

Clint Quarry

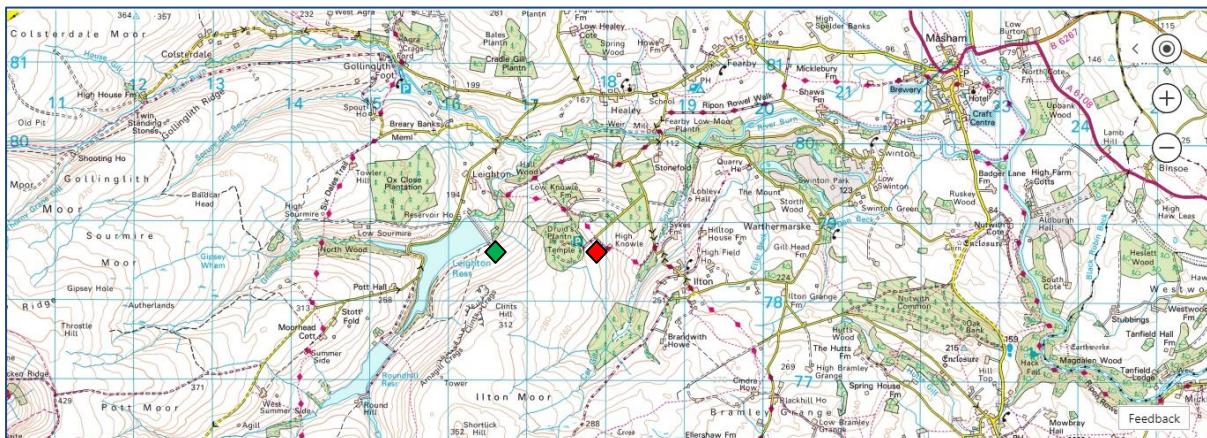
History

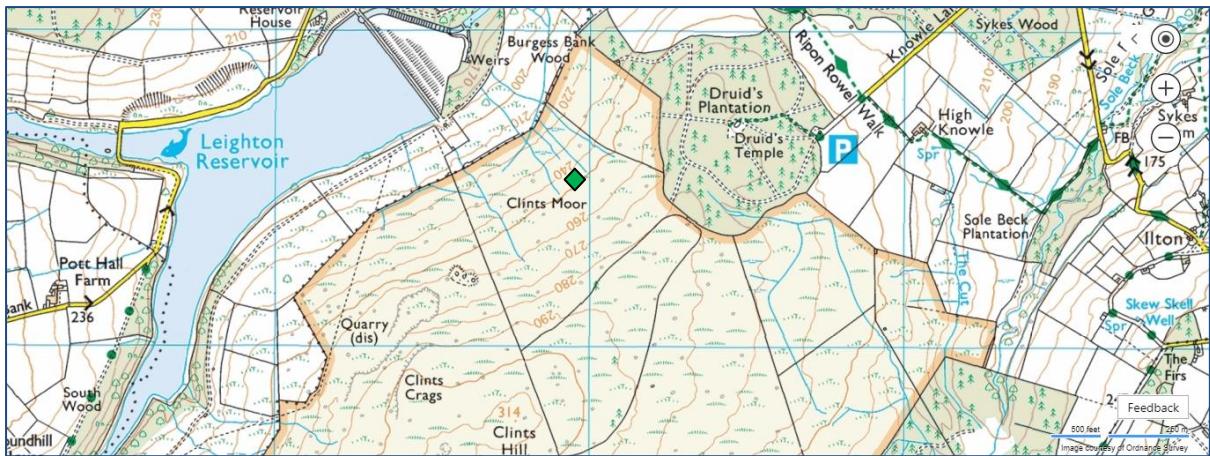
The quarry has sparked the interest of various people over the years though recent additions by Steve Dunning, Dave Sutcliffe, Neil McCallum, Steven Phelps and Martin Whitton have renewed interest in the possibilities the quarry has to offer. The first known information in the view of climbing was a sketch recorded by Tony Barley in 1993 whilst he was developing the nearby Clint and Arnagill Crags as mentioned in YG1. He added most of the problems on the Upper Edge behind the Table Block and it also mentions 11 routes in the quarry itself.

