

The Cariboo & Monashee Ranges of B.C.
An Alpinist's Guide



Earle R. Whipple

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THE CARIBOO AND MONASHEE RANGES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA: AN ALPINIST'S GUIDE

by EARLE R. WHIPPLE

The Columbia Mountains (Interior Ranges; which include the Cariboo and Monashee Ranges) lie within British Columbia, west of the Canadian Rockies and the southern Alberta-British Columbia border.

The Cariboo Range, all in the north, is west of the Canadian Rocky Mountains (area of Mount Robson). The Monashee Range is south of the Cariboo Range and west of the Selkirk Range, extending far south. This guide describes the access and mountaineering in these two ranges.

Aside from parts of the Coast Range and the northern Rockies, the Cariboo and Monashee Ranges are the most isolated in British Columbia. However, if one listens to the helicopters from the lodges in these ranges, when camped there, one may question this.

Large, active glaciers (now in retreat) with spectacular icefalls exist in the mountains of the western part of the Halvorson Group, the northern Wells Gray Group, the Premier Ranges, the Dominion Group and northern Scrip Range; there is climbing on rock, snow and ice, and routes for those climbers wishing easy, relaxing climbing in beautiful scenery. Good rock climbing on gneiss is in the southern Gold Range and Mt. Begbie in the north. There are also locales offering fine hiking on trails or alpine meadows (Halvorson Group, southern Wells Gray Group, southern Scrip Range, and the Shuswap Group), and backpacking traverses have been worked out through the Halvorson and Dominion Groups, the Scrip Range and the Gold Range. Beautiful lake districts exist in the northern Cariboo, and the Monashees.

The area covered by this book starts northwest of the town of McBride, on Highway 16, southeast of Prince George, and extends south to near the border with the U.S.A., staying within the great bend of the Fraser River, and then west of Canoe Reach (lake; formerly Canoe River) and just west of the **lower** Columbia River south of its great bend.

On the west, the Cariboo and Monashee Ranges fade out into hills.

When using the maps and modern photos, one should remember that there has been much ice retreat since the maps were made.

Note the difference in the snow cover, and glaciers. Old photos.

For tourists who wish to hike trails, be sure to bring adequate clothing for rain and/or wind, and mosquitos (repellent also). Also boots.

Apr. 20, 2023



**Mt. Sir Wilfred Laurier, east face. The Tete Icefield is at its foot.
Photo: Tom Swaddle.**

The features in this work can be found using the search engine in the computer. To find Group (or Range) titles and specific mountains (can use small letters), use two spaces between the words instead of one, e.g., Sir John Thompson. This avoids other mentions.

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Acknowledgements

Earle R. Whipple first visited Canada in 1953 with the Harvard Mountaineers in the Northern Selkirks, and has gone to the mountains during most of the following years. He lived in Vancouver from 1965 to 1968, but was so busy that he didn't climb as much as he should have.

The author is grateful for the assistance of many people in the research leading to the data in this guidebook, including some who are not mountaineers.

Leon Blumer, who introduced the author to the Gold Range, did much trail cutting there. Ken Baker, Robert Bauman, Ron Blauie, Cameron Cairns, Nick Dodge, David Kennedy, John Petroske, Dan Robertson, Jean Waterfield (Spicer) and Nels Wetterstrom gave much help in this region. Ross Cloutier, Thomas and Connie Crowley, Amund Groner, Jim Hylands, David P. Jones, James Petroske, and John O. Wheeler have been active and informative in several areas. Glen Stanley, in the Halvorson Group, was a one-man fount of knowledge. Vaclav Benes, Peter Brogden, Andrew Kauffman, Robert Kruszyna, Roger Laurilla, Orvel Miskiw, and Ferdi Taxbock provided details in the Premier Ranges. Other helpful climbers were Roland Amundson, Frank Baron, Asger Bentzen, Brian Berry, John Carter, Aaron Cooperman, Thomas Dabrowski, Richard Decker, David Dornian, Gary Edwards, Michael Feller, Peter Findlay, Jeremy Fyke, James T. Fyles, Jack Gregson, Klaus Haring, Greg Hill, Mark Hutson, Pamela Jenkins, David King, Barbara Lilley, Peter Mair, Art Maki, Wm. Mathews, Hugh and Roland Neave, George Ryan, David Smith, Steven Smith, Jeff Volp, George Wallerstein, Rob Whelan, Gordon White and Tom Wolfe. Roger Wallis provided many details in the Cariboos.

Special thanks go to the members of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club, especially Ken Holmes, Janice Isaac, Kim Kratky, Sandra McGuinness, Hamish Mutch, Bert and Sue Port, Howie Ridge, Peter Tchir, Fred Thiessen, and Peter Wood. The Vernon Outdoors Club was generous with hiking information.

Roland Amundson, Vaclav Benes, Thomas and Connie Crowley, Amund Groner, Mark Hutson, Kim Kratky, Benoit Landry, Art Maki, Wm. McKenzie, Hamish Mutch, Gertrude Smith, Steven Smith, Glen Stanley, Tom Swaddle, David Swetland and Arnold Wexler made contributions to the photo selection, and Roger Wallis to the photo selection and diagrams. Hand-drawn maps are by the author. Trygve Hoy and John O. Wheeler have added geological details.

The author wishes to thank all people who tried to assist him, whether or not they succeeded in giving pertinent information.

INTRODUCTION

The Columbia Mountains (Interior Ranges) of British Columbia are an extensive area in the southeastern corner of British Columbia, west of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. In these ranges is found a great variety of attractions for the mountaineer. The rock here is more solid on the average than on the slightly higher summits of the Rockies, and much snow is present because of the high precipitation in these more westerly ranges.

Solid gneiss (pronounced 'nice') and good climbing is found in the relatively newly-climbed southern part of the Gold Range (southern Monashee Range). It is a rough and bushy country.

The Premier Ranges have the highest summits of the Cariboos and Monashees. Much information about this area by the 'Grizzly Group' of climbers is in CAJ 77(1994):96-99.

On the average, glaciers are more abundant in the mountains which are more northerly. Icefields, or large glaciers, are found in the Halvorson Group, Wells Gray Group and the Premier Ranges in the Cariboo Range and in the Dominion Group and the Scrip Range of the Monashee Range.

Two technical rock climbs (Class 5.0 and 5.4) exist in the Southern Premier Range, and a few in the Halvorson Group. A long route of variable difficulty (Class 5.5) is in the Shuswap Group and there is a little rock climbing in the Dominion Group, but locales of good, steep rock are not yet known in these little explored ranges, except in the Gold Range. For the most part, the rock is not technical, and a Class 4 rating is sometimes used because of the presence of glaciers (rope needed).

Geology

The geology of the Gold Range and that of the Valhallas are much the same, but the rocks of the Gold Range are much older. In modern parlance, both are termed "gneiss complexes". The rock of both of these areas has been mistaken for granite and, although some granite is present, most of these mountains is composed of gneiss (pronounced "nice"). The origin of gneiss, a metamorphic rock, is usually from sedimentary rocks such as the rocks in the Canadian Rockies, which have been altered by high pressures and temperatures due to deep burial, and then by deformation in mountain-building movements which involve compression. In the core of this mass, there were high temperature and near-melting conditions. The result is a rock which is foliated (mineral crystals aligned or segregated in bands), but which often resembles granite to the untrained eye.

Quartzite and marble, (metamorphic rocks), are present in the upper part of Mount Begbie. These two, respectively, are sandstone and limestone which have been subjected to metamorphism. They were originally sedimentary. The age of the rocks is 2.1 billion years, among the oldest in North America and four times the age of the rocks at Glacier, B. C. During the mountain-building compressions that formed the Selkirks and Canadian Rockies, the younger rocks of the latter were thrust up and over the gneisses of the Monashees. Erosion then exposed the older rocks. There is evidence that these gneisses extend east continuously under the Selkirks, Rockies and the plains to the Canadian Shield (a similar mass of gneisses and granites) in Ontario. (PC: Trygve Hoy)

The Gold Range and the Shuswap Group are both composed of gneiss complexes; the Frenchman Cap Gneiss Complex in the Shuswap Group is of the same age as that of the Gold Range (2.1 billion years). The boundary between the two complexes is where the Trans-Canada Highway passes through the Monashees, west of Revelstoke.

The gneisses continue north in the Monashee Range, through the Scrip Range, to the latitude of Mica Creek (which is in the Selkirks). Here the surface rocks change; the gneisses disappear under other metamorphic rocks. The gneisses reappear in the far northern Monashees, in the Malton Range, not far from the North and South Premier Ranges in the Cariboo Range.

In the northern Scrip Range, and north into the Cariboo Range, the surface rocks are metamorphic and are of the same age as the Windermere Series of the northern and southern Purcells (late Pre-Cambrian, i.e., late Proterozoic), and lie stratigraphically below the Hamill Quartzite, which is the good rock exposed at Glacier (Rogers Pass). The age of the Hamill Quartzite is approximately one half billion years. The garnet-mica schist of the Premier Ranges belongs to the age of

the Windermere Series, and is therefore older than the Hamill Quartzite. Although these rocks are of the same age as the Windermere Series, they are not identical with them, only similar. One reason for this is that they are separated by a considerable distance, and the history of the erosion and deposition that gave rise to them is a bit different.

During the compressions in the earth's crust which created the Selkirk Mountains, the metamorphic rocks of the latter were pushed (thrust) eastward over the strong gneisses below (in the Monashees). Both the forces and the time required to do this are staggering, but the evidence is there. This was appreciated fully only after the development of the concept of Plate Tectonics in the last half of the twentieth century.

The compression and deformation of the rocks took place late in geological history, long after the sedimentary portion of the rocks present were deposited as sediments. The rocks were deformed and metamorphosed 190 to 90 million years ago (Jurassic and Cretaceous periods) during the age of the dinosaurs. (PC: John O. Wheeler)

Listing and Sequence of Peaks

The mountains and their groups are presented primarily in a north to south sequence, and secondarily east to west. Some cirques are described in order around the rim. No system works perfectly, however, and some irregularities will be noted. **The terms "Range" and "Group" are used interchangeably in this listing to avoid being pedantic** and a group may or may not be named for the range to which it belongs.

Peaks of less altitude than 2600 meters (8,500 feet) usually will not be listed, unless they offer historic or geographic interest or mountaineering challenge. In areas of low average altitude, peaks under 2600 meters are often included to increase coverage and variety in the area. Summits above 2600 meters not listed have not been climbed, to the author's knowledge.

Those peaks in boldface type are those whose names have been officially adopted by the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CAJ 47(1964): 102-105). Names of mountains in parenthesis are alternate or former names, and names of routes are also in parenthesis.

Glacial Retreat, Global Warming, and Maps

Due to warming of the climate, maps to this area are often out of date, and valleys, especially low ones, are now often completely free of ice.

References

References are included in this volume which will aid future guidebook writers, provide documentation (i.e., listing the sources of information) and will help climbers to learn to use the libraries. **Thorough documentation is a measure of the reliability of the information.** References of mere mention and no content are often omitted.

Most of the sources are listed below. The Archives of the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies (Banff), the Canadian Geoscience Information Centre (Ottawa), the Appalachian Mountain Club library (Boston) and the B. C. Provincial Archives (Victoria) were also helpful.

For those who wish to know more history than is readily learned from the references cited in the text, an excellent bibliography of early literature is found in CAJ 9(1918):118. A summary of mountaineering in the Columbia Mountains compiled by J.W.A. Hickson in 1925 appears in APP 16:246. Books cited in the references are often excellent (and rare!) and access to a mountaineering library is imperative.

Journals and Abbreviations

AAJ- American Alpine Journal, American Alpine Club

AJ- Alpine Journal, the Alpine Club, London, England

APP- Appalachia, Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston, Mass.

ARTS- Annual Report of the Topographical Survey Branch (Canada)

BAE- Boealps Alpine Echo (Boeing Aircraft)

BCM- B. C. Mountaineer (BCMC), Vancouver, B. C.

Index to Publications of the BCMC. 1907-1969, by Michael Feller

Index to Publications of the BCMC. 1970-1990, by Michael Feller

CAJ- Canadian Alpine Journal, Alpine Club of Canada

Alpine Club of Canada library (CAJ), available on Internet
Cumulative Subject and Author Index of the Canadian Alpine Journal
(Volume 1, 1907, to Volume 70, 1987) by Beverley Bendell

FA- First ascent; FRA- First recorded ascent

FSR- Forest Service Road (Ministry of Forests & Natural Resource)

GSC- Geological Survey of Canada

GSP- Bulletin of the Geographic Society of Philadelphia

INT- Internet; CME- Canadian Mtn. Encyclopedia (bivouac.com)

IRBC- Climber's Guide to the Interior Ranges of B. C. (first in 1937)

KIN- Kinnikinnick (Spokane Mountaineers)

KK- Kootenay Karabiner, Kootenay Mountaineering Club (KMC)

KMCN- KMC Newsletter

PATC- Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Bulletin, Vienna, Virginia

PC- personal communication to the author, followed by initials or full name

VOCJ- Varsity Outdoor Club Journal, University of B. C.

Books and Early Ascents

The Cariboo and Monashee Ranges are not well covered by books. Consult 'Some Climbing and Exploration' in the beginnings of the groups for other early ascents.

The Rocks and Rivers of B. C., by W. Moberly, Blacklock, London, 1885

- 1907- Mount Begbie (Gold Range). By a party with Edward Feuz Jr.
- 1910- Mount Copeland (Shuswap Gr.). M. P. Bridgland, Survey party
- 1916- Penny Mtn. (N. Premier Range). A.J. Gilmour, E.W.D. Holway
- 1924- Mount Albretha (Dominion Gr.). By Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin, A. L. Withers
- 1924- Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier (N. Premier Range). Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin, A. L. Withers
- 1925- Mount Sir John Thompson (S. Premier Range). By W.A. Don Munday and Phyllis Munday
- 1925- Parbury Mountain (Hellroar Gr.). A. Horne and others
- 1927- Mount Sir John Abbott and two others (N. Premier Range). Allen Carpe' and Rollin T. Chamberlin

TR- Triangulation of the Railway Belt of B. C., by H. Parry, Government Printing Bureau, Ottawa, Ontario, 1915 (Dept. of the Interior)

Edward W. D. Holway, a Pioneer of the Canadian Alps,

by Howard Palmer, Minneapolis, Univ. of Minnesota Press, 1931

Where the Clouds Can Go, by Conrad Kain, AAC, 1979

In the Western Mountains, by Susan Leslie, Provincial Archives, Victoria, B. C., 1980 (various ranges)

The Guiding Spirit, by Andrew J. Kauffman and Wm. L. Putnam, Footprint Publishing, Revelstoke, B. C., 1986

Glacier Country: Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks, by John G. Wood, Douglas and McIntyre, Vancouver, 1987

Summits and Icefields: Alpine Ski Tours in the Rocky and Columbia Mts. of Canada, by Chic Scott, Rocky Mtn. Books, Calgary, 1994

Non-mountaineering History

The Northwest Passage by Land, by Milton and Cheadle, 1865

The Forms of Water, by John Tyndall, Appleton, N.Y. 1896 (written in 1872; p. xi-xii, p.144. Tyndall was a noted physicist and alpinist.)

The Last Spike, by Pierre Berton, McClelland and Stewart Ltd., Toronto/Montreal, 1971 (see pp. 172-174)

History of the Canadian Pacific Railway, by W. Kaye Lamb, Macmillan, N.Y., 1977

Tales of the Kootenays, by Fred J. Smyth, J.J. Douglas Ltd.,
Vancouver, 1977

Where the Lardeau River Flows, by Peter Chapman, Provincial Archives,
Victoria, B. C., 1981

Bear Attacks: Their Causes and Avoidance, by Stephen Herrero,
Globe Pequot, 2002

Bears: Without Fear, by Kevin Van Tighem, Rocky Mountain Books, 2013

Trail and Hut Guidebooks

Backcountry Huts and Lodges of the Rockies and Columbias, by Jim
Scott, Johnson Gorman Publisher, 2001, p. 1-286

Cariboo Range:

Exploring Wells Gray Park (several editions), by Roland Neave,
Friends of Wells Gray Park, Kamloops, B. C.

Hiking the Cariboo Goldfields, by Gary Edwards, Ken Stoker, and
Dorothy Funk, Rocky Mtn. Books, 2001

Trails of the Southern Cariboo, by Colin Campbell

Monashee Range:

Hiking Trails Enjoyed by the Vernon Outdoors Club,
Wayside Press Ltd., Vernon, B. C., 1989.

(P.O. Box 1241, Vernon, B. C. V1T 6N6)

Hiking in the Okanagan and the Southern Monashees, by Paul S.
Philips (no publisher stated), April 2009

A more efficient approach to first ascent credits is used here, which also provides a tabulation of **an abbreviated climbing history** of a group (placed just before the peaks and route data). **When the names of the first ascent party are missing, or only initials are given, refer to the tabulation above ('Some Climbing and Exploration') by the year. If no initials are given, all of the tabulated party members did the climb; otherwise the initials give the first ascent party.** References to the climb may be in either or both places.

When a group of climbers is **"with"** a person whose name follows **"with"**, it means that the person is a **professional guide**.

The oldest of the publications is by the famous explorer Walter Moberly, one of whose men was the original discoverer of Rogers Pass, before Rogers. (The cited pages in Pierre Berton's book are relevant to this.) A copy of his book is in the Archives of the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies in Banff.

Two famous and indispensable books for the guidebook author and the historian of these mountains are those by Arthur O. Wheeler (1905) and Howard Palmer (1914). Both are collectors' items now found in mountaineering libraries. The atmosphere of the early exploration of the Columbia Mountains (then the Interior Ranges) is well conveyed; the two authors were active mountaineers, and Wheeler a map-maker as well.

An outstanding group of companions in the early history of these mountains was Holway, Butters and Palmer. Today, their climbs are nothing unusual, but in their own day their ascents were done in such isolation that they were bold indeed and an accident could mean a serious threat. The biography of Holway is given by his friend Howard Palmer (1931).

'The Guiding Spirit' is largely a biography of the well-known mountain guide Edward Feuz, Jr. and is quite entertaining. There is only a little reference to the area of this guidebook, however.

J. Monroe Thorington was the first of the modern guidebook authors (preceded by Wheeler and Parker, 1912) and produced the 1937, 1947 and 1955 editions of the 'Climber's Guide to the Interior Ranges of British Columbia'. His book on the Purcells (1946) is a recounting of his adventures there and is another collectors' item. Thorington sometimes climbed with the superbly competent guide Conrad Kain whose autobiography is titled 'Where the Clouds Can Go'.

Roland Neave's book about Wells Gray Park is not a mountain guidebook for the most part, but has a few descriptions of mountain routes.

Classifications and Ratings

Seven categories of ratings have been used in this guidebook. The first two ratings are the presence of ice on the climb, and the necessity of travel over glaciers, both stated directly. The difficulty of ice climbs has not been estimated.

Note that all routes with glacier travel are at least Class 4 (rope necessary), even if the climbing on the peak itself is Class 3 (a scramble). Bergschrunds are often met, and the ice problems associated with them are not always stated as "Ice" in the text.

The third rating is that of duration, of the round trip, in other words the overall commitment to the climb. It is an attempt to estimate the length of the climb in time, which depends on distance (Distant basecamps require more time.), elevation gain, the degree of sustained difficulty, the physical condition of the party, its efficient or inefficient use of time, and conditions on the mountain. **Such ratings are always approximate.** In Roman numerals,

Grade I- means a climb requiring a few hours.
 Grade II- half a day.
 Grade III- most of a day.
 Grade IV- very long day, maybe with a bivouac.
 Grade V- one to two days.
 Grade VI- several days.

The fourth rating is that of difficulty of the rock climbing, by the decimal system (omitted in pure snow and ice climbs). The table gives comparisons of two systems.

<u>NCCS</u>	<u>Decimal</u>	<u>Adjective</u>
F1	1	A walk
F2	2	Steep walk
	3	Scrambling
F3	4	Rope necessary (including glaciers)
	5.0	Possible protection
F4	5.1	Moderately
	5.2	difficult
F5	5.3	Difficult
	5.4	
	5.5	
F6	5.6	Very difficult
F7	5.7	
F8	5.8	
F9	5.9	Extremely
F10	5.10	difficult

These ratings are not of sustained difficulty, but those of the hardest move. The fifth rating, artificial aid, is from A1 to A4 when present. A0 indicates a rappel or a pendulum.

The sixth rating is whether snow is expected on the climb(s). Ascents over glaciers always have this. Presence of snow, of course, depends largely on the season. **Many climbs on snow require crampons even when ice is not met.**

The seventh rating is a measure of the overall pleasing nature of the climb, admittedly a question of opinion. This may be due, for instance, to sustained difficulty on sound rock, to fine snow climbing or to beautiful surroundings. It is given by one or two stars (*), two stars denoting an outstanding climb. The use of these has been sparing, but because the author cannot do all the routes, and because people's opinions are

subjective or were not sought, some routes may deserve one or two stars, but not bear them. Future experience will tell.

In some cases where descriptions were terse and incomplete, some guesswork has been used to estimate difficulties and lengths of climbs. Climbers are requested to spot slip-ups and report them if they are grossly inaccurate, and the author must in the end acknowledge his error. The climber should realize that accuracy in all details in such a work as this is impossible, and when faced by guidebook inaccuracy should use his experience and common sense to reach a sound decision, and not rely on rote adherence to the guidebook.

Ratings, Snowfall, Glacial Retreat and Advance

Ratings give only limited information, therefore it is best to read the entire description before a decision is made whether to do a climb. The guidebook assumes a climbing party to be adequately equipped, in condition, and to have sound judgment and good weather.

One should note that snowfall is not constant from year to year, nor are snow conditions during stormy versus clear summers. **Many routes are dependent on snow depth and cover.** The descriptions in the text are hopefully typical. With different amounts of snow, the routes may vary greatly in difficulty and danger.

Since 1857 (see book, 'The Forms of Water' (above, p. xi and 144)) there has been an average warming trend in the world climate, and the glaciers in the Columbia Mountains have retreated greatly since that time. At Glacier, the great Illecillewaet Glacier (for which the area was named) used to extend to a point not far from the old railroad roadbed at Glacier House, and was a tourist attraction. The tongue of the glacier has retreated several kilometers and is more than 700 meters higher today, a dramatic retreat lasting about a century and leaving moraines and bare quartzite slabs behind it. All the glaciers of these mountains have behaved similarly, although not all so dramatically, and only on the more shadowed slopes under the highest peaks do glaciers still persist in strength, or in areas like icefields where the provenance of winter snow is great. The melting of ice has modified some routes of access, and changes are continuing today.

This retreat began earlier in the Alps, 1857 (see John Tyndall's book).

Not all the glaciers are retreating. During the period 1977-1991 the Illecillewaet Glacier had advanced an average of six meters per year and an ice cliff had replaced a smoothly sloping glacier toe. A study in 1985 showed that 422 glaciers in Glacier National Park were enlarging and that there were 68 new 'baby' glaciers. (Revelstoke Times, 1991)

Glacier Travel

Increased familiarity with and travel on glaciers in the Columbia Mountains in the last few decades has unfortunately developed a disregard for the dangers of glacier travel among many climbers and has increased neglect for protection against falls into crevasses. The following fall, taken from the literature of the Premier Range, resulted merely in an amusing story. The bridging of the crevasse failed after several passages over it. **Without the rope**, the result is left to the reader's imagination.

--- "During the return toward our bivouac camp we arrived at the crevasse mentioned earlier in time to fulfill Art's rendezvous with its inner regions. The real Lembeck appeared at the surface a moment after the huge icicle, which was stuck between his pack and back. Lest these crevasse hazards be considered too lightly, the reader might consider the fact that this one was over 6 meters wide, approximately 30 meters deep, and sealed over on the surface by a thin layer of snow - truly the end of the road for the solitary explorer. Ordinarily Art would not have fallen below the surface, but because of the feeble bridge of snow the safety rope had cut back through the crust, dropping him under the shelf in spite of the fact that Chris gave him a perfect belay at the moment of breakthrough." (PATC 19:41)

In the old days when the region was being prospected for minerals, the prospectors were afraid of the glaciers, and with good reason. When crossing a snow covered glacier alone, they sometimes tied a rope around the waist and dragged a long pole behind, hoping that the pole would span the hole if they fell into a crevasse. Modern lone travelers would profit from their experience, if not their technique.

To quote Don Munday, "Some mountaineering writers convey the impression that surface signs always mark presence of a crevasse roofed thinly enough to be dangerous. This is bad advice, and likely to lull the less experienced person into false sense of security."

Maps (Ministry of Forests & Natural Resource); **GPS, Access**

Maps are necessary in this large area, where access problems enlarge the map area needed to deal with the region as a whole. Such maps cannot be included with the text because their volume is several times that of the text.

Another reason to possess the government NTS maps is because much use is made of map coordinates in this document, which is a precise way of locating basecamps, approaches and mountains, etc. The Universal Transverse Mercator Grid coordinate lines on NTS 1:50,000 maps are 1 km (0.62 miles; two cm are equivalent to one km) apart with contour lines being in feet (older maps) or meters (newer maps).



The Canadian map system. This is an example taken from 93A of the Wells Gray Provincial Park area, British Columbia. It is a country of magnificent mountain lakes used by prospectors and miners a century ago to enter the Wells Gray mountains by canoe from the west.

The numbering proceeds from the south and east, going first west and then north, alternating. The numbering is an ancient system sometimes termed, ' - - as the oxen plow'.

Observations on the Use of the GPS

The use of the GPS, compared with the paper maps, is inferior. (KMC Newsletter, June 2010)

The GPS does not work well near buildings, or other tall objects like mountains, ridges, cliffs, trees or the human body. (INT)

Canadian maps are sometimes produced by computer-controlled printing machines which can alter the 1:50:000 scale. However, the sides of the grid squares will still represent one kilometer, but will not be two centimeters long if a printing error is made. Check your Canadian map for the grid square length, and make a suitable correction, if any, when measuring distance by ruler.

If an altitude of a mountain does not end in a zero, it will have been surveyed (but not necessarily climbed). One time out of ten, on the average, the altitude of a surveyed summit will end in zero. Estimates of peak altitude by the map contours end in zero.

One should note that snow peaks are variable in height from season to season, and year to year, depending upon snowfall and ablation.

Most older maps use grids based on the North American Datum 1927 (NAD 27), while newer maps use a more recent 1983 datum - NAD 83. Due to incomplete coverage of NAD 83 maps, this book uses coordinates based on the NAD 27 maps. If you are using a NAD 83 map, you will have to convert the NAD 27 coordinates in this book to NAD 83 ones. This will result in a displacement of approximately 80 to 110m. The NTS maps have a horizontal accuracy of only 50 to 100m, which must also be taken into account, particularly if you are using a GPS unit.

Latitude and (especially) longitude on 'old' and 'recent' maps will not agree. Longitude errors may be far greater than 100 meters.

In the GPS system, errors cannot be corrected in mountains.

In some cases, it may be best to locate features relative to named or prominent mountains, lakes (e.g., north end), or river confluences.

The NTS maps give not only topographic data and areas of glaciers and forests, but also show highways, logging roads and trails of use to the mountaineer, and are well worth the price.

The government NTS maps (on a scale of 1:50,000, 2 cm equals 1 km; each square on the map is 1 km on a side) are now available free from the Internet (www.geogratis.gc.ca/geogratis/en/index.html) in court houses, which have a **government agent's office** (but now often in private stores instead) such as in Golden (Selkirk Sports, 250-344-2966), Revelstoke (250-837-7636), Nelson, Kaslo, Cranbrook, Invermere, and Creston (these tend to have local maps only).

Maps are also available from

Maps - B. C.

Surveys and Resource Mapping Branch, Ministry of Environment

Parliament Buildings

Victoria, B. C. V8V 1X5

(B. C. Provincial maps also)

Geological Survey of Canada (not mail orders)3303 – 33rd Street, N.W.

Calgary, Alta. T2L 2A7

(403) 292-7000

World of Maps Inc. (mail orders, GSC maps)

1191 Wellington Street, W

Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 2Z6

613-724-6776 or 800-214-8524

Fax 613-724-7776 or 800-897-9969

Metsker Maps of Seattle

(206) 623-8747

1511 First Avenue

Seattle, Wash. 98101

Mountain Equipment Coop – select stores only, including

130 West Broadway

Vancouver, B. C.

604-872-7858 (1-888-847-0770)

Clover Point Cartographers Ltd. (B. C. TRIM maps, 1:20,000, metric)

152 Dallas Road

Victoria, B. C. V8V 1A3

250-384-3537

fax 250-384-2679

Rivers Sportsman

(250) 286-1017

2115 N Island Highway

(toll free N. America) 1-800-663-7217

Campbell River, B. C. V9W 2G6

International Travel maps and books

12300 Bridgeport Road

Richmond B.C, V6V 1J5 Canada

604-273-1400

USPS Mailbox: P.O. Box 1994, Point Robert, WA 98281-1994

E mail itmb@itmb.com

GoTrekks

www.gotrekks.com

1-493-289-6038

They have no walk-in store (on line only), but will ship anywhere.

A CD (for computers; titled “Interior Ranges of B. C.”) of maps is available.

The Internet also carries information on mountain access.

The B.C. government provides 1:20,000 TRIM maps.

www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/ (B. C. Prov. Parks)
 www.backroadmapbooks.com (trails, roads, etc.)
 www.bivouac.com (Canadian Mtn. Encyclopedia)

One should remember that some statements may be outdated, for reasons listed in the paragraphs below and in the beginning of the Halvorson Group.

No one publication, neither map nor brochure, is complete or up to date and the acquisition of multiple sources of information is advantageous. Maps of a scale of 1:100,000 (1 cm = 1 km; also 1:125,000) of B. C. Provincial origin are available at the same government agent's offices (some offices have privatized map sales locally) and often are more up to date than the government maps. However, they have only half the detail (covering four times the area) of the government maps.

The climber should realize that the Columbia Mountains (Interior Ranges) of B. C. are a region of heavy rainfall and high growth rate of slide alder, devil's club and other undergrowth which make access in valleys very difficult. No publication, including this book, can be up to date in this region because **trails, if not maintained, can be overgrown in two to three years and roads are prone to earthslides, rockfalls, treefalls, washouts and bridge destruction.** New roads are being created.

The B. C. Ministry of Forests and Natural Resource divides its domain into Regions, each of which is composed of several Districts. Each District is concerned with information, such as roads and access, only in its own area, so that one must write or phone to the appropriate B. C. Natural Resource District Office. The relevant B. C. Natural Resource Districts Offices are (N to S):

Quesnel Natural Resource D.	Cariboo-Chilcotin Natural Resource D.
322 Johnston Ave.	200 - 640 Borland Street
Quesnel B.C. V2J 3M5	Williams Lake B.C. V2G 4T1
(250) 992-4400	(250) 398-4574

100 Mile House Natural Resource District
 300 Cariboo Hwy. 97 (P.O. Box 129)
 100 Mile House V0K 2E0
 (250) 395-7800

Thompson Rivers Natural Resource District
 1265 Dalhousie Drive
 Kamloops B.C. V2C 5Z5
 (250) 371-6500

The B. C. Ministry of Forests brochures carry trail, road and campsite information. There are computer-generated maps with marked campsites in the B. C. Ministry of Forests web sites.

Access to the Columbia Mountains is among the most difficult in the world. The access problem is so severe that a helicopter must be hired to make access a practical reality over many places in these ranges. **Some of the trails were overgrown by vegetation decades ago and are non-existent. The same can be said for some of the roads which are abandoned and left to the ravages of normal weather, storms and vegetation growth.** Many logging roads are viable, but this changes with time. A number of trails is also either open or maintained. One can consult with the B. C. Ministry of Forests, but even the experts may lack up to date information because of the rapid changes in road and trail conditions. Parties attempting to reach objectives by backpacking will often find the job difficult and lengthy, and only the toughest individuals will reach them.

Animal trails (elk, moose, bear) are often useful to the backpacker, but much of the time they do not lead to the places where humans wish to go, for instance, to swamps. Be careful of meeting the trail makers when you use them. Old mining trails can be very handy, but are often overgrown and hard to follow since the mining has ceased. The routes themselves often go where the climber wishes to go.

Helicopter and Fixed Wing Transport

In talking about the Columbia Mountains, the famous mountaineering guide Conrad Kain once said, "It's a rough country". If anything, this is an understatement.

Knowledge and ascents in the Columbia Mountains have accelerated since development of the helicopter, and its use is **often the only practical way to reach some of the groups**. The helicopter, however, will not suffice to relieve the climber of all the bushwhacking problems encountered during a trip. Climbs often involve skills in finding and forcing one's way through dense undergrowth, or avoiding it. The helicopter gives more time to climb or outlast bad weather. But the helicopter is expensive.

After hiring a helicopter, the party is responsible to direct the pilot to where it wants to proceed. The pilot will be able to offer valuable advice and experience in unknown territory, but the client is ultimately responsible. Bring adequate maps for the flight, to be used by the person sitting beside the pilot.

Selection of the landing place, a good campsite, requires speed and good judgment on the part of the client.

In general, parties of 3 to 5, depending on the helicopter, can be ferried in one flight. In this case, loads should be both compact and somewhat light, i.e., well planned. Often it is practical to fly in and bushwhack out to a road when loads are reasonably light.

A full appreciation of these mountains is had by sometimes doing things the hard way, by backpacking and bushwhacking to one's chosen area. Air drops by airplane on snow and glaciers can be used to extend one's time in these cases. Always drop small and well-cushioned boxes. For a large party, a helicopter with a cargo net can transport much of the weight in one trip.

Some areas, mostly National Parks and Provincial Parks, have a prohibition against landings by helicopters. Some of these areas have specific approved landing sites which require special permission to use.

Areas which forbid helicopter landings without specific permission are:

Cariboo and Monashees

Bowron Lake Provincial Park

Wells Gray Provincial Park (S. part of Wells Gray Group)

Monashee Provincial Park (S. part of Gold Range, near Mt. Fosthall)

The following companies have offices and/or helicopter ports in the listed towns. The list is not exhaustive.

Yellowhead Helicopters - Valemount (250-566-4401) (5 km N of Valemount, Highway 5), Clearwater (250-674-3600), Prince George (250-963-9884)

Canadian Helicopters Ltd. - Kamloops (250-554-2020), Golden (250-344-5311), Vernon (250-542-6000), Penticton (250-492-0637), Salmon Arm (250-832-9599)

Alpine Helicopters Ltd. - Golden (250-344-7444), Kelowna (250-769-4111)

Selkirk Mountain Helicopter Ltd. - Revelstoke (250-837-2455; directions under Mt. Copeland)

Glacier Helicopters - Revelstoke (250-837-9569)

Highland Helicopters - Williams Lake (250-398-7142), Nakusp (250-265-3434), Castlegar (250-365-2661)

Arrow Helicopters - Revelstoke (250-837-6288)



Slide Alder. Beware of these light green swaths of alder. This alder protects itself from winter avalanches by growing downhill, parallel to the ground, and can be nearly impenetrable (near the Rock Garden, southern Gold Range). Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

Fixed wing air transport companies are

Silvertip Aviation Ltd. – Revelstoke (250-837-4414)

High Alpine Air Services – Nelson (250-365-0977)

Helicopter Safety

The external workings of this machine necessarily lack protective shields, and are potentially lethal.

Never approach the rear (the rear rotor) of a helicopter, which spins so fast that it is invisible. Also, never approach from the uphill side when the helicopter is on sloping ground, on pain of being hit by the main rotor. Walk in a stooped position, relaxed, slowly. Some pilots will insist on waiting to board only when the rotors have stopped. Be careful not to walk into the long antenna in front of the craft.

Remember to remove your headphone before alighting, and do not throw objects out into the rotor wash, which may be whisked away or up into the rotor.

Freight should be in **small packages**, which are easier to stack in the storage compartment. Hold down light objects (e.g., foam pads), which may be carried away. Crampons and ice axes fit into the very back of the compartment. Be sure to recover everything when you land, and secure the hatch door.

When you are about to be picked up, you can signal the direction of the wind to the pilot by holding a streamer of toilet paper, or standing with arms up, back to the wind. On snow, a reference point is important for the pilot to land. A heavy pack on the landing site serves well. Remember that there is less clearance from the main rotor when the helicopter is on snow.

Helicopter companies generally prefer that you operate from their airports and leave your automobiles in their parking lots. On bad roads, this also assures that your vehicle will not be trapped by bad conditions, such as storms, when you return to it. The vehicles are also safer from theft or vandalism.

Weather

The weather in the Columbia Mountains, both good and bad, can last for many days, and sometimes weeks, if one is lucky or unlucky. Be prepared with rain gear, a waterproof tent with a waterproof fly, and a small sponge to dry the tent floor.

Wet Rock

All experienced mountaineers are familiar with problems of wet or loose rock, but little attention has been paid to the causes of slipperiness of rock, save for the presence of an ice coating or snow.

Lichen-covered rocks can be almost as dangerous as ice-covered ones. Climbers should beware of slippery lichen (when wet, as with melting snow) on rocks. The black lichen on sandstone and quartzite is especially treacherous. Dipping beds of shale and slate, and siltstone, also can be coated with this black lichen. Limestone is generally free of lichen, but is often interbedded with shale and slate. The latter weather to mud, which is also slippery.

Insect Pests in the Columbia Mountains

Where the Trans-Canada Highway penetrates the Selkirk Mountains, at Glacier, tourists now wander the trails bare-legged and otherwise unprotected, little suspecting that Glacier was once teeming with mosquitos. In 1955, the author alit from the train and was attacked by the legendary undulating cloud of insects which in seconds became a torture. Glacier, seemingly, was the mosquito capital of the world.

Virtually all the other regions of the Columbias are in their pristine state of insect outlawry, except where mosquito breeding swamps have been drained, as the swamps above the waterfall at Fairy Meadow in the Gothics Group; some bugs still remain.

Insects include the black fly, horse fly, and sometimes the vicious deer fly. The black fly (Many "black" flies are colored orange!) prefers to settle and chew in protected spots, such as behind the ears or inside the tops of stockings. Midges occur, but are much rarer. The horse fly enjoys orbiting one's head like a satellite around the earth, and can literally drive one buggy.

Biting insects can be expected by people backpacking in the valley bottoms, or at camps near treeline which are near wetlands. Black flies are found more near rapidly moving water. In the morning, they will often follow the climber as you wind your way up to your favorite peak. Bring adequate supplies of insect repellent and also a parka which will shield the arms, neck and ears, and minimize the use of the sometimes unpleasant repellents.

Bears

Excepting possibly moose and, extremely rarely, cougar or wolverine, the only dangerous animals that the climber may encounter are bears, in particular the grizzly bear. Grizzly bears can be distinguished from black bears by a prominent hump above their front shoulders; color is not a reliable way to separate them.

In the Northern Caribboos, parts of the Halvorson Group are especially wild and have more than their share of aggressive grizzly bears. South Thor Creek (Gold Range) has had a population of grizzlies.

While hiking or backpacking, you may want to advise the bears of your presence by carrying a bell or a can containing loose round pebbles. The bears will generally avoid the presence of men, although people with a sense of humor sometimes say that the bell calls the bears to dinner. In regions of heavy undergrowth near streams, stream noise may prevent the bear hearing the approach of humans, resulting in a possible surprise encounter, which is bad news.

If approached by a grizzly bear, back off slowly. Do not run, because this may induce the bear to charge. Calm, low pitched talk often soothes animals and is probably wise. Even better, throwing a pack or rucksack on the ground between you and the bear often confuses the animal, and may distract him long enough for one to climb a tree, which grizzlies cannot manage. However, the grizzly can reach quite high, so climb far into the tree beyond its reach; a few unfortunates have been dragged out of trees by enraged bears. Remember that grizzly bears can run much faster than humans, so long runs are doomed to failure if pursued. Approaching bear cubs, or placing yourself between the cubs and the mother, are especially dangerous.

If all else fails, playing dead usually causes the bear to lose interest in its object. Curl up into a ball, protect your head and neck with your hands, and thereby minimize exposure of vulnerable areas. This tactic requires considerable self control because the bear often sniffs around to assure himself that the "threat" no longer exists, and may paw the fallen creature (you). Fresh bear (capsicum) spray has been found to successfully repel bears.

If you are armed, and surprised by a grizzly (or vice-versa), as the bear approaches close, a loud whistle will usually cause the bear to rear up on its hind legs. It is then highly vulnerable to a shot in the heart. This is an old backwoodsman's trick, developed before the repeating rifle.

One lone climber in the northern Coast Range deterred a stalking grizzly by lighting a fire right in front of him. (BCM 62:90)

If you are attacked by a black bear, it is recommended to fight back as this usually causes the bear to back off, unless the bear recognizes you as food, which is very unlikely.

Bears are natural scrounges, and sometimes raid food supplies. It is best not to store food in a tent because the bears are induced to shred the tent to reach the food. (It also attracts squirrels which gnaw through the tent.) However, this seldom happens. They are more likely to raid food caches while the owners are away. Prolonged storage is best done by suspending the food on a rope between two trees, high above the ground. Hanging food in a tree is often not effective because brown and black bears can climb them. Even canned goods are not safe because the bear will crush the can and eject the contents. Placing a cache in a cairn is not secure because the bear will easily destroy the cairn.

Bears possess admirable mountaineering talents, and at least one peak is known to have grizzly diggings on the summit. The author was belaying on the ridge of Mt. Tupper in the 1950s when, far below, a bear appeared at the pass at the head of Tupper Glacier. Without hesitation, it descended the glacier at a lope without a mistake, threading the crevasses like an experienced mountaineer. This bear, who went over the mountain, had his own built-in crampons.

Damage Done to Automobiles by Porcupines

Throughout the forests of the Columbia Mountains and the Rockies, porcupines are known for their destructive habits. Seemingly, they will eat anything, including the plywood off of cabin walls. At campsites, they habitually chew pack straps, ostensibly because of the salt present on the straps, but the cause of their satisfaction in chewing tires and especially brake lines of automobiles is less clear. Tires can even be deflated by their persistent attack, and brake lines severed or cut up to produce slow leakage.

The only effective way known to prevent this is to surround the automobile with chicken wire. Bad-smelling sprays have been tried, but have proven ineffective. Considerable protection can be had by leaning flat rocks against the tires, being sure to cover the edges of the tread where the porcupines prefer to chew. Flat wooden slabs left from logging operations do as well. If the vehicle has high clearance and the animals can easily walk beneath, be sure to protect the inner edges as well, but the brake lines are vulnerable.

Forest Road Safety

Many thousands of kilometers of forest (logging) roads have been constructed in B. C., and access is now available in areas which would have been reached only with difficulty forty years ago.

These roads were constructed, however, primarily for use by logging trucks and other forestry machines, which have the right of way. Above all, do not block the road but pull over to park and leave much room for passage of other vehicles. Do not pull trailers.

Logging roads are amazingly rough at high speeds and so if you value your vehicle, slow down! One may need high clearance or four wheel drive vehicles.

Logging trucks often carry huge loads and logs which protrude well beyond the rear of the trailer. If you are passing a logging truck coming in the opposite direction on a curve, and you are in the outer lane, you are in danger of being hit by the protruding logs. Be careful parking on curves where a car can be side-swiped by logs.

On old logging roads, which can be very rough, you may be stopped by fallen trees or rocks. A shovel, saw, axe and a long pry bar are very handy in this case.

Forest Fire Danger - Restriction of Entry

Under hot and dry conditions, entry into the forests in any area may be denied to all but authorized personnel because of fire danger. Check with the B. C. Wildfire Service about such conditions, and remember that **it is the law to obey restrictions**. See also the B. C. Wildfire Service brochure concerning campfires or check about campfire regulations.

Trash and Garbage; Sanitation

Organic garbage is unsightly but presents no permanent problem except when durable items such as orange peels and bones are present. (But garbage attracts animals.) Cans, paper and especially glass are a problem. If possible, they should be carried out. One can carry a plastic bag to contain trash.

