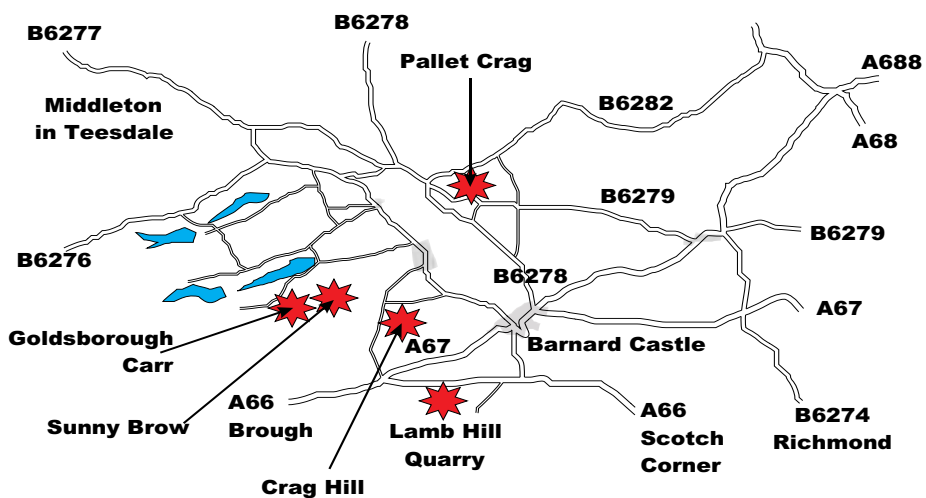
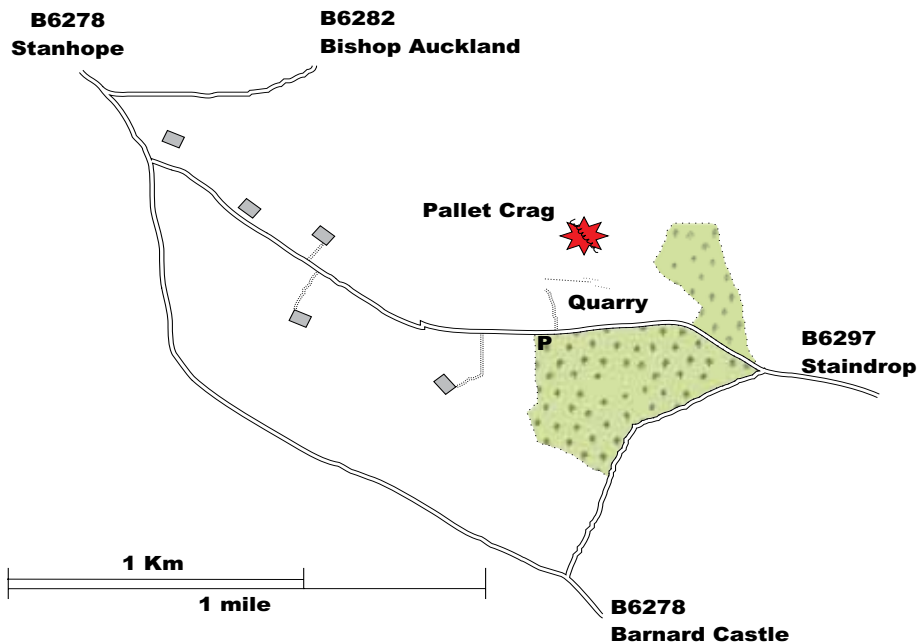


PALLET CRAG



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O.S. Sheet 92 NZ 027226
 Aspect North East Facing
 Altitude 305m
 Approach Time 10 minutes

Mod - Severe	1
HS - HVS	8
E1 - E3	5
E4 and above	0
Bouldering	0

History

The crag has been climbed on for many years and the ancient bolt on *Kermit* is evidence of early-unrecorded visits. The first recorded ascent was the ascent of *Kermit* by AJK Gooding and WE Pattison in 1963. Roy Small climbed the more direct *Miss Piggy* in 1982. Paul Carling, Nigs Reader and Nigel Jones climbed many of the other routes including *Talisman*, *The Swan*, *The Hollow Hills*, *Shady Lady*, *Little Mary*, and *Cracked Arête*. Steve Crowe visited the crag in July 1991 and opened up the Artists Face with *Brush Strokes* then returned in March 1992 with Karin Magog to add *Pastel Shades* and *Just a Dab of White for Another Masterpiece*. Finally Bob Bennett and John Cook climbed *Link* by following the left arête of the main buttress.

