

Neath



southern forest

upper slope

middle slope

lower slope

Way in

Sandstone - east facing - 15 minutes

The Lower Slope

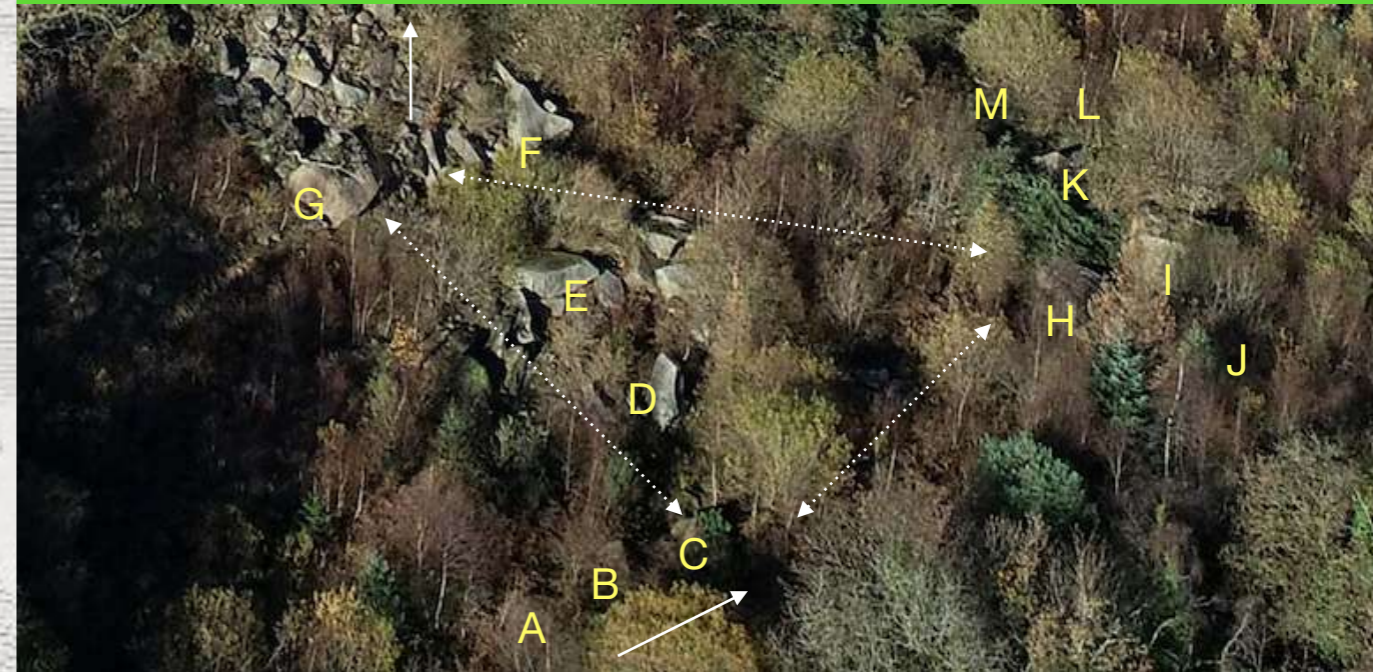
"I cannot call to mind a single valley that in the same extent of country comprises so much beautiful and picturesque scenery, and so many interesting special features, as the Vale of Neath" - Alfred Russel Wallace

The sudden collapse of Neath Quarry in the early 2000s (much to the surprise of local residents) turned a previously esoteric sport-climbing venue into one of the best bouldering areas in South Wales... although it had to wait until rediscovery by Alex Mannion and Liam Fyfe in 2013. The pair bushwhacked in through thick growth to find a complex area of boulders hidden beyond the trees. They were soon joined by friends like Elliot Stephens, Rhiannon Jacob, and 'Strong' Tom Williams who helped develop landings, paths, and work out the problems. Thanks to their efforts the area now contains a variety of accessible bouldering scattered over the hillside, from easy warm-ups to hard projects (including gems such as *Perfect Slab*, *Brionified*, and *Techtonics*), although moving around can be tricky with pads - see warning below - and visits during the height of summer are not recommended due to bracken, brambles, and horseflies. A second, much smaller quarry can be found nearby on **Drummau Road** providing additional problems/micro-routes to compliment the selection here.

WARNING - This dynamic environment is no place for the inexperienced. There is a pervading sense of menace to the cliffs at the back of the quarry, whilst the boulders are jumbled around a hillside comprised of unstable scree. Rocks can shift suddenly underfoot (as one nasty accident has already proved) and the larger ones are sometimes found to have changed position overnight as they continue a journey down the hillside. This makes getting around challenging and care is needed to avoid many potential hazards.

Approach - access to the quarry remains contentious and is best approached in a low-key manner. I.e. don't make a lot of noise, avoid large groups, and never come here at night. Be prepared for the approach to take longer on first acquaintance, when it is unfamiliar and mistakes may be made.

Park thoughtfully at the upper end of Penshannel (SA10 6PP) in Neath (this is a small residential street so no large vehicles). From the end of the public road walk west into a private road. After 30m, where this bends left towards a house, continue west onto a path through trees, keeping a wire fence to the left. When the fence ends head left, going up-slope in trees for around 100m to emerge on a wider path beside a water works. Turn right and follow the path for a further 100m until an open area is reached. Turn left here towards the hillside and after 20m (ish?) take a hard-to-spot rough path going right, heading back into trees over a little stream. Follow the vague path as it meanders through the trees before a short ascent after around 150m brings you out of the trees beside a cube shaped boulder [A], onto the slopes right below the main quarry.



The lower slope of the hillside contains some excellent boulders hidden amongst scrubby undergrowth and small trees. Emerging from the forest takes you past a trio of boulders (A-C). After these head left for boulders D-G (and easiest access to the **Middle/Upper slopes**) or right for boulders H-N.

1. **The green man** [4+, ss] The first (mossy) boulder [A] has a distinctive cubic shape. Sit-start the sharp front arête and make moves up its left side (L.Fyfe 2013).

2. **Green crimps** [4+] Pull on using two central crimps on the face and then top out (L.Fyfe 2013).

3. **Mossy arête** [3+, ss] The other arête is straight-forward (L.Fyfe 2013).

4. **Mossy slab** [4, ss] A low start on the right of the east face is tricky. Currently very mossy L.Fyfe 2013).

