

Al Wainwright

Field Work

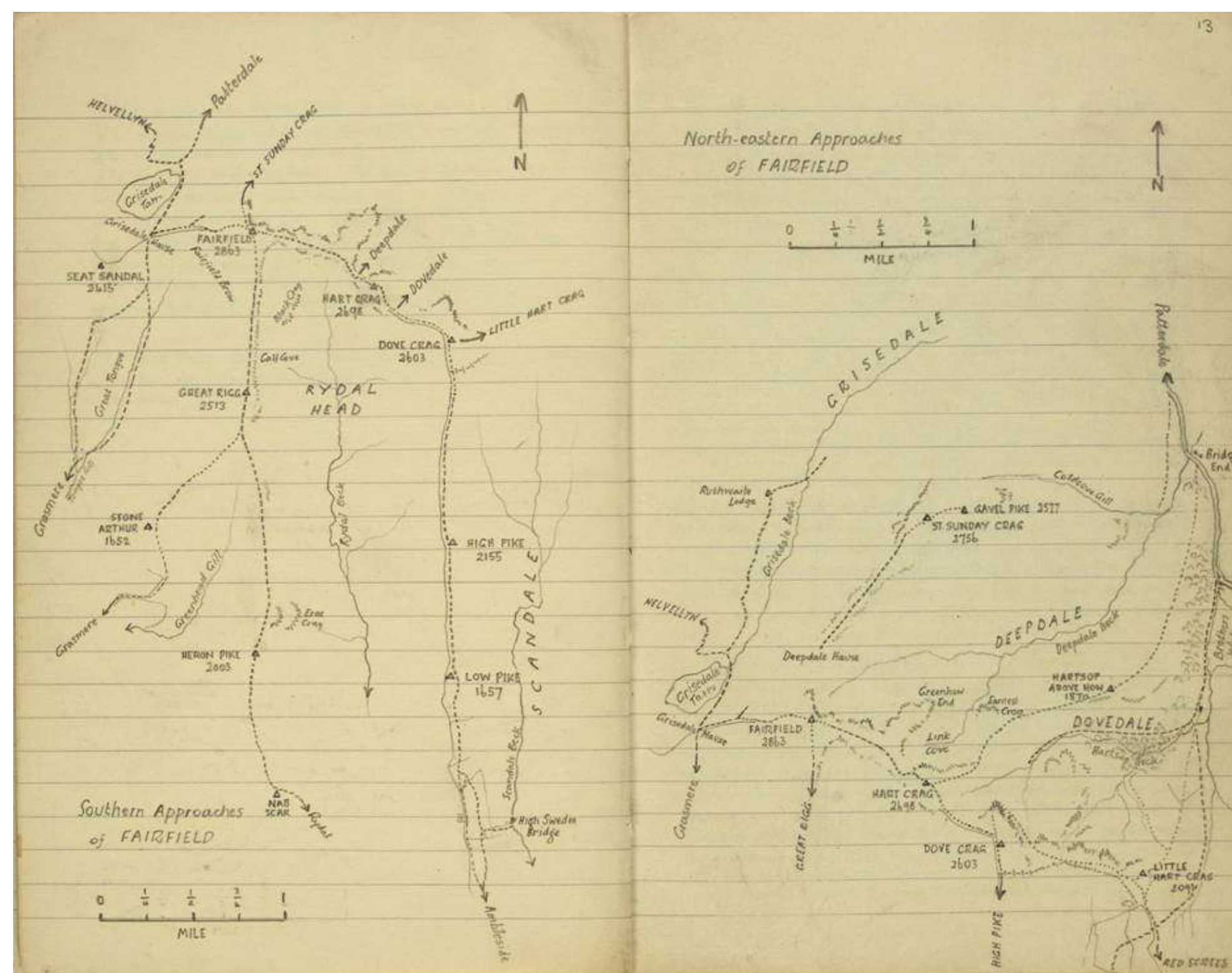
Image 1 and 2 (left)

Notebook page showing the view of Windermere from Troutbeck Tongue. The list of visible fells, with their direction and distance, was used to compile the view spectrum diagram seen in the corresponding print-ready page for *A Pictorial Guide to the Lakeland Fells Book One*.