When a campfire is used, papers can be burned. Contrary to popular belief, plastic items burn thoroughly in a large, very hot fire.

When airdrops are made in remote places, it is impractical to carry out the large amounts of debris, and careful disposal is important. Burn all possible combustible items when a fire is in use. A useful technique to dispose of steel cans is to heat them to cherry redness in a very hot, large fire. This destroys the alloy, and the cans will rust away in a few years in a wet climate. Be sure that what is left is consolidated in a dump; do not bury. Do not break the glass which may be removed at a later date by helicopter, or other means. The author has seen the mess left by burial of debris, which appears like a ghost years later (e.g., the now defunct Valhalla (Mulvey) Hut, and the Wheeler Hut).

Fires, and especially fire rings, are not at all desirable in alpine environments, but if one is in use, take advantage of it. Trash is best packed out (if possible) or flown out with you.

If no established toilet is present, arrange it far - at least 50m - from local streams. Bury everything, if possible. If not, cover the paper with sticks or rocks to prevent blowing away, or better, burn it. In the case of large groups staying several days in one site, it is best to dig a permanent latrine (a "biffy" in Canada) and treat it with chloride of lime. Fill it in on leaving the site, replacing the same sod that was removed. Burying the waste lessens future threat of diseases such as giardiasis and hepatitis. There is a B. C. Ministry of Forests brochure on Backcountry Sanitation.

At present there is little problem with water-borne diseases in the Columbia Mountains, because of the low population density and the few climbers who frequent the area. Nevertheless, visitors are requested to maintain healthy practices such as placing toilets at a considerable distance from streams. Please be especially careful of the problem near the few established cabins and huts (some belonging to several independent guides).

Water Quality

Forty years ago, one could drink from any stream in the Columbia Mountains without any real possibility of contracting water-borne diseases.

In this guidebook, the only areas where water-borne organisms can be expected are places such as the Eagle Valley and Ozalenka Lake (cabins) in the Halvorson Group, the campsites for the Northern and Southern Premier Ranges (Cariboo Range), the Blanket Mountain area (cabin; Gold Range) and possibly the southern Gold Range (Monashee Range). Do not drink from major rivers or lakes any more.

All these have enough human traffic to produce contamination, and in general, people should be prepared to purify it. If the water comes from melting snow or ice, or from a spring, it will generally be safe.

The most prevalent organisms from water in the Columbia Mountains are Giardia, Campylobacter and Yersinia pseudotuberculosis. Giardia is a protozoan and is not easy to cure. Yersinia can also grow on food and is carried by animals such as deer and rodents. All produce unpleasant intestinal effects or abdominal problems. One study showed that over **ninety percent of dogs** tested in Colorado carried Giardia. The percentage in B. C. is not known. (BCM 65:123)

Some upset may be generated by drinking glacial melt water containing glacial-milk (finely ground, suspended, rock powder). In this case, let the white rock powder settle and pour off the clear water.

Noise

The mountains are an opportunity to enjoy natural sounds and peace. Radios and taped music are a jarring intrusion on this peace, and are unwelcome as well as heavy to carry. Noisy parties late in the evening are a misery for serious climbers who must arise early, and are exceedingly discourteous to them.

Campsite Selection

Campsites should be chosen with environmental consideration in mind. Apart from aesthetics, safety from avalanches, presence of drinking water, adverse weather, and avoidance of areas popular with wildlife, we should try to minimize our disturbances on the environment, and campsites can leave major ones. These can be minimized by -

Camping on sand and gravel in preference to vegetation. If vegetation must be used, grass is preferable to herbaceous vegetation which is preferable to shrubs, such as heathers. Shrubs take the longest to recover from trampling. High use areas should ideally be on rock, gravel, sand or grass.

Not making open fires or fire rings in alpine areas where the little wood present is required to nourish the local flora and fauna.

Not washing people or dishes in small streams or tarns, and avoiding use of soap, which can attract bears as well as contaminating the water bodies. Use hot water for cleaning.

Keeping toilet areas at least 50m from water bodies.

Removing everything that was taken in, either by packing or flying out, or by burning (see 'Trash and Garbage' above)

"Take nothing but pictures; leave nothing but footprints."

“If you should chance to throw away your natural caution and travel these high routes some summer, you too will hesitate where the waters make their choice before plunging downward. You will come to know the beauty of the landscape that we cannot hope to describe.”

Sterling B. Hendricks

**“Something hidden. Go and find it.
Go and look behind the ranges.
Something lost behind the ranges,
Lost, and waiting for you. Go!”** Rudyard Kipling

Mountaineering Camps of the Alpine Club of Canada,
B. C. Mountaineering Club,
Kootenay Mountaineering Club and
Harvard Mountaineering Club (early dates)

A helicopter is usually used to transport groups and supplies, sometimes by permission only through Park authorities.

Cariboo Range

Halvorson Group- Dore' River area (BCMC 1991, 1992 – ski)
N. & S. Premier Ranges- Above head of Canoe River (snow and ice;
ACC 1976, 1978; BCMC 1987; KMC 1991)
Kiwa Glacier area (ACC 2006)

Monashee Range

Scrip Range- (ACC 2018)
Seymour Range- (BCMC 1994 – ski)
Shuswap Group- (ACC 2014)
Gold Range- Above Odin Creek headwall (KMC 1973, 1990)
Gold Range- Rock Garden, S. Thor Creek; high camp in Niflheim
Cirque. (ACC group led by Chic Scott, 1990)
Gold Range- S. of Mt. Odin (KMC 2003); Gates Peak area (KMC 2006)

Northern Selkirk Range

Windy Group- Trident-Neptune valley (KMC 1989)
Remillard Group- Upper (south) Windy Creek (KMC 1981)
Adamant, Gothics, Sir Sandford and Nobility Groups-
(Harvard MC 1953; ACC 1968; KMC 1986)
Argentine, Sorcerer Groups- Bachelor Pass (KMC 2002)
Clachnacudainn Group- (BCMC 2000)

Central and Southern Selkirk Range

- Hermit, Sir Donald and Bonney Groups- Glacier (ACC; Park)
- Albert Group- Meadows above Justice Glacier (independent group; beginners and children, 1966)
- Dawson, Bishops and Purity Groups- Deville Icefield (KMC 1976); Glacier Circle; high camp below Mt. Selwyn (Harvard MC 1955; ACC 1984; Park)
- Melville Group- Houston Glacier (KMC 1974, 1988; ACC 1974)
- Westfall and Nemo Groups- Head of Laidlaw Creek (KMC 1987)
- Westfall Group- Head of a drainage S of Houston Cr. (ACC 2019)
- Nemo Group (Battle Range)- Lake below Iron Glacier (KMC 1979)
- southern Kokanee Group- (Spokane Mountaineers, 1937)
- Mulvey Group (S. Valhallas)- Just above Mulvey headwall (before Park status; KMC 1969, 1972)

Purcell Range

- Carbonate Group (Boutique Mtn. Camp, Brad Harrison, guide, 2012)
- Hatteras Group- (Harvard MC 1959; KMC 1994)
- Conrad and Vowell Groups- (KMC 2005)
- Vowell Group- (before Park status) (Harvard MC 1967; ACC 1971, 1982; KMC 1984)
- Bugaboo Group- Bugaboo Creek (before Park status; ACC 1946, 1959)
- Starbird Group- Mt. Alpha Centauri (KMC 1975)
- Starbird Group- Mount Donard (KMC 1992)
- Farnham Group- Farnham Creek (ACC 1972, 1975, 1991; KMC 1980)
- Commander Group- Lake of the Hanging Glaciers (ACC 1928)
- Truce, Macbeth Groups- Glacier Creek (ACC 1997)
- Findlay Group- Granite Creek (KMC 2004; Purcell Wilderness Conservancy, entered on foot)
- Leaning Towers- (KMC 1982; Wilderness status)

ALTITUDE AND DISTANCE UNITS

Distances and altitudes are expressed both in English and Metric units. Most altitudes on maps are in feet, because redrawing the old map contours (in feet) to meters is arduous. Equivalences in the units are:

1 inch = 2.54 cm	1 mile = 1.6094 km = 5280 feet	
1 meter = 3.2808 feet	1 km = 0.6214 mile	

THE CARIBOO MOUNTAINS

The Cariboo Mountains are enclosed within the great bend of the Fraser River to the north, and by the lower McLennan River, a little of the western part of the bend of the Canoe River (map 83D/14) and the valley of lower Camp Creek and the Albreda and North Thompson Rivers on the northeast and east. The northeastern border therefore is along the edge of the Canadian Rocky Mountains and the Monashee Mountains. A western bend of the North Thompson River contains the range south of Wells Gray Park, excepting for Dunn Peak which is included.

The Wells Gray Group has a considerable southern extent, and the southern end is south of the latitude of Gordon Horne peak in the Monashees. The Premier Ranges are east of the northern end of the Wells Gray Group and occupy much less area.

The Halvorson and Wells Gray Groups lie roughly in a NNW to SSE line with the Rockies, Premier Ranges and Monashees east of them.

Within the Fraser River bend, to the far north, the mountains are lower, and decline in height as the Interior Plateau is approached to the west. The high alpine areas lie to the east and include a wilderness of snow and glaciers and magnificent lakes in a mountain setting. The alpine regions of the Cariboo are lofty and bear the first onslaught of the westerly winds after the Coast Range, causing considerable precipitation even in summer.

The Canadian National Railway (originally two lines, Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and the Canadian Northern Railway), in building its line from Jasper, Alberta, over Yellowhead Pass past Mount Robson to the Fraser River, could find no way to shorten its path in the great bend of the Fraser Valley by going across the mountains. In this, it was not as fortunate as the Canadian Pacific Railroad which managed to avoid the Big Bend of the Columbia River by building through Rogers Pass. The rugged interior of the Cariboo region never offered the slightest possibility of a shortcut (CAJ 31(1948):77).

A fascinating historical account of these difficulties in the Cariboo Range, 'That Terrible Snow-Peaked Range', by W.A. Don Munday is in CAJ 31(1948):77 (above). Many well-known people were involved in the exploration to find a route for the railroad, including Alfred C. Perry (Rogers Pass, 1866; better known in the north as "the Mountaineer", who helped develop the CPR route through Rogers Pass under Walter Moberly), J.W. McKay (who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company in Kamloops), James A. Mahood (working under Roderick McLennan), Walter Moberly, and Edward W. Jarvis.

Most of the summits in Bowron Lake Provincial Park, a very well-planned park, a beautiful quadrangle of lakes and rivers, were climbed by Alex MacGrady and family (of Prince George), George Gilford and friends (of Wells, B.C.) and Dr. A. Sutherland Brown of the B.C. Department of Mines. The latter two have explored the mountains north of Betty Wendle Creek, and southwest into the Roberts Peak area.

Some areas have been rich in big game; grizzly bears, caribou and moose. In 1966, Richard Culbert was charged by grizzly bears three times within a fortnight, fortunately carrying a sidearm due to the jovial advice of Dr. R.B. Campbell, the chief of the Geological Survey of Canada party (GSC) of 1966.

Most of the climbs are easy, seldom reaching Class 4, and there are a very few Class 5 climbs at the end of the group done by Richard Decker. As stated in the introduction, climbs involving glaciers are automatically at least Class 4, because of the necessity of the rope.

HALVORSON GROUP

MAPS- 93H/7 Goat River, 93H/1 Eddy, 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, 93A/15 Mitchell Lake, 93A/16 Mount Winder, 93H/8 McBride; and 93H/7 Goat River, 93H/6 Indianpoint Lake for the northwestern summits below 2600 meters, 93A/10 Quesnel Lake

All peaks within the Big Bend of the Fraser River, west of Castle Creek and Niagara Creek and north of the east and west arms of Quesnel Lake are in this group.

The summits within Bowron Lake Provincial Park, all but one well below 2600 meters, are said to have been climbed and are not difficult, and the northernmost summits, northwest of Mount Halvorson for the most part, are also below 2600 meters. The highest peaks rise between Castle Creek and Dore' River (pronounced "door-ray") southwest of McBride and east of the park. Very large lakes exist in the west, south of Bowron Lake.

Access

A road from McBride extends southeast up Castle Creek which goes beyond the forks, and heads south towards Mount Lunn on the main (southwest) fork of Castle Creek. A road from McBride went to treeline on the ridge north of Chevron Peak, and a road extended to the forks of Ptarmigan Creek. The area is very wild and is frequented by grizzly bears, especially at the south (east) head of Haggan Creek.

On the western side, a road (#3100) goes up the Matthew River, to Mitchell and Ghost Lakes (for boats, Ghost Lake; at end of group).

The Dore' River road starts on the northwest side of Dore' River (pronounced "door-ray") five km northwest of McBride (maps 82H/8 and 82H/1). The main branch of the Dore' River road, the South Dore' FSR, branches to the south. The Middle Dore' road branches west from the Dore' River road. The West Dore' road first goes north from the Middle Dore' road, and then turns west toward Boreal Creek and Mount Halvorson. The Middle Dore' road continues southwest (bridge out). Part of the west fork (West Dore' road), and Boreal Creek (West Dore' road), lie just north of the southern border of map 93H/8 McBride. Dore' Creek (distinguished from Dore' River) comes in from the south to the west fork of Dore' River at 785-042, and the west fork comes from the south at 757-038. The stream from the west at this point is Boreal Creek, with Ozalenka Creek (trail) branching northwest from the West Dore' road about three km on the West Dore' road. Boreal Lake is at 702-029. The West Dore' road continues toward Mt. Halvorson.

To reach the main fork (south fork) of Dore' River and Eagle Valley, drive 5 km (3 miles) northwest of McBride on Highway 16 and turn left just beyond the bridge at Dore' River. Go 1.3 km (0.8 miles) and turn left on forest road above the river. Drive 7 km (4.4 miles) more and turn left onto the South Dore' FSR. Thirteen km (8 miles) more, again turn left and ascend a very steep road, the last part on exceedingly steep hillside (high clearance; 794-938). The trail to Eagle Valley goes five km south from the road's end, reaching a cabin. The head of Eagle Valley (cabin, map 93H/1, Eddy) is northwest above Castle Creek. (PC: Glen Stanley)

The Avalanche Valley Trail (Cariboo Lake, Geology Pass) starts from the South Dore' FSR. The Middle Dore' Road ends near The Cross.

There is a cabin at Ozalenka Lake.

The small peaks near Ozalenka Lake (683-069) and Jewel Lake (710-055), and the small summits across Ozalenka Creek to the northeast, have been climbed. The roads on Dore' River and Boreal Creek are the key to the ascents by Glen Stanley and friends in the text.

It is useful to consult the Regional (Backpacking) Traverses and Hiking (hiking index; end of volume) in this region.

The lower summits northwest of Mount Halvorson are listed first, map by map with coordinates. Expect snow, ice and some glacier travel. In 1966, GSC parties also climbed Mount Lesage and did a traverse of the McCabe Ridge. They used food caches (bear proof!) left by helicopter for their regional traverses. The numbering of peaks is taken from the diagram in the **IRBC 1975**.

A list of the twenty-five highest summits of the Halvorson Group is given in CAJ 90(2007):144. Remember that there are considerable errors of altitudes on many peaks on the present maps. The TRIM maps are not known to be immune from these errors.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1963- Delmer Duncan, Glen and Gordon Stanley. (PC: Glen S). Glen and Gordon Stanley were active here until after 1994.
- 1964 to 1989- Frank Baron, a trapper. (PC:FB). Frank Baron also explored and did ascents in the Wells Gray Group.
- 1966- Jim Buckingham, Richard Culbert, Ken Kirland, A. Murray, Ron Nichols, Ron Savalief (GSC). (CAJ 50(1967):62 photos; VOCJ 9:56; IRBC 1975)
- 1975- Wayne Misenar, Richard Mitchell, Wm. Robinson, Warren Thompson. (CAJ 59(1976):44 map; Summit Magazine, April 1976:18 photos; AAJ 20:470)
- 1984 or 1985, and 1994- John Breadon, George Ryan. (PC:GR)
- 1991- Michael Feller, Erich Hinze, Brian Thompson, Peter de Visser, Brian Wood, Ross Wyborn. (BCM 61:72 ski; PC: M. Feller)
- 1992- Michael Feller, Erich Hinze, Colin Oloman, Mary Prendergast, Brian Thompson, Gavin Thurston, Peter de Visser, Ross Wyborn. (BCM 62:91 ski; PC: M. Feller)
- 1998 to 2009- Richard Decker, solo. (PC:RD)
- 2006- Vytas Barsaukas, Don Chiasson, Norm Greene, Jim Lundy, Wm. McKenzie, Mark McDermott, Roger Wallis. (PC:RW; CAJ 91(2008):119)

The Internet (entries in the introduction to the Wells Gray Group) gives more information about roads and new trails in this and other areas. Some trails are mentioned at the middle and end of this group also. The amount of data is large. Some of the road data, especially, is incomplete and one may find high clearance, four wheel drive vehicles necessary especially near the upper ends of roads. Also, some road details are out of date, due to erosion, overgrowth, rock falls, tree falls and bridge destruction.

MAP 93H/6, Indianpoint Lake

MOUNT CUSHMAN (BROKEN ARCH (#4)) 2400m

Coordinates 319-275. South ridge; pass a large gendarme on snow to the east. Class 4. RC, RN, 1966.

PINSTRIPED PEAK (#9) 2410m

At 322-215. West ridge, Class 3. RC, RN, 1966.

MOUNT COCHRAN (#10) 2420m

Map coordinates 271-205.

1. West Face. JB, RS, 1966.

2. South Ridge. On quartzite, Class 3. RC, RN, 1966.

CLEAR MOUNTAIN 2180m

At 210-218. North buttress, between the two western cirque lakes, a long ascent. Class 3. JB, AM, 1966.

MAP 93H/10, Loos

ERG MOUNTAIN 2296m

Surveyed at 7534 feet and climbed by a Topographical Survey crew. The trail (7.5 km) starts near the Ptarmigan Creek Recreational Site and the Ptarmigan Creek Trail, the same point as for Mount Hammell and The Boxcar (see below). Cross the footbridge and follow the old road for two km to the sign. There is probably no need to buy the map.

OOG MOUNTAIN 2268m

Altitude 7441 feet, four km southwest of Erg Mountain.

MAP 93H/7, Goat River

UNNAMED (#8) 2240m

Coordinates 483-268. Climbed.

WHITESPINE (#7) 2480m

At 443-262. Southeast ridge, descent by the north slopes, both Class 3. RC, RN, 1966.

SLOG MOUNTAIN (CAPRA) 2480m

At 444-250. North slopes, Class 3. RC, RN, 1966.

BLACKSPINE (#6) 2480m

At 448-242. Probably unclimbed.

UNNAMED (#3) 2480m

Coordinates 417-245. Northwest ridge, a little Class 4. Lesser summits to the east were climbed from the intervening col. RC, RN, 1966.

THE BOXCAR (#5) 2430m

Coordinates 385-270. A very beautiful and distinctive peak.

The summit block is Class 4 by the western edge. RC, RN, 1966.

MOUNT HAMMELL 2404m

At 372-278. Surveyed at 7888 feet.

Southeast ridge, descent over two summits (#1, #2) to the north,
Class 3. RC, RN, 1966. See Erg Mountain (above)
and also just below.

NORTH STAR MOUNTAIN 2525m

Map coordinates 396-120. Surveyed at 8284 feet. South ridge,
Class 3. RC, RN, 1966.

UNNAMED 2300m

Coordinates 394-100. Northwest ridge, some Class 4. RC, RN, 1966.

UNNAMED (#11) 2450m

At 503-029. North to south traverse, Class 3. RC, AM, 1966.

Ptarmigan and Snowshoe Creeks are possible approaches from the north. Snowshoe Creek is southeast of upper Ptarmigan Creek. Drive 58 km (36 miles) northwest of McBride on Highway 16. Turn off southwest and drive five kilometers to the Ptarmigan Creek Trail. It is 12 km to the Hammell Lakes (Mt. Hammell, Boxcar). One might reach the glaciers of Whitespine, Slog and Blackspine to the east-southeast. The Ptarmigan Creek Trail and the Hammell Lakes lie within Ptarmigan Provincial Park. Mount Hammell and The Boxcar are on the western border of Ptarmigan Provincial Park.

The Boxcar and Mount Hammell (372-278), with its lakes, are north of Macleod Creek (northwest tributary of Goat River) and lie west-northwest of Whitespine. The Boxcar is 1.5 kilometers southeast of Mount Hammell on map 93H/7 Goat River.

Whitespine, Slog and Blackspine are north of Goat River, with Un. 2480m (#3) a little west of them. Un. 2240m (#8) is northeast of the three. North Star and Un. 2300m are south of Goat River (NE of Bowron Lake Provincial Park).

Broken Arch is north of the head of Macleod Creek, and northeast of the head of Haggan Creek (noted for its aggressive grizzlies). Pinstripe is south of the head of Macleod Creek. Ptarmigan Creek (southwest fork) may serve as access for Broken Arch.

Unnamed 2450m (#11) is north of Betty Wendle Creek (well south of all the above) and eleven kilometers directly west of Mount Halvorson.

Clear Mountain and Mount Cochran are south of Haggen Creek, well west of Pinstripe, north of Bowron Lake Provincial Park.

Unnamed peaks (#12,13,14, map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake) are northeast of Bowron Lake Provincial Park. Unnamed 2330m (#15, map 93H/2, south border) is just east of the southeast corner of the park and eleven km southeast of McLeary Lake. Unnamed 2510m (#12, 554-007) is northeast of the head of Betty Wendle Creek; Un. 2270m (#13, 054-965) is just south of its head. Number 14, Unnamed 2610m, is at 532-922.

The Goat River Forest Service Road starts on Highway 16, 37 km (23 miles) northwest of McBride. Its upper stretch is on Milk River, passing just west of Mount Halvorson. The Goat River Trail starts at the Fraser River, northeast of Highway 16, and is partly in the Goat River Protected Area. (See Hiking Index also.)

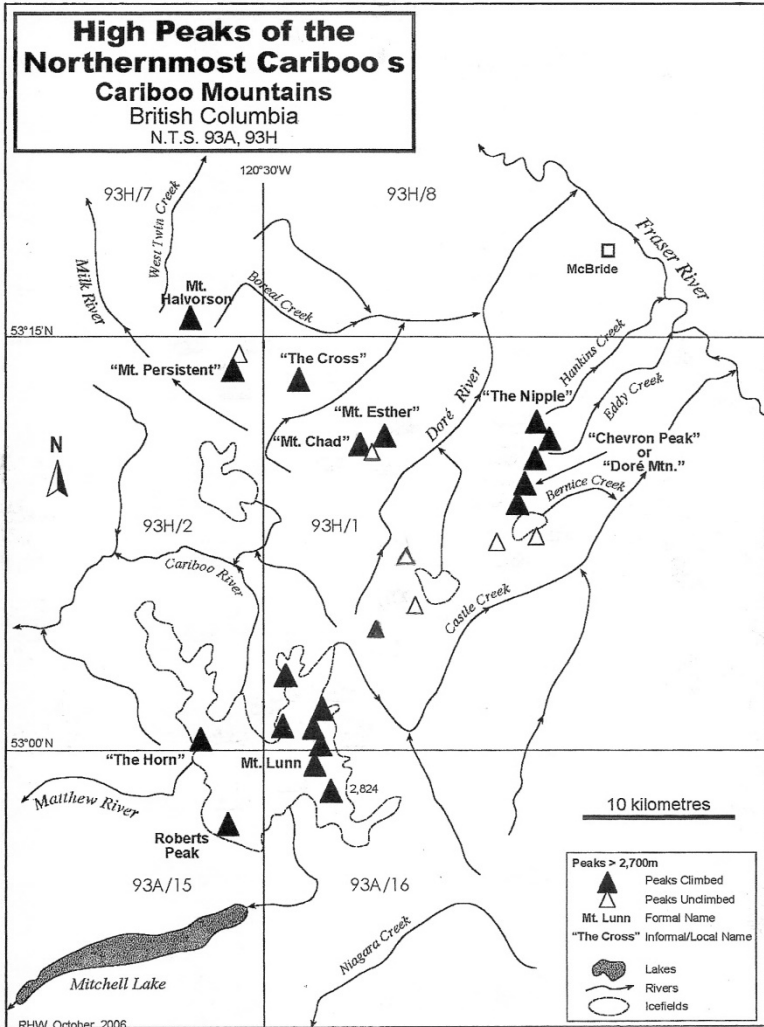
The Goat River Trail (65 km long; historic) is now partly maintained, but portions have been disrupted by logging. One may also start at the junction of the Milk and Goat Rivers, shorter (using Forest Service road).

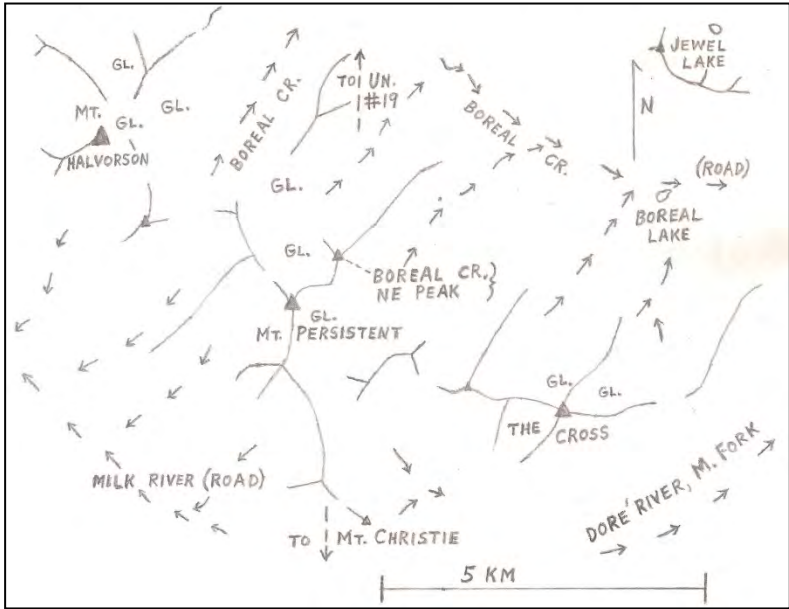
UNNAMED (#19) 2601m

Map 93H/7, Goat River, 654-085. Located 6.4 km northeast of Mount Halvorson. The reference (IRBC 1975) states that it is northwest of Mount Halvorson, but no peak of such height exists there on the map. Surveyed at 8532 feet.

1. East Face, Traverse. The east face is Class 3, and the descent route was to the north. (II,3,s). RC, RN, 1966.

2. Southwest Ridge. Approach from the southeast, and traverse a small glacier. Climb the southeast side of the ridge (rotten rock, some danger) to the easy southwest ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). John, Kirk and Kroy Christison, Glen Stanley, date uncertain. (PC: GS)





Sketch map, Mt. Halvorson area.

MOUNT HALVORSON 2750m

This peak is west of the head of Dore' River, 27 km west of McBride. Map 93H/7 Goat River, southeast corner, 615-036. Surveyed.

Mount Halvorson is at the head of West Twin Creek and at the southern tip of West Twin Provincial Park. Unnamed 2601m (#19) is on the edge of the park.

The West Dore' Road (on Boreal Creek; Boreal Creek not marked on most maps) ends on the east side of Mount Halvorson, and the Goat River FSR passes on the west side.

1. West Buttress, Traverse. The west buttress is easy; descent was by the north glacier. Glacier (II,4,s). RC, AM, 1966.

2. North-Northeast Ridge. Hike into the valley north-northeast of Mount Halvorson, and climb the glacier east of the ridge.

The north-northeast ridge is easy, and probably the descent route from Route 1. Glacier (III,4,s). Glen Stanley and party, date uncertain. (PC: GS)



The Cross (left), Mt. Persistent (just left of center), 'Boreal Creek NE Peak', and Mt. Halvorson (right) from the east. Photo: Glen Stanley.



Mount Persistent from the south. Photo: Benoit Landry (2011).

MOUNT PERSISTENT 2790m

Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, map coordinates 645-011. Located northwest of the head of Milk River and 4 km southeast of Mount Halvorson.

1. South Ridge. From the road on Boreal Creek (720-035, map 93H/8), go up through steep timber to alpine meadows and a small unnamed lake. Climb the glacier to the south col and ascend steep scree to 2750m (9000 feet) near the south end of the south ridge.

The south ridge is 0.8 km of towers of persistent difficulty, which at times can be skirted on the west side. The rock is sometimes loose, sometimes rotten and sometimes very good. There is lots of exposure and in places the ridge is only five centimeters wide, with a vertical cliff below. It is a constant test of nerves. Gain the summit tower on the east side.

Total time, 16 hours round trip. Glacier (IV,5.4,s). Glen and Gordon Stanley, August 27, 1989. (PC: GS, GS). Descent was by the same route.

MAP 93H/1, Eddy

THE CROSS 2760m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, 687-996. Southeast of Mount Halvorson.

1. East Ridge. The east ridge has difficult sections, and the final part required the rope. Class 4. The last 100 meters is easy. (II,4,s). Alice and Debbie Neisner, L. Spangler, Glen Stanley, late autumn 1972. (PC: GS)

CENTER DORE' MOUNTAIN 2670m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, 767-980. Located northeast of Dore' Glacier, west of Dore' River South Fork and east of the Middle Fork of Dore' River.

1. Northeast Glacier. Approach up the narrow valley (Dore' Creek) north of the peak, and climb the glacier northeast of the summit with some difficulty. An easy ridge then leads to the top. Glacier (III,4,s). Esther McCarty, Gerry Mutch, Glen Stanley, late autumn 1969. (PC: GS)

Right Dore' Mountain (2580m; 764-000), west above the head of Dore' Creek (distinguished from Dore' River) and two km north of Center Dore' Mountain, was ascended by its northeast ridge by Glen Stanley and Stan Peterson in Sept. 1968.

Left Dore' Mountain (2480m; 787-000), east across the valley from Right Dore', was climbed by its northeast ridge in August 1964 by F. Hestdalen, Elsie McCarty and Glen Stanley.

MOUNT ESTHER 2820m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, grid 745-964. Mount Esther is located southwest of Center Dore' Mtn., between Dore' River South Fork and its Middle Fork (which flows SW to NE).

1. North Glacier. Approach up the watershed northeast of the summit to halfway up Dore' Glacier, and climb a Class 3 spur to reach the ice.

Proceed on Dore' Glacier, jumping crevasses, cross the bergschrund just below the summit and go on to the top. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Spring Hawes, R. Neisner, Glen and Heather Stanley, late August 1985. (PC: GS)

MOUNT CHAD 2730m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, 727-954. Southwest of Center Dore' Mountain and Mount Esther.

1. North Ridge. Approach up the main watershed northeast of the peak and climb the north ridge to the top, Class 3. Glacier (III,4,s). Glen and Heather Stanley, late August 1986. (PC: GS)

UNNAMED 2610m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, at 697-933, 3.5 km southwest of Mount Chad, south of the Middle Fork of Dore' River.

1. North Glacier. From the ski camp at 668-952 (see Mt. Bookie), ski up the northwest ridge and onto the north glacier to the summit. BCMC skiers, April 1991.

This group also skied Un. 2420m, one km southwest of above Un. 2610m, by approaching up the valley northwest of the top.

THE NIPPLE 2760m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, 845-975. Located north of Chevron Peak and east of Dore' River.

1. Northeast Ridge. Climb along the ridge north of the summit (from the north edge of map 93H/1) over two small summits.

The northeast ridge is Class 3, except for the last six meters which is vertical on good rock (hence the name). (III,4,s). Delmer Duncan, Gordon and Glen Stanley. October 1963. (PC: Glen S.)

This appears to be the first ascent of a high peak in the area.

CHEVRON PEAK (#16; DORE' MTN.) 2964m

Map 93H/1, grid 840-936. Chevron Peak is on the ridge between Dore' River and Castle Creek, 16 kilometers south-southwest of McBride. It is the highest summit of the group. It can be reached by part way up the Eagle Valley Trail from the South Dore' FSR: The Eagle Valley cabin is at the end of the trail.

1. Northwest Slopes, Traverse. Ascend by ice and rotten rock (Class 4) from the northwest. The descent was by the lesser summits to the north and the glaciers along the west slopes. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). JB, RN, 1966.

Summits to the south of Chevron Peak, #17 (next south, 2910m, 9550 feet) and #18 (2760m, 9050 feet on the map), were climbed by Richard Culbert and Ron Nichols by traversing several miles southward along the Dore'-Castle watershed, 1966, after Jim Buckingham and Ron Nichols had climbed Chevron Peak.

UNNAMED 2730m

This mountain, map 93H/1 Eddy, 767-883, is west of the head of Eagle Valley (see Access) near a cabin, and it rises 1350m above the southeast side of Dore' River, above a tributary.

From the cabin, ascend the east glacier to the east side of the south ridge, and climb the very sharp south ridge, Class 4. Glacier. John and Kirk Christison, Glen and Gordon Stanley, after 1994, date lost. (PC: Glen Stanley)



**Chevron Peak (right of center), from the north below The Nipple.
Photo: Glen Stanley.**



**"Bernice Glacier, West Peak" (CAJ 90(2007):145) from the southeast,
from the Wells Gray Group. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

UNNAMED 2450m

Map 93H/1 Eddy Coordinates 725-873. Located 4.3 kilometers north-northwest of "Geology Pass, East Peak" and accessed from the ski camp at 718-837. Climb the south ridge, traversing a 30m lower bump (Class 2). BCMC skiers, April 1992. (PC: M. Feller)

UNNAMED (GEOLOGY PASS, EAST PEAK) 2760m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, at coordinates 746-835, and 9.7 km north-northeast of Mount Lunn. (CAJ 90(2007):145)

It is 2.6 km east of the large Cariboo Lake (722-832) at Geology Pass, near the southwest corner of the map. Use the Avalanche Valley Trail, over Avalanche Pass, descending toward Geology Pass to arrive at the lake. See also Unnamed 2820m, below, and the Mount Lunn map, northeast corner, below, for the position of the large lake.

Use the South Dore' FSR to reach the Avalanche Valley Trail. There is a campsite at the lake.

1. West Slopes, South Ridge. Start from a helicopter ski camp at 718-837, at the head of the northwest tributary of Castle Creek (just north of Cariboo Lake), and 9.2 km north of Mount Lunn. Ski up the northwest and west slopes to the south ridge (Class 2-3). BCMC skiers, April 1992.

MAP 93H/2, Lanezi Lake

MOUNT BOOKIE 2640m

Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, coordinates 643-940, 3.3 km north-northwest of Mount Christie, and seven km south of Mount Persistent. A glacier lies between it and Mount Christie. The name is a local one.

1. Northeast Glacier. From a helicopter ski camp (668-952, map 93H/2 edge) at the head of the west fork of Dore' River, which flows southwest to northeast, ski up the northeast glacier and climb the last bit of the north slopes to the top. It is rated 4 because of the glacier, but the climbing is Class 2-3. BCMC skiers, April 1991.

The Christie Glacier Trail passes south, east of Mount Christie. Use the Middle Dore' Road (bridge out). About eleven km. The campsite is at the end of the trail and there is little wood, so bring stoves.



Mount Christie from the north. Photo: Benoit Landry.

MOUNT CHRISTIE 2640m

Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, grid 654-909. Located between the heads of Cariboo and Milk Rivers. Accessible from the Christie Glacier, Cariboo Pass Trail. The campsite is next to the Cariboo River, at the end of the trail, beyond Mount Christie.

1. Northwest Glacier. A ski ascent. Approach up the west fork of Dore' River, up the headwall at the end, and onto Christie Glacier.

Ski up the ramp to the west of the summit ridge and walk the last 100 meters. Glacier (IV,4,s). Keith Carter, Glen Stanley, March 1984. (PC: GS)

Repeated in April 1991.

The peaks below lie to the west of Mount Christie, north to south, on the Lanezi Lake map, east of Bowron Lake Provincial Park.

UNNAMED (#12) 2510m

Coordinates 555-007. West to east traverse. RC, KK, 1966.

UNNAMED (#13) 2270m

At 504-965. Climbed, 1966.

UNNAMED (#14) 2610m

Map 93H/2, 532-922. South of the head of Betty Wendle Creek. There is a higher peak to the west, and a glacier to the north.

1. East Ridge. The east ridge itself is Class 3. Glacier (II,4,s). RC, 1966.

UNNAMED (#15) 2330m

At 570-748, on the south border. Northeast slopes on snow. JB, 1966.

UNNAMED 2610m

Map 93H/1 Eddy. Coordinates 689-821, two km north of Un. 2820m (below).

1. Northwest Slopes. From the ski camp at 718-837 (see Un. 2760m, Geology Pass, East Peak), ski west up the west side of the valley, bear a bit north and enter the valley north of Un. 2610m.

Ski west to the north side of Un. 2480m (1.2 km north of Un. 2610m) and traverse this peak and the ridge south to the northwest slopes of Un. 2610m (Class 2-3). BCMC skiers, April 1992.



Unnamed 2820m, southwest above Geology Pass.

Photo: Benoit Landry.

UNNAMED 2820m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, coordinates 688-802. It is a fine-looking rock peak, 3.6 kilometers north of Peak #5.

Unnamed 2820 meters is also southwest of the large Cariboo Lake (722-832) at Geology Pass. This large lake is on the Mount Lunn map, next page, northeast corner. Use the Avalanche Valley Trail, over Avalanche Pass, descending toward Geology Pass to arrive at the lake.

Use the South Dore' FSR to reach the Avalanche Valley Trail. There is a campsite at the lake.

1. West Ridge. From the ski camp at 718-837 (see Un. 2760m, Geology Pass, East Peak), ski up the northeast glacier, pass high over the north ridge (about 2610m, 8550 feet), and cross the northwest glacier to the west ridge. The west ridge is Class 2-3. BCMC skiers, April 1992.

2. South Ridge. From camp (see Triplehead Peak) follow the north side of upper 'Cariboo Glacier' until a glacial shelf and a steep snow couloir give access, from the south, to the col between Peaks 4 and 5. Descend the glacier on the north side to the south ridge (narrow with rock towers).

Ice, Glacier (III,5.0,s). Norm Greene, Wm. McKenzie, August 18, 2006. (PC: Roger Wallis)

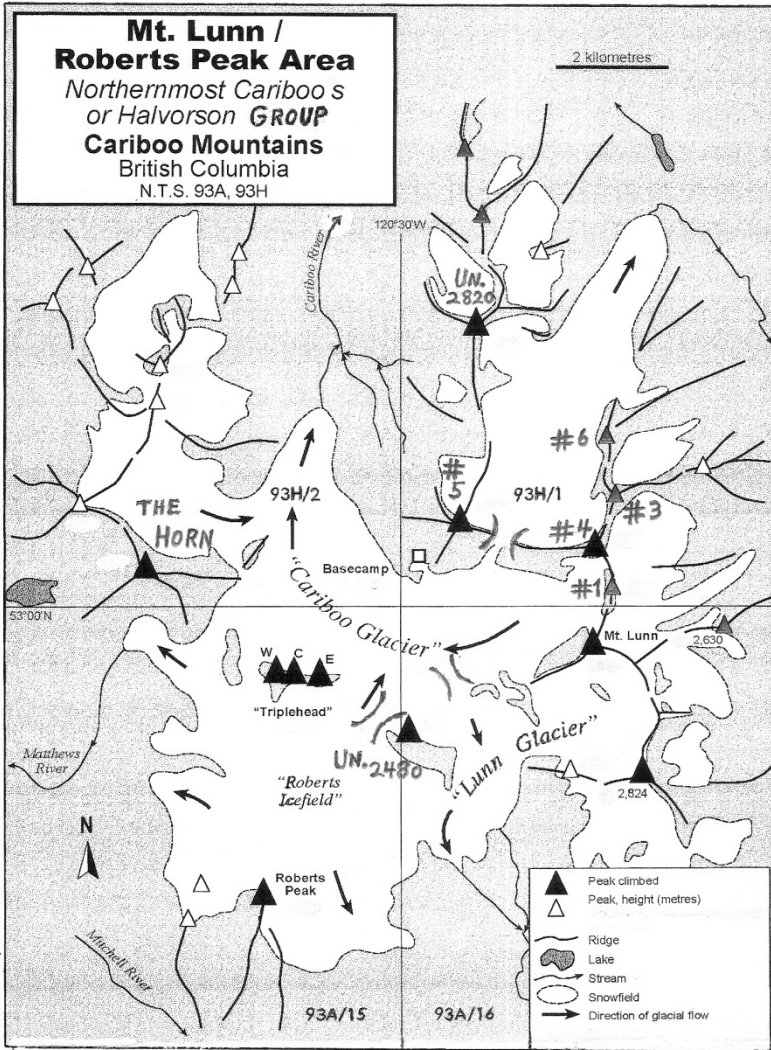
Evidently, the group of 1975 did at least two forays during their stay, one over peaks numbers three, four and five, and the trip a little farther south to Peak #1 and Mount Lunn (#2). Their camp was east of Peak #3.

The numbering of the peaks appears to be chronological.

PEAK #3 2750m (see map below)

Map 93H/1 Eddy, southwest corner. This mountain is 2.9 kilometers north of Mount Lunn, at 714-771.

1. East Ridge. Ascended in 1975, difficulty unknown. See Peak 5.
2. South Ridge. Descended in 1975, en route to Peak 4. See Peak 5.



Roger Wallis

PEAK #4 2820m (see map above)

Map 93H/1 Eddy, southwest corner. Coordinates 712-762. Located 1.9 kilometers north of Mount Lunn; east-southeast of Peak 5. The 4-5 col may be gained from the south (steep couloir, 2006).

1. North Ridge. Ascended in 1975. See Peak 5. Ice.
2. West Ridge. Descended in 1975, en route to Peak 5.
3. North Glacier, West Ridge. Ascend the north glacier to the west ridge, 300 meters west of the summit. BCMC skiers, April 1992.

PEAK #5 2750m (see map above)

Map 93H/1 Eddy, southwestern corner. Peak #5 is situated 2.4 km west-northwest of Peak 4, at 3.4 km northwest of Mount Lunn; climbed in 1975. From camp (see Mount Lunn, which is peak #2), climb the east ridge of Peak 3. Go south, and climb 40 degree ice on the north ridge of Peak 4 to its summit, and then climb the east ridge of Peak 5. Peak 6 (2560m), one kilometer north of Peak 3, was also climbed in 1975.

Part of a winter ski traverse (N to S) was done here in 1982, passing east of Un. 2820m (3.6 km N of Peak 5, see above), going between Peak 4 and Peak 5, then west of Mount Lunn (#2), and over the high col just west of Un. 2824m.

PEAK #1 2790m (see map above)

Map 93H/1 Eddy, southwest corner, at the south border of the map. At coordinates 715-755, 1.1 kilometers north of Mount Lunn.

1. Ascended on July 29, 1975, probably by the northeast glacier.
2. South Ridge. Descended en route to Mount Lunn, July 29, 1975. See Mount Lunn.



Mount Lunn (left) and Un. 2824m (r; from WNW). Between them, the black rock peak with a snowpatch is Mt. Quanstrom. Photo: R. Wallis.

MOUNT LUNN 2880m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder, northwest corner, and east of Triplehead Peak. Mount Lunn is the highest peak near the head of Castle Creek, forty kilometers southwest of McBride. Roberts Peak is eight kilometers to the southwest.

1. North Ridge. Take the road for 10 kilometers (6 miles) southeast of McBride on the south side of the river, and then drive on the Castle Creek West Side Road (long) on the northwest side to the washout (if it still exists). Backpack up the road and up the northwest fork of the creek (bad bush, mosquitos) and traverse uphill to the terminal moraine (3.5 hours). Follow the terminal moraine, and cross the snout of the glacier to the north side of the valley.

Ascend northwest on steep scree slopes, through bush to treeline. Camp in a meadow at 2290m (7500 feet) on the east side of Peak 3.

