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O.S. Sheet 85

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NORTH CUMBRIA LIMESTONE

Caldbeck Moor Quarry

by Stewart Wilson

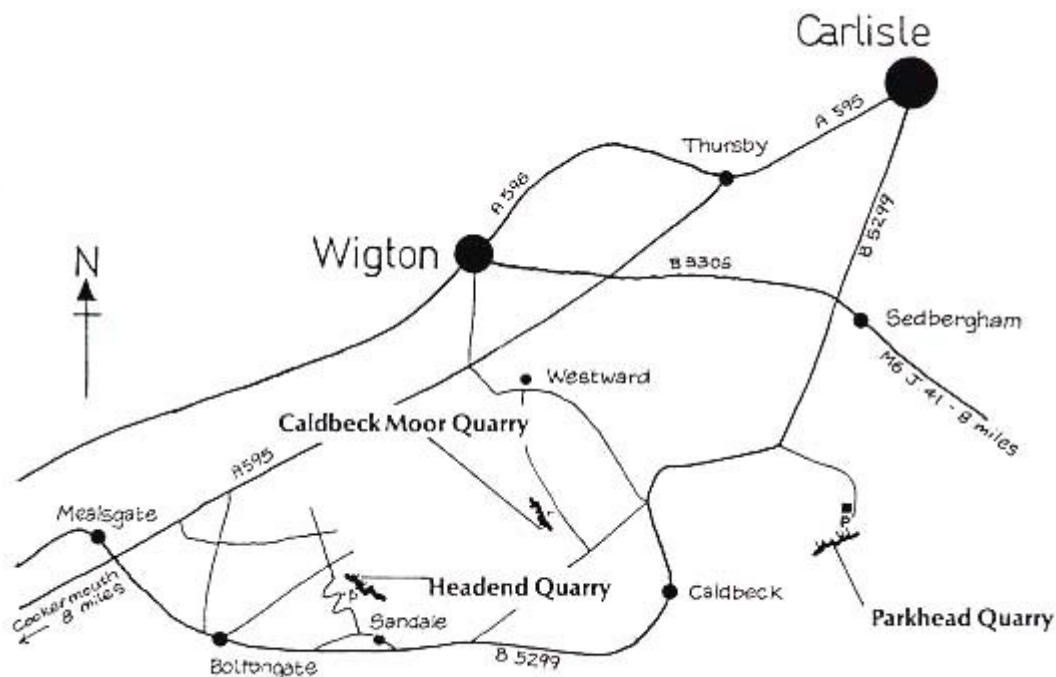


FELL and ROCK
CLIMBING CLUB
of the
English Lake District

This crag will be included in the next FRCC Eastern Crags guide (due 2008)

Caldbeck Moor Quarry is a disused quarry, set on the fells, about three miles west-north-west of Caldbeck. It faces east and has an open aspect. The climbing is contained on the one hundred and fifty metre long back wall and has a maximum height of ten metres. The rock is limestone, of variable quality, requiring some care on finishes. Belays are absent on top and stakes could be useful.

The wall has few distinguishing features and the established climbs are on the more obviously stable sections. More climbs could be available for the determined trundler.



Approaches & Access

The best approach from Penrith and the M6 (Junction 41), is to follow the B5305 (Wigton road) through Sebergham to the crossroads at Goose Green (String Of Horses Public House) and turn right on the B5299 for Caldbeck. Follow this road, uphill and over Warnell Fell, passing the turn off for [Park Head Quarry](#) on the left at the sharp right-hand corner. Continue to the next crossroads a distance of just over one mile and go directly across onto the unfenced fell road. This is followed for two and a half miles to another crossroads where a signpost points right to Wigton and westward. Turn right and, after another mile, the quarry will be seen on the left-hand side of the road by a disused building. It is possible to drive into the quarry. The quarry belongs to the local council and access is not a problem.

However Barry Clarke notes: still more potential here, but cleaning and trundling required. There are two stakes atop the Main Wall. Access: It is 1.7 miles to the crossroads across the moor, rather than 2.5 miles. The right turn here is signposted to a caravan park and after half a mile the quarry appears on the

left. You can't drive in any more as there is a metal gate across the track. Finally, the building has been demolished!

The climbs are described from left to right. **Descent** is via a grassy ramp towards the left end of the wall and all the routes are to the right of this.

Left Wall

1. **Faulds** 6m S

Start below a wide crack 17m right of the descent ramp. Climb the wide crack and the loose, V-groove above.

2. **Lynedraw** 7m S

Climb the obvious corner to the right. Pretty awful.

3. **Dunbeath** 8m HS

Start just right of the corner of *Dunbeath* below a square-cut arete.

(4c). Gain the arete from the wall to the right and follow it to the top.

Six metres right of *Dunbeath* is a left-facing groove and a further five metres beyond this are two thin cracks which form a V.

4. **Aughertree** 8m S

Climb the wall left of the V to reach the left-hand crack at mid-height. Follow this to the top.

5. **Snittlegarth** 8m HS 4b

Climb the crescent-shaped crack 5 metres right of **Aughertree**.

A more broken area extends rightwards then the rock improves again to form the steep, smooth *Main Wall*.

Main Wall

6. **Rash Raiser** 9m VS *

(4b). Climb the arete which forms the left edge of *Main Wall*.

7. **Whelpo Way** 9m HS *

(4a). Start 5 metres right of the arete of *Rash Raiser* below a thin, crooked crack. Climb this.

Moving right, beyond a left-facing corner groove, is another steep wall which is off-set from the line of the *Main Wall*.

8. **Thistlebottom** 10m VS

Start by an overlap at the left side of the wall.

(4b). Follow a right-slanting crack to its end then move left to a slab and finish up this.

9. **Biggards** 9m HVS

(5a). Climb the curving right-hand crack which runs the full height of the wall.

Right Wall

At the extreme right end of the quarry a loose, south-facing wall makes a right angle with the main mass. A slightly more solid arete is apparent, roughly in the centre of this wall - this is *Rose amongst Thorns*.

Egmont 8m VS

A reasonable route taking the scooped wall 1 metre left of *Rose amongst Thorns*.

(5a). Climb the wall direct on spaced holds, after a bold fingery start. Just worthwhile now after a heavy cleaning session!

Steve Broatch, BJ Clarke, Julie Simpson, 23rd April 2006

Rose Amongst Thorns 9m VS

Start at the foot of the arete; small cairn.
 (4b). Climb the arete direct, gradually easing, to a flat paved finish.
 BJ Clarke (solo), 12th April 2006

Thorn Corner 8m HS

(4a). Climbs the corner immediately right of *Rose Amongst Thorns*. Still a bit loose even after extensive cleaning.
 BJ Clarke (solo), 21st April 2006

Striation Crack 7m MS 2007

Start 4 metres right of *Thorn Corner*, and climb the thin crack in the centre of the small protruding buttress to the top.
 BJ Clarke, 15th Oct 2007

Caldbeck Moor Quarry
FIRST ASCENTS

1970s	All of the routes are the work of Ron Kenyon and date back to the 1970s. They were all climbed solo as nobody would go there with him. Recently the quarry has been re-visited by Paul Ross and Chris Bonington who have cleaned and climbed another batch of routes.			
2006	Apr	12	Rose Amongst Thorns	BJ Clarke (solo)
2006	Apr	21	Thorn Corner	BJ Clarke (solo)
2006	Apr	23	Egmont	Steve Broatch, BJ Clarke, Julie Simpson
2007	Oct	15	Striation Crack	BJ Clarke (solo)

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