Situation and Character

This small gritstone outcrop is well worth a visit, when in the area, if only for the climbs on the main buttress. Being North East facing this is definitely a summer crag and be warned, late in the summer the crag suffers badly from midges on still days!

Access and Approaches

From Bishop Auckland take the A688 to Staindrop, then the B6279 towards Eggleston/Middleton In Teesdale. As you drive through Kinnivie the crag will be visible across to your right (note the electricity pole above the crag). As you take a short series of bends the crag will disappear behind the hills. Drive through the small woodland and park next to the last gate into the forest on the left. Opposite, on your right, is another gate, which is usually padlocked. Climb carefully over this and follow the track down into the shallow quarry. Then follow the dry stonewall on the left North Eastwards up over some rough ground to reach the top of the crag just to the right of the electricity pole. There is no right of access, climbers have been asked to leave this crag in the past.



The Climbs

The routes are described from left to right starting at an obvious V-groove.

1. Day Of Action 7m D

Climb the obvious large v-shaped groove, with a small tree at its finish.

1980s

2. Talisman 7m 5a

Takes the wall just to the right of the obvious groove of *Day of Action* to the platform.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s

3. The Swan 7m 4b

Climb the obvious curving crack right of *Talisman*.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s

An ascent of the obvious, easy looking, crack to the right has not been claimed, I wonder why?

4. Birdlime Wall 7m 5a

Takes the wall between the crack filled with birdlime and the arête, avoiding the big ledges on the arête.

1980s

About 10m to the right is a large slabby vegetated wall. Immediately to the right again is:

5. The Hollow Hills 13m HVS 5a

Start to the left of the arête, climb the groove and ascend the prominent hanging flake until a difficult move can be made to gain a large ledge on the left. Move rightwards to finish. Nice climbing, shame about the ledge at half height.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s

6. Link 15m E2 5c *

Starts up the front face of the biggest buttress. From the toe of the buttress climb the twin cracks until stopped by an overhang. Step left to a ledge. Follow the crack until it peters out then go straight up the wall just left of the arête.

Bob Bennett, John Cook 23rd August 1992

7. Miss Piggy 15m E1 5b

Start up the twin cracks as for *Link*. Climb the crack to a ledge for a breather then back right to enter the shallow groove, step right, back onto the front face, and continue up the left arête to the top.

Roy Small 1982



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8. Kermit 15m E1 5b ***

The original route of this buttress. Climb the twin cracks to the overhang as for *Miss Piggy*, traverse right beneath the overhang and step briefly around the right arête. Make one move up this sidewall, friend 1/2, then step back left above the overhang onto the slabby wall above. Continue up this keeping to the right hand side. A start is also possible directly up the right arête at the same grade.

AJK Gooding and WE Pattison 6th June 1963

9. (Just a Dab of White for)**Another Masterpiece 13m E3 6a ****

Climb the shallow groove just to the right of left arête, and just right of the direct start of *Kermit*. Climb to underneath the large overhang. From the large undercut make a long reach over the roof to a good hold, mantelshelf on to this with the aid of two good crimps out to the right. Continue up the wall above keeping to the right of the arête.

Steve Crowe, Karin Magog March 1992

10. Brush Strokes 15m E1 5b *

Start on the right of the Artists' Face just left of an obvious dirty crack. Climb, avoiding the dirty crack, to skirt past to the right of two overlaps and up the wall to a roof. Traverse leftwards until you are able to pass the roof and keeping to the right of the arête

Steve Crowe, Karin Magog. July 1991

11. Pastel Shades 14m HVS 5b

A worthwhile alternative finish to *Brush Strokes*. Climb the wall below the roof then make a long reach right to a good hold over the lip. Pull over to a ledge and either, climb up over the next roof and continue to the top, or move up trending left to pass the roof and then straight to the top.

Steve Crowe, Karin Magog. March 1992

To the right is a distinctive over-hanging groove.

12. Shady Lady 10m 4b

This poor climb takes the slab on the left of the distinctive groove to a ledge. Finish up the broken crack taking care with loose rock.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s

13. Little Mary 10m 4c *

Jam and bridge up the distinctive overhanging groove to a ledge. Step right and climb the overhanging crack using brilliant finger locks.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s



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14. Cracked Arête 10m 4b

Follows the cracked arête right of the distinctive groove of *Little Mary*. From the ledge continue more easily up the arête to the top.

P Carling, N Reader and N Jones 1980s

The next two climbs may be of great interest to botanists. *Dunromin (D)* climbs the overgrown slab, to the right of *Cracked Arête* and *Happy Hernia (D)* climbs the slab somewhere right of *Dunromin!*