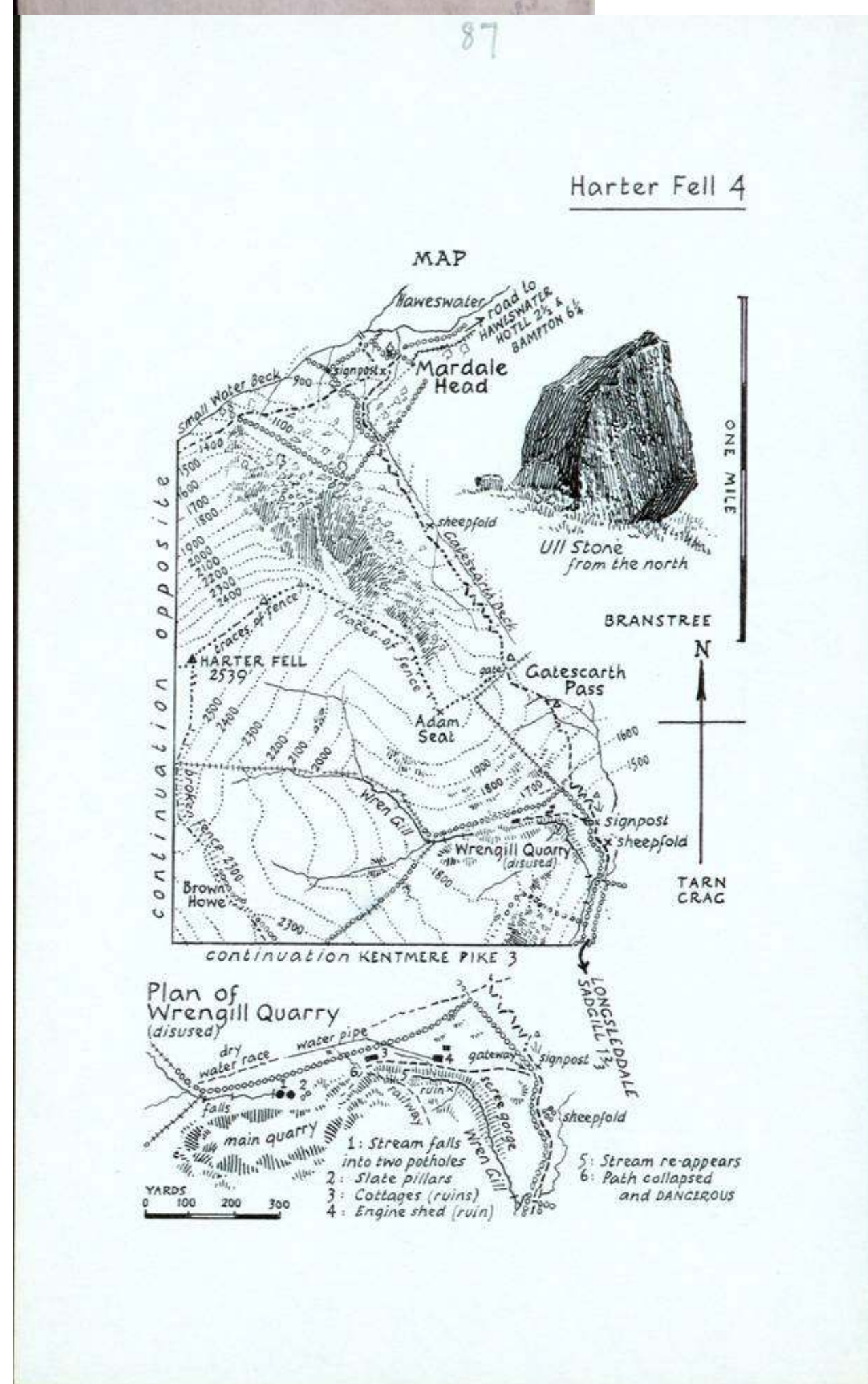
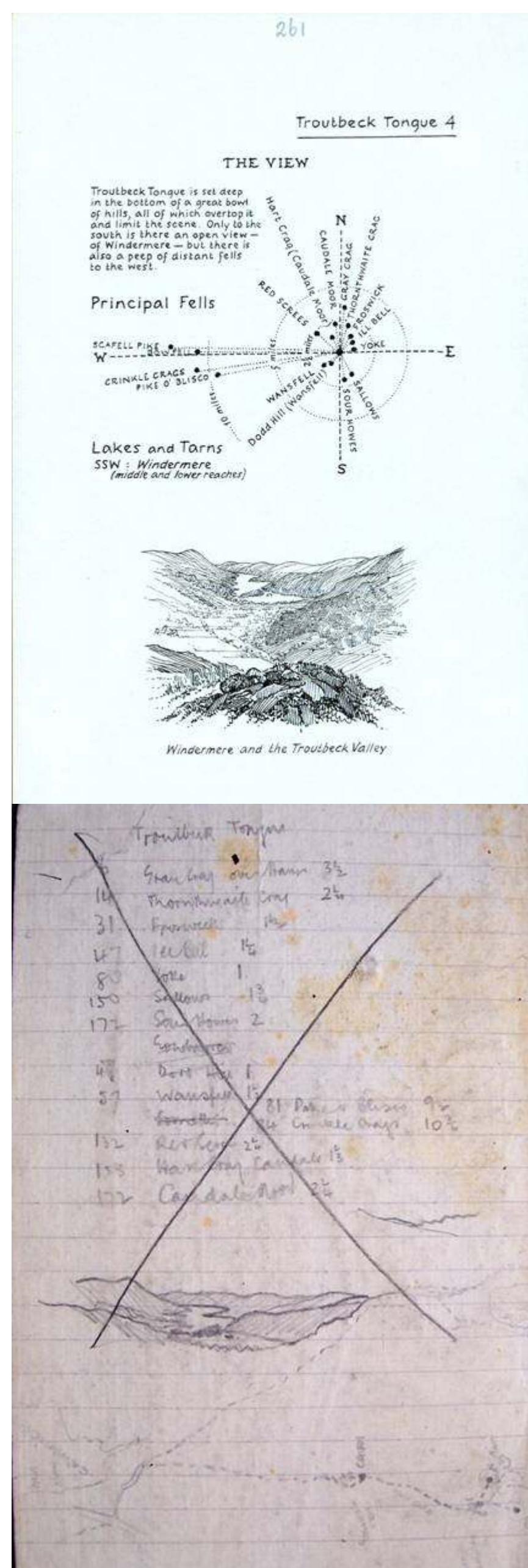
Images (Bottom)

Annotated Ordnance Survey map of Kentmere showing a detailed sketch plan of Wrengill Quarry.

If the scale of the original map was too small to record sufficient detail, he would draw his own version, as here in the top margin of the map.



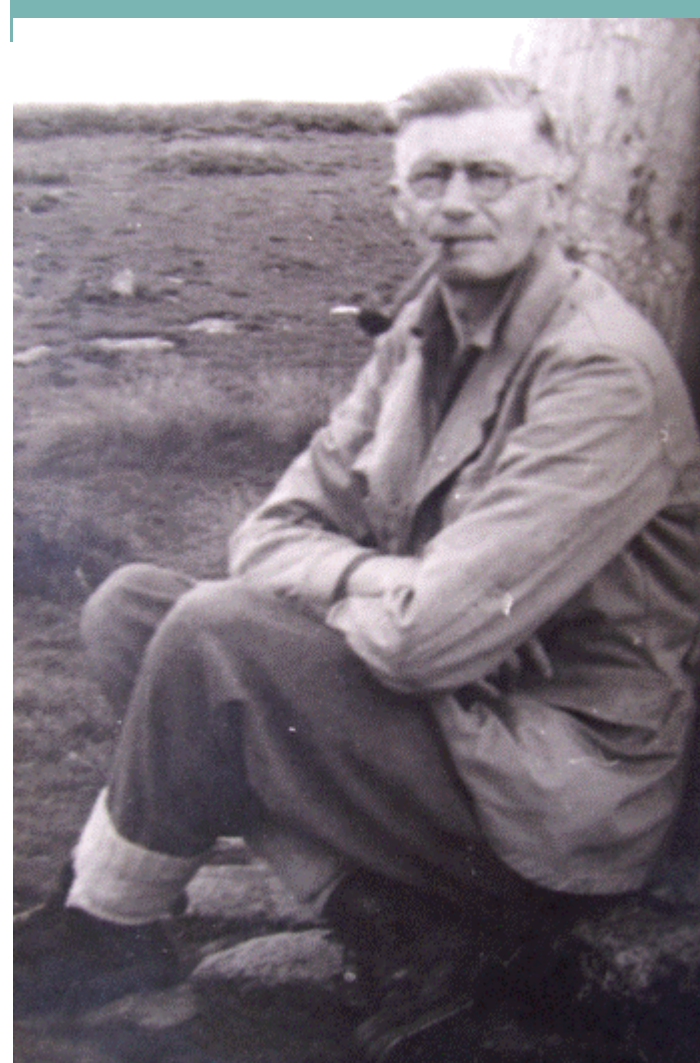
Notebook of the Eastern Fells showing a sketch Map of Fairfield. Purchased by the Wainwright Society and donated to Cumbria Archive Centre, Kendal.