Traverse south under Peaks 3 and 4, climb to a lesser summit (#1), and then proceed 1.1 kilometers south to Mount Lunn (#2). The party misnamed Peak 2830 meters (0.8 km east-southeast of #2) "Mount Lunn" and climbed it by the intervening ridge. (Maps 93A/16 and 93H/1).

The rock is badly broken and not suitable for technical climbing, and the surrounding region is heavily glaciated, with a multitude of peaks. Glacier (II,4,s). July 29, 1975.

2. Southwest Ridge. From the helicopter camp at 678-761 (see Triplehead Peak), cross the cirque at the head of "Cariboo Glacier" and climb the southwest ridge (lower part is rock). A cairn was built on the highest rocks.

Glacier (III,4,s). Vytas Barsaukas, Don Chiasson, Norm Greene, Jim Lundy, Wm. McKenzie, Mark McDermott, Roger Wallis, August 13, 2006. (PC: RW)

UNNAMED 2630m

Located two kilometers east of Mount Lunn. A Topographic Survey party has climbed it, date and route unknown.



Triplehead Peak from the north. Photo: Benoit Landry.

UNNAMED (THE HORN) 2730m

Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake. Coordinates 633-755. It is a prominent horn-like peak north of the head of Matthew River, west-northwest of Mount Lunn.

1. East Ridge. From camp (see Triplehead Peak), cross 'Cariboo Glacier' below the north face of Triplehead Peak and climb the east ridge.

Glacier (III,4,s). Don Chiasson, Norm Greene, Jim Lundy, William McKenzie, Mark McDermott, Roger Wallis, August 15, 2006. (PC: RW)

TRIPLEHEAD PEAK 2630m

Map 93A/15 Mitchell Lake. It is located at 658-737, five kilometers west of Mount Lunn. The helicopter camp was on a level bluff of moraine (678-761, map 93H/1 Eddy). The Y-shaped lake (grid 664-786) at the toe of 'Cariboo Glacier' (north-flowing; map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, lower right corner) no longer exists (2006).

The central summit is barely the highest. Jim Lundy reached all three.

1. East Ridge. From camp, cross the glacier and climb the east snow ridge; ascent 4 hours. Glacier (III,4,s). Jim Lundy, August 16, 2006.

(PC: Roger Wallis)

2. South Ridge. Climbed by Wm. McKenzie via the south snow ridge, on return from Roberts Peak, August 17, 2006. Glacier. (PC: R. Wallis)

Jim Lundy climbed Un. 2480m (just southeast of Triplehead Peak) on August 18, 2006. (PC: R. Wallis)

UNNAMED 2824m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Grid 721-720; surveyed at 9265 feet. It is two km south-southeast of Mount Lunn, an imposing snow and ice peak.

1. West Ridge. From camp (see Triplehead Peak; 678-761, on a level bluff of moraine), cross the upper cirque of 'Cariboo Glacier' to the base of the southwest ridge of Mount Lunn. Cross the ridge and traverse the entire cirque lying south of Mount Lunn ('Lunn Glacier'). Reach the col just west of the peak and climb the west ridge (corniced, use south side). There is loss of height on approach and return.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Jim Lundy, Roger Wallis, August 17, 2006.

(PC: RW). Eighteen kilometers round trip.

ROBERTS PEAK 2700m

Map 93A/15 Mitchell Lake. Roberts Peak is five kilometers north of the east end of Mitchell Lake, and south of Triplehead Peak.

1. North Ridge, East Face. From the helicopter camp at 678-761 (see Triplehead Peak), cross the glacial col just east of Triplehead Peak and continue west and then south across the 'Roberts Icefield' to the north snow ridge. Pass over a lesser point, and climb the east snow face.

Glacier (III,4,s). Vytas Barsaukas, Don Chiasson, Norm Greene, Wm. McKenzie, Mark McDermott, August 17, 2006. (PC: R. Wallis). Nineteen kilometers round trip.

BOWRON LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK AREA

Maps 93H/2, 93H/3 and 93H/6.

MOUNT AMOS BOWMAN 2580m

Located on the northeastern border of Bowron Lake Provincial Park. All the peaks in the park are said to have been climbed.

UNNAMED 2640m

Altitude 8650 feet, on the eastern border of the park. Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake, 490-936, southeast of Mount Amos Bowman.

MOUNT FOREMAN 2460m

Located in Bowron Lake Provincial Park, 347-874. Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake. Climbed from the west, possibly not a FA. There was trouble from double cornices. JB,RN, 1966.

MOUNT HUGHES 2490m

In Bowron Lake Provincial Park, north of the west end of Lanezi Lake.

KAZA MOUNTAIN 2540m

In Bowron Lake Provincial Park, just north of the west end of Lanezi Lake. To approach Kaza, go up a snow-covered alder slide (winter) from Lanezi Lake and then above treeline to camp below Kaza, a full day. (PC: Richard Decker)

ISHPA MOUNTAIN 2540m

Map 93H/2 Lanezi Lake. Ishpa Mountain rises south above Lanezi Lake, the southeastern of the large Bowron Lakes (not counting McLeary Lake). The summit is 1640 meters (a vertical mile) above the lake level.

Drive the Cunningham Pass FSR, starting from just north Barkerville (a very short section of Bowron Lake Road first), and then the Matthew River FSR which arrives at the south side of the mountain. Then bushwhack up into the alpine zone, and camp.

Ishpa Mountain has two parallel southwest ridges.

1. Surveyed and climbed by the Survey, possibly from Lanezi Lake, but no determined height is given. Date and route unknown.

2. Southwest Ridge. Like the west ridge, the southwest ridge is sharp and exposed, very nice, but one can stay on the ridge crest, Class 5.5, until the very end. The technical part is near the top (5.7). Then rappel to the right into a dip and follow one of two chimneys, all exposed.

(III,5.7,A0). Richard Decker, solo, October 5, 2001. (PC: RD)

3. West Ridge. Approach by the western ridge (Class 5.5); go on the southeast side of the western ridge to navigate the drops in the ridge. The west ridge is hard to follow; at times traverse below the crest on the south side. The rock is not bad, Class 5.7. (III,5.7). Richard Decker, solo, August 19, 2009. (PC: RD)

UNNAMED 2450m

Altitude 8050 feet, grid 417-696, map 93A/15 Mitchell Lake. Located north of the west end of Ghost Lake.

1. East Ridge, Southeast Face. Approach as for Ishpa Mountain and Mount Matthew to Ghost Lake. From the campsite (see Mt. Matthew) it is probably best to go straight up the hill to the end of the highest logging road, and head east to a large avalanche path. Hike to the saddle east of the summit. From the saddle, it is steep with lots of loose rock. Traverse a ledge on the southeast face under the summit to the ridge and walk to the top. John Breadon, George Ryan, 1994. (PC: GR)

2. South-Southwest Ridge. The SSW ridge has some exposed climbing. At one spot, on the northwest side, go down to avoid difficulties, Class 5.0. Richard Decker, October 4, 1998. (PC: RD)

MOUNT SPRANGER 2610m

Map 93A/15. In Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park, located between Mitchell and Ghost Lakes. A trail (overgrown?) branches north from the trail on the north side of Mitchell Lake. Possibly unclimbed.

MOUNT YOUNGREN 2640m

Map 93A/15. In Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park, between Mitchell and Ghost Lakes, 1.8 km WNW of Mt. Spranger. A trail (overgrown?) branches north from the trail on the north side of Mitchell Lake. Possibly unclimbed.

MOUNT MATTHEW 2595m

Mt. Matthew rises 4 kilometers west of Mt. Youngren. Map 93A/15.

1. FA by a Topographical Survey party, route and date unknown.

2. North Ridge. (Note: this is not the NW ridge, which has a sharper crest.) The two climbers approached from Ghost Lake.

Continue on the Matthew River FSR, as for Ishpa Mountain, to the Ghost Lake Recreational Site (campsite, two tables, beautiful spot).

From the south side of Matthew River and Ghost Lake, it is best not to ascend too soon, but continue east. The two climbers crossed the northwest ridge and the north ridge to the north glacier, and then ascended the snow and ice just under the north ridge crest on the east side (probably bare now; probably best to climb the boulders on the west side of the ridge) to the ridge and the top. Descent was directly down to Ghost Lake.

If one has a canoe (or a very small boat; no launching ramp), land next to a small island (429-660) on the south shore, and go straight up the hill to a small lake (tarn) at the base of a steep cliff. Cross the stream west of the northwest ridge, cross the northwest ridge (going east), pass over the head of the next stream, cross the north ridge and proceed as above.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). John Breadon, George Ryan, mid-August 1984 or 1985. (PC:GR). Do not climb before July because of unstable snow.

Other groups had climbed this peak before. (summit cairn record)

3. Southeast Ridge. After turning off #3100 road toward the Ghost Lake Recreational Site, cross a bridge, drive about 0.7 km, and hike into the logging slash. (south side of Matthew River; PC: Richard Decker).

Cross the southwest ridge to the southeast ridge, which is low Class 5. (III,5.3,s). Richard Decker, October 28, 1999. (PC: RD). The difficulty is a guess.

The five peaks above are in Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park, and can be reached by driving northeast from the town of Likely on Cariboo Lake Road (#8400 road, not #6400 as on map #22 of Internet data). Near the end, descend to a pass, Cameron Creek-Connection Creek, between Mitchell and Matthew Rivers, to the 60 km mark (just north of the above pass and the big bend in the road, on #3100 road to Barkerville) at the entrance to the Ghost Lake Recreational Site, which is about 3 km more. This road requires only a two wheel drive vehicle. **Or, drive from Barkerville on #3100 road, the upper stretch being on Matthew River, which does not require four wheel drive at present, only easy two wheel drive.** (PC: George Ryan)

Mitchell Lake, and Mitchell River, drains directly into the north end of the north arm of Quesnel Lake, to the south. After leaving Ghost Lake, the Matthew River drains to the northwest.

The Quesnel Lake to Cariboo Mountains Loop, possibly overgrown, passes north of Mitchell Lake, and branches from the trail go north toward Mounts Youngren and Spranger (overgrown?). Branches from the east end of Mitchell Lake go north towards Roberts Peak.

MOUNT WOTZKE 2595m

Map 93A/10 Quesnel Lake, north border.

NIAGARA PEAK 2410m

Map 93A/10 Quesnel Lake. Niagara Peak lies north of the east arm of Quesnel Lake and west of Niagara Creek. The approach is essentially up Lynx Creek, from the south, from the east arm of Quesnel Lake. The southwest ridge was ascended, a walk, by Frank Baron, between 1964 and 1989. (PC: FB)

MOUNT WATT 2530m

Map 93A/10 Quesnel Lake, north border. Mount Watt is east of the north end of the north arm of Quesnel Lake, south of Mitchell Lake and west of Niagara Peak. A peak of about equal height lies to the southeast, at the south edge of the glacier.

Approach via the E-W road east of the north arm of Quesnel Lake (on Roaring River, east of West Fraser Mills Road). Climb the south snow slopes. FRA Frank Baron, between 1964 and 1989. (PC: FB)

Map #22 from the Internet data shows a peak of 2730 meters (Welcome Mtn.) just west of the north arm of Quesnel Lake. This is in error. No peak of such height exists in the area. (PC: George Ryan). Other errors have been noted on these maps.

WELLS GRAY GROUP

MAPS- 93A/16 Mount Winder, 93H/1 Eddy, 83D/12 Azure River, 83E/4 Croydon, 93A/8 Azure Lake, 93A/9 Hobson Lake, and 83D/13 Kiwa Creek, 83D/5 Angus Horne Lake, 93A/7, 82M/12, 82M/13, 83D/4.

Separating the Halvorson Group from the Premier Range is the extensive Wells Gray Group, which measures about 170 km from north to south. It is bounded on the west by Castle Creek, Niagara Creek, Killdog Creek, the lower western park boundary and the lower Clearwater River, and on the east and south by the Raush and North Thompson Rivers. The Fraser River is the northern boundary. It also includes some peaks west of the park boundary and south of the east arm of Quesnel Lake.

The Wells Gray Group, one of four groups in the Cariboo Range, is greater in area than the entire Northern Selkirk Range.

There is a guidebook to the park; Exploring Wells Gray Park, by Roland Neave (2015). Information about the area may be had from

Information Wells Gray, (250) 674-3334
and Blackwell Park Operations, (250) 674-2194.

A website for the B. C. Parks (including Wells Gray Park) is

www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/ (B. C. Prov. Parks)
www.backroadmapbooks.com (trails, roads, etc.)

For year round information, contact the Regional Office which is based in Kamloops. Phone Wells Gray Park (Recreation)

Mr. Michael Rowden
Parks Branch
Ministry of Environment (250) 371-6215

The Wells Gray Park Information Centre, off of Highway 5, is located in Clearwater.

**Bring a portable stove for back country cooking (park regulation).
Do not bring dogs. Dogs infuriate bears and tend to bring the angry bear back with them.**

Also look at the Hiking and Backpacking Index at the end of the text.

North of Mount Goodall, many peaks exceed 2740 meters, three of which top 2900 meters, while the larger area in the south only has six summits over 2740 meters. Glaciers and icefields abound in the north, attesting to the cloudy weather and storms, but these are showing melting and recession. A good example is East Pierrway Glacier, whose lake (Silt Lake) has expanded greatly since 1969. The rock here is metamorphic (in the north) and is better than the garnet mica schists of the Premier Ranges. It is not generally an area of high technical standard, but of mountaineering on mixed rock, snow, ice and glacier. At present, it is very isolated, which will appeal to many mountaineers, and its beauty and size are surprising. Considerable geological interest is present, including volcanic features in the south (also some granite in the south).

Climbers should beware of slippery lichen (when wet, as with melting snow) on the rocks in this area, and other areas. The black lichen on sandstone and quartzite is especially treacherous. Dipping beds of shale and slate, and siltstone, also can be coated with this black lichen. Limestone is generally free of lichen, but is often interbedded with shale and slate. The latter weather to mud, which is also slippery.

Ski Traverses

Two ski traverses in the Cariboos are in CAJ 66 (1983):85 (very brief) and CAJ 65 (1982):27 (also brief). A long detailed account is in Chic Scott's book, 'Summits and Icefields', in the book list, Introduction.

Access

In the north, a helicopter may be the only practical means of entry, but helicopter landings are not allowed in Wells Gray Provincial Park. Although the heights above treeline are easy to travel, and are similar to others of the Columbia Mountains, the terrain is deeply eroded and long traverses are difficult, becoming practical only during the skiing season. The road up the northwest side of Castle Creek has a branch which crosses to the east side of Castle Creek (see Halvorson Gr. and Mt. Lunn).

Starting in the Northern Premier Range, the Kiwa-Raush FSR extends to the border of the group at Raush River.

In the eastern part of the group, the road up the North Thompson River (the Blackstone Creek FSR, on the south side of the Southern Premier Range) ends within striking distance of McAndrew Lake (map 83D/12; consult the Dominion Group, and the Regional Traverses and Hiking). This forest service road (west bend of the North Thompson River) also provides some access to the Southern Premier Range.

The trail starts from the west branch of the upper FSR, ascends to McAndrew Lake (pass) and descends to the east bank of Azure River (a powerful stream). It then heads north; the north branch (junction about 6

km upstream) to Raush River, the northwest branch to the old mining areas southeast of Fred Wells Creek (and to upper Hobson Creek; Blue Ice mine). Long. This trail (as often happens) may be overgrown.

In the west, the Quesnel Lake to Cariboo Mountains Loop Trail (overgrown?) in Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park goes up Niagara Creek, starting from either Quesnel Lake (two starts on Quesnel Lake; West Fraser Mills Road from the north arm, or from the east arm) or Mitchell Lake, and arrives near Un. 2950m and Mount Pierrway (which see; also end of Halvorson Group).

Before Cariboo Provincial Park existed, one could take a floatplane to Christian Lake (map 93A/16, 715-590) and pick up an old horse trail up Niagara Creek toward Mount Pierrway. (PC: Frank Baron)

In the park, and to the west, is a lake district whose only rival in natural lakes in the Columbia Mountains is the Slocan Lake and Kootenay Lake district in the southern Selkirks and Purcells. (The Arrow Lakes and Kinbasket Lake are artificially impounded.) Access by canoe is practical in some parts of Wells Gray Park (see Garnet Peak), and canoe circuits are popular in Bowron Lake Park in the Halvorson Group, all in a magnificent setting.

Roads penetrate Wells Gray Park in the south where the terrain is less rugged.

In 1915, entrance to the interior of this region was largely by the east arm of the enormous Quesnel Lake, over the Summit Lake Trail to upper Hobson Lake, where a small steamer ferried men and supplies to the placer gold mines on lower Hobson Creek (then Hemlock Creek). These mines were to prove not rich enough to be economical.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1969- Alex Faberge, Don Hubbard, Art Maki, Linnea Stewart, Art Wilder. (CAJ 53(1970):95; IRBC 1975)
 - 1972- Roland Amundson, Orville Dorsett, Jim Hilton, John Pollack, Tom Sawyer. (CAJ 56(1973):95 map)
 - 1987- Brian Gavin, Malcolm MacFadyen, Colin Oloman, Mary Prendergast, Brian Thompson, Gavin Thurston, Ross Wyborn, BCMC. (BCM 1988:49)
 - 2005- Vytas Barsaukas, Don Chiasson, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis. (PC: RW; CAJ 89(2006):152; CAJ 88(2005):127, photo of Mt. Pierrway; read also CAJ 91 (2008):116)
 - 2006- Don Chiasson, Jim Lundy, Mark McDermott, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis. (PC:RW)
 - 2012- Paul and Willa Geddes, Norman Greene, Wm. McKenzie, Gary Norton, Roger Wallis. (CAJ 96(2013):100)
- Special thanks go to Roger Wallis for his help in this region.



Un. 2910m from the northwest. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

UNNAMED 2850m

Map 93D/13 Kiwa Creek, northwest corner. Coordinates 027-758.
Altitude 9350 feet.

UNNAMED 2850m

Map 93D/13 Kiwa Creek, northwest corner, Coordinates 990-736.
Altitude 9360 feet, surveyed. Both of these summits are just west of the
Rausch River, in the northeastern part of the group.

UNNAMED 2670m

Map 93H/1 Eddy, coordinates 935-836.

1. Southwest Face. Slog up the talus of the southwest face from camp
at the lake (925-828). (I,2). Leon Blumer, Earle R. Whipple, August 3, 1994.

UNNAMED 2910m

Coordinates 945-810, map 93H/1. This appears to be the fourth highest
peak in the Wells Gray Group. However, the B. C. TRIM map assigns a
height of 2947m to this summit.

1. South Ridge. Basecamp for this party (2006) was at 940-785, south of
the mountain (lakes), reached by helicopter.

The south ridge is a 600m rock scramble with some Class 5.0 pitches.

(III,5.0,s). Don Chiasson, Jim Lundy, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis,
August 11, 2006. (PC:RW)

UNNAMED 2790m

One kilometer west of Un. 2910m. The 2006 attempt was stormed off.

UNNAMED 2610m

At 934-798, map 93H/1 Eddy. The B. C. TRIM map assigns a height of
2670m. It is a narrow wedge.

1. North-Northeast Ridge. This was accessed via the snow cirque to the
northeast to reach the col with Un. 2790m. The north-northeast ridge is
steep snow with a final steep rock step.

(II,4,s). Jim Lundy, August 9, 2006. (PC: Roger Wallis)

UNNAMED 2780m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Located south of camp (2006) at 941-758. Surveyed at 9120 feet.

1. Northwest Ridge. Go up the northern snowfield (glacier) and the northwest rock ridge. The rock is Class 3.

Glacier (II,4,s). Don Chiasson, Jim Lundy, Wm. McKenzie, Mark McDermott, Roger Wallis, August 10, 2006. (PC: RW).

2. Northeast Ridge. Descended by the party of Route 1 (except RW).

UNNAMED 2822m

Unnamed 2822m is located on the ridge 4.9 kilometers east of Mount Columbiad at 974-728, and a cairn on the summit is visible from the valley. It was climbed by a Topographical Survey crew, date and route unknown. Surveyed at 9260 feet.

MOUNT COLUMBIAD 2830m

Mount Columbiad is 4.4 km north-northeast of Mount Quanstrom. The northeast buttress and the east ridge were climbed to the foresummit by the 1969 party. The lower slopes are covered with rotten shale.

1. South Ridge, Northwest Slopes. The 1987 party skied from Tranquility Lake (950-690; two kilometers north of the lake at the toe of East Pierrway Glacier) to the col in the south ridge, then went on foot up and around to the northwest side. The last part was over solid Class 4 rock. Glacier (III,4,s). BCMC group, May 22, 1987. (BCM 59:49)

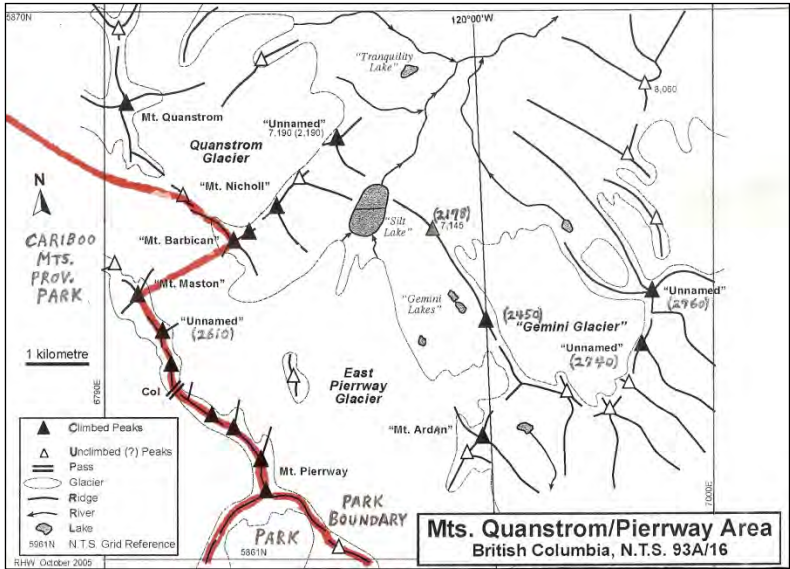
On the approach from Tranquility Lake (first north and then northwest up the valley toward Mount Quanstrom, east side), ascend a side valley to the right (true left side of valley) after one kilometer or so from the lake (before reaching the glacier from Quanstrom), to gain the glacier southeast of Columbiad and the south ridge. (PC: R. Wallis)



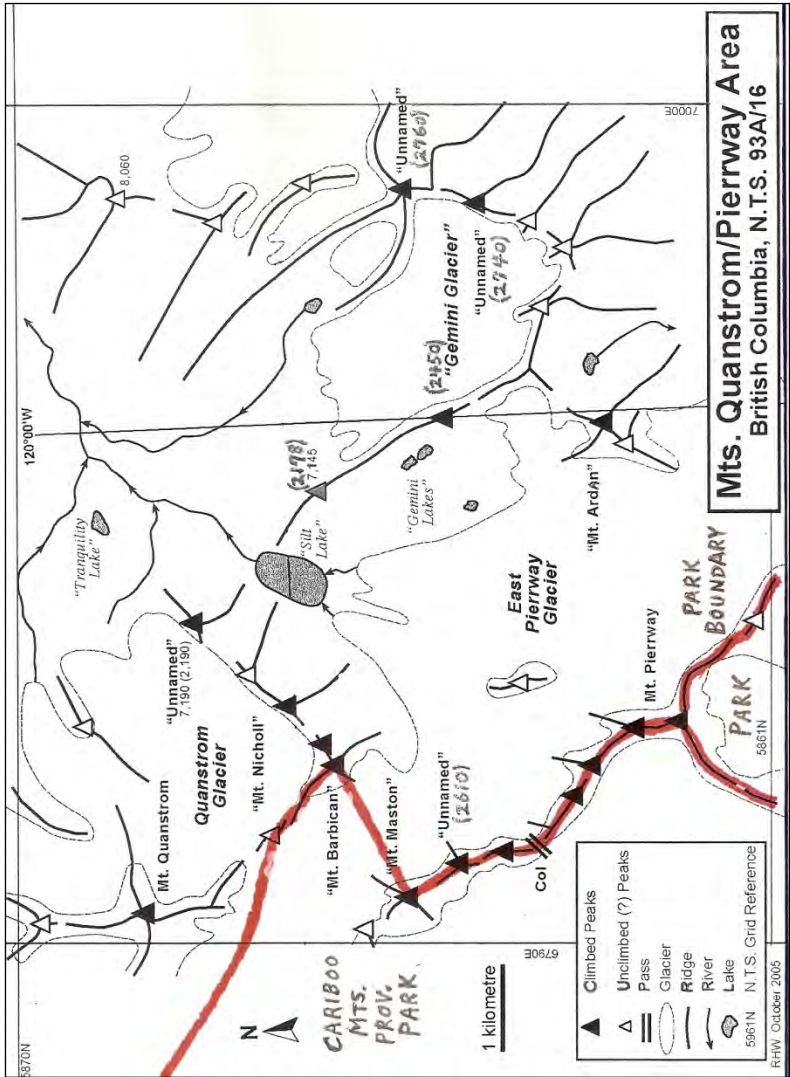
**Mt. Quanstrom, from the south. Route 5 on snow, upper left to ridge.
The east ridge is on the right. Photo: Roger Wallis.**

**“First it rained and then it snow,
And then it friz and then it thew,
And then it fogged and then it blew,
And very shortly after, then
It rained and snow and friz and thew
And fogged and blew again.”**

Glacier House Minute Book



Roger Wallis



Roger Wallis

MOUNT QUANSTROM 3038m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mt. Quanstrom is a handsome mountain when viewed from any direction and is the highest of the group. Its northern drainage flows to the south fork of Castle Creek. Surveyed.

It has four major ridges, north, northwest, south, and east. The south and northwest ridges join at 2920m to form the short southwest ridge. The first three ridges and the southwest ridge are predominantly rock. The upper east ridge is mainly snow and ice, and has a prominent northeast-trending subsidiary ridge, the "Ice Nose". The southwest face and southeast face are mostly rock, whilst the northeast face (of the northwest ridge) and north faces are snow and ice.

1. East-Northeast Glacier, East Ridge. Ascend the east-northeast glacier and the east ridge from a helicopter camp at Tranquility Lake (950-690), 4.6 kilometers east of the peak. (See Mt. Columbiad.)

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Brian Bimm, K. Vincent Campbell (GSC), August 3, 1967. (CAJ 53(1970):70; summit cairn record; PC: Rich. B. Campbell)

2. The 1969 party (Art Maki and friends) varied the original route by climbing the icefall in order to reach and climb the northeast "Ice Nose", which leads to the upper snow and ice section of the east ridge. This avoids the lower part of the east ridge on its north side.

Rotten rock near the top forced the 1969 group onto the snow and ice of the north face. Seven hours up from camp. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). August 6, 1969.

3. North Ridge. Approach from Tranquility Lake (950-690) on skis. The party bypassed the "Ice Nose" and crossed under the north face until they reached the slopes of the north ridge. Then on foot directly up the north face finishing on the north ridge. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). BCMC group, May 17, 1987. (PC: Roger Wallis via Ross Wyborn, BCMC)

4. Complete North Ridge. An ascent of the complete north ridge, G.S.C. party, 1990. The details remain in the summit cairn. (PC: Roger Wallis)

5. South Ridge. A fresh approach was taken by the 2005 group. Climb the south ridge and snow slope to reach the col at 2920m where the south ridge joins the northwest ridge. From the col, climb steep rock up the southwest ridge to the top. There is a glacier at the base of the climb. Ice, Glacier (III,5.0,s). Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, Aug. 19, 2005. (PC:RW)

Base camp was at the col between East and West Pierrway Glaciers.

NORTH GEMINI PEAK 2760m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder, east border. Coordinates 990-655.

SOUTH GEMINI PEAK 2740m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder, east border. Coordinates 988-645.

They are one km apart. Gemini Glacier is on their west side.

These summits, southeast of Tranquility Lake, were climbed by the BCMC party of May 19, 1987, ascending Gemini Glacier on skis to near the col just south of the northern summit (2760m); first the south ridge of the northern summit (One person skied to the top; the others went on foot), and then the north ridge of the southern was climbed, gaining the north ridge by traversing the intervening ridge. They descended directly west from the southern summit down Gemini Glacier. (BCM 59:48; PC: R. Wallis via Ross Wyborn, BCMC)

The southern of the two was also ascended, in a storm, in 2004 by traversing steep ice below the connecting ridge, and then going up the west side on rock. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Chris Fox, Cathryn, Nigel and Roger Wallis, late August 2004. (PC: RW; CAJ 88(2005):127, photo of Mount Pierrway)

The campsite used in 2004 was between Tranquility Lake and Silt Lake, below the latter on the west side of the stream. (Silt Lake is at the tongue of East Pierrway Glacier). It is at 948-676 on gravel flats, with a copious supply of clean running water. There are no bugs at the flats, but little protection from the wind.

Tranquility Lake is 1.5 km north of the camp on the gravel flats. The trees are so high at the edge of Tranquility Lake (camp, 950-690) that a helicopter can no longer land there in summer. Tranquility Lake now lies just out of the Upper Raush Protected Area.

To reach these summits, one must cross the stream from Silt Lake; very cold, very high speed water, with a wobbly cobble and boulder bottom, slimy, slippery (best to cross early in morning). In the afternoon, the water is way above the knees. Best wear boots or running shoes (barefoot is worse). This stream roars out of Silt Lake, with mini waterfalls, and can be heard one kilometer away. It drains into the Raush River (to the Fraser River) at a point northwest of the Premier Ranges.

The small summit (2450m) originally called Gemini (1969) is located on the southwest edge of Gemini Glacier, and was soloed by Alex Faberge in 1969. The name is not official. The 1969 party also climbed Un. 2180m (7150 feet; northwest of Silt Lake).

MOUNT ARDAN 2618m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mount Ardan is 3.7 km east-northeast of Mount Pierrway, at map coordinates 962-631. Its height has been surveyed (8590 feet).

1. South-Southwest Ridge. Ascend the east side of East Pierrway Glacier, from Tranquility Lake, to the snow and rock of the south-southwest ridge. Glacier (III,4,s). AF, DH, LS, August 13, 1969.

IRBC 1975 states that the route was the west ridge, but the map suggests otherwise.

MOUNT NICHOLL 2612m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mount Nicholl is 0.9 kilometer northeast of Mount Barbican. Surveyed at 8570 feet. Map coordinates 928-668.

1. North Glacier. Climb the north glacier from Tranquility Lake in four hours. Glacier (II,4,s). DH, LS, AW, August 7, 1969.

MOUNT BARBICAN 2670m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mount Barbican is 3 km southeast of Mount Quanstrom. Grid coordinates 922-663, just southwest of Mount Nicholl.

1. Northwest Ridge. Ascend the northwest ridge during a traverse from Mount Pierrway over Mount Maston; it is four hours from Mount Pierrway. When climbed directly, it is Glacier (II,4,s). AM, AW, August 13, 1969.

2. Northeast Ridge. The party of Route 1 traversed northeast over a subsidiary peak to reach the gully between them and Mount Nicholl and descended to the East Pierrway Glacier.

MOUNT MASTON 2650m

Mount Maston is on the ridge north-northwest of Mount Pierrway, 3.2 km south of Mount Quanstrom. Map coordinates 905-655, map 93A/16.

1. Northeast Ridge. This peak was climbed on the traverse from Mount Pierrway to Mount Barbican. (The traverse, but to Mt. Maston, was repeated in 2005.) The summit was not traversed in 1969, but bypassed on its east side and ascended from the northeast. It is only a short stroll from the glacier to the northeast. Glacier (III,4,s). AM, AW, Aug. 13, 1969.

It is a II when climbed directly.

2. Northwest Slabs. The 2005 party circled Mount Maston to its west and went up the northwest slabs (Class 3). They then descended the southwest and south sides. (The southeast face is a very fine piece of rock.) Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, August 17, 2005. (PC: RW).

3. Southwest Face. The descent route of Route 2. From 100 meters north of the summit, McKenzie and Wallis climbed down a crack in the steep southwest face (northwest of the main SE face; Class 5.0, delicate). They ascended a little to the top of the major central gully, and descended talus and snow on the S side.

UNNAMED 2610m

This peak, on the ridge south-southeast of Mount Maston, was ascended by Art Maki and Art Wilder on August 13, 1969 by the south ridge, on a traverse from Mount Pierrway to Mounts Maston and Barbican. They descended to the north, to Mount Maston.

Campsites

To date, four campsites have been used in the Mount Pierrway area (aside from skiing season).

The first, used in 1969, is at Tranquility Lake (950-690). However, trees have grown so high that a helicopter can no longer land at the edge of the lake in summer. There are nice, sheltered spots, plus water, which must be reached on foot. Tranquility Lake is 1.5 km north of the camp on the gravel flats, below. (Note that the same has happened to the 1927 campsite in the Kiwa Valley in the Northern Premier Range.)

The second site is on the west side of the stream draining Silt Lake (see the Gemini Peaks above), on gravel flats at 948-676 between the two lakes, which has a very good water supply. It is closer to many of the climbs than Tranquility Lake, such as Mount Pierrway (on the same approach route as in 1969), the Gemini Peaks and others, but farther from the east side of Mount Quanstrom, and Mount Columbiad (via their old approach from Tranquility Lake).

The third is on the high col (912-638) at the base of the north ridge of Mount Pierrway, between East and West Pierrway Glaciers, well within reach of many peaks including Mount Quanstrom, the Shark's Tooth and Un. 2950m. There is little melt water here, and one must melt snow (consult Mount Pierrway). The tentsites are on the west side of the col.

The fourth campsite, on the border of Wells Gray Park at **Turquoise Pass** (976-484; map 83D/12, extreme northwest corner), serves for the southeast approach to Mount Goodall and the peaks southeast of Mount Goodall (below), an attractive location beside **Turquoise Lake** (975-482).

All the above have been reached only by helicopter because of the great isolation of these summits. Turquoise Lake is too small to land a floatplane.



Mt. Pierrway from the NNE, East Pierrway Glacier in the foreground, Mount Goodall to the left. Photo: Art Maki (1969).

MOUNT PIERRWAY 2853m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Located 6.8 km south-southeast of Mount Quanstrom, a striking snow and ice mountain with two subsummits to the north-northwest. The prominent col between East and West Pierrway Glaciers is at the base of the north (or NNW) ridge. Surveyed at 9360 feet. The west side of Mt. Pierrway is in Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park.

A good camping spot for Mount Pierrway (and Mounts Quanstrom and Columbiad) was at Tranquility Lake (950-690) which drains east, but trees have grown so high there that a helicopter can no longer land at the edge of the lake in summer. **Consult the campsites, above.** This lake is two kilometers north of the big lake (Silt Lake; 944-667) at the toe of East Pierrway Glacier. Silt Lake, due to ice recession, is now much bigger than in 1969.

The col between East and West Pierrway Glaciers (912-638) is also a good campsite for Mounts Pierrway and Quanstrom as well as Un. 2950m and the Shark's Tooth, and some peaks around East Pierrway Glacier. There are a few tentsites near the pass' west side. This is much higher than Tranquility Lake; melt snow for water.

Consult the Gemini Peaks (above) for the gravel flats camp site.

1. North Ridge. From Tranquility Lake or the gravel flats, ascend East Pierrway Glacier. Before reaching the pass, turn south and ascend the badly crevassed glacier to the first col above the pass. Then climb up to the north summit and follow the north ridge to the top at the extreme south end.

On descent, the party took a high line across the west face to the first col, and then over two subsummits to the deep col (pass) at 2420m. (Camp, 2005). The ridge was then traversed north to Mount Maston (and Barbican). (PC: Roger Wallis via Art Maki)

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). AM, AW, August 13, 1969.

The descent route was ascended by Wm. McKenzie and Roger Wallis on August 17, 2005. (PC: RW). They descended lower on the west face, reaching the north ridge between the two subsummits.

2. West-Southwest Ridge. From Tranquility Lake, the group went on skis up East Pierrway Glacier, across the low col at 2420m to West Pierrway Glacier. They made an uphill ski traverse across the west face to reach the west-southwest ridge, and continued on foot up the ridge to the top. (The WSW ridge is mainly rock in summer.)

Ice, Glacier (III,5,0,s). BCMC skiers, May 20, 1987. (PC: Roger Wallis via Ross Wyborn)

SHARK'S TOOTH 2700m

The Shark's Tooth is 1.8 kilometers southwest of Mount Pierrway, a spectacular snow and ice peak when seen from West Pierrway Glacier. Its southern aspects are mainly rock.

1. Northeast Ridge. From camp in the col (pass) between East and West Pierrway Glaciers (north of Mt. Pierrway), cross West Pierrway Glacier to the col at the base of the southwest ridge of Mount Pierrway. This is marked by the exotic "sorter's hat" rock and the "hole in wall" ridge. From the col, follow the snow and ice crest of the northeast ridge to the summit. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, August 14, 2005. (PC: RW)

2. North Face. The descent route of Route 1. Go straight down the north face over the uppermost two bergschrunds.

UNNAMED (BLACK SAIL) 2950m

The massive Un. 2950m dominates the west side of West Pierrway Glacier, and is the highest summit of Wells Gray Park, on the park boundary. It extends for almost six kilometers in a NW/NNW direction. Its impressive northeast face of rock, snow and ice rises almost 600 meters above the glacier.

West Pierrway Glacier (also called Niagara Glacier; an icefield) lies west of the Pierrway-Maston ridge, and is connected to East Pierrway Glacier by a prominent low col in that ridge (campsite).

Un. 2950m lies on the border of Wells Gray Provincial Park and Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park. The trail up Niagara Creek (Quesnel Lake to Cariboo Mountains Loop (overgrown?), staying on Niagara Creek instead of going west to Mitchell Lake) from Quesnel Lake reaches close to the mountain (see end of Halvorson Group for an alternate start, from Mitchell Lake).

1. Date, route and climbers unknown. A small cairn with no record was found in 2005. The ascent may have been done by the Topographical Survey. One low triangulated point lies to the south, two to the west, and two far to the north.

2. North-Northwest Ridge. From camp in the col on the Pierrway-Maston ridge, cross West Pierrway Glacier ("the swamp") to the northernmost extension of the north-northwest ridge as it emerges from the West Pierrway Icefall. Follow the ridge (rock, snow, ice; one diversion to the northwest slope at a prominent rock step) and then the north ridge (ice, snow) to the top.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, August 18, 2005.

UNNAMED 2768m

Surveyed at 9080 feet, 1.6 km east of Mount Winder. Map 93A/16.

1. South and East Slopes. From Mount Winder, go south around the unnamed peak to the east slopes. Glacier (II,4,s). By three of the August 7, 1972 party.

MOUNT WINDER 2760m

On the border of Wells Gray and Cariboo Mountains Provincial Parks, situated on the ridge separating Niagara Creek from the Clearwater River. The highest summit is on the northeast end of the ridge.

1. Southwest Ridge. From the helicopter camp halfway between Beaman and Winder, climb the glacier and ascend a steep snow couloir on the east side which leads to a low point midway along the ridge. Climb the unstable rock of the ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). RA,JH,TS, August 7, 1972. (PC: RA)

2. North Slopes. See Route 1. From the southwest ridge, drop down the west side of the peak, contour to the north slope and climb a short, steep ice pitch to the summit. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). OD,JP, August 7, 1972. (PC: RA)

3. East Slopes. Descended by the 1972 party, en route to Un. 2768m.

UNNAMED 2592m

Surveyed at 8505 feet, 2.2 kilometers northeast of Mount Beaman.

1. Southwest Slopes. From Mount Beaman, the summit is a short scramble on very loose rock. Glacier (II,4,s). August 8, 1972.

UNNAMED 2755m

Surveyed at 9040 feet, 2.2 kilometers west of Mount Beaman.

1. East Glacier. By the east glacier, the summit is only two hours from a helicopter camp on the ridge between Mounts Beaman and Winder. Glacier (I,4,s). August 6, 1972.

MOUNT BEAMAN 2660m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder, south border. Mount Beaman rises 8.7 kilometers south-southeast of Mount Winder.

The Quesnel Lake to Cariboo Mountains Loop Trail (see access, above, and Un. 2950m) is on the east side of Niagara Creek eleven km west of Mt. Beaman.

1. North Glacier, East Ridge. Mount Beaman by the north glacier and east ridge is only two hours from the helicopter camp between Mounts Beaman and Winder. Glacier (I,4,s). August 8, 1972.

MOUNT HOGG 2627m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mount Hogg is a very prominent rock peak lying 4.4 kilometers northeast of Mount Beaman. It was surveyed at 8620 feet. The 1972 attempt to climb it failed because of bad weather.

UNNAMED 2790m

Located at map coordinates 838-474, map 93A/9, on the extreme northern border of the map, 3 kilometers south-southeast of Mount Beaman. See the photo below.

1. North Ridge. From the helicopter camp on the ridge between Mounts Beaman and Winder, go up the glacier and around the west flank of Beaman on its west glacier. There is ice climbing on the steep north ridge (glacier, crevasses). Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). August 9, 1972. (PC: RA)

UNNAMED 2650m

Map 93A/16, southeast corner, but not contoured. Approx. grid 010-500, east-northeast of the southeast end of the Goodall ridge. Climbed from the south. WG, GN, RW, late July 2012. See map in CAJ.



Un. 2790m, from the Northwest. The north ridge descends left toward the camera, in the center. Photo: Roland Amundson.



**Mt. Goodall, in the mid-distance (glaciers; from the NW), from
Un. 2950m. Photo: Wm. McKenzie.**

THE STEEPLE (PIVOT PEAK) ca. 2770m

Map 83D/13, extreme southwest corner. East-southeast of Mount Goodall. (CAJ 91(2008):117 photo)

MOUNT GOODALL 2930m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Mount Goodall is a massive edifice extending for almost 8 kilometers in a NW-SE direction. On the northeast side, an unbreached wall of rock and ice rises 400 to 1300 meters above the 'Goodall Glacier', high above the Clearwater River.

1. Southwest Glacier. From a helicopter camp at Turquoise Pass (976-484, map 83D/12, beside Turquoise Lake), enter Wells Gray Park and bushwhack for two days on the north side of the east fork of Clearwater River. A bivouac site was on a prominent ledge (Great Shelf) lying east of the glacier.

From the Great Shelf, 0.5 km east of the snout of the southwest glacier (on the SE end), cross talus slopes, climb through rock benches and towers to reach the moraine on the east side of the southwest glacier. Gain height on avalanche snow fans on the east side and join the glacier where it becomes a snow basin (crevasses).

Above the basin, the route is blocked by a rock subpeak, The Sphinx (seracs, ice cliffs). On the far east side of the basin, snow ramps lead through the ice cliffs (crevasses). Traverse northwest on a high snow shelf for about 2 km, passing below Point 2860m (a high, prominent, black rock peak, the Black Cone).

Climb a steep snow slope below a cornice and ice cliff to the base of the final summit (NW summit is highest). Climb very steeply up south-facing snow slopes (topped by a large cornice on the west side) ending at the summit. Ascent 7 hours. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Don Chiasson, Jim Lundy, Roger Wallis, August 21, 2006. (PC: RW)

On descent, the party used a little of the south ridge (outward-dipping slabs, loose talus) until they could traverse back onto the final snow slope at half-height (old steps sloughing out). They followed the ascent route back to the bivouac.

The next day, they hiked the Great Shelf east, and followed cairns (2005) around numerous small cirques to the ridge leading to the camp at Turquoise Pass. This ascent was a minor ordeal lasting four days.



Mt. Goodall from the southeast. The Sphinx is to the left, beyond the ice tongue (lower left; aerial). The Black Cone is just to the right. Photo: Roger Wallis.



Mount Goodall from the east. Route 1 does not show. Photo: R. Wallis.