5. **The gift** [6b, ss] A tricky low start left of the arête on boulder B (L.Fyfe 2013).

6. **Tom's slab** [4] Smear up the rippled slab of boulder C (L.Fyfe 2013).

7. **Unknown** [5, ss] A beautifully scooped boulder [D] that has slipped to make these problems steeper than they were when first climbed. Gain the curving arête from a jug on the bottom left and follow this to the top (A.Mannion 2013).

8. **Frequency Cowboy** [6a, ss] Start as for the arête then move right from the jug to pass the curving arête low down. Finish up the scooped slab (Sam Hurt 2016).

9. **Mantle** [5] Mantle the middle of the side and stand up (fa unknown).

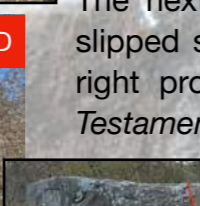
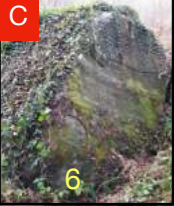
10. **Full frontal** [6c+, ss] Slightly higher is a horizontal boulder [E] that is resting undercut. Start matched on the rail then use edges up the middle of the face to gain the top (L.Fyfe 28/2/16).



11. **Less front** [6c, ss] A slightly easier variant of *Full frontal* starts left hand on the rail/righthand underneath the lip and pops to the right arête (*L.Fyfe 28/2/16*).



The next boulder [F] up the slope has slipped since first climbed (the sculpted right prow was once the classic *New Testament* problem).



14. **Front slab** [4+] the scooped front face is steeper now (*fa unknown 2019*).

There is a small pleasant prow [3+, *fa unknown*] hidden in trees 10m right (north), and unlikely to be resurrected.

15. **Slab left** [4] Another boulder [G] further left (south) has a short slabby back side which yields a small problem (*fa unknown*).

Further right is a big flat-topped boulder [H]. Only its south face is big enough to offer climbing, with a few problems on the left side before it tapers down. The problems left of 16 are currently obscured by a large bush.

12. **Back arête** [4] The curved arête at the rear of the boulder (*fa unknown 2019*).

13. **Arête** [4+, ss] The arête from a low start is a nice problem (*fa unknown 2019*).

16. **First arête** [5, ss] The end of the boulder has a tendency to drown in buddlea but is worthwhile (*L.Fyfe 2013*).

17. **Rail to rail** [6b, ss] Starting from the low rail move left to another rail and then the top (*L.Fyfe 2013*).

18. **Fauna fondler** [7a+] Match the bad rail and get the top. Quite a hard low percentage move (*L.Fyfe 2015*).

Scramble over or around boulder H to reach another large and flat topped boulder [I].

19. **Groundforce** [6a] The vertical end tucked around in the shrubs offers a tricky problem (*T.Williams 15/3/15*).

20. **Alan Titchmarsh** [6a+] The rounded arête left of *Wet feet slab* makes for a good problem (*T.Williams 15/3/15*).



21. **Wet feet slab** [3, ss] On the left is an obvious rail. Sit-start this then mantle to gain the top. A pleasant problem and convenient way down (*R.Jacob 2013*).

22. **Wet feet right variant** [4+, ss] Start just right of the obvious rail (*R.Jacob 2013*).

23. **Inbetween** [5, ss] Positive edges up the wall (*L.Fyfe 2013*).

24. **Rhi's wall** [6b+, ss] A very good and tricky problem using thin edges on the side wall to pass a circular feature (*R.Jacob 2013*).

25. **Bloodshed** [7a, ss] A squeezed in eliminate between 24 & 26, from a hard start off slanting edges (*T.Williams, 15/3/15*).

26. **The Partition** [6c+, ss] An excellent & very Fontesque problem up the left side of the prow. A low start leads to small edges. Finish heading left of the prow (*E.Stephens/L.Fyfe 29/5/13*).

#southsidetour

27. **Der pater** [7c, ss] A good and powerful problem on the right of the prow. Start from low side pulls, pull past a pocket, and go direct to the top. Once the big pocket is reached links can be made left or right to create variants at a similar grade (*L.Fyfe 2014*).



The Central Area

28. **Orchestral manoeuvres in the dark** [7a, ss] A central line up the back face starting from a left-hand side pull and right-hand edge (A.Mannion 2015).

29. **Road to recovery** [6b, ss] Right side of the back face from two edges (L.Fyfe & A.Mannion 2015).

30. **Lost world arête** [6b+, ss] Boulder J is hidden in the trees about 20m below *The Partition* prow. The left arête is the better of the two (Fyfe/Mannion 2015).



31. **Lost world (right)** [6?, ss] The right arête isn't as good as the left one (Fyfe/Mannion 2015).

Up and right of I is a slabby boulder [K] that used to be the classic *Long in the Lip* problem. It has since slipped downslope, obliterating the original problem.



32. **Slab centre** [5] Take a central line up the highest part of the slab (fa unknown 2018?).

Further up and right is an aesthetic slabby block that feels snappy [L].

33. **Name unknown** [?, ss] A small nondescript problem on a boulder above left of 31 (fa unknown).

