

1.4 DOVE CRAG 4

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



On the metalled farm road passing the Barn, with a small group of larch to the left, note AW's original path – now a faint and easily missed track – leaving to the right, running straight ahead, between old declining ash trees, towards the Old mine and the hazel woodlands of Low Wood. The main track proceeds to the left.



Old, gnarled, wild hazel form the understorey beneath other native trees in Low Wood.



Around The Stangs, looking up to Hunsett Cove directly ahead. The 'new' path is seen on the left, with AW's 'old' path to the right. Both paths join in the middle distance. The scale of this rough upland area begins to impose itself as you ascend. Note the massive rockslide debris (marked Scree on Dove Crag 4) – with boulders the size of cars and houses – is directly beneath Dove Crag and appears inconsequential from this point. Locating AW's faint side path into Hunsett Cove becomes a challenge requiring a keen eye and a sense of direction.



The rowan becomes apparent, at lower/mid-left, curling outwards from its rock perch.



Damaged and deformed, but still resilient and healthy. The tree demonstrates remarkable tolerance and adaptability. As long as roots are connected to branches and energy circulates the tree will survive.



A tiny island of growth atop a rocky plinth. The juniper and surrounding plants provide an ideal microcosm for the emerging sapling rowan.



Despite its disfigurement, the rowan remains a true waymarker in a landscape of towering crags and shattered rock. One day, it will be succeeded by the new sapling.



With the old quarry ruin just to the left (out of frame) and looking back down to The Stangs and Dovedale, note the mature aspen standing beside a small rock outcrop – an unexpected find.