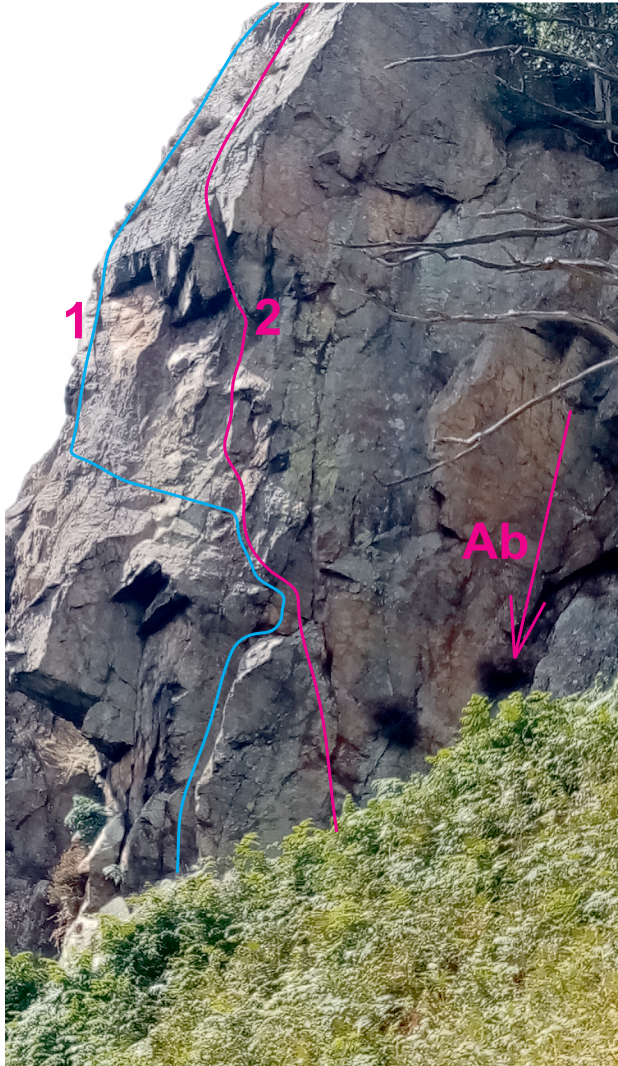


ARMALITE WALL AND DEAD OAK BUTTRESS

A collection of worthwhile low to mid-extreme routes with a number of recent additions.
Situating just west of Middlefell Buttress, Raven Crag Langdale.
GR NY 2847 0640 objective.sympathy.muddle



Moving right to the arete on All We have to Fear....
Fear Control climbs the groove just right.

Dead Oak Buttress

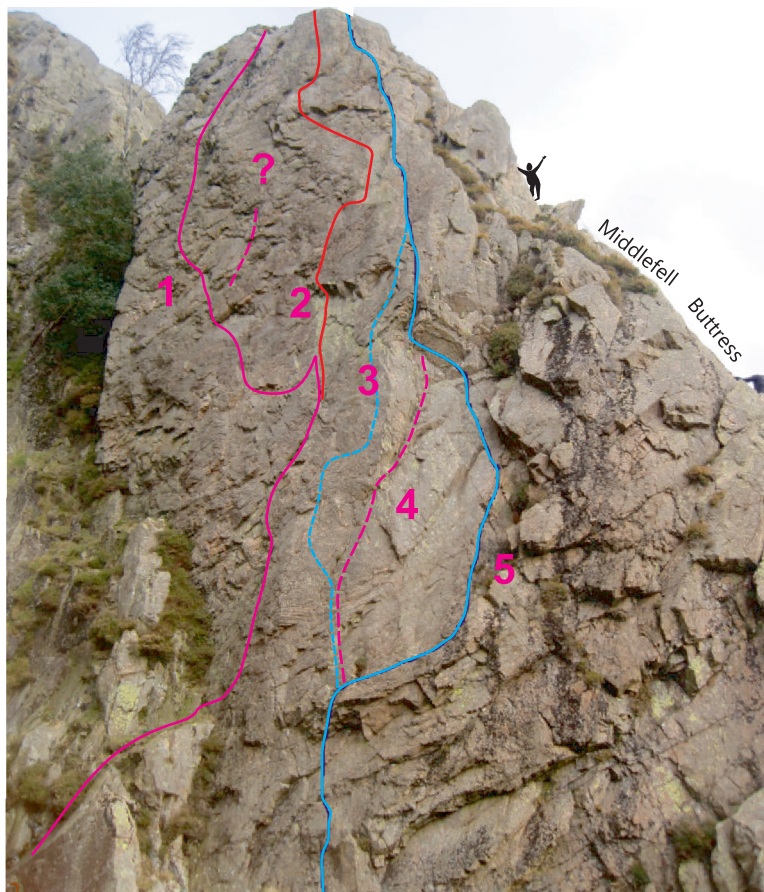
Access - ascend Middlefell Buttress descent path for a short distance.
Traverse left across the top of a bracken slope for 40m, passing beneath the dead oak to the foot of the crag.
Descent - abseil in place at holly tree behind summit pinnacle.

