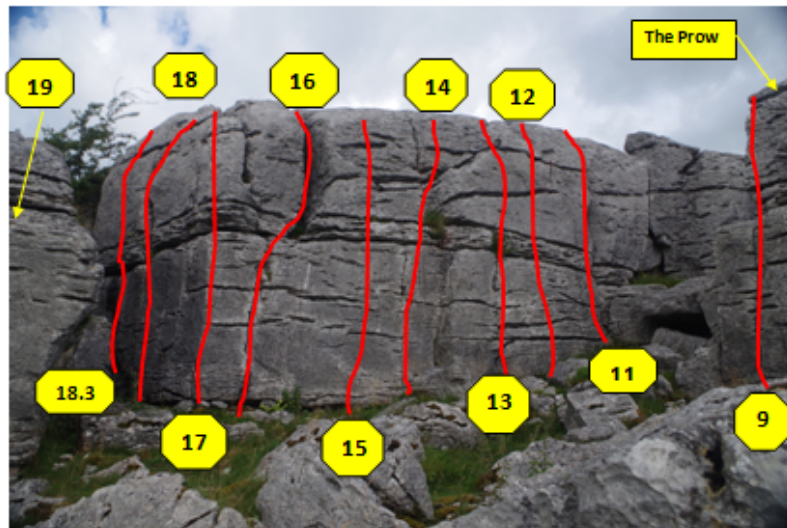


THE PROW AND THE CRAIK

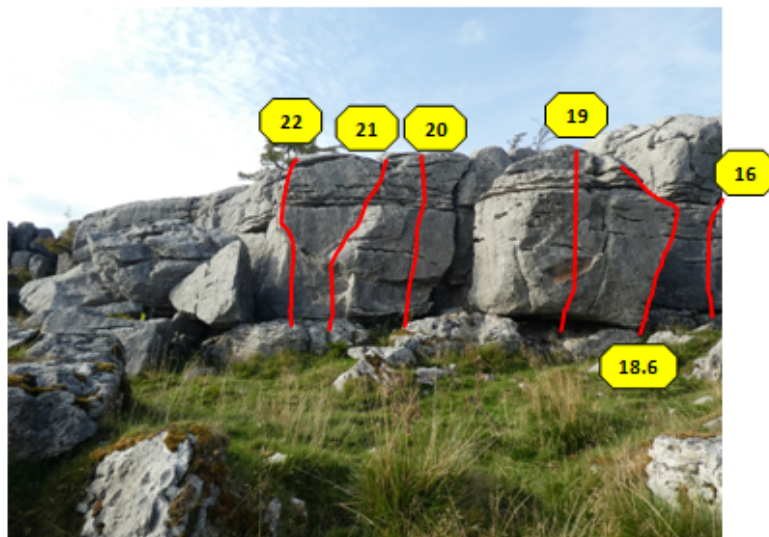


MIDDLE BUSK SCAR – LEFT-HAND SECTION

ROUTE 9 AREA

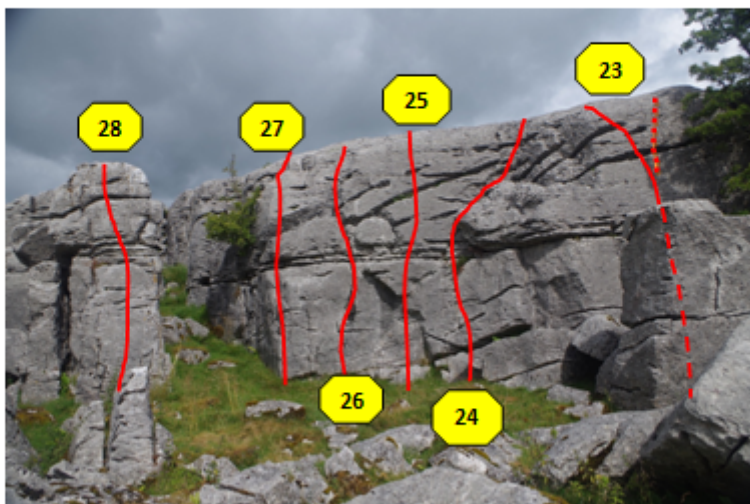


ASBY MASK AREA

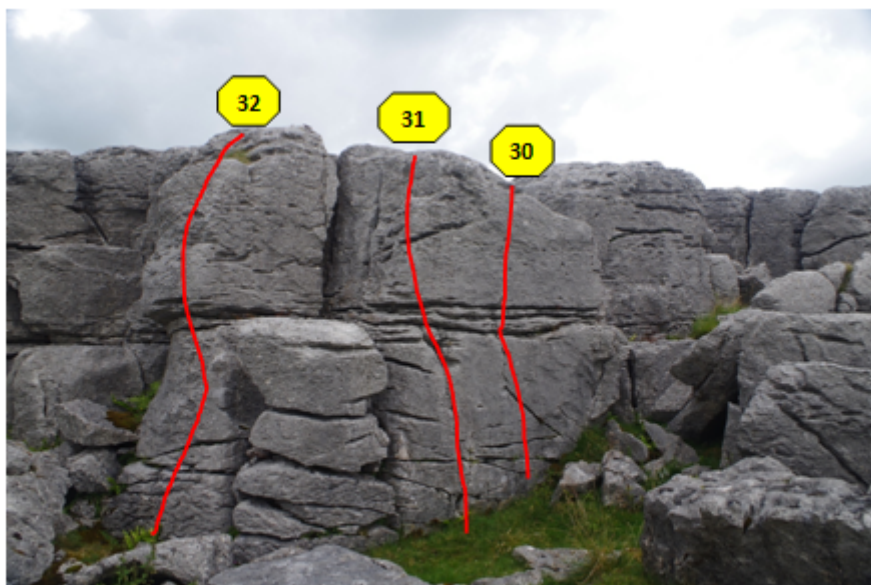


MIDDLE BUSK SCAR – LEFT-HAND SECTION

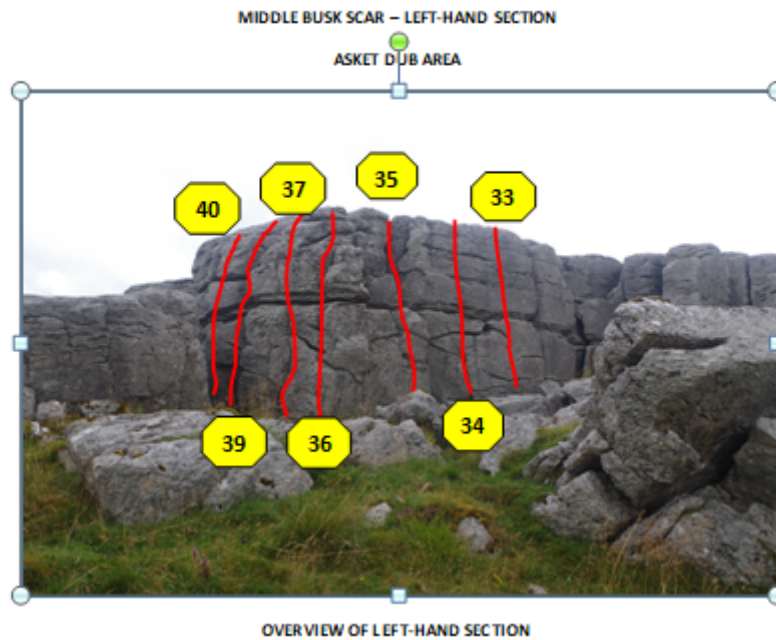
COCKELD AREA



ROUTE 20 AREA



Middle Busk Scar - Left 6



Middle Busk Scar - Left 7

Just in front and left of the prominent tree is an area of rocks with a prominent suspended boulder on top. The following two routes are on the left/inside area of this.

1 The Jam f5 V1

Sit start - Climbs the appealing crack. Under the roof hand jam your way up the wide crack above before pulling up to the top of the perched block.

31.03.2021 P Gunn

2 The Craic f6A V2

Sit start. Climb the arête of the block with a good jam for your leg in the crack. Finishing up left of the perched block.

30.03.2021 D Mouat

3 Bleaflatt f1 VA

Climb up the left side of slab, taken on the right by [The Craik](#).

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

4 Tough Cookie f5+ V1+

Sit Start - At the back of the recess is a tapering crack, with an overhung base - attack this with determination.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

The Prow - this is the distinct prow, just left of The Craic, dividing the recesses. It extends back but is separated from the crag and can be awkward to descend off - beware !

The right wall of *The Prow* gives some pleasant climbs.

5 Kelleth Rigg f2 VB

Climb the right end wall of *The Prow*.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

6 Hooksey f2 VB

Climb the centre of the wall, finish left of the vegetated crack.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

7 Stone Scrip f2 VB

Pleasant climbing up the left side of the wall.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

8 Rispa Pike f3 V0-

Climb the front of *The Prow*.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

9 Armaside f2 VB

Climb the wall and pleasant arête

5.09.2021 H Larden

10 Cowbound Lane f3 V0-

Start on the left of *The Prow* and traverse rightwards and along to finish at the back at the back of *The Prow*.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

To the left of *The Prow* is a recess with a bouldery floor and a fine wall to the left.

