

3.15 Steel Fell 6

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



Looking west, upwards from near the roadside stile, with Steel Fell to the left. The ascent follows the green grass track on the left, which quickly meanders up through rough and stony ground. Note the mid-level boulder field amongst the bracken. The gully follows the right-hand fenceline. The waymarker tree (and others) are seen tucked into the uppermost reaches of the steep-sided channel.



Once alongside the gully, scramble around and between its edges to reach the tree that is highest above you, within a steep and tight cleft. The slope can be slippery, so care is needed.



The rowan is, of course, larger today – and has slid downwards from its former position – making it difficult to accurately recreate the scene depicted in AW's original drawing with a photo. There is no doubt as to the tree's authenticity though. Imagine the stark winter silhouette of the upright (deciduous) tree, then visualise the current collapsed crown. The juxtaposition of various features has altered the angle of view. However, look closely below. Note the small rectangular stone enclosure opposite (along the wall ascending beside Raise Beck and seen just 'above' the giant dual-carriageway cairn. It remains exactly as drawn in AW's sketch and assists in aligning the view.



The fallen rowan, now settled into a different spreading form, with others nearby.