

Whiteman Crag is situated at the south end of Whiteman Pond, just above the road. The rock is generally quite poor and despite its ease of access, the crag now receives little attention. All the existing routes are gear climbs and presently, only the underestimated Die Young, Stay Pretty is worth the hike up the scree. However, there are sections of rock in the central area that may merit a closer look. Bolt protection would probably be necessary as the rock is quite compact and difficult to protect. With additional cleaning and perhaps the installation of one or two bolts, some of the existing routes could become worthwhile. The Spray Lakes road is fairly busy and any cleaning of routes should be done with caution as the road is directly below. Presently, a small selection of pitons is required even on the easy routes.

Approach

Park at the wide pull-out by the lake as for Kanga and EEOR. As the crag is seldom visited there is currently no clearly defined trail. The best approach is to start below and left of the large rib of Pushing Forty at the left end of the crag and follow a small ledge diagonally up right into the scree gully. Continue across the gully to a good trail that diagonals up right and either follow this past two electrical transmission poles to reach the lowest part of the cliff, down and right of Original Route, or go directly up past the right side of a huge boulder set in the scree to the starts of South Corner and Original Route.

Descent

Most of the climbs exit left and descend a boulder-covered slope directly to the road. There is a considerable risk of dislodging sizeable boulders down onto the road and this descent should be made with caution. If the crag becomes more popular, perhaps a safer trail could be made down through the trees farther left.

Pushing Forty 95 m, 5.8

J. Blench & B. Elkin, July 1983

The route follows the ridge at the left end of the crag and is mainly straightforward except for one short, but poorly protected, section of 5.8. Start just above the base of the ridge on its right-hand side in the scree gully.

- 1) 30 m, 5.5 Move out left to a groove that leads to the ridge (piton). Continue up grooves to a belay in a scoop on the right, below and left of two triangular overhangs.
- 2) 10 m, 5.4 Climb the groove between the overhangs to a ledge.
- 3) 25 m, 5.8 Scramble down ledges to the left for about 10 m and climb a steep slab, trending left, just before the end of the wall. Belay on the large ledge above.
- 4) 30 m, 5.6 Move back to the ridge and climb up to an overhang. Bypass this on the right and continue up a crack to large ledges.

Descent Either scramble down ledges on the left and descend to the road or climb two easy pitches to the top of the crag and then descend to the left.

South Corner 50 m, 5.7

T. Auger & J. Blench, July 1983

This is the obvious corner between the wall on the right side of the ridge and the main face.

1) 30 m, 5.5 Move out left from the base of the corner and climb up to a wide crack. Follow this back right to rejoin the corner and belay on a small ledge about 5 m below the large roof.

1 alt.) 25 m, 5.7 Climb directly up the corner (pitons required).

2) 20 m, 5.7 Climb up to the roof, traverse left and go up a corner to ledges on the left.

Descent Either scramble down ledges on the left and descend to the road or climb two easy pitches to the top of the crag and then descend to the left.

Live Now, Pay Later 95 m, 5.9

J. Blench & D. Congdon, June 1983

Start below a steep, slabby corner just right of South Corner. Pitons can be seen on the right wall of the corner.

1) 50 m, 5.8 Climb the right wall of the corner (pitons) to small ledges on the right. These may also be reached by climbing the groove that slants up left from near the start of Original Route (see topo). Continue right and up on easier ground to a small belay below a prominent roof (rappel station for Die Young, Stay Pretty).

2) 25 m, 5.9 Climb up left to a break on the left side of the roof (piton) and move up with difficulty past a second piton to ledges above.

2 alt.) It is possible to split pitch 1 at the top of the corner and then climb the groove on the left that leads directly to the break in the roofs. However, this is loose and not well protected.

3) 20 m, 5.7 Move right and climb the wall to the large ledge at the top of Die Young, Stay Pretty.

Descent As for Die Young, Stay Pretty (see topo).

