

Carncliff Top South

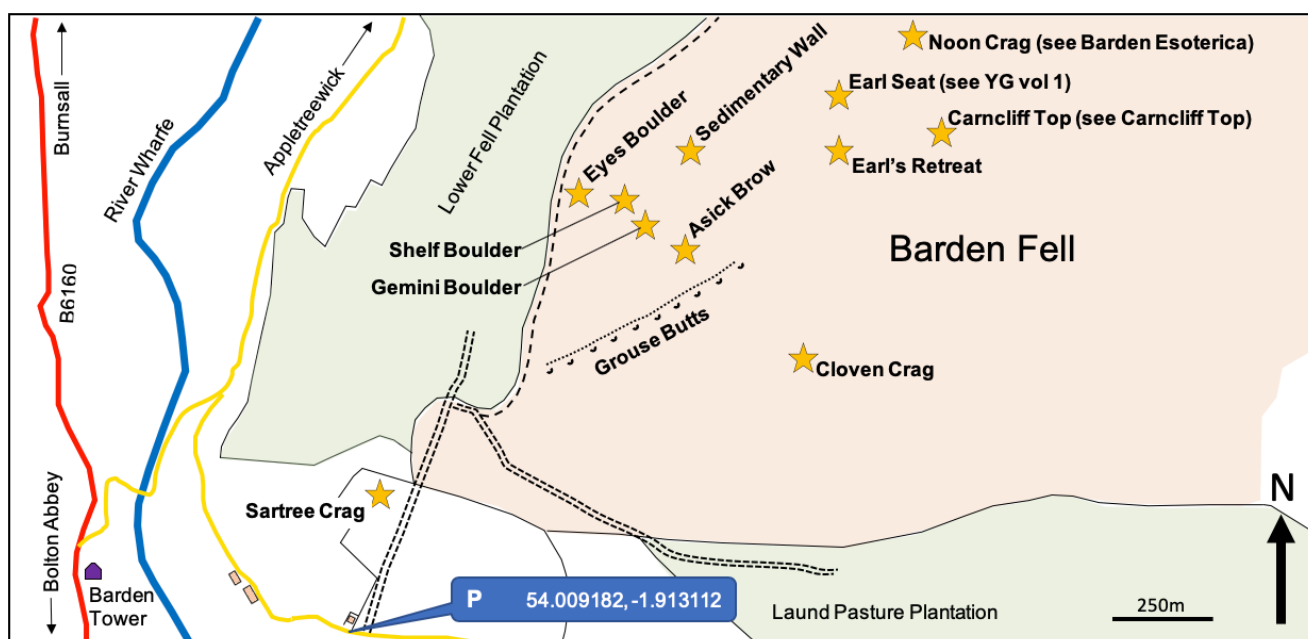


Will Hunt on Evermore (6B+), Asick Brow.

The southern slopes of Carncliff Top are a wild place. A series of south-facing and fast-drying little craglets nestle among the deep, cosy carpets of bilberries and look out across Wharfedale to Barden Moor. Getting between the buttresses can be energetic work, since there are no real paths, and the climbing is generally short in stature – but despite this, climbing on the Top is a liberating thing, and there is probably more of it to find than is described here. If you need to recharge a spirit made weary by the banality of Almscliff and Caley, then cast off on this broad ocean of green, and discover an archipelago of gritstone known only to the sheep and the grouse. Problems were climbed by Will Hunt in June 2014 and 2019 unless stated otherwise.

