



High Tor

(Not the one in Matlock)

High Tor

High Tor is briefly mentioned in the 'Minor Outcrops and Boulders' section of the 1993 Leicestershire Climbs guidebook. The wood has been frequented by locals for years but has only started to be documented since 2018. The topo below is for the largest and cleanest blocks in the wood but there is plenty more for the intrepid and determined to rediscover.

For more info on bouldering in Leicestershire see leicestershirebouldering.weebly.com

Conditions

High Tor is reasonably exposed to the wind and is well shaded. If it has rained recently it can be a good idea to take a towel to dry holds. The rock here is volcanic tuff, and though it looks green and mossy, this does not affect the climbing as the holds are sharp and the rock does not absorb water. The exception to this is The Slab, which is worth taking a scrubbing brush for. The crag is very secluded, you are unlikely to encounter anyone else.

There are toilets in the car park.

Approach and Layout

Walk south out the car park along a track. Where the footpath splits, take the right fork. After a short distance the footpath makes a right angle turn and runs along a field. Follow this to the wood. When you enter the wood turn right to leave the footpath. When you reach a wall, walk along it to find an easy opening where you can pass through it. Do not climb over the wall.

The crags are presented here in the order you reach them if you walk along counter-clockwise along the path which runs along the boundary of the wood. The best place to start is probably Lambda buttress due to its proximity to the entrance of the wood, its good problems, and its flat landings.

Parking

Free parking at [Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Oaks Road, Coalville LE67 5UL](http://MountSaintBernardAbbey,OaksRoad,CoalvilleLE675UL). There is a donation box in the car park if you wish to give something back. The little shop next to the car park sells bottles of Tynt Meadow, a beer brewed by the silent monks of the abbey, from the little shop next to the car park. It's great stuff.





Birch Boulder

1. Brother Bear Left f4

Climb the arête on its left from sitting.

2. Brother Bear Right f4

Climb the arête on its left from sitting.

