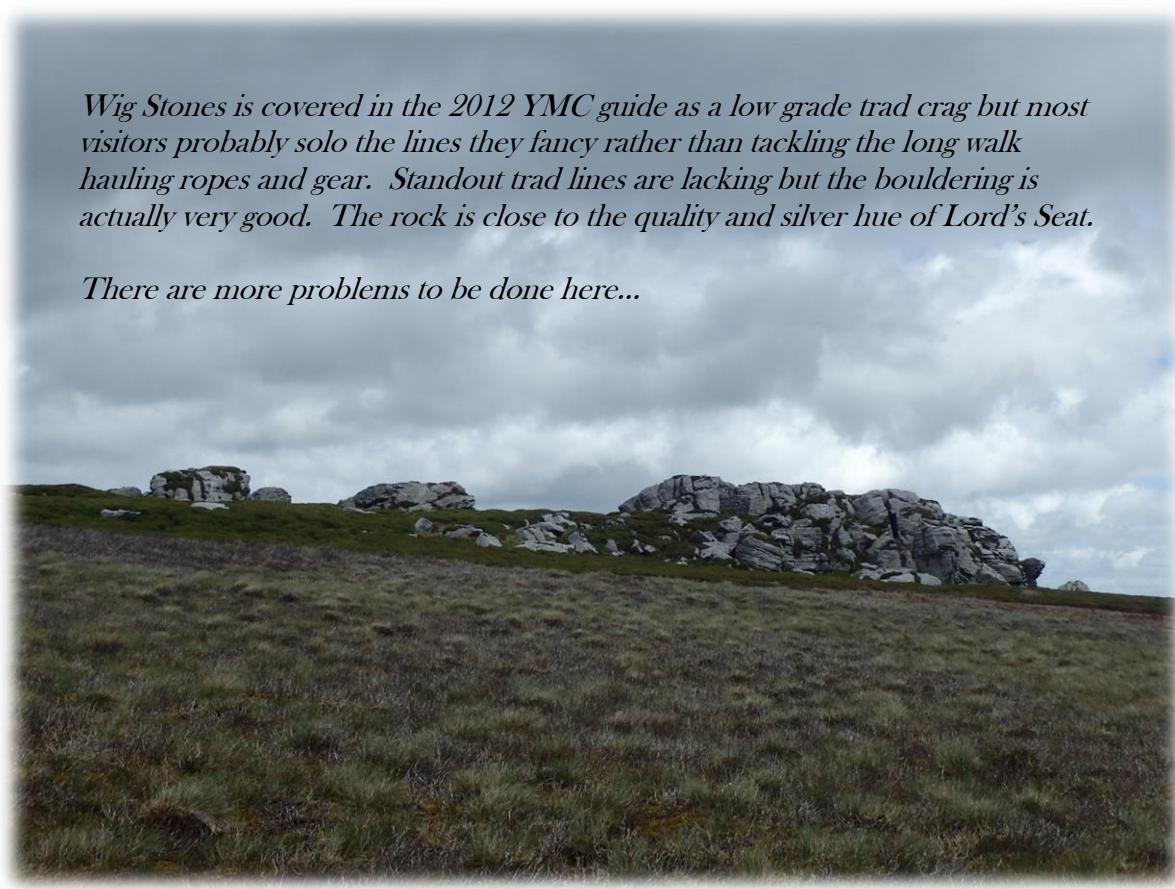


Wig Stones New Bouldering

Wig Stones is covered in the 2012 YMC guide as a low grade trad crag but most visitors probably solo the lines they fancy rather than tackling the long walk hauling ropes and gear. Standout trad lines are lacking but the bouldering is actually very good. The rock is close to the quality and silver hue of Lord's Seat.

There are more problems to be done here...



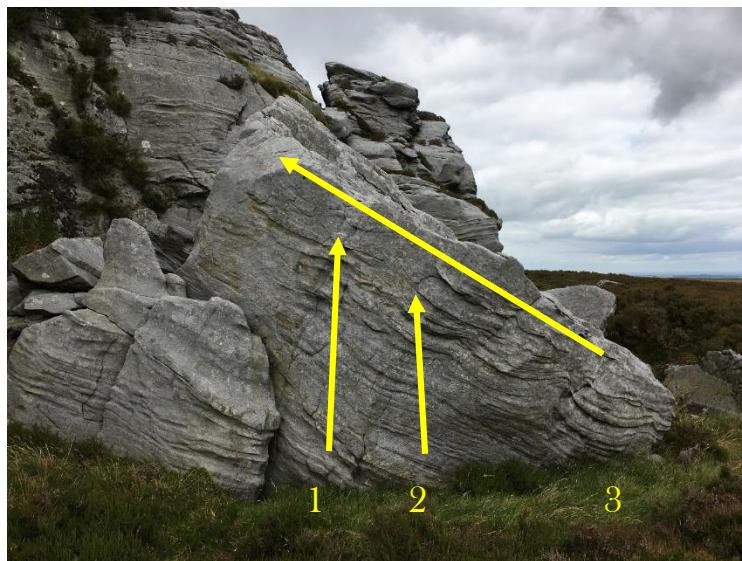
Approach: It is a longish walk but walking is good training. The final approach can be boggy. Please see the notes at the end for more detail and maps.