**The southeast summit of Mt. Goodall (Black Cone), seen from Route 1.
Photo: Roger Wallis.**

BLACK CONE 2860m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. Altitude 9380 feet, surveyed. It is the southeast summit of Mount Goodall. Approach as for Mount Goodall, staying east of the Sphinx, and climb the northwest ridge, Class 4. Glacier. PG, NG, WM, July 30, 2012. (CAJ 96(2013):101)

UNNAMED 2730m

Map 93A/16 Mount Winder. It is on the southeast end of the Goodall massif, three kilometers southeast of Mount Goodall, at 990-498. For the campsite, see below (Peaks Southeast of Mt. Goodall). Route 1 was the only known attempt to reach the crest of the Goodall ridge.

1. Northeast Face. From upper Goodall Glacier, cross the bergschrund in the middle of the northeast face and climb directly up steep snow and ice to the upper prominent gray band. Traverse this to the northwest to the base of the upper snow and ice face. Climb this to the only break in the very impressive line of cornices which overhang the entire length of the northeast face.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.0,s). DC, WM, RW, August 11, 2005. (PC: R. Wallis)

2. East Ridge, Southeast Ridge. The descent route of Route 1. Walk southeast to the very end of the summit ridge. Then climb down the east ridge, down very steep rock, some good, some very poor to regain the upper Goodall Glacier. Take some rock protection, just in case, as for Route 1. Glacier (III,5.0,s). DC, WM, RW, August 11, 2005.

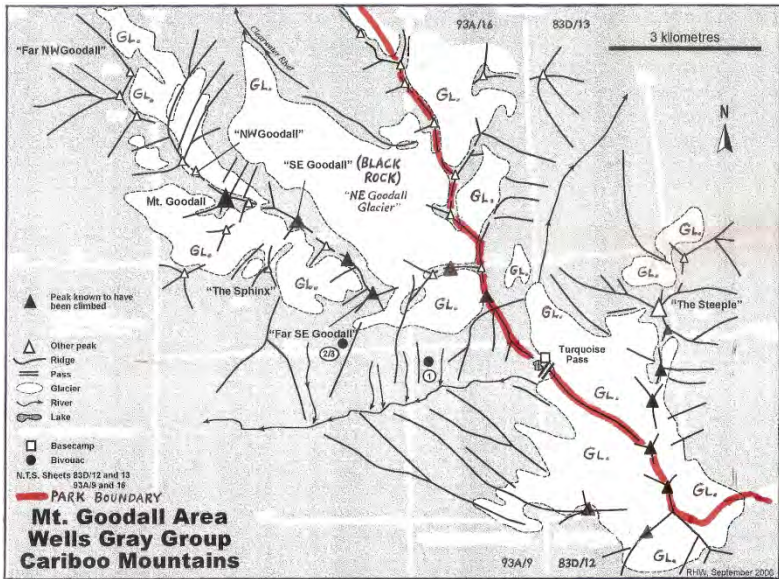
Peaks Southeast of Mount Goodall

The following five peaks were ascended by members of the 2005 party (see introduction to the group, 'Some Climbing and Exploration'). The first is on map 93A/16 Mount Winder (015-494). The rest, in order N to S, are on map 83D/12 Azure River, 999-478, 996-472, 995-462, and 997-455. The last two are on the border of Wells Gray Provincial Park, 17 km west of Mount Sir John Thompson.

Basecamp for these climbs, and for those of the Goodall massif, was at 976-484 on map 83D/12 (upper left corner; Turquoise Pass) between the two areas, an attractive site beside Turquoise Lake (2005). The lake is at the juncture of four maps and does not show on the maps. Expect glacier travel.

UNNAMED 2650m

Map 93A/16. Ascend via the south slopes and southwest ridge, a fine scramble at the top. August 8, 2005. (PC: Roger Wallis)



SE Goodall is the Black Cone. The ascended summit near the Steeple is not mentioned in the text. Roger Wallis

UNNAMED 2650m

Ascend via the glacier on the western slopes to the col south of the mountain, then follow the south ridge to the summit. August 9, 2005.

UNNAMED 2710m

Grid 996-472. Also on map above. From the snow col south of the previous peak, ascend the north snow ridge to the top. Descend to the south and then down the western glaciated slopes. August 9, 2005.

UNNAMED 2668m

Map 83D/12. Grid 995-462. Also on map above. First ascent was by a Dominion Survey crew, date and route unknown. Surveyed at 8752 feet.

Climb via the western glaciated slope to the northern col, and then the north slope. Descent was by the slopes to the col to the south. VB, WM, RW, August 12, 2005.

UNNAMED 2740m

This is the most southerly and highest of the four snow and ice peaks.

From the col to the south of the previous summit, ascend via the north slopes. Descent was by the western glaciated slopes. VB, WM, RW, August 12, 2005.

UNNAMED ca. 2610m

Map 83D/12 Azure River, and also map above. Grid approx. 994-449. Climbed from the north. Surrounded by glacier (2012).

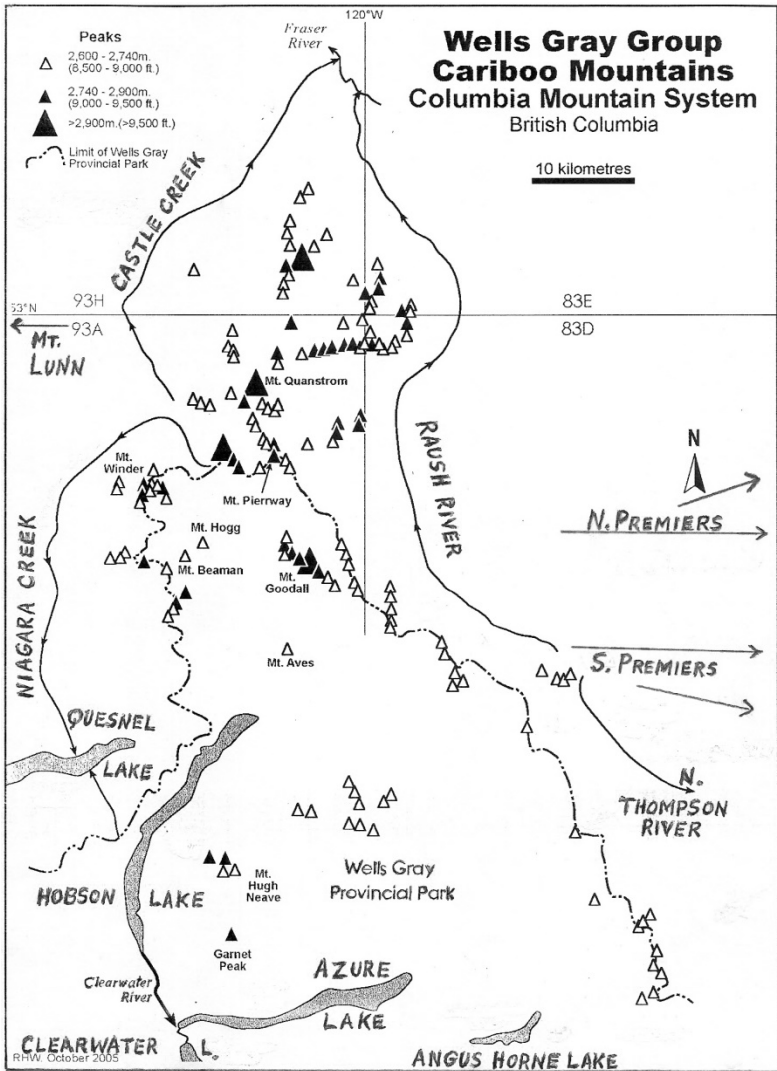
UNNAMED 2480m

Map 83D/12 Azure River, and also map above. Grid 982-452. Height 8150 feet. Climbed from the northeast, traversed.

These summits, on or on the edge of the glacier, south and southwest, respectively, of the five summits above, were ascended by members of the 2012 party from Turquoise Lake. See the map in the CAJ reference.

UNNAMED (BLUE ICE MOUNTAIN ?) 2640m

Altitude 8650 feet. Located at the head of Fred Wells Creek, on map 83D/12 Azure River at 048-435, above the Blue Ice Mine. This is twenty kilometers east-northeast of the head of Hobson Lake, and northwest of Azure Pass. A summit of 2610m is one km south of it.



Roger Wallis

UNNAMED 2730m

Grid 144-403 (8950 feet), above the Ella Frye Cr.-Raush River divide, map 83D/12. Skied from a camp at Azure Pass, early March 1981. (See Index of Passes; CAJ 65(1982):82). Prospectors from nearby mining claims probably climbed it long ago.

Trigon Mtn. in the Southern Premier Range was a favorite ski ascent.

UNNAMED 2640m

Grid 057-397 (8650 feet), within Wells Gray Park. Same remarks as for Unnamed 2730m above. Unnamed 8450 feet (066.414), also west of Azure Pass (092-394), was a favorite. Other peaks here were ascended by ski.

UNNAMED 2610m

At grid coordinates 127-348, map 83D/12 Azure River, northwest of McAndrew Lake. The summit was attained by Ross Cloutier and clients in November 1983 on skis to 2440 meters by the south ridge. The upper south ridge was a scramble. (III,3,s)

McAndrew Lake now lies at the edge of Wells Gray Provincial Park. Four other lower summits, above the west side of Ella Frye Creek, were climbed by Raymond T. Zillmer and Loren Tiefenthaler in July 1939. One was the next north of Un. 2610m, one was the second peak south of it, and two southeast of it (the two lowest) on a ridge running northeast (north of the lake). The party overestimated the altitudes of the summits because their altimeter had been damaged. (CAJ 27/1(1939):50; see the introduction to the Premier Range.) None was of any difficulty.

UNNAMED 2670m

Map 83D/12 Azure River, 973-274; a knob in an icefield. No record of ascent.

UNNAMED 2733m

Located on the border of Wells Gray Provincial Park, lying north above Knutson Creek, southwest of Mount Zillmer. Map coordinates 171-236, map 83D/12 Azure River. Climbed by a Topographical Survey party, date and route unknown.

The surveyed height and the map contours do not agree. (The surveyed height is taken from a different map than 83D/12.) The surveyed height is given here; there should be another 100 foot contour.

UNNAMED 2749m

Altitude 9020 feet, east of the park boundary and northwest of Stormking Creek; east of Un. 2733m. Map 83D/2 Azure River.

UNNAMED 2700m

Altitude 8850 feet, on the eastern park border, north of the head of Horne Creek. Map 83D/5 Angus Horne Lake.

UNNAMED 2730m

Altitude 8950 feet, on the eastern park border at the head of Horne Creek. Map 83D/5 Angus Horne Lake.

MOUNT AVES 2610m

Map 93A/9. Located south of Mount Goodall. No recorded ascent.

From the north end of Hobson Lake, East Creek leads east to the Braithwaite Icefield (map 83F/12 Azure River). This could be reached by a trail up Hobson Creek or Bois Grenier Creek, if one still exists. There is at least one summit of 2670m (8750 feet).

MOUNT HUGH NEAVE (HOBSON) 2829m

Mount Hugh Neave is located north of Goat Creek, east of Hobson Lake (near the south edge of map 93A/9 Hobson Lake; 881-211), and north-northwest of Garnet Peak. Surveyed at 9280 feet.

Another mountain lies one km east of Mount Hugh Neave, of nearly equal height, connected by a ridge.

John B. Hobson was a proponent of hydraulic mining in B. C.

Clearwater Lake Tours has two canoes stored at the south end of Hobson Lake, saving the task of portaging a canoe from Clearwater Lake. There are no facilities on Hobson Lake.

The Summit Lake Trail goes from the east arm of Quesnel Lake (near a lodge) for 8 km over a low pass to upper Hobson Lake.

UNNAMED 2700m

Map 93A/9 Hobson Lake. Height 8850 feet. Unnamed 2700m is three kilometers east-southeast of Mount Hugh Neave at 909-204, and north of the east (main) fork of Goat Creek, at the south border of the map.



Garnet Peak from the south-southeast. Photo courtesy of Hugh Neave.

GARNET PEAK 2875m

Map 93A/8 Azure Lake, 906-136. (Note, Azure River map exists also.)

Garnet Peak rises nine kilometers east of lower Hobson Lake, 5.5 km northeast of Mount Huntley (2429m) and north of Azure Lake.

1. South Face. Approach from Azure Lake (see below also). Moor the boat a bit to the west of Garnet Creek, parallel the west fork in thick bush and then traverse open alpine country near the source of the creek. Camp. Head for a conspicuous notch on the Huntley-Buchanan ridge (Snowfield Col), leading to Garnet Glacier. A steep snow slope to the west goes to the Hog's Back, a spur running north and ending in a triangulation station cairn.

From the cairn, descend to a snow cirque and contour to the south ridge of Garnet Peak, a rock nose. Avoid a steep gully, and climb an exposed corner (good) leading to snow of the south face. Climb a second band of rocks (care, loose, slippery. A few attempts have been repulsed here.) and then easy slopes to the summit. Rappel the lower band (corner) on descent. Thirteen hours round trip. Glacier (III,5.0,s). Barbara Hargreaves, Hugh Neave, Tor Schmidt, Aug. 29, 1974. (CAJ 58(1975):109; PC: HN; Exploring Wells Gray Park)

A better route is to backpack to and camp at Huntley Col, a point west of the original route, which requires 5-6 hours in the following variation. The approach contours the west side of the Hog's Back.

Variation: To approach Garnet Peak, use a trail starting 100 meters west of 4½ Mile Campground instead, which is better planned. Above, go up and left in a gully to reach the ridge. Proceed northeast, pass west of Tryfan (pronounced "Triven"; at 920-106) and contour the west slopes of the ridge at the head of the creek tributary to Goat Creek.

Position yourself to reach the base of the cliffs of the southwest ridge. Ascend a steep slope of shale and earth to gain the southwest ridge, turn to the northeast and ascend easy slopes of loose rock and snow. Pass below a snowpatch (the "anteater", because of its two long ears and long snout), gain the large snow slope which dominates the south side of the mountain and go straight up.

A 25 meter cliff may block the route (the upper mentioned above), but this is often buried in snow. A belay may be needed here (rappel on descent). From this point, it is an easy walk.

The north summit is a little higher, with a grander cairn. Glacier (III,5.0,s). David Boon, Amund Groner, Ken Macdonell, Ian Mackenzie, Roland Neave, 1988. (PC: RN)

The Wells Gray Park road ends at Clearwater Lake.

Access from the West

Start by either going east from the town of Horsefly on the Black Creek Road, or go north from the town of Canim Lake on the Crooked Lake Road. The Crooked Lake Road joins the Black Creek Road, and the Black Creek Road then proceeds eastward towards the mountains'.

From the Black Creek Road, turn right onto the MacKay River Road going southeast, southwest of Caput Mountain, toward Mount Perseus. Stay on the north side of the MacKay River at the fork. The Black Creek Road continues toward the bend of upper Horsefly River.

ISOSCELES MOUNTAIN 2430m

Map 93A/7. Northwest of Eagle's Nest Peak, on the Park boundary.

EAGLE'S NEST PEAK 2260m

Map 93A/7. Located east of the bend in the east arm of Quesnel Lake, on the Wells Gray Park border, at the head of Licksillet Creek. West of the south end of Hobson Lake, north of Mount Perseus, and northeast of Caput Mountain, above the bend of Horsefly River. No record of ascent.

DUTCHMAN MOUNTAIN 2376m

Map 93A/7. North of the bend of the Horsefly River. Dutchman Mtn. is an easy climb without gear. FRA by the trapper Frank Baron, between 1964 and 1989. (PC: Frank Baron)

WATCHMAN MOUNTAIN 2340m

Map 93A/7. West of the bend of the Horsefly River. Watchman Mtn. is also easy. The first recorded ascent was by the trapper Frank Baron, between 1964 and 1989. (PC: FB)

CAPUT MOUNTAIN 2534m

Map 93A/7. Caput Mountain is located west of the park boundary, and south of the east arm of Quesnel Lake. It is within (south) of the bend of the Horsefly River. No record of ascent.

MOUNT PERSEUS 2555m

Map 93A/7. On the western park boundary, south of the east arm of Quesnel Lake, well south of the above summits. No record of ascent.

AZURE MOUNTAIN 2500m

Map 93A/8 Azure Lake, 994-989. Surveyed. Azure Mountain has been climbed by the Topographical Survey, date and route unknown.

Azure Mountain is located ten kilometers east of the Huckleberry Campground on Clearwater Lake. Azure Mountain and its neighbor Zodiac Mountain are accessible by a rough trail from the Huckleberry Campground.

Zodiac Mountain, at 2490 meters, is northwest of Azure Mountain, above Azure Lake. A full day hike to the alpine zone from the lake puts one within striking distance of these peaks.

The northwest ridge of Azure Mountain has been climbed and has good solid rock up to Class 5.6. In general, this area has very solid sections of what appear to be granite as well as areas of very loose volcanic blocks. (PC: Ross Cloutier)

Camping Areas

Clearwater Lake has twelve camping areas. Azure Lake has four.

BATTLE MOUNTAIN 2370m

Altitude 7776 feet. It is in the southernmost part of the park, and is a hike with no difficulty.

UNNAMED 2611m

Map 83D/5 Angus Horne Lake (near the southeast corner). It is at the head of Thunder River, on the border of Wells Gray Park, and west of the Monashee Range. Un. 2611m was surveyed at 8567 feet, and climbed by the Topographical Survey, date and route unknown.

A road in unknown condition goes up Thunder River north of the town of Blue River (Highway 5) to six km of this peak. There is a glacier on the east side. One might also approach from the north end of Murtle Lake, unless bushwhacking forbids it.

TROPHY MOUNTAIN 2577m

Map 82M/13. Trophy Mountain is the highest of a group of peaks in the surrounding area.

Starting from the Yellowhead Highway, drive to kilometer 11.5 on the Wells Gray Park road (Clearwater River Road) and turn right on Spahats Creek Road (also Bear Creek Forest Camp). (The Spahats Creek Road also goes to the north of Raft Mountain.) Follow this road and turn left on the Trophy Mountain Spur to the Trophy Mountain Trail. Follow the 'Trophy Mountain Flower Meadow' signs to the trailhead.

The west, south and east ridges are popular, and so are traverses of the various peaks. Bring an ice ax for a possible self-arrest.

The southwest ice couloir holds snow until the end of July or mid-August. Protection is via ice screws and chocks or pitons; a day's climb. Mel Peters with Ross Cloutier. June 1984. (PC: RC)

RAFT MOUNTAIN 2451m

Map 82M/12. Raft Mountain is in the extreme south of the Wells Gray Group directly east of Spahats Creek Provincial Park. Drive along the Yellowhead Highway east of Clearwater, drive past the Wells Gray Park turnout (Clearwater River Road) and take the Candle Creek road 2.1 km (1.3 miles) east of it. After 3.7 km (2.3 miles) turn right (zero milepost sign on its left) on the Raft Mountain road. There is also a way from the Wells Gray Park road (the north side, below). Drive a vehicle with good clearance to a parking site near Willis Lake.

The guidebook 'Exploring Wells Gray Park' is of much use in finding the features of the Park.

The east ridge and the south ridge of the east peak are scrambles. The summit is on the west end; the west ridge is also a scramble (loose boulders). Take an ice ax for the traverse, or the south ridge of the east peak (steep heather).

Chockstone Gully is a 300 meter snow and ice climb on the north side, with a very large chockstone plugging the gully bottom; a one half day climb. Brian Davis with Ross Cloutier, November 1984. (CAJ 71(1988):79; PC: RC). There are many snow and ice routes on the north side.

The best way to get to the north side and the ice climbs is by taking the Spahats Creek Road (see Trophy Mtn.) from the Wells Gray Park road (Clearwater River Road). This road runs between the Trophies and Raft Mountain (on north side). There is a trail sign at 13 kilometers, one going north into the Trophies and another going south to the north face of Raft Mountain. A one hour walk reaches the start of most climbing on the north side. (PC: Ross Cloutier)

DUNN PEAK 2630m

MAPS- 82M/5 and 82M/12, 92P/8, 92P/9

Dunn Peak rises 120 km to the west of the Shuswap Group, 96 km north of Kamloops, south of Wells Gray Park and east of the North Thompson River. It is 16 km northeast of Chu Chua Station on the CNR.

It is probably one of the best viewpoints in western Canada with visibility west to Mount Waddington (380 km away) and to the Canadian Rockies.

An old forestry road (just outside the Dunn Peak Protected Area; probably not passable by a four wheel drive vehicle, but is a hiking trail) branches off Dunn Lake Road near the north end of Dunn Lake. It goes to the Baldy Mountain Forestry Lookout.

1. FRA, Phelps (B. C. Forest Service), thought to be the attendant at the Baldy Mountain forest lookout, date and route unknown. (Summit cairn record; PC: Wm. Mathews from V.C. Brink)

2. Southeast Ridge. This party drove from Kamloops to Dunn Lake. They used the active bucket line to the Windpass Mine, then went on foot to Baldy Mountain lookout and the next day to Hanlan Lake at the foot of Dunn Peak. From camp at the lake, they climbed the southeast ridge without the rope.

A dime was found on the summit and another added. (II,4,s). Vernon C. Brink, Jack D. Gregson, Jack Harper, Ed Tisdale (Kamloops Outdoor Club), 1936. (IRBC 1955; PC: JG)

This route was repeated in 1937 (another dime added) and again in May 1947, approaching on skis (CAJ 29(1944-45 or 1946):299). After 1937, the three dimes disappeared. Packrats ?! (PC: JG)

From a camp in Joseph Creek (see Route 4), at the end of the trail below the north side of Dunn Peak, go over a col one km east of Dunn Peak (remnant glacier, ice ax). Descend about 80 meters and then traverse west on slabs, easy, to gain the southeast ridge. It is a straightforward scramble and the last 75 vertical meters are an excellent Class 3-4 climb on solid granite, exposed (rope). Seven hours round trip. (PC: Fred Thiessen)

3. Northeast Face. Start north of the mountain, in the basin, and go left of the north face route. The beginning is straightforward. The real difficulties on the northeast face start about two thirds of the way up, about Class 5.7 on small holds, difficult to find protection. Amund Groner, Ian Mackenzie, August 26, 1979. (CAJ 63(1980):91; PC: AG)

4. North Face. The north face of Dunn Peak is steep and appears good for technical climbing. This climb is on good granite.

From Barriere, turn east on the paved Barriere Lakes road. Then at 18.5 km (11.5 miles) go north onto the Barriere North road for 10.4 km (6.5 miles), then north on the North Barriere Lake-Harper Creek FSR for another 18 km (11.2 miles) and left on the Dunn Peak FSR for 6 km (3.7 miles). The last 0.5 km to the parking area is for high clearance four wheel drive. A trail leads westerly into Joseph Creek and southerly towards Dunn Peak. There are good campsites at 1830m (6000 feet) after about 7 km of backpacking. (KMCN Sept.-Oct. 2007).

One hour from camp puts one on top of the prominent snowpatch. Move into a gully to the right (protection all the way) and ascend upward until stopped by lack of holds and wet rock. Traverse a nearly vertical face for nearly 10 meters to the right (pitons). Climb up steep rock on firm but small holds and with places for chocks, to a small airy platform 30-60 meters above in front of a smooth rock wall. Traverse left on a ledge, exposed, around a corner.

From here on, it is straightforward Class 4 with a little Class 5 to the top, 5 hours from camp.

A good descent route was down the very prominent north snow couloir between Dunn Peak and its northwest buttress (ridge), about 45 degrees but without a run-out. But, see Route 5, below. (III,5,7,s). Amund Groner, August 8, 1982. (PC:AG)

5. North Couloir. Described at the end of Route 4. When glissading, remember that there is no run-out. FA unknown. (PC: Amund Groner)

Later in the season, the north couloir will be ice. The ice is about 45 degrees steep, and was climbed in eight rope lengths during the evening and night with a bivouac by Danilo Caron and Jason Dixon on July 10, 2000. (CME)

One may also descend on loose rock on the west side of the gully.

6. Northwest Ridge. Not technically difficult. FA unknown. (INT)

THE PREMIER RANGES

The Northern and Southern Premier Ranges are within the bounds of the Albreda, North Thompson, Raush and Fraser Rivers and lower Camp Creek, lower Canoe River and lower McLennan River. They lie northeast of the northern part of Wells Gray Park, and east of Mount Goodall.

The rock is mostly mica schist with a somewhat slippery texture, which is sometimes decomposed and loose, and some quartzites and gneisses. Similar to the Wells Gray Group, there is much stormy summer weather and the forte of the region is snow and ice climbing. The mountains form a compact group with great vertical relief, and because of the relief it is advantageous to camp high.

From the years 1939 to 1947, Loren Tiefenthaler and J. and Raymond T. Zillmer made several long traverses and explorations, including one to the edge of the present Wells Gray Park to the west. References are AAJ 4:69; 5:261; 6:56 and CAJ 27/1(1939):50; 30(1947):85; 31(1948):25, 26. Also AAJ 4:317 and CAJ 27/2(1940):194.

NORTHERN PREMIER RANGE

MAPS- 83D/13 Kiwa Creek and 83D/14 Valemount

For the purposes of the guidebook, it is convenient to divide the Premier Range into two groups, by a line along Canoe River, North Canoe Glacier and Laurier Glacier, which clarifies the northern approaches along Kiwa and Tete Creeks from the southern approaches on the Canoe and North Thompson Rivers.

The largest northern icefields are an unnamed icefield and the Kiwa, Tete and Gilmour Icefields (and their associated glacier tongues), the latter two draining into Tete Creek. Small glaciers form the source of the McLennan River, which rises in several tributaries in the vicinity of Mount Arthur Meighen, flows east and then northwest to the Fraser River. Like the Columbia River, the Fraser River flows northwest and makes a great bend to the south to reach the Pacific Ocean south of Vancouver. The Columbia, with the Canoe River waters, reaches the sea on the Oregon-Washington border. Because both the North Thompson and Raush Rivers flow to the Fraser, the rim of the Canoe River drainage here is on the Columbia River-Fraser River divide.

Tete (Sand) Creek, now united with the McLennan River, enters the Fraser near the historic site of Tete Jaune Cache, not far from Mt. Robson.

The highest peaks, Mounts Sir Wilfred Laurier and Sir John Abbott, both over 3400 meters, are in the western part of the Northern Premier Range. The high peaks are heavily glaciated. It is common for climbers to be buffeted by high winds on massive Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier.

Roger Wallis' manuscript of the climbing history of the Kiwa Creek and Kiwa Glacier (Kiwa Peaks) area is available in the American Alpine Club library in Golden, Colorado.

Access

Roads extend up both sides of Tete Valley, but only for a very short distance and those on the east side reach farther (Sand Creek FSR (N; starts west of Tete Jaune Cache) and West Ridge FSR (S; starts south of Valemount)). From the end of the road, it is possible to make an easy bushwhack to more open areas of valley bottom, with sand and gravel bars, below the glacier, a long haul.

The peaks surrounding Gilmour Icefield can be reached directly from Tete Creek by ascending Gilmour Creek and Glacier. From North Canoe Glacier, it appears possible to reach the Gilmour Icefield and Mt. Stanley Baldwin by going over the pass next to Ice Dome to the Tete Icefield, and then over the Aha-Unnamed (B) (the peak between Penny Mtn. and Mt. Aha) col; there is a steep snow slope and a bergschrund below.

Tete-Forks pass (Forks Peak; see Index of Passes) is easy on both sides. The west side of Gunboat Pass (Tete-Gilmour) is heavily crevassed and it is best to go to Tete-Forks pass and follow Gunboat Ridge, or the level glacial shelf to its west, to reach Gilmour Icefield.

Tete-Canoe pass (Ice Dome-Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier), used by the Mundays in 1925, is the most convenient passage between the Tete and Canoe Valleys and the northern and southern groups of the range; it is identified on the north by a small spur jutting into Tete Glacier, immediately west of the pass (CAJ 33(1950):152). The 1949 parties were assisted by an airdrop at 2740m near the Tete-Canoe pass (AAJ 7:425).

Some roads have reverted to slide alder. There is a bridge to the south side of the Fraser River at Tete Jaune Cache, leading to Kiwa Valley and Tete Creek. For the Kiwa Valley and Tete Creek, see just before Mount John Oliver.

The Kiwa-Raush Forest Service Road proceeds west and then north-west up the Raush River. The very old road up Kiwa Creek (now largely overgrown) branches south from it. See 'Access to Kiwa Valley (and Tete Creek)' below. Map 83E/4 Croydon.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1916- A. J. Gilmour, Edward W. D. Holway.
Exploration. (AJ 37:77; CAJ 8(1917):36)
- 1924- Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin, A. L. Withers.
(AAJ 37:69; GSP 25:67)
- 1925- Don and Phyllis Munday.
(AAJ 7:428, 432 photo; CAJ 15(1925):130); BCM 1925 (7):1)
- 1926- (CAJ 16(1926-27):177) a correction
- 1927- Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin. (APP 17:7)
- 1946- Raymond T. Zillmer. (CAJ 30(1947):85)
- 1949- (a) Alex Faberge', Sterling Hendricks, Don Hubbard, Chris Scoredos, Arnold Wexler, and (b) Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Kauffman, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Karcher, Art Lembeck, Jane Showacre. (CAJ 33(1950):41 map, photos)
- List of Peaks and Ascents in the Premier Groups. (CAJ 33(1950):122)
- 1973- BCMC Climbing Camp. (BCM 1976:9; BCM Newsletter (NLR) 1973(Apr.):3)
- 1976- ACC Climbing Camp. (CAJ 60(1977):110; BCM 1976:9)
- 1978- ACC Climbing Camp. (CAJ 62(1979):137)
- 1987- BCMC Climbing Camp. (BCM 1988:51)
- Various Years and Places. KMC Climbing Camp 1991 (KK 34:23).
Grizzly Group (CAJ 77(1994):96-99).
ACC Climbing Camp 2006. (CAJ 90(2007):26).

The mountains presented first are those east of Tete Creek and the Tete Icefield. Then, follow the peaks on the rim of the Kiwa Creek and Kiwa Icefield drainage, first from northeast to southwest (starting with Mount John Oliver and two summits NE of it) and then trending south, west and north around the Kiwa Icefield (E of Raush River and Black Martin Creek).

A possible pass exists between the Tete and Kiwa Valleys, just north of Mt. Burns at 163-585. It was discovered in 1916 by Holway and Gilmour, who reached the pass from the east, but the pass has never been crossed.

MICA MOUNTAIN 2851m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Mica Mountain is southeast of lower Tete Creek. Prospectors from nearby mining claims probably made the FA, and it has been climbed by a Topographic Survey party.

UNNAMED 2891m

On the Tete-McLennan divide, 1.6 kilometers south of Mica Mountain. Same remarks as for Mica Mountain.



**Mt. Stanley Baldwin, from the WNW, across the Tete Valley (aerial).
Photo: Roger Wallis.**

FORKS PEAK 3030m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Forks Peak is at map coordinates 210-571, south of upper Tete (Sand) Creek, between it and the tributary with a waterfall. Northwest of Mount Stanley Baldwin.

1. West Face. From camp (1890m) on the east lateral moraine of Tete Glacier, climb the scree and heather of the west face for 3 hours, and 1 hour more to the top. (II,3,s). Herman Genschorek, Ian Kay, Robert McLellan, Howard Rode, Walter Sparling, May 25, 1949. (AJ 37:68; CAJ 33(1950):24).

The first use of skis in the area was made during this trip.

MOUNT STANLEY BALDWIN (CHALLENGER) 3256m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. This striking peak has two black towers rising from Gilmour Icefield, and above Gilmour Glacier.

1. Southwest Ridge. Ascend Tete Glacier and follow a goat trail along its east edge to a bivouac on a grassy shoulder between the main glacier and the tributary from Gunboat Mountain. Climb to the col north of the latter (Tete-Forks pass), and go over the glacier, circling the base of small intermediate Peak A. Gain the ridge between this peak and Stanley Baldwin, no difficulty. Six hours from the bivouac. *Ice, Glacier* (III,4,s). July 2, 1924.

2. Southeast Ridge. The southeast ridge is an easy snow ascent from Gilmour Icefield. *Glacier* (III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Peter Brogden, Jolanta and Marek Jarecki, John Rance, Aug. 7, 1976. (CAJ 60(1977):110; PC: PB)

Mt. S. Baldwin was reached from a fly camp (from ACC climbing camp) at the base of Mount Aha. See Rt. 1, bivouac. (CAJ 60(1977):70)

UNNAMED (A; DOGTOOTH) 3060m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. The pointed summit between Gunboat Mtn. and Mt. Stanley Baldwin.

1. Northeast Ridge. Approach from Mount Stanley Baldwin, by the intervening snow ridge. *Glacier* (III,4,s). RC, AW, July 2, 1924.

GUNBOAT MOUNTAIN 3000m

Located on the west edge of Gilmour Icefield, a shapeless mass but a good viewpoint.

1. Southwest Slopes. The approach is the same as for Stanley Baldwin, but proceed toward Gunboat Pass (Gunboat-Aha) and then scramble up the southwest slopes. Tete-Forks pass offers better access. Glacier (II,4,s). AC, RC, June 29, 1924.

All four peaks of Gunboat Ridge were climbed en route to Mount Stanley Baldwin in 1949. (AAJ 7:429)

MOUNT ARTHUR MEIGHEN (CARPE') 3150m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. At the east end of the Gilmour Icefield.

1. Northwest Ridge. Use Gunboat Pass and descend to the icefield. Climb on steep icy snow on the right of the northwest ridge to within 150 meters of the summit, and follow the rock ridge to the top. Three hours from a bivouac on the McLennan River escarpment. A full day trip without a bivouac.

Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s). July 21, 1949(a).

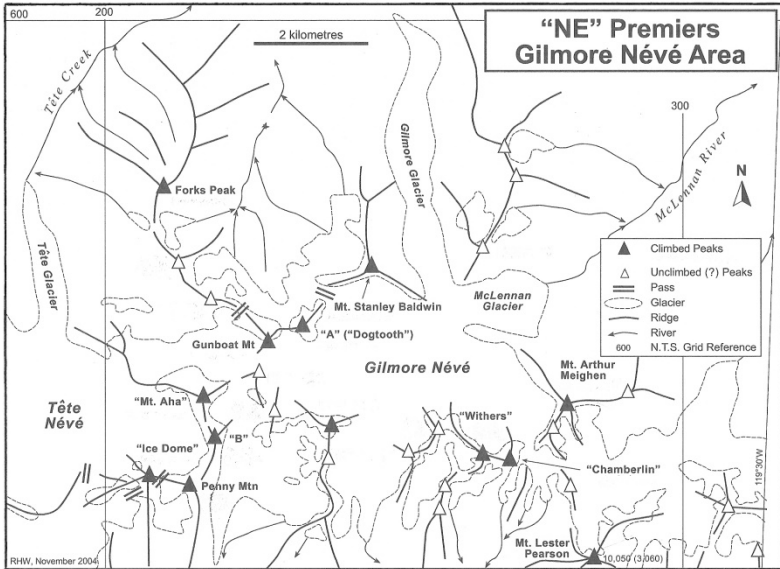
The peaks surrounding the Gilmour Icefield can be reached more directly from Tete Creek, by ascending Gilmour Creek to the icefield and avoiding Gunboat Pass. One can use Tete-Forks pass instead.

2. Southwest Ridge. The southwest ridge of Mt. Arthur Meighen is straightforward mixed rock, snow and ice with some crevasses close to the crest.

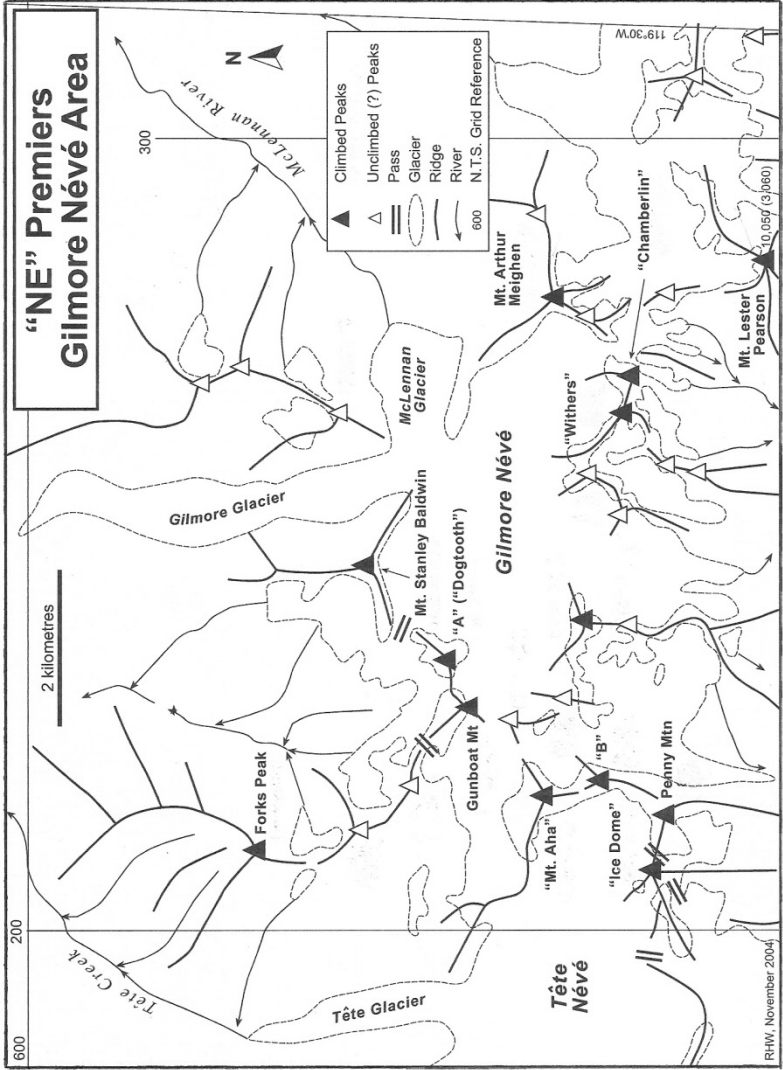
Descend the south rock rib off the southwest ridge, which is of loose rock until easy ground meets the glacier. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). A. Brearley, Cochrane, Mick Guerrico, July 1982. (PC: Roger Laurilla, Orvel Miskiw)

3. South Rib. See Route 2 descent.

4. South Couloir. Cross the bergschrund and take the south snow couloir directly to the col below the summit, 35 degrees maximum. The climb took 5.5 hours round trip from camp at 2740 meters south of the mountain. Glacier (II,4,s). Lesley Reid with Albi Sole, July 1982. (PC: Roger Laurilla)



Roger Wallis



Roger Wallis

MOUNT LESTER PEARSON (ZILLMER) 3060m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Located 2.7 km south-southeast of Mount Arthur Meighen, above Canoe River.

1. North Slopes. From Gilmour Icefield, cross Meighen-Unnamed (Chamberlin) pass and descend via a snow gully to the glacier at the head of McLennan River. Leave gear for a return bivouac by a tarn at 2840m (9320 feet), northwest of the peak.

The ascent detours a low bump on the face. There is a bergschrund, and a rotten rock gully 15 meters from the top; one hour up. Ice, Glacier (I,4,s). August 3, 1949 (a). (PC: Orvel Miskiw)

2. Northwest Ridge, Northwest Glacier. Ascend the northwest ridge over easy but very broken and rotten rock to gain the upper northwest glacier, which is followed to the summit. Only 1.5 hours were spent on the climb.

One may descend via a col in the northeast ridge, and then to the north, or descend by Route 1. Glacier (I,4,s). Mick Guerrico with Albi Sole, July 1982. (PC: Roger Laurilla)

MOUNT PIERRE TRUDEAU 2640m

Map 83D/14, 366-529, on the same ridge with Mounts Joel and Nord.

UNNAMED 2510m

Zillmer also appears to have climbed Un. 2510m in 1946, see below (8250 feet; 315-532 on the west border of map 83D/14). Watch for a cairn.

MOUNT NORD 2640m**MOUNT JOEL 2640m**

Both of these small peaks lie east of Mount Lester Pearson on map 83D/14 Valemount. Grid coordinates are 355-518 for Mount Nord (northeast) and 345-507 for Mount Joel (southwest). Mount Nord was climbed on August 5, 1946 by the explorer Raymond T. Zillmer, via an "easy ridge", and Mount Joel by Joel Nord before 1946, date and route unknown.

UNNAMED (CHAMBERLIN) 3120m

Map 83D/13. The peak formerly called Mount Chamberlin, a difficult one, is southwest of Mount Arthur Meighen and a pass, and east of Unnamed (Withers) at coordinates 270-523, on the southeast corner of the Gilmour Icefield.

1. North Ridge. The rock is easier on the west side of the beginning buttress of the north ridge (slippery mica schist). A 40-50 degree snow slope adhering to ice is above. Keep 1-6 meters on the west side (deeper snow) until past the rock outcropping. In the final 60m, climb the ridge proper (a smooth ice dome, 50-60 degrees) and then a rock cat-walk.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.3,s). Dennis Holden, David Kennedy, Robert McFarlane, Carman Smith, July 2, 1959. (VOCJ 2:94; AAJ 7:427; CAJ 43(1960):57)

2. West Ridge. Descended by the party of August 1982, en route to the east ridge of Unnamed (Withers), Route 2. No details available, see Un. (Withers).

UNNAMED (WITHERS) 3120m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Map coordinates 265-524, at the southeast head (corner) of the Gilmour Icefield.

1. Northwest Ridge. Approach from Gunboat Pass. The northwest ridge is without difficulty from the Gilmour Icefield. Camp was on the south slopes of Forks Peak, below the high lateral moraine of Tete Glacier's east tributary. Eight hours. Glacier (III,4,s). AF, SH, AL, July 18, 1949 (a). (See also CAJ 43(1960):57; VOCJ 2:92)

2. East Ridge. The east ridge is an interesting and scenic route reached by traversing from the summit of Mount Chamberlin. The main hazards are loose rock and cornices.

The traverse of Unnamed Chamberlin and Withers from the Gilmour Icefield is recommended for an intermediate party. Ice, Glacier (III,5.3,s). Steve Boothman, Anne Brearley, Keith Cover, Orvel Miskiw, August 1982. (PC: Roger Laurilla, OM)

UNNAMED 3090m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Located on the south rim of the Gilmour Icefield, west of Un. (Withers).

1. West to East Traverse. From camp at the moraine next to the east tributary of Tete Glacier, go by way of Gunboat Mountain and the icefield. Climb the west ridge and descend the east face, an easy walk. Glacier (II,4,s). Leon Blumer, Peter Brogden, Jolanta and Marek Jarecki, John Rance, August 8, 1976. (CAJ 60(1977):110; PC: LB)

MOUNT AHA 3060m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Located 1.6 km north of Penny Mountain, north of Unnamed (B).

1. South to Northwest Traverse. Traverse south to northwest along a sharp rock ridge with some exposure near the top. The south ridge is composed of large broken blocks; Class 3. Veer onto the face to avoid a sharp break in the ridge while descending the northwest ridge. "A disconcerting fifteen meter section of rotten mica schist must be negotiated before reaching the snow." Return to the nunatak (see Penny Mountain). Glacier (II,4,s). July 9, 1924. (CAJ 33(1950):41)

Instead of traversing, it is easier to descend the south ridge. One can then descend from the south col to Tete Icefield, or return over Unnamed (B) and Penny Mountain to the camp near North Canoe Glacier. (PC: Kim Kratky)

UNNAMED (UNNAMED B) 3060m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. This summit is located on the Canoe River escarpment, north-northeast of Penny Mountain.

1. South to North Traverse. Traverse from Penny Mountain. The north ridge is easy rock and snow. Glacier (II,4,s). July 9, 1924. (PC: Kim Kratky)



Mt. Sir John Thompson (r, Southern Premiers) from the Northern Premiers (from the NE). Pyramid (left of Sir John Thompson), then Crescent Mountain and David Peak. The Little Matterhorn is below Crescent Mountain, left of center. Photo: Tom Swaddle.