11 Pinksey Crack - aka Route 6 f3 V0-

Climb the wide crack 7m left of the tree.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

12 Pinksey Wall - aka Route 7 f3+ V0

The wall just left of [Route 6](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

13 Left Pinksey - aka Route 8 f2 VB

Climb the left side of the steep wall 4m left of [Route 7](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

14 Blirt Crack - aka Route 9 f2 VB

Climb the central crack 2m left of [Route 8](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

15 Blirt Wall - aka Route 10 f4+ V0+

The leaning face on the left of [Route 9](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

16 In For A Blirt - aka Route 11 f3 V0-

Climb the thin crack left of [Route 10](#), at the left side of a wall, stepping right to finish up the wide crack.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

17 Cowdale Slack f3 V0-

Climb the fine arête on stonking holds.

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

18 Whygill Crack f3 V0-

Climb the crack on the right wall of the gully.

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

18.3 What Has It Got In It's Pocketses f5+ † **New** 4m

Immediately left of [Whygill Crack](#), start standing on the ground (not on the block). Take the clean wall with 2 obvious pockets between breaks direct, without recourse to the crack or the left arête - very reachy !

1/05/2021 Ian Walker

18.6 Sick Arête f4+ V0+ † **New**

The arête right of [Route 12](#) - needless to say with a sit start.

26.03.2022 M Hetherington

19 Fusspot - aka Route 12 f4+ V0+

This takes a line through a recent scar, indicating the loss of what was the first hold !

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

Attempts have been made, with a sit start, to climb the crack and wall above, on the left, without use of the block on the left - give it a go !

20 Asby Mask f4 V0

Sit Start - Climb the short wall to gain better holds. Strenuous !

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

21 Codswallop Wall - aka Route 13 f4+ V0+

The shelving wall 5m on the left.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

22 Willycock Stones - aka Route 14 f3 V0- †

Climb the thin, undercut crack and the arête on the left.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

Just to the left of [Route 14](#) is a pleasant grassy alcove which makes a useful basecamp. To its left is the **Leaning Tower** with the following routes behind.

23 Reckarpot f3 V0-

Left of the tree and in the gully climb the wall crossing horizontal crack exiting leftwards. The direct finish has not be done and appears bold ! !

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

24 Ling Bank f2 VB

Climb the crack and easy ramp up right

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

25 Clockeld f3 V0-

The reachie wall on great holds.

12.08.2021 R Kenyon

26 Poskey Bottom - aka Route 16 f2 VB

The thin crack and crack and wall above.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

27 Left Poskey - aka Route 17 f3 V0+

The wall and arête just left of [Route 16](#).and right of the shrubby tree.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

28 The Leaning Tower - aka Route 15 f5 V1

The Leaning Tower on the left of the alcove is climbed by the cracked arête.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

29 Crack of Pisa - aka Route 18 f4+ V0+

The crack 4m left of [Route 17](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

8m left behind a tilted block is a fine wall.

30 Bastifell Bog - aka Route 19 f4 V0

Climb the right side of the wall.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

31 Bastifell Way - aka Route 20 f4 V0

Climb the thin crack and delightful wall.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

32 Bastifell Arete - aka Route 21 f4+ V0+

Climb the arête just left of [Route 20](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

A fine wall with juggy arete to the left is now the main final buttress.

33 Asket Races - aka Route 22 f4+ V0+

Climb the right side of the fine wall on interesting holds.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

34 Asket Dub f4+ V0+

Climb the crack and wall direct on pleasing holds.

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

35 Turn End f1 VA

Use the crack to gain the recess and finish up wide crack.

25.08.2021 R Kenyon

36 Turn Left - aka Route 23 f4+ V0+

Climb the juggy arete by the right-hand crack

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

37 **Nevygirl Fold** f3 V0

The left side of the juggy wall.

28.07.2021 R Kenyon

38 **Gulliver's Travels** f5+ VI+ 35m

A rightward traverse starting from [Nevygirl Fold](#) and finishing at the top of [The Craik](#). Take whatever level felt appropriate and walk as necessary (including avoiding prickly shrub). Grade variable.

5.09.2021 R Kenyon

39 **Barugh Crack** f4+ V0+

This takes the off-width crack just left of [Nevygirl Fold](#) - could be a new experience for many who climb it !

7.05.2022 R Kenyon

40 **Raw Busk** f4 V0

Climb the rib just left of [Barugh Crack](#).

7.05.2022 R Kenyon

Accordingly to the original descriptions by Barry Clarke - 22m further left is a blanker wall with a sinuous crack in its lower part. What remains of the crag gets even smaller and the following two routes could not be identified.

41 **Who Knows Where ! - aka Route 24** f5 V1 †

Climb the crack.

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke

42 **It Is There Somewhere - aka Route 25** f2 VB †

Climb the steep wall 7m left of [Route 24](#).

4.03.2008 BJ Clarke



Middle Busk Scar - View to the Howgills