Sciatica Knackita 6c

Silver Wall

*The West face of the little boulder below Life in the Old Dog Yet / Let Sleeping Dogs Lie.
Only little but immaculate rock.*

**1/ Crack 'un Eye 4**

Sit start on these features and pop for the top.

2/ Eye 'un Ledge 4

Sit start using the eye in the other hand to pop again.

3/ Top Trav 4+

Sit start low on the right and ride the top. Top out at the end of the face without the boulder on the left.

The Fins Boulder

The undercut boulder left of Grimwith Bridge M; the YMC guide mentions “a rather fine Font 4 problem” which is the standing start using the most obvious fins to a mantel finish.

4/ Sciatica Knackita 6c

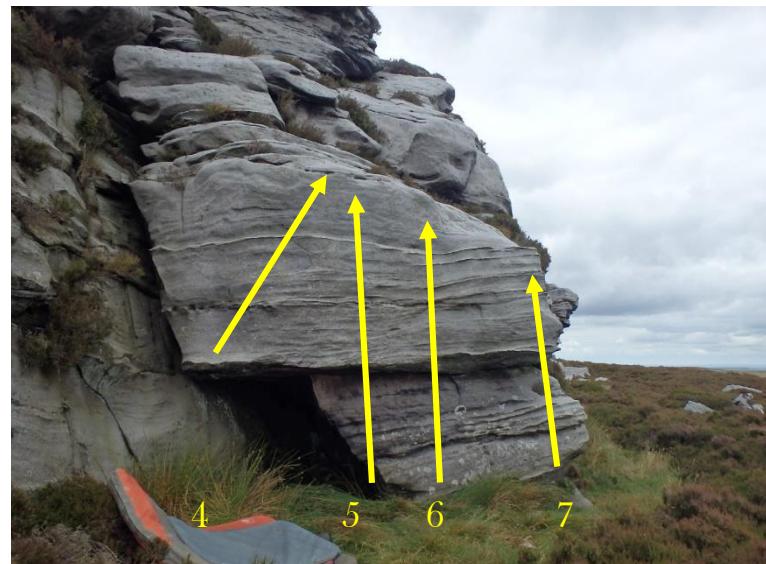
Sit start hanging the lip without any use of the left-hand side wall. Pull right for crimps; the lower arête under the overlap is in for feet.

5/ Harpoon 6b

Sit start on the lower arête and strictly sticking to the line above it; an undercut under the roof may be useful. No straying onto the lip to the right, even for feet.

6/ Rather Fine 4

The obvious line using the best of the fins. 4+ from a sitter.