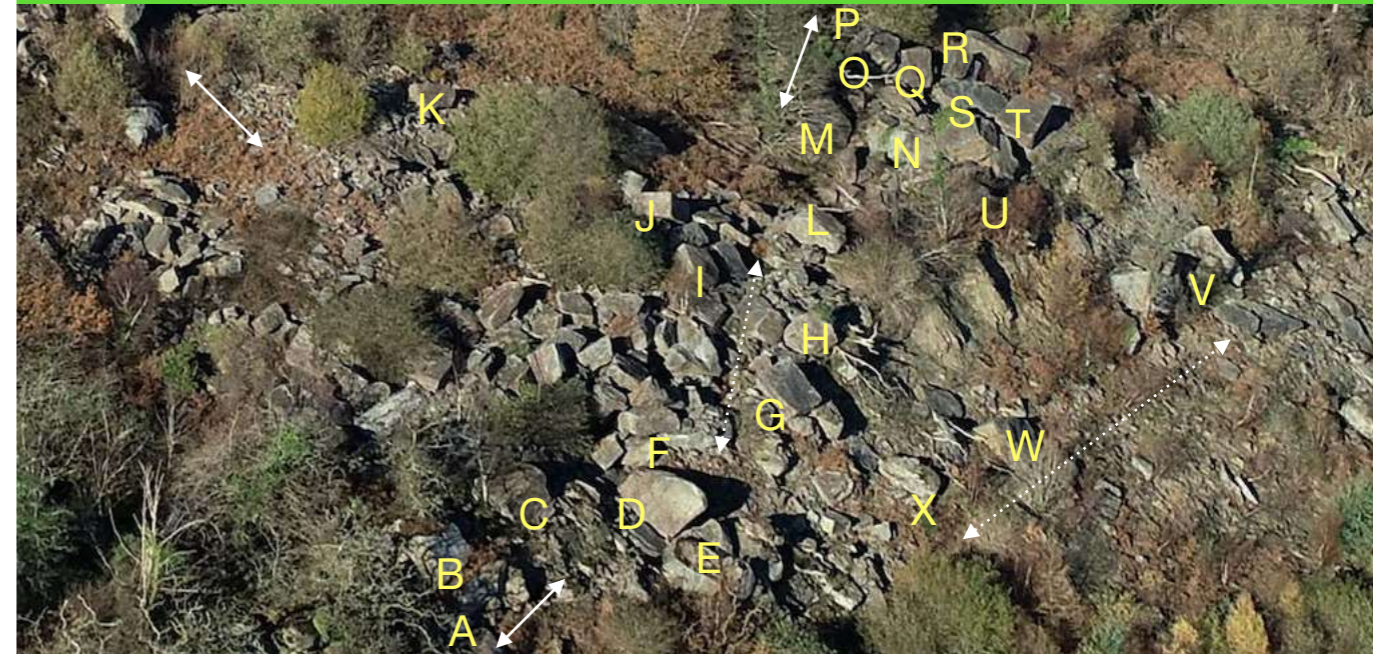
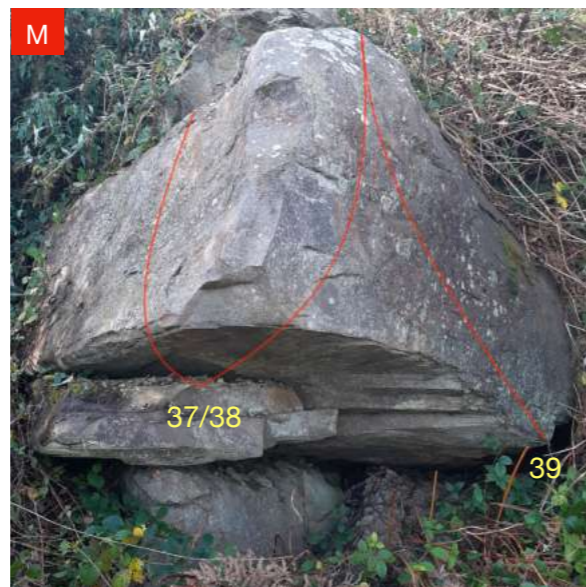
34. **On my own** [4, ss] On the hillside about 10m above 31 is another boulder [L]. Climb the face left of the arête from a low start (L.Fyfe 2015).

35. **Left behind** [4, ss] The arête from a low start (L.Fyfe 2015).

36. **Slab** [3] The front slab has large holds (L.Fyfe 2015).

37/38. **Ych a fi!** [6b+, ss] A few metres left is an undercut prow (M). Start on the large flat hold beneath the prow. The original exits right and is much better than its name suggests. An easier variant goes left (T.Williams 1/3/15).

39. **Yaki dah!** [6a+, ss] Traverse leftwards on good edges from a low start to finish up the arête (T.Williams 1/3/15).



The middle section of hillside is more open than lower down but has many loose stones underfoot. A horizontally slumped boulder [A] jutting out to create a small roof provides the first problems described here. Head up-slope a short distance above boulder F (from previous section) to reach it.

1. **The Nose** [6a] Jump to a good hold on the nose and mantle up (Tom Williams 1/4/15).

2. **Time crisis** [6b+] Starting hands on lip, heel-hook up to gain a good edge and top out (Tom Williams 1/4/15).

3. **Upend** [7c] Traverse the prow, right to left, starting from slopers to finish up the nose. Starting halfway, with LH under bloc & right in scoop is 7b (Tom Williams 1/4/15, full line 2021).



4. **Name unknown** [6b] 5m uphill from boulder A is a small wall/arête (R.Knowles 28/2/16).

5. **The great escape** [7a, ss] Right of the wall is a rounded prow with a good small/low compression problem up the front (B.Norman 3/21).

Directly above the small wall is another boulder [B] with a tree growing upon it.

6. **Unknown** [6a, ss] The left wall.

7. **Unknown** [6a, ss] The rounded arête.

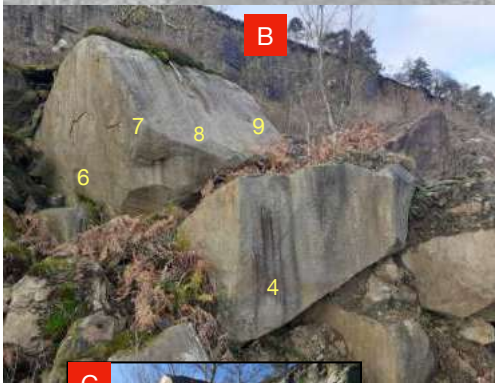
8. **Middle slab** [5, ss] A central line up the slab.

9. **Unknown** [?] The right side of the boulder.

10m metres further right is an obvious cube-shaped boulder [C]

10. **Cube face** [?, ss] Centre of the face on snappy rock (fa unknown).

11. **Cube arête L** [?, ss] The left side of the sharp arête (fa unknown).



17. **Keldwith dreaming** [7c+/7a] The right arête seems easy until you try to pull on! The current start makes use of the low block to get established on the undercuts, with a pure start yet to be done. Beginning higher is considerably easier but still makes for a good problem (*R.Whitehouse 17/5/17*).

18. **Hillside scoop** [6b, ss] Behind Hillside slab, on the opposite side of the boulder, is a small scoop. Start on the rail in the hole then mantle rightwards to finish (*T.Williams 1/2/15*).

There is a trio of problems [F] opposite *Hillside scoop*:

19. **Unknown** [5, ss] Traverse the lip from a low start on its left and finish up the arete (*fa unknown*).