PENNY MOUNTAIN (HOLWAY'S PENNY) 3000m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Penny Mountain was the first summit climbed in the Northern Premier Range. It is three kilometers north of North Canoe Glacier, on the ridge. A Canadian penny was left in the small summit cairn.

1. West Ridge. The original approach was up the true right side of Tete Glacier. Go up through the icefall along the east edge to the upper plateau of Tete Icefield. The peak, east-southeast of the icefield center, is reached beyond the Ice Dome. The eastern cliffs are above Canoe River.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). August 16, 1916. Holway climbed this twice.

The climb was repeated in 1924 from a bivouac (see Mount Stanley Baldwin, above), crossing the side glacier to a large nunatak between it and the main icefall. Unnamed (B) and Mount Aha were then traversed.

The approach in 1960 was long, from south of Canoe River, fording the river and climbing from the valley, 17 hours round trip. There was tough bushwhacking and pleasant meadows, and the upper glacier. The route has probably altered due to glacial retreat. (III,4,s). Frances Chamberlin. Roger Neave and Gertrude Smith, early August 1960. (CAJ 44(1961):42)

From Lakes Camp, south of the ridge, the route is direct but crevasses and a bergschrund force one onto the rocks near the top. Ascend a couloir to the west ridge, partly a snowy knife edge. (CAJ 62(1979):137; PC: Ferdl Taxbock)

2. North Slopes. Descended during the traverse to Mount Aha, July 9, 1924.

ICE DOME 2910m

This lesser summit is just west of Penny Mountain. Tete-Canoe pass, used by the Mundays in 1925, is just west of the Ice Dome.

1. West Slopes. Climb the west slopes from the Tete Icefield. See Penny Mountain. Glacier (II,4,s). July 18, 1949(b).

Ice Dome is easy via the east or west slopes. (PC: Kim Kratky)

2. East Slopes. An easy climb, which is rated Class 4 (rope necessary) because of glacier travel.

Access to Kiwa Valley (and Tete Creek)

If one approaches from the northwest on Highway 16, a turnoff is about 34 km (21 miles) northwest from the junction of Highways 5 and 16 at Tete Jaune Cache (and 30 km southeast of McBride). Turn right and cross the Fraser River to the Dunster-Croydon road. Turn southeast to Dunster and Croydon (rail stops), past a sign to the Shere Lake Rest Area, to Kiwa Creek. Cross the bridge, immediately turn west and follow the Kiwa-Raush Forest Service Road on the south side of Kiwa Creek to a parking lot at about 910 meters (3000 feet) on the south side, about 28 km (17.4 miles) from Highway 16.

If one approaches from the northeast, go to Tete Jaune Cache, 0.5 km west of Highway 5 before its junction with Highway 16 (Yellowhead Highway) and one kilometer south of Highway 16 (south of the Fraser River). Drive south about one km on a secondary road, turn right (west) and follow the Old Tete Jaune road. After crossing McLennan River and then **Tete Creek**, turn left after 0.7 km (0.4 miles) beyond (west of) Tete Creek following the Old Tete Jaune road which winds (overgrown?). On reaching Kiwa Creek (about 15 km from the secondary road), go west on its south side to the parking lot.

(The Mica Mountain road branches off left just before Tete Creek is reached, east of Tete Creek, just before a sawmill. A right turn off this road leads to the Mica Mountain Trail, and **Tete Creek**.)

The Kiwa Glacier road starts from the parking lot and goes 17 km on the east side of Kiwa Creek (the creek bends to N-S near the parking lot). Now, it is passable only on foot. It was passable for an ATV in 2004, but now appears overgrown. The trees are so high that a helicopter cannot land at the 1927 campsite, at the east edge of Kiwa Glacier

The last 7 km, leading to 'Kiwa Lake' (1450m, 4760 feet), involves serious bushwhacking, and can require a whole day. Either walk in Kiwa Creek (or the edge), or the slide alder.

Follow the east side of the lake, and then the moraine and ablation valley of the lower, flat Kiwa Glacier. At 5500 feet (1680m), a stream enters from the east (base camp, 1927). From here, there are three choices to reach the flattish upper part of the rock rib on the east side of the glacier. No route is easy or obvious (**consult campsites, just before Bivouac Peak**). One, stay near the east side of the glacier (shortest, great views of the icefall), on ledges partly; two, go straight up the central rock buttress; three, possibly follow the glacier descending to the northwest from Mounts Goodell, Burns and Bowell, and then cut across an intervening rock rib at almost 9000 feet (2740m) and another glacier to reach the rock rib (most of one day).

MOUNT JOHN OLIVER (ASPIRATION) 3120m

Mount John Oliver rises 6 kilometers north of the snout of Tete Glacier, north of the head of Tete (Sand) Creek, between the Tete and Kiwa Valleys.

Mount John Oliver is somewhat isolated. On Route 3, one has a good view of Kiwa Lake, about 1500 meters or so below, and one can stop at Gneiss Meadows.

1. Northeast Glacier, Northeast Ridge. Approach via Kiwa Creek and try to locate an old abandoned campsite (the Rapids campsite) which is a possible landmark near the beginning of the route from the valley.

Cross a creek and climb two subsidiary peaks northeast of Mount John Oliver, separated by a high col from the summit. From the high col, go up onto the northeast glacier, traverse right and climb a steep snow slope. The flat terrace-ridge above and a slope on the Tete side of the ridge lead to the summit.

From the high col, descend long snow slopes to the cirque, a good ascent route. Glacier (IV,4,s). Don Lyon, Rocky Morin, Carman Smith, July 29, 1962. (CAJ 46(1963):22)

2. Northern Cirque. The descent route of Route 1. From the high col, descend long snow slopes to the north (see above), a good ascent route.

3. Southwest Ridge. The southwest ridge is of easy, good rock with steps, mostly gneiss, and the climb is on the ridge crest all the way. The starting point was the lower ACC climbing camp site, in the valley just west of Symmetry Spire. A 14 hour day. (III,3,s). Brett Adam, Robert Berger, Elizabeth Eckhardt, Rudi Thoni with Brad Harrison, July 2006. (CAJ 90(2007):29)

UNNAMED 2580m

Height 8450 feet. Coordinates 174-627. Located two kilometers directly west of Mount John Oliver. Members of the 2006 ACC climbing camp also ascended this summit.

UNNAMED 2850m

Height 9350 feet. One km southwest of Mount John Oliver. Traversed by the 2006 ACC climbing camp participants on the way to Mount John Oliver (see Route 3).

UNNAMED 2640m

Coordinates 183-606; 1.2 kilometers east-northeast of Symmetry Spire. Ascended by the 2006 ACC climbing camp. The rock is greasy on this mountain, but the climb is straightforward. (PC: David Dornian)

UNNAMED 2760m

Located 0.5 kilometer northwest of Symmetry Spire, and ascended by the ACC in 2006. Traversed, northwest to southeast, on the way to the northwest ridge of Symmetry Spire; Class 3.

SYMMETRY SPIRE 2790m

Map coordinates 172-601. Climbed in 2006 by the ACC.

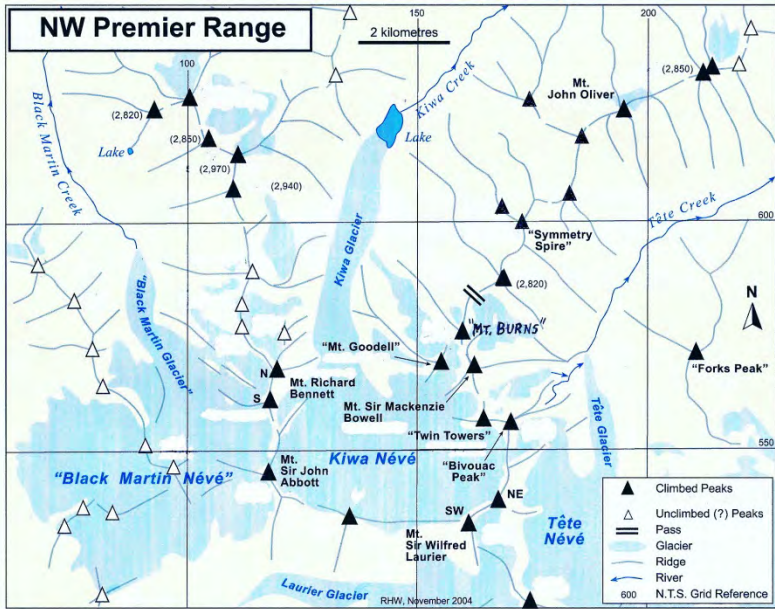
1. Northwest Ridge. From the helicopter camp in the valley west of Symmetry Spire, traverse over Un. 2760m (above; northwest of the spire) and climb the northwest ridge. One spot near the top may need protection (Class 5.0); the rest is Class 3. July 2006. (PC: Peter Findlay, David Dornian)

2. South Ridge. The south ridge can be used to descend to the col at the head of the valley (camp). Class 3. (PC: David Dornian)

UNNAMED 2820m

Situated two km north-northeast of Mount Sir Mackenzie Bowell.

1. Southeast Slopes. From camp on the Forks Peak flank of Tete Glacier, descend and cross the tongue of Tete Glacier at about 1830 meters. The peak is an easy climb. (III,3,s). Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Kauffman, Arthur Lembeck, Jane Showacre, July 31, 1949. (CAJ 33(1950):41; AAJ 7:429; PC: AK)



Roger Wallis

MOUNT BURNS 3167m

Mount Burns is 0.8 km north-northwest of Mount Sir M. Bowell. The altitude is given by the GPS (2004).

1. Southwest Slopes. From camp on a rock spur (2480m, 8150 feet) on the east side of Kiwa Glacier, ascend the southwest slopes to the top. Glacier (II,4,s). Rich. Crompton, Chris Faulhaber, Clive Lister, July 1965. (PC: RC via R. Wallis; summit cairn record)

This route was also reached from another camp (E side of Kiwa Glacier) at 2630m (8640 feet), 143-565. Traverse the southern slopes of Mount Goodell (0.7 km west of Sir M. Bowell; access to these two also) to the Bowell-Goodell col and cross it, south to north. Cross the uppermost part of a small glacier trending to the northwest, and cross below the Bowell-Burns col to the southwest slopes. Scramble talus and broken rock buttresses. Glacier (II,4,s). Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, August 13, 2004. (PC: RW)

MOUNT SIR MACKENZIE BOWELL (WELCOME) 3301m

This summit rises 1.4 km northwest of Bivouac Peak, 3.4 km north of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, between Kiwa and Tete Glaciers.

1. West Slopes. Start from a camp at the Kiwa moraine (1750m, 5750 feet) on the valley's east wall, and climb a high intermediate peak (Goodell) to its west. Descend a steep snow slope and mount loose rocks and snow of the W slopes to the summit. Glacier (III,4,s). July 4, 1927.

The best way to reach the west slope is to ascend from a camp at 2630m (8640 feet), 143-565, on a rock spur on the east side of Kiwa Glacier, to the col (with Mt. Goodell) west of Mount Sir M. Bowell.

This camp was reached by helicopter.

2. Southwest Ridge. Ascend the east side of Kiwa Glacier, avoiding the two main icefalls, and follow the rock ridge leading to the upper Kiwa Icefall. Then climb the entire southwest ridge. Glacier (III,4,s). Steve Liang, Wm. Prytula, summer 1984. (PC: Alan Huggett via R. Wallis)

3. South Ridge. This group reached the west side of the mountain on skis, kicked steps to just south of the summit, and climbed the south ridge. Descent by the same route.

Glacier (III,4,s). Glen Boles, Don Forest, Jim Fosti, Leon Kubbernus, Mike Simpson, Bruno Struck, May 23 and 25, 1993. (CAJ 77(1994):98; PC: GB, LK via R. Wallis)

4. Direct West Face. From the camp at 2630m (8640 feet), gain the Bowell-Goodell col (see Mt. Burns also), and ascend the 30 degree ice face on the west slope to the north ridge just below the summit; then up the north ridge. There is no summit register.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Paul Geddes, Wm. McKenzie, August 9, 2004. (PC: Roger Wallis)

MOUNT GOODELL 3127m

This smaller mountain is 0.7 km west of Mount Sir M. Bowell. The altitude is given by the GPS (2004).

L. E. "Slim" Goodell was the chief horse packer for the group of Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin and A. L. Withers in 1924 (also in 1927). George Burns was the second packer in 1924. Due to undergrowth, largely slide alder, the Kiwa Valley is now barely passable on foot.

1. Northwest Slopes. See Sir M. Bowell, Route 1. Mount Goodell was traversed, northwest to east. FA July 4, 1927.

2. East Face. See Route 1. A steep descent.

3. West Slope, South Ridge. On skis over the glacier. A short climb. Jim Fosti, Leon Kubbernus, Mike Simpson, Bruno Struck, May 23 and 25, 1993. They left a summit record.

This climb was repeated on August 9 and 11, 2004. (PC: Roger Wallis)

TWIN TOWERS 2960m

These towers are 1.2 km south-southeast of Mount Sir M. Bowell and 0.5 km west of Bivouac Peak. There is a deep col between the Towers and Bivouac Peak. The peak has a flat top, but on its northeast side are two prominent rock towers which overhang the steep southwest headwall of a glacier flowing east to the Tete Valley. An excellent viewpoint.

1. North Ridge. From camp at 2630m (8640 feet) on the east side of Kiwa Glacier, ascend the glacier in a due east direction. Pass below the south slopes of both Mount Goodell and Mount Sir M. Bowell and reach the col between the Towers and the latter.

Follow the north ridge southwards to the Twin Towers.

Glacier (II,4,s). Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Roger Wallis, August 16, 2004. (PC: RW)

Campsites

At 1680m (5500 feet; year 1927) below the lower icefall, there is flat ground at the east edge of Kiwa Glacier. However, the ascent to 2440m (8000 feet) is difficult (ice, crevasses, cliffs, scree, rockfall), the camp is too distant from some climbs and is too low. The trees at this site have grown so high that a helicopter cannot land.

Near 2480m (8150 feet, east side of Kiwa Glacier; 1965) there are grassy benches, none large but quite a few of them. A fresh water stream crosses the benches.

At 2630m (8640 feet, east side; 1993, 2004) there is fresh moraine, dust and mud, little flat ground and no water. One can land a helicopter.

The 2006 ACC climbing camp site was west of Symmetry Spire, on the stream draining the west side of the peak. A helicopter shuttle was used to transport climbers to the camp nearer the Kiwa Icefield.

Gentian Dome, in the Tete Valley, is close to Bivouac Peak (which see) and the latter gives access to the Kiwa Icefield.

BIVOUAC PEAK 3000m

Grid coordinates 169-557, 2.2 km north of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier.

1. Northeast Ridge. From the base of the peak, ascend from Tete Glacier up the moraine of a side glacier to steep heather slopes and a small snowfield, and to the northeast ridge. This ridge and Mount Sir Mackenzie Bowell enclose a cirque containing a hanging glacier with a waterfall. The ridge is attained at 2440 meters (8000 feet) and the lower part is soft, rotten mica schist full of garnets. There is steep, firm rock higher up with stretches of snow. Ascent, 6 hours. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). AC, RC, June 30, 1924. (CAJ 33(1950):50)

2, Southwest Slopes. Descended on the traverse to Mt. Sir Wilfred Laurier, July 5, 1924. Also climbed by the same group, 1924, on return.

3. South Ridge. The south ridge is very easy when in condition, and was climbed by the party of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, Route 3. Glacier (II,4,s).

Don and Phyllis Munday entered by way of Tete Creek in 1925, and camped on a rounded, wooded knoll (**Gentian Dome**) at the base of Bivouac Peak. They climbed over Bivouac Peak (no bivouac) and then did the second ascent of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, by Route 1.



Mt. Sir W. Laurier, east face (profile; aerial); Bivouac Peak under its summit (left of center) and Mt. Sir M. Bowell (right). Also in the frontispiece. Photo: R. Wallis.



Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier (left) and Mount Sir John Abbott from the north. The Kiwa Icefall is in the center. Use the magnifier (Zoom) to see this better. Photo: Roger Wallis (2013).

UNNAMED 3000m

At coordinates 174-517 on map 83D/13, Kiwa Creek, next to the base of the south ridge of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier's east summit. It is dwarfed by the mass of the latter. This peak, and a summit of quartzite, were ascended by Don and Phyllis Munday on July 14, 1925 via the ridge rising west from Tete-Canoe pass. (CAJ 15(1925):130)

MOUNT SIR WILFRED LAURIER (TITAN) 3516m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Altitude 11,535 feet. Located between Tete and Kiwa Icefields, Mt. Sir Wilfred Laurier and Mt. Sir Sandford are the highest peaks in the Columbia Mountains. The summit is a glacial plateau with three snow domes. The height is by the GPS (2004).

It is higher than most of the high peaks in the Canadian Rockies.

1. Upper West Ridge. From a bivouac on the summit of Bivouac Peak, descend 300 m to the Kiwa Icefield, crossing at the base of the north face toward the W ridge.

A corridor leads toward the skyline, above which the face is crevassed (ice late in season). The rocks of the west ridge are reached a very few hundred meters below the summit, with the ice cliff of the summit cap above the ridge. Four hours from Bivouac Peak. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). July 5, 1924. (CAJ 15(1925):130 photo; CAJ 33(1950):41)

2. South Rib, East Ridge. From Lakes Camp (see Southern Premiers), above North Canoe Glacier, climb a rock ridge for about 300m to North Canoe Glacier above the icefall. Cross the glacier to a rock rib on the east edge of the south face. Do not follow the south rib to the east end of the east ridge, but reach the glacial basin at 3,100m (CAJ 65(1982):16, photo p. 12) from which the east ridge is gained and followed to the summit, the highest of three snow domes. Glacier (III,4,s). July 24, 1949(a&b).

3. North Ridge. The 1976 party started from a bivouac at the north col (see Mounts Sir John Abbott and Richard Bennett). The north ridge is probably the route of choice on the north side when it is in condition, and is a nice snow ridge with one short, modest rock step. It leads to the northeast (lower) summit, and is steep and aesthetic. Then traverse the ridge to the southwest summit. The party traversed the mountain to Lakes Camp.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s,*). Robert Kruszyna, Art Maki, Hamish Mutch, August 7, 1976. (PC: RK)

The FA party of 1924 avoided this ridge because of black ice and avalanches.

4. West Ridge. From a camp on the Kiwa Icefield, above the second icefall, cross the upper icefield to the base of the west ridge, and then follow the crest. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). Robert and Doug Knight, Siegfried Phlug, late August 1986. (PC: Alan Huggett via R. Wallis). This is the complete west ridge.

UNNAMED 2970m

Un. 2970m lies 2.5 km west of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, between it and Mount Sir John Abbott. Its narrow ridge separates the Kiwa Icefield (N) and Laurier Glacier (S).

1. East Ridge. The two climbers ascended Kiwa Glacier on its east side and camped above the upper icefall on the icefield. From the col east of the summit, they climbed the east ridge. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). Alan Huggett, Steve Liang, July 7, 1988. (PC: AH via Roger Wallis)

MOUNT SIR JOHN ABBOTT (KIWA) 3411m

Altitude 11,190 feet. On the west wall of upper Kiwa Glacier, a striking snow and ice peak west-northwest of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier. The height is given by the GPS (2004), agreeing with the survey.

1. East Glacier, Upper South Ridge. The 1927 approach was by Kiwa Creek with a camp (1750m) in timber between the Kiwa moraine and the east valley wall. They bivouacked at 2590m on the rock rib above the east side of the icefall, opposite the base of the mountain. Cross the glacier and mount crevassed slopes, north to south, to a small shelf in front of the sharp, final peak, which is ascended by its south ridge, going onto the east face in places. It is steep and is mostly on snow (but be prepared for ice). Five hours from the bivouac.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s,*). July 8, 1927.

2. Northwest Face, West Ridge. The long approach was from a camp on the summit of Bivouac Peak. The northwest face is six 50 meter rope lengths of snow-covered ice and the west ridge is a series of rotten steps to the top.

The 1973 party descended the north ridge to the Kiwa Icefield, 14 hours round trip. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Gary Bruce, John Ellwood, August 6, 1973. (CAJ 57(1974):108)

The route of access to the northwest face in 1973 (to the "Black Martin" icefield) is unclear, as is the route of descent. Both may have used the Abbott-Bennett col (see Mt. Richard Bennett), which appears to be the only practical access from the east side.



Mt. Sir John Abbott, from upper Kiwa Valley. Photo: Glen Stanley.



Mt. Sir John Abbott from the northeast (aerial). Photo: Roger Wallis.

3. East Glacier, Upper North Ridge. This route was ascended by the group of 1976 and the entire north ridge descended to gain Mount Richard Bennett (which see). Ice is often present on the north ridge.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Robert Kruszyna, Art Maki, Hamish Mutch, August 6, 1976. (PC: RK)

The route on the east side of Mount Sir John Abbott is variable, and this is reasonable because almost all the east face is a glacier, whose crevasses and snow bridges vary from time to time, and year to year. The original route started on the north end, with a rising traverse north to south reaching the south ridge.

The 1976 group went up the northeast, or the center, part of the east glacier (crossing the original line) and finished on the north ridge. The party of 2004 started in the center, going basically straight up, finishing on the north ridge also. Descent was by the same route. (PC: R. Wallis)

4. South Ridge. On May 24, 1993, the party of six of the Grizzly Group (see Mt. Sir M. Bowell, Route 3) skied to the south end of the peak, left the skis and climbed below the south ridge. They probably considered avalanche danger in the center of the east glacier.

Starting at the snow plateau under the summit, they first tried the north ridge, which was not in condition. The south ridge had a delicate ice pitch.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Glen Boles, Don Forest, Jim Fosti, Leon Kubbernus, Mike Simpson, Bruno Struck, May 24, 1993. (PC: GB, LK, via Roger Wallis; CAJ 77(1994):96). Consult Routes 1 and 3.

5. West Ridge. From camp on the east side of Mount Sir John Abbott, go over the Abbott-Bennett col and descend 250m to the "Black Martin" Icefield. The west ridge was not highly technical, but was exposed all the way and spectacular. Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s,*). ACC climbing camp group with Brad Harrison, 2006. (CAJ 90(2007):26)

Members of the Grizzly Group (below) attempted the complete west ridge from the Black Martin Icefield in 1991, but were stopped by a narrow ice ridge.



On the way to camp on the rock rib. Mt. Richard Bennett is left, in clouds, Kiwa Glacier at lower right. The smaller peak in the center is unnamed. Photo: Glen Stanley.



Kiwa Icefall and Kiwa Lake, 2013. Photo: Roger Wallis.

MOUNT RICHARD BENNETT 3195m

On the west wall of Kiwa Glacier, 2.3 km north of Sir John Abbott. The 1927 FA in the IRBC 1975 is in error. The height was measured by the GPS (2004).

1. South Ridge. From Lakes Camp (see Southern Premiers), the three climbers traversed Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier to a bivouac on upper Kiwa Icefield. After climbing Mount Sir John Abbott, they ascended the south ridge of Mount Richard Bennett which is quite long. When climbed without the traverse, the south ridge is Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Robert Kruszyna, Art Maki, Hamish Mutch, August 6, 1976. (PC: RK)

One may also cross the Kiwa Icefield and ascend the glacier to the John Abbott-Rich. Bennett col (expect ice below the col); then along the broken rock and buttresses of the south ridge (over the south summit, a full day; see Route 2), the 1976 descent in reverse. August 17, 2004. (PC: R. Wallis). The north summit is higher.

2. East Ridge, Traverse. Descend directly down the east ridge (from the N summit), talus and rock steps to Kiwa Glacier. See Route 1.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, August 17, 2004. (PC:RW)

UNNAMED 2723m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek. Located just east of lower Black Martin Creek (tributary of Raush River) in the northern section of the Northern Premiers. Climbed by a Topographic Survey party, date and route unknown. Surveyed at 8933 feet. (114-713)

Higher peaks lie nearby, and also to the southwest, east of the Raush River.

UNNAMED 3057m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek, 100-628; surveyed at 10,030 feet. Climbed by the southeast ridge (1991).

UNNAMED 2820m

At 092-625. Located 0.8 km west-southwest of the above. NE ridge.

UNNAMED 2850m

At 104-618. One km south-southeast of Un. 3057m. SW ridge.

UNNAMED 2970m

Grid 110-615. On the N-S ridge, 0.7 km southeast of Un. 2850m. South ridge.

UNNAMED 2940m

At 109-608. On the N-S ridge, 0.7 km south of the above. W ridge.

These summits, and Awik Peak, are far northwest and north of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, and complete the horseshoe-shaped sequence of peaks around Kiwa Icefield and Kiwa Creek.

These five peaks, northwest of Kiwa Glacier and north of Mount Richard Bennett, were climbed on August 12 and 17, 1991 by Jim Fosti, Leon Kubbernus, Gordon Scruggs and Mike Simpson from a camp at 095-604, west of the southernmost peak. All were traversed. (Once Upon a Mountain - the Legend of the Grizzly Group, by Bob Sandford (2002; pp 1-24), Summit Series (Vol. 3), ACC; PC: LK to Roger Wallis, 2004)

August 12, 1991. From camp at 095-604, cross the stream north of camp, and climb the southwest ridge of Un. 2850m (the third of the 5). Descend its north-northwest ridge and ascend the southeast ridge of Un. 3057m. Go down the southwest slopes of Un. 3057m, and climb the westernmost peak (Un. 2820m) by the northeast ridge. Descend its southwest ridge to a small lake and return to camp.

August 17, 1991. From camp, ascend the west ridge of Un. 2940m (southernmost) and go down the north ridge. Climb the south ridge of Un. 2970m and descend the northwest ridge (next to Un. 2850m). Return down the southwest slopes to camp.



Awik Peak from south, showing route of approach and southwest ridge at left. Photo: Roger Wallis.

At the present time (2016), numbers of high points remain unexplored in the Cariboo Mountains. At least eight of these lie on the relatively inaccessible ridge between Black Martin Creek and Raush River, or east of Raush River, from 2910 meters to 2730 meters, just east of the Wells Gray Group on map 83D/13.

AWIK PEAK 3015m

Located north of Kiwa Glacier and northwest of Kiwa Creek at coordinates 152-687. The map says 9850 feet (interpolated) which is in good agreement with 9892 feet (3015m on TRIM map).

It is twelve kilometers north of Mount Richard Bennett and north of the five summits done in 1991 (above), and does not show on the maps drawn in the text. **This peak completes the horseshoe around the Kiwa Icefield, which starts with Mt. John Oliver (see beginning of Group).**

1. Southwest Ridge. From camp on the west side of the large lake (1.7 km south-southwest of objective), ascend roughly northeast, cross the stream, and head north to the col with the peak southwest of Awik Peak. The southwest ridge has numerous steps, Class 4, made more difficult by a half meter of fresh snow. Glacier (III,4,s). Don Chiasson, Norman Greene, Roger Wallis, July 16, 2013. (PC: RW; CAJ 97(2014):107)

UNNAMED 2765m

Altitude 8950 feet (map 83D/13), 2765m (9071 feet) on TRIM map. Grid 150-669.

1. Northwest Ridge. From camp just east of the large lake (see Awik Peak), climb the snow and rock of the northwest ridge. Don Chiasson, Norman Greene, July 18, 2013. (PC: Roger Wallis)

UNNAMED 2668m

Altitude 8750 feet (map 83D/13), 2668m (8753 feet) on TRIM map. Grid 145-659.

1. North Face. The north face is a snow route. Glacier (II,4,s). Don Chiasson, July 14, 2013. (PC: Roger Wallis)

2. Northwest Ridge. The northwest ridge is a rock and snow route. Don Chiasson, James Goldman, Norman Greene, Roger Wallis, July 15, 2013. (PC:RW; CAJ 97(2014):107)

UNNAMED 2730m

Altitude 8950 feet. Grid 138-652. The top has a very steep snow slope. (attempt, 2013)

SOUTHERN PREMIER RANGE

MAPS- 83D/12 Azure River, 83D/13 Kiwa Creek and
83D/11 Canoe Mountain

The Premier Range has been divided into two groups by an east-west line along Canoe River, North Canoe Glacier, and Laurier Glacier (between Mounts Sir Wilfred Laurier and Mackenzie King). The Tete-Canoe pass (Sir Wilfred Laurier-Ice Dome), on the northern side of North Canoe Glacier and its icefield, and at the head of Tete Icefield, connects these two groups. Canoe River drains to the Columbia River, while western effluents north of Trigon Mountain, and most of the Northern Premiers, drain to the Raush and Fraser Rivers directly.

Some of the peaks are accessible from the "Lakes Camp" on the north slope of Canoe River above the lower tongue of North Canoe Glacier. Penny Mountain and Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, in the Northern Premiers, are also accessible, as well as those within range from Tete-Canoe pass and an advance camp. The 1976 ACC Lakes Camp was at 1920m (6300 feet) SSW of Penny Mountain, between the forks of a stream (coordinates 208-500, map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek). Transportation is usually by helicopter. Bring plenty of mosquito repellent. There are campsites on rock benches about one hour's travel higher up, close to the icefield, but with lamentable trash accumulations. They may be snow covered and unusable.

The 1991 Kootenay Mountaineering Club Climbing Camp was in a muskeg meadow on a rocky outcrop north-northeast of North Canoe Glacier's icefall. Coordinates are about 195-495, on a direct line between Little Matterhorn and Ice Dome. It is 120 meters higher than Lakes Camp and closer to the big climbs. Within 15 minutes' walk to the northeast and down were two lakes. Rock ribs beyond the lakes offered good bathing pools. (PC: Kim Kratky)

Several excellent photos are published in CAJ 65(1982):12-15. The high summits are not as lofty as in the north, but they are not inferior in scenery.

"We also knew why the camp on that side of the (Columbia River; in Swan Creek) river had been named "Winged Hell". - - - - It was often hard to tell the color of our pants or shirts as the mosquitos would completely cover them. We gave up eating and drank clear soups, hot jello, and tea through our head nets."

Dorothy T. Swartz

Access

The Cariboo Lodge is 21 km (13 miles) from the highway on the south side of the Canoe River. Drive south from Valemount on Highway 5 and turn off onto the Upper Canoe Road on the north side of Canoe River; about two-thirds of the way, the road crosses a bridge to the south side. The old road continued on the north side to Hystad's lumber camp, 22 kilometers from the highway, but the old road's present condition is unknown; the old site of Johnson's Mill is on the south side. It is best to bushwhack on the north side of the river. If necessary, cross the river where the valley widens. The icefall of North Canoe Glacier may be passed by climbing the cliffs on the east bank.

The South Canoe Glacier may be reached from the head of the valley by ascending a series of glaciated bluffs and following a good goat trail up the crest of the steep east lateral moraine. (See Chilkst Peaks.)

The fine peaks at the head of Zillmer (S4) Creek may be reached by following an overgrown logging road which ascends the valley side from Johnson's Mill and enters Long (S3) Creek. (See Chamberlin Peak.)

From Gosnell, the North Thompson River may be followed to Lebher Creek on a two wheel drive road, about 40 km (25 miles), on the south slopes of the Southern Premier Range. Logging blocks above Lebher Creek give easy day access to a large unnamed lake (82D/12 Azure River, grid 280-325) which is an ideal base for various climbs on the unnamed peak (2700m; 296-338) one kilometer to the northeast, and is the best route to Mount Zillmer and Chamberlin Peak. (PC: Ross Cloutier)

On Highway 5, the big steel bridge over the North Thompson River (at Gosnell) marks the westward bend of the North Thompson River. The Forest Service Road along the North Thompson River starts just north of the bridge. It is a very long road.

Helicopter companies generally prefer that you operate from their airports and leave your automobiles in their parking lots. On bad roads, this also assures that your vehicle will not be trapped by bad conditions, such as storms, when you return to it. The vehicles are also safer from theft or vandalism. The Cariboo Lodge does not always appreciate the use of its facilities.

See the list of helicopter companies in the Introduction.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1925- Don and Phyllis Munday.
(AAJ 7:428, 432 photo; CAJ 15(1925):130; BCM 1925 (7):1)
- 1949- Alex Faberge, Sterling Hendricks, Don Hubbard, Chris Scoredos, Arnold Wexler. (PATC 19:44; CAJ 33(1950):41 map, photos)
- 1960(a)- Ken Baker, Alex Faberge, John Fairley, Dennis Holden, Robert McFarlane, Carman Smith. (CAJ 44(1961):73 map)
- 1960(b)- Frances Chamberlin, Roger Neave, Gertrude Smith; also Jack Cade, Freddie Chamberlin, Barney McNabb, Scipio Merler, Lucio Mondolfo and Vicki Mondolfo.
(CAJ 44(1961):42, photos; IRBC 1975)
- 1961- Freddie Chamberlin, David Fisher, Wally Joyce, Gerry Neave, Roger Neave, Gertrude Smith. (CAJ 45(1962):24 photos)
- 1962- Patrick Boswell, Freddie Chamberlin, Helen Devereaux, David Fisher, Ruth Henderson, Wally Joyce, Gerry Neave, Roger Neave. (CAJ 46(1963):12, two maps, second, Apex incorrect)
- 1976- ACC Climbing Camp. (CAJ 60(1977):110)
- 1978- ACC Climbing Camp. (CAJ 62(1979):137)
- 1979- Vaclav Benes, Richard Bevier, Richard Estock, with Rudi Kranabitter. (CAJ 63(1980):133)
- 1987- BCMC Climbing Camp. (BCM 1988:51)

MOUNT MACKENZIE KING (HOSTILITY) 3280m

Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek, south border. This high summit rises 3.2 kilometers southwest of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, northwest of David Pass on the northern end of the Southern Premiers. In the past, it has sported a fantastic arrow-shaped cornice.

EAST SUMMIT 3150m

Consult the variation on the central summit. Ascended in 1987.

CENTRAL SUMMIT (highest)

1. East Ridge. From North Canoe Icefield and David Pass (Mackenzie King-John Thompson), go over a shoulder to the right of David Pass and proceed along the steep south snow slope, bypassing some formidable-looking rock before gaining the ridge considerably higher. (The ridge has two vertical breaks, circumvented on the south face to a high depression.) Then follow the sheer and somewhat difficult east ridge, with heavy cornices and minor peaks. Eleven hours from camp.

Descend on the south face to the crevassed David Glacier. Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s,*). July 31, 1949.



Mt. Mackenzie King, summit ridge (1949). Photo: Arnold Wexler.



Mt. Mackenzie King, from the northeast. The variation on the east ridge is visible just right of the center. Photo: Tom Swaddle.

Variation: The north face of the east summit of Mount Mackenzie King is no steeper than 40 degrees in most places. Above the final bergschrund is about 10 meters of 55 degree ice, the best part of the variation. Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s,*). Randy Enomoto, Evelyn and Michael Feller, Brian Gavin, July 30, 1987. (BCM 1988:51; PC: M. Feller)

Evelyn and Michael Feller descended to David Glacier, and then ascended to the central summit via the south face.

2. South Face. This descent route taken from Route 1 appears to be much easier than Route 1. It was ascended by Evelyn and Michael Feller (see variation above) on July 30, 1987. (BCM 1988:51; PC: M. Feller)

WEST SUMMIT 3220m

1. Southwest Ridge. The west summit was attained again by the southwest ridge in 1978 when a party arrived at the cairn in clouds, thinking at first that it was on the main summit. Glacier (III,4,s). Alpine Club of Canada party, August 1976. (PC: Peter Brogden)

MOUNT LOUIS ST. LAURENT 3030m

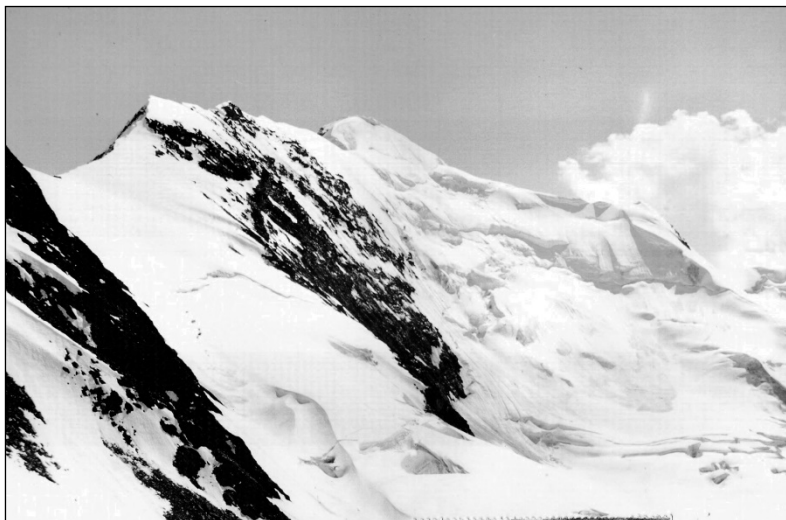
Map 83D/13 Kiwa Creek, south border. Located 0.7 km southwest of Mount Mackenzie King. The map does not indicate the two summits. (CAJ 48(1965):126, 127 photos)

SOUTH SUMMIT (highest)

1. Northeast Slopes. Use David Pass and David Glacier. The NE slopes are easy, seven hours from camp. A direct traverse to the N summit was impractical because of snow and ice conditions. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Harriet and Robert Kruszyna, Art Maki, Tom Swaddle, Peter Vermeulen, August 1, 1976. (PC: RK)

NORTH SUMMIT

1. Southeast Ridge. Start at the high col, after the ascent of the south summit. The climb is also easy, despite a rib of "Brand X" rock (rotten mica schist). Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). By the party of the south summit. Aug. 1, 1976. (PC: RK)



**Mt. Sir John Thompson, from the north. Route 1 is on the right.
Photo: Vaclav Benes.**

MOUNT SIR JOHN THOMPSON (DAVID THOMPSON) 3349m

Map 83D/12 Azure River. This handsome mountain forms the western rim of North Canoe Glacier. The TRIM map altitude is 3349m, but the map altitude is 3250m. The summit ridge on the map appears wide, but photos show that the ridge is sharp (more difficult to survey accurately). This probably explains the difference.

In 1925, Don and Phyllis Munday backpacked up the Tete Valley, first doing the second ascent of Mount Sir Wilfred Laurier, and then crossing the Tete Icefield and Tete-Canoe pass. They then proceeded southwest on North Canoe Glacier (crevasses) to David Pass, and made the first ascent.

1. North Buttress, Southwest Ridge. The original approach was from Tete-Canoe pass, to the north-northeast. From David Pass, descend about 250 meters on David Glacier and work your way over snow hummocks below the northwest face and to the left of the prominent north buttress, which leads to the southwest ridge. There is a bergschrund.

The southwest ridge is a sinuous knife edge of snow, perhaps doubly corniced, soaring to a tiny peak, gained in one hour more. Twelve hours.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s,*). July 18, 1925. (PC: Kim Kratky)

2. North Ridge. Class 3 rock climbing starts the north ridge, with snow later, heavily corniced on the east side, and a steep pitch of ice just below the summit (ice piton). The climb took 9.5 hours (from Lakes Camp, two km south-southwest of Penny Mountain), one hour lower than desired.

It is easier to return from Route 2 by dropping down to David Glacier from the shoulder of the ridge, and then to David Pass and camp, 5.5 hours. Watch for avalanche conditions throughout. Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s,**). Leon Blumer, John Rance, August 1, 1976.

Variation: Traverse south from David Pass along the east face, through avalanche debris, and then ascend to a platform on the north ridge. July 1979. (PC: Vaclav Benes)

Black Nun Falls is below South Canoe Glacier, east-southeast of Mount Sir John Thompson, map 83D/12.

PYRAMID 3120m

The Pyramid is just southeast of Mount Sir John Thompson. The TRIM map altitude is 3187m.

1. South Ridge. Approach from the Crescent-Pyramid col from a camp on the glacier between the Little Matterhorn and Pyramid.

The south ridge is largely fourth class, but some pitches are belayed. There is some snow, loose rock and muddy slopes, but the climb is not dangerous. Four hours from camp. Glacier (II,5.0,s). July 17, 1979.

2. East Ridge. Sepp Renner and party, July 1979. No details available. (CAJ 63(1980):133; 60(1977):110)

LITTLE MATTERHORN 2850m

The Little Matterhorn cleaves Canoe Glacier east of Mount Sir John Thompson. The TRIM map altitude is 2870m.

1. West Slopes. Ascend over easy snow on the west side from North Canoe Glacier. Glacier (II,4,s). L. Axe, H. Firestone, H. LeVaux, D. Stern, 1956. (IRBC 1975)

2. Northeast Ridge. The northeast ridge is mainly rock, with some snow, keeping mostly to the edge of the ridge but going left in places. The good rock of the lower sections gives way to rubble near the top. Eight hours from Lakes Camp. Glacier (III,5.4,s,*). Jolanta and Marek Jarecki, August 4, 1976. (PC: JJ)

CRESCENT MOUNTAIN 3000m

Map 83D/12. Crescent Mountain is the next summit southeast of Pyramid, just northwest of David Peak.

The TRIM map altitude for Crescent is 3104m (!), and, as for Mount Sir John Thompson, this is a big difference. Both of the older values are taken from map 83D/12.

1. Northwest Face. Cross North Canoe Glacier above the icefall to reach the south rim of the basin under the east face of Sir John Thompson at 2700 meters near the Little Matterhorn.

Then descend to South Canoe Glacier on the east end of a vertical ice cliff, through jumbled ice blocks and avalanche debris, and climb to the Crescent-Pyramid col (2940m). Ascend the high angle snow face to the summit; 8 hours. Glacier (III,4,s,*). August 2, 1949.

DAVID PEAK 3090m

At the head of South Canoe Glacier, 2.5 km southeast of Mount Sir John Thompson. The TRIM map altitude is 3142m.

1. Southeast Ridge. From Lakes Camp, cross the North Canoe Glacier to the Little Matterhorn-Pyramid col and descend the icefall (see approach to Crescent Mtn.). Go south to the col south of David Peak and follow the southeast ridge, with some rotten rock and snow. Glacier (III,4,s). John Fairley, Robert McFarlane, June 29, 1960(a).

(CAJ 33(1950):41 map; 44:86 drawing, Apex incorrect; VOCJ 3:42)

UNNAMED (#2; APEX) 2970m

Located southeast of David Peak. It has a pronounced east ridge. Not surveyed. The TRIM map altitude is 3040m.

The nomenclature of the peaks on this part of the ridge is possibly the most tangled confusion of any in the Columbia Mountains.

1. West Ridge. Approach as for David Peak to the col south of David Peak, and climb the west ridge. Glacier (III,4,s). Alex Faberge, Carman Smith, June 29, 1960(a). (CAJ 44(1961):73 and 83). CAJ 45(1962):35 map, Apex is incorrect. VOCJ 3:42.

TRIGON MOUNTAIN (#1; APEX) 2940m

Map 83D/12 Azure River. Trigon Mtn. is on the ridge northwest of Unnamed (Apex) and southeast of #2. The TRIM map altitude is 2972m.

1. From the Northeast. From camp just below treeline northeast of the mountain, gain a rock rib between two glaciers. The route has probably been altered, similar to the route on Penny Mountain (Holway's Penny) in the Northern Premier Range from the Canoe River, by glacial retreat. Just below the summit, the FA party ascended a fine rock wall to the top, seven hours from camp. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Frances Chamberlin, Roger Neave, Gertrude Smith, August 10, 1960.

They descended the ridge southeast to Unnamed ca. 2940 meters.

2. Trigon Mountain was a favorite climb during the Azure Pass ski camp in 1981. The route was not stated. See the Wells Gray Group, the same map, which is contiguous. (CAJ 65(1982):123)

UNNAMED (APEX; TRIGON) ca. 2940m

Map 83D/12. The summit of this mountain is not on the map contours. (The contours for Crescent and David scarcely appear on the map.) It is 0.8 kilometer southeast of Trigon Mountain, and has a big, steep south face. This is the true hydrographic apex of the Raush, Canoe and North Thompson Rivers. The TRIM map altitude is 2895m.

