

EAST END OF RUNDLE (EEOR)

EEOR is a long cliff, nearly 500 m high, situated on the opposite side of Whiteman Gap from Ha Ling Peak. Three huge, right-slanting, ramp-like corners are the most easily recognized landmarks of the face. From left to right, these are climbed by Guides' Route, Balzac and MacKay Route. The quality of the rock is very variable but in some areas it is unusually good. Naturally occurring rockfall is more frequent, however, than on most other local cliffs because of a large snowfield that forms above the cliff and continues to contribute melt water until well into the summer. A cornice often exists early in the year and there has been at least one close call involving its collapse. Considering its proximity to Canmore and favourable aspect, the cliff has seen little development. Fortunately, the summer of 1998 saw renewed interest in the cliff and the addition of several big lines. A number of projects are currently underway and in the next few years EEOR's interesting features and, in many places, excellent rock will likely produce many worthwhile new climbs of all styles.

Approach

Park on the west side of Whiteman Pond at the wide pullout a few hundred metres south of the dam and follow a trail that begins slightly to the north and goes up a sparsely treed, shallow depression directly toward Kanga Crag. The main trail leads up past the right end of Kanga and continues up steep scree slopes following cliff bands to the left end of EEOR. For Raptor and the True Grit area it is best to stay on the trail beneath the cliffs all the way to the base of the climbs, but for Reprobate and climbs farther north, a small trail diagonals right from below Spud Crag to join the trail that runs beneath the main face across to the north ridge. Guides' Route and climbs farther north can also be reached via a faint trail that climbs the wooded ridge opposite the dam and then ascends the scree slopes directly to the base of the cliff.

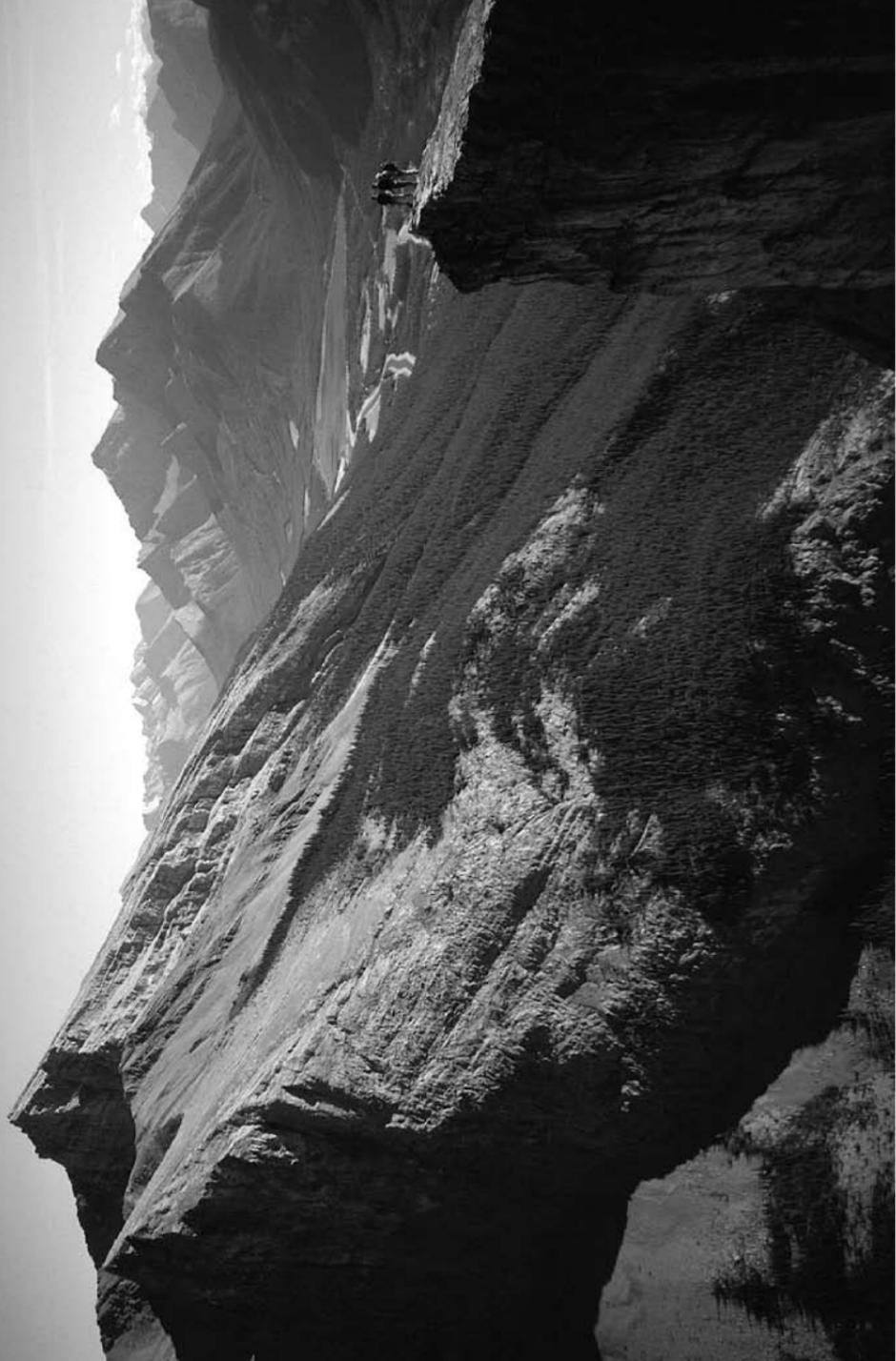
Descent

To reach the road, the easiest route follows the top of the cliff south over scree and alpine meadows down to a nearly level treed ridge. A good hiking trail runs along the ridge (leading up to the first summit above EEOR) and this may be followed down to the Spray Lakes road, reaching it near the tunnel in the diversion canal. An alternative descent that may be used to reach the base of the cliff is to cut down left where the ridge first levels off and then rises slightly. A flagged trail goes down treed slopes toward the top of Kanga Crag and then angles over left through easy cliff bands to join the approach trail at the lower end of Spud Wall, about 200 m below the main face. Extra care is necessary in the lower section to avoid dislodging loose rock that may fall onto the approach trail directly below.

Fumbles 450 m, 5.7

M. Dahlie & P. Smith, July 1980

This route follows the large, loose gully at the beginning of the main cliff. The gully is now used



as an alternative descent route from the True Grit area and few people, if any, would want to do it as a climb. However, the upper pitches could be used to reach the top of the cliff as a continuation of the True Grit climbs.

The climb ascends the lower gully and then continues up a second gully to gain a large basin at about half height. Above, the route can be varied, but aims generally for a scree basin on the left below the exit chimneys. The top is then reached by following the chimneys that slant up to the left, and a large overhang is avoided by a short detour on to the face.

Lucky Dog 80 m, 5.9/10a

P. Giguere & J. Racette, September 1997

This two-pitch route climbs to the top of a pinnacle on the right wall of the large amphitheatre in the upper part of the Fumbles gully. The wall is actually the left side of the headwall above the True Grit area and the climb could be used to extend any of those routes. At present, it goes only to the top of the pinnacle, but a project called The Leash continues partway up the wall above and should be completed to the top in the near future.

The route was originally done using gear but bolts have now been added to the second pitch that climbs a wide crack. A standard rack is still required and a #4 cam is useful for the second pitch. The rock is reported to be excellent.

Note When climbing this route or the upper part of the Fumbles gully extra care is necessary not to dislodge loose rock down the gully and onto the lower part of Raptor.

The climb may be reached either from the ledge system at the top of the True Grit area or more easily from partway up pitch 4 of Raptor. In the latter case, easy ground leads rightward to a slanting ledge system with small trees (rappel station—see Raptor topo) and then over to the Fumbles gully. Scramble up the gully to the base of a dihedral/ramp system on the right-hand side of the pinnacle.

- 1) 45 m, 5.8 Follow the corner to a two-bolt belay at a ledge.
- 2) 35 m, 5.10a Continue up the crack, which is difficult at first and becomes quite wide higher up. At the top of the pinnacle there is a two-bolt belay and rappel station.

Opposite: Climbers at the top of EEOR looking across at Ha Ling Peak and the Spray Valley. Photo Grant Statham.

TRUE GRIT AREA

This is an area of steep, slabby rock at the extreme left end of the cliff. It is bounded on the left by the gully of Fumbles and extends to about two-thirds height where it ends at the base of a large, overhanging headwall. The quality of the rock is unusually good and the face offers some of the best steep friction-climbing in the area. The first route climbed was Geriatric, a traditional-style climb that is still worth doing. However, the two more recent sport routes, True Grit and Parallel Dreams, make better use of the rock and are justifiably popular. Recently, a fourth route, Econoline, has been added that has mixed gear and bolts.

Descent

The four climbs end at a ledge system below the upper headwall and there are currently two ways to descend from this point. The climb True Grit is fixed for 25 m rappels with a short section of scrambling to the top of pitch 3 (see topo). The route is very popular, however, and recently extra stations have been added to minimize congestion. Two 50 m ropes are required when using the new stations, which are situated as shown on the topo (left of the fourth belay, up and right of the second belay, and on the wall to the right of the first pitch). A second means of descent is down the gully of Fumbles. This involves scrambling down to a ledge system that leads out right (south) past several small trees to a bolted station (see Raptor topo). A short rappel leads to the top of pitch 3 of Raptor and three more 25 m rappels reach the ground. When using this descent, extreme care is necessary to avoid dislodging loose rock onto parties climbing Raptor.

The headwall above the True Grit area is presently unclimbed, but a partially completed route begins up a steep corner just left of the edge, overlooking the Fumbles gully. Two pitches have been climbed and the route will probably be completed in the near future. Alternatively, the route Lucky Dog gives two more pitches farther left in the upper bowl of the Fumbles gully.

