

The climbers guide to

The Poisoned Glen

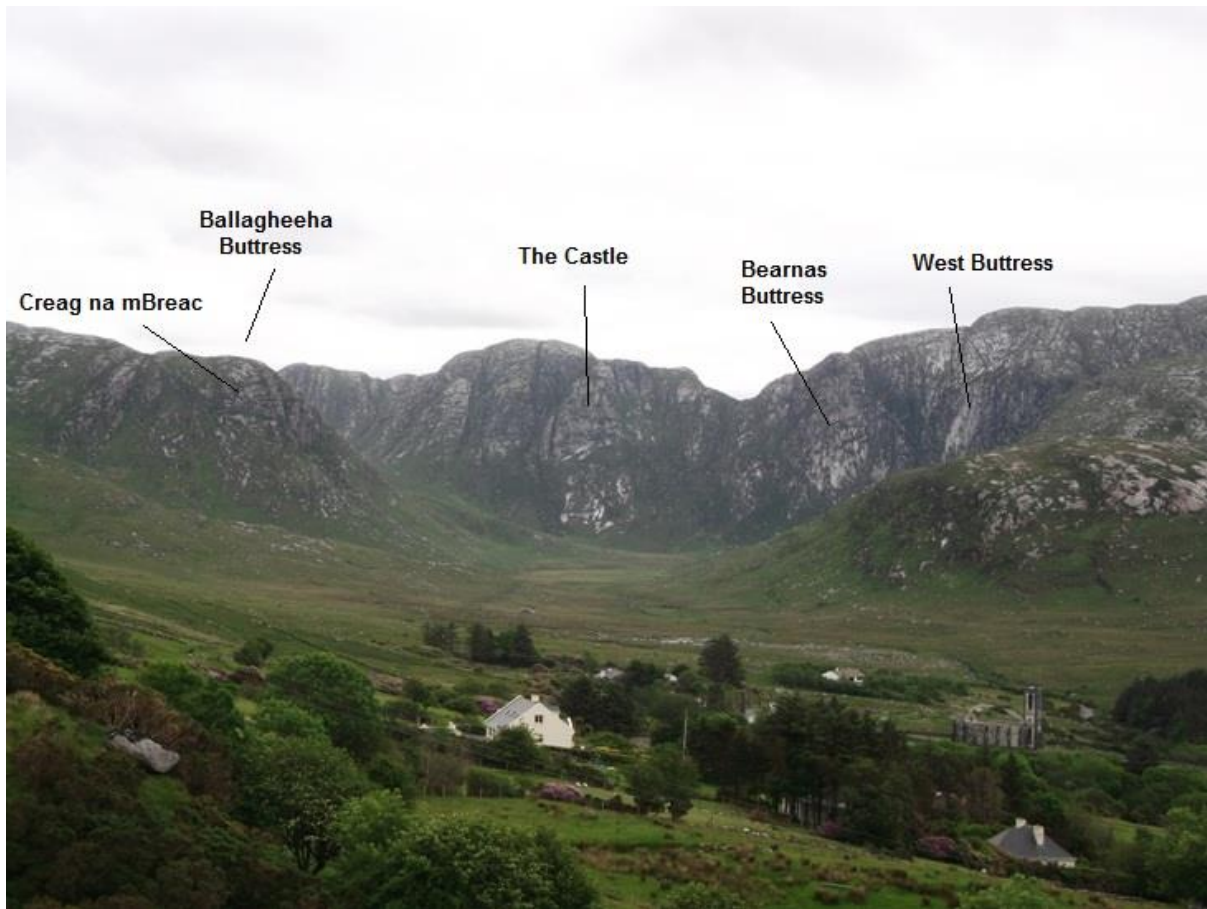
By

Iain Miller

**The Poisoned Glen
Rock Climbers Guide**



The Poisoned Glen



Access: The best approach into the Poisoned Glen is from the Dunlewey side, from the R251 at the base of the south face of Errigal follow the wee side road down to the ruined roofless church. From head follow the road and path into the glen.

Creag Na Mbreac

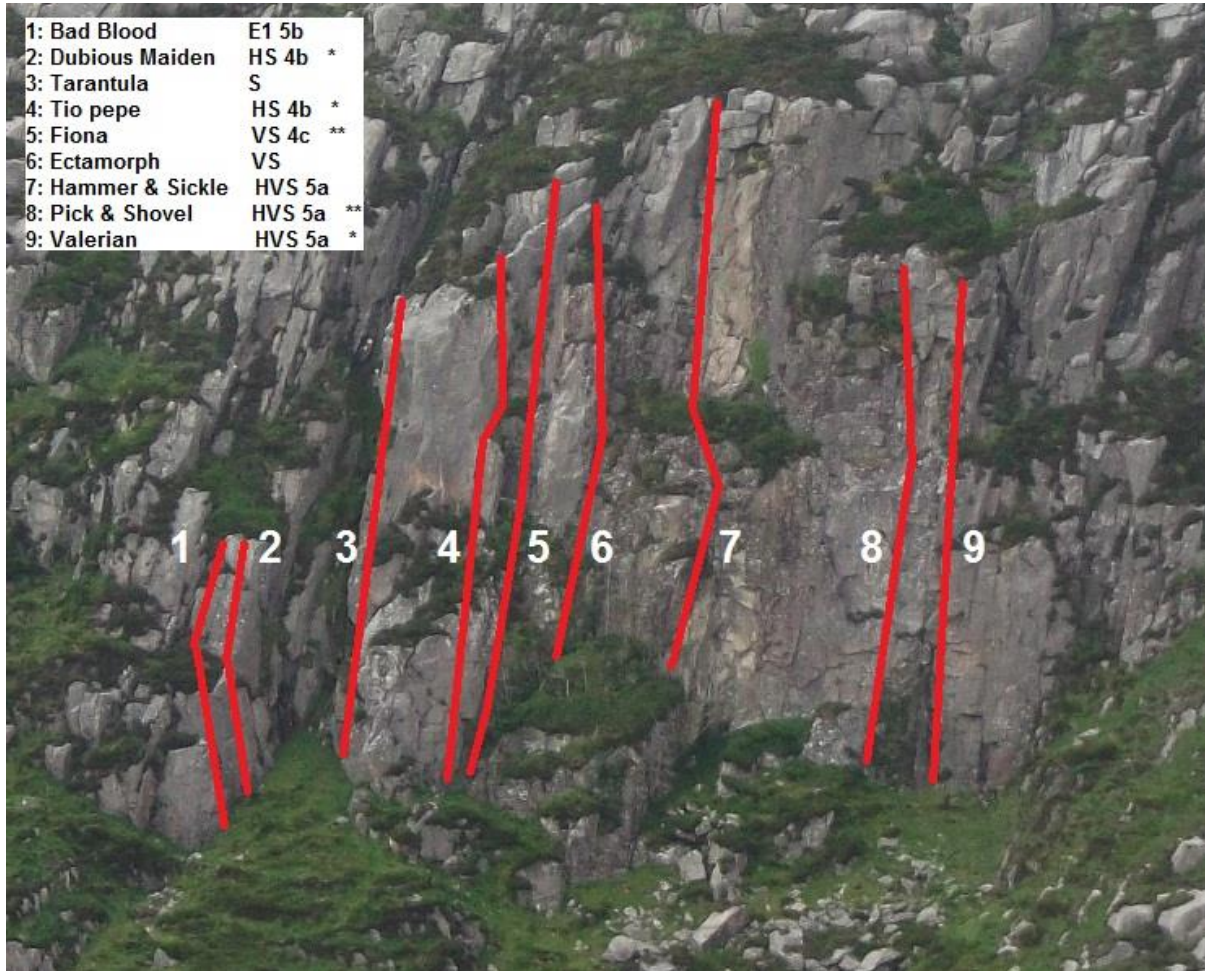
Directions: About half way up the North-Eastern (left) side of the glen, and about 40 minutes walk in, is this steep south facing crag. The crag forms the back wall of a shallow bay, flanked by broken buttresses, the most obvious features are a large forested ledge, just left of centre and about 10m up from the base, and a deep corner gully to the left. The crag dries quickly, but routes need a clean and are probably under graded.

Map ref: B924180

White Walls V.Diff 75m

A poor route up the broken rocks on the left of the gully mentioned above.

P. Gribbon, K. Clauss, D. Sloan, D. Bond April 55



Bad Blood E1 5b 25m

Start 2m left of "Dubious Maiden" at the base of steep arete. Climb the wall just right of the arete to ledge, then steeply up arete to grass ledge, then up short hand crack to finish out left via small alcove.

I. Rea, M. Rea, J. Milligan 11/04/93

Dubious Maiden HS 4b 20m *

This route takes the obvious crack line at the bottom of the left-hand wall of the gully just left of Tarantula. Climb the lower crack easily to gain the heathery ledge. Continue jamming steeply up the continuation crack to the top.

A. Tees, G. Colhoun 28/09/85

Tarantula S 42m

Start: At the base of the gully mentioned above. The route follows the left of the buttress to the right of the gully.

1: 17m Scramble up to a short square chimney and climb this to heather ledge

2: 10m Climb the wall above to a small spike, then step left onto the rib. Up to holly bush and belay.

3: 15m Climb crack behind belay to gain a ledge on the left. Continue up the wall and crack above to the top.

BA Fuller, RB Evans Aug 57

Tio Pepe HS 4b 78m *

Start: At the base of the buttress immediately right of the left-hand gully.

1: 33m At the base of the buttress is a flake. Climb the crack to the left of this, exiting on the left of

the block at the top. Continue easily up to the base of the main wall with orange markings.

2: 9m Move slightly right and up the obvious crack.

3: 36m Ascend the gully above moving right towards the top.

H. Drasdo, E. Healy, F. Winder Aug 55

Fiona VS 57m **

Starting 6m right of Tio Pepe where a steep crack leads up to a little square cut overhang.

1: 30m Climb crack to overhang at 5m. Turn this to the right (crux) and follow cracks to sentry box below a big block. Bridge up and gain crack on the left which is followed to vegetation and ledge below corner crack.

