

Den Lane

Sunny of aspect for most of the day (shady in the evening), Den Lane is a grit quarry with a 2 minute walk in just above Uppermill village. Not worth travelling round the world for, it can provide a convenient alternative for anyone in the area pressed for time. Once a bit of a dumping ground and the home of a homeless wastrel, the venue has been recently cleaned (2007) by hard working locals. The climbing is mostly of the butch gritstone crack variety, which once you have a taste for it, can be very satisfying. Most of the top outs are best avoided by abseil using the bolted abseil stations, care should be taken if any of the old pegs and threads are used.

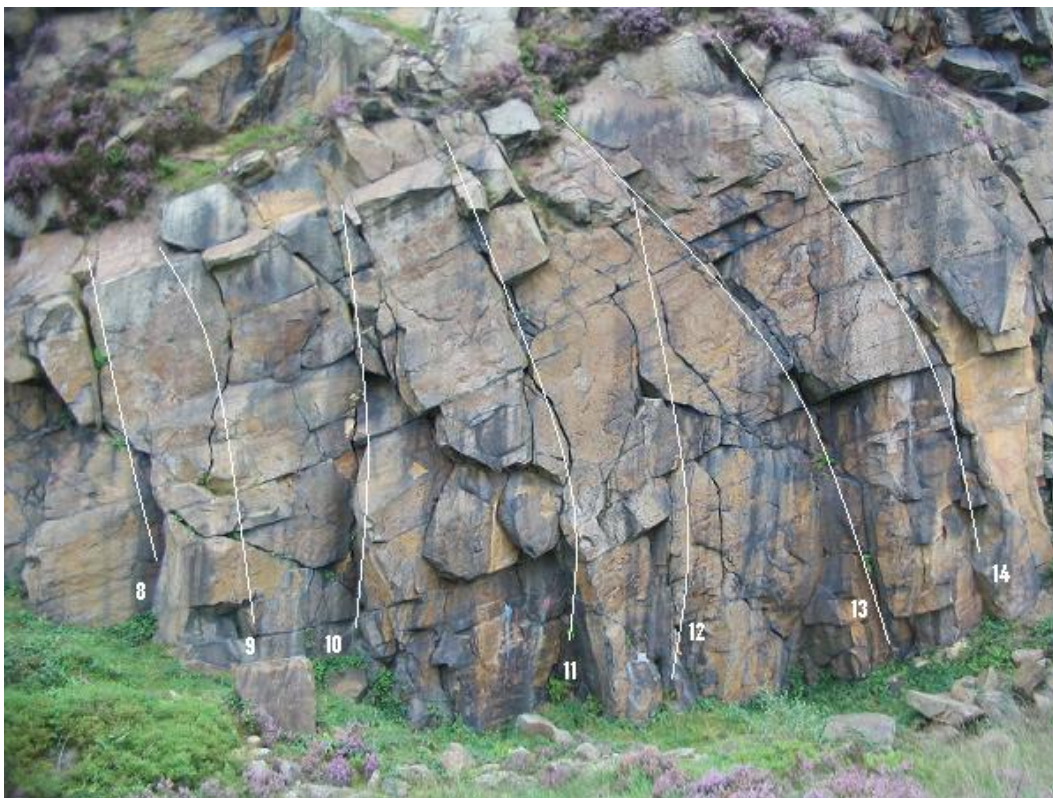
Approach: when driving down Uppermill High Street, turn off up Moorgate Street, follow uphill briefly and round the bend to the right, past a row of cottages. Park in the first obvious layby on the right, past the cottages. Please park with courtesy for the residents. If the lay by is full, find a spot in Uppermill village, it isn't far away. The crag itself is found by taking the footpath directly above the lay by, under the railway tunnel and up the other side.



Long Wall

Some good climbing with slightly grubby finishes, all character building stuff. There should be bolted abseil stations at the top, if not ab off the dated fixed gear (pegs and threads) with caution.

1. Jive HS 4b, climb onto the ledge, follow the crack curving left to the roof, move right round this to a dodgy exit.
2. * Palais Glide VS 4c, climb the groove and layback over the roof, after the second roof, finish rightwards.
3. * Fox Trot HVS 5a, climb the leaning groove line, at the top of which step left to finish up the crack.
4. * Mississippi Dip VS 4c, climb the ramp to the groove of Fox Trot, pull up to the slab and via the crack up right.
5. A Stretch Named Desire E5 6b, climb the blank wall direct, finish right at the top, up Orchestral Crack. Lower the adjectival grade if using a pad.
6. Long Wall Eliminate E3 6a, climb the groove and then ascend the taxing left trending crack to finish up Mississippi Dip.
7. * Orchestral Crack HVS 5a, climb the groove at the end of the wall out to an old piece of in-situ ironmongery.
8. * Three Notch Slab VS 4c, climb up on to the ledge and move across the slab to layback up the right arete, ab off.



Rake Wall

Some excellent climbing, slightly tarnished by some dirty finishes, nonetheless very worthwhile. Many of the routes trend left to finish at a bolted belay and abseil station directly above Midgebite Crack. Take care with any old fixed gear (i.e. pegs and threads) used for abseiling and back up if necessary.

8. Noah's Crack VS 4b, tackle the groove and layback to easier climbing, either finish straight up or over to the right.

9. Sunset Crack VS 4c, from the large block ascend to the ledge, then up the crack to exit left under the flake, finish as for Noah's Crack.

10. Tony's Terror VS 4b, climb the steep groove, to a move right out onto the small slab, continue up the crack above to easier terrain and move right to a belay above the threads, ab off.

11. * Midgebite Crack HVS 5a, ascend the groove to a tricky exit out right, jam the easier crack above until a block is avoided on the left, pull up right to the stance, ab off.

12. ** The Popple HVS 5b, start just right of the memorial and climb the steep crack to a triangular niche, follow the thinner crack above to better holds and so to easier terrain, move left to reach the belay, ab off.

13. ** The Drooper E2 5c, bridge up to and climb over the overhang passing a peg to the bottom of the wider crack, follow this left to and finish up the Popple, ab off.

14. ** The Wilter E1 5b, climb the crack past the small overhang running up from the left side of the orange rock scar, finish more easily. Top out on this one with care. Descent back left (facing crag).

Don't climb any further right than this, the fenced area is private property.