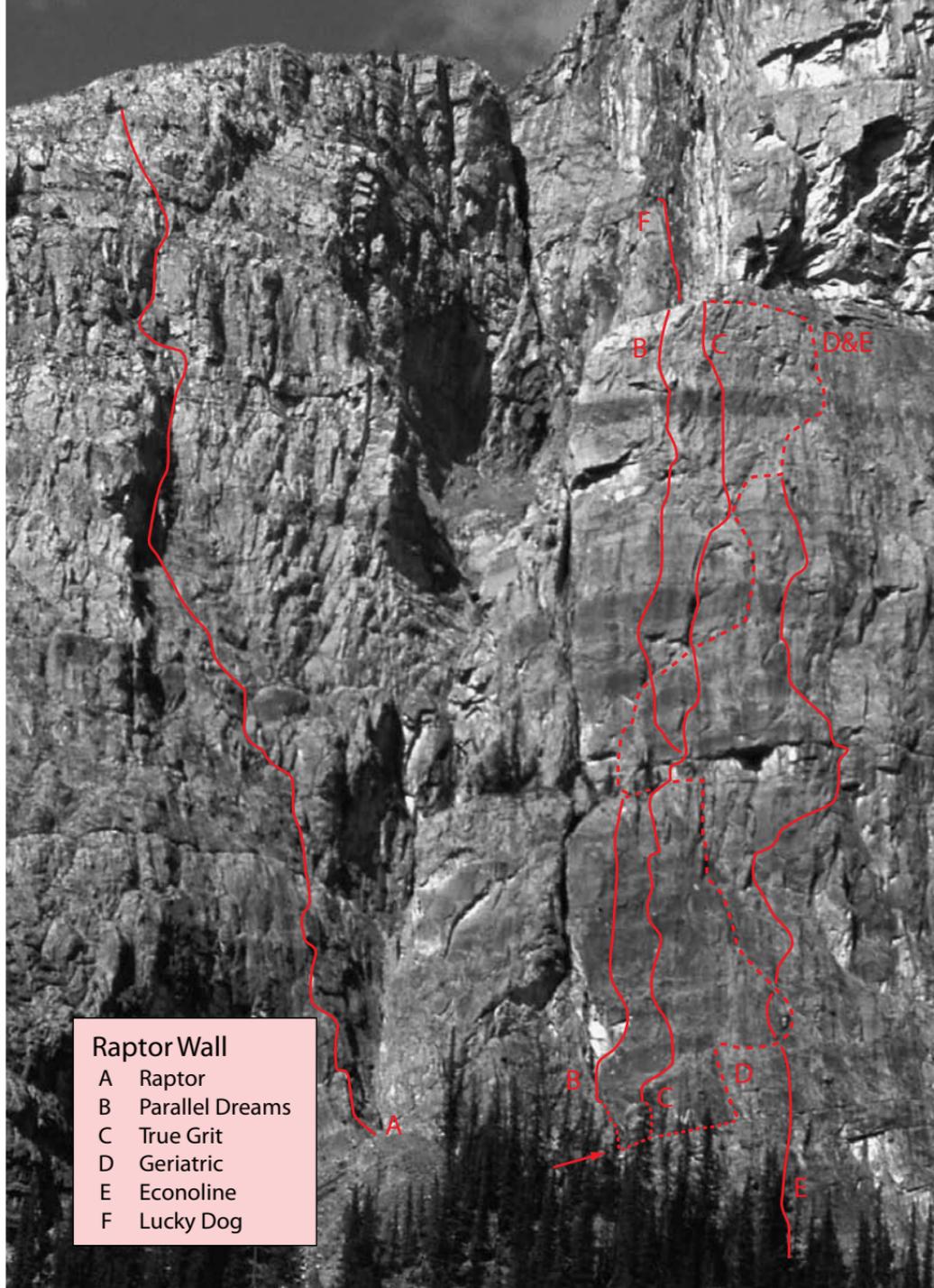
Parallel Dreams** 180 m, 5.11a

J. Jones & G. Zederayko, 1990

Parallel Dreams is a sport route, similar to True Grit, but has more widely spaced bolt protection. It is harder than True Grit both technically and mentally. Overall the rock is excellent but on pitch 2 and parts of pitch 4 it is cheese-grater rough and the consequences of a fall are unsettling. However, the bolt spacing is just sufficient to prevent anything worse than major skin loss.

Start as for True Grit by following the ledges out right to the small gully and then scrambling up and left to a bolt belay below a prominent, deep chimney.

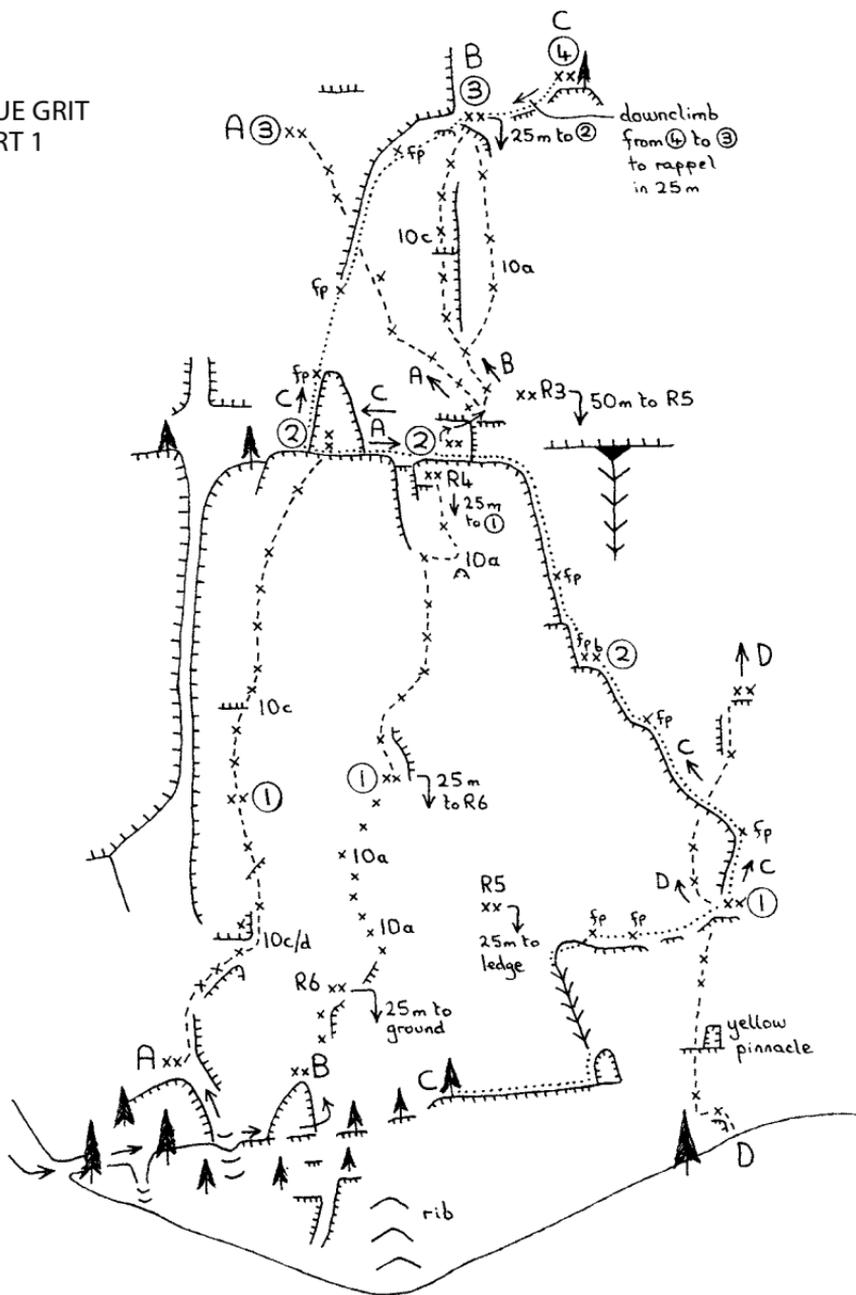
- 1) 30 m, 5.10c/d Move up into the chimney and then out right on a ramp to an overhang. Make difficult moves up and right around this and continue up and slightly left to a semi-hanging stance.
- 2) 40 m, 5.10c Step left and climb straight up on viciously prickly rock to a small overlap. Turn this on the right and continue more or less straight up. Near the top of the pitch follow slabby rock to the right to avoid a loose groove on the left. Belay on the front of a large



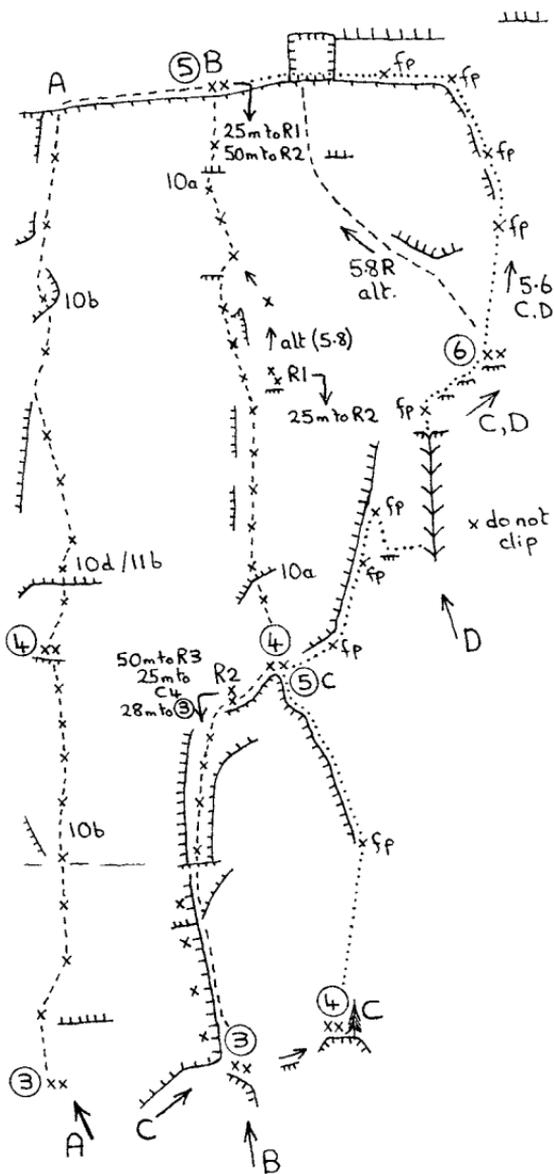
Raptor Wall

- A Raptor
- B Parallel Dreams
- C True Grit
- D Geriatric
- E Econoline
- F Lucky Dog

TRUE GRIT
PART 1



TRUE GRIT
PART 2



- A Parallel Dreams**
- B True Grit**
- C Geriatric*
- D Econoline*

- 10d/11b
- 10a/b
- 5.8
- 5.10a

- gear
- gear

pinnacle on the terrace that splits the face. This pitch is very sustained and the hardest on the climb overall.