1. Peregrinations E3 5c 20m *

Climb the short, right-leaning groove to an overhung ledge at about 5m.
Work up and left to wires in a thin crack. Traverse horizontally left on crimps, with feet just above the overhang, to reach the arete (slightly bold). Up this more easily.
M. Bagness, J. Kelly 2024

2. Kestrel Cracks E3 5c 20m **

Strenuous with good gear. Climb direct to the overhung ledge at about 5m. Work up and left for a few metres to reach a thin crack (as for Peregrinations). Haul around the drooping flake and continue up the overhanging handcrack on jams or jugs or both.
M. Bagness, J. Kelly 2024



Armalite Wall

The impressive armour-plated sweep of rock forming the west side of Middlefell Buttress.

1. Armalite E4/5 5c 30m ***

Sustained, absorbing, poorly-protected.

Climb the crack for about 12m to twin pegs. Step down and move left to gain a long, narrow foothold. Move up leftwards to a large hidden pocket (old peg). Pull up to reach the rock shield above (small wires?). Continue up and leftwards to a shallow scoop which leads up to easier ground. Skyhooks fixed with bluetac / other stationery items may prevent a deck-out. E. Cleasby, R. Matheson 1979

2. Future Primitive E3 6a 30m ***

Thin, sequency face climbing. Well-protected on the hard sections.

Follow Armalite to the twin pegs at 12m. Continue direct to the overlap (cam) and pull through at a crack. Reach right to large, cleaned holds on Fear and Loafing. Follow this route, either all the way to the top, or, for more sketchy footwork, traverse left under the top overlap pulling round at a good hold on the left then back right and direct to the top. 1990, climbers unknown. Lefthand finish M. Bagness, P. Archer 2025.

3. All We Have to Fear is Fear Itself. E3 5c 30m **

A squeezed-in line, but good climbing. Edgy moves on nice rock. Bold.

Follow Fear and Loafing through the initial overhang. Continue direct to a gear crack then step up and left (cam 0.5 in pocket on L), then back right to climb the wall just left of the arete to a downward-pointing flake. Up and slightly right through the bulge to rejoin Fear and Loafing. (From a good hold on the arete, it is possible to reach right to place a small wire in Fear Control - or dont bother and relish the full run-out).

M. Bagness, P. Archer July 2025

4. Fear Control E2 5b 30m **

Follow Fear and Loafing through the initial overhang. Continue direct, trending slightly right to pull into the shallow groove boldish) and a welcome small wire. Steeply up at the top of the groove to regain Fear and Loafing.

T Rogers, R. Graham 2018

5. Fear and Loafing HVS 5a **

Popular and enjoyable. Surmount a stepped overhang at about 8m. Traverse rightwards into the broken corner. Where this gets heathery, make steep moves left on spikes then more easily up the broad ridge.

M Scrowston, PC Bennett 2017

NB: ? = a much harder route hereabouts by Stuart Wood?