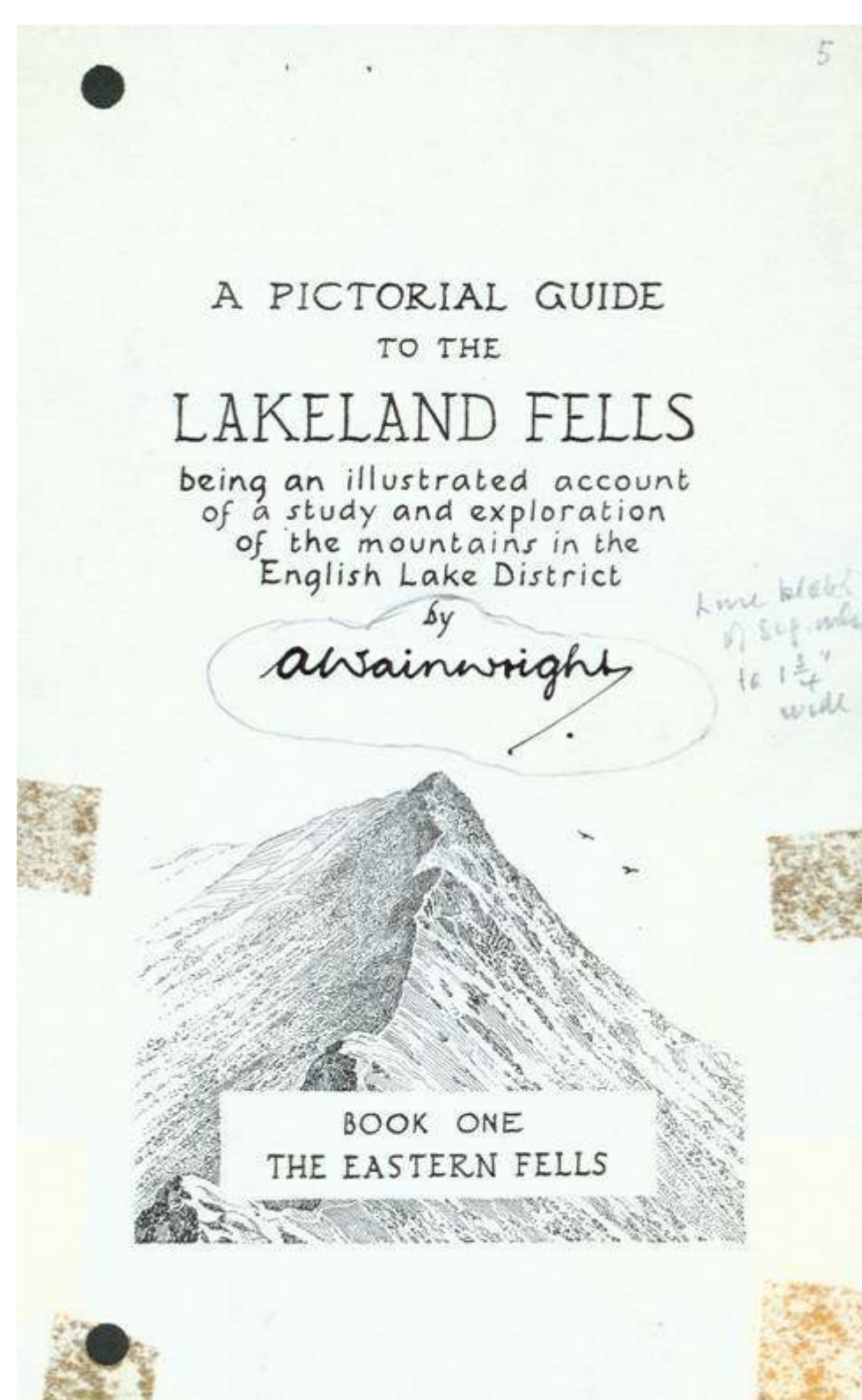
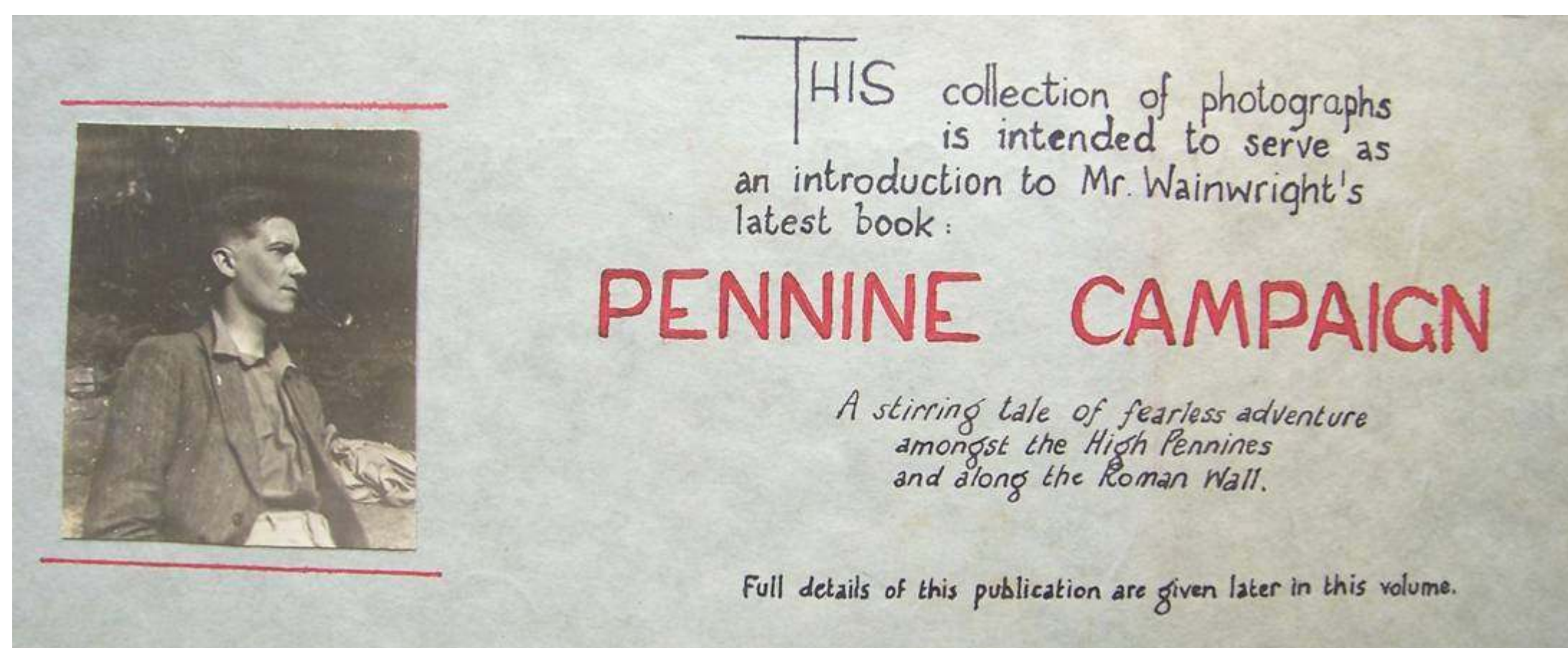
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Alfred Wainwright