- 3) 25 m, 5.10a Move the belay to the True Grit station at the right-hand end of the terrace and begin as for that route. After gaining the bolt at the small ledge immediately above and right of the belay, follow a line of bolts diagonally left across the face to the large, right-facing corner of Geriatric. Climb the wall on the left past two bolts to a semi-hanging belay.
- 4) 35 m, 5.10b Follow the bolts up and slightly right on prickly rock at first and then on more friendly ground to a bolt belay at a sloping ledge.
- 5) 50 m, 5.11a Move up and right to the overhang above and make a difficult step up over this on side pulls (the second bolt is hard to see from below). Continue up and slightly left into the top of a slabby corner. Exit this on the right and climb up to a small overlap. Make an awkward move left over this and continue more easily to the top.

True Grit** 170 m, 5.10a/b or 5.10c

M. Whalen & S. Davis, 1990

True Grit was the first multi-pitch sport climb established in the Bow Valley. Despite the initial controversy over the ethics of such routes, some poorly placed bolts and contrived climbing, it has become a popular classic. Nowadays, probably 95 per cent of all parties hiking up to the base of EEOR intend to climb True Grit or its companion route Raptor. The climb offers sustained, high-angle friction climbing on exceptional rock and the abundance of bolts makes a pleasant change from the usual multi-pitch experience. There is some loose rock on the ledges and considering the popularity of the climb, it is advisable to wear a helmet. If the last pitch is split, 10 quick draws are enough, otherwise at least 14 are required.

Start The climb begins about 20 m down and right of the gully of Fumbles at an easy ledge system that leads up and right. Follow the ledges across a small gully and then go up the right side of a small pinnacle to a two-bolt belay at the top.

- 1) 30 m, 5.10a Climb up 5 m to a rappel station. A short distance higher a tricky move up and left marks the start of the hard climbing. Continue to a semi-hanging station below a small roof.
- 2) 30 m, 5.10a Follow the bolts up and left and then back right slightly to the start of a shallow groove on the left, make a difficult and contrived move right to a small edge, and go up more easily past a rappel station to a large terrace that splits the face. Belay at a bolted station on the right below a roof.
- 3) 25 m, 5.10a or 10c Climb up just left of the belay and then hand traverse right clipping a new bolt just above the roof to gain a small ledge on the right (bolt). Move up to another bolt and then either climb the shallow groove on the right (recently bolted, 5.10a) or move left onto the arete and climb the left side of this past a roof and up the difficult face above (5.10c). Both options end at a bolted station below and right of a corner system.

- 4) 35 m, 5.10a Make an awkward move up into the corner system and continue up this following the bolts to ledges at the top. Move up and right past a rappel station to a bolt belay on a small pedestal.
- 5) 50 m, 5.10a After an awkward starting move, easier rock leads up and left to a steep wall. Tricky moves up this lead to easier climbing and the huge ledge at the top. The pitch may be split at a rappel station near the midpoint.

Geriatric* 240 m, 5.8

J. Jones & B. Greenwood, 1975

As noted above, Geriatric was the first route done on this section of the cliff and is still a worthwhile outing. The original finish, lead by Jon Jones, is very run-out and helped inspire the concept of bolt protection used later on True Grit and his own route Parallel Dreams.

Start Either start as for True Grit and continue past the small pinnacle following ledges to the farthest tree on the right or climb easy ground (5.2) directly to the base of the pinnacle and then go right to the tree.

- 1) 40 m, 5.7 Traverse right and climb a shallow groove that slants up left. Move out right at the top to a piton and then climb down and traverse right across the wall to a two-bolt belay at a small ledge.
- 2) 35 m, 5.7 Climb up and right to gain a prominent corner/ramp system that leads back left. Belay where it steepens, at a bolt and piton.
- 3) 35 m, 5.8 Continue up the corner to a large ledge. Either belay at the second station of True Grit or continue left along the ledge to a two-bolt belay on the front face of a pillar (junction with Parallel Dreams).
- 4) 40 m, 5.7 From the Parallel Dreams station, climb to the top of the pillar via its left side and continue up the steep wall above to a right-facing corner. Climb the slabby wall up and right to the third station of True Grit and then continue farther right to a two-bolt belay. The right side of the pinnacle can be climbed at 5.8.
- 5) 20 m, 5.7 Climb slabs above the belay to a corner (piton) and follow this to a ledge and bolt belay below a second corner (fourth station of True Grit).
- 6) 30 m, 5.8 Climb the corner for about 5 m to a traverse line leading rightward across the slab. Clip some pitons higher in the corner and then traverse right making a hard move at the end to gain a groove. Ignore a bolt on the right (Econoline) and continue up the groove to a ledge (piton). Climb diagonally right and up to a two-bolt belay at a higher ledge.
- 7) 40 m, 5.6 Climb up and right to a piton and then go up and left past more pitons to a ledge system that leads left below the headwall. Step up and left around a large yellow block to the huge ledge at the top of True Grit.
- 7 alt.) 30 m, 5.8 R Follow a slabby ramp up and left below bulges and then climb straight up on solution pockets to gain the ledge at the base of the headwall (difficult to protect).

Econoline* 255 m, 5.10a

B. Spear, H. Hall & S. Chambers, May 1999

This modern route is reported to find some good rock and good climbing on the slabby wall right of Geriatric. It has a few bolts on each pitch but also requires gear (to 3 inches). The climbing is mostly 5.7/5.8 with a few moves of 5.9 and double ropes are recommended to reduce rope drag. The route climbs directly to the first belay on Geriatric, moves right to bypass a large triangular roof, and rejoins Geriatric near the top of its sixth pitch.

Start directly below the triangular roof, at an isolated tree about 20 m right of the small rib below True Grit and Geriatric.

- 1) 45 m, 5.8 Climb up past two bolts to a ledge left of a small, loose pillar. Continue up on good rock past two more bolts to the first bolted belay on Geriatric.
- 2) 30 m, 5.8 Instead of going up and right as for Geriatric, step left and move up to a bolt. Climb steep rock past another bolt to gain the easy ramp of Geriatric. Climb straight up past a hidden piton to a semi-hanging two-bolt belay on the right.
- 3) 50 m, 5.10a Continue up and left on loose rock to a box corner with a white flake. Climb the flake for 4 m, then finger traverse right (5.10a) and step up to a bolt. Continue up to a crack and fixed piton, then traverse directly right past three bolts and step around into a left-facing corner. Climb the corner to a two-bolt belay on a ledge.
- 4) 30 m, 5.7 Climb the corner on the left for 7 m and then step left and up to a bolt. Face climb up and left on sharp rock past a loose groove to another bolt. Move up and left to a solid, left-facing corner and go up this to a ledge with a single bolt belay (gear required).
- 5) 30 m, 5.8 Climb the corner above to a bolt at a horizontal break, then move right to a groove and go up past a bolt to a ledge with two bolts.
- 6) 30 m, 5.9 Traverse left to a bolt below a groove (use long sling) and go up this past a second bolt and the end of the crux traverse on Geriatric. Continue as for Geriatric past a bolt on the right to a fixed piton (possible belay). Angle up and right to the two-bolt belay at the end of pitch 6 of Geriatric.
- 7) 40 m, 5.6 Climb the last pitch of Geriatric.

Project

A small amount of fixed gear marks an abandoned project about halfway between Geriatric and Reprobate. The line is marked on the crag photograph and is heading, somewhat optimistically, for a large corner capped by very impressive roofs on the right-hand side of the upper headwall.