Overview

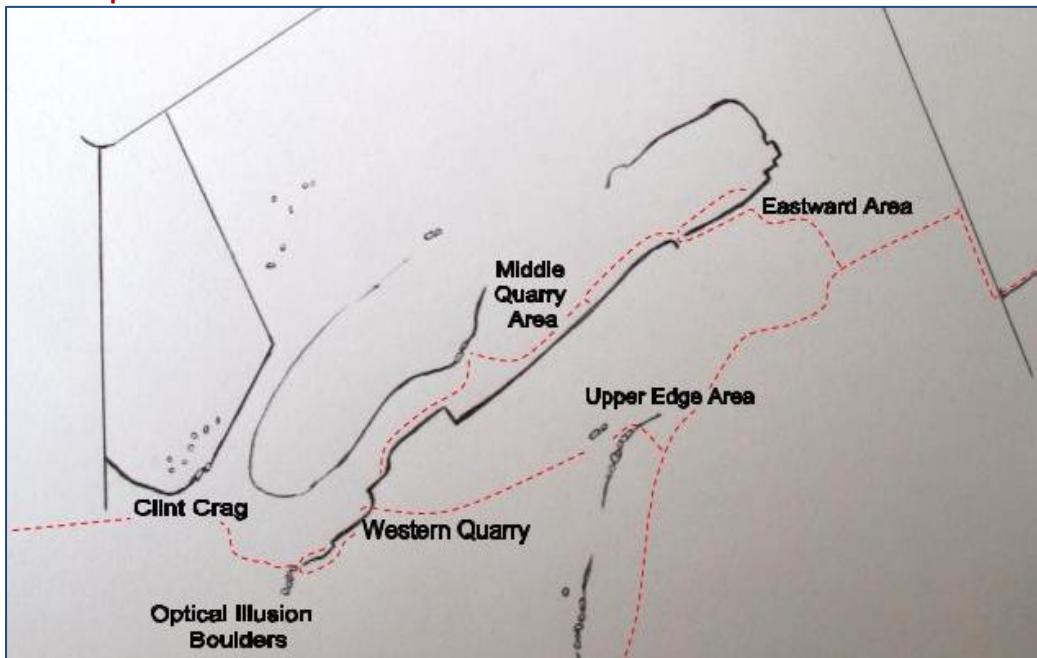
The area covered here is fairly extensive, being several hundred metres in length and with many large buttresses separated by sections of heather. At present the climbing is confined to the cleanest and more obvious sections of the quarry with a well developed eastern end, some choice buttresses running westwards and an upper quarry section over to the western end. There are some excellent highball offerings on good quality Gritstone including several good arêtes, some thin slabs and bold technical walls so plenty of mats and some spotters are in order if you would like to get the best out of the bouldering. The routes are located at the western end with some boulders in the vicinity where just one mat would suffice. Unfortunately much of the rock around the middle part of the quarry has clay and shale running off from the moor above and dirty top outs which probably wouldn't benefit from being cleaned. One is likely to find dry rock even if it has been wet the day before as most faces get sun from early afternoon and the moor is exposed to any winds.

Approach: The best approach is by parking at The Druid's Temple (local brown tourist information signposts indicate the Swinton Bivouac cafe/camping close by). This is located about 2 miles south of the small village of Healey near Masham. The Temple is also well-worth a visit. Start by walking out of the car park past a gate towards the temple but immediately take a left through another gate in a wood panel fence. After a few minutes you'll come to another gate but take the black one leaving the forest on the left and follow the wall westwards. Once you reach a locked gate in a narrow walled off area, cross the fence to its right and then pick up a track running west following another wall across the moor. After 5 minutes you'll reach a wooden gate, go through this and follow the wall down the hill towards the reservoir. After about 70m take a quad track on the left, this eventually takes a downhill turn which brings you out above the eastern end of the quarry. If you carry on west instead of going down the hill you'll reach the western end of the quarry. The area can also be approached by using the same parking as for Clint Crags and Roundhill on the opposite side of Leighton reservoir. Both approaches take about 20 minutes. The moor can be subject to closures at certain times of the year so check the Natural England website for further information. No Dogs due to nesting birds.