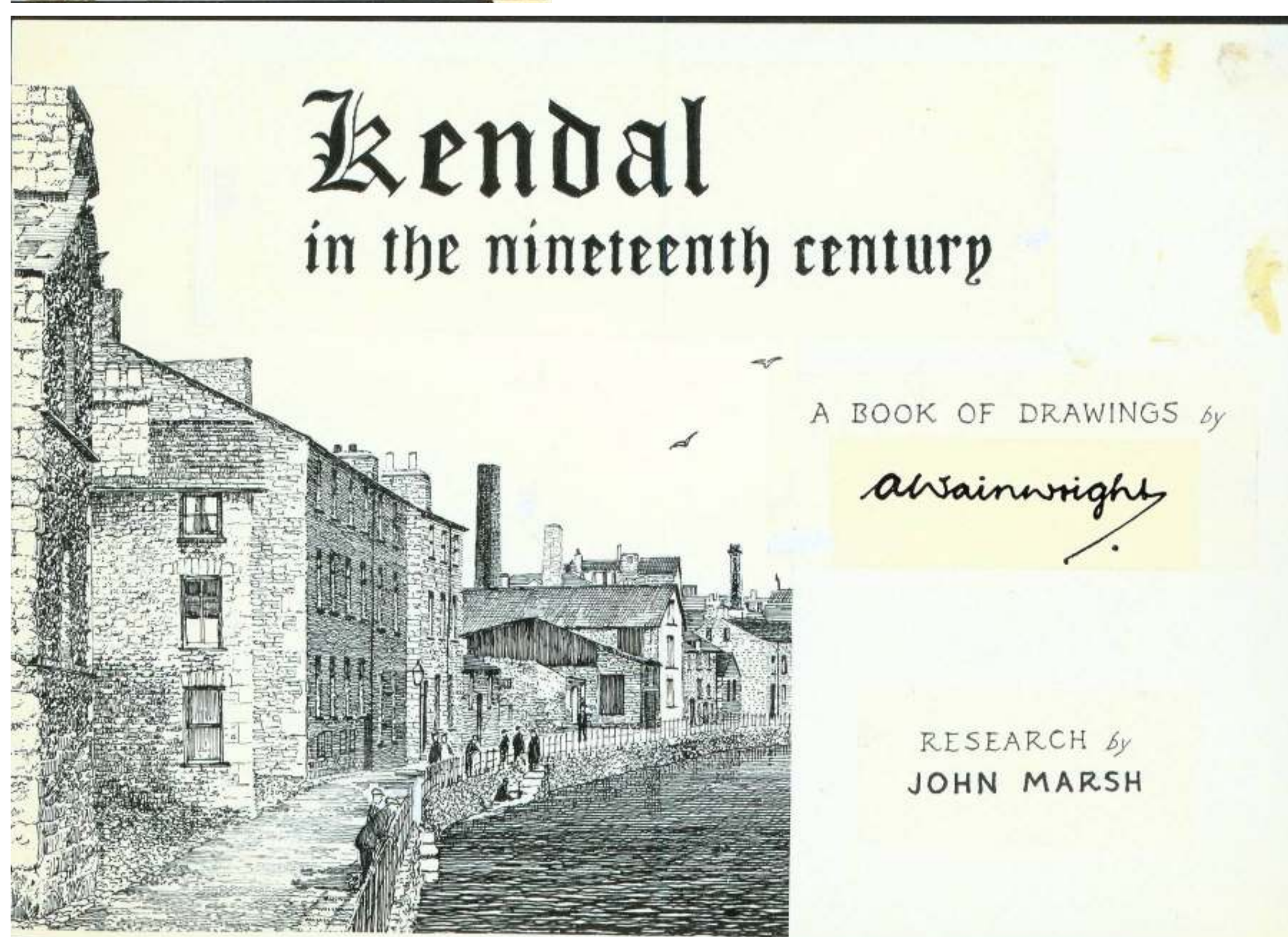
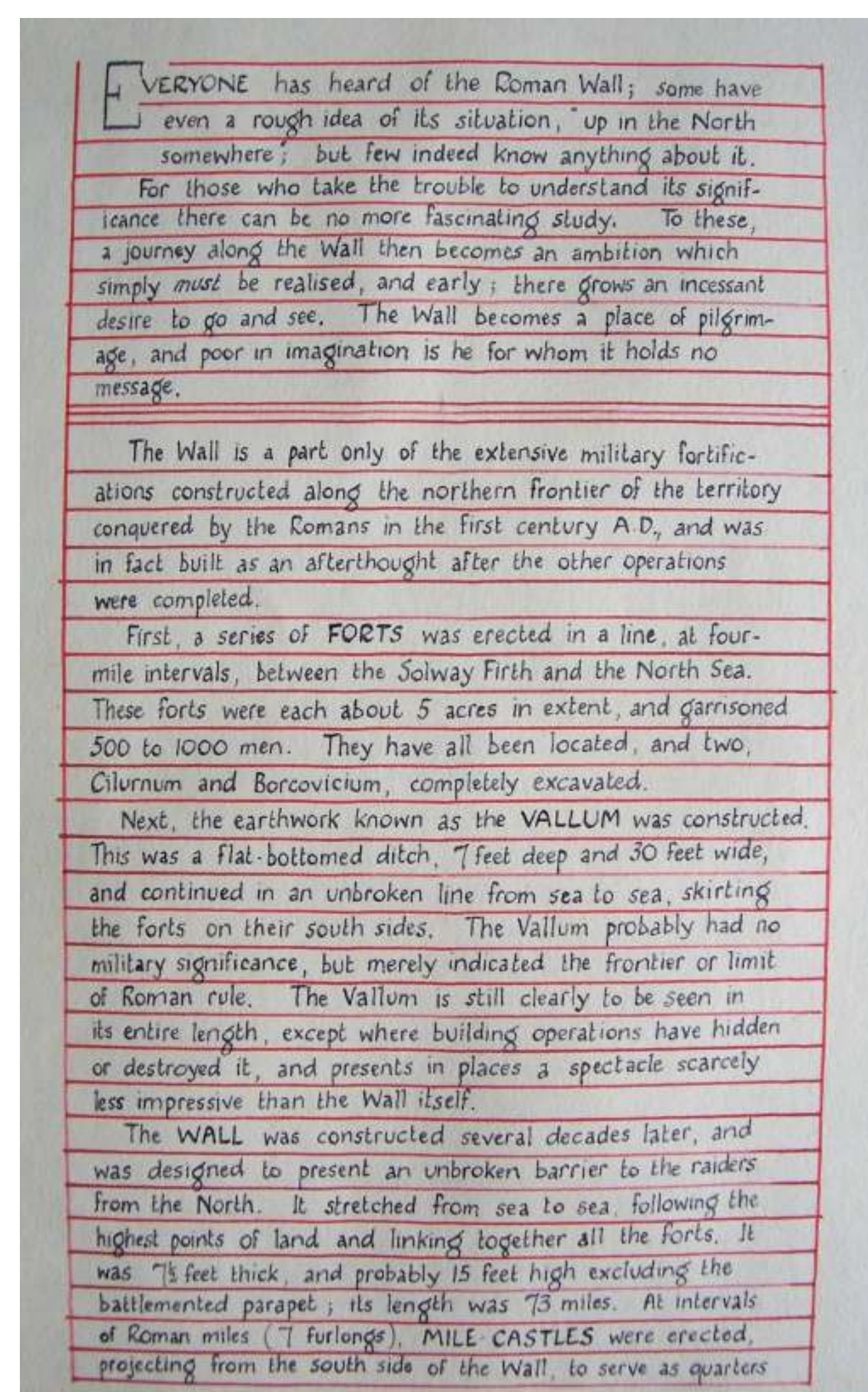


A Literary Journey



"In due course I came to live within sight of the hills, and I was content...Then came a restlessness and the feeling that it was not enough to take their gifts and do nothing in return. I must dedicate something of myself, the best part of me, to them. I started to write about them, and to draw pictures of them."

Having realised his long-held ambition of moving to the Lake District from Blackburn in 1941, by 1952 Alfred Wainwright's plan for *A Pictorial Guide to the Lakeland Fells* had taken shape. Over the next 13 years his weekends were spent walking and collecting information which he recorded in notebooks and in annotations on Ordnance Survey maps, while his evenings were taken up with drafting detailed maps and diagrams, drawing the views from his own photographs, and compiling these, along with his hand-written text, into finished pages.



Pennine Campaign (1938) is essentially a travelogue, a type-written text whose few illustrations are a single map and a scattering of photographs. It does however include a 'Special Pictorial Supplement' on the subject of The Roman Wall which, like the later *Guide*, is carefully written out by hand with obvious care taken over presentation. He also provided a spoof publisher's advertisement for the amusement of his friends to whom he circulated the manuscript. Interestingly this work was not published until nearly 50 years later in 1986.