20. **Be-Neath me** [6c, ss] The short hanging arête just above *Hillside Scoop* (*R.Knowles 28/5/16*).

21. **Camabrian circus** [6c, ss] From a crimp on the lip and lefthand beneath the roof (*R.Knowles 14/2/16*).

There is a boulder [E] immediately beneath/downslope from **D**.

22. **Unknown** [?, ss] The rounded left side is a good problem (*fa unknown*).

23. **Unknown** [?, ss] Climbing out from under the roof requires care not to dab behind you (*fa unknown*).

From boulder **D**: contour the hillside northwards at a slightly lower elevation for easiest access to boulders **U, V & W**, reaching the grooved boulder **W** first.



12. **Cube arête R** [?, ss] The right side of the sharp arête (*fa unknown*).

Around 10m further right (north) is an impressively large boulder [D] with a slabby south face and rounded/undercut front facing downhill.

13. **Hillside slab** (left) [4] The left side of the slab from a low start (*R.Jacob 29/5/13*).

14. **Hillside slab** [4, ss] The centre of the slab from a low start is a good problem but take care with the landing (*R.Jacob 29/5/13*).

15. **Hillside arête** [6c, ss] Slap up the overhanging arête to a jug on the lip and mantle this to finish. A very good problem (*Fyfe/Stephens/Allen 29/5/13*).

16. **Hillside direct** [6c+] A good problem over the centre of the bulge (*L.Fyfe 2013*).

Alternatively, contour the hillside a short distance at a slightly higher elevation to reach a distinctive horizontal boulder [G] which rests on a slabby platform.

24. **Unknown** [?, ss] The low right side of the vertical face on sharp holds (*fa unknown*).

25. **Unknown** [?, ss] The middle of the vertical face (*fa unknown*).

26. **Unknown** [?, ss] The left arête from a low start (*fa unknown*).

*The next boulder [H] may have slipped since first climbed.

27. **The shelf** [5, ss] A cramped start from the sloping shelf (*T.Williams 18/1/15*).

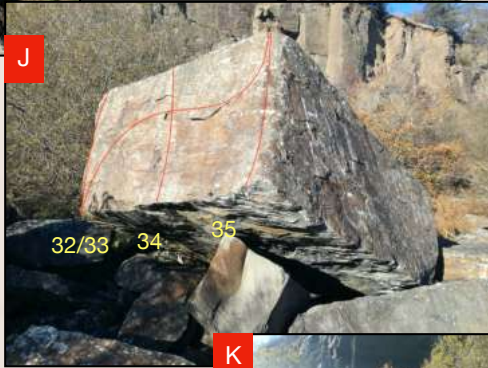
28. **Pleasant arête** [6b, ss] A pleasant problem which starts pleasantly low at a pleasant pocket (*T.Williams 18/1/15*).

Above the horizontal boulder [G] are two problems close to each other, both rising out from small holes in the plateau area.

29. **Name unknown** [6a, ss] Climb out of the scruffy hole (*fa unknown*).

30. **Name unknown** [6a, ss] Climb out of the hole on snappy rock (*fa unknown*).





31. **Forbidden fruit** [7a, ss] Continue to this boulder [I] which has an obvious sloped ledge feature rising across it, making for an interesting problem. Rock up to the top from edges on the ledge (L.Fyfe 8/8/14).

Behind boulder I is an obvious rectangular block [J] perched in a prominent position.

32. **Plateau left arête** [?, ss] The undercut left arête (L.Fyfe 8/8/14).

33. **Plateau lip** [5, ss] Start low as for 37 then make a traverse across the face to finish up the right arête (L.Fyfe 8/8/14).

34. **Plateau prow** [5+, ss] Start low on the block beneath the lip then climb centrally up the face (Fyfe/Mannion/Stephens 20/3/15).

35. **Plateau right arête** [?, ss] The undercut right arête, starting low on the block (L.Fyfe 8/8/14).

Uphill going left/southwest from the rectangular block [J] is another horizontal boulder [K]. Continue from here to reach the **upper slope**.

36. **Name unknown** [?, ss] (*fa unknown*).

The next boulder [L] upslope is characterised by an aesthetic triangular front face.

37. **Unknown** [?, ss] The left arête from a low start (L.Fyfe 19/12/14).

38. **Chironification** [7a+, ss] A low start in the middle of the face leads into small edges. The original finishes left whilst a slightly harder variant finishes right. Starting this excellent problem is a tall man's nightmare (L.Fyfe 19/12/14).

39. **A continental shift** [6b+, ss] The right arête from a low start (Mannion/Fyfe 2014).

40. **Brionified** [7a, ss] Walk around the boulder to find this gem on the other side. Start low on the left and follow the gently rising lip to a tricky finish up right. A very aesthetic and classic problem (L.Fyfe 19/12/14). #southsidetour

Behind boulder L is a sunken area - 'the pit'. A distinctively rounded boulder [N] forms the west side. Further west are two slabs [M]. One of these sports remains of bolts, a reminder of the routes once existing on the main walls.

41. **Grimmess** [6c?, ss] The rounded arête makes for a good problem out of the pit (ffFyfe/Mannion 20/3/15).

42. **Direction** [5+, ss]. The middle of the wall has good edges. Can also be linked left to finish up the rounded arête (Jacob/Fyfe/Mannion 20/3/15).



Liam Fyfe hooks up the first ascent of *Brionified*

Elliot Stephens balances up *Al's slab*



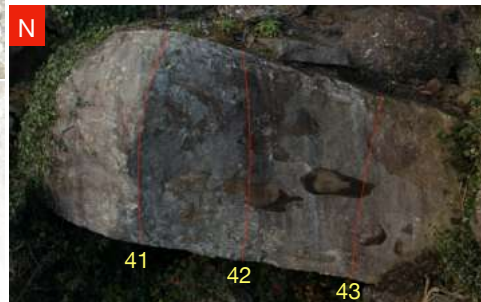
43. **Rail ride** [3, ss] The right side of the wall (*A.Mannion 20/3/15*).

44. Link the start of 48 into the finish of 46 (*Fyfe 20/3/15*).

45. **Slab 1** [3+] The lower slab has a couple of possible lines. Can you see the old bolts? (*A.Mannion 26/1/15*)

46. **Al's slab** [3] The upper slab is very good and makes for a fun test of footwork. Can you do it without your hands? (*A.Mannion 26/1/15*)

47. **Unknown** [4+, ss] The short wall right of *Al's slab* (*fa unknown*).