2: 27m From here the direct finish climbs the obvious crack on the wall behind and then scrambles off. The original route climbs the corner crack to another ledge at 6m. From here gain ivy groove on the right and follow it to another ledge. Step left from this and follow crack to the top.

GJ Sutton, AJ Maxfield 03/04/59

Ectamorph HS 57m

Start as for Fiona

1: 20m Climb corner crack to a steep heather ledge leading right to a good stance with large flake.

2: 22m Descend ledge to top of crack and move left into corner. Up this with increasing difficulty.

Gain narrow chimney on the left and climb this to stance with loose blocks and belay in niche above.

3: 15m Move left from the niche into corner of the buttress and up to good ledge on Tio Pepe. Follow the easy ground to top.

H. Drasdo, M. Downing April 56

Hammer and Sickle HVS 5a 45m

Start below the highest point of the crag at a right angled corner widening to form a huge flake, with the forested ledge to the left. Start at the foot of this corner.

1: 24m Climb the corner crack which after a block at 9m widens into a chimney. Continue up to top of flake and traverse left to grass ledge.

2: 10m Move up vegetation trending left to another ledge. Move right to the huge grass balcony in the middle of the face. Lal joins the route from the right at this point and shares the final pitch.

3: 20m. From the left end of the balcony, climb vegetated rock to reach clean overhanging rightward facing corner, which is followed to top. It is possible to avoid this crux pitch by traversing left off the balcony to join Tio Pepe.

G.J. Sutton, H. Drasdo 20/04/57, C. Torrants FFA of pitch 3 20/04/81

Lal HVS 5b 60m *

This route takes the wall between Hammer and Sickle and Pick and Shovel, following a ramp trending left to the big grass balcony and finishing up Hammer and Sickle. Start below and to the left of some large flakes in the middle of the wall.

1: 5b 40m Climb flakes and crack to gain ramp, passing old peg. Continue up with increasing difficulty until horizontal crack below final bulge is reached. Traverse right, gain ledge on right with one nut for aid. Continue easily to gain large grass terrace/balcony as for Hammer and Sickle.

2: 4a 20m As for Hammer and Sickle.

C Sheridan, C Torrants 20/04/81

Pick and Shovel HVS 5a 60m **

This route takes the obvious left facing deep corner on the right-hand side of the crag.

1: 5a 39m Climb the corner moving left, then right with difficulty. Continue up and left passing a small tree to reach a small ledge and corner. Climb corner to overhang and move left under this on good holds to belay on the ledge above.

2: 5a 21 m Climb the short corner behind the belay, passing a large detached flake on the left. Belay

well back.

C Torrants, C Sheridan 17/06/78

Valerian HVS 5a 50m *

Starting to the right of Pick and Shovel.

1: 5a 30m Climb up and right below overhang, pulling out of corner on the right onto wall above and small ledges above overhang. Move slightly right then up wall for 9m before moving left onto the clean edge of a heathery ledge. Climb the twin cracks on the right-hand side of the wall above to reach large belay ledge.

2: 4b 20m Move right into a heather bay and climb the crack (block to start) in the left facing wall to the top.

C. Torrants, C. Sheridan 18/06/78

Ballaghageeha Buttress

Directions: A steep clean crag standing on the right (south west) flank of the Ballaghageeha Gap and facing north west down the glen. Most easily approached from the Owenreeth Barra Valley; Park just south-west of the head of Glenveagh in a large car park (G R B967155). From here the top of the crag can be seen on the sky line, just left of the gap. About 30-40 minutes walk.

The alternative approach is up the glen - about 1.5 hours of heavy going.

The crag is up to 60m in height and split into two distinct sections by the deep overhung groove taken by Dexterity and marked by the large grassy ledge about 10m from the ground. To the left of this, the rock is open and inviting, easy angled to start but gradually steepening towards the middle; to the right the crag is steeper and more forbidding.

Map ref: B

Pebbles HS 4a 55m **

Climb steep wall 3m left of Unnamed route to a small ledge. Continue straight up (easier crack option on left) to a big platform. Move left and climb thin crack in the middle of the wall, climb the next even thinner crack (small cam at base) to another platform. Climb the vein (unnamed route??) on the big slab (no gear but easy climbing) to another ledge. Place gear and continue along the vein for another few metres. Trend right over easy ground to small corner. Move right and step onto slab and climb on small holds to a large break (size 1 or 2 cam). Traverse right to vertical wall and climb crack on to large platform. Care is needed exiting this belay ledge, particularly in the wet.

K. Mc Gee, P. Tinney, G. Scott. April 09

Un-Named Route S 35m

Start 10m from the left edge of the buttress is a 10m high flat topped pillar, separated from the crag by a deep crack. Start at the foot of this. Up the crack to the top of the pillar. Continue up the obvious crack above and then trend left up the line of weakness in the slab.

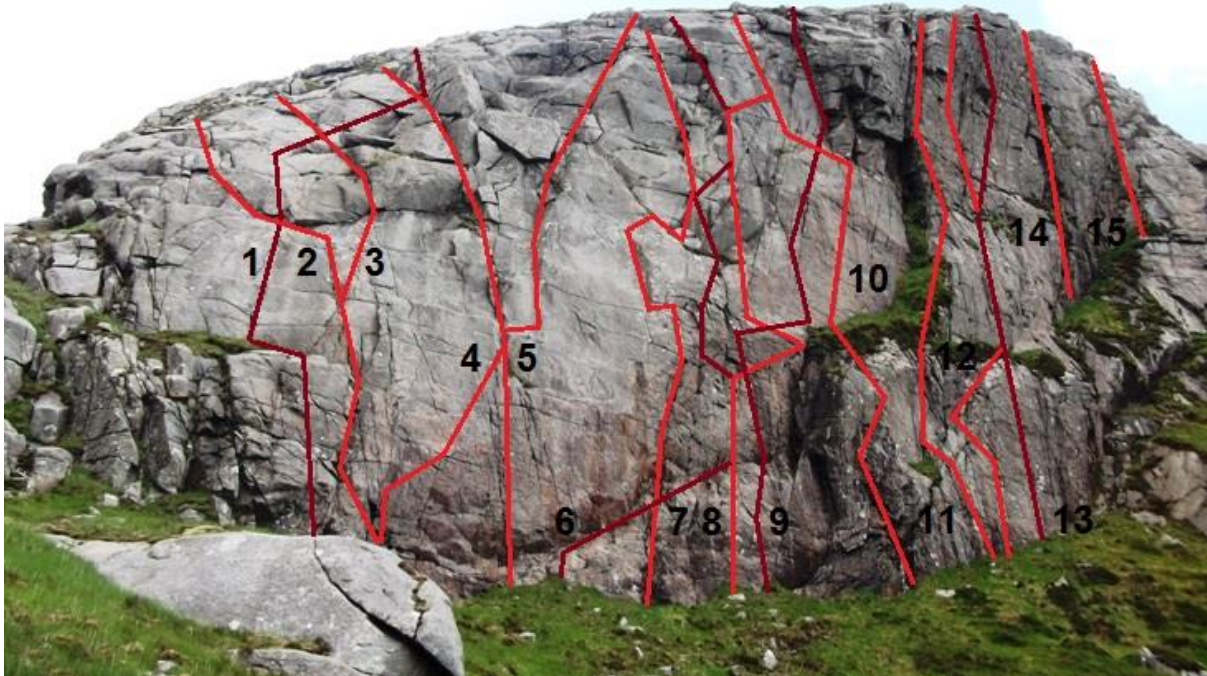
P. Kenny, M. Laracy, R. Dolan

Route Two S 40m **

Start As for Un-named Route. Up the crack to the top of the pillar. Continue up crack as for Un-named Route to a ledge at 6m. Move up and right to small flake. Up past this to a large flake and then left to belay or continue up the deep sloping chimney crack above to the top.

F. Winder, E. Healy Aug 55

1: Pebbles	HS 4b	**	6: Berserker Wall	HVS 5b	**	11: Grasshopper	VS 4c
2: Un-named	S 4a		7: The Mistress	HVS 5a	***	12: Adamantium	E1 5a
3: Route 2	S 4a	**	8: Anachronism	E2 5c		13: Chasing the Dragon	E3 5c **
4: Diagonal	V.Diff	**	9: Tooth Fairy	HVS 5b		14: The Dirty Chimney	
5: Pat Summer	HVS 5a	**	10: Kongen	HVS 5a		15: Jaundiced Eyes	HVS 5a



Diagonal V.Diff 60m **

Start: As for Un-named Route. Excellent route on clean rock.

1: 20m Up the crack for about a metre and step right onto the wall. Follow a line of ledges up and right to reach a good crack line. Climb this until the broad clean platform on the right is reached and belay.

2: 20m From the belay climb the steep crack above 4m and then move right to join another crack. Up this to the 'cave' and stance above.

3: 20m Follow crack, initially in the corner and then out onto the face. Step right at the small overhang and up to the top.

H. Drasdo, P. McMahon, N. Masterson Aug 55

Summer of My Dreams VS 4c 40m

1: 15M Climb Cracks straight to spike and ledge.

2: 15M Step left and slightly down to groove with peg. Up groove to ledge and follow groove above to grass and large blocks.

3: 10M Up obvious crack on the right to top.

G. Murray and M. McNaught June 92

Patagonian Summer HVS 5a 50m **

A few metres to the right of Diagonal there is an obvious crack. The start is slightly overhanging but the angle eases quickly and the holds are good. After the crack, climb a short slab to a good belay at c12m. From the belay climb up for about 2m and step right on ledge. Climb the thin crack with the old peg(crux) for a few metres to a ledge and a corner crack. Climb this and bypass the grass at the top on either the right or left. Move up over a large block to the right of the overhangs to gain the final crack (large hexes and size 3 friends). Climb this and continue over a small bulge to gain the top and

some rather suspect boulders.

K Mc Gee, P Tinney. 19/07/08

Emmigrants Eyes HVS 5a 36m

Start 5M right of Diagonal at little black V and obvious flakes.

1: 16M Climb up on large flat holds, move left into groove. Up grooves to grass sod and ledge. Step 2M right and mantleshelf onto ledge. Move left to belay.