Reprobate** 465 m, 5.7 and A0 (or 5.10a-5.10c)

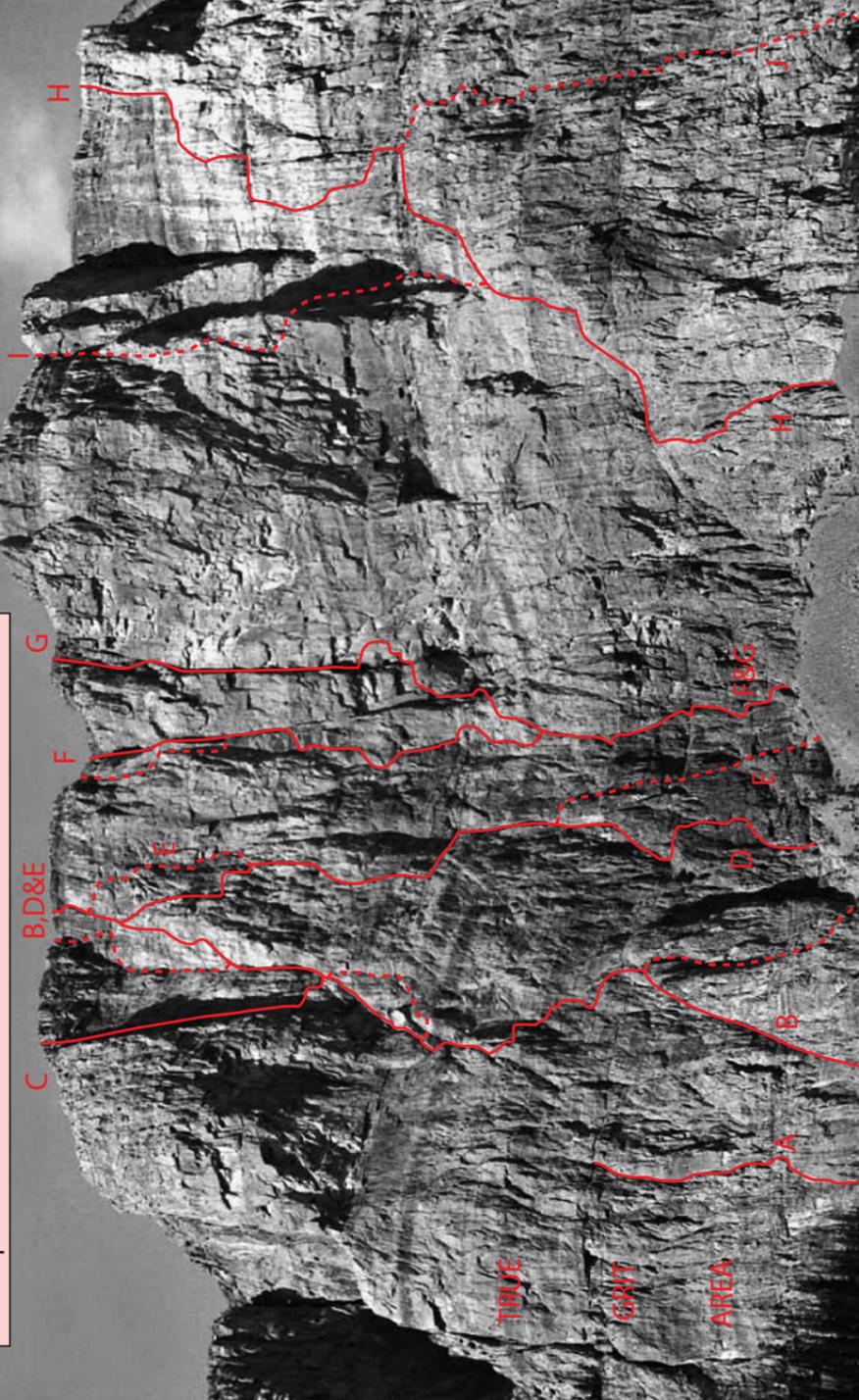
B. Greenwood, J. Horne, R. Wood & O. Woolcock, 1971

F.F.A.: J. Horne & M. White, 1974

Reprobate climbs the large dihedral prominent in the upper section of the face near the south

EEOR Left

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------|---|----------------|---|---------------------|
| A | Project | D | Quasar | F | Eeyore's Tail | I | Misguided Variation |
| B | Reprobate | E | Deviance Variation | G | Ananusdephobia | J | Free Fall |
| C | Reprobate Left-Hand Finish | | | H | Guides' Route | | |



end. The route has a well-deserved reputation as one of the better long climbs in the Bow Valley as the climbing is sustained (at 5.7), and the rock is generally very good. The first two pitches up the chimney are loose and have improved little over time. An alternative start up the right-hand side of the pinnacle is described below. It is not often climbed, but could clean up well with use. In the upper part of the route there are three possible finishes. The most common is the farthest right of the three, the Right-hand Finish, and is included in the main description. The other two are described separately at the end. The Left-hand Finish climbs a major, right-facing corner system left of the upper dihedral and the Original Finish continues directly up the upper dihedral rather than moving out onto the easier right wall. The Original Finish follows the natural line but at present is looser and has less fixed gear than the Right-hand Finish. Be wary of the large cornice that forms over the route and threatens early season ascents.

Start immediately below the upper dihedral at a chimney on the left side of a 100 m-high pinnacle. Scramble in from the left to a piton belay at the base of the chimney.

- 1) 50 m, 5.6 Climb the chimney past an awkward narrow section to a ledge and three-bolt belay at a fork in the chimney.
- 2) 50 m, 5.5 Climb the right fork of the chimney/gully and just above a steep section move out right to a ledge on the upper ridge of the main pinnacle. A bolt belay would be useful here.
- 1-2 alt.) 100 m, 5.7 Begin on the right side of the pinnacle about 60 m right of the normal start and climb up and left to an obvious break that becomes a corner system higher up. Continue up the right-hand corner to the belay at the top of pitch 2 on the ridge. The steep left-hand corner may also be climbed to a bolt belay lower down on the ridge. However, from here it is necessary to traverse behind blocks on the loose right wall of the gully to reach the top of pitch 2.
- 3) 45 m, 5.5 Move back left and continue up to a large scree ledge. Walk up and left to a short groove (piton) and go up this to a higher ledge. Belay on the left by a small corner (good gear in a short crack).
- 4) 25 m, 5.7 Begin in the corner and then make a long step right and climb the right side of a small pinnacle. From the top of the pinnacle, move left and up and then go left across slabby rock to a short groove. Continue up and left to a small ledge and piton belay at the base of a wide, open corner.
- 5) 40 m, 5.7 Follow the corner for a few metres (avoid a piton higher up) and then traverse easily left and down slightly across the wall for about 12 m to a small groove around the arete. Climb the groove until it steepens, then move left and climb a slab to reach a long, right-facing corner. Go up this past an awkward narrow section to a small belay (pitons). (Because of rope drag, it is more logical to belay below the narrow section, but at present there is no fixed station at this point.)
- 6) 40 m, 5.7 Continue up the corner and climb a short crack in the steep left wall to reach a ledge up and left around the arete (bolt). Climb a narrow ramp trending right to almost rejoin the main corner. This point may be reached directly by continuing up the main corner (5.8/9). Move up and left (pitons) and climb a steep ramp to a bolt belay at a large ledge.

- 7) 45 m, 5.6 Climb steep but easy rock and then continue up the slabby right wall of a corner trending right. Move up past a ledge to a belay in a steep alcove (pitons) below the start of the upper dihedral.
- 6-7 alt.) 80 m, 5.7 From a belay at the bolt partway up pitch 6, follow the narrow ramp to the main corner, but instead of continuing up left, move down and right into the main corner (pitons) and then traverse across its right wall on ledges to the arete. Go up this for a short distance and traverse right to an easy corner. Belay below a steep chimney/crack. Climb the crack and chimney above to a large ledge and then move left and up to the piton belay at the top of pitch 7.
- 8) 35 m, 5.10a-5.10c, or 5.7 & A0 Either climb the right wall of the corner past three pitons and make a difficult step back left into the corner (5.10c, or pull on the gear at 5.7 & A0) or climb directly up the corner (5.10a, wide stemming). Continue more easily up the corner to a small belay at ledges on the right (pitons).

Right-hand Finish

- 9) 30 m, 5.6 Climb over bulges and slabs trending rightward to a piton belay at a good ledge under a small overhang.
- 10) 60 m, 5.6 Move left around the overhang and then go up and right to an easy chimney/gully system. (The pitch may be split here.) Continue up to a tree and bolt belay at a good ledge on the left.
- 11) 45 m, 5.6 Climb up and left to a right-facing corner and go up this on good rock to ledges near the top. Move left and climb a short wall to a dubious belay at the top. Alternatively, move right from the bolt belay and follow a series of breaks/chimneys through steeper sections to the top.

Original Finish

- 9) 45 m, 5.6 Move back left and continue up the main corner past a small fork to a piton belay at a ledge on the right.
- 10) 55 m, 5.7 Follow the corner to where it angles over to the right and becomes quite loose. The corner has been climbed directly, but it is best to move up and right to ledges (no fixed belay) and then right again to the tree and bolt belay at the top of pitch 10 of the right-hand finish.
- 11) 45 m, 5.6 Move back left and climb run-out, slabby rock trending left to a crack near the main corner. Finish up the crack and belay just short of the top.

Reprobate Left-hand Finish 5.9

C. Quinn & C. Perry, August 1985

To the left of the upper dihedral, a long, right-facing corner system leads up to the top of the cliff. The Left-hand Finish up this corner is rarely done and at present a selection of pitons is required for the final pitch. Begin near the top of pitch 7 and move left and down slightly to belay on small, sloping ledges by some cracked blocks.

- 8) 25 m, 5.9 Move up into a short corner capped by a roof, then traverse steeply left to a small ledge. Climb up and slightly left to a fixed piton, then traverse left and up with difficulty to a ledge below a short finger crack. Climb the crack and belay below the long upper corner. The pitch is run-out and the piton should probably be replaced by a bolt.
- 9-10) 90 m, 5.7 Climb the corner on mainly excellent rock to ledges below the steep upper section.
- 11) 45 m, 5.9 Continue up the corner, then move right and up round a bulge. Go up left to a small ledge, then climb over a bulge into a steep groove that is followed to the top.
- 11 alt.) 45 m, 5.9 Exit left following a steep, left-slanting corner below bulges with marginal protection.

Quasar 425 m, 5.9

A. McKeith & C. Calvert, July 1972

Quasar follows an indistinct line of corners on the slabby face to the right of Reprobate. Generally, the climbing lacks interest except for the upper traverse, hence Bugs McKeith's tongue-in-cheek reference to its "astronomical importance." A few pitons are in place at some of the belays, but a small selection is currently worth taking as the climb is seldom done.

Start by a small cave (see crag photograph) directly below a prominent tree on a large ledge about 60 m higher.