Scramble out of the pit beside problems 46/47 onto a flatter area. The large boulder [O] here has an imposing slabby side of dark rock facing the main cliff.

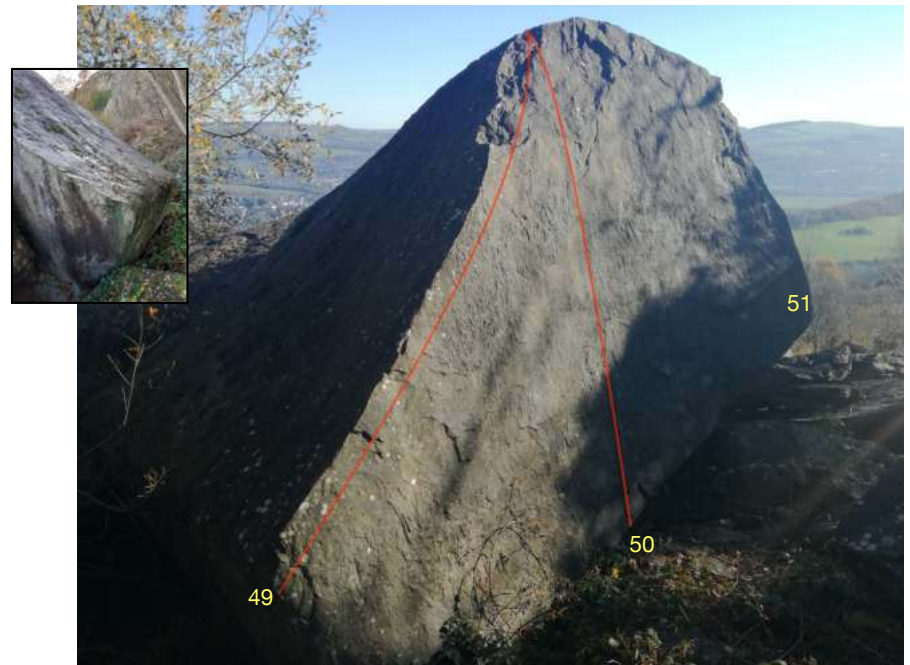
48. **Move on down** [3+, ss] A small problem on the far corner behind the slab (*O.Keynes 2019*).

49. **Perfect slab traverse** [5, ss] Traverse the steeply rising lip from a low start on the left (*A.Mannion 2013*).

50. **Perfect slab** [6a, ss] Exquisite moves up the middle of the dark slab. Start sitting from the obvious central side-pull, get established on the slab and then levitate upwards. One of the best problems in South Wales (*L.Fyfe 1/13*). [#southsidetour](#)

51. **Rolling Stone** [7c+, ss] The bulging arête on the right of the slab. A low start leads, via a long reach, into edges and the *Atlas* finish (*E.Stephens 3/21*).

52. **Groove** [6?] Two metres right of *Perfect slab* is a vertical groove. Harder now since the starting jug fell off (*fa unknown 2019?*).



55. **Húsafell** [8b+, ss] A very hard problem. Start as for the *woodshed* ss and link this after 3 moves into the start of *Atlas Stone* (*E.Stephens 1/3/20*).

56. **Flakey friends** [4, ss] A low start on the sidewall right of the overhang leads into flakes, trending rightwards to finish around the corner (*fa unknown*).

53. **Atlas stone** [7c] A crouch start using a big pinch on the right and lefthand side-pull leads into hard compression moves and a leftwards trending finish (*L.Fyfe 7/4/19*).

54. **The woodshed** [8a+, ss] A very hard problem which tackles the challenging overhang from a low start, using a small left hand edge and a right hand pinch on the arête to begin. Easier [7b+] from a stand (*E.Stephens 7/4/19*).

57. **Front left** [3+] The left side of the next bloc [P] up a rib (*fa unknown*).

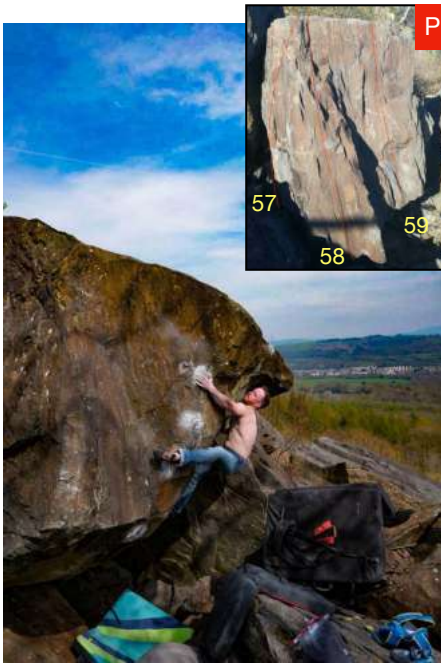
58. **Front right** [4] Right of 58 is more vertical and can be climbed with/without using the right arête (*fa unknown*).

59. **Arête** [4] the right arête around the corner on its right side (*fa unknown*).

There is another small problem up the middle of the pointy slab [3+, *fa unknown*] opposite problem 59.



Duma Brickhill using perfect technique on *Perfect Slab*

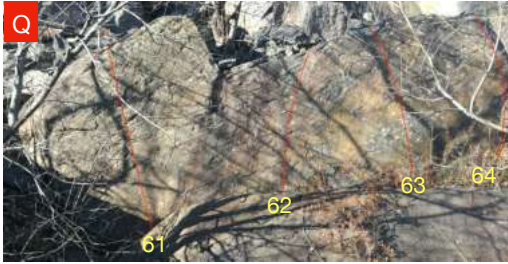


About 10m upslope from *Perfect Slab* is a boulder which forms a short wall [P]:

61. **Razor rocket** [6c+, ss] Just up from *Perfect Slab* is this small problem, from sharp edges to the top (L.Fyfe 2015).

62. **Middle left** [6a?, ss] A low start on small holds leads right (fa unknown).

63. **Middle right** [6a?, ss] A sharp crimp in an elliptically shaped scar leads left (fa unknown).



64. **Arête** [4, ss] The right arête is almost meaningless for anyone over 4 foot tall (fa unknown).