Original Route 80 m, 5.7

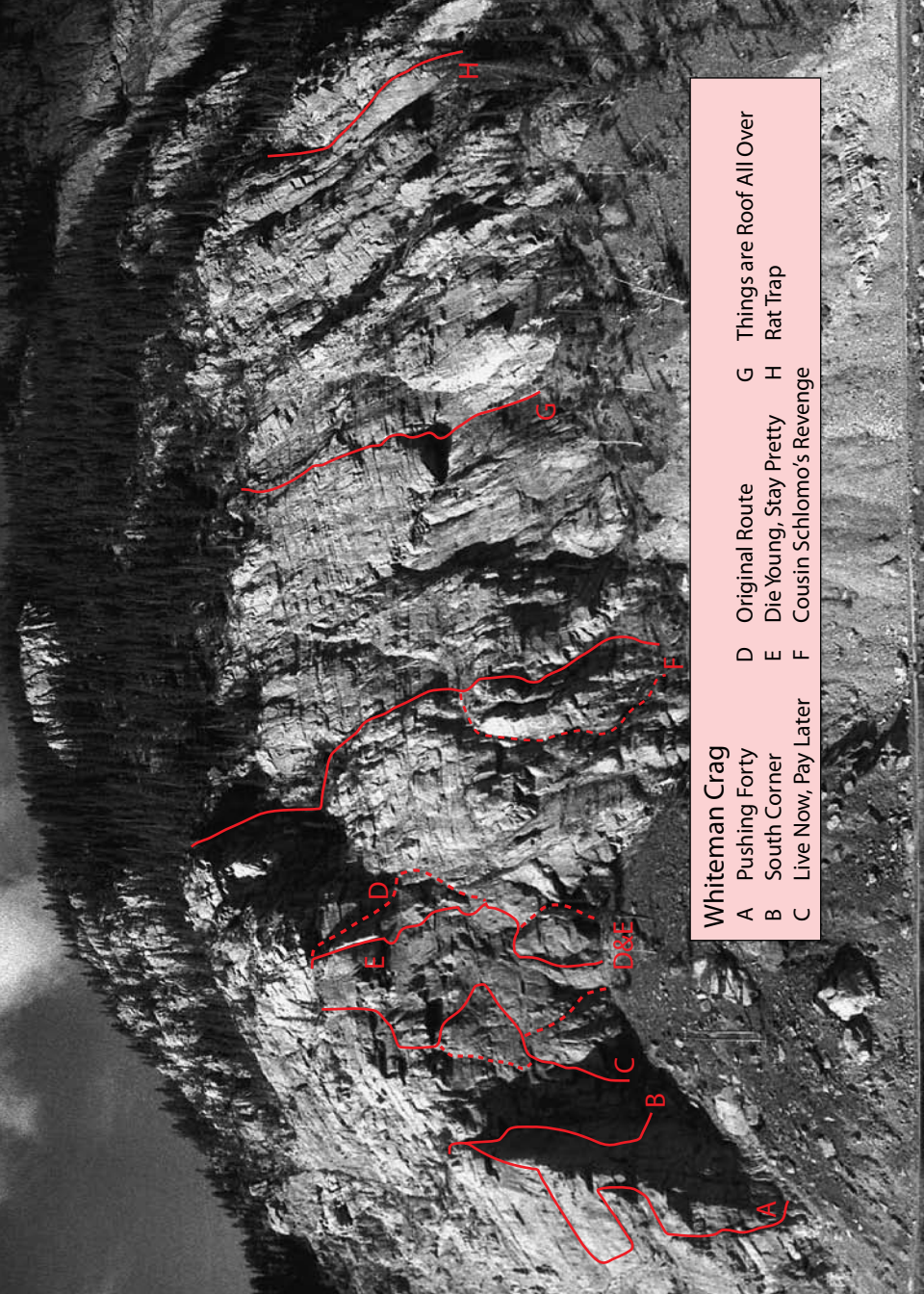
B. Greenwood & party

This climb has an interesting first pitch up a steep, well-protected crack. Higher up the climbing is run-out and more fixed protection is required.

Start at the right side of a small pillar to the left of an overhung bay.

1) 30 m, 5.7 Climb to the top of the pillar and continue up a steep crack on the right (piton). Climb past a block and into a short groove. At the top of the groove, traverse right (bolt) and down to a scoop. Cross the scoop and move up and right to a bolt and flake belay.

1 alt.) The scoop near the top of pitch 1 may be reached by climbing directly out of the



Whiteman Crag

- A Pushing Forty
- B South Corner
- C Live Now, Pay Later
- D Original Route
- E Die Young, Stay Pretty
- F Cousin Schlomo's Revenge
- G Things are Roof All Over
- H Rat Trap

overhung bay to the right of the normal start (5.10, R. Mitten, 1979).

- 2) 25 m Climb a short, easy pitch to a belay level with a horizontal break leading left below roofs. Pitons are presently required for the belay but pitches 2 and 3 can be easily combined.
- 3) 25 m, 5.7 Climb up left into an open corner slanting left and follow this to ledges round the edge of the buttress and the fixed station of Die Young, Stay Pretty.

Descent As for Die Young, Stay Pretty (see topo).

Die Young, Stay Pretty** 75 m (90 m), 5.10b

S. Scott & M. Sawyer, July 1979

Bulky Boys Finish: T. Jones & R. Felber, 1998

This excellent but neglected climb moves left from the top of the first pitch of Original Route, climbs a slabby wall and exits up a steep, technical corner. The corner is very sustained but well protected by fixed pitons and the pitch is one of the best in the valley. Recently, a short, bolt-protected pitch has been added at the top.

- 1) 30 m, 5.7 Climb pitch 1 of Original Route.
- 2) 45 m, 5.10b The lower part of the pitch is easy (5.7) but run-out. Move up left and then back right and go up past a flake to a small groove capped by a bulge. Move left and up onto a slab (bolt) and then go left to a bolt in a short wall directly below the upper corner. Make awkward moves left and climb up and back right into the groove. Launch up the groove and continue with difficulty past a number of pitons to where it finally eases. Belay on the large ledge above (fixed station).
- 3) 15 m, 5.10a The Bulky Boys Finish climbs a short wall 8-10 m left of the station, just right of a large tree. Climb a solid slab immediately right of the first bolt and then move left to the second bolt. Continue up and right past a third bolt to a fixed rappel station (two pitons).