2: 20M Traverse right along ledge, move up and using holds on the right to obvious groove. Climb groove moving slightly right and then follow quartz groove to belay.

G. Murray and M. McNaught June 1992

The Mistress HVS 5a 52m ***

1: 30m Start about 4m left of the v-chimney, climb directly up the wall to a stance on the ramp below the bottom of a crack system. Follow the steep and strenuous wall on small holds for about 2m to a jug and solid nut placement. Continue up the rightward curve on better holds to a good stance in a corner below a small bulge. Climb directly over this and up the face for 3m and traverse left to gain the corner crack. Climb this to the top and then follow it to the right across the slab. Downclimb from the spike onto the grassy ledge and belay.

2: 22m Climb the steep corner crack to a small ledge on the right wall c4m. Place gear (small offset nuts) and continue up the crack past a large tuft of grass to a good stance below the final wall. Climb up the crack (small cams and medium nuts). Numerous ledges on the left wall allow for rests and placing gear. Pull onto the small platform and climb up through the boulders to belay and enjoy the view. A few small rock steps and slabs have to be climbed to exit the belay and get to the top of the hill.

K. Mc Gee, P. Tinney. 27/06/09

Berserker Wall HVS 5b 48m **

Start: At the foot of the rock gangway which cuts across the buttress from left to right, leading to corner below grassy ramp.

1: 24m Follow gangway to below V-chimney, which is about 10m left of the black corner and big grassy ledge. Climb wall to foot of the chimney. Traverse left to thin flake, climb up and back right to good ledge.

2: 24m Climb corner to ledge. Pass perched block and climb thin crack past old peg. Step left into niche and up easily to the top.

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo 26/08/56

Anachronism E2 5c 55m

Start: 5m right of Berserker Wall.

1: 20m Grapple up the steep wall to a ledge at 8m. Go up the wall above to a meeting with Berserker Wall and then traverse back right along a ledge system to a grassy belay ledge.

2: 35m Move back left from the belay for 4m and then go up the wall to a large sloping ledge. Follow this up for 3m to an overhanging wall. Climb this moving left to gain the perched block on Berserker Wall. Follow this for 5m, past an old peg, but climb straight up to a large ramp. Continue up this ramp to a quartz vein, and strike up this to the top.

D. Stelfox, A. McFarlane 17/11/88

Tooth Fairy HVS 5b 65m

Start slightly to the right of Anachronism on the highest outcrop of grass. Climb up the wall to gain the ramp above. Move right to the quartz vein, climb the left side of this to the next ledge. Move left and follow a series of small holds and mantle on to the wide ledge. Traverse right to the corner of the grassy ledge and climb up the steep crack, go right when it splits and move back left after a few metres to a stance and small nut placement. Make a long reach up to the right to a good hold and follow the cracks and holds to the same belay point as Kongen below the left edge of the overhang.

Climb straight up the corner above.

K. McGee, P. Tinney. 14/07/12

Dexterity VS 30m

Start: Route takes the big central corner right of Berserker Wall. The climbing starts from the grassy ledge at the foot of the corner which is reached by either scrambling in from the right or Pitch 1 of Kongen. Climb the overhang capped V-corner groove until a step can be made onto the arete.

Traverse left for 2m and ascend slabs to easier ground.

N. Drasdo, H. Drasdo 10/08/59

Kongen HVS 5a 63m

Start: About 3m right of the wet corner at the end of the ramp leading up to the large grassy ledge below Dexterity, there is a short wall leading to a grass terrace.

1: 15m Climb the wall passing on the left a small grass terrace and surmount the detached bracket above. Scramble up grass and belay at the foot of the crack in the wall above.

2: 24m Climb the steep wall above to the right of the crack, joining the crack at 5m. Climb the crack with 1 aid point to just beneath the bulge above. Surmount this on good holds to a jug above. Climb the wall above to a small sloping ledge and airy belay at the foot of the corner.

3: 24m Traverse left to where a vague pink quartz vein runs upwards. Gain a small sloping shelf above (2 aid points). Continue up the vague groove to the mantleshelf (crux), and continue up easier ground above to block belay.

P. Redmond, D. Walsh 15/08/74

Grasshopper VS 4c 60

Start a few metres right of Kongen. Climb straight up the wall passing a grassy ledge on the right and continue up the crack (frequently wet) behind this to the grassy terrace. Scramble up the grass that leads to Dexterity and step right on to a sloping ledge at the bottom of the arete to belay. Climb the wall on the right edge of the arete. Gently jam past the perched block and then swing back on to the right edge of the arete and climb this to the top.

K McGee, P Tinney. 21/07/12

Adamantium E1 5a 60m

Start about 2 metres left of Chasing the Dragon.

Pitch 1: 35m (5a) Climb up on good holds for 4metres and go left to ledge and old wedged hex. From ledge move out right and up to the large grass ledge. Move right and climb up left facing corner crack and then up easier angled rock to small grass ledge. From here move out right to steeper rock and small ledge and belay.

Pitch 2: 25m (5a) Climb the steep face directly above on good jugs to a small triangle shaped alcove with small roof. Leave the alcove via crack on left and gain large ledge. Traverse right along ledge for a couple of metres to large crack. Finish up the large crack to good belay ledge.

P. Tinney, K. McGee 08/06/13

Chasing the Dragon E3 5c 60m **

A very clean, bold route which starts on the short steep wall at the right hand side of the crag.

1: 40m Climb the steep wall boldly, just left of the large white circle of lichen to join a short crack which forms at the top of the wall. Pull onto the ledge and climb the cracks directly behind, at the top move right to heather ledge. Belay on the pillar.

2: 20m Step right and climb the main line passing the ledge and small overhang on the right side. Climb cracks to top.

P. Dunlop, K. Gallagher May 1993

To the right of Kongen and chasing the Dragon is a wide dirty chimney which was climbed by P. McDermott and E. Goulding in May 68. It is not recommended' (1985 guide).

Jaundiced Eyes HVS 5a 20m

This route is found at the far right-hand side of the crag just before the gully. Climb up the wall into an overhanging corner. Climb this strenuously and then easily up the wall to the top.

D. Stelfox. M. Stelfox July 91

The Castle

Directions: Fastest way in is from the Lough Barra side. Park about half a mile further South East down the road from the usual stone dump car park. Follows the valley/stream to small lake.

Map ref:

A small isolated buttress to the left of the Castle.

Dougerry S 57m

Start: To the left of the rib in a recess below a prominent gully.

1: 27 m. Climb up steps below gully and move out of recess to the right on good holds. Continue up groove, over vegetated ledge to large flake (loose). From the top of the flake, move up right by the groove and mantleshelf onto small ledge. Traverse left onto horizontal cracks and swing awkwardly into gully on left. Spike belay.

Alternative pitch 1. Start 24 m to the right of the recess. Climb the crack in the corner and pull over left to grassy ledge. Block belay. (1b) 10 m Continue up slabs and mantleshelf onto small ledge. Traverse left on horizontal cracks to belay in gully.

2: 30 m. Climb the gully over mixed rock and vegetation to the top. 2. 30 m. Climb the gully over mixed rock and vegetation to the top.

D. Johnson, G. Farrington, P. Smythe, C. Clarke 03/03/63

Culham Rib V.Diff 60m

The most north easterly end of the spur, finishes in a north facing cliff. This climb starts up the centre of this cliff and then traverses left to the rib running up its left-hand side, which is followed to the top.

A.J. Maxfield

East Buttress Climb V.Diff 100m

The route takes a long rib about 100m to the left of the Castle, with a gully on its right hand side.

A.J. Maxfield, M. Rittman

The following route climbs the prominent rib to the right of the deep grassy gully on the left of the face.

Greystone Rib HS 4b 130m

1: 4a 55m Nice climbing up the rib on clean rock to belay below a steeper wall.

2: 4b 40m move right and climb the wall left of the crack and up heather above to an overhanging corner.

3: 4b 35m Climb the wet corner and up the vegetated diedre above or take the exposed arête on the left.

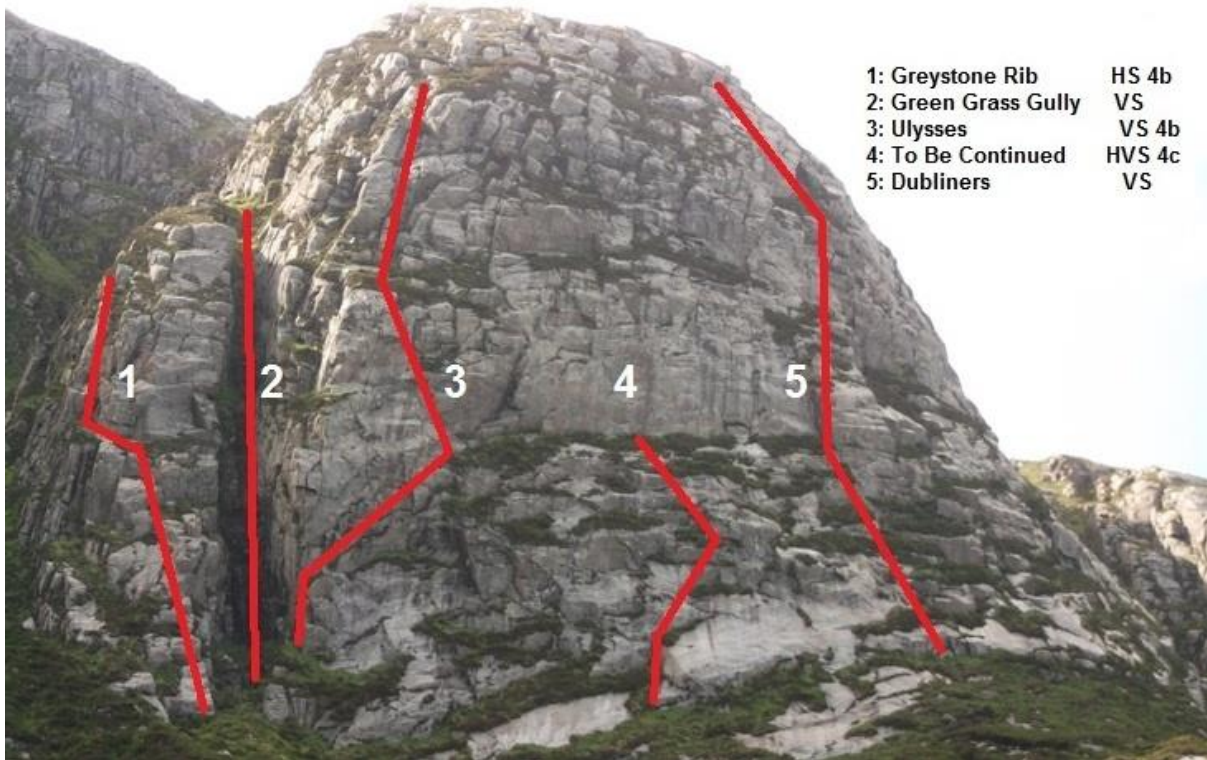
Abseil off the back of the rib into Castle Gully behind the face .