According to the map and panorama at p.123, CAJ 47(1964):123, this mountain should be Trigon Mountain. However, Trigon is 0.8 kilometer northwest of this on the map (83D/12). The reference contains official nomenclature. This is probably the worst nomenclature mix-up in the Columbia Mountains.

1. Northwest Ridge, Traverse. Approach as for Trigon (#1). From Trigon, descend its southeast ridge and climb the northwest ridge on broken, rocky slopes to the rock summit above the enormous wall on the south side, 45 minutes. (PC: Frances Chamberlin, via Roger Wallis)

Descend by steep snow slopes and glacier to the northeast (4 hours), which would be a more direct route of ascent. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Frances Chamberlin, Roger Neave, Gertrude Smith, August 10, 1960.

2. Northeast Glacier. See Route 1, descent.

CHILKST PEAKS 2790m

Map 83D/12 Azure River. Chilkst is an Indian word for five (5 peaks). They are east of Trigon Mountain on the south rim of the glacier. The TRIM map altitude (highest summit) is 2847m.

1. East to West Traverse. From camp near the head of main Canoe Valley, scramble up glaciated rock bluffs of the south headwall. Cross slabs high above the canyon draining the glaciers, to a good goat trail leading to and up the right lateral moraine. There is a fine bivouac spot here. Go up the ridge east of the glacier and a steep snow slope to the ridge and summit of the most easterly peak, 8 hours. Traverse the ridge to the west over four other summits.

There are sharp snow ridges, a face with tiny holds and an impressive chimney and crack leading to the top of the next to last summit, four hours.

Descend by the glacier to the north of the last (west) summit, cross to the right lateral moraine and the goat trail and return to camp by the route of ascent, 7.5 hours. Glacier (IV,5.0,s,*). Frances Chamberlin, Roger Neave, Gertrude Smith, August 7, 1960.



**Chilkst Peaks, from the east. The mountain to the right is Trigon.
Photo: Gertrude Smith.**

UNNAMED (#3) 2760m

This smaller peak is 2.2 kilometers south of the eastern Chilkst Peak on the divide at the head of Thompson Glacier, at 233-403.

1. North Ridge. From camp by the right lateral moraine of South Canoe Glacier, go up the east side of the glacier. Bypass east Chilkst Peak 25 meters below the summit and gain the ridge. Descend to snow slopes at the head of Thompson Glacier and contour to the broad ridge running south. Follow the ridge and an easy snow slope to the summit, 6.5 hours one way. Glacier (III,4,s). August 8, 1961.

2. Southeast Ridge. See Route 1. Descended on route to Unnamed #4, and ascended on the return.

UNNAMED (#4) 2790m

On the divide between Zillmer Creek and the head of Thompson Glacier, 0.5 kilometer south of #3.

1. North Ridge. Approach over Unnamed #3, one hour along the north ridge. Glacier (III,4,s). August 8, 1961.

CHAMBERLIN PEAK (#5) 2850m

NW of pass between the main Zillmer Icefield and Chamberlin Gl.

One approach is to the southwest side by the North Thompson FSR starting at Gosnell on Route 5.

1. East Ridge. Approach by the Upper Canoe (River) Road, starting from Valemount on Route 5, to beyond Johnson's Mill (see introduction) and go up what is left of a logging road on the east side of Long (S3) Creek. Backpack up the mosquito-ridden jungle of the creek, cross on a log jam and ascend westward up the slope. Camp above treeline near the top of a waterfall (four days relaying loads) under Mount Withers (#10).

From a bivouac in a large cave (!) on the crest of the ridge above camp, descend to the glacier, follow it to near its lower end, turn a rock rib to the south and gain the main Zillmer (S4) Icefield. Ascend toward the pass to Blackstone Creek; before the pass turn onto the east buttress of the peak and ascend rock and snow. At the vertical drop in the ridge, descend 60 meters of snow to the south, make a delicate steep snow traverse and ascend a snow couloir to regain the ridge. Climb rock and snow, and cut through a cornice to the summit ridge.

Eleven hours from the bivouac. Descend 6 hours to camp. Glacier (IV,4,s). July 10, 1962.

MOUNT CARPE' (#11) 2670m

Mount Carpe' is prominent from Canoe River, the most northerly peak on the divide between Long (S3) and Zillmer (S4) Creeks.

1. Southwest Ridge. Approach as for Chamberlin Peak and Mount Withers. Climb the pleasant southwest rock ridge, 2.5 hours from camp. Return the same way. (I,4,s). July 8, 1962.

MOUNT WITHERS (#10) 2670m

Located 0.8 kilometer southwest of Mount Carpe', on the divide between Long (S3) and Zillmer (S4) Creeks.

1. Northeast Ridge. From camp (see Chamberlin Peak), cross snow-fields to the northwest and climb a wide snow couloir to the Carpe'-Withers col. There is one difficult pitch on the northeast ridge, a delicate step across a gap onto a sloping slab with only friction holds. Time from the col, 1.5 hours.

Descend (rappel bypassing the difficulty) in 45 minutes to camp. (II,5.0,s). July 8, 1962.

UNNAMED (#7) 2700m

This peak rises above the head of Zillmer Glacier, map grid 257-367, map 83D/12 Azure River. Peak #7.

1. North Ridge. The north ridge was a ski ascent to 2600 meters and the upper north ridge was Class 4 with cornices. Glacier (II,4,s). Dean Rix with Ross Cloutier, April 1984.

From the lake northeast of Lebher Creek, reaching this peak and setting up camp within range of it and Zillmer requires a very long day. (see Unnamed 2620m, below; PC: RC)

MOUNT ZILLMER (#9) 2910m

The name Zillmer was originally applied to a peak in the Northern Premiers. It is surrounded by glaciers at the watershed south of Canoe River. The eastern summit is the highest. Map 83D/12.

1. North Glacier. Climb from the camp used for Chamberlin Peak to the ridge, and descend the other side 150 meters to the glacier. Cross the glacier diagonally and ascend the east side of a tributary glacier that falls steeply from the upper icefield. From the upper icefield ascend over easy snow slopes to the top, 6.5 hours.

Bypass the middle summit, and snow slopes go to the west summit. Descent 4.5 hours. Glacier (III,4,s). July 7, 1962.

2. Southwest Ridge. The party of Route 1 traversed this ridge en route to the west summit, missing the central summit. Glacier (III,4,s). The southwest ridge was skied by Dean Rix with Ross Cloutier, April 1984. The south ridge looks very interesting.

For access to the south side of Zillmer, see Unnamed 2700m and Unnamed 2620m (below). Ski the edge of the glacier west of the south ridge to reach the southwest ridge. (PC: RC)

UNNAMED 2700m

Situated on the ridge 4 kilometers south-southeast of Mount Zillmer. Map coordinates 296-338.

1. East to West Traverse. Start from a camp on the grass benches north of the lake (northeast above Lebher Creek). Proceed east through a pass, descend, and gain the ridge east of the summit. The east ridge is skiable to the summit. Glacier (III,4,s). Dean Rix with Ross Cloutier, April 1984.

Traverse, and gain the unnamed peak (2620m) 0.5 kilometer to the west (which see). Descend the north ridge of Unnamed 2620m (Class 4) to access a camp within range of Mount Zillmer and Unnamed 2700m (257-367). (Note: there are two summits of 2700m, one above.) This access is difficult, but appears to be the best. (PC: RC)

UNNAMED 2620m

One half kilometer west of Unnamed 2700m (296-338). Map 83D/12.

1. East Ridge. Gained from the traverse over Unnamed 2700m (296-338; which see).

2. North Ridge. Descend this long north ridge, spectacular and knife-edged (Class 4), to access a camp in range of Mount Zillmer and Unnamed 2700m (257-367), west-southwest of Mount Zillmer on the watershed. The access is difficult, but appears to be the best. (III,4,s). Dean Rix with Ross Cloutier, April 1984. (PC: RC)

3. Southwest Ridge. Climb this short southwest ridge directly from the camp on the grass benches north of the lake (northeast of Lebher Creek). Alternate access to the north ridge. (I,4,s). Party with Ross Cloutier, 1984. (PC: RC)

4. South Face. There are several steep, climbable gullies on the south face. Both south face central direct lines were climbed on ice and snow.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Maxine Graydon, Steve Hvenegaard, Mike McLeod, Mel Peters with Ross Cloutier. October 1984. (PC: RC)

UNNAMED 2760m

Three kilometers west-northwest of Mount Kimmel, between the Canoe and North Thompson Rivers, east-southeast of Mount Zillmer. Map 83D/11.

MOUNT KIMMEL 2610m

Eighteen km directly west of Albrede Station, at the head of Adolph Creek.

MOUNT JOHN DIEFENBACKER 2640m

At 416-383, northeast of Mount Kimmel.

THE MONASHEE MOUNTAINS

From north to south, the extent of the Monashee Mountains in Canada is somewhat greater than that of the Selkirks. They are bounded by the Columbia River and Canoe River (Canoe Reach on Kinbasket Lake) on the east, and by the North Thompson River (in the north) on the west, and extends from the bend of Canoe River on the north, across the Trans-Canada Highway at Eagle Pass (561m) as far as the U.S. border. In the south, the mountains are lower and generally unglaciated. They are similar to the Cariboos, Selkirks and Purcells which all have considerably greater extents than their high alpine regions. The western boundary is probably best determined by geologic structure, and may extend to the North Thompson River in the center, and Okanagan Lake in the south. The high alpine region is not nearly so wide.

According to one source, the name Monashee is Gaelic, and means "mountain of peace".

The Monashee watershed, containing the high peaks in its vicinity, lies far to the east in the range, from 9 to 25 kilometers west of the Columbia River. The mountains rise to 2750 meters and above, while the river averages little more than 460 meters. Large spurs branching east or southeast from the watershed and bearing high peaks are typical in the Monashees. Isolated mountains are rare. The highest summits, of the Dominion Group and the northern Scrip Range, rise in a region of much snow and ice in the north. The central Monashees contain much beautiful alpland and numerous lakes, and summits are relatively scarce. The Gold Range is the gem of the southern Monashees.

In the south, south of Eagle Pass and the Trans-Canada Highway, the Gold Range (in its southern region) offers a relatively large concentration of summits of far more than average difficulty. The rock is a rather solid gneiss (pronounced "nice") often of good quality for technical climbing in a photogenic area. The Gold Range is separated from the Whatshan Range by a low pass (900m) connecting the south fork of Sitkum Creek (to Sugar Lake) with South Fosthall Creek (into Fosthall Creek and Upper Arrow Lake).

The Dominion Group and Scrip Range are composed of metamorphic rocks: schists, gneisses and also pegmatite. The Shuswap Group is of granite gneiss, gneiss and minor quartzite and marble. Granite gneiss forms firm rock and huge slabs east of Perry River between Big Eddy and Copeland Creeks. Quartzite is prominent on the hills on either side of Hiren Creek.

Access to the Monashees is at least as difficult as to the other ranges of the Columbia Mountains. The valleys are a tangle of forest and undergrowth more resembling a jungle which extends to about 1680 meters (5500 feet). Trails are few. Once the highlands are attained, travel becomes much easier, especially in the central Monashees, on alpine meadows.

Some history of the central Monashees is recounted in the booklet "The Rocks and Rivers of B. C.", by Walter Moberly, Blacklock, London, 1885.

Skiing camps held in the Monashee Range by the Alpine Club of Canada are in CAJ 68(1985):84 and CAJ 69 (1986):87.

MALTON RANGE

MAPS- 83D/11 Canoe Mountain, and 83D/10 Ptarmigan Creek

The Malton Range is the northernmost group of the Monashee Range, and rises above the southwest side of Canoe Reach, on its north end.

The Southern Premier Range lies to the west.

Malton is the name of a village in England, the home of Lord Milton.

CANOE MOUNTAIN 2650m

Map 83D/11 Canoe Mountain. Surveyed at 8707 feet and climbed by the Survey. There is a microwave relay northwest of the top.

MOUNT THOMPSON 2700m

Altitude 8850 feet.

UNNAMED 2760m

Map 83D/11 Canoe Mountain. Height 9050 feet. Grid 586-364.

UNNAMED 2342m

Map 83D/11 Canoe Mountain. Height 7684 feet. Coordinates 618-294, north of Clemina Creek. It has been surveyed and climbed by the Survey, date and route unknown.

DOMINION GROUP

MAPS- 83D/7 Howard Creek, 83D/6 Lempriere and 83D/11 Canoe River, 83D/10 Ptarmigan Creek, 83D/2 Nagle Creek

All the peaks of the Monashee Range from the Mount Albreda area in the north to West Foster (Moose) Creek and lower Bone Creek are included in the Dominion Group. Mountaineering sketch maps of this area with the nomenclature (and numeration) are to be found in AAJ 4:410 and the PATC 22:57. At this latitude, the Monashees lie east of the Albreda and North Thompson Rivers and west of Canoe Reach (lake).

Access

In the north, the Clemina Creek (Cle-mine-ah) Forest Service Road begins 5 km (3.1 miles; marked) north of Clemina Creek (marked) on Highway 5. It is easy, good, road at first, and proceeds up the south bank of Clemina Creek. The road crosses to the north bank of Clemina Creek below the forks, becomes much rougher, for high clearance vehicles, and stays on the north side of the east fork, away from Mount Albreda, to where the **east fork** divides. It goes to a point in the alpine zone 5.5 km northeast of Mount Albreda. The south fork (bushwhacking) goes directly toward Mount Albreda.

On Highway 5, the big steel bridge over the North Thompson River (at Gosnell) marks the westward bend of the North Thompson River. The Forest Service road along the North Thompson River starts just north of the bridge. Stay on Highway 5. On the east side, Dominion Creek is the first north of the bridge, and Moonbeam Creek the first south of it.

There was a short road up Dominion Creek, starting north of Gosnell, which extended nearly to the forks (one km or so) on the north side (bad condition ?).

One route into this group is south of Gosnell (at the juncture of the North Thompson and Albreda Rivers, the big steel bridge). Follow Highway 5 south to Moonbeam Creek (see above and below, just north of the Serpentine Creek FSR). Use the north bank of Moonbeam Creek, through dense bush, with a first camp near Moonbeam Lake, about 10 km. A second, easier day ends at a treeline campsite above a rocky buttress across the valley from Mount Lempriere. From this camp, climbs can be made of the higher peaks.

The Serpentine Creek FSR starts south of Moonbeam Creek, south of the westward bend of the North Thompson River where the Albreda River enters, south of the steel bridge over the North Thompson River. To the south the FSR bends east and ascends Serpentine Creek. Backpack in ferocious bush and ascend the north fork of Serpentine Creek to the Serpentine Neve' (Icefield). Mount Lempriere and other summits are reachable from there. (PC: Amund Groner)

In 1941, Raymond T. Zillmer and Loren Tiefenthaler explored the northerly areas of the Monashees. They approached from Gosnell and ascended the ridge between Dominion and Moonbeam Creeks, numbering peaks as they went, to the Moonbeam Icefield overlooking Canoe River (now Canoe Reach, a lake formed by the damming of the Columbia River at its Big Bend). They then crossed a col in the icefield and descended Serpentine Creek to the railroad.

Farther south on Highway 5, a road bridge crosses to the east side of the North Thompson River northwest of Bone Creek (Bone Creek FSR). A branch goes north to Gum Creek (Gum Creek FSR), and proceeds farther north to switchback up the slopes west of Mount Cheadle. The other branch extends several kilometers up the north bank of Bone Creek, crossing it and going much farther.

Regional Traverse

Sterling B. Hendricks, Don Hubbard, and Arnold Wexler climbed summits at the sources of Moonbeam and Serpentine Creeks in 1952, and backpacked south in three days, past Oventop Ridge to high peaks in the northern section of the Scrip Range at the head of Foster Creek. They were supplied by two airdrops. It is described in the Scrip Range.

Regional Traverse: Moonbeam Creek to Kirbyville Creek

The longest traverse done in the Monashees without skis was a three week trip, north to south, by Scott Duncan, and Phil and Steven Smith, in September 1980. (CAJ 64(1981):118; maps 83D/7, 83D/2, 82M/15 and 82M/10) To West Foster Creek, the party used the route of Sterling Hendricks' approach (see above, and introduction to Scrip Range), which started from Moonbeam Creek. At West Foster Creek, the route is unclear.

Steven Smith sent the author a photo of the north side of Unnamed 3000m (727-810, map 82D/2), with Wolverine Glacier high above, taken from the valley floor. This shows that the 1980 party was in the valley southwest of the valley of Foster Glacier.

Unnamed 3000m (9800 feet) drains entirely to Mud Creek and then the North Thompson River (not the Columbia River side). If the altitude of the col, and its position ("8200 feet"; 2.4 km east of Un. 3000m) are correct, then the 1980 group ascended over the extreme east end of its ridge to the only part of the long east ridge draining to Nagle Creek (Columbia River). This does lead to the Valley Glacier after proceeding southwest (see Un. 2580m, Scrip Range). After this, the traveling is less difficult.

A glaciated pass at 2290 meters (7500 feet) led to Adams River, which was descended for almost two kilometers. Two passes in quick succession took the party south to a tributary of Pat Creek, and they descended to the creek and then ascended it for nearly two kilometers in mild bush, to another pass. After this, route finding was easier over rolling alpine country.

Exit was made to the Columbia River just south of Kirbyville Creek.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1924- Allen Carpe', Rollin T. Chamberlin, A. L. Withers.
(AJ 37:80; GSP 25:75, 69 photo)
- 1925- Allen Carpe'. (CAJ 16(1926-27):177; GSP 26:291)
- 1939- Frank Bambrick, Norman Chapman, Ed Pike (Geodetic Survey).
(AAJ 4:416; PATC 22:55)
- 1941- Raymond T. Zillmer, Loren Tiefenthaler. (AAJ 4:406)
- 1952- Sterling Hendricks, Don Hubbard, Arnold Wexler.
(AAJ 8:566; PATC 22:50, 57 sketch map; CAJ 36(1953):102)
- 1971- Judy and Thomas Dabrowski, Betty and Les Davenport,
Jan and James Hartley, Peter and Sally Owzarski,
John Rowley, Martin West, John Young.
(AAJ 18:149; CAJ 55(1972):119)
- 1977, 1978, 1981- James Petroske and three sons, James Jr.,
John, William. (PC: John P)
- 1980- Scott Duncan, Phil and Steven Smith. (CAJ 64(1981):118)

The 2004 ski traverse of the northern Monashees in April of that year (Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance, Greg Hill, David Sproule and Jeff Volp, CAJ 88(2005):58) started on Moonbeam Creek from the highway. Undoubtedly, snow rendered the ascent of Moonbeam Creek easier than in summer. (PC: Roger Wallis, marked map)



Mount Albreda from the NW. This is an historic view (minus the clearcut) seen by Lord Milton and his friend Cheadle in 1863 during their long trip overland. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

UNNAMED 2610m

Map 83D/11 Canoe River. southeast corner. Grid 638-208.
Height 8550 feet.

UNNAMED 2613m

Northwest of Mount Albreda. First ascent probably by the Topographical Survey, date and route unknown. Surveyed at 8572 feet.

UNNAMED 2640m

Map 83D/11 Canoe River. southeast corner. Height 8650 feet. It is just southeast of Un. 2613m.

MOUNT ALBRED A (MILTON) 3050m

Mount Albreda is located east-northeast of Gosnell. See AAJ 5:107 for location and nomenclature. It is on map 83D/10, southwest corner. (Map not generally useful.) Mount Albreda is a good ski objective (2008), a ski run of 1500 vertical meters into Dora Creek.

It is a handsome, pointed mountain with a glacier and snow going to the summit on the northwest side.

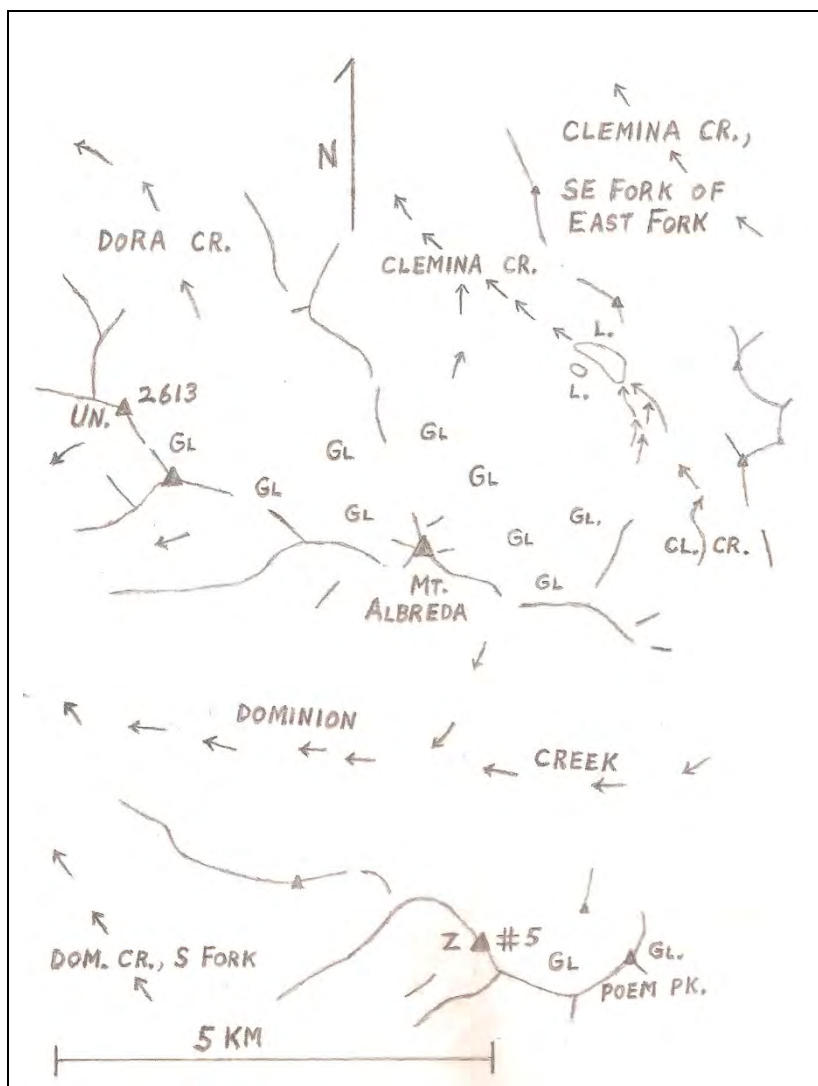
From the highway, the Dominion Creek FSR switchbacks up and east toward Mount Albreda.

1. East Ridge. See the beginning of the Introduction (Access) for the roads on Clemina Creek. By bushwhacking directly up the south fork (main fork) of Clemina Creek (way of 1924), one can probably reach the northeast shoulder on the third day. In this case, do not use the road up the east fork.

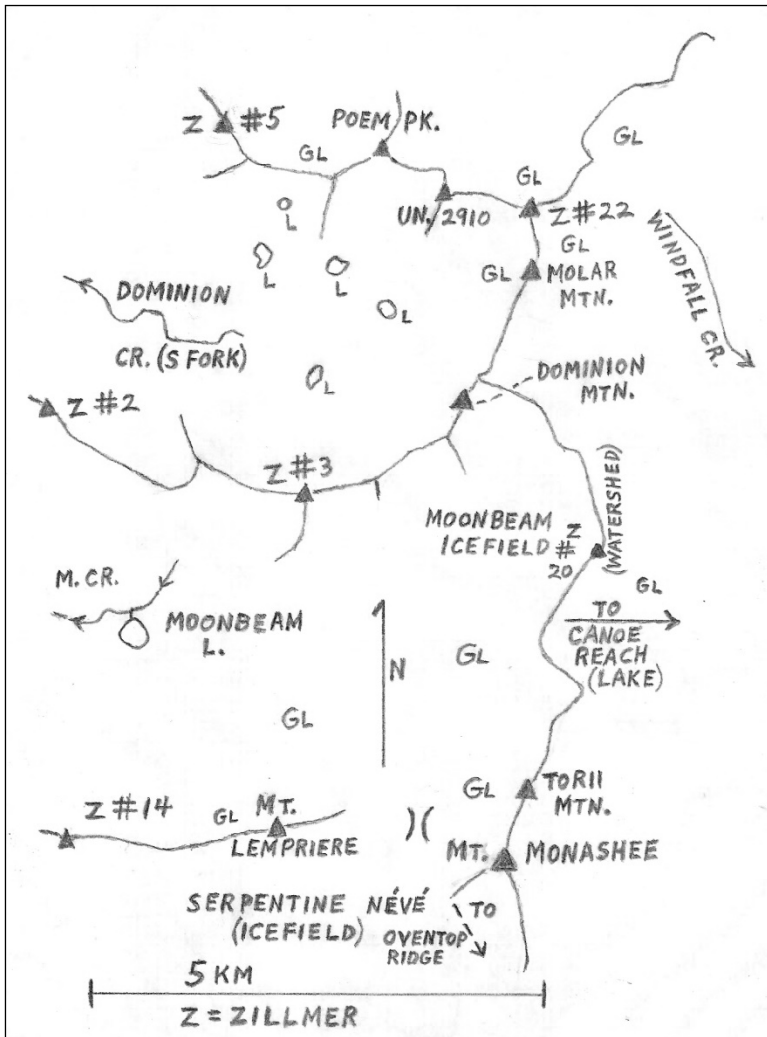
Cross the glacier at 2130 meters (7000 feet) to the east base of the peak and climb a snow ridge to the rock of the east ridge (solid gneiss) at 2770 meters. The summits are two points of nearly equal height, both of which were climbed. Glacier (II,4,s). July 18, 1924.

2. Northwest Glacier. The northwest glacier is visible from the railroad. No details available. Glacier (III,4,s). July 15, 1925.

The first winter ascent of Mt. Albreda was in 1981, approaching up Dora Creek.



Sketch map, Mount Albreda, northernmost Dominion Gr.



Sketch map, northern Dominion Group. The north side of Oventop Ridge is reached through a pass.

The next four peaks are reached from the basin northwest of Dominion Mountain.

UNNAMED (ZILLMER #22) 2910m

Map 83D/7, at map coordinates 685-130. It is 0.7 kilometer north of Molar Mountain, just east of Unnamed 2910m, on the watershed.

1. South Ridge. From camp in the basin, ascend the glacier above camp and climb the south ridge (Class 4), 6 hours up. Glacier (III,4,s). August 1978.

UNNAMED 2910m

Map 83D/7. Located at grid coordinates 675-131, just southeast of Poem Peak, and 2.5 kilometers north of Dominion Mountain.

1. East Ridge. Ascend the glacier above the camp and gain the east ridge, which is of fluted snow and is corniced. Glacier (II,4,s). August 1977.

POEM PEAK 2790m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Poem Peak is at map coordinates 669-136, three km north-northwest of Dominion Mountain. There is a poem in the cairn.

1. South Ridge. The south ridge (turning northeast near the top) is mostly scrambling. (II,4,s). August 1977.

MOLAR MOUNTAIN 2910m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Molar Mountain is located 1.7 kilometers north-northeast of Dominion Mountain, on the watershed.

1. South Ridge. Climb the glacier, which is shaped like an angel's wing, to the Molar-Dominion col.

Ascend to the crest of the summit ridge in three roped pitches of rock climbing (Class 5.4). Ten hours up. Glacier (III,5.4,s). Jim Sr., Jim Jr., WP, August 1978.



Dominion Mtn., North Ridge (at left). Photo: Amund Groner.

DOMINION MOUNTAIN (ZILLMER #4) 3130m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Northeast of Moonbeam Lake, at the head of the south fork of Dominion Creek. It has a steep northwest face.

1. Southwest Ridge. Camp was above the head of Moonbeam Creek. Climb the southwest rock ridge of a lower summit (#3), traverse it, and ascend a snow slope (SW ridge) to Dominion Mtn. Descent was by the southeast snow face to the glacier. Five hours to the top from camp. Glacier (II,4,s). July 29, 1952.

2. Southeast Face. The descent route in 1952.

3. North Ridge. Use a logging road on Dominion Creek (probably in bad condition), that goes nearly to the forks. A severe three to four day bushwhack with machetes was necessary on the south fork to reach the lovely basin northwest of Dominion Mountain.

Ascend the west glacier and reach the north ridge of Dominion Mountain. Go up the north headwall (40-45 degrees) and work up east. When high, use the east side of the ridge, and it is an easy scramble to the summit. Glacier (III,4,s). August 1977.

The second ascent of the north ridge was by Amund Groner, Burt Kent and Adolf Teufel, year unknown. (PC: AG)

UNNAMED (PYRAMID PEAK; ZILLMER #2) 2700m

Map 83D/6. Five km west of Dominion Mtn., coordinates 631-108.

1. Southeast Ridge. Camp was in the basin northwest of Dominion Mountain. Gain the southeast ridge (one pitch on ice), and then follow the ridge to the summit, 9 hours up. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Aug. 21, 1981.

UNNAMED (ZILLMER #3) 2910m

Map 83D/7. Zillmer #3 is on the ridge 2.1 km southwest of Dominion Mountain. Climbed in 1952; see Dominion Mountain.

UNNAMED (ZILLMER #9) 2728m

Map 83D/6. Zillmer #9 is located on the west end of the ridge between Moonbeam and Serpentine Creeks. It was surveyed at 8950 feet, and climbed by a Topographical Survey party, date and route unknown.

TORII MOUNTAIN (ZILLMER #19) 3190m

Located one kilometer north of Mt. Monashee, also on the Monashee watershed. The summit is adorned with a huge natural Japanese Shinto temple gateway.

1. South Ridge, Traverse. The first ascent party approached from camp at treeline above Moonbeam Lake. They first climbed Mount Monashee and then climbed the south ridge of Torii Mountain, which had some nasty pitches of slabby loose rock. They descended the north ridge to the Moonbeam Icefield; the traverse required 1.5 hours. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). July 30, 1952.

2. North Ridge. The descent route of Route 1.

MOUNT MONASHEE (ZILLMER #18) 3274m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. On the Monashee watershed east of Mt. Lempriere. Its name does not appear on the map.

This mountain is contoured too high because of a cloud cover during aerial photography, which also distorted its shape on the map. It is the highest mountain in the Monashee Range.

The east side of Mount Monashee is an enormous cliff. It can be reached from the town of Valemout using the Canoe East FSR from Route 5, and then south on the Canoe West FSR (long) to the Howard Creek Road west to the east face, and also Oventop Peak.

To reach the glaciers on the northeast side of Torii Mountain, use the Windfall Creek Spur (see map above) north of the Howard Creek Road. This also approaches Dominion Mountain.

1. North Face. From camp at treeline above Moonbeam Lake, gain the Moonbeam Icefield and the Moonbeam-Serpentine divide (glacier; 2940m). Climb the bergschrund of the north face, and an ice pitch above the bergschrund, and then snow to the summit, 6-7 hours from camp. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). July 30, 1952.

See Torii Mountain. The descent was probably by the north side, with a short section of steep glacier. (Jeff Volp, CME)



**Mt. Monashee (r) in clouds, Torii Mtn. and the Moonbeam Icefield.
The route on Mt. Monashee is visible, except at the top.
Photo: Amund Groner.**



Mount Lempriere, north face from the northeast. Photo: Arnold Wexler (1952).

MOUNT LEMPRIERE (ZILLMER #15) 3208m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Located west of the Monashee watershed, at the southern head of Moonbeam Creek. Surveyed at 10,524 feet.

1. East Ridge. Climb the east ridge from the col (2940m; see Mount Monashee) in the icefield between the heads of Moonbeam and Serpentine Creeks. The first ascent party camped on the summit. Glacier (II,4,s). August 28, 1939.

Consult the Introduction (Access) for the Forest Service road on the north side of Serpentine Creek.

The 1952 group made the third ascent of Mount Lempriere. (AAJ 8:567). The second was by Zillmer and Tiefenthaler on July 13, 1941.

2. North Face. A helicopter was used, leaving a car on the road.

From camp on the glacier, a zigzag ice ramp leads to the system of bergschrunds beneath the north face. The route goes up and to the west (to the right) across the face. Ascend to a point 600 meters directly below the summit. Proceed up and slightly right on 55 degree ice using ice screws both for belays and leads.

An unpleasant, loose rock rib then speeds progress. After a bivouac on a trashy ledge, two pitches reach the summit, partly on ice. Thirteen ice pitches and 12 rock pitches with some mixed climbing. Ice, Glacier (V,5.0,s). Fred Beckey, Mark Hutson, Brian Leo, July 1990. (CAJ 74(1991):68)

OVENTOP PEAK 2445m

Oventop Peak is at the heads of Bone (Pyramid) and Howard Creeks, on the northwest end of the west-northwest to east-southeast trending Oventop Ridge.

The traverse party of 1952 ascended it, backpacking from Hallam Peak north to Moonbeam Creek, by the long and gentle east-southeast ridge. They descended the northwest ridge, using two rappels with packs. The northwest ridge is a rock climb from the col.

MOUNT CHEADLE 2630m

Westernmost of the summits of the Dominion Group, north and west of Bone (Pyramid) Creek. See Introduction, Access, for the approach.

MOUNT REVENGE 2820m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Located northeast of Pancake Glacier, and south of Howard Creek on the east side of the Monashee watershed. Coordinates 788-987. Altitude 9250 feet.

1. South Slopes, Traverse. Camp was at the north end of Siwash Creek. There is almost no slide alder in Siwash and West Foster Creeks.

Use Siwash-Pancake pass and Pancake-North Foster pass, and go over the icefield to the easy south slopes. Descent was to the west.

Glacier (II,4,s). BD, LD, JR, MW, August 6, 1971.

2. West Slopes. Descended in 1971. No details available.

UNNAMED 3000m

Located one kilometer northwest of the Un. 3000m below.

UNNAMED 3000m

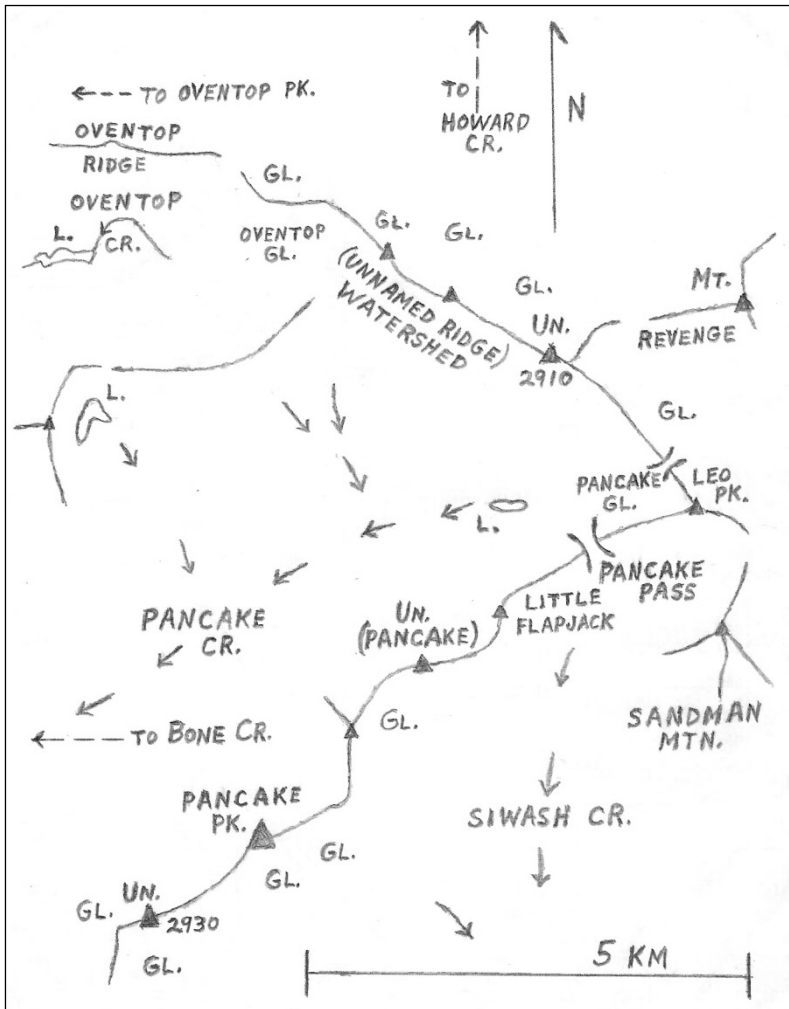
Coordinates 755-988, on the unnamed ridge, 1.3 kilometers northwest of Un. 2910m. Height 9850 feet. Ascended from the northwest, from the Howard Creek side, by the five member ski group, April 9, 2004. They camped on the summit, descended the southeast slopes with some difficulty and went over Pancake Pass (marked map).

See the Scrip Range under Mount Milton for the passage of the 2004 ski traverse through the Hallam Peak area, and the last photo in the book. (This is not the same Un. 3000m.)

UNNAMED 2910m

Unnamed 2910m (766-982; 9550 feet) is northwest of Pancake-North Foster pass (778-969), just northwest of Leo Peak (and north of Siwash-Pancake Pass). The FA party mistook the ridge for Oventop Ridge.

1. Northeast Slopes. The northeast slopes were ascended after the traverse of Mount Revenge. The rock is usually very rotten in this vicinity. Glacier (II,4,s). LD, MW, August 6, 1971.



Sketch map, southern Dominion Group. The regional traverse route to Hallam Peak (Scrip Range) passes south of the unnamed ridge and down Siwash Creek.

SANDMAN MOUNTAIN 2700m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Sandman Mountain is 1.8 km southeast of Siwash-Pancake Pass. The Siwash-Pancake Pass = Pancake Pass.

1. North Ridge. Ascend by the easy north ridge from Leo Peak (on the northeast side of Siwash-Pancake Pass). A circuit was made from Little Flapjack (the small peak southwest of the pass), to Leo and Sandman.

(I,3,s). August 5, 1971. (PC: TD)

UNNAMED (PANCAKE) 2760m

This unnamed summit is the second peak northeast of Pancake Peak (Pancake Peak is the main peak) on the watershed, and southwest of 'Little Flapjack' (see Sandman Mountain). Map coordinates 750-946.

Pancake Flats received its name when Sterling Hendricks and Donald Hubbard, of the 1952 traverse party, were flipping pancakes. Quoting Hubbard, "If anyone tries to claim that on the next pitch the frying pan came off the handle, landing the jack in my face, batter side in, and the pan on top of my head with the combined slup, bong, clang noise, it is a dastardly canard." The name quickly spread to other features of the area.

1. North Slopes. Climb the north slopes from Pancake Flats, at the head of Pancake Creek. The route proceeds on a moraine to a cirque, and up snow and then rock, and probably does not require the rope. The peak is made of firm metamorphic rock. Six hours up. (III,3,s). Aug. 8, 1952.

PANCAKE PEAK (MICA) 3030m

Map 83D/7 Howard Creek. Pancake Peak is the highest summit on the ridge between West Foster (Moose) and Pancake Creeks. The view was impressive when the wind was not blowing mica sand into the party's eyes.

1. East Glacier, Southwest Ridge. Camp was placed at the head of West Foster Creek. Climb the left half of the east face over the relatively uncrevassed glacier, and ascend a short Class 3 rock pitch on the southwest ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). August 1, 1971.

UNNAMED 2930m

Map 83D/7. One and one half km southwest of Pancake Peak.

HELLROAR GROUP

MAPS- 83D/2 Nagle Creek, 83D/3 Blue River

All peaks enclosed by Bone Creek and its east fork on the north, Mud Creek on the south (which also borders it on the southeast), and the North Thompson River are included in this group. The group lies to the north and west of the north end of the Scrip Range, east of The Wells Gray Group (Cariboo Mtns.) and northeast of the town of Blue River.

Access

Forest Service Roads zigzag up the hillside west of Hellroar Mountain (which see; map coordinates 562-881), one starting from the north, north of Bone Creek, and a branch proceeds several kilometers up the north side of Hellroar Creek to the northeast side of Hellroar Mountain.

North of Blue River town on Highway 5, roads cross to the east side of the North Thompson River and branches climb northeast up the slopes west of Redsand Mountain (525-825; which see) and Parbury Mountain (548-818) between Hellroar and Mud Creeks. The Mud Lake FSR, starting from the Blue River airport, goes up the north bank high above Mud Creek to a point south of Parbury Mountain. Bushwhack to the ridgeline and go up the ridge to treeline; travel generally east (on the Mud side of the range), contour slopes but keep above treeline where possible. At least 12 hours are required to the third valley (8 air kilometers from the end of the road).

South of Blue River, just beyond a bridge, a road climbs northeast from the North Thompson River to above Smoke Creek, several kilometers west of high points above Adams River, and lakes. These points might also be reached from a very long road system (overgrown ?) north of the town of Avola on Highway 5, going east,

Some Climbing and Exploration

1925- A. Horne and others. (IRBC 1975)

1968- J. Bear, Art Wilder. (IRBC 1975)

1971- The party of the Dominion Group. (AAJ 18:149; CAJ 55(1972):119)



Hellroar Mountain from the NW. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

DUFFY PEAKS 2814m

Height 9232 feet.

HELLROAR MOUNTAIN 2820m

Map 83D/3 Blue River. North of lower Hellroar Creek. The east glacier drains to Bone Creek. Map coordinates 562-881. The official name has been misplaced on the map.

Three Forest Service Roads access Hellroar Mountain.

Bone Creek FSR (plus the Duffy Meadows Spur, on north)

Bone-Hellroar FSR (on west)

Hellroar Creek FSR (on south)

1. Southeast to West Traverse. The party came by helicopter. Ascend on steep snow from the southeast and descend the west ridge on rock using the rope occasionally. (II,4,s). Asger Bentzen, Jim Buckingham, 1963. (IRBC 1975; PC: AB)

UNNAMED 2640m**UNNAMED 2700m**

Map 83D/3 Blue River. Both are located north-northwest of the French Peaks, and southeast of Hellroar Mountain, north of the head of Hellroar Creek.

PANORAMA PEAK 2510m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Panorama Peak is on the watershed 3.1 kilometers east of Mount Serac, and north-northwest of the big lake next to Foster Glacier. Grid 734-886.

1. West Ridge. An easy climb via rock, snow and heather, from a camp at the head of West Foster (Moose) Creek. July 31, 1971.

MOUNT SERAC 2880m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek, north border. Mount Serac (703-887) is south of Moosebone Pass, on the west side of the watershed. A glacier lies to the east.

There is a 2850m (9350 feet; 691-881) summit 1.4 kilometers southwest of Mount Serac.

1. Northeast Glacier. Climb the moderately broken glacier on the northeast side, starting from camp at the head of West Foster Creek. Glacier (II,4,s). August 2, 1971.



**Un. 2981m (l), Un. 2850m (r) from Icefall Peak (from the SE).
Mud Creek is below the photo. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

UNNAMED 2850m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek Located 2.5 km east of Unnamed 2981m.

1. Southeast Slopes. Climb the southeast snow slopes (glacier). It is not an impressive summit but has a good view of the Bone-Mud-Foster Creek divides to the northeast and peaks to the north. Glacier (II,4,s). 1968.

UNNAMED 2981m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek, west border. Situated 3.4 km north of the French Peaks, surveyed at 9781 feet. It is the highest peak on the west side with drainage into Mud Creek.

1. A Topographical Survey party ascended Un. 2981m, date and route unknown.

2. East Slopes. Start from camp on the glacier east of the French Peaks. Traverse a knife-edged ridge north and ascend to a saddle east of the peak. Climb the glacier west to the summit. Glacier (II,4,s). 1968.

FRENCH PEAKS (EAST PEAK 2790m)

(WEST PEAK 2820m)

These peaks are located north of the bend in Mud Creek and on the east end of the ridge between Hellroar and Mud Creeks. The boundary of the two map sheets runs between the two peaks. The small Hellroar Glacier is to the northwest.

The coordinates are 628-808 (west) and 633-805 (east).

1. West Peak to East Peak Traverse. Approach the west ridge from the south. Climb the west ridge of the west peak and traverse the ridges to the east peak. Descend from the col. Glacier (II,4,s). 1968.