- 1) 25 m Move right and climb a loose corner to a block belay on the right.
- 2) 35 m, 5.6 Move up right and then climb a short wall on the left to reach a groove. Climb the groove and then move left to belay on the large ledge at the tree.
- 3) 55 m Walk left and climb an easy gully to ledges at the top of a pillar.
- 4-5) 55 m, 5.6 Move up left and climb a steep V-groove. Continue up a corner to a band of overhangs.
- 6) 20 m, 5.5 Traverse easily left until a break is reached that leads to the upper part of the face.
- 7-10) 100 m, 5.6/5.7 Follow corners and cracks until the face steepens and becomes blank.
- 11) 35 m, 5.8 From ledges on the left, follow a faint traverse line left across a steep slab to a right-facing corner. Belay in the corner below a roof.
- 12) 55 m, 5.9 Climb the roof with difficulty (piton) and then continue up on easy ground to join the Right-hand Finish of Reprobate partway up pitch 10. Follow that route to the two-bolt belay at the top of the pitch.
- 13) 45 m, 5.6 Climb the last pitch of Reprobate.

Deviance Variation 5.9

M. Hartley & K. Dube, October 1996

This is essentially a variation finish to Quasar that avoids the traverse left on pitch 11 and continues up a steep corner line to rejoin the route near the top. The corner line extends down the cliff for several pitches and could possibly be climbed in its entirety as a more direct version of Quasar. The first ascent party also climbed a different start to the route that began left of Eeyore's Tail and followed an easy 5.4 line diagonally left up the wall to reach the pillar at the top of pitch 3. The approximate line of this start is also marked on the cliff photograph.

Using the normal start or the Deviance start, climb Quasar to where "the face steepens and becomes blank," near the top of pitch 10. Instead of going left to belay on ledges before the traverse, move up and right to a ledge below a prominent system of left-facing corners and roofs.

- 1) 55 m, 5.9 Climb the face past a perched flake to gain a good hand-crack at the base of the corner system. Climb the lower corner, go up left past a series of roofs, and continue up the obvious line to easier ground above a final crux roof. Climb a slab and belay at a large block.
- 2) 50 m, 5.7 Continue up the slab to a short wall (fixed piton) and go around its left edge. Continue up trending left to easier ground and the bolt belay below the final pitch shared by Reprobate and Quasar.

Eeyore's Tail*** 355 m, 5.8

R. Nelson & B. Stark, September 1977

Between Quasar and Guides' Route are two spectacular chimneys set close together in the top half of the face. Eeyore's Tail climbs a prominent black streak and enters the left-hand chimney near the top of the cliff. It offers interesting and sustained climbing on generally good rock and is considered by many to be the best traditional route on EEOR. However, it stays wet early in the season. Many parties rappel the route (double ropes) from atop the sixth or seventh pitch and there is a never-ending debate about the quality of the final pitches. Although somewhat dirty and occasionally loose, the chimney on pitch 8 is well protected, surprisingly easy and rather unique. It is recommended for the complete EEOR experience. Otherwise an impressive but rarely climbed alternate finish is available to the left.

Start The start of the route is a little tricky to find. Pass beneath the Reprobate gully and continue up to the top of the next broad scree-cone. From the top of this, scramble up the right side of a block into a short, broad gully that quickly narrows into a right-leaning corner. Climb the corner for a few metres and where it steepens, move up and left (5.3) to easier ground and a scree ledge.

From the right side of the ledge, follow a right-leaning, shallow corner to a higher ledge with a fixed ring piton below a broad gully with a steep black wall on its left (about 30 m off the ground). All the belays above here to the final chimney have two bolts and the route is easily descended with double ropes. The hangers, however, are homemade aluminum with small carabiner holes that may be difficult to clip. Presently there are no chains for rappel and new slings may be required.

- 1) 25 m, 5.5 Two options lead to the first bolt belay that is not visible until you are almost on top of it. Climb the wide gully directly above to a ledge and then traverse left past a scruffy, dead tree to the two-bolt belay (rockfall threat to the belay). Otherwise, climb across a steep wall leftward to easier ground and follow this to a prominent horizontal break. Step right around a bulge to a good ledge and the bolt belay.
- 2) 35 m, 5.7 Climb the break above the belay. Continue up a corner to a bolt on the left wall, step back into the corner and climb over an awkward bulge to a piton. Either climb diagonally left over a delicate section to a good ledge and a two-bolt belay or continue up the corner to the break and then traverse left to the belay.
- 3) 50 m, 5.7 Traverse back diagonally right into the corner and climb steep rock to reach easier ground. Continue up the steep corner above until it arches left into easy ledges. Follow the ledges left to a wide gully that leads up to a slabby bay. Continue up and right to a two-bolt belay at a small ledge near the top of the bay.
- 4) 25 m, 5.7 Climb the thin, shattered corner above to a ledge. Move up and right on broken ledges and then back left to bolt belay below a steep left-facing dihedral.
- 5) 40 m, 5.8 Climb the long, sustained dihedral to a small roof at the top. Step left to a ledge system and traverse this to a steep crack. Climb the crack to a piton and then follow an exposed diagonal break right and then up to a two-bolt belay.
- 6) 35 m, 5.8 Climb the corners above to a series of large right-facing flakes. Step left and go up a steep wall to a fixed piton. Climb up to a second piton and make a sensational move back right to the corner. Arrive at a ramp above that leads left to a two-bolt belay.
- 7) 30 m, 5.8 Make a delicate rising traverse right (piton) into the final chimney. Climb a difficult section in the chimney until it is possible to traverse left on good holds to an easier groove. Climb up to a two-bolt station in the chimney.
- 8) 40 m, 5.7 This spectacular pitch is not as bad as it looks. Continue up the chimney to a large chockstone roof. Climb backward past the roof and up a steep wall to the scree gully. There is a bolt belay some 5 m back from the edge and it is recommended to extend the belay back to the lip to avoid knocking rocks down onto the second.
- 9) 30 m, 4th Scramble up the rock-filled gully to the final steep chimney below several large chockstones.
- 10) 45 m, 5.4 Climb the back of the chimney to easy ground. Exit out left and move carefully across scree to a natural belay in better rock some 5 m below the top. Finish up rubble to the meadows.

Eyore's Tail Alternative Finish

8-10 alt.) 110 m, 5.9+ Follow a narrow ledge that leads out left to an edge. Move left with difficulty into a steep yellow corner with a thin crack. Climb this spectacular line to ledges. Continue more easily to the top.

Anasinusdephobia 465 m, 5.11a

E. Dumarac & B. Firth, August 1998

This route climbs the right-hand of the two spectacular chimneys that starts above a large cave at about one-third height. The line had been attempted previously using aid to climb the roof of the cave and hence gain the base of the crack. It became a longstanding problem and is one of the most obvious lines on EEOR. On the first successful ascent, the wall to the left of the cave was climbed until a traverse right could be made to gain the start of the chimney system. The climb is reportedly quite run-out and may be undergraded. Its scholarly name may be loosely translated as "the fear of being watched by donkeys." Take plenty of pitons and as much big gear as possible (two #4s and preferably one #5).

- 1-3) 110 m, 5.8 Begin by climbing the first three pitches of Eeyore's Tail, but instead of moving left at the top of the corner on pitch 3, continue straight up and then right to ledges.
- 4) 50 m, 5.6 Traverse right and up around a buttress and go up into the large bay below the right-hand crack/chimney system. Belay as high as possible on the left, below the right-hand of two corners (piton).
- 5) 45 m, 5.11a Move left and climb the left-hand corner. Continue up a groove on the steep wall above (5.10b) until it dissipates. Move up right past a bolt and climb over a difficult bulge (5.11a) onto a slabby wall. Continue up and right to a second bolt and then make a long, difficult traverse right with scarce protection to reach an alcove in the main crack/chimney system above the huge cave (piton belay).
- 6) 40 m, 5.11a Avoid loose blocks in the chimney by climbing up and slightly right to a vertical crack. Go up this for a few metres and then traverse right to a left-facing corner. Climb the corner to a bolt at a ledge about 15 m higher, move up and left to a second bolt, and then continue diagonally left to rejoin the main chimney. The chimney is quite shallow and dirty at this point and difficult climbing leads up to a piton belay in a deep cave about 12 m higher.
- 7) 50 m, 5.11a Climb out of the cave and battle up a difficult off-width crack over a roof to easier ground. Continue up the crack system (5.9) to a ledge and piton belay.
- 8-9) 90 m, 5.9 Follow the crack system to the base of the upper bowl.
- 10-11) 80 m, 5.6 Climb two pitches up the left side of the bowl to the top.

Guides' Route 655 m, 5.6

A. Cole, C. Locke & L. MacKay, 1970

Guides' Route follows the leftmost of three right-slanting ramps. Much of the climbing is lower fifth class and only in a few locations, principally toward the top, are there areas of technical

interest. Nonetheless, the route is well worth doing as it follows a good natural line and provides excellent training for long mountaineering routes. Rockfall by snowmelt or other climbers can be a problem and the route can be threatened by a cornice in the spring. Pitches 13 and 15 seem difficult after the easy terrain lower down and are good value at their assigned grade. There are many possible alternatives in the detail of the route, and a typical pitch-by-pitch description with the major variations is given below.

Start at a small gully just to the right of a spur, below and well left of the upper dihedral.