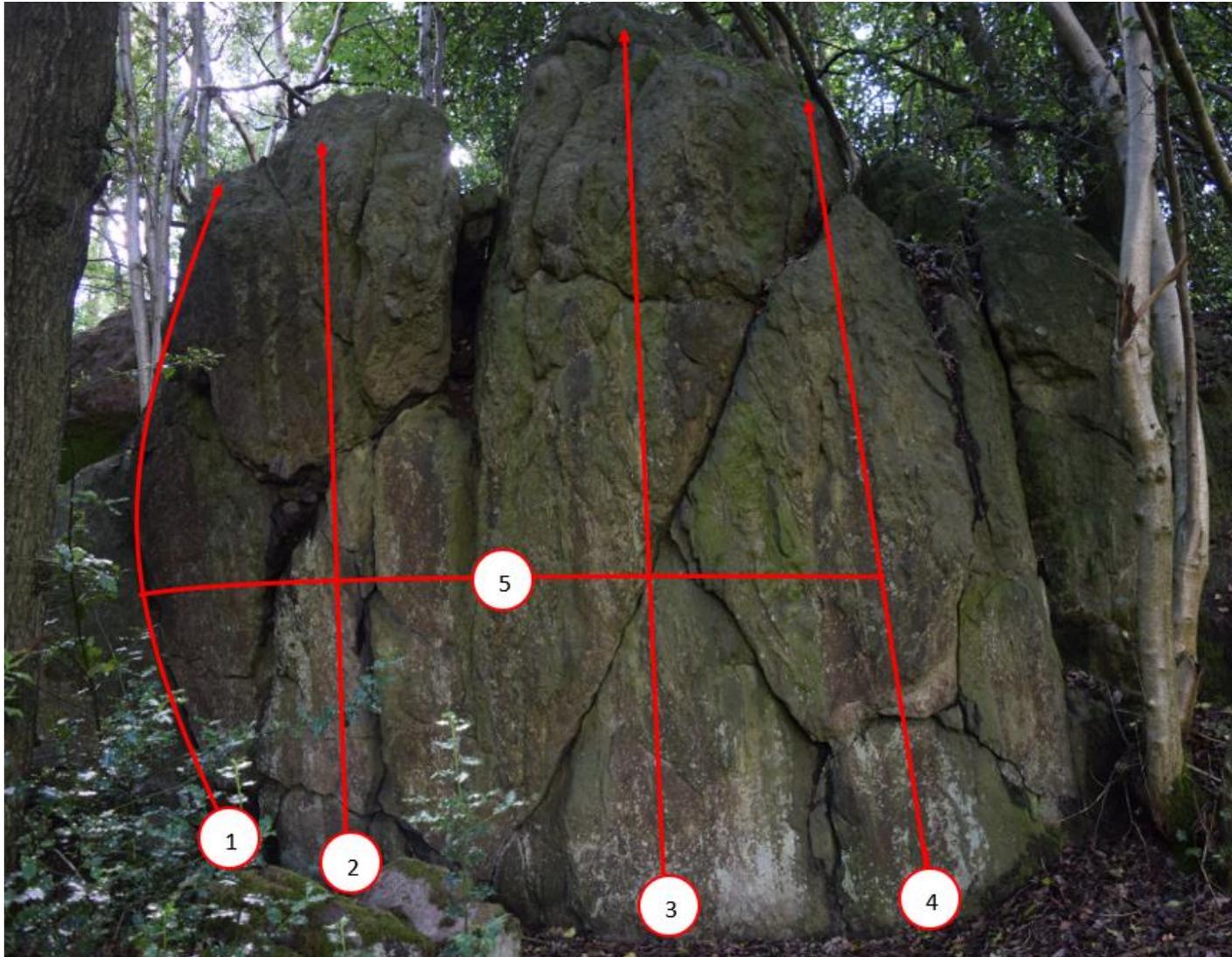
3. Basic Birch f3

Climb the wall from sitting.

4. Delta Force f5

Just down the hill is a small overhanging boulder. Sit start and climb out.





Lambda Buttruss

1. Hand Of God f4

Sit start and climb the left face using the side wall and crack.

2. The Devil's Hands f6B

Sit start and climb the left face without the side wall or crack.

3. Hallelujah f6A

Climb the central line from sitting. Standing start is f5.