**7/ Blubberback 6a**

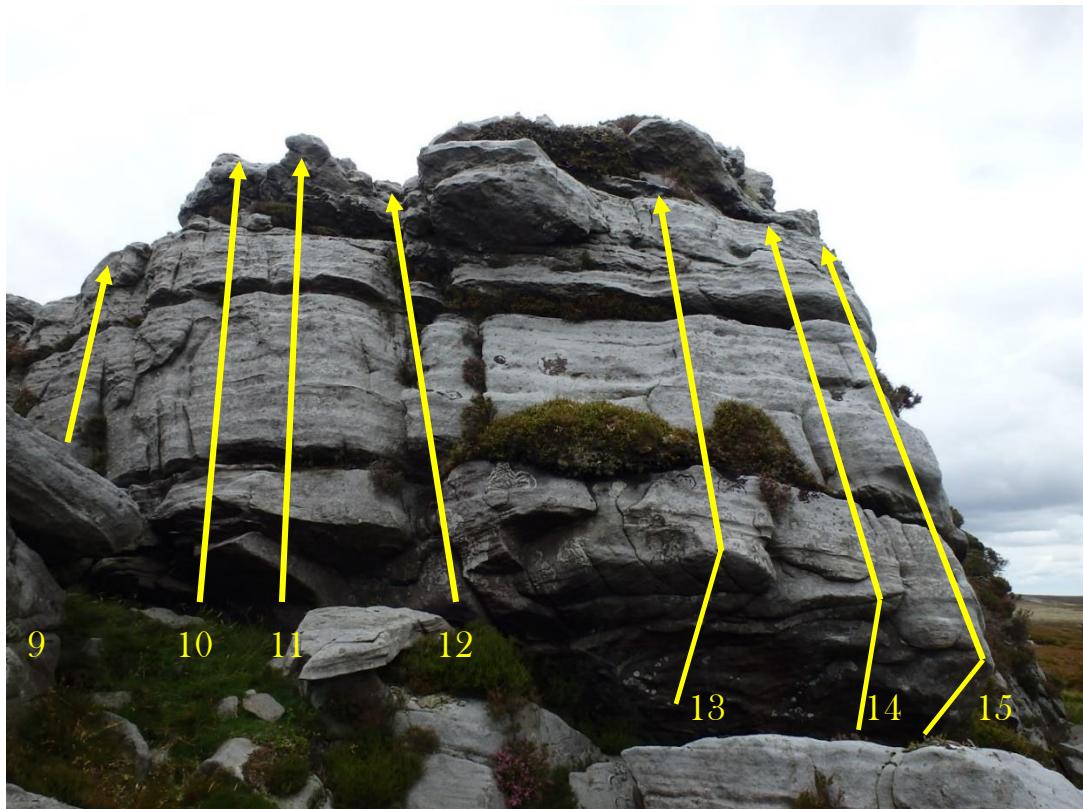
Sit start and tackle the bulging end wall.

8/ Fins Traverse 3+

Traverse the line of the fins from right to left. Very fine indeed.

All Bark and No Bite Buttress

Mostly sit starts from the boulder underlying the finish of All Bark and No Bite and the gully to the left of it.

**9/ Flakes 4**

Sit start using the flakes at the end of the little gully. 2+ from standing.

10/ Crown Nobbles 6a

Sit start. An eliminate which only uses the flattie in the centre of the wall for progress (the 'nobbles' are a good reference point to aim for).

11/ Grave Marker 5

Sit start off the projecting feature; no gully. A nice smoky D from standing.

12/ Middle Gully M

Pleasant climbing.

The next three problems all start off the boulder that underlies and forms part of All bark and No Bite.

13/ Knight's Pommel 6b

Sit start at the handle under the roof. Climb the bulge via good holds on its right to a throw for the pommel feature. Feet anywhere off the underlying boulder. A brilliant 'climbing wall' style problem.

