

5.3 Bannerdale Crag 10

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



Bannerdale Crag looming over the wet ground of Bannerdale. The ruined mine building and its tree stand at the lowest edge of the rocky frontage, where the crags meet the swamp.



The rowan – once unique in its fireplace home – now broken and decomposing. Certainly one of Bannerdale's most 'odd features'.



Seen from above, the wide-spreading juniper overlooking the site was always destined to out-live the rowan – they have both thrived in their own way, just according to different timescales.



Among the oldest of living organisms – fungi, lichen and moss – smother the dead rowan's trunk. They are interactive – absorbing, utilising and dispersing the fundamental substances of the once-living tree – returning them to base elements, enabling them to be re-absorbed, re-utilised and re-dispersed throughout a 'food web' that includes a multitude of autotrophic and heterotrophic life.



Upper: the narrow bright-green band of vegetation across the south flank of Bowscale Fell, seen from the boggy ground near the 'bield x' just west of Mungrisdale – unobtrusive and unremarkable, until recognised as Young Wood, one of Britain's rarest forest types; and *lower:* the limited extent of the Young Wood Atlantic oakwood – a native temperate rainforest of national importance – hardly noticeable from the path near Mungrisdale.