Although Alfred Wainwright is best remembered for his *Pictorial Guides*, he also took a keen interest in local history. *Kendal in the 19th Century* was published in 1977.



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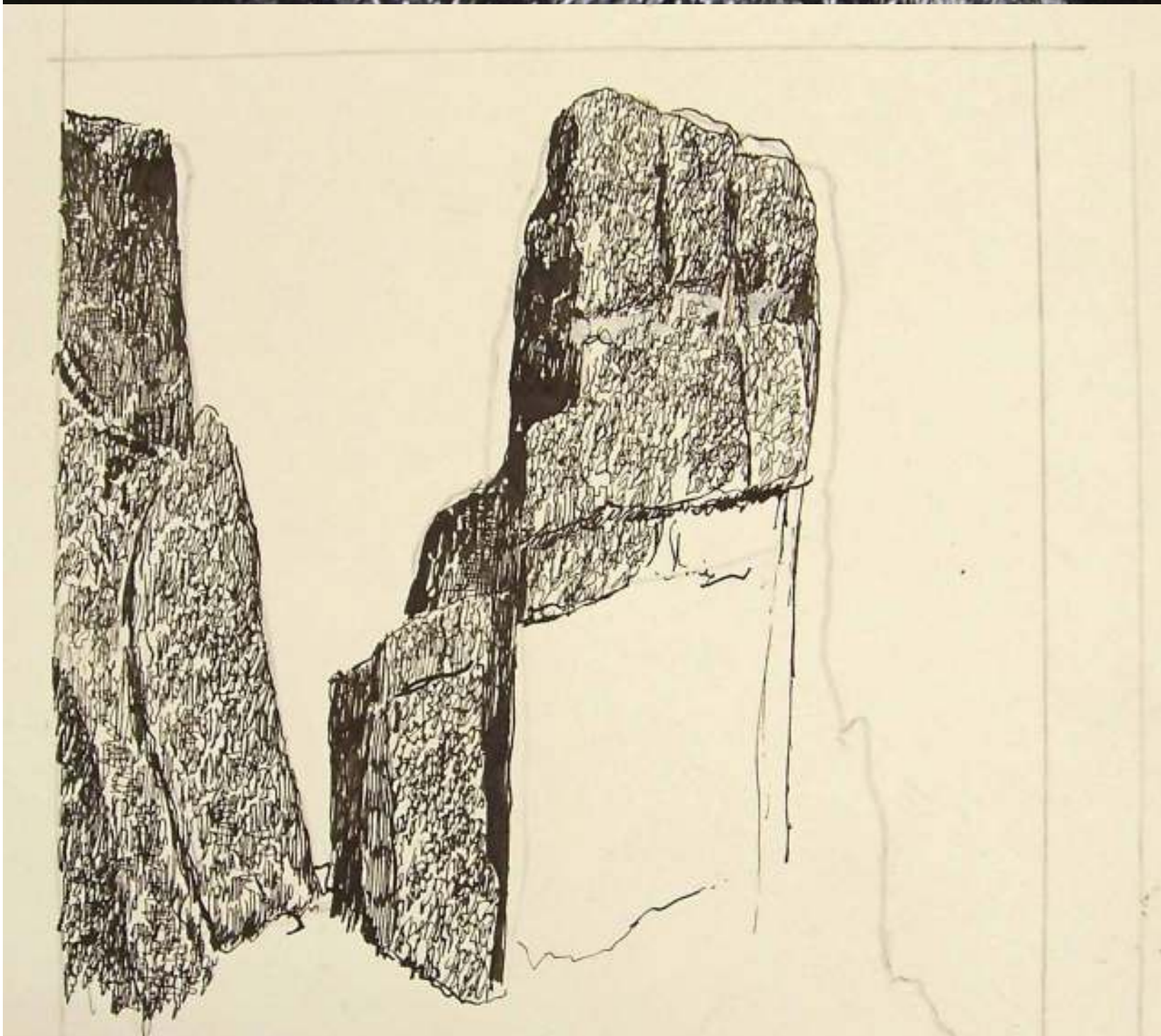


Al Wainwright



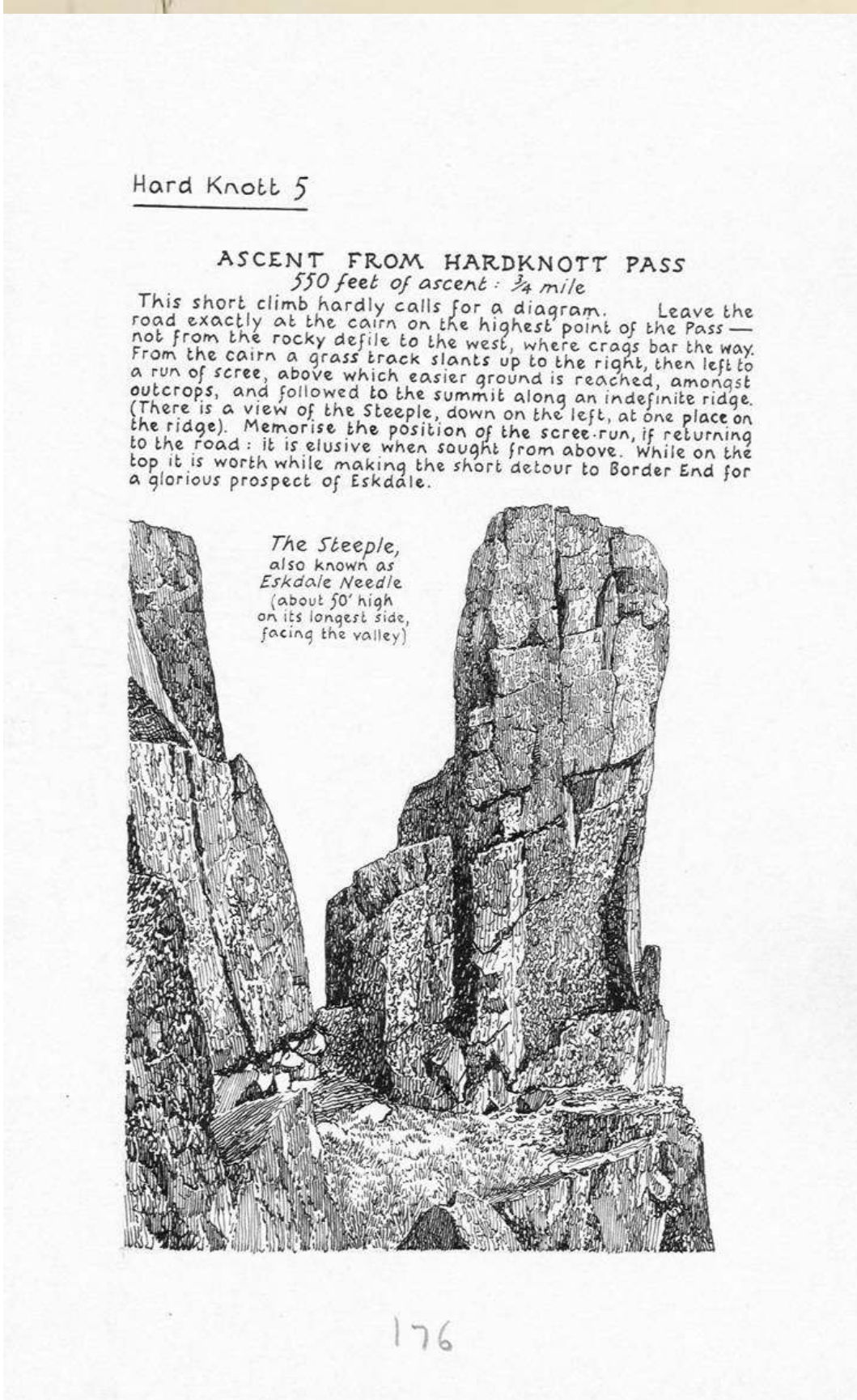
Landscape In Sketches

Apart from a few small rough sketches in his notebooks or in the margins of Ordnance Survey maps, Wainwright did all his landscape drawings from photographs.