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo and party 04/54

Green Grass Gully VS 100m

The obvious deep gully at the left-hand end of The Castle containing some particularly savage grass sections.

W. Gibson, W. McMurray 1950



Ulysses VS 150m

From the base of Green Grass Gully start up the rib on the right of the gully.

1: 12m Climb edge (peg runner at 6m) to small grass ledge and flake belay.

2: 30m Crux pitch. Two series of stepped ledges run right, towards the centre of the face. Take the higher series - a hard start. Ascent it until a steep step makes progress difficult at about 13m. Traverse right around this step and pull up shallow corner above. From a flake on the slab, traverse diagonally up right until it is possible to descend into a grass filled corner and belay.

3: 18m Climb the groove directly above (This groove is about 8m left of the obvious gully on the left of Portcullis Wall). Put out on a curious ear of rock just left of the groove and stand on it. Move into corner above and climb it to spike on left and belay.

4: 25m Up pink wall on left. Exit left.

5: 18m Follow broken steps into base of prominent groove. Large spike belay slightly to the left.

6: 24m Climb groove and exit right at the top. Ascend on small jugs to slabs above. Climb to ledge with groove on right. Block belay.

7: 23m Move into groove and ascend this to the top.

F. Winder, E. Healey, H. Drasdo 17/08/55

To Be Continued..... HVS 4c 58m

Start directly below the center of Portcullis wall, immediately to the left of the large white slab at base of main face.

1: 4c 38m Climb the left facing corner to a heather stance, trend right and climb right facing arch to another heather stance. Climb the shallow left facing corner, continue, trending back left to another shallow left facing corner. Belay.

2: 4c 20m Climb corner to a superb flake and pull up on to a micro stance at base on a knobbly gearless slab. Tip toe and smear up slab and up through the heather band to the center of the base of Portcullis Wall.

Portcullis Wall looks, Ahem, a bit harder, TO BE CONTINUED!

I. Miller (Gri_Gri Solo) 27/09/07

Dubliners VS 150m

Start directly below the vertical corner that can be seen at the right-hand end of Portcullis Wall (the clean vertical wall in the centre of the buttress).

- 1: 9m Climb a short crack (3m) to a vegetated ledge.
- 2: 15m Traverse slightly left and climb slab to end up on vegetation after 6m. Up mixed vegetation to belay.
- 3: 30m Climb mixed rock and vegetation to base of vertical corner between Portcullis Wall and buttress on right.
- 4: 12m Up chimney for 2m then cross right wall to gain ledge around corner. Up by sloping shelves to top of chimney.
- 5: 30m Move a few feet right, then left on easier ground, until an awkward mantleshelf at 30m leads to a rightward leaning crack and belay.
- 6: 30m Up crack to overhang at 10m. Traverse right and descend. Hard long step to gain ledge. Up groove and move left to belay on grass ledge.
- 7: 24m Up slab, and at 6m move left to crack. Up this to top. Crack can be avoided by exposed move on the left.

A further 210m of scrambling leads to the top of the cliff

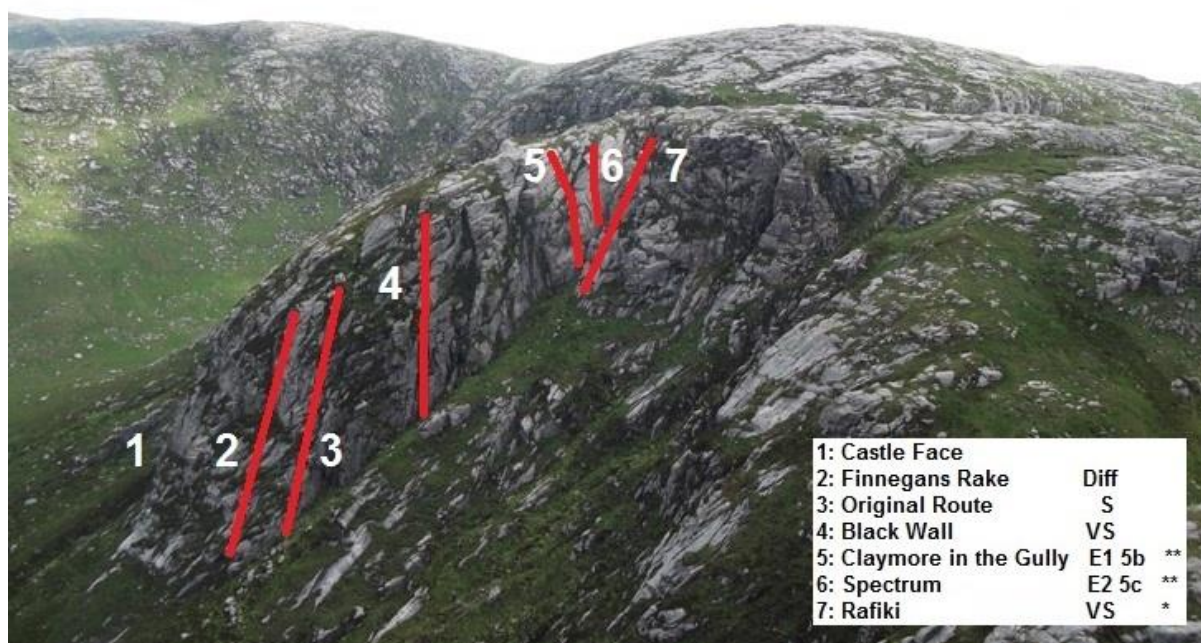
E. Healey B. MacCall, F. Winder 06/04/58

Finnegans Rake Diff 140m

A poor route wandering up broken rock and grassy .

Follow cracks on the right-hand side of the front face of The Castle. The climb starts from a detached block at the right-hand end of the front face and trends leftwards.

H. Drasdo. E. Healey, F. Winder Aug 55



Original Route S 165m

Another poor route, starting in the same place as Finnegans Rake but following a line up the right hand edge of the crag, taking in a large pillar at about 60m.

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo April 54

The route takes a line up the obvious black wall half way up the right-hand side wall of The Castle.

Black Wall VS 120m

Climb the crack in the middle of the wall to gain the first of two dubious looking blocks. Continue up the wall to gain second large block. Climb wall above to belay Slow to dry. Follow rib on the left on easier ground to the top.

AJ Maxfield, M. Rittman

The following two routes are on the left hand wall on the deep gully on the right of the Castle face.

Claymore in the Gully E1 5b 55m **

Climbs a line low down on the fine clean wall on the other side of the gully from Rafiki.

1: 5b 35m. About 10m up from the mouth of the gully are three stepped left trending ledges. Climb these to good foot hold above the third. Move right across small hanging corner then up steeply (crux) to small ledge. Continue straight up past some thin flakes and small overhang into short crack groove, exiting left to niche below slab. (belay possible) move up niche and tippy toe left across thin seam in slab to heather. Belay in crack in short wall.

2: 4c 20m Move up heather for a few metres till it is possible to step back right onto slab where it does a step up and there is a fine fist crack. Climb this and cracks and slab above exiting left up wide crack to avoid headwall at top.

A. Millar, D. Ryan 10/06/05

Pulp Fiction E2 5b 47m

Start at short black wall, 4 metres left of "Spectrum."

Pitch 1 5b 27m From the small grassy ledge climb the good hidden flake to the ledge above. Climb wall above to good holds at the bottom of the left facing corner. Pull around this to good ledge on the right. Climb the wall above using a series of horizontal breaks and then traverse delicately right to good visible jug above the groove of Spectrum (Crux). Move straight up wall to small flake jug and traverse right to gain large heather ledge and belay.

Pitch 2 4c 20m Follow the big offwidth crack for 3 metres and traverse right along the hand traverse. Follow this crack right as it widens and steepens over obvious overlap (crux) to the top

P. & A. Tinney, K. McGee 22/05/219

Spectrum E2 5c 30m **

About half way up the Castle Gully on the same wall as for "Claymore in the Gully" there is an obvious groove which starts a few metres off the deck. This route takes the groove and wall above. Start 8m up from "Claymore in the Gully" below the groove. Climb a small leftward trending ramp to reach the groove. Climb the groove until it runs out and then climb the obvious thin crack above, moving left (crux) onto better holds. Assemble gear and then climb the wall above via sloping horizontal breaks to good ledge. From ledge traverse carefully right and up below an obvious detached block to where you reach a crack and the top.

D. Millar, A. Millar 06/05

The Wonderful Wizard of Aus HVS 5a 40m

At the back of Castle gully on the left wall there is an overhang roof at about half height of the crag. Start below the right end of the roof on a clean wall with a small hanging left facing corner. Go easily up on good steps into the corner. Step up right onto good ledge. Move up and right onto delicate clean slab avoiding huge detached flake on the left. Go easily left under the roof for 3metres to obvious line of weakness. Good wires & friends under roof. Reach up for good jugs and moving hands right on solid jugs get feet up high and grab bottom of thin solid flake running up slab above (Crux). Climb the slab on good grooves to thin crack running up right. Follow crack to overhanging corner on the right. Climb through overhang on good flakes and finish on clean slab at the top of Pulp Friction.

P. & A. Tinney 14/05/22

The following routes take are found on the small clean buttress, on the skyline to the right of The Castle and separated from The Castle by the deep cut Gully mentioned above.