UNNAMED 2700m

Map 83D/3 Blue River. This summit rises 3.2 km west of the French Peaks between Hellroar and Mud Creeks. It is 2.3 km east-southeast of Unnamed 2670m.

1. East Ridge. Approach from the south and go east until a snow (glacier?) route up the ridge is reached. Climb the easy snow of the east ridge to the top. Glacier (II,4,s). 1968.

UNNAMED 2670m

Map 83D/3 Blue River. Located 10 km east-southeast of the mouth of Hellroar Creek within the forks of Hellroar Creek. Map coordinates 577-827. Its glacier is not on the map.

1. North Glacier. Climb toward the southwest side of the mountain, starting from peak 2550m (8350 feet) east of Parbury Mountain. Cross a cornice to the north glacier and climb the bergschrund and steep snow to the summit. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). 1968.

PARBURY MOUNTAIN 2660m

Map 83D/3 Blue River. Map coordinates 577-828. Redsand Mountain is the only peak west of it on the ridge between Hellroar and Mud Creeks. Parbury Ridge is the official name.

There is a higher point east of it of about 2680 meters.

1. West Ridge. Approach from the west by the north snowfield (glacier?) to the ridge. There is a little rock climbing on the west ridge before the summit. Glacier (III,4,s). 1925.

REDSAND MOUNTAIN 2300m

Redsand Mountain is west of Parbury Ridge at 525-825 and northeast of Mud Lake. Height 7550 feet. The official name has been placed on a lower point (altitude 7481 feet, 2280m) west of the true summit.

The Hellroar Creek FSR is on the north, and the Mud Lake FSR and the Redsand Mountain Spur on the south.

SCRIP RANGE

MAPS- 83D/2 Nagle Creek, 82M/15 Scrip Creek, 82M/10 Hoskins Creek, 82M/7 Ratchford Creek and 82M/8 Downie Creek, 82D/3 Blue River, 82M/14 Messiter, 82M/11 Adams River

A distance of 93 km is covered by this group; all the peaks south of Mud and Foster Creeks to Ratchford and Seymour (Pettipiece) Creeks in the south.

Access

Access to the Scrip Range is possibly the most difficult of all the Columbia Mountains. The south of this group consists mostly of open alpine country with few high summits (after the jungle of the valley approaches has been overcome). The highest summits are in the north around the headwaters of Nagle Creek. The Soards Creek Road now goes halfway up the north side, branching south from Nagle Creek. This is reached north of Mica Creek Town., crossing the river.

These remote peaks have been approached from the Columbia River, but might be reached by the road up Adams River to Tumtum Lake. From Tumtum Lake (map 82M/14), a branch road crosses to the east side of Adams River and goes up the south side of Oliver Creek. Tumtum Lake is not adjacent to the higher summits near Gordon Horne Peak, but might serve for a traverse terminus. With considerable bushwhacking, one might also reach the northern end of the Seymour Range. The road on Adams River (on the west side of the Monashees) starts at Vavenby on Highway 5 north of Kamloops. The Adams River road may also be reached by driving the Finn Creek FSR, which leaves Highway 5 between Avola and Blue River.

North of the head of Adams River, the southward drainage is interrupted by the westward drainage of Mud Creek. North of Adams River the first summits are those of the Hellroar Group (to the northwest) and those of the Valley Glacier area, in the Scrip Range, which is west-northwest of Mica Dam (on the road north of Revelstoke). There is a road for high clearance vehicles on Soards Creek which starts at the bridge across the Columbia River five kilometers north of the town of Mica Creek. At the end of the bridge turn left, and at 1.3 km (0.8 mile) again turn left. Farther on, avoid a steep road on the right; the main road then descends a little. The farthest extent of the road is the highest, on the true left bank. The southern part of the Soards Creek headwall is extremely rugged, and the fork beyond the road appears to be choked with slide alder. If a road up Nagle Creek extends far enough, there might be backpacking access over Footstool Col just south of Triple Peak.

The Valley Glacier is the source of the southeast fork of Mud Creek. All parties in the Valley Glacier area have entered by helicopter, with the exception of the 1980 traverse party (and in 2004) which was in a hurry and did no ascents. Campsites are at the snout of the Valley Glacier, and in 1993 a sand bar on the true left bank of the glacier (east) at 2130 meters (7000 feet) upstream from Triple Peak and about a hundred meters downstream from a small rock bluff. It is almost certainly the only hospitable site in the valley. The Valley Glacier is very stark and there are no lateral moraines.

In addition to the roads mentioned below in Access by Boat, in the extreme south a four wheel drive road is available to Pettipiece Pass, starting in the west (see Shuswap Group).

Access by Boat

South of Mica Creek, the Scrip Range (and the Shuswap Group) is bordered on the east by the reservoir formed by the dam just north of Revelstoke. A paved road (Highway 23) runs north from Revelstoke on the east side of this reservoir, and those with portable boats and canoes can cross to the Monashee Range. Roads are built on the Monashee side but do not connect with Revelstoke because of a huge gorge in the Shuswap Group that is impractical to bridge. Despite the roads, approaches here will entail considerable bushwhacking after crossing the Columbia River (reservoir).

The following is a distance table (next page), starting north from the turnoff from the Trans-Canada Highway at Revelstoke (on the east side of the Columbia River on Highway 23. This highway continues south from Revelstoke, but on the west side of the river.), of the creeks and roads on the east side. This is generally more useful for access to the Selkirks but, with the aid of maps, serves for the Scrip Range and the Shuswap Group as well.

There are no public ferries in this region. Private logging company ferries operate, and change their positions from year to year, but are not obliged to carry passengers or their vehicles.

As one drives north from Revelstoke, the Selkirk peaks are hidden by the canyon walls. Six kilometers north of Carnes Creek, the Hat Peak massif is on the left and the view is dominated by the huge northeast ridge of Frenchman Cap ahead. North of the latter, Bourne Glacier (west of Frenchman Cap) can be seen. Pettipiece Pass, the boundary between the Scrip Range and the Shuswap Group, is ten kilometers north of the glacier.

The sharp spire of Downie Peak (in the Selkirks) appears above the large embayment of Downie Creek. Farther, at the bridge over the gorge of Goldstream River, the loftiest, northern, part of the Seymour Range lies

	<u>Miles Kilometers</u>	
Martha Creek	11.1	17.9 campground nearby; Selkirks
LaForme Creek	15.8	25.4
Carnes Creek (log. road)	21.8	35.1
Keystone, Standard Basin road	31.7	51.0 (0.7 km before Big Eddy Creek, which is in the Shuswap Gr.)
Downie Creek (log. road)	41.1	66.1
Downie Creek (creek)	42.0	67.6 bridge far up inlet
Old Goldstream Creek (road)	58.1	93.5
Goldstream River	62.6	100.7 (1 km beyond Kirbyville Cr., which is in the Scrip Range)
Bigmouth Creek (log. road)	75.8	122.0 (1.5 km beyond Scrip Cr.)
Mica Creek (creek)	89.4	143.8
Road to Fred Laing Ridge	90.3	145.3
Mica Dam	95.0	152.9

to the west but is hidden. The salient feature across the reservoir north-west is the big eastern spur of the Monashees known as Gordon Horne Peak (in the Scrip Range).

Regional Traverse to Hallam Peak, from the north (1952)

Backpack up Moonbeam Creek (see access, Dominion Gr.). From the head of the Serpentine Icefield (east of Mount Lempriere), descend the icefall at the head of the north fork of Bone (Pyramid) Creek and go to the low, narrow pass to the Canoe River (Howard Creek) drainage.

Pass Oventop Ridge either by ascending the northwest ridge of Oventop Peak (a rock climb) and traversing the ridge to Oventop Glacier (see Oventop Peak), or crossing the low pass east into the Howard Creek drainage and following alpland east for 5 kilometers on the north side of Oventop Ridge to Oventop Glacier. The 1952 party used an airdrop on the high glacier south of Mount Lempriere (Serpentine Icefield) and a second airdrop on Pancake Glacier.

At Oventop Glacier, one can either descend to Pancake Flats by the 300 meter escarpment above the head of Pancake Creek, or contour the bluffs above Pancake Flats on an exposed shelf to Pancake Glacier without losing altitude.

To the south, a pass in the ridge (Pancake Pass; see Dominion Gr.) leads to Siwash Creek. Descend Siwash Creek to West Foster (Moose) Creek. Go east on the south side of West Foster Creek and go around a shoulder to (the south fork of) Foster Creek, and climb to Foster Glacier. The traverse requires about 3 days from the camp above Moonbeam Lake (see references in the Dominion Group; IRBC 1963).

Mud Creek (southeast fork) to Mud Lake

In 1964, the party backpacked west from the southeast fork of Mud Creek, keeping between Mud Creek and Adams River. Just southwest of a frozen lake, at Fury Pass (map 83D/3, 617-741; see Index of Passes), they were forced onto the Adams River drainage. They then proceeded to a pass and parkland with beautiful lakes between the two streams. A pass to the northwest led to the stream flowing to the southeast end of Mud Lake. The party was retarded by bad weather and required 8 to 9 days. (CAJ 48(1965):61)

Footstool Col, east of their camp, lies 30 kilometers due east of the town of Blue River.

Regional Traverse: Pettipiece Creek to Ruddock Creek

From the head of Pettipiece Creek, proceed northwest through alplands and bush, and ascend to a prominent notch near a northward bend in the ridge. Follow a broad, easy ridge north around the head of Fissure Creek. Cross a saddle and go around the lake east of the head of Ratchford Creek. Climb over a spur and descend talus into the narrow valley at the head of the creek, which has a bench on the east side.

Descend through cliffs on coarse talus and a heather-covered shelf that starts 150 meters past the first large gully descending to the shelf east of Ratchford Creek. Go up the creek to its head and bear northwest across the smooth glacier, and over small ridges and a second smooth glacier to the timbered saddle at the head of Kirbyville Creek. Use game trails east of a small lake at the head of the creek. Ford the outlet and ascend north onto a broad, rocky dome. Traverse around the head of a small tributary east of Seymour River and camp at treeline. There is little timber close to the many small lakes in this region.

Go up the glacier to the north and across a rounded snow peak. Proceed northwest along the ridge avoiding the peak at the head of Hoskins Creek by sidehilling across steep talus on the west side. Continue north along the shelf and camp above the Seymour River-Oliver Creek divide.

Sidehill along the east wall of Oliver Creek valley at about treeline to the pass at the head of Ruddock Creek. Go out by helicopter or boat. This route is easy high level mountain walking. John O. Wheeler, GSC party, September 1962. (PC: JW; IRBC 1963)

A road on Soards Creek starts 5 km north of the town of Mica Creek on the Columbia River.

Regional Traverse: Ruddock Creek to Scrip Creek

From the divide, between Ruddock and Hoskins Creeks (just northeast of Seymour Pass), stay below the glaciers on the west side of the divide to the pass at the head of Ruddock Creek (west of Gordon Horne Peak). Negotiate a spur to the west by using a col on its west end, and then cross a col to the east side at the head of Horne Creek, and pass to the west of a large lake.

Between Horne Creek and its north fork, pass over a glacial col to the west side, and regain the east side through a col just south of another large lake. Go south of the lake to the ridge between the north fork of Horne Creek, and Scrip Creek. Go out by boat.

Geo. Headley, Jim Hylands, August 1963. (PC: John O. Wheeler, marked map)

Regional Traverse: Ratchford Creek to Kirbyville Creek

Starting at km 24 (mile 15) on the power line road (see Shuswap Gr.) at 760 meters (2500 feet), ascend directly to the lakes and meadows at the head of Cotton Creek, and contour above the north fork of Ratchford Creek to the snout of the unnamed glacier at the head of Liberty Creek. (Mount Wallis is nearby.) Continue west and north around the head of Kirbyville Creek (grizzlies) to a camp amidst the dozens of lakes on an alpine plateau overlooking the upper Seymour River. The 2400 meter viewpoint overlooking Sibley Creek (Mount Lutkea) may be climbed in two hours from a camp on the Sibley Creek-Kirbyville Creek ridge. Descend this ridge to the Columbia River (now a reservoir) and cross by boat. The traverse required eight days.

Thomas Crowley, Reg Fryling, Connie Harris, 1976.

Some Climbing and Exploration

1952- Sterling Hendricks, Don Hubbard, Arnold Wexler.

(AAJ 8:566; PATC 22:51, 57 sketch map; CAJ 36(1953):103)

1964- Richard Crompton, Don Hubbard, Art Maki.

(CAJ 48(1965):61, 63 map)

1967- Talbot Bielefeldt, Alex Faberge, Don Hubbard.

(AAJ 16:178, no detail)

1980- Scott Duncan, Phil and Steven Smith. (CAJ 64(1981):118)

1993- Leon Blumer, Ingrid Mertens, Earle R. Whipple. (KK 36:30)

2004- Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance, Greg Hill, David Sproule, Jeff

Volp. Ski Traverse. (CAJ 88(2005):58; PC: GH, JV)

There appears to be a good pass between Foster Glacier (above the lake at its toe) and the lake at the head of Mud Creek.

The quality of the rock on the north side of the upper Hallam Glacier basin is between appalling to simply dangerous. The micaceous units weather to sand, in which one can cut steps with an ice axe. Much of the rest, tiles composed of schist, is unstable and ready to fall down. On the northeast side, the strata stand nearly vertical. However, the rock on Hallam Peak, on the south side of Hallam Glacier, is excellent.
(PC: Roger Wallis)

The north easternmost summits rise above Foster Creek and Foster Arm of Canoe Reach (lake).

The summits around the upper Hallam Glacier are presented counter-clockwise, starting in the northeast. East of Un. 3120m, the peaks are not known to have been climbed.

The basecamp in 2008 was at the lower of two lakes above the north side of Hallam Glacier on well-drained moraine at 817-870.

The ACC climbing camp of 2018 was at the tongue of the small glacier directly east of Hallam Peak. (CAJ 102(2019):119)

UNNAMED 2830m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. This peak is on the north side of the upper Hallam Glacier basin, 814-881. When seen from the southwest (from Un. 2940m), a long straight couloir slants down left from near the summit.

1. Southwest Ridge. A long traverse across the southeast snow slopes led to the southwest rock ridge; traverse two intervening towers. Return by the same route. Glacier (II,4,s). Willa Harasym, Roger Wallis, July 25, 2008. (CAJ 92(2009):114; PC: RW)

UNNAMED 2795m

Grid 811-878, just northeast of Un. 2852m.

1. Southwest Ridge. Climbed on a traverse (0.4 km, 5 hours) from Un. 2852m. Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, July 23, 2008. (PC: RW)

2. Northeast Ridge. The descent route of Route 1. The rock along the ridge crests is all vertical and is weathered into innumerable towers and gullies, all extremely friable. Reach the southeast snow slopes.

UNNAMED 2852m

This is a grey triangular peak when seen from the southwest (from Un. 2940m), with snow patches. 809-877. A major ridge leads out to the west.

Un. 2837m (not climbed, between Un. 2770m and Un. 2852m) is a very prominent massive grey summit. Un. 2852m is the higher summit, to the north.

1. Southeast Slopes, South Ridge. Accessed by a steep snow gully ending at the col between Un. 2837m and Un. 2852. Climb directly up the south ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, July 23, 2008. (CAJ 92(2009):114; PC: RW)

2, Northeast Ridge. The descent route of Route 1. The two towers to the northeast were traversed.

UNNAMED 2770m

On the north side of the upper Hallam Glacier basin, 808-874. When seen from camp to the southeast, there are two grey peaks to the right of Un. 2770m (reddish color). The left grey peak was not climbed in 2008; the right grey peak is Un. 2852m.

1. Southwest Ridge. Ascent and descent by the southwest (rock) ridge. Sue Cocks, Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Marilyn and Mark McDermott, July 23, 2008. (CAJ 92(2009):114; PC: Roger Wallis)

UNNAMED 2880m

Grid 804-868 on the north side of the upper Hallam Glacier basin.

1. Skied by the party of Un. 2940m. (FRA)

2. West Ridge. From almost at the col, go up the big snowpatch to the west ridge, and then over nine towers. The rock is atrocious, loose tiles and is much better than most here. Glacier (II,4,s). Don Chiasson, Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Wm. McKenzie, July 22, 2008. (PC: Roger Wallis)

3. South Face. The descent route of Route 2, in a south snow gully.

UNNAMED 2940m

At 787-866 on the north edge of Hallam Glacier.

1. Skied from Hallam Glacier by Geo. Brcko, Aaron Cooperman and Andrew Morrell, mid-April 2004. (PC: AC; FRA). They also climbed Hallam Peak.

2. Southwest Ridge. Descent also by the southwest rock ridge. Don Chiasson, Sue Cocks, Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Marilyn and Mark McDermott, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, July 24, 2008. (PC: RW)

UNNAMED (FOSTER) 3050m

Unnamed 3050m is located one km directly north of Foster Glacier-Hallam Glacier pass, and four km northwest of Hallam Peak. Climbed by the southeast slopes (Hallam Glacier) by the 2004 ski traverse group (Greg Hill, Jeff Volp and friends), mid-April 2004. (FRA)

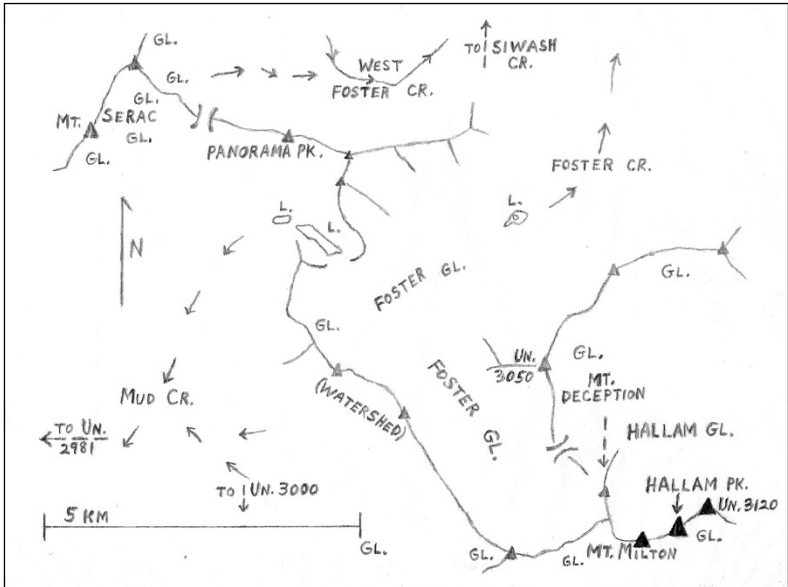
MOUNT DECEPTION 3090m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Mount Deception is a lower peak at the southwest head of Hallam Glacier, and 1.2 kilometers northwest of Hallam Peak.

1. Northwest Slopes. Ascend the east edge of Foster Glacier from a camp at the snout, and skirt the 600 meter icefall to the top of the icefall, using the lateral moraine. Climb to the head of the glacier, to a pass leading to Hallam Glacier, and follow the northwest snow slopes to the top.

Descend the short south ridge and proceed to Mount Milton (and Hallam Peak), Class 3. Glacier (II,4,s). August 4, 1952.

2. South Ridge. See Route 1. Short descent, then to Mount Milton.



Sketch map, Hellroar Group (part) and the northern Scrip Range.
 Moosebone Pass (West Foster (Moose) Creek-east tributary
 of Bone Creek) is north of Mount Serac and is on the
 boundary of the Dominion Group and the Hellroar Group.
 The symbol) (means a pass.

MOUNT MILTON 3150m

Mount Milton is 0.6 km west-southwest of Hallam Peak and both have enormous, steep southern cliffs. It rises only eighty meters above the Milton-Hallam col.

The explorers, Viscount Milton (Malton Range, last line) and his physician Dr. Walter Cheadle, saw Mount Albreda from Albreda River, and Cheadle originally gave the name "Mount Milton" to Mount Albreda in honor of his friend (The Northwest Passage by Land, 1865, by Milton and Cheadle). There is also a small peak named Mount Milton in the Cariboo Range southwest of Albreda Lake. (AAJ 5:107). Cheadle's name appears on a mountain in the Dominion Group.

1. West Ridge. Climb this snow-crowned summit from Mt. Deception and traverse to Hallam Peak. There is a very short discontinuity in the east ridge, descended over loose, disintegrating, steep schist with snow which requires great care. Glacier (III,4,s). August 4, 1952.

2. East Ridge. See Route 1. The east ridge is a bit dangerous (Class 5.0).

Mt. Milton was traversed, east to west, in July 2008 by Don Chiasson, Paul Geddes and Wm. McKenzie. There was steep snow, not a cliff, on the east ridge. (PC: Roger Wallis). They also traversed Mount Deception, south to north (icy, bergschrund).

The 2004 Regional Northern Monashee Ski Traverse

One of the crucial sections of this traverse was the passing of the Hallam Peak area. The group of five ascended up Foster Glacier to its head and climbed Unnamed 2940m at its head (770-820; given below). They descended southwest from Un. 2940m to a col (757-814). Then, sketchy traversing southwest, on the southeast side of the ridge under Un. 2580m (below) above Nagle Creek, brought them to the col at the head of the Valley Glacier. From there, the going was much easier. The col at the head of the Valley Glacier is thus not an easy col to pass.

Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance, Greg Hill, David Sproule, Jeff Volp.
(CAJ 88(2005):58; PC: GH, JV; PC: Roger Wallis via Chic Scott)



Cliffs and slopes above Nagle Creek. Mt. Milton left of center, from the west. From Un. 2580m (N. Scrip Range). Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



Hallam Peak from the south (center; aerial). Mt. Milton (flat) is to the left and Un. 3120m to the right. Photo: Roger Wallis.

HALLAM PEAK 3205m

On map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Hallam Peak is the eastern peak of the Hallam-Milton massif (not counting the 3120m summit ENE of Hallam Peak). It is marked incorrectly on the map, and is the highest, most spectacular summit on this ridge.

It is probably the second highest peak in the Monashees, but because of altitude uncertainties this may not be so.

Despite the danger on ski traverses in the northern Monashees (CAJ 64(1981):82; see Dominion Group), a ski traverse from Moonbeam Creek to Revelstoke was done during three weeks in April 2004.

For more photos, see the CME (bivouac.com).

1. West Ridge. Hallam Peak is a rock summit which is hidden from view from camp at the snout of Foster Glacier, and becomes visible only after climbing along the side of Foster Glacier and part way up Mount Deception. Ascend the glacial headwall using the lateral moraine of Foster Glacier to a pass to Hallam Gl. (at the base of Mt. Deception).

If one wishes to climb Hallam only, climb Mount Deception, traverse it, and then traverse upper Hallam Glacier (Route 2) to the Milton-Hallam col. One can traverse Milton, first going over Deception, but be wary of Milton's east ridge. (Traversing Milton was the original route.)

Climb from the Milton-Hallam col to the summit over steep-looking but easy and excellent rock. The climb has now been bolted by guides. Return across the glacier, and along the south side and then the west slopes of Mount Deception, bypassing the rock cliff on the east side of Deception, to near the Foster Glacier-Hallam Glacier pass. Round trip, 14 hours from camp. Glacier (III,4,s). August 4, 1952.

2. North Glacier, West Ridge. Go across the Hallam Glacier from the Deception-Milton col to the Milton-Hallam col, the descent route of Route 1, staying north on Hallam Glacier to avoid ice cliffs. (IRBC 1963)

UNNAMED (FALSE HALLAM) 3120m

The eastern summit appears highest. It is 0.7 km ENE of Hallam Peak. Climbed directly up the north side from Hallam Glacier, by the 2004 ski traverse group (Greg Hill, Jeff Volp and friends), mid-April 2004. (FRA). It is marked as Hallam Peak on the map.

In addition to the two FRAs in this area, the group also climbed Mounts Monashee, Lempiere, Milton and Thunderbolt Mountain. The first three then continued south, climbing about 14 more summits on the way to Revelstoke.

Jeff Volp and David Sproule exited this ski traverse via Soards Creek. (PC: JV)

UNNAMED (CAZADORES PEAK) 2910m

Altitude 9545 feet. Located 2.3 km northeast of Hallam Peak.

1. Ascend from the north, Hallam Glacier, over the bergschrund far to the left, easy. Summer 2018. (PC: Tom Wolfe)

UNNAMED (JUSTY PEAK) 2940m

Altitude 9645 feet. Located 3.5 km northeast of Hallam Peak.

1. West Ridge. From the 2018 ACC climbing camp below the small glacier tongue directly east of Hallam Peak, go up the steep lower moraine and the trail followed a small creek paralleling the lateral moraine. Topping the upper moraine, traverse a shallow bowl to two smaller moraines paralleling the glacier (Riddle Glacier).

Ascend the icefall of Riddle Glacier (some step cutting on ice; bridges tend to melt out late in season) and pass around the west side of Cazadores Peak on Hallam Glacier. The west ridge is easy, with some loose shingles on rock slabs (probably slate). Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). Class 4 because of glacier. Summer 2018. (CME, photos)

UNNAMED 2760m

Altitude 9050 feet, located 1.3 km east-northeast of Justy Peak. Possibly climbed by an ACC party, 2018.

UNNAMED (CARDHU PEAK) 2665m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Located 2 km southeast of Hallam Peak and west of Unnamed (Joy).

To access the following summits from the 2018 ACC climbing camp, ascend the cliff band of the southern valley wall, zig-zagging up a series of ledges and short gullies to the crux, a steep slabby section.

1. East Side of South Ridge. Approach from the northeast, from the 2018 ACC climbing camp below Riddle Glacier. From Magic Lake, head west around a steep moraine, and then up over more gentle ridges and proceed up to Iceberg Lake, which is roughly east of Cardhu Peak. Iceberg Lake is not on any map, being formed by recent glacier retreat.

Ascend Iceberg Glacier and snow to the east side of the south ridge. There is one rock step and some steep and exposed snow. Near the top, bear right and climb the east side.

Glacier (III,4,s). Helen Sovdat, Klaus Haring and about 10 others, July 24, 2018. (CME, diagram, photos). **Much of the duration of the climb, and others here, is the long approach route from camp.**

UNNAMED (JOY PEAK) 2570m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Located 3.7 km east-southeast of Hallam Peak on the long, winding ridge containing Unnamed (Cardhu) and Unnamed (Wiser).-

1. Joy Peak had been skied from the northeast on April 10, 2003 by a large party with Helen Sovdat and Klaus Haring. (CME, photos)

2. Southwest Ridge. Joy Peak was sometimes climbed as a traverse and loop from Iceberg Glacier (used to access Cardhu Peak), going up a snow and ice gully, up to 40 degrees, and Class 3 rock.

Ice, Glacier. (III,4,s). Tom Wolfe and ACC party, summer 2018. (CME; PC: TW). Class 4 because of the glacier.

3. The southeast glacier of Joy Peak is called Magic Carpet Glacier, and Joy Peak has been ascended from it, going up the approach rock. Glacier. (III,4,s). Tom Wolfe and ACC party, summer 2018. (PC: TW)

UNNAMED (WISER PEAK) 2595m

Located just south of Bombay Peak. Climbed during the 2018 ACC climbing camp, July 23, 2018. **This was the third climbing camp of the summer and Wiser Peak had probably been climbed before, as well as others.**

UNNAMED (BOMBAY PEAK) 2350m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Located northeast of Joy Peak near the 2018 ACC climbing camp.

1. South to northwest traverse. A hike.

To reach the peaks south of the ACC camp, ascend the cliff band of the southern valley wall, zig-zagging up a series of ledges and short gullies to the crux, a steep slabby section.

Walk around Magic Lake, and up diagonally to the east, then south to the glacier. Gain the Bombay-Wiser saddle. Ascend the south slopes and descend northwest to Magic Lake. Much of the rock appears to be loose and unpleasant.

Glacier (III,4,s). Helen Sovdat, Klaus Haring and about 10 others, July 23, 2018. (CME, photos)

UNNAMED 2940m

Coordinates 770-820, 2.7 km west of Hallam Peak, at a triple point in the drainage which includes Foster Glacier, Nagle Creek and a small unnamed glacier to the west. FRA April 11, 2004.

UNNAMED 2580m

East of Unnamed 3000m, at 753-810. No cairn was found in 1993.

The Valley Glacier-Nagle Creek divide, north of Unnamed #8, provides a pass (not easy) between the Valley Glacier and the easternmost end of the very long east ridge of Un. 3000m. This pass is used to gain Un. 2580m (1993).

1. West Slopes. Approach from high on the col at the head of the Valley Glacier. The climb itself is Class 2. No cairn was built. Glacier (III,4,s). August 1, 1993.

2. Northwest Face. The northwest glacier and face were ascended. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Mark McDermott, Wm. McKenzie, Roger Wallis, July 29, 2008. (CAJ 92(2009):114; PC: RW). This glacier, and then over a pass, appears to be the way used by the 1980 traverse party.

Basecamp was on a rock ledge at a small lake at grid 749-831,

The 1967 group also climbed a rock pinnacle "at the northern end of the icefield", perhaps the pinnacle at 746-799 (2640m, 8650 feet) on the Valley Glacier-Nagle Creek divide, north of Un. #8.



Un. 3000m, just right of center, with the north face and Wolverine Glacier 1100m high. The east summit is at the left. Photo: Roger Wallis.

This photo is almost identical to the photo taken in 1980 by Steven Smith of the north side of Un. 3000m in the Scrip Range, showing that the 1980 traverse party was in the valley southwest of the valley of Foster Glacier, and north of Unnamed 3000 meters See the beginning of the Dominion Group, and the 2004 ski traverse below Mount Milton in the Scrip Range. Thus, there are two variations in the route to reach the Valley Glacier from the north near Hallam Peak.

Ascents on the 2004 ski trip are in various groups to the south.

UNNAMED 3000m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Map coordinates 727-810. It is the highest point on the ridge southeast of the head of Mud Creek, 2 kilometers northeast of peak #4. The westernmost summit is the highest. No record of ascent.

In 2008, a wolverine came tumbling and sliding down the north glacier, and came up and stared at the climbers who were stuck in bad weather. Hence, Wolverine Glacier. (PC: R. Wallis)

 UNNAMED (#8) 2820m

Map coordinates 745-784, on the Monashee watershed above Nagle Creek. Located across the Valley Glacier nearly east of Unnamed #4 and one kilometer northeast of the Silver Horn. The Silver Horn lies directly above the bend in the upper Valley Glacier on its east side.

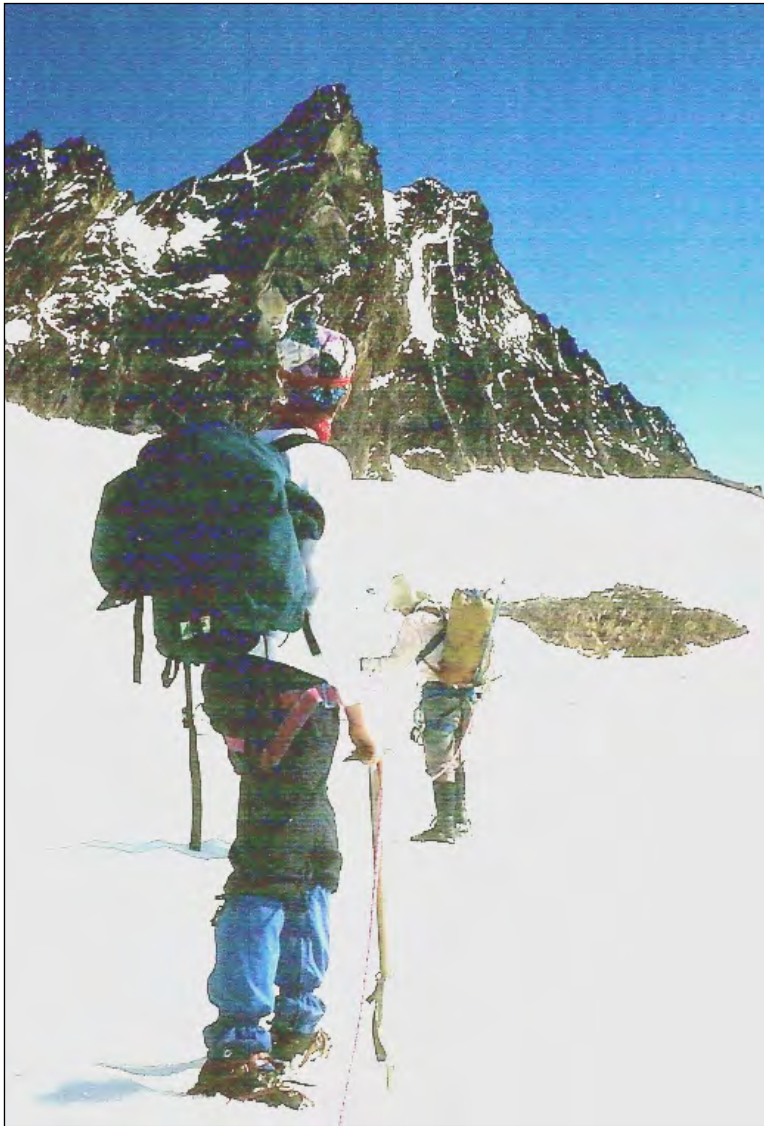
1. Northwest Glacier. The first ascent party started from the helicopter camp below the Valley Glacier in the valley of the southeast fork of Mud Creek (see Windy Peak).

Walk up the Valley Glacier, and ascend the northwest glacier. The summit is of rock. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). July 28, 1964.

SILVER HORN 2730m

Silver Horn is the first prominent peak on the ridge southwest of Unnamed #8. It is on the watershed above Nagle Creek.

1. Northwest Glacier. The 1967 and 1993 groups climbed via the northwest glacier, near the head of the main Valley Glacier (easy). The 1967 group made the second ascent of Unnamed #8. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). August 9, 1967.



At the head of the Valley Glacier. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

TRIPLE PEAK (TRIPLE CROWN PEAK) 2580m

Triple Peak rises above the east side of the Valley Glacier, north of Footstool Col, at 734-763 on map 83D/2 Nagle Creek.

NORTH SUMMIT 2580m

This, the highest point, appears to be a technical climb on reasonably firm rock.

CENTRAL SUMMIT 2570m

Ascended by a short Class 4 climb on good rock from the south summit. August 3, 1993. (ERW)

SOUTH SUMMIT 2560m

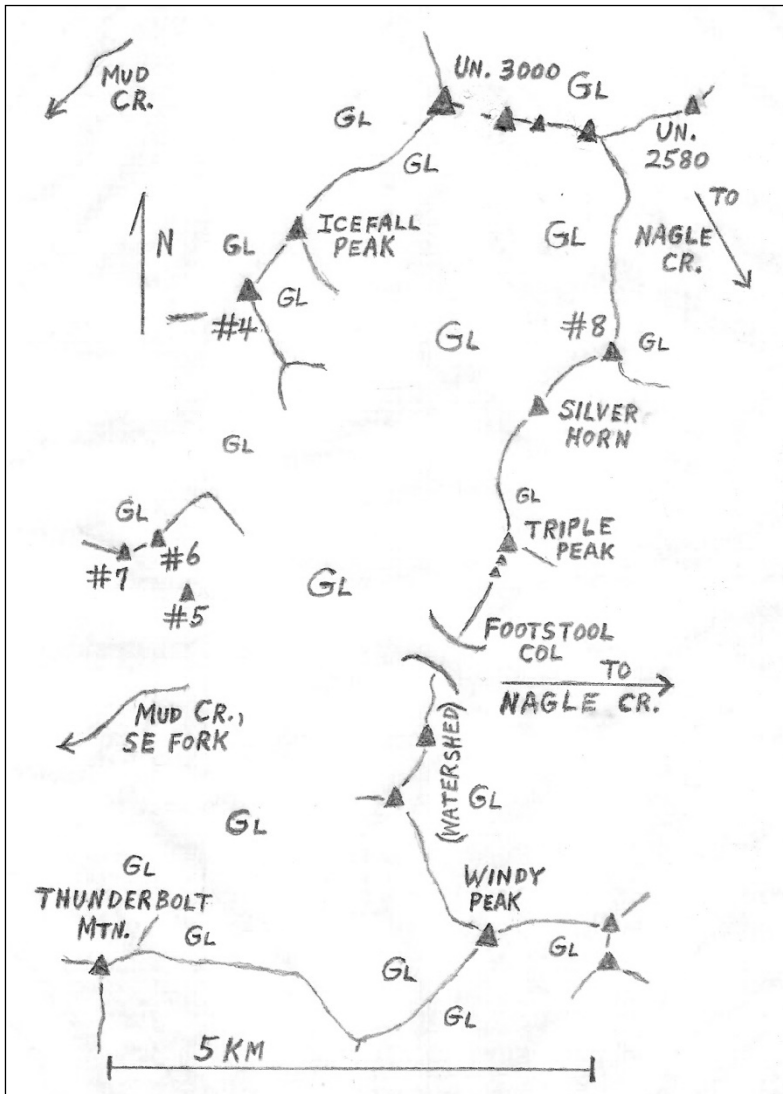
1. South Face. The south face is a route finding problem, mostly Class 2, from the very broad Footstool Col. The upper part of the route is next to the ridge. (II,3,s). August 4, 1967. (ERW). Footstool Col has coordinates 727-753.

ICEFALL PEAK 2820m

Located nearly one kilometer northeast of Unnamed #4, above the western side of the Valley Glacier, at map coordinates 712-796. The 1993 party at first thought that this peak was Unnamed #4.

1. South Glacier. Go up the second tributary glacier on the true right side (west) of the Valley Glacier, across the glacier from the 1993 camp. Climb the center of the icefall, largely on bare ice, then through crevasse problems, and ascend the easy southern snow slopes. There was no cairn found in 1993.

On descent, the east margin of the glacier is easier (fewer crevasses). At the southwest side of the rock bluffs near the ice cliffs, rappel twice down slabs with loose rocks (second time from a piton) to the talus below. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). August 5, 1993. (ERW)



Sketch Map, the Valley Glacier.



**Spire above the Valley Glacier. Mount Milton at right, in distance.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

UNNAMED (#4) 2790m

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. More than halfway up the Valley Glacier, above its western side. It is almost 3 km southwest of Unnamed 3000m, the latter being the highest point on the ridge between Mud Creek and the Valley Glacier. Map coordinates 706-790.

1. Southwest Ridge. From camp (see Windy Peak), walk over 3 km northeast up the Valley Glacier, then turn up the first tributary glacier on the true right side (west). (The lowest part of this tributary was nearly melted away in 1993.) Bypass the icefall from the upper glacier via a snow couloir going up the rock headwall to the east of the icefall. The final rock pyramid is ascended via the broken rock of the left hand ridge (SW). Descent was by the right hand ridge (SSE). Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). RC, AM, July 25, 1964.

The southwest end of the upper glacier may be reached directly north of camp (1964). See the Camp Towers, #6 and #7.

2. South-Southeast Ridge. See Route 1.

UNNAMED (#6) 2480m (northeast summit)

UNNAMED (#7) 2510m (southwest summit)

Map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Map coordinates 695-764. Located 1.6 km north-northeast of camp in the southeast fork of Mud Creek. There is an icefield on the northwest slopes. These two summits and Un. (#5) were known as the Camp Towers. They are the highest rock towers on the south end of the ridge southeast of Mud Creek.

1. Southeast Slopes. From camp, ascend to the pass between the summits, leading to the icefield. The summits are 0.5 kilometer apart. Climb diagonal ledges on the southeast side on alternate heather, snow and rock.

The party also climbed the small Unnamed (#5) northeast of camp. (I,3,s). July 26, 1964.

The group of 1967 also climbed another summit, "Meadow Peak", in this area at "the junction of the main glacier and a tributary fed by the extensive icefield farther west". The exact location will await the finding of a cairn.



Unnamed #4, from the northeast. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

WINDY PEAK (#1) 2730m

At the head of Soards Creek (731-723) on the Monashee watershed. A higher peak with two summits (north summit is 2760m) is 1.4 km to the east, and a peak of equal height is on the watershed to the northwest.

1. West Glacier, Northwest Ridge. A good campsite, reached by helicopter, is 2.8 kilometers north of Thunderbolt Mountain. It is on the southeast fork of Mud Creek, which is tributary to Mud Creek at its bend on the west edge of the Nagle Creek map. Consult the introduction for campsites also, under access.

Cross the Valley Glacier and avoid the icefall from Thunderbolt Mountain by means of steep snow and scree slopes on the left (true right) side. Ascend to the upper glacier.

Climb the northwest ridge on loose rock, 5 hours from camp. Glacier (III,4,s). July 21, 1964.

The party continued to Thunderbolt Mountain.

THUNDERBOLT MOUNTAIN (#2) 2880m

At 691-720, map 83D/2 Nagle Creek. Situated north of the head of Adams River, 2.8 km south of camp in the southeast fork of Mud Creek.

1. East Ridge. The 1964 party climbed Thunderbolt Mountain after the ascent of Windy Peak (#1) on the same day.

Avoid the various bergschrunds under the east ridge by traversing on the glacier, because of rock slabs on the south side. At one unavoidable bergschrund, climb one rock pitch to the east ridge.

The FA party bivouacked on the descent. The climb would be shorter without climbing Windy Peak. Ice, Glacier (IV,4,s). July 21, 1964.

UNNAMED 2650m

At 663-645, south of the head of Adams River, map 83D/2. IB, AC, GH, April 13, 2004.



Thunderbolt Mountain, from the northeast, from Footstool Col. The east ridge is to the left. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

UNNAMED (MALONEY HIGH POINT) 2670m

Map 82M/15 Scrip Creek, coordinates 816-542. It is directly west of Birch Creek (in the Selkirks), across the Columbia River, and 10.4 kilometers west of the river. This was called Maloney High Point by N.E. McConnell. Climbed by Norman E. McConnell, Topographical Survey party, 1937, route unknown. (PC: John O. Wheeler, marked map)

GORDON HORNE PEAK 2885m

Map 82M/15 Scrip Creek. This peak is on a spur east of the Monashee watershed, forty km south of the other peaks of the group, except McLennan Peak, Mount Wallis and some unnamed ones. Surveyed at 9466 feet. The Shuswap Group is 50 km to the south.

Gordon Horne Peak is prominent from the Columbia River, between Horne and Ruddock Creeks, and is very sharp. There are high summits to the northwest and south.

1. West Ridge. Approach up logging and skid roads above Ruddock Creek. Bushwhack a long way on the south rim of Ruddock Creek to the alpine zone and make the last camp above the lakes at the head of Ruddock Creek.

Descend to the lakes, bushwhack and emerge on the alpine zone west of the peak. All is easy except for a 30 meter nose (slippery when wet; poor rock), with a staircase and an exit niche (rappel on descent). The summit is a spectacular block. (II,4,s). Barbara Hargreaves, Ian MacKenzie, Hugh Neave, August 4, 1976. (CAJ 60(1977):62 photo; PC: HN)

Jim Hylands and Geoff Bird, on August 10, 1963, landed by helicopter just east of the summit and traversed west doing geological work. They probably left the sardine can on the summit which was found in 1976.

There also was a Falconbridge geological exploration camp in the area which may have left the sardine can. (PC: John O. Wheeler)



The Summit of Gordon Horne Peak. Photo courtesy of Hugh Neave.



Ratchford E4 from the southeast, from the lake level near the Columbia Valley (Downie Creek). Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



Unnamed Peaks SW of Ratchford E4. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

UNNAMED (GORDON HORNE WEST STATION) 2850m

Named Gordon Horne West Station by Norman E. McConnell. It is 7 kilometers west of Gordon Horne Peak on the watershed. On map 82M/15 Scrip Creek, the word FARM is printed over it. 678-391. Climbed by N.E. McConnell, Topographical Survey party, 1937, route unknown. (PC: John O. Wheeler, marked map)

UNNAMED (FRISTAW)

Located south of Ruddock Creek and north of Hoskins Creek. This is probably one of two pairs of peaks at 695-337 (2820m, 9250 feet), and 720-328 (2670m, 8750 feet), on map 82M/10. Climbed by Jim Hylands and Ken MacKenzie, August 17, 1963. The location will probably not be settled until a cairn is found. (PC: JH)

The northwestern of the two 2820m peaks was skied from the northeast on April 18, 2004 by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill.