4. The Fist of God f5

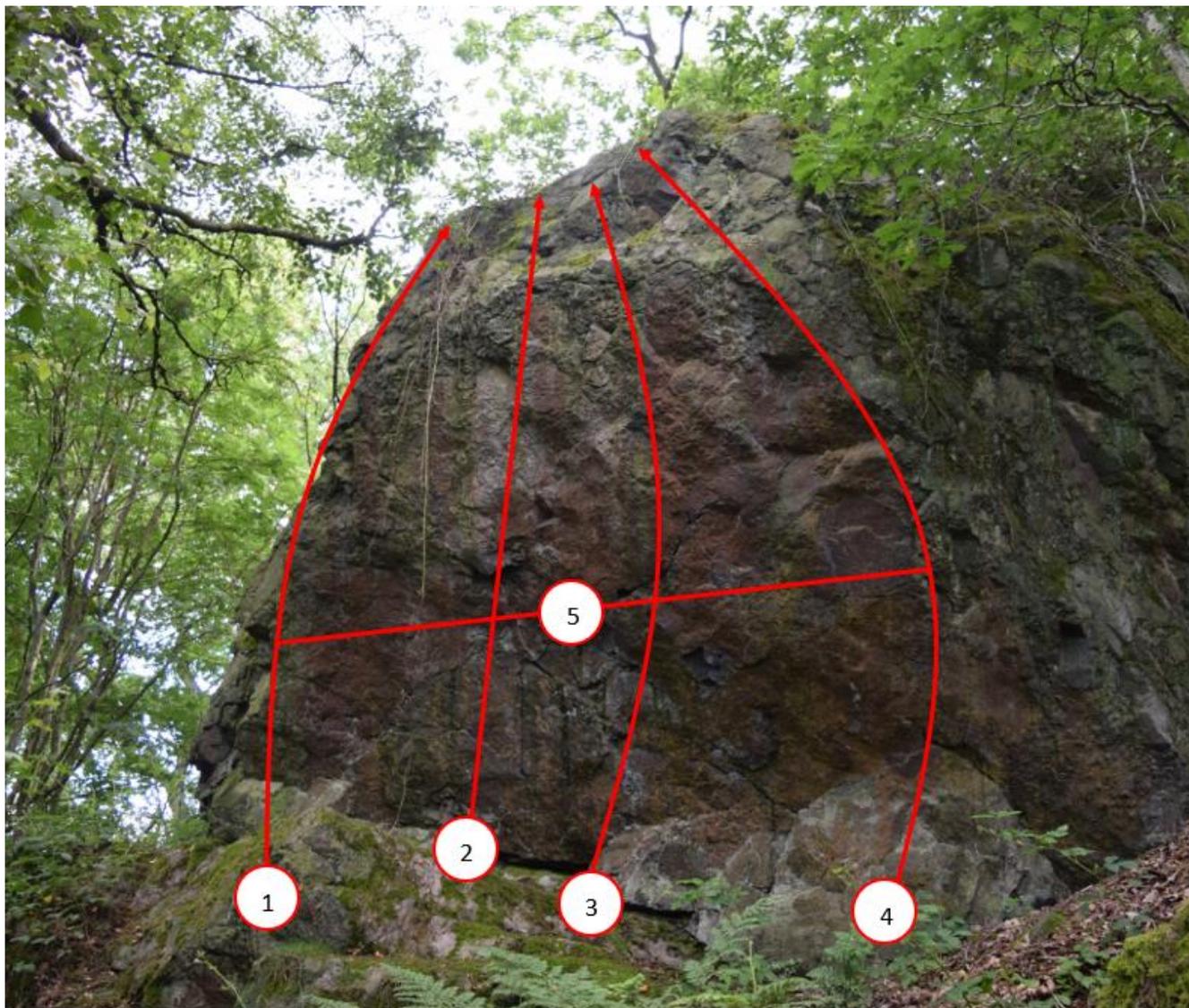
The right-hand line from sitting. Standing start is f4+

5. Elastic Monastic f6B

Sit start as for Hand of God and traverse the buttruss keeping relatively low to finish up The Fist of God.

6. Lambda Overhang

Left of Lambda buttruss is a small overhanging boulder which can be climbed from sitting.



Red Face

1. No Gods f5

Sit start the left arête.

2. Not One Step Back! f6A+

Standing start matched on the large undercut. Finish direct.

3. Red Alert f7A

Sit start directly up the middle. The undercut can be used for the left hand only.

4. No Masters f6B+

Sit the right arête.