Rafiki VS 72m *

1: 4b 32m From the bottom, left-hand edge of the buttress go up slabby, vegetated rocks to the base of a small chimney. Climb either the chimney itself or the cracks to the right. Continue up the edge of the buttress onto vegetated ledges to a good belay at the base of the first steepness of the rib.

2: 4c. 22m Climb on stepped blocks to the left of the rib to reach the edge of the rib. Swing out onto the rib past old peg and continue up the groove in its centre to avoid the jammed blocks. A nice pitch.

3: 4a. 18m Move up on good rock to the top.

S. Rothery, F. Winder 08/03/59

Chemical Brothers E1 5b 60m

1: 5a As for first pitch Llanwrst or Bust

2: 5b/c15m Climb straight up wall from ledge then right wards past obvious sidepull to crack, then up to heather platform. Move left to belay at the top of 1st pitch of Rafiki and under corner.

3: 5b 20m Climb corner past first to second ledge. Good small wires protects the thin slabby sequence to the overhang where there is bomber gear and hand hold. Climb overhang to ledge then up short steep crack to belay.

D. Millar, A. Millar 15/05/05

Llanwrst or Bust HVS 5a 60m

1: 5a 25m Climb obvious cleaned slab 2m right of Rafiki arete till it steepens at 20m. Move up and across rightward on good foot edges along short slab under short hanging wall. Use hold in thin right curving seam (between slab and wall) and smears to move up around the right edge of short wall.

Belay on good ledge

2: 4c 15m Move carefully right for a few metres along foot ledge then climb short steep finger sized crack (exposed) to heather ledge. Move left and belay as for Rafiki.

3: 4c 20m Move up corner of Chemical Brothers to second ledge then move to right side of this and climb the slabby looking ramp just right of the overhang to ledge. Move left and up short corner to belay. A fine climb and all on good rock. (It is possible to go direct from a belay on the right straight up to right side of the second ledge, via an unprotected mantle shelf at 5b.

A. Millar, D. Ryan, D. Millar 13/05/05

On the left wall of the second gully right of the Castle Buttress and approx 100metres right of the Rafiki.

An Turas Uaigneach E1 5a 30m

Start just in from the mouth of the gully opposite the right corner. Go up wall for 12 metres and then move up out right to avoid the blank wall above. Belay on large blocks above.

M. Przybylski, P. Tinney 06/09/14

On the right wall of the second gully right of the Castle Buttress and approx 100metres right of the Rafiki.

Eva in Legoland HVS 4c 25m

Start 1.5metres in from the corner of the gully. Climb up a series of blocky corners until on last large block a move out right brings you up into the final capped hanging corner. Climb corner to top and finish out the top through the small roof.

P. Tinney, M. Przybylski 06/09/14

Jubilation S 75m

A poor route on the side of the buttress containing Rafiki. The climb starts at the bottom right-hand side of the crag and makes a way up easy rocks to a short steep wall overlooking the gully on the

right.

P. Gribbon, J. Madill, S. Rothery, D. Sloan 13/04/52

Bearnas Buttress

Directions: This is the largest crag in the glen, but also the most vegetated, situated on the spur to the right of the gap in the back wall of the valley, right of "The Castle." The walk in from Dunlewy or Lough Barra is much the same, about 1.5 hours. This is a very large and serious crag which gets few ascents, therefore route descriptions, & topos should be treated with caution. The first seven routes are all on the left flank of the crag, and are described in relation to "Obituary Corner" (a clean diedre with a red wall)

Map ref:

1: The Outflanker	VS	6: Slanting Grooves	VS
2: Flanker	VS	7: Linear B	VS
3: Saoirse	HVS	8: The Direct	HVS *
4: Obituary Corner	HVS/AO	9: Maxfield Flyer Route	VS
5: Obituary Column	VS	10: Route Major	HVS 5a *



The Outflanker VS 36m

About 30m left of Obituary Corner is a buttress. The route Flanker starts up the middle of this. About 20m left of this is a wall. The Outflanker climbs this wall and moves left into grooves which are followed to the top.

AJ Maxfield, H. Drasdo, J. Williams

Flanker/Un-named Route VS 96m

Start: Both these routes take the same area of rock - the first buttress left of Obituary Corner - approx. 30m.

1:24m Climb the middle of the buttress to spike belay.

2:30m Follow buttress to a large overhang, with exit on left and V crack above.

3:24m Climb the crack on the right and when above the overhang traverse left onto the main buttress. Follow the buttress for 9m.

4: 18m Follow the buttress to the top.
H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo 12/08/59

Saoirse HVS 90m

Start: This route takes the obvious chimney crack left of Obituary Corner. Start below and to the left of Obituary Corner, and scramble up a gully to a large ledge.

1: 24m Climb a chimney groove which is directly below the corner. There is a large mass of vegetation in the centre of the groove and small tree at the top.

2: 21 m Climb corner left of Obituary Corner for about 1 m on vegetation. Gain top of some blocks below a small overhang and move directly up crack on left to gain large flake belay on the left.

3: 30m Traverse right to foot of chimney, climb this taking left-hand crack at the top, leading to heather ledge.

4: 15m Up from belay, tending slightly left after 2m to gain a small corner. Climb this for about a metre until it is possible to move right to a crack. Climb this and belay on heather ledge. Scramble off by gully on the left.

E. Goulding, P. McDermott May 68 FFA C. Torrans, S. Billane

Obituary Corner HVS 87m **

The clean overhanging corner with the reddish right wall immediately obvious from below. Start: as for Saoirse by scrambling up a gully to a large ledge, below and to the left of the Corner.

1: 30m Takes the slab immediately right of the chimney on Pitch 1 of Saoirse. Climb the slabs, trending slightly right and gain heather ledge directly above. Continue to the foot of the corner.

2: 30m Climb corner for 9m using cracked right wall to top of a large flake. Climb corner crack, getting steadily harder, using aid (3-4 points). Above the aid, continue up crack using chockstone and holds on walls to ledge and belay.

3: 27m The right wall has an obvious traverse line. Gain this (2 aid points used) to reach flake block in right-hand grassy crack. Stand on this and traverse back left (2 aid points used) to gain main groove again. Continue up this groove to top belay. May be more sensible to climb directly up corner crack. Traverse left and climb gully to the top, emerging at the same point as Slanting Grooves and Route Major.

P. McDermott E. Goulding May 68

Obituary Column VS 150m

Start: At the corner column approx 20m right of Obituary Corner. The route follows the right-hand side of the column to finish up slabs on the right.

C. Bonnington, N. Estcourt

Borgia VS 90m

Start: 10m right of Obituary Column Climb a corner crack. Move left to Obituary Column, climb it for 6m and then cross left to the top pitch of Obituary Corner.

AJ Maxfield, H. Drasdo, J. Williams

Crippin VS 90m

Start: Approx 6m right of Borgia Climb a crack in the centre of the buttress. Follow another crack to gain the top of a pinnacle. Climb right across a wall and slabs to the top.

AJ Maxfield, M. Rittman

The next five routes all start from the bottom, front face of the buttress and weave a complicated pattern up the crag often crossing and merging. The main features are the obvious groove line slanting up from left to right and taken by Slanting Grooves; The Field, a huge grass ledge at the top of the initial 75m of slab and below the overhanging band; and the grassy gully at the right-hand side, marking the starting point of Route Major.

Slanting Grooves VS 140m

Climb the obvious groove running up the buttress from left to right and then breaking out on the right wall. Start by scrambling up steep grass trending left to corner left of the groove proper. Most parties will want to rope up for this and other starts.

1: 25m From the corner move right and up slabby groove to a grassy ledge. Continue up groove to another grassy ledge. Linear B joins at this point.

2: 28m The groove steepens and is climbed by wide crack to pedestal. From top of this climb steep crack with hard mantleshelf. Above this is a slabby groove which is delicately climbed to steep grass and ledge.

3: 18m Walk to left and ascend steep crack followed by easier climbing to a ledge.

4: 30m The tower above is split by a deep V groove which is reached from the left by a steep wall. Climb the groove and belay on grass ledge above.

5: 39m Ascend a deep chimney crack, then easier scrambling to a grass ledge at 27m. Walk left on vegetation and up to top. It is possible to avoid pitches 4 and 5 by traversing off left along grass ledges and a short slab (severe).

RB Evans, BA Fuller, A. Austin, J. Ruffe 03/08/57

The next three routes all start at the same point.

Linear B and Maxfield Fryer Route start by taking a fairly direct line up the middle of the buttress towards the Field. Here, Linear B moves left to join the bottom of Pitch 2 of Slanting Grooves. The Maxfield Fryer Route crosses the Field, joins Route Major for Pitch 4, and then moves right again to the top. The Direct starts in the same place but takes a different route also to arrive at the Field. It then goes more or less directly up to join Route Major for pitches 6-9.

Linear B VS 255m

1: 36m Scramble up grass to the left of a very large slab.

2: 27m Move onto the rib and follow its right-hand edge until crack leads to grass stance.

3: 33m Climb a short slab to another grass ledge. Traverse left to a vegetated crack and up this to where it steepens into a corner. Cross the slab left on undercuts to corner and the start of another crack on the right edge of the slab. Two aid points used to gain holds on slab on the right, which is climbed to grass and heather ledge. The Maxfield Fryer Route moves right at this point.

4: 30m Up on grass and heather to a better ledge directly above. Climb wall and continue up vegetated gangway to beneath overhanging corner.

5: 21 m Move down to the left, step round rib and ascend groove to grass ledge. Move up left into little slab and step left into groove. Climb up a few feet, then step right and move up onto grass ledge.

6: 12m Move awkwardly up short wall into crack between blocks and climb left to the pedestal on Slanting Grooves (Pitch 2).

105m As pitches 2-5 of Slanting Grooves.

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo, V. Stevenson 11/08/59

Maxfield Fryer Route VS 255m

1: 96m As for Linear B Pitches 1-3.

4: 24m Cross to the right and down by right-hand edge of the slabs below. A large flake gives access to a ledge leading to the foot of a fine crack that widens into a chimney at about 4m.