Area Map



Eastward Area

The first problems as described are on a buttress at the eastern end of the quarry close to a pond. There's a large flake on the left side with some steep problems and a crack filled front face with warm-up problems. Anything left of here is too wet underfoot.

Eastward Area



Descent

Cracked Buttress



1. Problem One 6a

Pull onto the wall using crimps. Pop for a good edge and reach for the ledge. Mantel to finish.

2. Problem Two 4+ *

Undercut the flake to finish up its outside edge/arête.

3. Cracked Arête 2

The cracked arête.



4. Slot Wall 4

Mantel the small ledge to reach a large slot. Finish direct.

5. Right Wall 4

Climb the cracks on the right of the buttress.

The next problems start in the corner of the quarry - some excellent arête and wall climbs.



1. Blood Work 6a+ ***

The steep left side of the arête gets harder as height is gained.

Steven Phelps April 2017

2. Blood Work - Right Side 6b **

The slabby right side of the arête is technical throughout.

Steven Phelps April 2017

3. Under the Influence 6c **

The thin eliminate wall on crimps, slots and side-pulls to the salvation of a good rail near the top. Mantel to finish.

Steven Phelps July 2017

4. Goose Crack 3

The crack line on the right. It may have some dusty holds.

Steven Phelps April 2017

There is a holly tree in the corner which may become an issue in the future.

5. Hereafter 3

The wall on good ledges with use of the arête if you must.

Steven Phelps July 2017

6. Pioneering Spirit 5+ **

The arête mainly on its right side. The crux is at the start but you'll need to keep it together at the top.

Steven Phelps April 2017

7. Luminary 6c ***

Fridge-hug using the arête and the crack to get your feet on the low foot edge and hands in the mid height slots. Now finish up the wall eliminating the arête and crack past a slanting crimp and a suspect edge. Either trust this to reach the top or the incut ledge out left. (Photo below)

Steven Phelps July 2017

8. Lucky Punk 4 *

The deep crack throughout.

Steven Phelps April 2017



The next problems are on the long highball wall with some true tests of finger strength and nerve. There are still some projects to climb that may or may not be impossible. Up on the right are some shorter problems.



Heartbreak Ridge 7a **

The curving rail feature in the wall. The landing benefits from several pads.
Dave Sutcliffe 2017

Make My Day 7b **

The eliminate wall to a bold finish on the far right of the next section.
Nail McCallum 2017

Move up to a higher level for the next set of problems.

Pott Crack 4

Up the first finger crack to a composed finish.
Steven Phelps October 2017

Burgess Crack 5

The next finger crack is slightly harder.
Steven Phelps October 2017

Dope Demand 6a *

Use a good left hand hold and the blunt flake to start. Follow the flake to some slanting crimps and a long reach to a good edge which brings a finish.
Steven Phelps October 2017

Fabric Hands 4+

Mantel onto some good holds/ledge on the right side of the slab. Stand and reach for the top.
Steven Phelps July 2017

Green Flake 3

Step off the boulder and climb the dirty flake...if you want.
Steven Phelps October 2017

More problems may exist to the right if some clearance work is undertaken. Across the descent is a small iron rich boulder with a few more short problems.

Iron Boulder

1. Lost Ore 5+

Climb the left wall mainly using crimps. Often green.

2. Direct Ore 5+

Up the layaway rib direct.

3. Ore Slab 6a+

Step up and use the layaway on the groove/rib to reach across to high holds which allow the top to be reached. Make a difficult pull to finish up and right.

The next problems are about 100m to the west. Along the way you'll pass more rock and some fairly large buttresses but all have dirty finishes and will require lots of cleaning.



Middle Quarry Area

An obvious buttress which sticks out from the main edge.



Sudden Impact 7c ***

Move up the wall with the narrow slanting underlap to a sidepull and high crimps which lead to a finish.