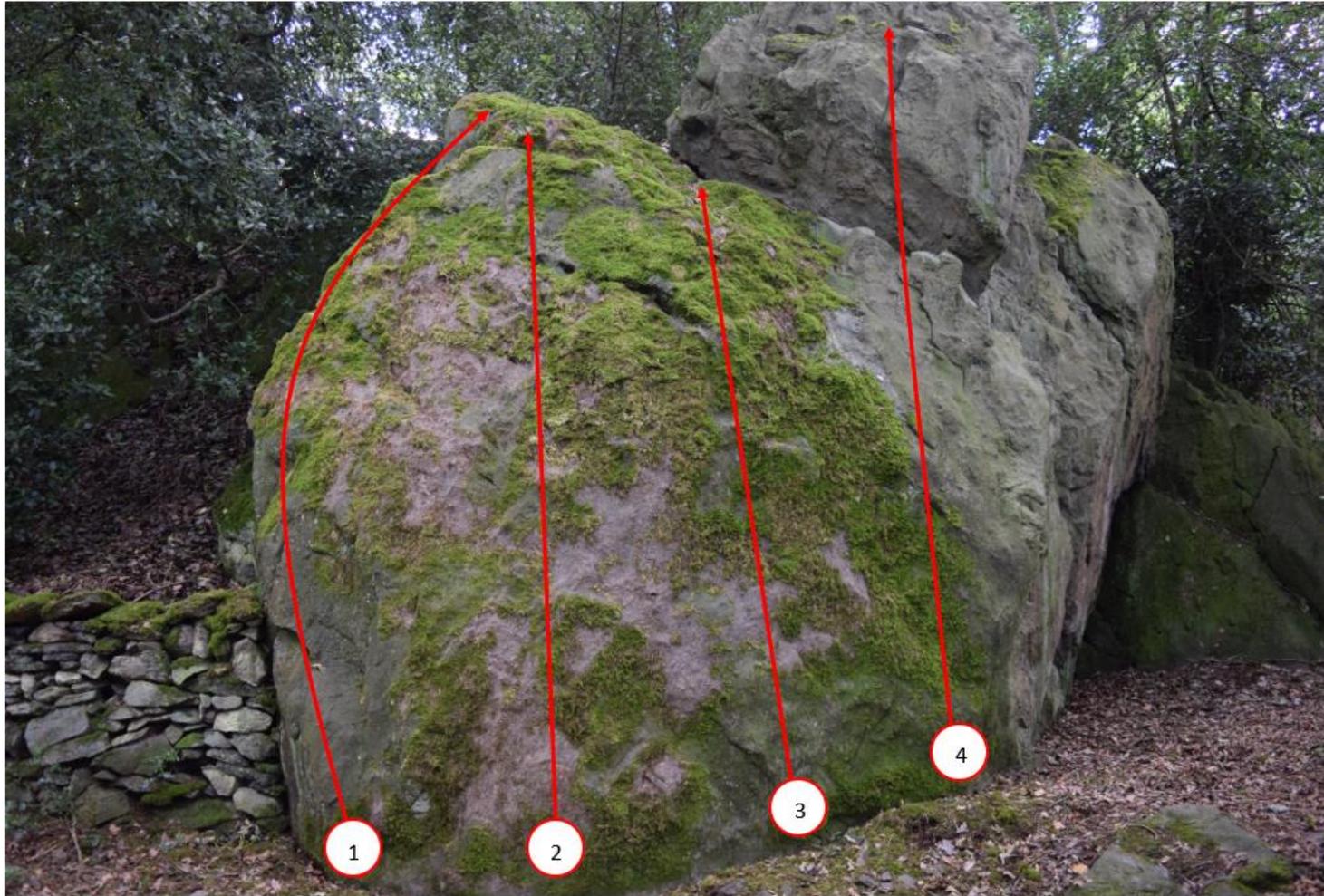
5. Better Red Than Dead f6B

Left to right traverse of the face on undercuts. Start up No God and finish on the right arête. Can be linked into No Masters at f6C.

6. Bombinate f6A

Right up and around from the Red Face. Sit start and climb rightwards along the lip until the apex of the boulder. No use of the supporting blocks.





The Slab

1. Novice Master f5+

Climb the left hand side of the slab from sitting. Standing start is f4.