5: 24m Climb the crack and chimney to reach the Field.

6: 78m Scramble and walk up and across the Field to arrive at the bottom of Pitch 4 of Route Major.

7: 9m As Route Major Pitch 4 - Ascend left to foot of slabs.

8: 18m Climb wall about 2m right of Route Major's slab. Difficult and unpleasant climbing over walls and grass filled cracks leads to a grass ledge and belay.

9: 15m Continue much as before to large grass ledge and easy exit on the right.

AJ Maxfield, R. Fryer 23/06/59 (2aid pts)

The Direct HVS 255m *

- 1: 30m Zig zag up heather strips to belay at foot of a rib.
- 2: 24m Move up on the right of the rib to a big flake and cross to the right hand side of the narrowing recess. Go up and through the bottleneck and then by heather onto grassy shelf.
- 3: 27m Go up by cracks to a heather ledge (top of Pitch 2 of Linear B and Maxfield Fryer Route). Move up and rightwards to a bulge, climbed with one aid point. Move into crack on the right to insecure vegetation and short chimney groove at the left end of overhangs.
- 4: 27m Climb chimney groove and pull out onto heather using 1 aid point. Up heather left of large flake and follow ledge rightwards to foot of heather filled chimney crack. Climb this to bottom left-hand corner of the Field and junction with Maxfield Fryer Route.
- 5: 15m Walk along ledge to right, ascend short step and go up left on heather to large bollard on bottom right of big slab.
- 6: 30m Step left and follow heathery gangway then ascend directly up slab and continue up corner. Surmount final step and move up to thread belay in corner.
- 7: 24m Mount flake, move right and go up heather to the foot of Pitch 6 of Route Major.
- 8: 24m Move right from the bottom of the corner of Route Major and climb a tower, leading out to a belay at the top of Pitch 6 of Route Major.
- 9: 24m As for Route Major pitch 7.
- 10: 15m As for Route Major pitch 8.
- 11: 15m Follow the chimney directly above to the top.

J. Williams, H. Drasdo July 69 (Pitches 1-7) HVS (3 aid pts) Start: As for Linear B and Maxfield Fryer Route.

Route Major HVS 5a 243m *

Start: Scramble up the gully to below the rock step, and where an obvious grass tongue comes down the slab on the left.

- 1: 60m Gain this grass tongue and follow it left to a small stance about 6m below a small tree and 12m below an overhang.
- 2: 12m Continue up easily into the corner above.
- 3: 42m Move left to spike. Step up and continue up left on thin traverse line to flake hold giving access to a turf ledge. Continue left, then right to a good stance in a corner.
- 4: 9m Ascend left to foot of slabs (as pitch 5 of Maxfield Fryer Route).
- 5: 42m Traverse across the short slab (usually wet). Move down slightly and continue traversing left to reach the foot of a huge flake, 5m up the wall, above a grass re - -
- 6: 24m Climb crack to left edge of flake. Continue up the corner cracks above until it narrows to disappearing. Using fixed peg swing out across the wall to a good flake. Reach up and left to a peg in below a large block, which is used to swing across to a grassy groove on the left. Continue up to ledge and belay.
- 7: 24m Climb the short wall above (combined tactics or aid for the initial moves) to gain the heather ledge on the right. Move to the right end of this and climb a short wall to ledge. Continue up the wet chimney above to a large ledge. A further short step leads to a recess and belay. Difficult to arrange protection for second on the initial crux wall.
- 8: 15m Continue up the chimney to a grass ledge running leftwards.
- 9: 15m or 30m Either up the chimney directly above as for The Direct or drop off the left-hand of the ledge onto grass ramp and follow mixed ground to the top.

H. Drasdo, E. Langmuir, AJ Maxfield 10/04/59

The following two routes climb the steep clean rock to the highest point on the face. Access the start from below by climbing the first 5 pitches of The Direct to the in-situ peg belay. The easier and recommended approach is by abseil.

From the northwest end of Loch an Tairbh Mor head up and slightly left for 10 minutes to the shallow col on the skyline, B 943 164. From the col head down on the Poisoned Glen side at an easy angle

for about 100m until the top of a steep grassy gully can be seen running down on the left. There is a big flat-topped boulder straight ahead, move right before this and then descend more steeply for 20m to a large detached flake and fixed abseil.

Abseil or scramble down the vegetated ramp for 10m to a small rounded light coloured flake. A 50m ab leads to a sloping ledge with good nut placements. A further 50m abseil leads to a big vegetated ledge with a fixed peg belay at the bottom of the right-facing corner.

The Streets of Laredo E4 (6a,5b) 50m **

Approach as for Gallowglass to the small rounded flake. The route finishes up the blocky corner to the right of Gallowglass, facing out. A 50m abseil down this corner and straight on down brings you to a big grassy ledge. The climb takes the arête on the right wall.

P1 26m After a bouldery start to reach a small ledge continue up the flake crack to a horizontal crack (good gear). Make a hard move over the bulge to reach a good ledge. Climb the shallow crack above, aid used to gain the small foothold on the right, and from here, cowboy, lasso the good rounded flake up on the left and scramble up and left to the ledge. Belay in the groove here so you can watch your second do the same.

P2 24m. Climb the quartz crack in the right corner before moving left onto the sloping ramp, then continue up the shallow curving crack to the bottom of the big left facing corner. This is followed more easily to the top.

C. Torrains C. Sheridan 15/06/15

Gallowglass E4 (5c,6a) 100m ***

P1 50m Climb the corner to the overhang, traverse right and gain the niche/groove above (care needed - rope will jam). Climb the groove and move right to the quartzite crack which is followed to the sloping belay ledge.

P2 50m Climb the steep wall directly above the belay, difficult and sustained and continue up the fault line until forced right onto the quartz arête. Easier climbing leads to an overhang with an undercut flake on the left. Above the overhang pleasant cracks run up to the last big overhang which has a wide crack on the right. Swing up onto the final slab on the right to finish.

C. Torrains, C. Sheridan 23/04/15

Sluice V.Diff 54m

There are two further routes in the area of rock between the end of the main Bearnas Buttress and the start of West Buttress. High up there is a clean cut chimney. The approach is rather bad scrambling. The route follows the chimney.

E F Davies, H Drasdo

Tobi Ishi VS 93m *

Start: To the right of Sluice is a large buttress with two thin grass ledges in its lower half joined by cracks on the left-hand side of the buttress.

1: 15m Climb onto the lowest grass ledge on the right of the buttress.

2: 27m Climb the crack onto the second grass ledge at 5m. Climb the second crack to reach the top of the lower buttress. Step off the top of the buttress across a crack onto a slab with grass tongue on the left. Climb to the end of the tongue and belay.

3: 27m Move right into a corner (5m), climb this to gain another slab with a similar grass tongue. Climb up to blocks and belay.

4: 24m Move left and climb easier slabs to the top.

AJ Maxfield, R. Wilde June 69

West Buttress

Directions:

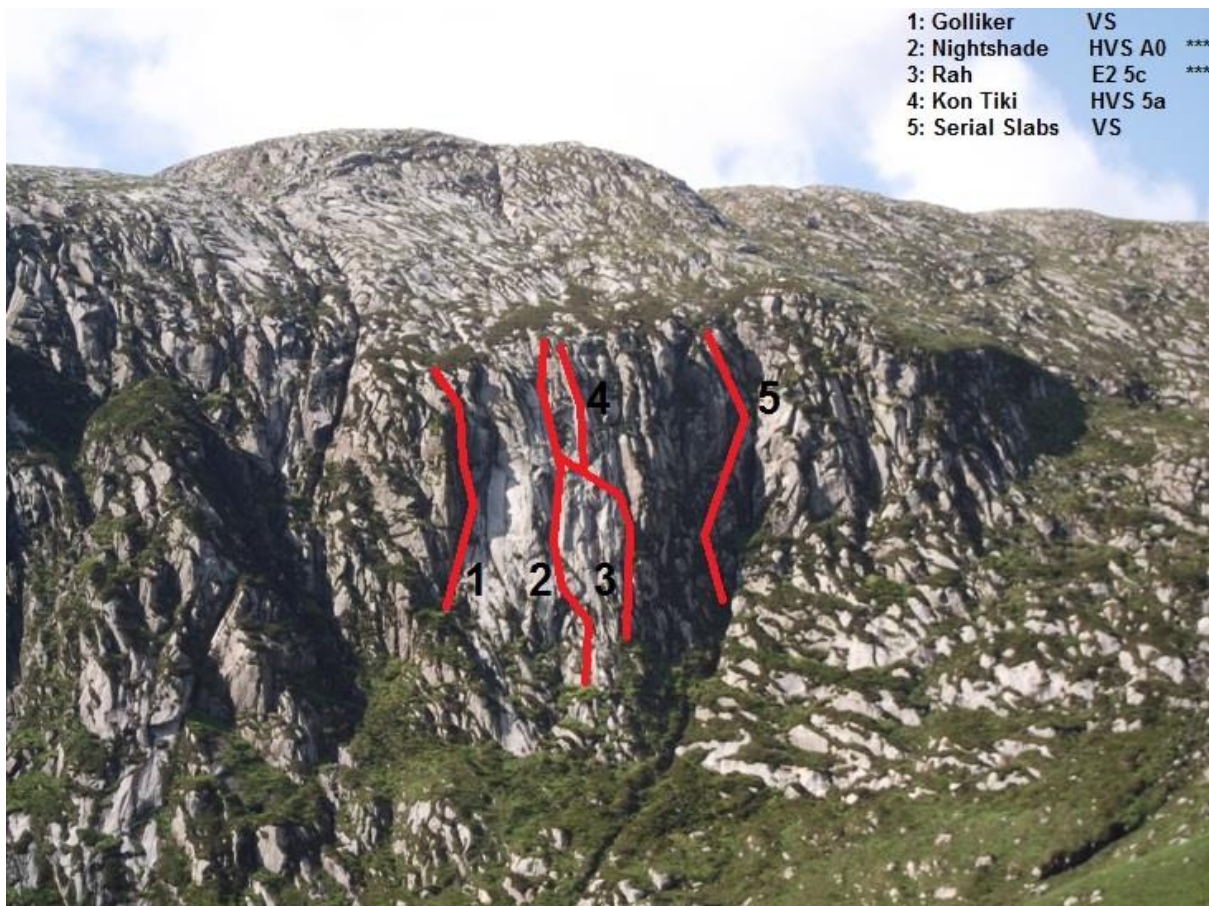
Map ref: B939165

The three earliest routes here follow the three diedre of the West Buttress. To the left of the first (left hand) diedre is a black gully, and left again is a small buttress containing Piglet's Crack.