- 1) 45 m Climb the chimney and follow the first left fork to a block belay on a shattered ledge below a corner.
- 2) 25 m Move left round a rib and climb an easier corner to a second block belay.
- 3) 40 m Climb diagonally right up slabs to large scree ledges. Belay at a tree high up on the right.
- 1-3 alt.) Instead of the start described above, the gully on the left, at the highest point in the scree slopes, can be followed up right to the top of pitch 3.
- 4) 45 m Move back down and follow ledges rightward to a large, easy-angled corner that slants up to the right. Belay at the top of the corner.
- 5) 40 m Continue up and right following easy corners and ledges to a flake belay at the end.
- 6) 45 m, 5.5 Climb a short wall to a corner and continue up this to a small chimney. Move right at the top of the chimney and climb an awkward wall to ledges (piton). Alternatively, the scoop on the left below the ledges can be climbed.
- 5-6 alt.) From partway up pitch 5, the wall on the left can be climbed and then a rising traverse can be made to the right to the belay near the top of pitch 6.
- 7-8) 80 m. Continue up right toward a prominent chimney following easy slabs and corners to a small tree at the beginning of a large ledge system.
- 9) 40 m Walk right along the ledge to a point almost directly below the chimney and then move up to belay on a ledge.
- 10) 35 m Traverse left for about 15 m and climb easy grooves to a small belay.
- 11) 40 m Continue up the groove above to a short, open-book corner. Climb this and trend up left at the top to a belay about 30 m right of the main upper dihedral (ignore pitons in a more difficult corner to the right).
- 12) 45 m Climb up diagonally rightward to reach a long narrow ledge with trees. This is a prominent feature of the upper wall.
- 9-12 alt.) A more difficult alternative begins farther left of the small tree at the beginning of the ledge system, climbs a steep slab trending left toward the main corner, then continues up and right to the upper treed ledge.
- 13) 35 m, 5.6 From a belay farther right on the ledge, below two right-slanting cracks, move up left into a steep scoop (pitons in place) and climb this exiting left. Continue up left on

easier ground, moving back right to a piton belay. Note: an incorrect line leads up right from the top of the scoop.

- 14) 50 m Follow an easy crack system up right for about 20 m until level with a bolt on the right and then step down and traverse right on small ledges to a groove. Go up this for a short distance and then traverse easily right across a second groove to a scree-covered ledge below the left side of a 10 m-high pillar (piton belay low down and two more pitons on the left side of the pillar).
- 15) 50 m, 5.6 Climb the easy groove on the left side of the pillar and continue up to the base of a shallow chimney (pitons). Climb the chimney, which is awkward at first, past a small overhang (pitons) to a piton belay in the chimney a short distance above.
- 16) 35 m Continue up the chimney moving right to an easy groove at the top.

Misguided Variation 160 m, 5.7

P. Stoliker & D. Pauls, September 1985

To the left of the upper dihedral of Guides' Route, a huge right-facing corner system leads up and slightly left to the top of the cliff. Misguided Variation is an alternative finish to Guides' Route that climbs the left wall of the corner system. The impressive overhanging crack at the back of the corner is unclimbed. The variation is not often done and pitons are probably useful.

Approach via Guides' Route and gain a scree ledge 25 m left of two small trees at the base of the huge corner and directly below the overhanging crack.

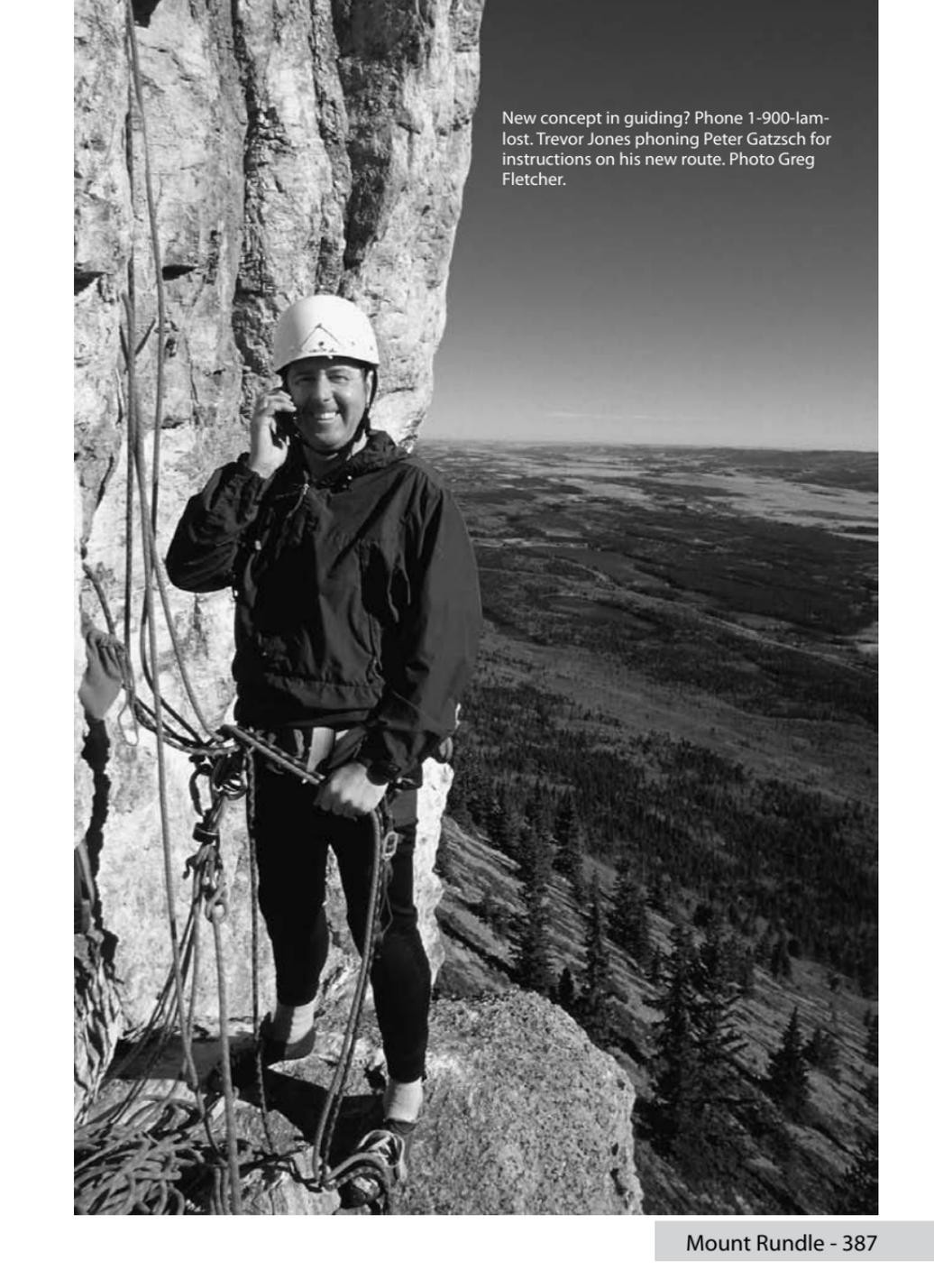
- 1) 45 m, 5.7 Climb over a bulge and move left onto a scree ledge. Walk along the ledge for 15 m and climb a short wall to a ledge and ramp system. Belay on the ramp.
- 2) 50 m, 5.6 Continue to the top of the ramp and go around a corner. Climb grooves on the right side of a large corner on the left.
- 3) 50 m, 5.6 Climb up to an obvious break in the wall above and pull over a flake wedged in the corner. Climb up and then left to a sloping ledge. Belay at a short corner at the left end of the ledge.
- 4) 15 m Stem up the corner and continue over loose rock to the top.

Free Fall 400 m, 5.9

E. Dumarac, T. Wolfe & P. Norrie, 1998

Free Fall climbs the steep wall directly below the exit pitches of Guides' Route. An independent finish to the left was tried on the first ascent, but an epic 30+ m fall forced a retreat and gave the climb its name. The brief description given below is the best that could be coaxed from the strangely reticent first ascent party. Apparently, some reworking of the route is planned, with fixed stations and possibly some modification of the line.

Start to the right of a large cave at the base of the cliff and scramble up for about 60 m to a groove system. Climb the grooves and belay above and left of a clean slab below two cracks. Follow a corner directly up to a belay under a large roof. Climb up and then right below roofs and continue up past a bolt in a smooth wall to a belay on the left. Climb up trending left (5.9) to gain the large ledge system below the prominent chimney noted in the description of Guides'



New concept in guiding? Phone 1-900-lam-lost. Trevor Jones phoning Peter Gatzsch for instructions on his new route. Photo Greg Fletcher.

Route. (The chimney is directly above the belay at the end of pitch 9.) Climb the chimney in two pitches (5.8) to reach a long ledge system that connects with Guides' Route on the left, below the "two right-slanting cracks" at the start of pitch 13. Follow Guides' Route to the top.

Balzac 450 m, 5.8

U. Kallen & M. Toft, May 1972

F.F.A.: J. Martin & C. Perry, August 1979

Balzac climbs the centre of the three right-slanting ramps. Only the first few pitches are difficult and much of the route consists of easy scrambling.

Start below a shallow corner just left of a rib, to the right of which is an area of steep yellow rock. Scramble up to a ledge below and left of the corner.

1-2) 70 m, 5.7 Climb the corner that slants right at first and then trends left to large ledges.

3) 35 m, 5.6 From the top centre of the ledges, follow an obvious groove that slants up right. Belay below a steep wall.

4) 25 m, 5.8 Climb the right-hand of two steep cracks and continue up a groove to the top of a block.

5) 35 m, 5.8 Move right to a steep slab and climb up to a wall. Traverse right and then move up past two bolts to easier ground.

5 alt.) 35 m, 5.8 Traverse left from the belay and climb a slabby wall to a steep section. Follow a short, difficult groove up left, and then move back right on easier rock.

The climbing above is much easier and trends up right over broken rock to a tree at the base of a big slanting corner. The first ascent party traversed right at this point past a gully and climbed a second gully that diminishes to a crack. Above this a rib was followed to the top. A more direct alternative leads up a short steep section above the tree (5.7) to slabs that can be third-classed (isolated 5.5 moves) on sound rock to reach the rib and hence the top.

