

13 Haslingden Grane

The Grane valley is a somewhat remote wide valley to the west of the town of Haslingden. The valley floor is occupied by three large reservoirs; Calf Hey, Ogden and Holden Wood, while the valley sides contain a mix of coniferous and broadleaved plantations and open pastures. Quarried crags and edges overlook the valley and border the surrounding high moorland. This was once a well populated valley with farmers, quarryworkers and a number of mills. The entire valley was depopulated in association with the reservoir construction in an effort to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases. Today, the valley has an overwhelming air of desolation with many abandoned farmsteads and ruined cottages dotting the valley sides. The Grane is gradually being rediscovered by visitors and is increasingly used for informal recreation with car parks and footpath links established.