"There is no form of excitement quite like that of going into a shop for your prints. You have been told they will be ready at a certain hour; you have managed to curb your impatience in the meantime, but now the hour has struck and you are seething with anticipation..."

Pennine Campaign

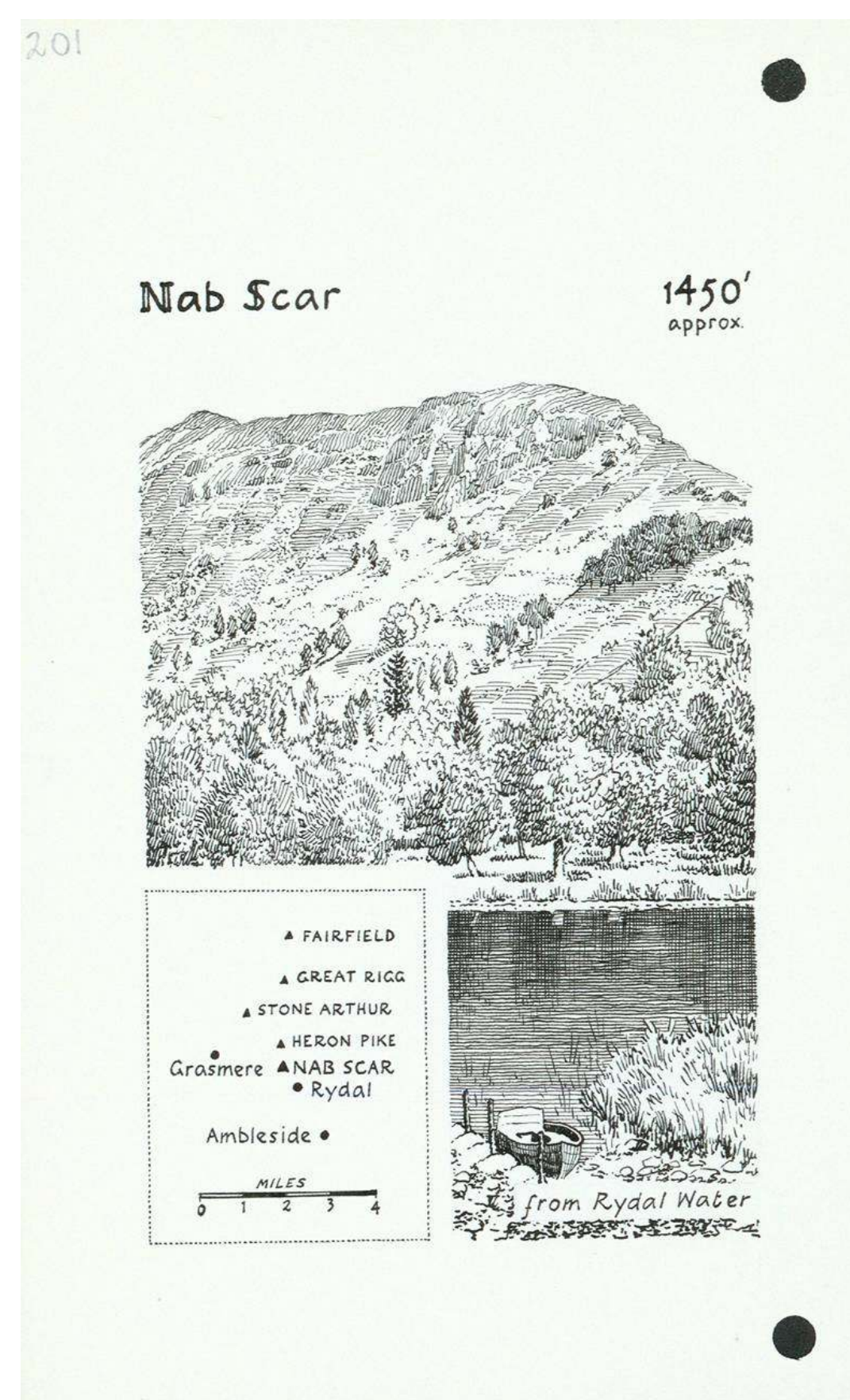


Images

Book Three, Armboth Fell, view from Fisher Crag

Book Four, The Steeple, also known as Eskdale Needle

Book One, Nab Scar from Rydal Water



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AWainwright

A life in pictures



AW was born in Blackburn in 1907 to parents Albert, a stonemason, and Emily.

He moved from Blackburn to Kendal in 1941 to take up a post as accountancy assistant in the Borough Treasurer's office.