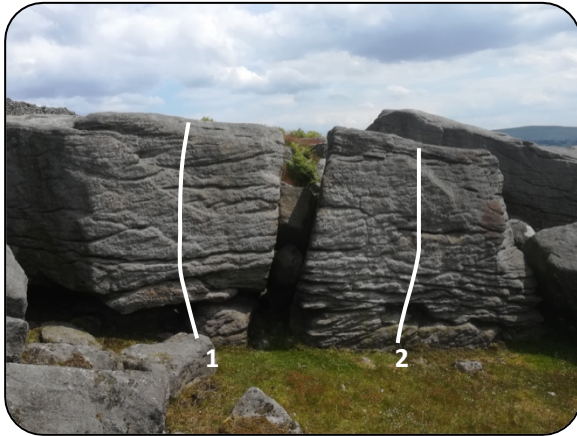
Getting around: The highlights are the Eyes Boulder, Asick Brow, and Cloven Crag, which are spread out across a large area. A standard itinerary would be to walk to the Eyes Boulder and work your way across the hillside to Cloven Crag. **It is strongly advised to bring a GPS device or smartphone with Google Maps etc.** The buttresses are generally not visible from each other and the sea of heather and bilberries can be disorientating. Enter the GPS coordinate that accompanies each buttress into Google Maps and use your device's on-board GPS to home in on it. Recent satellite imagery is handy for spotting nearby tracks of mown heather which make for much easier walking. A rough, intermittent keeper's trod runs from the lowest to highest grouse butt (but not to the main path) and this provides an easy shortcut or retreat from Asick Brow. The lowest butt is hard to spot from the main path so use your GPS: 54.015489, -1.905646.

Parking and approach info: From Bolton Abbey drive north towards Burnsall and turn right down the hill at Barden Tower. Cross the narrow bridge and, near the brow of the hill that follows, do a hairpin turn to the right onto the road to Storiths. After 900m, park in a narrow layby opposite the first house on the left (54.009182, -1.913112). Take care not to block the gate or farm traffic on the road. Head through the gate and follow the track straight ahead as it climbs uphill. Turn left just before the first gate to find Sartree Crag or follow the track and then plantation boundary wall to reach the Eyes Boulder (15 minutes). From here, use your wits and your GPS to get about.



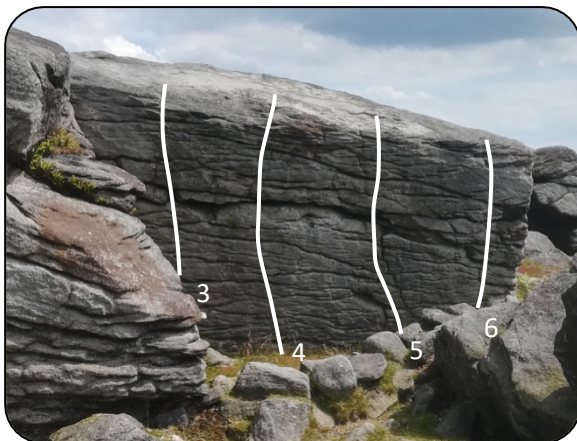
Sartree Crag

One of Yorkshire Grit's smallest stages! The climbs are short and maybe best enjoyed by younger climbers? All the climbs can be climbed from sit to add to their length.



1\ Soggy Bottom f4
The left wall and arête.
Will Hunt June 2014

2\ Soufflé f4
Will Hunt June 2014

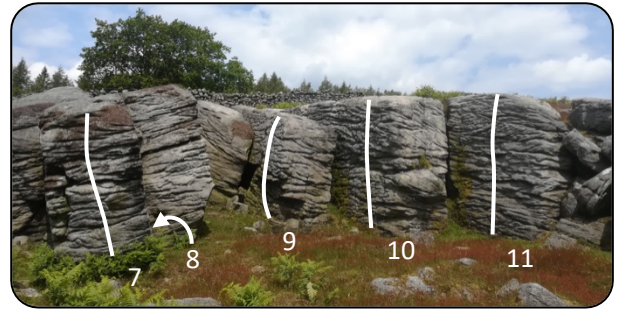


3\ Paul f5
SDS the overhanging left wall.
Dave Prince October 2016

4\ Mary f5+
SDS to a slopy top out.
Dave Prince October 2016

5\ How Did They Get Four On This Face? F5+
And yet, they did. SDS and squeeze between Mary and the arête.
John Hunt December 2017