The upper slope can be reached easily from here by continuing upslope towards the main cliff from the left side of the short wall [Q]. This leads first to the *Triassic 5.0* boulder. Or head downhill from *perfect slab*, passing *The Woodshed* and boulder P on the left, to a small arena formed by the sides of two large boulders, R & S.

65. **Unknown** [4, ss] A pleasant problem centre-right of the wall, trending rightwards on good positive edges (fa unknown).

66. **Right arête** [6?, ss] The right arête (fa unknown).

67. **Back vater** [6c, ss] Straight up from low holds (Williams/Fyfe/Mannion 20/3/15).

68. **Exfoliation** [7a, ss] From the start of *vater* follow a rising line of edges leftwards into a big move to a large hold and the finish. A good problem but mind your head for the last few moves! (Williams/Fyfe/Mannion 20/3/15).

69. **Frontier** [6b] Through the narrow gap by the finish of *Exfoliation* is a small plateau with this good problem [T] on the left. Pulling on to the top block is easier if you use the foot bloc and harder [7a+] if you don't (Fyfe/Mannion 20/3/15).

70. **Yum** [6c, ss] A small compression problem found around 30m downhill from *Frontier*. No footblock (R.Knowles 28/2/16).

71. **Whale to whale** [5+] The slab which forms the back of boulder S and also borders 'the pit' (R.Jacobs 20/3/15).

Head/scramble carefully down the hillside a short distance to reach Boulder V, a small boulder beside a tree.

73. **Name unknown** [4, ss] Sit-start the 'porthole' and then climb up and right (fa unknown).

Contour south to reach a larger boulder [W] characterised by a dark slabby front which faces downhill.

74. **Slab** [3, ss] Various lines are possible on the slab at the same difficulty but the rock is of bad quality, being rather snappy (fa unknown).

Continue to contour south to reach another large boulder [X] which is of much better rock and features a distinctive groove on its side face.

75. **How groovy** [5+, ss] The groove from a low start (L.Fyfe 18/12/14).

76. **Groovy link** [6a, ss] Link the start of *How groovy* into the arête (R.Jacob 18/12/14).

77. **Groovy arête** [5, ss] The arête from a low start (R.Jacob 18/12/14).

78. **Groovy slab** [3, ss] The front slab (R.Jacob 18/12/14).



The Upper Slope



Moving around the upper slope is perhaps a bit easier, with a rough path running along an edge of problems in front of the main cliff (although enough loose stones/hidden holes ensure you can never fully relax). On the far left/south, at the forest boundary, is a jumble of boulders where the first problems described are found [A & B]. Access to the problems hidden in the Southern Forest area is also best gained from here.



Above the *impossible arête* is a large boulder [C] which has slumped to form a small roof.

1. **Slab left** [3+] The left side of the easy slab [A] at the edge of the trees is a lovely problem. Start from two pockets (A.Mannion 2015).

2. **Slab right** [3] The right side of the slab is a bit easier and makes for a good test of no-hands skill (A.Mannion 2015).

Walk into the forest from here to reach the first of the problems in the trees.

3. **Slab** [?] Wall left of Impossible arête.

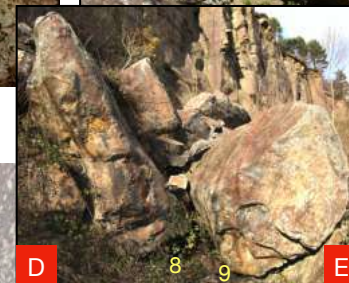
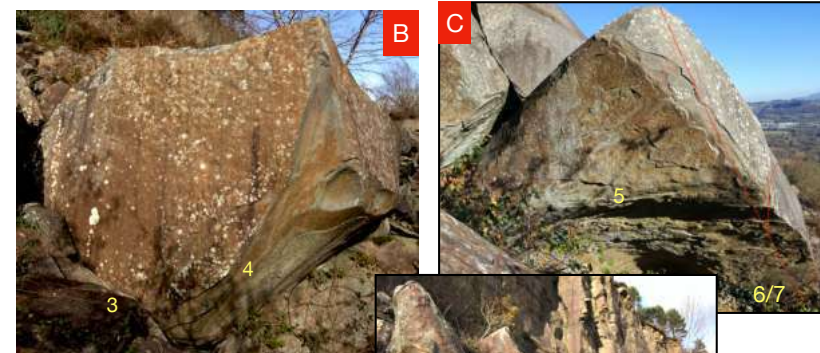
4. **Impossible arête** [?] About 20m upslope from the slab is this futuristic last great problem [B]. The aesthetic arête now appears more vertical than in the past, but still no-one has found a way to climb its smooth walls. #southsidetour

5. **Texas Flood** [8b, ss] A very hard 'basic' problem, from the big undercut in the middle of the roof, up edges into the finish of *Stateside* (E.Stephens 2021).

6. **Half-state** [7c, ss] Another Neath classic, up the edge of the roof in a lovely situation high on the hillside. Start low in the roof, with a left hand edge and right hand on the arête and continue until a good edge on the steep arête about half-way up allows a rockover exit (E.Stephens 2015).

7. **Stateside** [8a, ss] A very hard extension of *half-state* along the steep arête to its end (James Squire 18/7/15).

Immediately above *Half-state* are two boulders [D & E] side-by-side.



8. **Big John** [6a+, ss] Sit-start the interesting prow [D] above *half-state* on scoops (A.Mannion 23/2/16).

9. **Unknown** [6?, ss] A small problem on the boulder [E] just to the right of Big John (fa unknown).

10. **Project** [?] Highball up the bulging front of the wall from a scoop.

11. **Project** [?] Highball side-wall, finishing in a prickly gorse bush.

12. **Archimedes arête** [6b, ss] Right of the wall is this small, sharp arête [G] found beside the main cliff (A.Mannion 26/1/15).

13. **The hop** [4, ss] Sit-start the base of the rail right of *Archimedes arête* (Joe Squire 2015).

14. **Another arête** [?, ss] Small arête in front of *Archimedes arête* (fa unknown).

15. **Slab** [2+] Front of a thin slabby boulder [H] slightly lower down from *Archimedes arête*. Of interest mainly for its aesthetic shape (fa unknown).

16. **Arête** [4, ss] The short arête just right boulder H (fa unknown).