Dropout** 430 m, 5.9

C. Perry & M. White, September 1982

This excellent route climbs good waterworn rock in a large corner system just left of the MacKay Route. However, it is usually wet until midsummer and parts of the route can sometimes be dirty owing to the water seepage. Much to the hope and chagrin of local ice climbers, the seepage has been known to form an impressive curtain of ice during winter months and several failed attempts have been made to reach it. These have resulted in a number of bolted anchors out in the middle of nowhere to the left of the route. To date, the main corner line directly above pitch 2 has not been climbed.

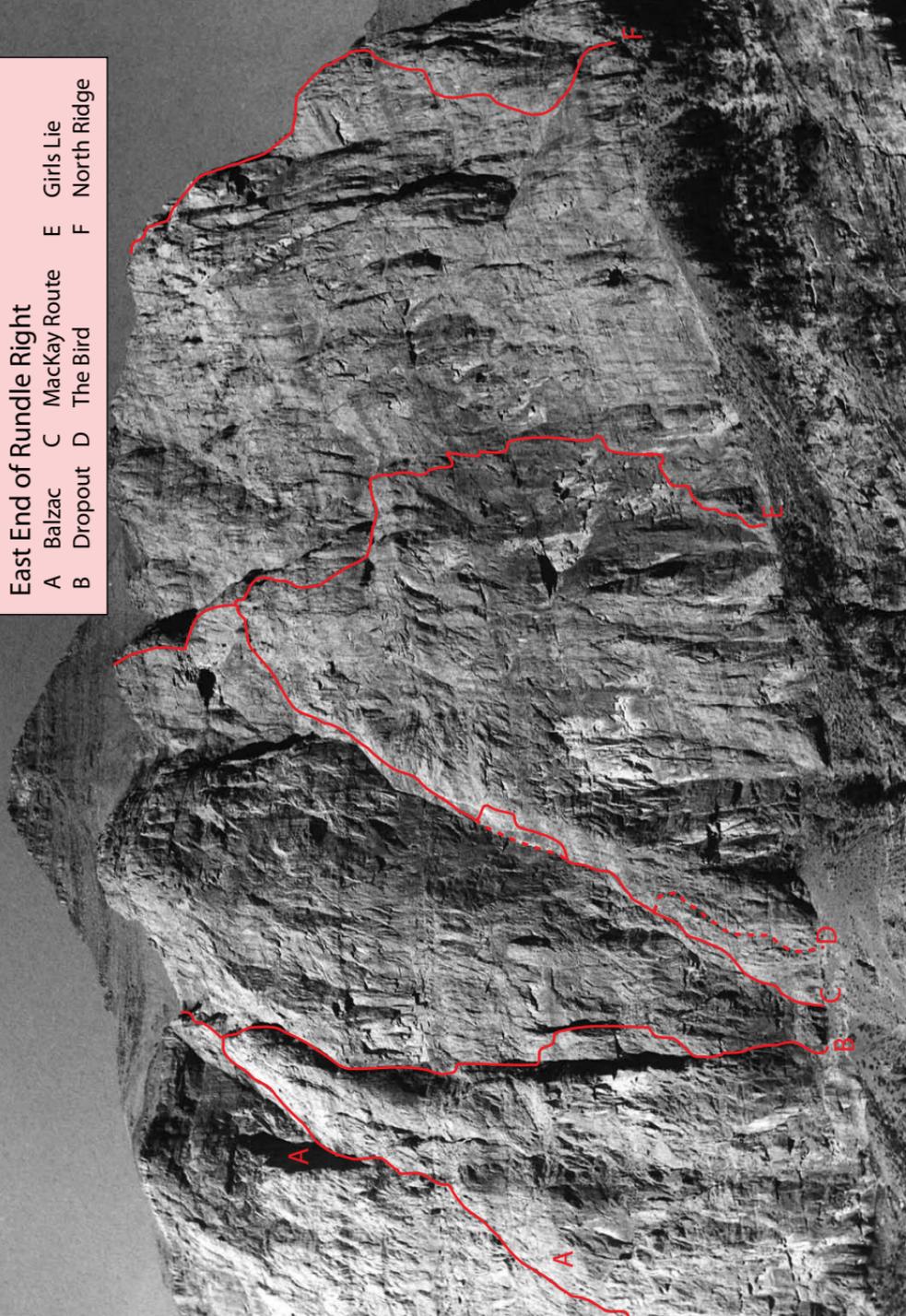
Start about 20 m left of the prominent ramp of the MacKay Route, move up and across left and then climb easy rock diagonally back right for about 15 m to the base of the main corner.

1) 30 m, 5.8 Climb the corner to a ledge on the left (old bolt). Continue past a small roof to a bolt belay at a second ledge on the left.

2) 30 m, 5.9 Climb the corner above and move left with difficulty around a roof. Continue to a second roof and then step down and left to easier ground. Move up to higher ledges

East End of Rundle Right

- A Balzac
- B Dropout
- C MacKay Route
- D The Bird
- E Girls Lie
- F North Ridge



and a bolt belay.

- 3) 45 m, 5.6 Follow the corner for a few metres and then move up right on easy ground to the right of two short corners. Climb this and continue up the wall trending right to ledges. Traverse right past a shattered block and climb a short corner to broken ledges and a bolt belay.
- 4) 35 m, 5.8 Climb the corner above (this is about 35 m right of the main corner), to a small stance and bolt belay in a steep bay.
- 5) 35 m, 5.6 Climb up left to the arete and make a long traverse left back to the main corner and a bolt belay.
- 6) 20 m, 5.6 Follow the corner to a large overhang.
- 7) 45 m, 5.7 Climb round the overhang and continue up the corner until a traverse left can be made onto smooth slabs below the upper chimney. Climb the right side of the slabs to a ledge about 10 m below and right of the chimney.
- 8) 10 m, 5.6 Climb the slabby wall to a ledge at the base of the chimney. Belay here or continue with pitch 9.
- 9) 40 m, 5.9 The chimney is loose and awkward near the bottom but improves higher up. The crux section round the upper bulge is long but surprisingly well protected. Belay in a cave near the top of the chimney.
- 10) 45 m, 5.8 Climb the short top section of the chimney and belay high up in an easy bowl.
- 11) 35 m, 5.6 At the top of the bowl, a hidden ramp leads up left to a ridge (junction with Balzac).
- 12-13) 60 m Continue up the ridge to the top.

MacKay Route 490 m, 5.10a

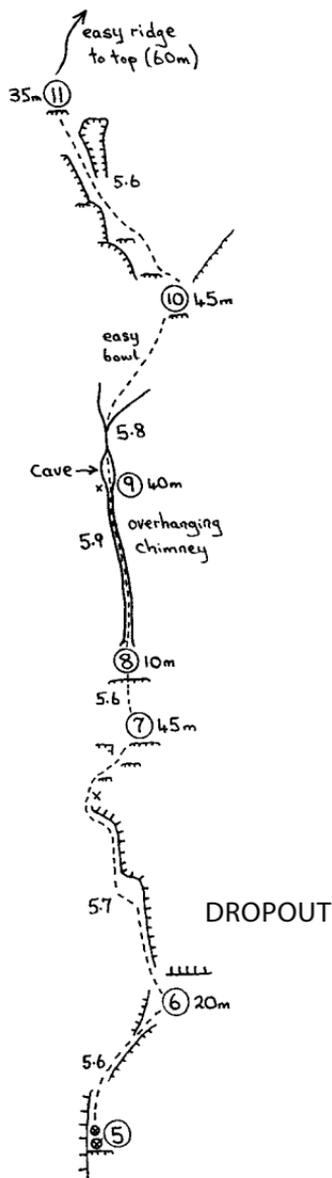
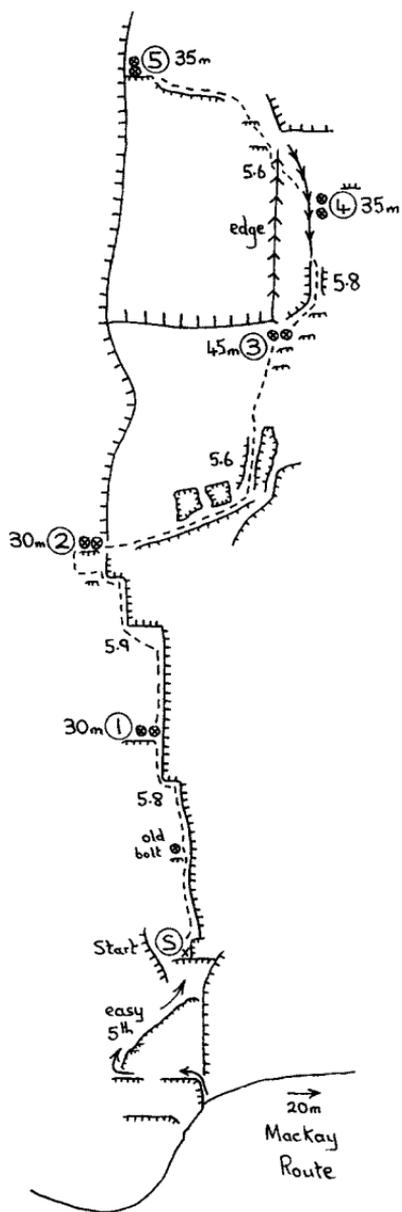
L. MacKay, D. Vockeroth & J. White, 1972

Right Variation: C. Perry & M. White, 1981

F.F.A. (by Right Variation): R. Lanthier & party, 1986

The MacKay Route follows the right-hand of the three right-slanting ramps. It is named for Lloyd MacKay who pioneered several of the best rock climbs established in the Bow Valley during the 1960s and early 1970s. Pitches 6 and 7 deviate right from the original line and are now the normal means of ascent. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to free climb the original route, a steep, layback crack. Pitons are required for belays although many are now bolted.