6\ Mel and Sue f5+
SDS the right arête.
Dave Prince October 2016



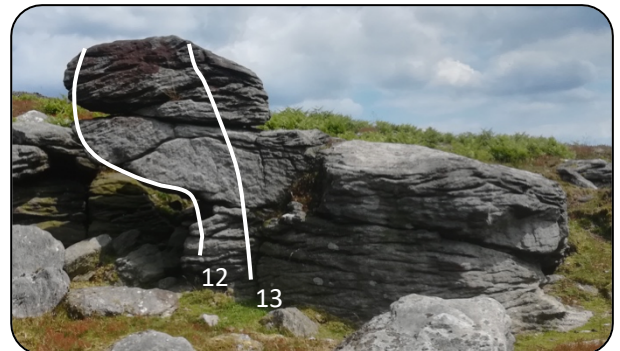
7\ Bookend f5
SDS. The right end of the overhanging wall.
John Hunt December 2017

8\ First Slab f2
The slab on the rear side of the overhanging wall.
William Hunt December 2017

9\ Little Roof f3
SDS under the little overlap.
William Hunt December 2017

10\ Sartree Wall f4+
SDS.
William Hunt December 2017

11\ Bread Week f4
SDS. The fine wall on rounded holds.
Will Hunt June 2014



12\ Proper Low f5
SDS. The obvious roof from the lowest start you can manage.
Will Hunt June 2014

13\ Perched Block f2
SDS. The front face.
John Hunt December 2017



Eyes Boulder (54.01948, -1.90485)

A short, accessible buttress with a distinctly moorland vibe to the climbing that will warm you up before you dive into the bilberries. Some of the lines share holds with their neighbours – nothing is eliminate unless stated! Problems climbed by Will Hunt in June 2019.

1\ Widdershins f4+ *

SDS. Start right hand in the pocket and use undercuts to slope over the top.

2\ Deasil f4+ *

SDS. Start left hand in the pocket and use the arête to gain the top.

3\ Women Welcome f6B+ *

SDS. Climb the arête using everything within reach. Hard work!

4\ Poke f5

Begin in the left Eye and top out slightly to the left.

5\ Evil Eye f6A *

Start spanned between the Eyes and reach the top. Mantelling the top is as enjoyable as moorland top outs get.

5a\ Evil Eye Eliminate f6B

The centre of the wall on pebbles, eliminating the Eyes.

6\ Scratch f5

Begin in the right Eye and top out direct

7\ Tiny Arête f3

The minute right arête.

8\ Breakwater f5

Butch pulls between the oft wet breaks and top out slight right.

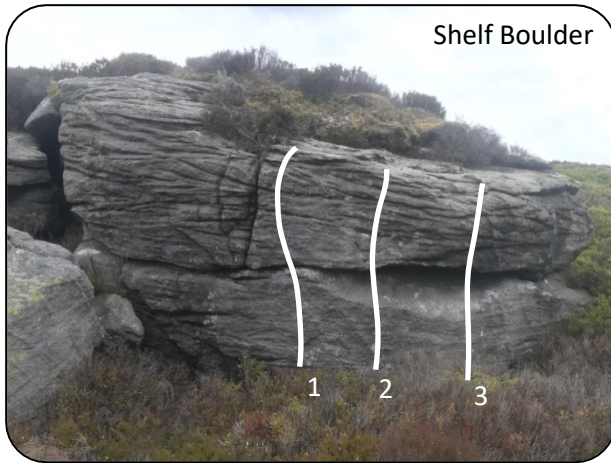


Will Hunt on The Restful Rib (f5+), Asick Brow.



Shelf Boulder (54.01942, -1.90239)

A boulder of fairly limited quality.

**1\ The Crack** f5

SDS at the break and pull up the obvious feature.

2\ Guts and Glory f5

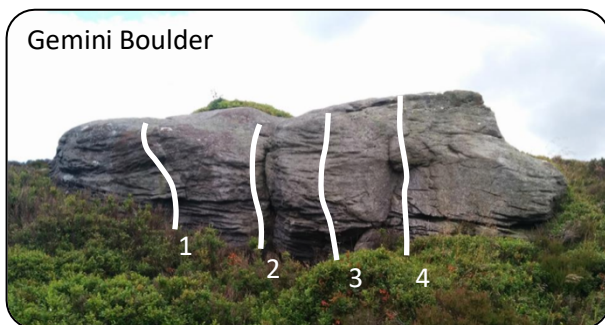
SDS. The wall right of the crack on crimps.