At a slightly lower elevation is an obvious tall tower.

17. **Unknown** [?, ss] Head up just right of the tower to locate this problem [I] tucked away in a small dip (fa unknown).

Contour the hillside a short distance further right/north to find a small pit with a beautifully smooth curved back wall [J].





22. **Mastercard** [7c+, ss] Start as for *Techtonics* but head right to a direct finish on very small and sharp holds (*E.Stephens 31/3/19*).

Slightly further right is a small wall [K] capped by an overhanging bulge.

23. **Unknown** [5] Smear onto the slab to reach a large hold left of the overhang (*fa unknown*).

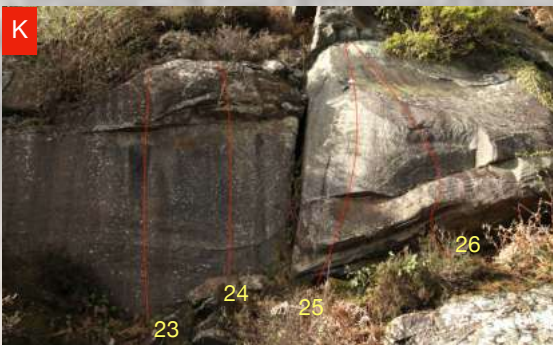
24. **Unknown** [5+] Step onto a small edge at the base of the slab and then climb direct through the bulge (*fa unknown*).

25. **Unknown** [3+, ss] The rounded slabby arête just right of the crack (*fa unknown*).

26. **Firsty thursday** [5, ss] Sit-start under the obvious shelf then gain the easy slab above (*A.Mannion 2015*).

Continue right/north to reach a small 'cave' [L] at the base of a tall (unclimbed) tower.

27. **10th Commandment** [7c+, ss] A good, hard problem on the overhanging right side-wall. Pull on with a left hand beneath the roof-edge and right hand on the lip then use crimps up the face to reach a break (*L.Fyfe 6/4/19*).



18. **Unknown** [4+] Easy compression moves up the thin front of the wall left of *Techtonics* (*fa unknown*).

19. **Unknown** [4] The left side of the slabby sidewall (*fa unknown*).

20. **April fool** [4+, ss] The right side of the slabby sidewall. Traverse left at the break to finish (*T.Williams 1/4/15*).

21. **Techtonics** [7b, ss] A great classic, contending to be one of the best here and even in South Wales. Start low in the pit and use sculpted crimps to climb the smooth, bulging wall (*L.Fyfe 8/8/14*).
#southsidetour



Dan Stephenson crimps hard on *Techtonics*

28. **Envy** [7c+/8a+, ss] Locate the round hole used on *10th* & start using two crimps just right of this. Go up right to a large sloping dish then finish as for *10th*. A harder low-start can be made by starting as for *10th* (*P.Buchan 6/3/21, ss 15/3/21*).

Slightly further right/north again is a deep hole formed by several collapsed boulders. The side-roof of this would offer a world class problem if it had any holds.

29. **Dreamcatcher** [4] A thin crack runs out of the hole. Start low at the back of the hole and follow the crack back into daylight (*O.Keynes 27/4/16*).



There is a good-looking wall [M] just right of this which currently remains undeveloped (from possible stability concerns). Continue right to reach an obvious very aesthetic rectangular bloc [N] below a pointed prow - also easily reached from the *Perfect slab* area.

30. **Left triassic** [6b+, ss] Rock left from small edges. Being under four foot and/or incredibly bendy will help a lot with this one (*L.Fyfe 01/13*).

31. **Triassic wall** [6c, ss] Link the start of *Left triassic* into the top of *Kev's arête*, without using the arête - an excellent problem (*L.Fyfe 01/13*).

32. **Kev's arête** (4) The left side of the sharp arête is a classic (*K.Hughes 01/13*). #southsidetour

33. **Al's arête** [6c+, s/7b+, ss] The incredibly aesthetic arête looks like it has been sliced by a celestial butterknife and is a classy problem. Excellent from a stand, much harder from sitting (*A.Mannion 01/13 - ss C.Harker 2019*). Can also be linked from *Triassic ss* (7b, *H.Jones 20/3/21*). #southsidetour

34. **Triassic 5.0** [7b, ss/6c, s] Starting on the bloc beneath the lip use edges on the face to reach the top. A fantastic classic (*L.Fyfe 01/13*). #southsidetour





41. **Face** [?] Sloping holds up the middle of the wall [P] just beyond (left of) the jutting corner (*fa unknown*).



42. **Arête** [?] The left arête of the wall (*fa unknown*).

The next boulder [Q] has come to rest on a supporting block [R], creating an obvious left arête above a small roof.

43. **Holiday left-side** [?] The left side of the arête has yet to be climbed.

44. **Holiday arête** [7a/+, ss] A really good problem. The original starts with hands on the top block and feet on the supporting block. A lower sitting-start from crimps on the supporting block makes things a bit harder (*T.Williams 6/3/15*).

45. **Flake** [?] Start at the sidepull flake just right of *Holiday arête* (*fa unknown*).

46. **Wad wagon** [7a, ss] Just right of the *Holiday arête* bloc... Start from a sloping hold and crimp rail, to sharp jug and top (*K.Steadman 06/15*).

The large boulder [R] below has a vertical side with several problems.

47. **Unknown** [6a, ss] From the big hold trend left through a small bulge (*fa unknown*).



35. **Right triassic** [?] The right side of the front face, with a bad landing, has yet to be climbed.

36. The obvious jutting prow immediately above boulder N remains unclimbed...perhaps because its rock is snappy and a landing doesn't exist? Scramble up past this to reach the next problems.

37. **Unknown** [4] The back of the prow forms a slab with good edges. Start low and trend left to finish (*fa unknown*).

38. **Scales** [7b, ss] 10m above boulder N. Make a long move from a low start using a lefthand pocket/righthand sidepull, then mantle out the sloping finish (*D.Brickhill 15/2/15*).

39. **Tall arête** [?] Continuing up towards the main cliff, passing this tall arête. Currently unclimbed.

40. **Jutting corner** [?] Just beyond the tall arête is a corner of a boulder [O] jutting up into the air. Currently unclimbed.

48. **Unknown** [6a+, ss] Starting from two small crimps 1m left of problem and trending right to finish (*fa unknown*).