- 1-5) 150 m Climb an obvious line of corners and ramps trending up to the right. Pitch 5 is 5.7 and the others are easier. Belay from bolts at the base of a slab, above which is a steep section.
- 6) 40 m, 5.10a Trend right up the slab almost to the steep wall, then make a few moves back left up a short ramp. Starting right of a piton, climb the steep wall past a second piton to gain a short groove. Hand traverse right to easier ground and climb up to a good ledge.
- 7) 35 m, 5.7 Climb a steep crack to slabs and then work back left into the main corner (poor





protection).

- 6-7 alt.) 5.8 A1 Climb the main corner directly, mixed free and aid.
- 8) 35 m, 5.6 Continue up a steep, rotten groove just right of the corner and belay up and to the right on slabs.
- 9-11) Traverse right, then climb moderate slabs, cracks and corners more or less straight up to gain a huge scree ledge below the steep upper wall.
- 12-14) Walk and scramble right on the ledge to its end (junction with Girls Lie). Climb a short face to an easy ridge and follow this to a final steep wall. Walk right on a ledge into a wide, steep gully.
- 15) 5.6 Climb a steep, broken exit crack on the right side of the gully to easy ground.
- 14-15 alt.) 5.10a Instead of moving right into the gully, climb a crack in the final wall 7-8 m left of the ridge.

The Bird—project

A major unfinished climb begins immediately right of the MacKay Route, crosses it after four pitches, and moves off left onto the large rounded buttress between it and Dropout. The current high point is roughly level with the top of the big chimney on the latter route and the climbing (up to 5.11c) is reported to be good. Of the 10 pitches completed to date, the first four are described below as they provide an alternative start to the MacKay Route. Other attempts have been made to climb the same buttress beginning farther left from Drop Out and some gear is in place.

- 1) 30 m, 5.6 Start 30 m right of the MacKay Route and climb up into a bay/groove system. Follow the left-hand weakness past good gear placements to a bolt, and from another bolt 10 m higher, traverse up and right into a groove. Go up this to a belay (bolt and fixed nut).
- 2) 25 m, 5.8 Climb the groove above past a fixed piton to a bolt. Continue up with marginal protection past a block/bulge. Make an awkward move right and continue up to a good ledge and two-bolt belay.
- 3) 45 m, 5.6 Move diagonally right along an obvious flake/ramp system on good rock to a ledge and two-bolt belay.
- 4) 15 m, 5.7 From the left side of the ledge climb a steep corner on good holds for about 6 m. Clip a bolt and then traverse left on a loose ledge to a two-bolt station (junction with the MacKay Route).

Girls Lie* 550 m, 5.11

D. Bretzloff & M. Piche, September 1998

This reportedly good route is the newest addition to EEOR. It was finished after numerous efforts and the lower pitches all have bolt belays. There are also bolts at the harder sections although a small selection of pitons is recommended. The last three pitches are the same as the MacKay

Opposite: Marc Piche starting the big chimney on Dropout. Photo Adam Hartling.

Route, exiting via the harder left-hand alternative.

Start From the start of the MacKay Route, move right for about 300 m past the first large bay of overhanging yellow rock to a second. The climb begins at a short, right-trending ramp immediately left of a large shallow cave at the base of the cliff.

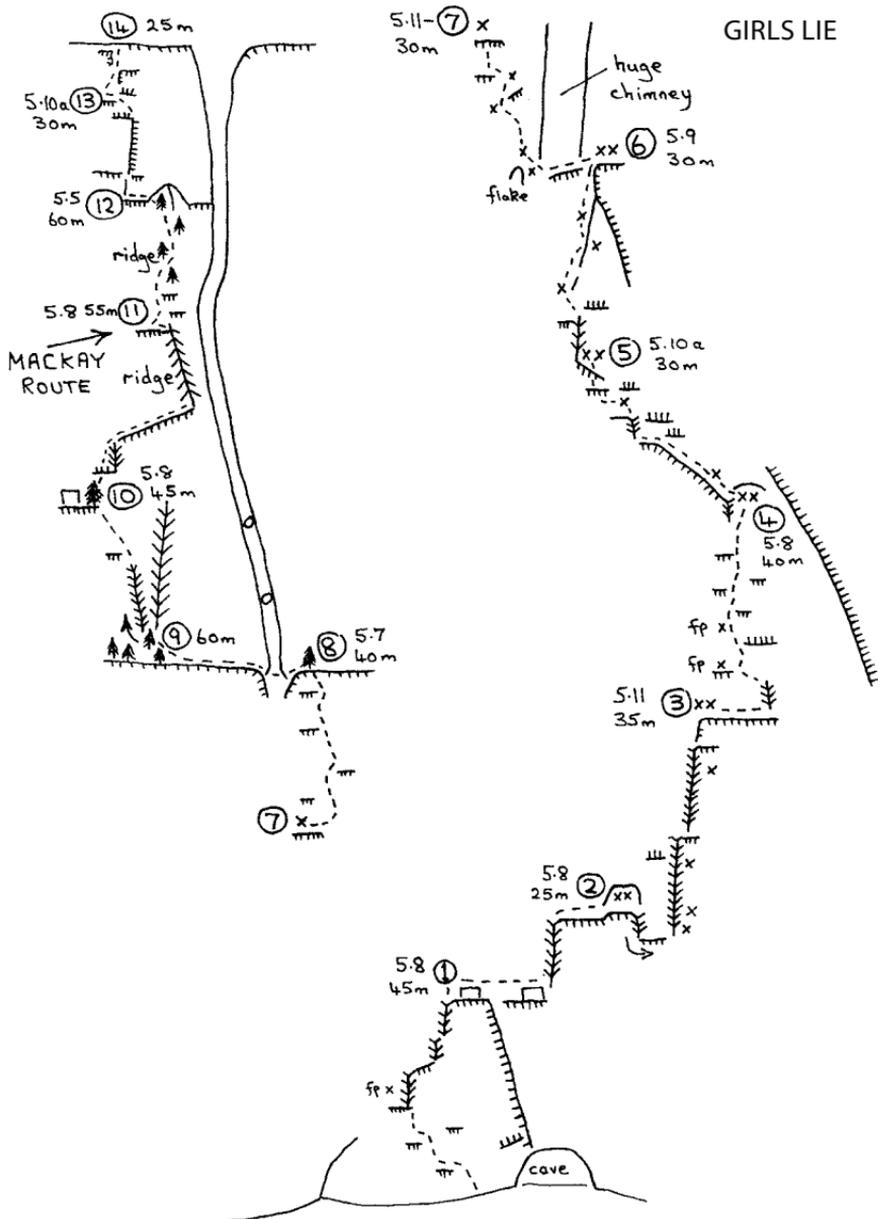
- 1) 45 m, 5.8 Climb the ramp to a short corner on the left (piton). Go up this and then trend right past two more corners to a large ledge.
- 2) 25 m, 5.8 Traverse right for 5 m and climb a corner to a ledge. Move right along the ledge to a two-bolt belay.
- 3) 35 m, 5.11 Climb down for 3 m and traverse right to the start of a corner. Go up the corner past four bolts to a ledge. Continue up to a higher ledge and two-bolt belay.
- 4) 40 m, 5.8 Beginning about 4 m to the right, climb up for a short distance and then go left to a piton directly above the belay. Move up past the right side of a small roof (piton) and then go directly up past one steep section to a two-bolt belay in a corner.
- 5) 30 m, 5.10a Step left into a left-trending corner (bolt) and follow this to a small ledge just past a bolt. A short, difficult section leads to a ledge and two-bolt belay in a corner.
- 6) 30 m, 5.9 Climb the corner for a few metres and then step left onto a slab (bolt). Follow a faint crack system past two more bolts to a corner and go up this, stepping right at the top to a small ledge and two-bolt belay.
- 7) 30 m, 5.11- Traverse across a chimney to a steep wall on its left. Climb the wall past a small flake (two bolts) and continue up to a third bolt. Step right and go up past a fourth bolt to a short corner on the left. Belay at the top of the corner (bolt).
- 8) 40 m, 5.7 Traverse back toward the chimney and climb up over slabs to a huge ledge.
- 9) 60 m Walk left to a patch of trees and belay at the highest tree below two corners.
- 10) 45 m, 5.8 Climb the left-hand corner trending left where it fades out to a ledge with a small tree.
- 11) 55 m, 5.8 Climb the corner directly above the belay to a ledge. Follow the ledge rightward to a sharp ridge and go up this to a large ledge. The ledge is at the top of pitch 12 of the MacKay Route and the climb follows the rest of that route via its alternative finish to the top.
- 12) 60 m, 5.5 Climb the crest of the ridge on mainly easy ground to the base of the final wall.
- 13) 30 m, 5.10a Climb the crack about 7 m left of the ridge to ledges.
- 14) 25 m Continue over broken blocks to the top.

North Ridge 400 m, 5.7

C. Scott & D. Smith, June 1972

This route starts a short distance left (south) of EEO's north ridge and climbs several pitches before finishing up the ridge itself. The rock is reported to be not very sound in some sections but excellent on the crux pitch. The route is rarely done and a selection of pitons is probably a good idea. The description given below has not been updated and the line on the photograph is approximate.

GIRLS LIE



Start about 40 m left of the ridge and angle up left over third and fourth class rock for about 60 m. Climb a chimney/corner on the right side of a broad gully and continue more easily trending right toward the ridge. Follow a steep corner (5.6), then edge right again and climb a corner next to the ridge. Follow a crack that angles right around the ridge and continue on easy ground to a shallow notch.

Above the notch is a steep tower that constitutes the crux of the climb. Climb a crack in the tower for about 15 m to an overhang and then make a thin traverse right to easier ground (5.7). Continue up and right past a poorly protected 5.6 pitch, above which easier climbing leads to the top of the ridge.