3\ Blood on the Rocks f5

SDS. The vague rib.

Gemini Boulder (54.01879, -1.90169)

A boulder with some remaining potential. There are four obvious lines. If you climb the remaining lines, please email the details to unknownstones@gmail.com.

**1\ ? f?**

SDS. The pleasant short flake.

2\ A Bit of a Handful f4

SDS. The fist-devouring crack.

Lindsay McMorran June 2019

3\ ? f?

SDS. The bulging wall.

4\ Beginner's Luck f3

SDS. Climb through the small capping roof.

Lindsay McMorran & Robert Ford June 2019

Asick Brow (54.01833, -1.90011)

A nice sized boulder – not high, not short – where a short headwall of Barden Fell's best quality grit sits atop a deep break. A very pleasant place to visit, with *Evermore* being the best problem in this group of boulders. A direct approach is eased by the rough trod connecting the grouse butts.

1\ I Like Grouse Butts and I Cannot Lie f4+ *

The crimpy wall is a little charmer. A SDS is also possible.

2\ Scouse Brow f5

Eliminate. SDS just left of *The Cleft* in a break and climb the wall slightly leftwards without using *The Cleft*.

3\ The Cleft f4 *

The broad chimney/niche to a taxing top out.

4\ The Restful Rib f5+ **

A quirky little number with plenty of character. SDS and climb into a double knee-bar rest (should you need it!). Climb up to meet one of those gritstone top outs your momma used to warn you about.

4a\ The Restful Rib Eliminate f6A

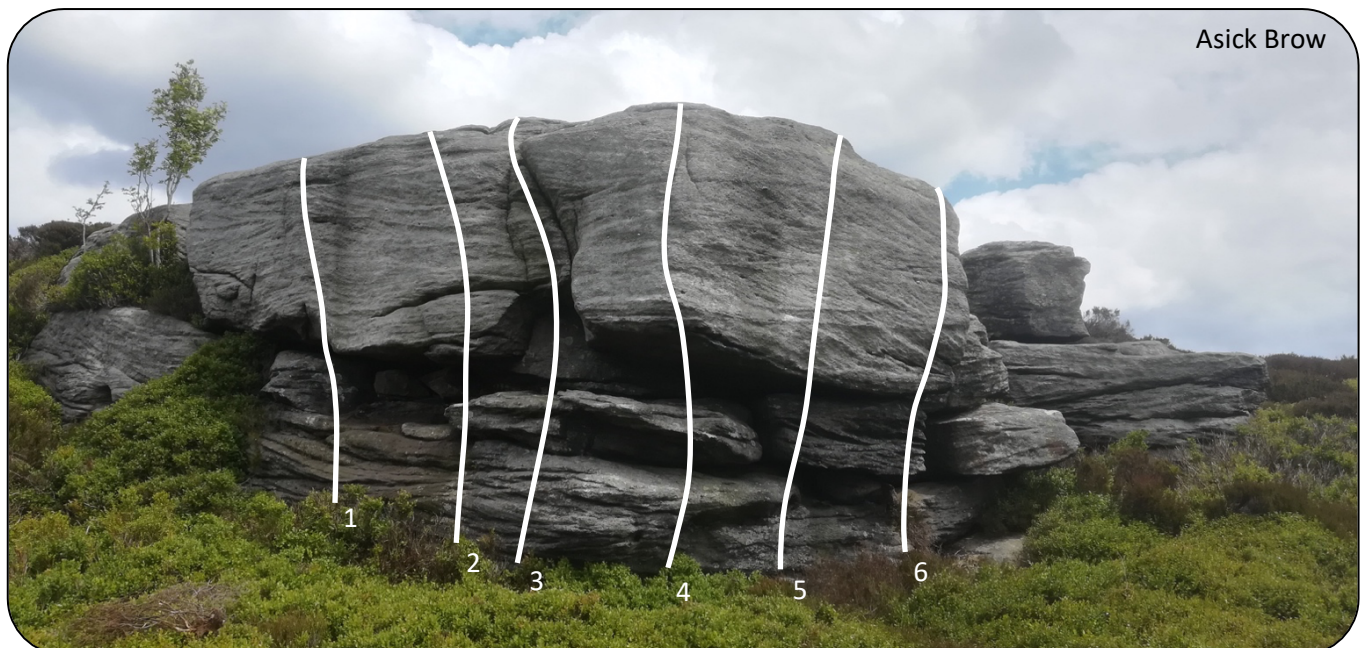
Difficulty obsessed perverts may wish to eliminate the right side of the cleft.