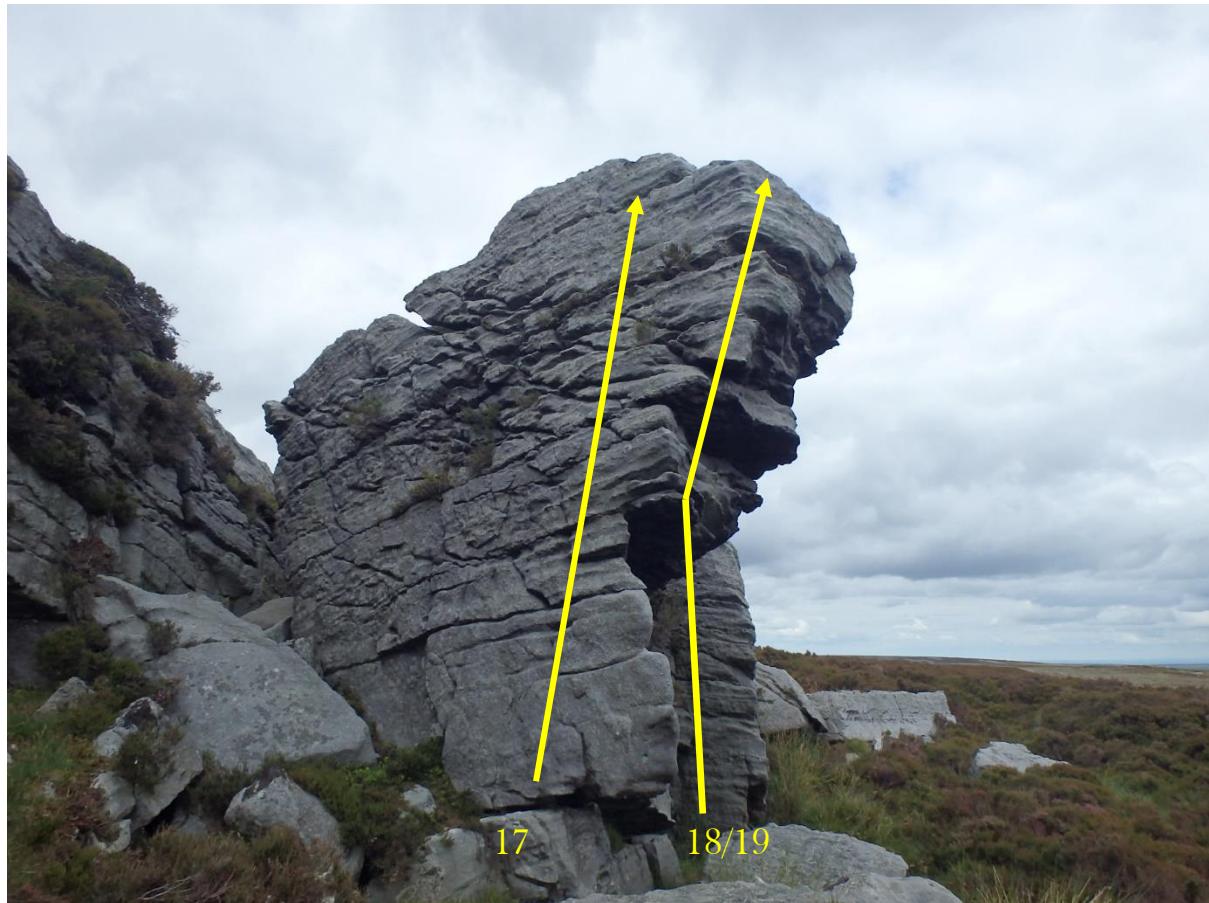
14/ Bark and Bite 6b+

A sit start to the top of the VD in the guide. Feet on the bottom wall, use the central good hold to throw for the break.

15/ Edge Eliminate 6c

Sit start with hands on the front and side of the arête without the insipid crack on the left. Smear, clamp and scrittle to the break.

Project: A lower start.

Chin's Prow**17/ Chin's Prow Sit 3+**

Enjoy the prow's left face again from a sitting start.

The next two problems climb nicely but the landing is difficult and some of the holds might be fragile. The face without the arête and the right wall would make good problems.

18/ Prow Front 5

The front of the obvious prow. Holds on the arête are in.

19/ Prow Front Sit 6a

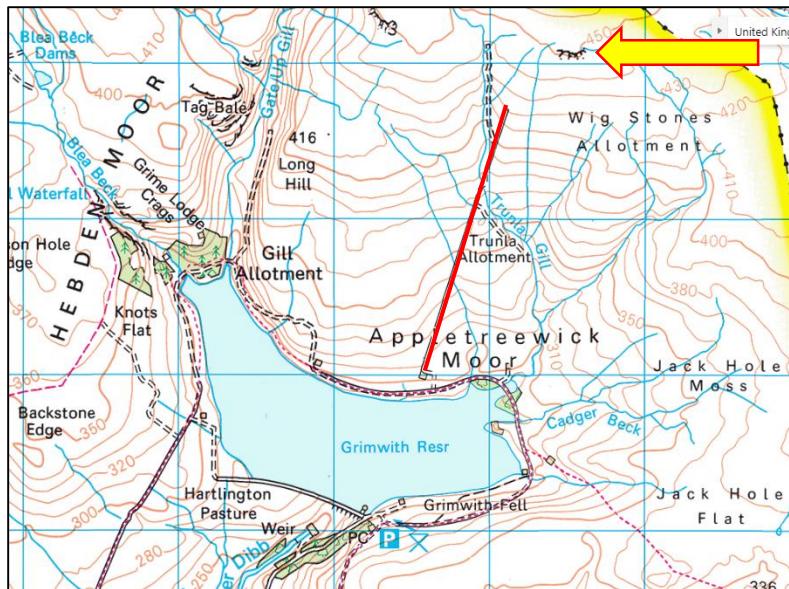
The prow again from a super low start.

There is more to do here both on the left wall of the prow and on the smaller rocks around to the right.

Approach notes:

Wig Stones are remote and a fair step from any road / the Yorkshire Water carpark at Grimwith Reservoir. The YMC guide recommends approaching as for Great Wolfrey which is long but completely legal. Other approaches are available.

The long straight shooting road (the red line on the top map) is convenient to use but this starts on an odd pocket of non-Access Land so it cannot be legally accessed direct from the Grimwith Reservoir footpath.



The 1:25,000 map below shows the funny bubble of non-Access Land.



John Hunt, July 2020