2. Nun On The Run f4

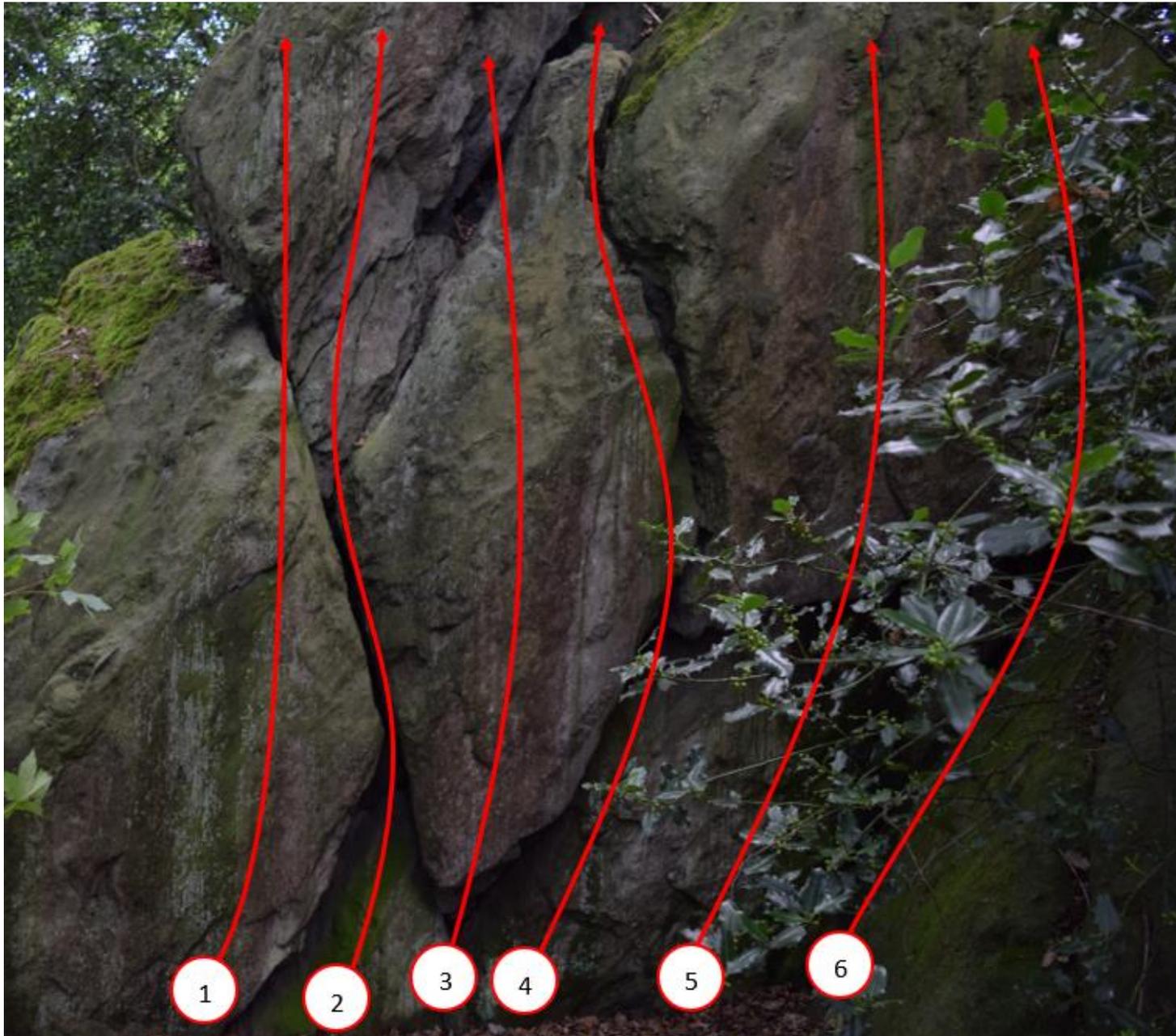
Climb the line just right from standing.

3. Forest Friar f4

Climb the line just right again from standing.

4. Queen Of Heaven f5

Climb the right hand line of the slab from sitting. Climb past the break and up the thin crack.



Diamond Butte

1. Monkey Queen f4+

Sit start and climb between Queen of Heaven and Monkey using holds on both.

2. Monkey f4+

Climb the crack from sitting. Standing start is f4.

3. Skete f7B

Climb the hanging diamond from sitting. Only the diamond is allowed for hands and feet.

4. Brothers in Arms f6A

Sit start the right hand crack of the diamond. Standing start is f4+.