5\ Project f?

A difficult wall with a distinct lack of holds and a bald top out.

6\ Evermore f6B+ **

SDS. The right arête of the buttress is a real belter. Jam the break and a hold on the arête to set up for an almighty slap onto the balding top. Move right to top out.





Cloven Crag Left

Cloven Crag (54.01581, -1.89529)

A far-flung land with few, if any, visitors. Like all the crags on the southern slopes of the Top, it is fairly short and the landings are excellent.

1\ I Paint Buses f4+ *

SDS. The nice cracked arête to a deep porthole.

2\ May Ends in June f6A

SDS. The undercut arête via very reachy moves.

3\ War of the Poses f4+

SDS and head up to the hanging crack.

4\ This Scepter'd Isle f4+

Head up to the thin seam.

5\ Cruel Crack f4+

Layback up the mean crack.

6\ Leave's on the Line f6A+ *

SDS. The thin, undercut wall on crimps and breaks is a tough cookie. The crack is out.

**7\ Mantel Aforethought** f4+ *

The gripping mantel on the arête.

8\ The Full English Fisting f5

Attack the crack on traditional jams.

9\ Cross the Billy Goat's Bridge f5+

In the unusual alley that splits the crag, the right wall (facing uphill) is long and low. Start on the left and traverse right with hands below the top. Finish at the bilberry-choked crack or continue if you fancy.

Sedimentary Wall (54.02077, -1.8991)

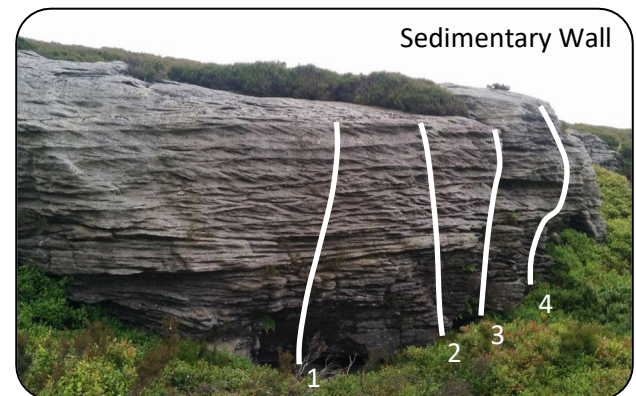
A rippling buttress that doesn't fit with any convenient itinerary. Strenuous climbing and tricky exits.

1\ Caveman f5+

SDS in the cave and finish slightly right.

2\ Sedimentary, Dear Warburton f5

SDS. The protruding shelf left of the crack.

3\ Sedimentary Crack f5**4\ Rippling Arête** f4

Sedimentary Wall

Earl's Retreat (54.02024, -1.89353)

A small block set high on the Top.

1\ Earl's Prow f4+

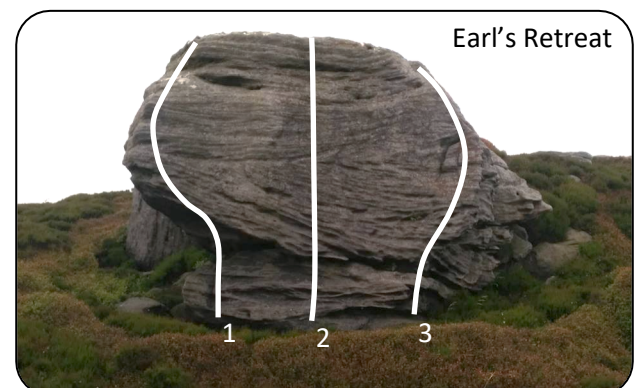
SDS. The overhanging prow.

2\ Noble Wall f4+

The short clean wall.

3\ Early Bird f4

SDS. The right arête.



Earl's Retreat