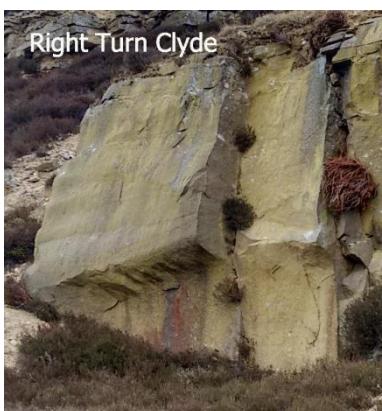
Steve Dunning 2016

White Hunter Black Heart 7c+ ***

Pull onto the wall as for the last problem before breaking off rightwards to finish at the ledge on the arête.

Dave Sutcliffe 2016

About 50m west is the next problem with the possibility for more when cleaned.



Right Turn Clyde 7b+ **

Hand traverse the short ledge rightwards to finish up the wall before the corner.

Steve Dunning 2016

There are good walls to the right (including an obvious highball flake crack) with evidence of some cleaning but the top-outs will be a problem from seepage so nothing has currently been recorded. Opposite here is an obvious **South Facing Buttress** with several good problems.

South Facing Buttress

A nice wall of clean rock with small edges has a number of nice problems.



Left Wall 6c+/7a *

SDS Move up the wall with the overlap on side-pulls and crimps. Pop for the top and mantel to finish. Avoid all the hard moves from standing at 6a.

North Arête 5+ *

SDS Climb the left side of the arête. From standing is 4+.

North Arête - Right Side 6a+ *

The right side of the arête is harder. Climb to a small right hand edge so you can move around to the left side to finish.

The Slab 6a **

Climb the excellent slab to the ledge. Finish by walking off rightwards. (Photo on the right)

The first of two ribs is minimal at best and it is not known if it has been climbed yet.

Flake Rib 6b *

SDS The second rib with a tough start from the flake. Finish slightly rightwards. From standing is also good at 6a.



Western Quarry

The next area is on a higher level to the rest of the quarry about 150m to the south west. It includes buttresses high enough for routes and several opportunities for some bouldering on both quarry walls and boulders. As mentioned in the crag information it is thought that Tony Barley may have climbed some of the routes here but which ones are not known. Eleven routes between HS and E1 have been mentioned and most were more than likely put up at this end of the quarry on some of the more obvious lines.

Leighton Buttress

The first routes are on a well cracked buttress. These are short in stature with the rock being fairly good but care should be taken on the top outs of most. The only current **belay stake** is located above the **Main Buttress** which is 5m behind The Wellington Heifer. This also serves the routes for **Druid's Slab** as long as your rope is long enough. There are still routes to develop.



1. Outlet 6m VD

Climb the crack in the scoop just up the hill.
Steven Phelps 05/08/2017

2. Overflow 6m S 4b

Climb the hanging block using fridge hugging techniques. Mantel to finish.
Steven Phelps 05/08/2017

3. Valve Corner 6m HVD

The short corner crack. Finish as for the last route.
Steven Phelps 05/08/2017

4. Dam Crack 7m VS 5b

The short crack line just right. Finish past two blocks.
Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

5. Pinnacle Left 7m VD

Layback up the corner crack. Finish using the top part of the pinnacle.
Martin Whitton 26/08/2017

6. The Pinnacle 7m S

The hanging pinnacle throughout.
Martin Whitton 26/08/2017

7. Pinnacle Right 7m VD

Move up the broken corner. Finish as for the previous two routes.
Martin Whitton 26/08/2017

8. Sluice Wall 7m VS 5a

The thin eliminate wall to a delicate top out on suspect rock.
Steven Phelps, Martin Whitton 26/08/2017



Martin Whitton on **The Pinnacle S**

9. Druid's Crack 7m S

The obvious crack in the wall to another unstable top out.

Martin Whitton, Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

10. Inferior Crack 7m S

Move up the wide crack about 2m left of the corner. Finish precariously moving leftwards to avoid the possible loose pinnacle above.

Martin Whitton, Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

The next routes described are beyond a loose section of rock starting left of an obvious corner crack.