Piglet's Crack VS 24m *

To the left of the first diedre on the West Buttress is a black gully, left of this is a small buttress. Climb the 24 m crack.

R. Wathen, B.E.H. Maden 14/04/58



At the left hand end of the West Buttress is an enormous, diedre.

Golliker VS 150m

Scramble up from the left to the base of the diedre. Climb groove with two or three awkward moves to reach where the groove steepens into a chimney about 45m from the base of the diedre. Follow the chimney crack to where it runs out in to an overlap. Move out left, then back right to reach ridge above. A further pitch of scrambling leads to the top. Heavily vegetated and unpleasant route - cleaning would help restore it.

H. Drasdo, H.J. Thornton 22/08/56

The Central Diedre

Belladonna E3 5c 220m

Approach either up the Glen from the Dunlewey side or from the Lough Barra side. Both have a similar walk in time but an abseil allows the first approach pitch to be skipped. Park at 958 146 along the R254 before Lough Barra. Stay to the right of Srubhanavarna and the basin until you can cross between the final two lakes to gain the rib leading upwards. Once on the crest, continue in a NW

direction to the obvious wall, follow the narrow gully (Grid Ref B941 164) down the hill and continue along the slab on the right which leads to an abseil platform (sling on a big flake and WC friends 4 and 1 in a tapering crack). 95m abseil to the start of pitch 4 and a 50m ab to the start of pitch 2. The gear is mainly small wires and cams (BD 0.4 to micro).

1: 60m 3c Start at the lowest clean slab at the bottom left of the West Buttress. Climb up the easy crack up its right edge and continue over a step to gain the next slab above. From here move left and climb the grassy rib until a move can be made to gain the grassy ledge on the right. Move up and right to the short red and black wall.

2: 35m 5a A few steep moves gains a ledge, move right for 2m and climb the blunt arête to the large block. Move left and bridge across to the slab and thin crack, climb this and step right at the top to the grassy ledge. Move right and up the thin crack on the slab to belay below the flake.

3: 21m 5c Move right along the flake and up the short steep wall. Trend left to the thin seam. Difficult moves lead to better holds and a few metres of easy juggy climbing.

4: 52m 5c Climb the crack to the overhang and the obvious weakness, as for Nightshade. (All pegs have been removed). Follow the thin crackline above the overhang and belay near the top of the slab.

5: 52m 4a Climb the remainder of the crack, bridge up the groove and reach up to a good hold on the block above. Swing across and up this, cross a grassy bridge, gain the slab and continue to the top.

K. McGee, P. Tinney 10/06/18

Nightshade HVS 155m ***

This fine classic route takes the obvious central diedre of the buttress and continues over the overhangs in an almost direct line to the top. Climbed with various amounts of aid over the years, it has been free climbed but which climbers did it first is not known. The climbing is relatively straightforward but is sensational and well recommended route.

Scramble up the grass to a tongue of slab which descends to the right of the diedre.

1: 24m Up the slab to possible flake belays at 14m. Climb a groove, step left and down to flake belay.

2: 15m The overhang above is split by a V crack. Climb the crack, then left for about 1 m. Tension move down left to below a thin green crack. Climb this with difficulty to a comfortable stance in the diedre proper.

3: 21 m Easier climbing up the diedre or good holds to belay.

4: 21 m Step up left to a rib which is followed for 5m until one can step back airily right into crack. Climb this with difficulty, to a small stance and belay beneath overhang.

5: 36m The only break in the overhang is the wall on the right. Reach out to spike at 3m and mantleshelf. Mantleshelf again onto peg in the crack above (normally in situ). Repeat the process up to the top peg and traverse up right across the slab. Then up edge of slab to a tight chimney, followed by an overhang. Up to belay. Kon Tiki shares the last 9m of this pitch and the rest of the route.

6: 21 m Ascend an awkward rib followed by a groove to belay on grass strip with vertical right wall.

7: 17m Swing right into the corner and climb mostly up the pockled right wall, up to right via small overhang to top.

R.B. Evans, J.A. Austin (Alt. leads), B.A. Fuller 04/08/57

Micheál E2 5b 159m ***

This route takes the first pitch of Nightshade and then follows a series of steep cracks and grooves direct up the face to the right of the Nightshade diedre.

1: 24m Scramble up the grass to a tongue of slab which descends to the right of the diedre. Climb the slab to possible flake belays at 14m. Follow the groove, usually wet and step left and down to flake belay. (first pitch of Nightshade)

2. 24m 4c Climb the steep corner on the right side of the belay ledge. Continue straight up the groove, when it ends trend leftwards up the slab to a good crack. Belay at the bottom of the main crack.

3. 30m 4c Climb the steep crack and follow the rightward curve to the arête. Continue up the face to a good belay stance a few metres below the main arête.

4. 30m 5b Go directly up the wall to gain the base of the arête. Climb the steep upper crack on the

left edge of the arête and stray on to the arête proper where possible. Exit right and belay in the crack below the overhanging headwall. (big cams req. for belay)

5. 30m 5a Climb the short steep crack and continue up the slabs and easy ground to the top.

K. McGee, I. Miller 23/09/14

The next two routes share the same start. Kon Tiki, climbed in 1956, takes a devious line from the base of the right-hand diedre moving leftwards to finish up Nightshade, and involves diagonal abseils and tension traverses. Rah free-climbs the main pitch of Kon Tiki and then follows the obvious groove which Kon Tiki avoids.

Rah E2 5c 142m ***

Starting 8m left of a prominent square overhang at the right-hand side of the buttress in a small pink gully, about 60m below the foot of the diedre and right of the slab tongue at the start of Nightshade.

1: 4a 60m Scramble up to the chimney at the foot of the diedre.

2: 5a 15m Climb chimney to where it narrows, belay below diedre.

3: 5c 20m Traverse down left to grass ledge. Descend grass strip to small foothold on the left and a sloping shelf below fine crack on the left. Gain sloping ledge and with a long reach gain good flake handhold. Continue up crack passing spike on left, and good holds on the left wall to reach arete. Cross the arete and continue left over a cracked slab to huge block and a small tree.

4: 4a 30m Make delicate moves right with increasing difficulty to gain flake at foot of corner. Climb corner until forced onto the right wall. Move up wall onto arete on good holds. Using two nuts for aid in crack parallel to arete step down left to crack and ledge. Gain ledge with difficulty. Up overhang to ledge above (crux). From second ledge move left to large ledge (difficult) and belay in crack in round the corner to the left.

5: 17m As for pitch 7 of Nightshade - up corner to the top.

C. Torrans. C. Sheridan 13/06/78

Kon Tiki HVS 5a 140m

Pitches 1-3 (see Rah's description.)

4: 27m Up chimney in corner pass stance on right to second chimney. Easier climbing to overhang with good holds and stance below steep corner. Last 9m is in Nightshade Pitch 5.

5: 40m As for Nightshade pitches 6 and 7 to the top.

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo 27/08/56

Gaeil Uladh E3 5c 170m *

To the right of Nightshade's starting slab and separated by a single strip of heather are two small rock steps.

1: 4b 50m Climb up these to gain the arete, cross it and follow the grooves above to a small overlap, follow the wide curving crack above and belay just above it.

2: 5c 35m Climb the thin cracks above as they trend right and lead to a proper crack and a few metres of easier climbing. Difficulties increase as this closes to a seam at a headwall, a few tricky moves left lead to a small corner, climb straight up from here to a great belay ledge.

3: 5b 45m Climb easy ground up and right to gain a steep corner groove. At the top of the groove continue up the face using a thin crack, when this closes move right to the next one and follow this to the top and then down right past a large flake and belay.

4: 5b 40m Step across into the corner and follow this through the overhang to the top. Continue past the slightly loose blocks to a good belay at a wall alongside the main strip of heather.

K. McGee, P. Tinny April 2019

Between the two gullies on the right-hand side of the buttress there are two slabs. The following route starts just above the point where the two gullies join, starting with a short chockstone pitch in the left-hand gully.

Serial Slabs VS 157m

1: 40m Up the gully past the chockstone, until an awkward step right can be made to the foot of the first slab. Climb groove in corner of slab to belay on grass.

2: 21 m Continue up the corner onto a small slab. Move right up the mossy slab and then back into the corner beneath the overhangs. Move right and up slab again (1 aid point) and continue to corner to good ledge beneath second slab. An alternative to Pitches 1 and 2 is to take the slab lying parallel to and above the first slab.

3: 24m Start about 1 m right of the corner and ascend the slab to a short slimey crack. This can be climbed or turned on the slab. Continue up corner crack to reach vegetation. Move over shoulder on the right into recess beneath upper capstone on right-hand gully.

4: 12m Climb round chockstone by slab on left and continue to a suitable belay.

Above this point a leftward line in the gully is taken, giving a further 60m of scrambling with some short sections of V. Diff.

H. Drasdo, N. Drasdo 1PA 09/08/59

The following route takes the RHS of a huge flake, to the right of Serial Slabs and right of the deep gash & gully.

Return of the Eagles HVS 5a 50m

1: 5a 25m Start in obvious cleaned 75 degree corner, & climb it until forced up left into another higher vertical corner. Climb it (peg in situ) to exit onto slab (crux). Move left along groove, & delicately up thin crack to large ledge & belay.

2: 4b 25m Continue up left on offwidth (good holds) until it becomes overhanging, forming the edge of a flake. Excellent hidden jugs lead to exposed stance on top of flake. Step off right hand edge of flake & climb 20m meandering crack up the headwall to vegetated ledge. Short wall & steep mixed ground to the top.