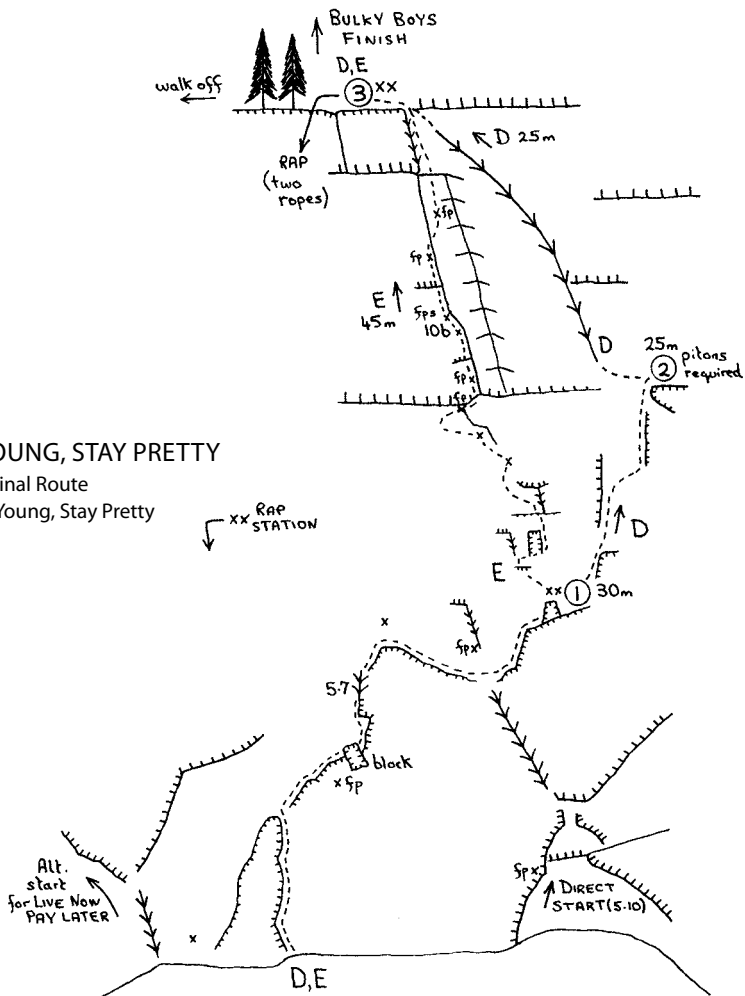
Descent The route can be rappelled using double ropes (see topo) or an easy descent can be made down ledges to the left. The latter requires caution near the bottom as loose rock is easily dislodged onto the road.

Cousin Schlomo's Revenge 100 m, 5.7

I. Witten, A. Savannah, S. Greenberg and Anon

This loose route begins in the right-hand of two broken corners in the rounded buttress right of the overhung bay. In the words of the first ascensionists, one of whom requested anonymity, "Schlomo suffered for 2000 years—this is his revenge!"

- 1) 45 m Move up left on easy ground and then climb a steep slab to gain a crack on the right. Follow this through a break in the overhangs to a ledge.
- 1 alt.) The broken corner and chimney on the left can be climbed to reach the ledge at the top of pitch 1.
- 2) 35 m Move right and climb a shallow corner to a large treed ledge on the left.
- 3) 20 m, 5.7 Follow the obvious groove on the left to the top.



DIE YOUNG, STAY PRETTY

- D Original Route
- E Die Young, Stay Pretty

Student's Route 95 m, 5.8

J. Blench & K. Klassen, July 1982

Located to the right of the rounded buttress is a prominent roof at about one-third height. Student's Route goes up the left wall of the corner to the end of the roof and then follows a diagonal line up the slabby wall above (not shown on photograph).

- 1) 30 m, 5.6 Climb the slab on the left of the corner past a fixed bolt and piton anchor to the roof. Move left to a belay near the end of the roof.

2-3) 65 m, 5.8 Diagonal up left following a faint groove system.

Things Are Roof All Over 75 m, 5.9

G. Powter and S. Wood, June 1983

This climbs the right side of the roof on Student's Route and continues directly up the face above.

- 1) 25 m, 5.6 Climb the first pitch of Student's Route and belay immediately below the roof.
- 2) 50 m, 5.9 Gain a finger crack that traverses right across somewhat loose flakes under the roof (piton) and go right until a good crack is reached. Climb the crack and then move left and continue up a groove system to the top.

Rat Trap 45m, 5.9

J. Kaandorp & S. DeMaio, July 1985

Located at the far right-hand end of the crag is a large, left-slanting corner. Rat Trap climbs the left-hand of two cracks in the right wall. The corner itself appears to have been climbed but no information is available.

- 1) 20 m Climb the crack to a ledge.
- 2) 25 m Climb the left-slanting corner/ramp above.