5. Lavra f7B

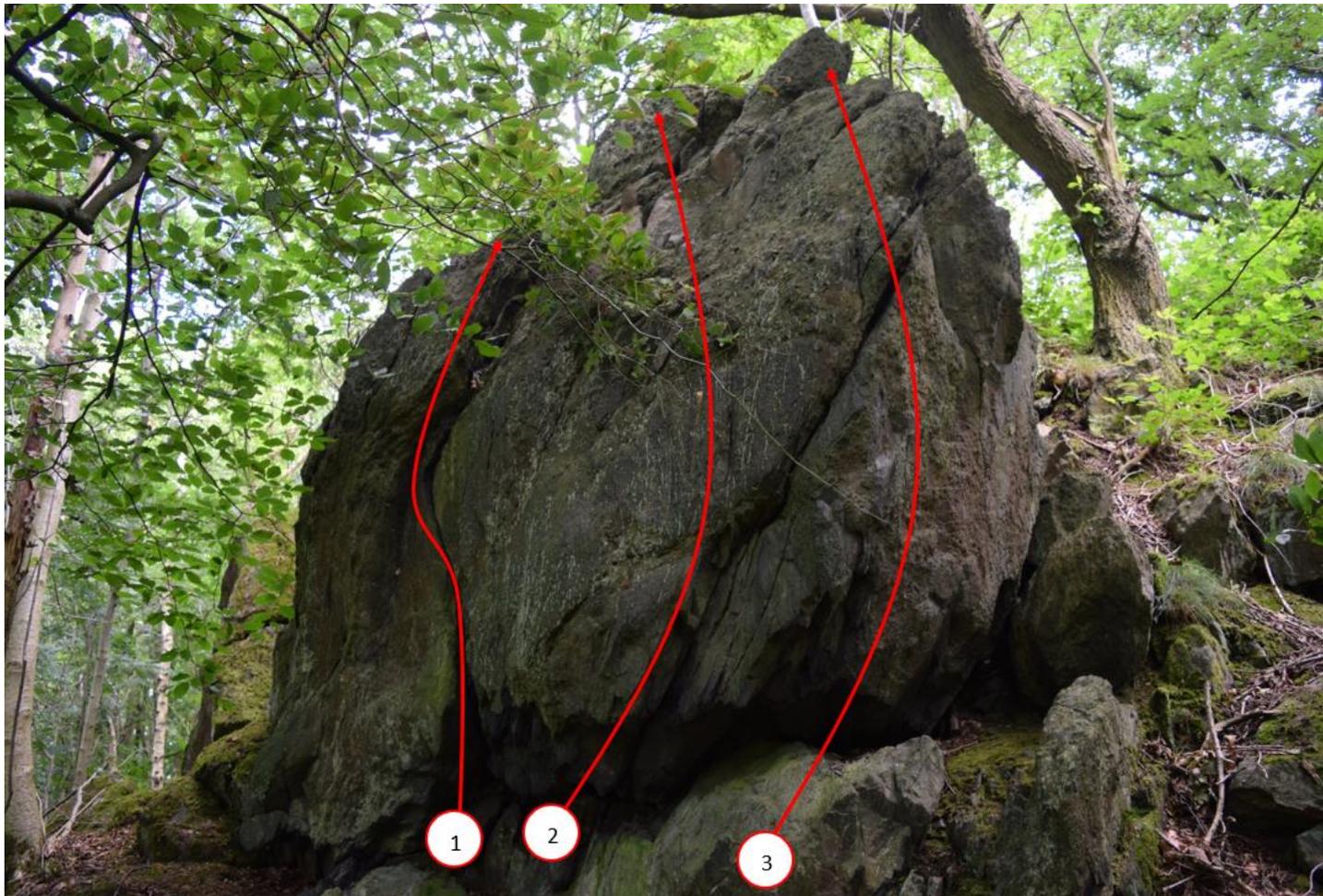
From sitting, climb the blocks right of the diamond without use of it or the cracks next to it. No use of the side wall.

6. O Brother Where Art Thou f3

Climb up the slabby corner using the side wall.



Plenty of stuff awaiting rediscovery here.



Penitence Boulder

Up the hill north of Pinnacled Arête.

1. Mortification f5

Sit start the crack without using the foot blocks.

2. Flagellation f4+

Sit start and climb between the crack and the right arête without using either.

3. Contrition f4

Sit start and climb the right arête of the boulder.



Pinnacled Arête

Lots of problems here are waiting to be rediscovered.

1. Steep Face f4+

Climb the thin crack and then swing right. Given VS is in the 1993 Leicestershire Climbs guidebook.

2. High Altar f3+

Climb the left face of the block then continue upward.

3. Sister Sara f5+

The right face of the block. Sit start and climb up using both arêtes.