M. McGuigan, A. Tees (alt leads) M. McGuigan

Last Small Buttress

Directions: This is a group of small buttresses high on the right hand side of the glen, and overlooking the West Buttress. The walk in is long, and the routes are shorter than others in the glen, but the rock can also be cleaner and is east facing.

Map ref: B937168

Rattlesnake Rib V.Diff 54m *

This route takes the well defined rib on the left of the central or largest of the crags.

1: 12m Climb broken rock up the edge of the first steepness.

2: 12m Climb the groove immediately left of the edge to a small stance.

3: 18m Follow the rib on excellent rock as near the edge as possible.

4: 12m Continue up the rib. The first steepness can be avoided.

S. Rothery, F. Winder 29/03/59

Anaconda Corner S 4a 60m

The topmost of the buttress presents a steep red wall to the valley. The Central crack of this wall is taken by Mamba. Left of the red wall is Cobra Cracks and left of this is a prominent rib, above and right of two converging grass gullies. Anaconda Corner starts at this rib.

1: 42m Climb steep grass and rock to corner recess under steep crack.

2: 18m Climb steep crack to pedestal stance at 6m. Up open leaf corner on poor finger jams to pinch grips on flake. Step left and up easy rock and steep grass to belay.

R. Finlay, H. Moore, T. Hawkins 22/10/74

Cobra Cracks HS 4b 38m

The line to the left of the red wall, going up chimneys and cracks to under the prominent overhang.

1: 21 m Move up to the base of a steep narrow chimney formed by a detached block. Climb the chimney strenuously and then continue up the next steep crack and out onto a large grass ledge by steep vegetation.

2: 21 m Move up to the base of a steep narrow chimney and climb it until it becomes possible to straddle across to a narrow ledge from which an awkward mantleshelf is made to the next step. The short chimney to the left of the overhang is climbed to a large ledge.

3: 5m A wall, with difficult mantleshelf, leads to the top.

S. Rothery, F. Winder 29/03/59

Mamba VS 33m *

In the centre of the red wall right of Cobra Cracks is an obvious groove. Start up the cracks right of the groove.

1: 15m Climb cracks and good holds, occasionally moving left to the rib, to a long narrow ledge.

2: 18m Follow the ledge rightwards to gain the terrace above. Finish up the final wall by huge flake

T. Hand, E. Goulding 02/06/79

Rocky Gap Crag

Directions: A remote crag in the Derryveagh Range, being at least 1.5 hours from either Lough Barra or Dunlewy, (with considerable ascent). From L.Barra, follow the river (Scardangel Burn) up the waterfall, past the lake between Sl Snaght and Crockbrack, to a col, and traverse to the obvious deep gully running East- West up the hill, on the right hand side. The routes are mainly on the LHS, but there is a clean buttress higher up on the right.

Map ref: B932155

Baysellance V.Diff 30m

Take the conspicuous flight of stairs towards the bottom of the crag. Access is gained via a hard move on the right. Easier variations on the left via chimney.

C. Roberts, A. Tees 15/06/85

Scardangel S 4a 25m

Takes the obvious big, cleaned, (since reclaimed for nesting purposes), corner 10m right of Baysellance up to overhang, then move out left and up groove.

A. Tees, P. Turley, C. Roberts 15/06/85

Rampant HS 4b 25m **

Climb straight up broken wall 3m right of Scardangel to reach a left trending ramp, which is climbed to overhangs. Make a long step right to a ledge and follow left hand corner to belay on left. Direct Finish (4c) - instead of stepping right below overhang, follow a crack running up its left hand side.

P. Turley, A. Tees, C. Roberts 15/06/85

Winding Stair HS 4a 30m

1: 15m Start at the red wardrobe sized, recess towards top of gully. Gain the ledge of the recess, then use the left hand corner to gain sloping ledge above. Move right on this ledge and climb corner to a flat ledge on right. Move right around arete and up to bigger ledge and belay.

2: 15m Follow arete to top, moving right to finish.

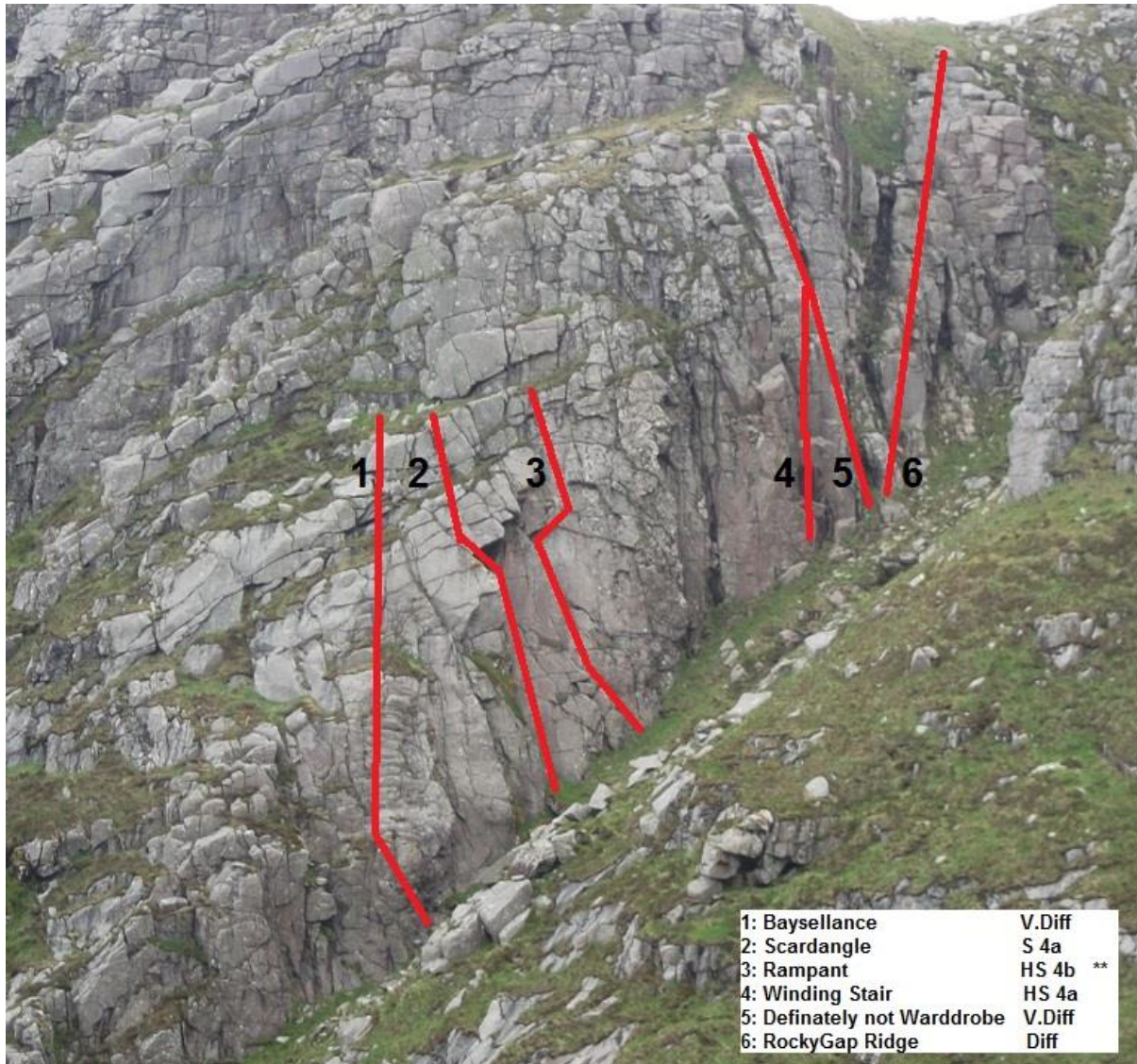
C.Roberts, P. Turley 16/06/85

Definitely not a Wardrobe V.Diff 30m

1: 15m Just around the corner to the right of the red recess is a narrow pillar attached to the wall. Climb this to top of vegetation and step up to ledge at top of Pitch 1 of Winding Stair.

2: 15m As Winding Stair.

P. Turley 16/06/85



Rocky Gap Ridge Diff 30m

Follow the arete on the right hand side of the minor gully separating the upper section of the buttress.

A. Tees, RJ Lee 21/09/75

The following two routes sit on wall on the opposite side of the gully. The left hand side of this twin buttress is characterised by large overhangs at mid-height.

Departure Imminent HVS 5a 40m **

1: 20m The left hand side of the twin buttress on the right of the main gully is characterised by large overhangs at mid-height. Start at the bottom of arete to left of large central overhang. Climb left side of arete (stepping into corner on left for short stretch) until level with bottom of overhang. Traverse right (crux) to large overhang, then up slightly left to good holds and belay ledge.

2: 20m Scramble to top.

P. Turley, C. Roberts 16/06/85

High King S 35m **

1: 15m Start 2m right of the minor gully separating the twin buttresses, at an indefinite corner. Climb the obvious line of weakness on steep but superb rock to ledge.

2: 20m Continue up same joint system to top, turning a small overhang by the face on the right.

A. Tees, C. Roberts 15/06/85

1: Departure Imminent HVS 5a **
2: High Kings S **



Disclaimer

This guidebook is intended for information purposes only, it is not an instruction manual. This free guidebook is for the use of experienced outdoor climbers to make their own judgement calls as to what is and where is safe to climb on any given day.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this guidebook at the time of writing, it alas cannot be guaranteed to be completely accurate. Many of the

routes, locations and even some of the islands in these guidebooks are seldom visited, with a considerable amount of the routes having only ever been climbed once before.

The west coast and islands of Donegal are very exposed to the Atlantic Ocean swells brought by the ever present trade winds. A good working knowledge of such nautical matters is essential to ensure safe practice whilst visiting and climbing on remote and very exposed sea cliffs and stacks.

Rock climbing is an activity with a very real danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities must employ appropriate levels of mountaineering / rock climbing guile and common sense. Participants must take personal responsibilities for their actions and involvement in these activities at all times.

In Ireland all land is owned by someone, the inclusion of a location in this book does not mean we have the right of access or the right to climb there. Please respect the rights of the landowner and we can continue to visit these beautiful places.