49. **Traverse** [6? ss] Start as for the previous problem but traverse right to cross the face along a break of positive mid-height holds, finishing up the right arête (*fa unknown*).

50. **Unknown** [6?, ss] 1m right again, from two small crimps (*fa unknown*).

51. **Unknown** [6a] A big move from the rail to the top (*fa unknown*).

52. **Right arête** [4+] The right arête of the boulder has positive holds, from a low start (*fa unknown*).

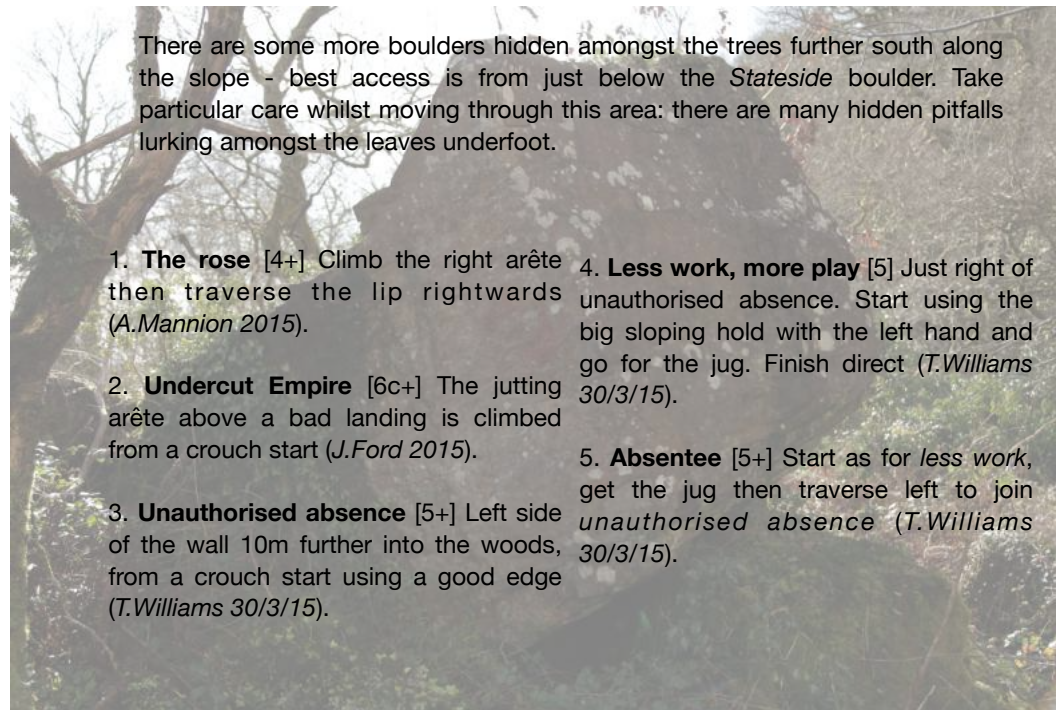
Tucked away around a jumble of boulders is a tall tower [S] close to the main cliff. The back face contains a trinity of highballs.

50. **Project - Left arête** [?]

51. **Project - Centre** [?] The centre of the face, eliminating both arêtes, has very small holds.

52. **Project - Right arête** [?]

Southern Forest Area



There are some more boulders hidden amongst the trees further south along the slope - best access is from just below the *Stateside* boulder. Take particular care whilst moving through this area: there are many hidden pitfalls lurking amongst the leaves underfoot.

1. **The rose** [4+] Climb the right arête then traverse the lip rightwards (*A.Mannion 2015*).

2. **Undercut Empire** [6c+] The jutting arête above a bad landing is climbed from a crouch start (*J.Ford 2015*).

3. **Unauthorised absence** [5+] Left side of the wall 10m further into the woods, from a crouch start using a good edge (*T.Williams 30/3/15*).

4. **Less work, more play** [5] Just right of unauthorised absence. Start using the big sloping hold with the left hand and go for the jug. Finish direct (*T.Williams 30/3/15*).

5. **Absentee** [5+] Start as for *less work*, get the jug then traverse left to join *unauthorised absence* (*T.Williams 30/3/15*).

The Circuits

The green man (1.1)
Tom's slab (1.6)
First arête (1.16)
Wet Feet Slab (1.21)
On my own (1.34)
Left behind (1.35)
Hillside Slab (2.14)
Plateau prow (2.34)
Direction (2.42)
Al's Slab (2.46)
Move on down (2.48)
Perfect slab traverse (2.49)
Flakey friends (2.56)
Front right (2.58)
How Groovy (2.75)
Groovy Arete (2.77)
Slab left (3.1)
Firsty thursday (3.26)
Dreamcatcher (3.29)
Kev's Arete (3.32)

Rail to Rail (1.17)
Frequency Cowboy (1.8)
Alan Titchmarsh (1.20)
Rhi's Wall (1.24)
The Partition (1.27)
Road to recovery (1.29)
Lost world arête (1.30)
Ych a fil (1.37)
The nose (2.1)
Time Crisis (2.2)
Hillside arete (2.15)
Hillside scoop (2.18)
Camambrian circus (2.21)
A continental shift (2.39)
Girmmess (2.41)
Perfect Slab (2.50)
Back vater (2.67)
Frontier (2.69)
Whale to whale (2.71)
How Groovy (2.75)
Big John (3.8)
Archimedes arete (3.12)
Al's arete (3.33)

Full frontal (1.10)
Fauna fondler (1.18)
Rhi's wall (1.24)
Bloodshed (1.25)
The Partition (1.27)
Orchestral manouvers (1.30)
The great escape (2.5)
Hillside scoop (2.18)
Camambrain circus (2.21)
Forbidden Fruit (2.31)
Chironification (2.38)
Brionified (2.40)
Exfoliation (2.68)
Techtonics (3.21)
Traissic wall (3.31)
Al's arete (3.33)
Scales (3.38)
Triassic 5.0 (3.34)
Holiday arête (3.44)
Half-state (3.6)

Der Pater (1.27)
Keldwith Dreaming (2.17)
Upend (2.3)
Rolling Stone (2.51)
Atlas Stone (2.53)
The Woodshed (2.54)
Mastercard (3.22)
10th Commandment (3.27)
Triassic 5.0 (3.34)
Scales (3.38)
Stateside (3.7)