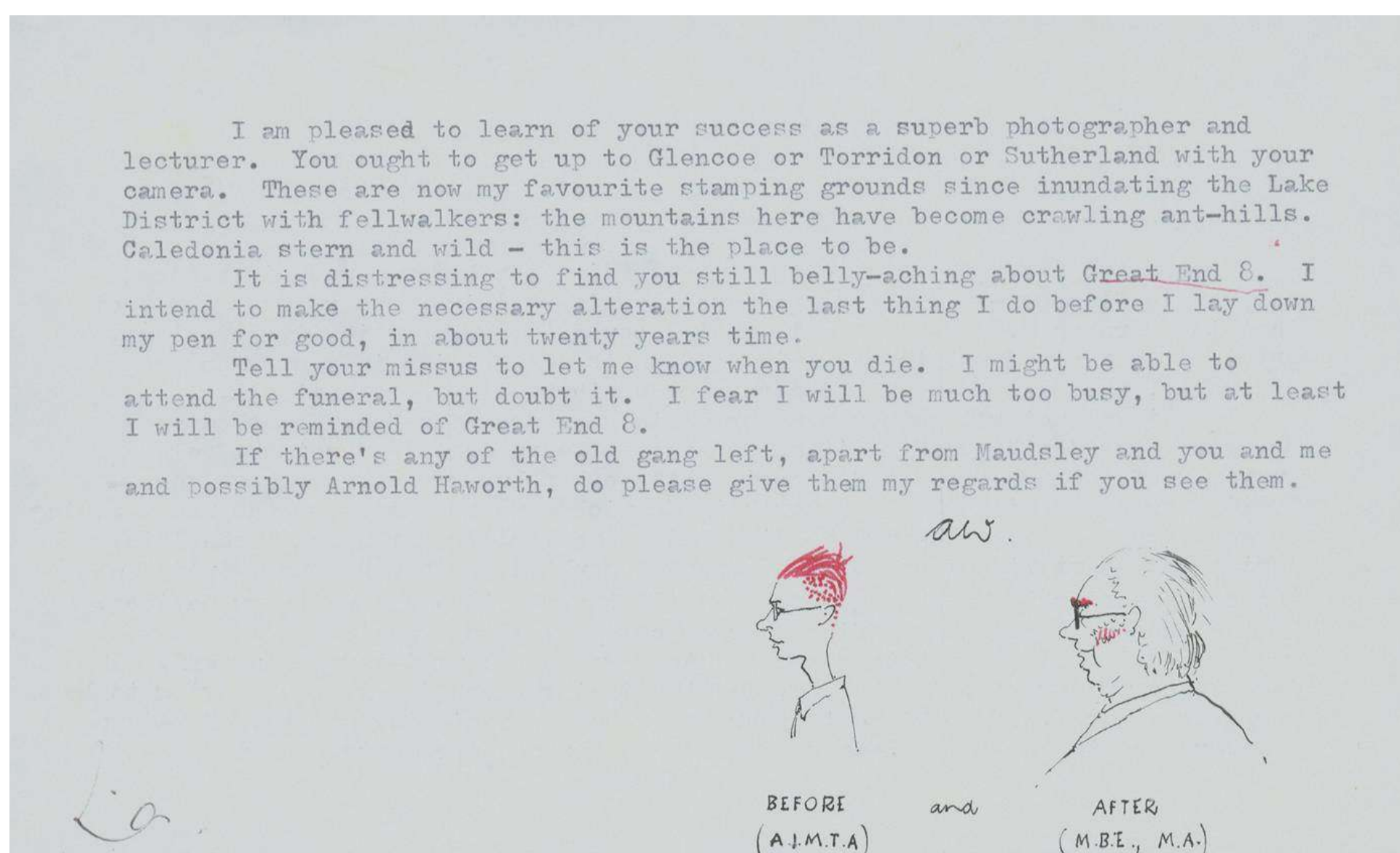
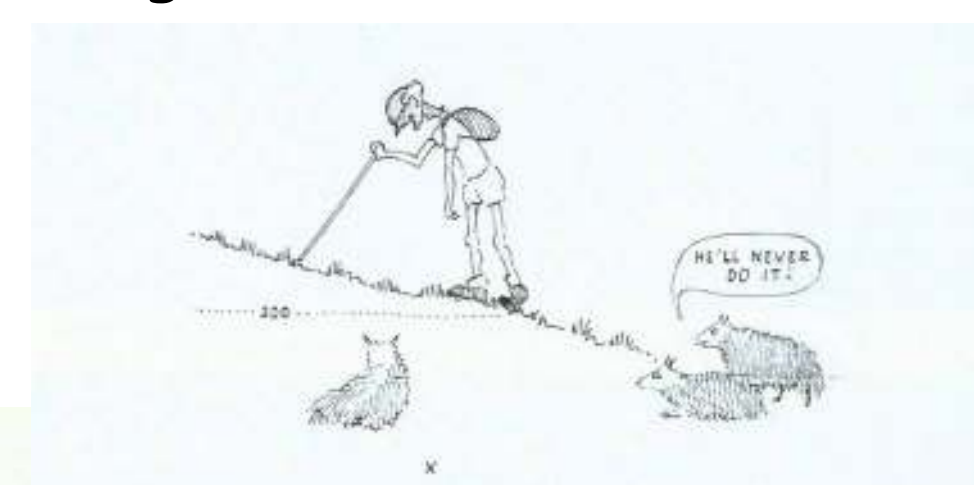
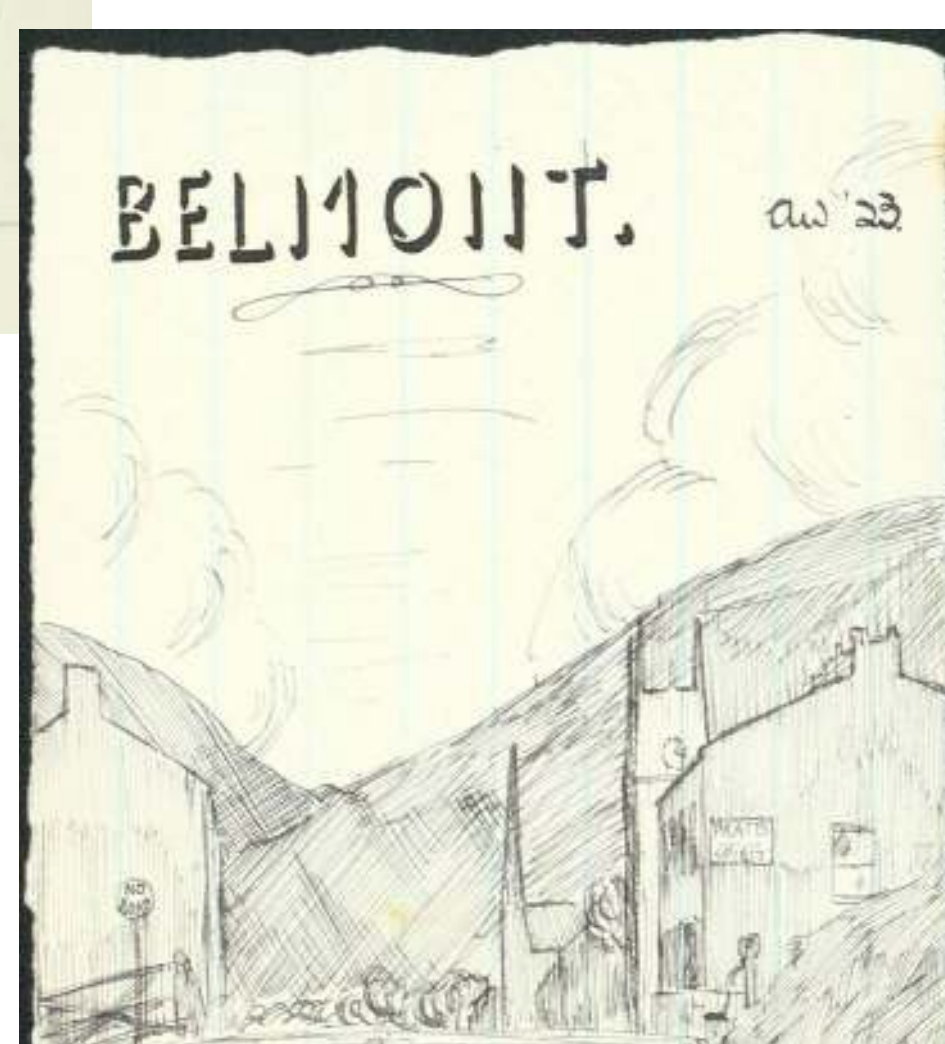


