

CASTLEBERGH CRAG HERITAGE

Castlebergh has always been a favourite place for relaxation and celebration. The effort of climbing up the crag is rewarded by the panoramic view and a sense of being 'on top of the world'.

As well as a popular destination for outings and picnics, Castlebergh has down the years been the scene of many royal celebrations, including the spectacular lantern procession, firework display and lighting of a commemorative beacon for the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen in 2012.



Primitive sundial on Castlebergh, from an engraving of 1778



Oil painting of Settle market place, c.1838, with Castlebergh in the background



Outing to Castlebergh

The flagstaff was erected in 1837 to commemorate Queen Victoria's accession. The flagstaff was brought down in a storm in 1926. A new pole was provided by Mr Geoffrey Dawson of Langcliffe Hall, the owner of the rock, and it was brought into use on Saturday when the Union Jack was hoisted in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Birthday. A firework display is set off from behind the Crag every year at the Settle Christmas Lights Switch On. Firework displays were organised at the millennium and there are plans for a beacon to be set up on the summit.

In 2009, 26 bolted rock climbing routes, all of considerable difficulty, were set up on Castlebergh Crag by the British Mountaineering Council.

Limestone Quarry

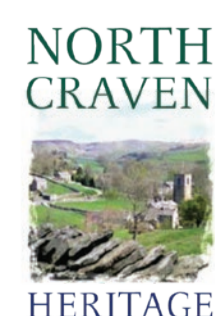
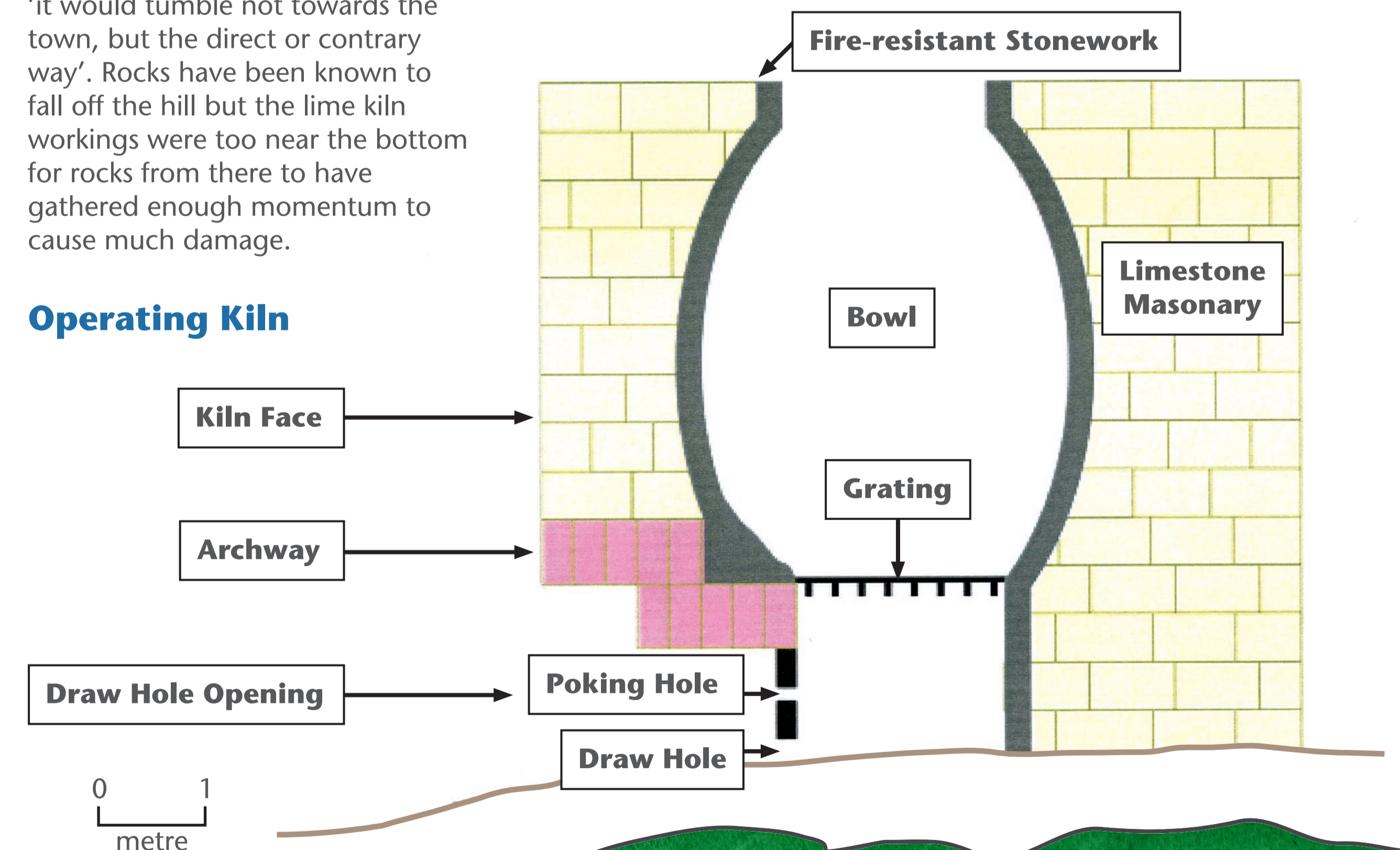
George Brown, referring to Settle in 1896, wrote 'Unless (which heaven forbid!) commercial enterprise should someday work upon Castlebergh some such vandalism as it has wrought upon the once beautiful Winskill Scar. Think of such beauty being burnt into lime!'

In the 18th century limestone was quarried from the face of Castlebergh, probably where the pleasure ground later stood, to feed a lime kiln there. The limeburner was called before the manor court accused of putting Settle at risk. Local people wanted the court to shut his business down because they feared the hill would collapse onto the town. The court rejected the charge saying that, even if Castlebergh did collapse, 'it would tumble not towards the town, but the direct or contrary way'. Rocks have been known to fall off the hill but the lime kiln workings were too near the bottom for rocks from there to have gathered enough momentum to cause much damage.



Winskill Stones lime kilns

Operating Kiln



Content for this panel has been kindly supplied to Settle Town Council by North Craven Heritage

Gateway to Ingleborough



Please stay safe on the paths - they may be slippery when wet.



Please keep dogs on leads.



Please use the litter bins provided.