Main Buttress

The Lost Keys 8m E1 5a *

Climb the right side of the arête to the salvation of a ledge. Finish up the short corner.

Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

The Wellington Heifer 8m VS 4c *

Climb the corner crack until you can step over onto the ledge. Finish as for the last route.

Steven Phelps, Martin Whitton 26/08/2017

Dropbox 8m E5 6b **

The obvious technical wall in the picture below. Climb the centre of the wall to the slot. Move left to sidepulls and then up the vague groove/sidepulls past pockets. Finish on the right Super.

Dave Sutcliffe 2017

Druid's Slab

Positive Mantel Attitude 8m VS 4c

Start past the blank wall. Mantel onto the ledge. Move leftwards and climb up the corner crack.

Avoiding the loose-looking top, transfer onto the arête out left to a final mantel finish.

Steven Phelps, Martin Whitton 26/08/2017



Druid's Flake 8m VS 5b

Start as for the last route. Once on the ledge, make a delicate move up the thin flake to reach a good ledge. Finish by moving rightwards up the centre of the slab. Unprotected climbing though the harder moves are in the lower half.

Steven Phelps 05/08/2017

Noia 8m S 4a

Climb the next flake in the groove. Finish as for the last route or direct.

Martin Whitton, Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

The Dales Way 8m S 4a *

Climb up the left side of the hanging arête. Finish as for the last routes.

Martin Whitton, Steven Phelps 26/08/2017

Odd Fellows 8m HVS 5b *

Climb up the right side of the arête past some pockets. Can be escaped before the crux.

Steven Phelps, Martin Whitton 26/08/2017



Steven Phelps on **The Lost Keys E1 5a**

The Boulders

A bit further west and out of the quarry are some more boulders called the **Optical Illusion Boulders** (and downhill from these are the **Clint Crag Boulders**) as featured in YG1. There are some good problems here, the best of which being **Princeps 6a** which climbs the right arête of the large boulder.

Upper Edge Area

Above the Middle Quarry Area are some large boulders on the moor – marked as Clint Crags on OS Maps. The first problems described are on the small edge with others on the obvious large table-like boulder below. There are more boulders just west but they have limited potential. Names have been given to problems which originally went un-christened to make them easier to identify.



Small Edge

1. Short Wall 3

The short wall using good breaks.

Tony Barley June 1993

2. Short Prow 3

Climb the short prow. Can also be done from sitting at 5.

Tony Barley June 1993

3. Wild Crack 3+

The short crack is mainly laybacked due to being full of soil.

Steven Phelps July 2017

4. Wild Trail 6b

The wall just right of the crack. Make a difficult step up using two tiny crimps to a sloper and then onto better edges. Reach for ledge and finish up the capping block.

Steven Phelps July 2017

5. The Wall 5+ *

Make thin moves on crimps up the centre of the wall up to a high rail. Reach for the ledge and use the capping block to finish.

Tony Barley June 1993

6. The Arête 5 *

Climb the left side of the arête using the big slot. (*Photo above*) The right side with use of the crack out right is 4+.

Tony Barley June 1993



The Arête with the Table Block behind.

7. Concave Wall 4+

Climb the wall starting at a small slot and edge. Make a long reach for the top and finish.

Steven Phelps 10 July 2017

8. Corner Crack 2+

That crack in the corner.

Tony Barley June 1993

9. Back Wall 3

Climb the back wall moving leftwards towards the corner. Finish up the side wall of the top block.

Tony Barley June 1993

The Table Block

Prelude 6b *

SDS Pull onto the hanging arête and make a difficult pop for the top. Mantel to finish.

Steven Phelps August 2017



Student of Wild Bouldering

6b+ **

SDS Move up the centre of the wall on crimps to a difficult pop for the top. Mantel to finish.

Steven Phelps October 2017

China Girl 6b

SDS From the good holds. Climb the arête using the foot block and a sharp crimp out right.

Steven Phelps October 2017

Formative years 6a *

The sloping arête to the right rocking over once the top is reached.

Steven Phelps October 2017