Early sketches

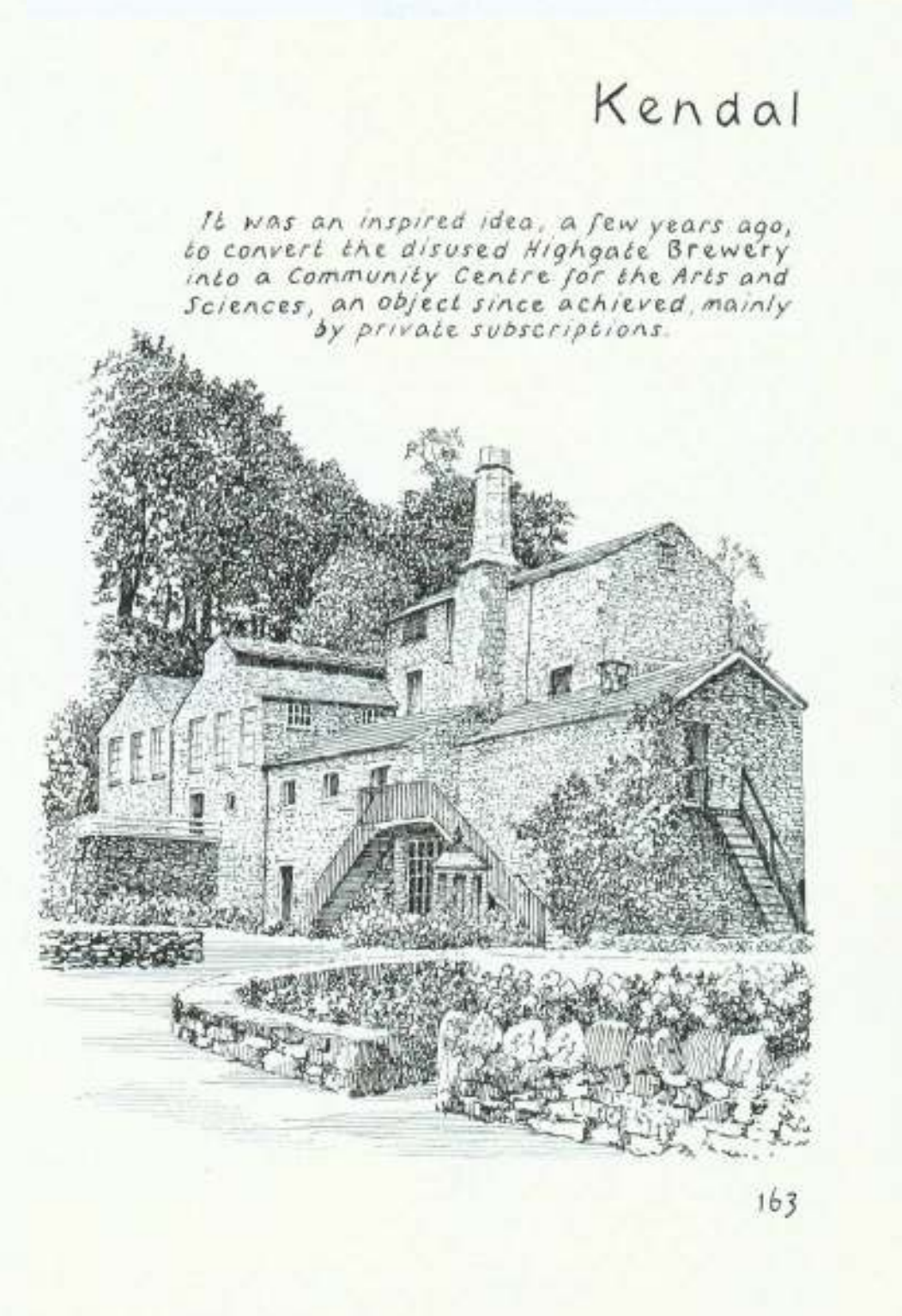
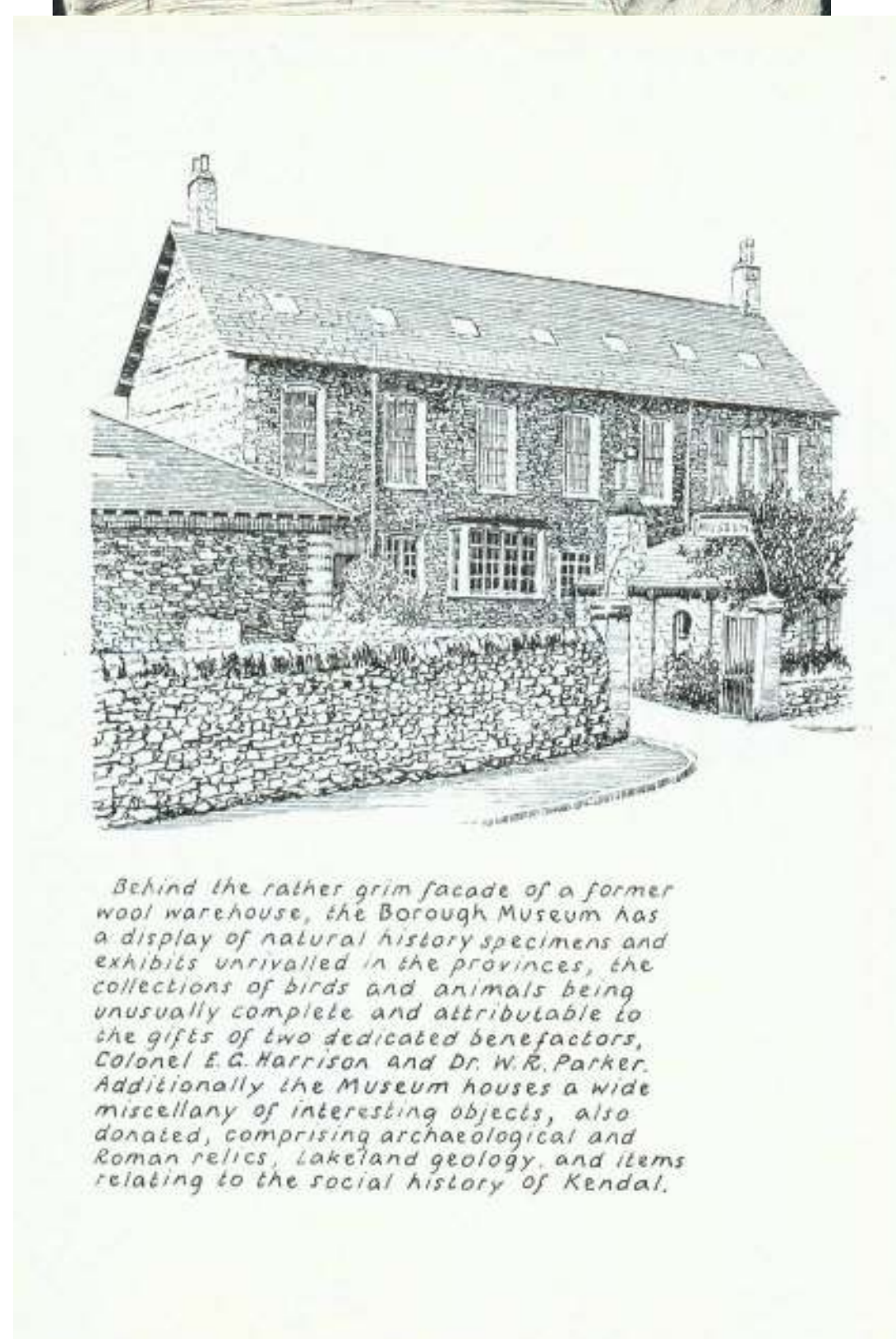
Cartoons and caricatures were a favourite subject, and he continued to enjoy creating these through later life.



On the fells in the 1950s



Letter to friend and former Blackburn work colleague Bob Alker, 22 Oct 1975



The sketches above show how Wainwright developed his style of sketching. The image of Belmont dates from 1922 when AW was a teenager. The image above of the Brewery, above, was published in 1977.



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