A low peak (Friskow, 2390m, 7850 feet; 762-312), certainly east of the above, was also investigated by the Geological Survey team.

On the Regional Traverse from Ruddock Creek to Scrip Creek, northwest of Gordon Horne Peak, some of the summits may have been climbed during the trek.

MOUNT LUTKEA (ROUND SURVEY STATION) ca. 2400m

East of the watershed, overlooking Sibley and Kirbyville Creeks. Map 82M/10. Climbed by a survey crew led by Norman E. McConnell, 1937. There is no survey mark on the map; evidently this station was not used.

McLENNAN PEAK 2175m

Map 82M/10 Hoskins Creek, just northwest of Kirbyville Lake. The ski traverse group of April 2004 also passed over McLennan Peak. (PC: Roger Wallis)

RATCHFORD PEAK (WALLIS; BERTHE SURVEY STATION) 2680m

Map 82M/10 Hoskins Creek, south border, grid 809-082. Ratchford Peak is east of the head of Ratchford Creek and to the west of the head of Liberty Creek. (Liberty Creek first flows north, and then east down to the lake created by damming of the Columbia River.) Located northwest of the mouth of the embayment of Downie Creek (Selkirks) and 30 km north-northwest of Schrund Peak. It is surveyed at 8793 feet.

The mountain was first named for Ed Wallis, a trapper and outfitter who had a motor court at Downie Creek (Selkirks; now under water).

1. FRA by Norman E. McConnell and his Topographical Survey party, 1937; route unknown. (PC: John O. Wheeler, marked map)

2. Northeast Glacier, Northwest Ridge. Approach from the head of Liberty Creek from camp at the snout of the unnamed glacier. The rope is necessary only on the glacier. Glacier (II,4,s). Thomas Crowley, Reg Fryling, Connie Harris, 1976. (PC: TC)

For access, see 'Regional Traverse: Ratchford Creek to Kirbyville Ck.' in introduction to Scrip Range; also Shuswap Group.

3. East Glacier. Ascend the east snowfield from a helicopter camp. A fun climb. Glacier. Michael and Cathryn Lennox, Kevin, Nigel and Roger Wallis, August 5, 2013. (PC:RW)

This route was originally done on skis by the traverse group of April 20, 2004. (PC: Roger Wallis, marked map; CAJ 88(2005):58 no detail)

SEYMOUR RANGE

MAPS- 82M/10 Hoskins Creek, 82M/11 Adams River, 82M/14 Messiter,
82M/15 Scrip Creek

The Seymour Range is bounded on the east by Oliver Creek and Seymour River (distinguished from Seymour Creek) which are west of the south end of the Scrip Range. It is on a ridge trending roughly north-south. The Seymour River flows south into the Seymour Arm of Shuswap Lake.

It consists of ridges, small icefields and peaks at least two of which are more than 2740 meters. The highest peaks occur around the heads of the Gold Creek valley and Mammoth Creek.

The Seymour Range at present is an area for heliskiing, among many other areas. Virtually all the mountains from the Bugaboos to Prince George, with the exception of national parks and some provincial parks, have heliskiing rights. For instance, there are many named ski runs in the Shuswap Group.

The small southern peaks, south of the many lakes at the head of Sunset Creek, and due east of the Bischoff Lakes, have been reached by ski. Three peaks around the head of the largest glacier in the area, 2 km east of the Bischoff Lakes, were ascended on ski in 1994. The lowest and westernmost of these, not a heliski objective (2450m; map 82M/11 Adams River) was climbed by Michael Feller, Peter de Visser, Ellen Woodd, and Ross Wyborn in April 1994. (BCM 63:85; PC: M. Feller)

There was much bad weather.

At least one prominent spire (about 2500m), adjacent to the above unnamed 2450m, is unlikely to have been climbed.

SHUSWAP GROUP

MAPS- 82M/7 Ratchford Creek, 82M/8 Downie Creek. 82M/2 Perry River, 82M/1 Mount Revelstoke

The Shuswap Group is bounded by Eagle Pass (Trans-Canada Highway) on the south, the Columbia River on the east, Perry River and Myoff Creek on the west and Pettipiece Pass (1690m) on the north. One center of interest is about 40 km north-northwest of Revelstoke. Just west of Bourne Glacier, in the north end of the group, is the Myoff Icefield, on the west side of the Monashee watershed.

The first prominent peak seen from the Mica Dam road north of Revelstoke is Frenchman Cap, the end of a spur jutting east from the watershed. The rock of the Shuswap Group is mostly gneiss and granite gneiss, and a little quartzite.

Access

A nearly continuous road leads along the west bank of the Columbia River, the southern section, starting just west of Revelstoke, ending at Frisby Creek. (See "**Access by Boat**" in the Scrip Range.) This region has been entered from the south and was traversed to the north in 1962 by a Geological Survey party. There was a mining road on the Jordan River, starting just west of Revelstoke, and then up Hiren Creek (and also a trail part way up Copeland Creek, north of Hiren Creek, from the Jordan River; Regional Traverse, below) to a point southwest of Mount Copeland, but a critical bridge was removed (consult Mt. Copeland, Route 4). After fording the creek, the road on Hiren Creek almost certainly can be hiked. The trail on upper Jordan River is impassable beyond a lumber mill because of a swamp and steep walls (1968).

A camp at treeline below Frenchman Cap can be reached in one day by the valley of Park Creek.

Logging company ferries are not obliged to carry passengers or their vehicles and so the Columbia River presents a barrier to those approaching from Revelstoke along the Mica Dam road on the east side. The Columbia River is now a lake at this latitude, created by the dam north of Revelstoke.

The road distance table at the beginning of the Scrip Range is useful here (on the Columbia River north of Revelstoke).

From Seymour Arm, at the head of Shuswap Lake, a 32 km B.C. Hydro power line road is passable to four wheel drive vehicles to Myoff Creek, Pettipiece Pass and to a point opposite Downie Creek on the Columbia River. From Seymour Arm townsite, this road is passable for two wheel drive vehicles to Myoff Creek. From the Trans-Canada Highway, the

40 kilometer (25 miles) Perry River Road, for two wheel drive vehicles, ascends Perry River and goes down Myoff Creek to this power line, the most direct route to the Shuswap Group. This road (Avoca Road) begins 43 km (26.7 miles) west of the junction of the Trans-Canada Highway and Highway 23 (measured from their junction west of the Columbia River). The Myoff Icefield and Bourne Glacier area can be reached in two easy days of backpacking from Pettipiece Pass, heading south, over alpine meadows, lakes and ridges of the Monashee height of land. (PC: Thomas Crowley)

The Perry River road ends 8 km south of Ratchford Peak (see photo above). Branch roads go far west and then north.

A newly-formed lake at the tongue of Bourne Glacier now makes access to Bourne Glacier more difficult. One can ascend the Myoff Icefield, and pass east over the watershed to Bourne Glacier as an alternative. (PC: Thomas Crowley)

Regional Traverse: Copeland Cr. to Big Eddy Cr. (& Pettipiece Pass)

Start by road and a trail up Jordan River and for 3 kilometers up Copeland Creek. Bushwhack up the creek another 6 kilometers.

From camp at head of Copeland Creek, traverse north and west around the northwest head of Bews Creek and go north across the col to the head of Jordan Valley. (Jordan Valley is very difficult because of huge slabs of granite gneiss.) After crossing the col descend very roughly 100 meters straight down and then bear east over a rock slide and slabs keeping west of a prominent gully. Cross to the north side of the river on avalanche snow, and then go upstream.

From the head of Jordan River, ascend to a campsite in the last good timber in the cirque at the north of the valley. To do this, follow the most westerly tributary and climb up slabs alongside the creek. Ascend to a small glacier and cross the col east of Anchor Survey Station. Descend a heavily crevassed snow-covered glacier (best near east edge) to Frisby Glacier. Camp in the basin just north of the snout of Frisby Glacier.

From this camp, climb easy slopes to the north and cross the saddle onto the small, smooth glacier at the head of the south fork of Big Eddy Creek. At the snout of this glacier, bear left and sidehill across coarse talus on the hillside until well past the cliff band northeast of the snout. Slabs below the glacier require this detour. Go out by helicopter from camp on the gravel flats.

John O. Wheeler, GSC party, August 1962. (PC: JW)

From Big Eddy Creek, climb northwest to the col west of Cat Peak, and pass across the heads of Park and Bourne Glaciers to camp above Bourne Creek. Gain the height of land and descend to Pettipiece Pass.

Geoff Bird, J.O. Wheeler, August 1963. (PC: JW, marked map)

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1910- Morrison P. Bridgland, Topographical Survey party.
(ARTS 1910-1911; AAJ 6:177)
- 1963- Geoff Bird, John O. Wheeler. (PC: JW, marked map)
- 1964- James T. Fyles, W. Shallenberger. (PC:JF)
- 1968- Barbara Lilley, Jess Logan, George and Marcia Wallerstein.
(regional traverse, north to south; AAJ 16:415; PC: BL, GW)
- 1978- Thomas Crowley, Connie Harris, Gary Kalloch, Joe Munro.
(PC: TC)
- 1993- Ernst Marti, ski traverse party with Ruedi Beglinger.
(CAJ 77(1994):93)
- 1995- Steven Horvath, Hamish Mutch. (KK 38(1996):21)
- 2004- Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill. Ski traverse.
(CAJ 88(2005):58; PC: Roger Wallis)
- 2014- ACC climbing camp. (CAJ 98(2015):95)

UNNAMED 2300m

This flat summit is located at 891-921, on the route south from Pettipiece Pass to the Shuswap uplift, map 82M/7. FRA on skis by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill, April 22, 2004.

FELINE PEAK 2850m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. Feline Peak is southeast of the head of Bourne Creek and northwest of Park Glacier, 2.7 km north-northwest of Cat Peak.

1. Southwest Ridge. Start from a helicopter camp near the head of Bourne Creek. Walk south onto the glacier and then east up open rock and snow slopes to the southwest ridge, which is Class 2. Glacier (II,4,s). August 4, 1968. Rated Class 4 because of the glacier.

Members of the ACC climbing camp in 2014, above Big Eddy Creek, climbed Feline Peak without difficulty by a long walk around to the west (glacier).



Peaks above Park Glacier (from the W). Frenchman Cap (left), Castle Dome, Mount Levers (right). The ridge shown lies above Park Glacier. Photo: Thomas Crowley.

FRENCHMAN CAP 2890m

Map 82M/8 Downie Creek, surveyed. Frenchman Cap looms above the Columbia River south of Downie Creek. The summit has the form of a beret.

1. Southwest Ridge. Ascend a chute to the watershed (from Pyrite Lake, on the west side of the watershed; 1968) and traverse long, south-facing, snow slopes above a glacier draining into Big Eddy Creek. Cross a broad divide to a small glacier draining into Park Creek and leading to the southwest ridge (the last step on the ridge can be avoided on the southeast side). Glacier (II,4,s). Geoff Byrd, John O. Wheeler, August 1963. (AAJ 14:202; PC: JW, Klaus Haring)

The southwest ridge was reached from Park Creek by a Topographical Survey party under Bryan Boyd in 1958. Approach up Park Creek from the Columbia River, and climb south through alder and steep snow slopes to treeline; one day. The party was stormed off.

2. Northeast Ridge. Take the road north from Revelstoke (see introduction, access, and also the **road distance table** at the beginning of the Scrip Range) to a few kilometers north of Carnes Creek. Canoe across the reservoir, and bushwhack up on the east side of the ridge to a bivouac in the bush.

The northeast ridge starts just above treeline; stay mostly on the south side past the first tower. At a notch in the ridge, again skirt to the left up a short step, and then climb up to the ridge. When a down-sloping ramp is reached, traverse right; then climb (Class 5.5) up a corner on the north side with reasonable protection. The ridge then becomes third and fourth class with little vertical steps. It is a broken and variable route. Bring water because the climb can be very dry.

Descent was by the same route; five hours to the summit from the bivouac, and 6 hours down to the reservoir, but the party was strong. (IV,5.5). Peter Mair, W. Wright, August 10, 1990. (PC: PM, David P. Jones)

CASTLE DOME ca. 2760m

Castle Dome (as seen from the west; IRBC 1975) is the rounded peak between Frenchman Cap and Mount Levers, closer to Mount Levers. (PC: Thomas Crowley, labeled photo). Mount Levers, once thought to be Castle Dome, does not look like a dome. Castle Dome does not appear on the map contours.

MOUNT LEVERS 2804m

Map 82M/8. Located 2.4 kilometers southwest of Frenchman Cap. It has crumbly rock and is a 'treacherous obstacle'. (CAJ 98(2015):95)

1. South Ridge. Use the approach for Frenchman Cap. From the broad divide, angle up onto the south ridge, the east side of which is Class 3. Glacier (II,4,s). August 8, 1968.

CAT PEAK 2868m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. Altitude 9409 feet.

1. South Glacier, West-Southwest Ridge. Cat Peak was ascended by the west-southwest ridge from near, and southwest of, Levers Pass (broad divide). Class 3. Glacier (II,4,s) Geoff Bird and John O. Wheeler, August 1963. (PC: JW, marked map). Rated Class 4 because of the glacier.

2. Northeast Ridge. The descent route of Route 1, to the glacier east of it, and to the ridge of Frenchman Cap.

3. North Glacier, North Face. The north face was approached using an open snow slope to the east of Bourne Glacier, from a helicopter camp near the head of the glacier. Climb steep snow on the N face. Glacier (II,4,s). August 5, 1968. The party of four split to do two routes, two of them repeating Route 1.

4. Southeast Ridge. The southeast ridge is just west of Levers Pass. It has enjoyable Class 4 and lower Class 5 climbing; ascended from a camp at 956-831 (map 82M/8). (II,5.3). ACC climbing camp group with guide, August 2014. (CAJ 98(2015):95). The difficulty is a guess.

PUSSYCAT PEAK 2900m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek, between the heads of Park and Big Eddy Creeks. It is 4.3 km west-southwest of Frenchman Cap, west-southwest of Cat Peak and east of Cougar Peak. The col between Cougar and Pussycat Peak has coordinates 939-847.

1. South Glacier, East Ridge, Traverse. Ascend slabs and south glacier (crampons) to the east ridge (Class 3). There are loose rocks on the ridge, but the main mass of rock is fairly solid.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). ACC climbing camp group with guide, Aug. 2014. The descent to the west requires a rappel (done the next day; guide). (PC: Klaus Haring). Rated Class 4 because of the glacier.

COUGAR PEAK (CAT) 2937m

1. West Ridge. The group approached up Bourne Glacier, to the west ridge. Leaving their equipment on the ridge, they climbed steep snow and a rock gully to the west ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). May 23, 1993.

2. South Glacier, East Ridge. The approach is similar to Pussycat Peak. As with Pussycat Peak, the rock is quite broken up, with loose material and blocks, but the main mass of rock is fairly solid. Some Class 5.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.3,s). ACC climbing camp group with guide, August 2014. The difficulty is a guess. (PC: Klaus Haring)

CAT'S TAIL 2866m

One kilometer west-southwest of Cougar Peak. Climbed by the ACC in 2014. (CAJ 98(2015):95)

THE TOQUE 2670m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. It is situated west of Bourne Glacier, southeast edge of the Myoff Icefield at 886-853 on the watershed. The icefield is adjacent to and west of Bourne Glacier, but on the west side of the watershed.

1. West Ridge. From camp on the ridge between Bourne and Myoff Creeks, the Myoff Icefield was reached by descending to Bourne-Myoff pass and ascending south along the height of land to the ice. Cross the Myoff Icefield to its south margin, and follow the west ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). TC, GK, JM, August 1978.

Members of the 1978 party also climbed The Tam (1.3 km west of The Toque, by the north ridge), Fez Peak (0.8 km SW of The Tam, SW side of the icefield) and Beret Peak (NE retaining wall of Myoff Icefield, north of the Toque, by the south ridge).

FEZ PEAK 2560m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. This summit is the northernmost rock tower of the ridge extending south from the southwest corner of Myoff Icefield, 0.8 km southwest of The Tam.

1. North Ridge. There are two exposed pitches on the rotten rock of the north ridge, one hour from the icefield. Glacier (II,5.0,s). TC, CH, GK, August 1978.



**Hat Peak (right end of ridge) from the east, from Carnes Creek.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

HAT PEAK 2883m

Map 82M/8 Downie Peak. Five kilometers southeast of Frenchman Cap and south of Big Eddy Creek. Surveyed at 9457 feet.

In contradiction to IRBC 1963, Hat Peak was not climbed by the Topographic Survey in 1914 (nor 1913), and is probably unclimbed. No triangle symbol is on the map at the summit. (ARTS 1913-14; 1914-15)

UNNAMED 2790m

Map 82M/8 Downie Peak. Grid 975-796. Southwest of Hat Peak with a very steep north face. Various points along the ridge running southwest from Hat Peak were climbed from the north in 2015. The rock climbing tended to be straightforward after the glaciers were passed.

UNNAMED (CORNER PEAK) 2670m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. Located two and one half kilometers east of Schrund Peak on the ridge running toward Hat Peak.

1. West Ridge. From camp at the head of Big Eddy Creek, ascend the eastern arm of the glacier (icefalls) to the west ridge. The peak is exposed with high cliffs to the north and south, and a sharp ridge to the west and east. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). May 25, 1993.

The second ascent of the west ridge was on April 25, 2004.

SCHRUND PEAK 2917m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek. This mountain is 2.2 km southeast of Pyrite Lake. Pyrite Lake is on the west side of the watershed, Schrund Peak on the east.

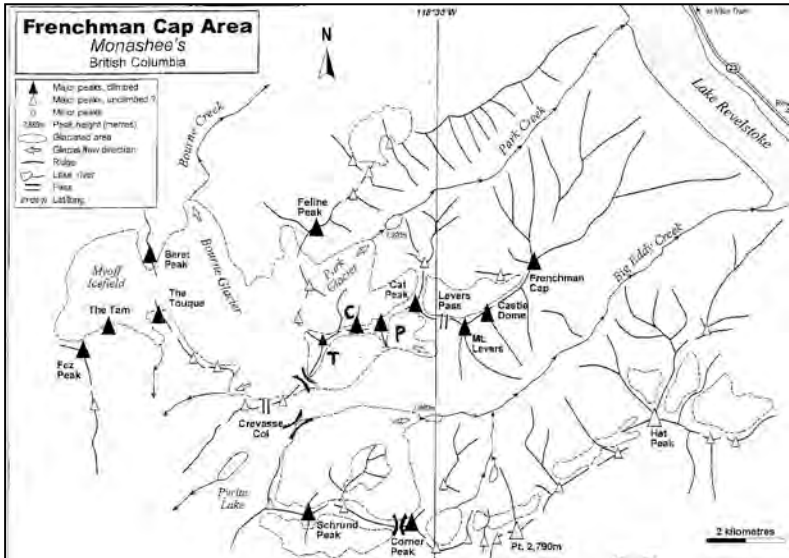
1. North Glacier, East Ridge. Starting from camp at Pyrite Lake, angle southeast across the north glacier to a chute leading to the east ridge (Class 2). Glacier (II,4,s). August 9, 1968.

2. West Ridge, Southwest Glacier. (Used for the descent in 1995.) From the summit, descend south and then onto the southwest glacier to avoid the knife-edged upper west ridge. Climb the glacier to a small col and go up one pitch (Class 5.3-5.4) on bad rock, moderately scary, to regain the west ridge and the glacier descending to Big Eddy Creek.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.4,s). Steven Horvath, Hamish Mutch, August 4, 1995. (PC: SH)



Schrund Peak from the north-northwest. Photo: Thomas Crowley.



Roger Wallis

Shuswap Group map. P = Pussycat Peak, C = Cougar Peak and
T = Cat's Tail. Use the magnifier (Zoom) to see details.

The symbol) (also means a pass.

UNNAMED (GLACIER PEAK) 2790m

Glacier Peak is on map 82M/2, Perry River, at 901-774 near the north-east corner. It is southwest of Schrund Peak, on the Monashee Divide.

1. Southeast Ridge. From Unnamed 2820m (Bastion Peak) descend a south-facing gully, circle, and cross the small, steep cirque on the west side of the divide to a notch in the southeast ridge (steep climbing). There is a precipitous drop of 1900 meters to the west. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). May 26, 1993.

UNNAMED (BASTION PEAK) 2820m

Map 82M/2 Perry River. Situated west of the head of Frisby Creek, and 2.3 kilometers northwest of Un. 2820m, below, at 905-766.

1. Southeast Ridge. From camp at the snout of the glacier west of and above Frisby Creek, ascend a large icefall to the Monashee Divide and the southeast ridge at about 914-756. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). May 26, 1993.

2. South Couloir. See Unnamed (Glacier Peak) 2790m.

UNNAMED 2700m

Map 82M/2 Perry River. Coordinates 937-756, just northeast of Un. 2760m (933-752). Skied on April 25, 2004 by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill, from Un. 2760m. They descended to the northeast, to Frisby Creek (marked map; the "Glacier of Certain Death"), climbed back to the camp on the col, and climbed Un. 2820m (below).

UNNAMED 2760m

Map coordinates 933-752, map 82M/2, at the extreme northwest end of the Jordan River drainage. The altitude is listed as 8600 feet in IRBC 1975.

1. West Ridge. Place a camp two kilometers to the southwest of the col between this peak and Unnamed 2820m (below). Climb the west ridge from the col. The rock is Class 2-3. Glacier (I,4,s). August 13, 1968.

The Regional Traverses of 1968 and 1993 passed between Un. 2760m and Un. 2820m (below) to or from Frisby Glacier.

UNNAMED 2820m

Map 82M/2 Perry River. Coordinates 921-749. Located at the extreme northwest end of the Jordan River drainage, just west of Un. 2760m.

1. East Ridge. See Un. 2760m. Ascend from the col between the two peaks, from the camp two kilometers southwest of the col. The rock is Class 2-3. Glacier (I,4,s). August 13, 1968.

2. South Ridge. From camp at the foot of the glacier above Frisby Creek, climb the eastern side of the glacier to the col between the two peaks (i.e., this and Un. 2760m). Proceed west on the smaller south glacier and climb the south ridge. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). May 27, 1993.

DERICKSON PEAK 2610m

On the west end of Derickson Ridge, map 82M/1, coordinates 972-697, on the watershed at the head of Bews Creek. FRA by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill, April 26, 2004, on skis. They avoided the northwest ridge by passing high on the southwest side of the northwest ridge and approached the summit from the south. (PC: Roger Wallace, marked map). It was probably climbed by prospectors long before.

MOUNT COPELAND 2580m

Map 82M/1 Mount Revelstoke. Mount Copeland lies between Hiren and Copeland Creeks. For present road conditions, see Route 4.

1. North Slopes. Approach via a rough mining road up Jordan River to a point 1.6 kilometers beyond Hiren Creek, then by trail (probably overgrown) up Copeland Creek. The summit may be reached in 4 hours from treeline at the end of the trail (see Routes 2 and 3). (III,3,s). FRA June 1910.

This peak had certainly been climbed previously by prospectors.

2. Southeast Slopes. Start from a camp at about 2000m (6600 feet) in the snow and ice basin northeast of the peak. Go over a col in the east ridge and climb the relatively gentle rocky southeast slopes. (II,3,s). Aug. 1964.

The return was down the steep northwest face, crossing the north ridge to camp. Small glaciers were encountered, but the rope was not used.

Above 1800 meters on the mountain, there are beautiful, rocky alpine meadows with many clear lakes.

3. Northwest Face. See Route 2.

4. West Ridge. On a modern road that starts on the Jordan River west of Revelstoke, drive up Hiren Creek (but see below) to above treeline. From here, it is an easy hike. See the Mount Revelstoke map sheet, 82M/1. (I,3,s). FA unknown. (PC: Fred Thiessen)

The bridge over Hiren Creek, south of Mount Copeland, has been removed (12 km downstream) as of 1999. To go by helicopter, drive from the junction of Highway 23 and the Trans-Canada Highway (west of Revelstoke). Go west at the junction onto the TCH and proceed about one kilometer. Turn north onto the road marked "Revelstoke landfill". Stay on the main road (mostly paved) to the Selkirk Mtn. helicopter base.

UNNAMED 2450m

On the west end of Copeland Ridge, 965-650, west of Mount Copeland on the watershed. FRA by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance, and Greg Hill, April 26, 2004, on skis. Probably climbed by prospectors long before.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN 2300m

Map 82M/1, 003-568, on the watershed east of Eagle Pass Mountain. FRA by Ian Bissonnette, Aaron Chance and Greg Hill, April 27, 2004, on skis.

EAGLE PASS MOUNTAIN (EAGLE MTN.) 2350m

Map 82M/2 Perry River. The mountain is north of the Trans-Canada Highway and east of Perry River. In 1930, Noel E. Odell and R. M. B. Roome did a fine 300 meter rock climb on the northeast face, with a finish over the towers of the east ridge. No details available.

They also climbed Joss Mountain south of the highway (Gold Range). (AAJ 1:268)

The approach to Eagle Pass Mountain is up the Crazy Creek FSR from the Trans-Canada Highway to the Eagle Pass Mountain Lookout Trail. See the trail guidebook list at the beginning of this guidebook, or the end of the Pinnacle Group. The meadows northwest of this small peak have been popular.

Crazy Creek flows into Eagle River about 6 km east of Craigellachie, and the road on Crazy Creek begins from the Trans-Canada Highway about 4.5 km east of Craigellachie on the north side. As of 2007, the road has been graded and is in reasonable condition at the point where one turns left uphill to the trailhead, about 8 km or so up the road. (PC: Leon Blumer)

ISOLATED PEAKS, WESTERN MONASHEE

Isolated summits which do not readily fit into the groups above are listed here.

There is an officially named Mount Anstey in the Selkirks, north of the town of Revelstoke.

MOUNT ANSTEY 2580m

Map 82M/7 Ratchford Creek, coordinates 794-826. Mt. Anstey is west of the Perry River Road, and west of Pyrite Lake and Schrund Peak. See the beginning of the Shuswap Group for the Perry River Road.

North of the meadows north of Mount Anstey, are Ratchford Creek and the summits around Fissure Peak and Ratchford Peak, which are well south of Gordon Horne Peak.

Just west of the heads of Perry River and Myoff Creek (west of the Shuswap Group) are the Anstey Glacier and Mount Anstey, with a superb sequence of lakes (paternoster lakes) to the west. Thomas Crowley, Reg Fryling and Connie Harris climbed this summit in 1982 by the easy north ridge, approaching via Myoff Creek (1070m) by roads to 1680m (5500 feet). A great extent of alpine meadows reaches to the escarpment above Ratchford Creek. (PC: TC)

Regional Traverse: Anstey Range

North of the Trans-Canada Highway, west of Three Valley Gap, take the road up Craigellachie Creek (northeast of the town of Malakwa, near Craigellachie) and Anstey River and stop at the big bend in the road at Four Mile Creek (before the Anstey River). Bushwhack southeast to a spur and ascend above treeline. One may hike about 30 km north along the ridge, mostly above treeline, with five camps. It leads to three large lakes north of Mount Anstey. (Pass east of the mountain.)

There is also a road going to the south end of the range (east of the Craigellachie road).

Geoff Bird, Geo. Headley, Jim Hylands, Brian Lowes, Ken MacKenzie, John O. Wheeler, June 1963. (PC: JW, marked map)

TSUIUS MOUNTAIN 2490m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek, coordinates 995-177. Located directly west of Cranberry Mountain (Gold Range) and 6 km west of the Shuswap River where Lindmark Creek enters (on the Greenbush Lake road, the Sugar Lake road). It is in the Sawtooth Range.

From Highway 6, east of Lumby, take the road north from Cherryville. When Sugar Lake is seen, go down the hill and cross the bridge to the Sugar Lake road. Follow it for 49 km (30.5 miles) from the bridge. At 49 km, go up a steep hill (Tsuius FSR).

From Tsuius Lodge, follow the trail to Mirror Lake.

At Mirror Lake (1.3 km east of Tsuius Mountain, good campsite) go to the northwest corner of the lake and climb. Then head to the right toward Snowdrift Pass, the first col northeast of Tsuius Mountain (see Index of Passes). Go left from the pass and cross a moraine field onto a snow field and go left onto the saddle. Climb the east ridge to the top, 2.5 hours from the lake (Class 2-3).

FA unknown. The author is grateful to the Vernon Outdoors Club for directions from its guidebook, and to Pamela Jenkins.

One may also climb the easy north snow slopes (ice ax), accessible from the same trail.

The Greenbush Lake Recreational Site is at the north end of the Sugar Lake road (see 'To Peters Lake' in Introduction to the Gold Range) northwest of Armstrong Peak, south of Joss Pass and north of Tsuius Mountain.

GOLD RANGE

MAPS- 82L/16 Revelstoke, 82L/9 Gates Creek, 82L/8 Mount Fosthall,
and 82K/12 Beaton (Shelter Bay ferry), 82K/5 St. Leon Creek

The entire Monashee Range was once called the Gold Range, but the name is now limited to the mountains just west of the Columbia River and Upper Arrow Lake, south of the Trans-Canada Highway (Eagle Pass) and north of the Whatshan Range.

The highest summit of the Gold Range, Mount Odin (2970m), is visible from Highway 23 north of Nakusp, much to the south of the ferry. In the highest uplift of the group, four large ridges, or spurs, branch east from the watershed, a geological structure typical of the Monashees. These are the ridge of Hughes Peak, the ridge east of Gates Peak, the Thor-Niflheim massif (Stegosaurus Ridge), and to the south the Odin-Grady-Burnham ridge. The Thor-Niflheim ridge is spectacular. South of the uplift, the mountains are lower, less alpine in character. Blanket Mtn., Cranberry Mtn. and Mount Odin support icefields and glaciers. Approaches below treeline are difficult because of the jungle of undergrowth.

Topographical Survey parties were active here in 1911, 1925, 1928 (see Mount Fosthall), and in the late 1950s under Bryan Boyd. Geological parties under A.G. Jones examined its entire length from 1948 to 1951, and D. B. Craig went from Blanket Mtn. to Mount Tilley for geological studies in 1960-1961. (PC: John O. Wheeler)

When on the Galena Bay-Shelter Bay ferry, Hughes Peak appears to the north, right, and then the large massif of Mount Thor (east end of Stegosaurus Ridge) which appears pointed, but it is really the ridge seen edge-on, 2500 meters (8200 feet) above the lake. The large ridge of Mount Burnham appears as a salient to the left, south.

The second highest summit of the Gold Range, Mount Thor, is one of the most spectacular.

Campgrounds

Tangier River F.S. campground. About half way between Glacier (Rogers Pass) and Revelstoke (about 33 km; in Selkirks) on the north side of the highway, very near the bridge.

Martha Creek Provincial campground. About 18 km (11 miles) north of Revelstoke from the Trans-Canada Highway on Highway 23 (east side of river; Selkirk side).

Blanket Creek Provincial campground. On Highway 23 south of Revelstoke (west side of river; Gold Range side), 24 km (15 miles) south of the Trans-Canada Highway.

Frog Falls campground. Consult Mt. English, Route 2.

Access

There is easy access to the east side of the Gold Range from Highway 23, starting on the west side of the Columbia River at Revelstoke and reaching 50 km (31 miles) to the ferry slip at Shelter Bay to the south. A free ferry shuttles from Shelter Bay to Galena Bay from 6 AM to 2 AM.

The road turn-off from Highway 23 is 48.6 km (30.2 miles) south of the junction with the Trans-Canada Highway (measured from their junction west of the Columbia River), or 1.4 km (0.9 miles) north of the ferry slip at Shelter Bay. This road is also a starting point for the road systems on the west side of Upper Arrow Lake, and the turn-off is the start for the distance tables below.

To Coursier Lake, north (and south to Mt. Thor)Miles Km turn

- | | | |
|-----|------|--|
| 1.5 | 2.4 | right, 90 degrees from main road on west side of lake |
| 3.9 | 6.2 | left. Follow Killeen Road south toward Mt. Thor . |
| 6.3 | 10.2 | left (south) for Coursier Lake on Dry Creek FSR. This doubles back north around a ridge to Coursier Lake. |

From Highway 23, south of Blanket Creek and Sutherland Falls, a road (Cranberry Creek Road) goes west to Cranberry Creek and south to the east of Cranberry Mountain and to Coursier Lake, and continues south as the Dry Creek FSR to the roads listed above.

To Odin Creek and Frigg Tower (at first, same as for Coursier Lake)

Follow Killeen Road. Cross the Pingston Creek bridge. At 80m, go right to Thor Creek. Odin Creek is south of this (bridge washed out, 2010). In 2015, the bridge may have been repaired. A spur is west up Odin Creek (north side).

Stay south on the lower road, beginning of hidden trail to Mooncastle Lake, north of Frigg Creek. See page below Frigg Tower, and Mt. Odin.

Pingston Creek now has a dam and a hydroelectric plant, and a lake has formed. A road went along the east side of Pingston Creek, starting at the bridge, with a connection to Odin Creek (2015; condition?)

Eighty meters beyond the Pingston Creek bridge, a right turn takes one to the road up the south side of Thor Creek (high clearance vehicles) which has been logged and is in a state of devastation. From the end of the road, hike the low "road", fight through the slash and pick up a marked trail on the north side of South Thor Creek (the main branch of Thor Creek; difficult to cross) to approach the north side of Stegosaurus Ridge, Kelly Peak (farther) and Three-Island Lake. The Rock Garden (campsite) lies at a bend in the valley; Kelly Peak to the left (south) and the valley with Three-Island Lake (175-090) to the right (N, bad bushwhacking at first). Six hours backpacking to the Rock Garden (189-079). There are two roads up the south side (2015).

A trail has been cut through the left side of the slide alder blocking the way to Three-Island Lake, but this trail is certainly overgrown. (PC: Leon Blumer). Gates Peak is beyond the lake. This patch of slide alder, close to the Rock Garden, is a somewhat formidable obstacle.

Three kilometers (1.9 miles) up the road from the Pingston Creek bridge, a road descends right to the bridge across Thor Creek (trail on north side to Loony Leon Lake and the Gates massif).

Access to Niflheim Cirque (Thor-Niflheim Cirque), North Side of Stegosaurus Ridge

As described above, take a right turn just beyond the Pingston Creek bridge, drive to the end of the road (high clearance) and backpack up marked trail on the north side of South Thor Creek (the main branch of Thor Creek; difficult to cross). Cross South Thor Creek again on a log jam at the lower end of the lake. (Trail from road recut, 2015.)

Backpack up and slightly left through light (i.e., not seriously difficult) bush to contact orange tape markers. Soon after climbing an easy rock outcrop, the markers trend up and right, generally, toward the stream flowing from the Niflheim Cirque in light to medium bush. When a small cliff is seen, the markers lead around its base and the base of a bear den moraine with gigantic boulders. Continue with the markers, well above the stream and sometimes on steep hillside, to the gateway to the cirque, about 6 hours from the end of the road. Bring mosquito repellent. (This trail was recut in 2006.)

Late in the season, parties have traversed the lake shore to the waterfall coming from the cirque, and gone up the west side of the creek.

From the road, an undrivable road provides access to Mount Thor, Route 1. Ascend into the big clear cut above, climb to its upper right hand corner and traverse up and right into the bush. This reaches a large sickle-shaped rock slide that leads to the alpine zone. The approach is modern, better than the original or the Jones approach. The climb can be done in one long day. (KK 33:53)



Hughes Peak from the southeast, from the road west of Pingston Creek and parallel to it. The approach to the Niflheim Cirque and the Rock Garden starts south of Thor Creek in the dark foreground, going left. Photo: Earle R. Whipple (1984).

Approach to Avalanche Lake

Avalanche Lake lies in a high valley southeast of Cranberry Mountain. From a camp near the end of the road to Pingston Lake (water), walk up the road and then trail to Pingston Lake. Continue on a game trail 100 meters, then turn sharply right up the hillside; the beginning of the trail not well marked. Traverse at the 30 meter level above the north side of Pingston Lake to the base of a cascade at a wooded headwall, then cross the stream; the trail is beside the stream. Above, on level ground, keep to the south side of the valley. As the valley narrows the trail is at the water's edge (rough, alder and rock) until the bottom of the cirque. In the cirque, climb up and right partly on snow to the east end of Avalanche Valley. Camp at Avalanche Lake (1920m) after about 5 hours with heavy packs. The trail is now badly washed out above the headwall as of 2001, by an avalanche and then a flood. (PC: David Smith)

Avalanche Lake can be reached from the Dry Creek FSR (see above pages: S of Coursier Lake) by the Pingston Lake Trail (paragraph above).

Access to the Gates Massif

Leon Blumer and Dan Robertson have cut a trail up the north side of Thor Creek (now overgrown) to a point about one km beyond the confluence of the north and south forks of Thor Creek, on the north fork of Thor Creek.

Three km (1.9 miles) up the road from the Pingston Creek bridge, a road descends right to the bridge across Thor Creek (trail on north side to Loony Leon Lake and the Gates massif).

Backpacking up the north side of the north fork of Thor Creek reaches the north side of the Gates massif. Bushwhack up the headwall below the large lower lake (Loony Leon Lake) and pass around its north side. More open terrain leads to a good campsite near the upper lake below the glacier, about 9 hours from the road. The route via the trail to Avalanche Lake is better for the north summit of Gates (which see).

If the trail through the alder north of the Rock Garden is open, one can backpack to Three Island Lake and go through the pass west of Three Island Lake to camp at the lakes west of the divide, south of Gates Peak. This patch of alder is shown in the photo in the Introduction.

To Peters Lake (Monashee Provincial Park) and Greenbush Lake

The road north from Cherryville (on Highway 6 east of Vernon) crosses to the west side of Sugar Lake (Sugar Lake road) and Shuswap River at the lower end of the lake, and recrosses the Shuswap River to the east side on a bridge north of Spectrum Creek, to return south to Spectrum Creek. Continue north on the Sugar Lake road to reach Greenbush Lake at the end of the road.

The road to Greenbush Lake has at least one four wheel drive section. Consult also Tsuius Mountain (in *Isolated Peaks*, Western Monashee).

Drive up Spectrum (Rainbow) Creek from the Shuswap River. The trail leads to Spectrum (Rainbow) Lake. The next stretch is very steep, ascending 760 meters by a series of switchbacks. At the upper lake level, one has to cross the creek running out of Little Peters Lake. There are meadows at the far end of Peters Lake. (BCM, September 1982:13)

To upper Wap Creek (to Mt. English or Joss Pass)

Roads go from Three Valley Gap on the Trans-Canada Highway (Three Valley Mabel FSR) over a low pass (then a left turn just beyond Frog Falls; South Pass FSR). The Mount English Spur (switchbacks) goes to west of Mount English. The South Pass FSR (on Wap Cr.) goes east to south of Mount English to the trail to Davis Peak. The Joss Pass road (trail to Joss Mountain) goes south from the South Pass FSR. Consult the text for Mt. English, Route 2. (Map 82L/16, Revelstoke)

The Bowman FSR (switchbacks) branches south beyond Frog Falls from the Three Valley Mabel FSR, to the west of Joss Mountain (trail from the west).

Traverses in the Gold Range

Thomas Crowley and friends made two connected traverses in the Gold Range in 1981 and 1982 which are described day by day (PC:TC). Parts of the routes are useful for approaches to peaks, such as in the regions around Mount Odin, Kelly Peak, Gates Peak and Mount Begbie. Map 82K/5 St. Leon Creek may also be useful.

1981. Regional Traverse, Monashee Provincial Park to Blanket Mtn.

Approach from the south via the west side of Upper Arrow Lake. (There is a ferry across Arrow Lake Narrows 25 km south-southwest of Nakusp.) Roads reach Fosthall Creek from the north, from Highway 23, 1.4 km north of the Shelter Bay ferry slip. See "To Alpine Area at Big Ledge and Margie Lake".

1. From the north, cross Fosthall Creek and take the first road on the right; from there, the road system is very complicated. Find Spur J (1650m, 5400 feet) and follow the ridge south of Fosthall Creek to contour around the ridge to the east shore of a lake and follow up to the small stream entering from the NW; cross the divide and descend 2 km towards Peters Lake. Leave the valley to the north and ascend to Fawn Lake. There are good campsites at Margie Lake and Fawn Lake.

2. From Fawn Lake, traverse northeast 2 kilometers to Gates Ledge and descend through the cliffs at map coordinates 173-965. Go northwest on a bench traversing between Icebound Lake and the lake at the head of Ledge Creek, and ascend northeast to the north branch of Ledge Creek and the col northeast of Mount Skade, a small summit just east of Mount Gunnarsen. Camp on the glacier.

3. Proceed up a snow couloir, then east to the ridge overlooking the north branch of Odin Creek. Descend a steep loose gully, traverse to the upper lake and gain the divide. Follow the divide north to high camp to the west of the glacier north of Kelly Peak. Camp at 2680 meters, on the divide in the col northwest of Kelly Peak.

4. Descend to the glacier down rocks east of camp to the ledges at the edge of the upper ice. Follow these to the ice and traverse northwest to regain the divide. (Note, in years of high snowfall this ledge could be covered with snow. In this case, ascend towards Kelly Peak, proceed east, then descend and traverse northwest.) Follow the divide for 1 km, then west for 1 km, then descend past a small lake to the lake west of the divide at the foot of Gates Peak. Camp.

5. Ascend north to the col east of Gates Peak, and descend 2 kilometers north across the glacier. Ascend to the divide and contour to a lake west of the divide at head of Gates Creek. Camp at 165-137.

6. Descend to the glacier above the long lake at the head of Pingston Creek (steep; Avalanche Lake). Climb the glacier for 1 kilometer, turn north, ascend the ridge, proceed west across the divide and gain the glacier southwest of Cranberry Mountain. Climb to the col west of this peak and descend the north ridge to a lake in the pass between Lindmark and North (really west tributary of) Cranberry Creeks. Camp on the ridge at 144-216.

7. From here, a nasty traverse below Blanket Mountain and then east on the ridge to roads ended the 1981 traverse.

The roads end at a dam on a lake on Highway 23, 22.5 km (14 miles) north of the Shelter Bay ferry slip and 27.5 km (17.1 miles) south of the Trans-Canada Highway,

To proceed north from Cranberry Mountain, gain Blanket Glacier via the col east of Armstrong Peak and join the route of 1982.

1982. Regional Traverse, Blanket Mountain to Mount Begbie

1. Traverse east to Blanket Glacier through a short stretch of bush from the road south of Greenbush Lake (see Armstrong Peak and introduction, access). Camp in the meadows on the north side of Blanket Glacier.

2. Traverse 3 kilometers north past several lakes and ascend to the col (2330m) south of Mulvehill Ridge. Stay exactly on the divide, pass a prominent "rock island" on the snow slope and ascend a rock ridge of the westernmost summit of Mulvehill Ridge (2530m). Traverse west and north until a descent to the saddle campsite is obvious (at 2070m; 6800 feet).

3. Contour snow slopes above and west of the southernmost "Begbie Lake" (Mulvehill Creek drainage) to gain a notch in the ridge north of the lake (2150m; 7050 feet). Descend north to the main Begbie Lakes area, crossing between the last two lakes draining to Mulvehill Creek. Ascend easy slopes north and east to the northernmost Begbie Lake (2030m).

4. Contour the east side of the lake and traverse up and around the west shoulder of Mount Begbie to Begbie Glacier (Mount Begbie, Route 1, accessible). Campsites are excellent below the glacier on a prominent nose (2190m).

5. Descend a meadow-ledge system north and west to the Mount Begbie Trail and to the Columbia Valley and Highway 23.

To North Fosthall Creek Road, Arrow Park Lake and Saddle Mtn.

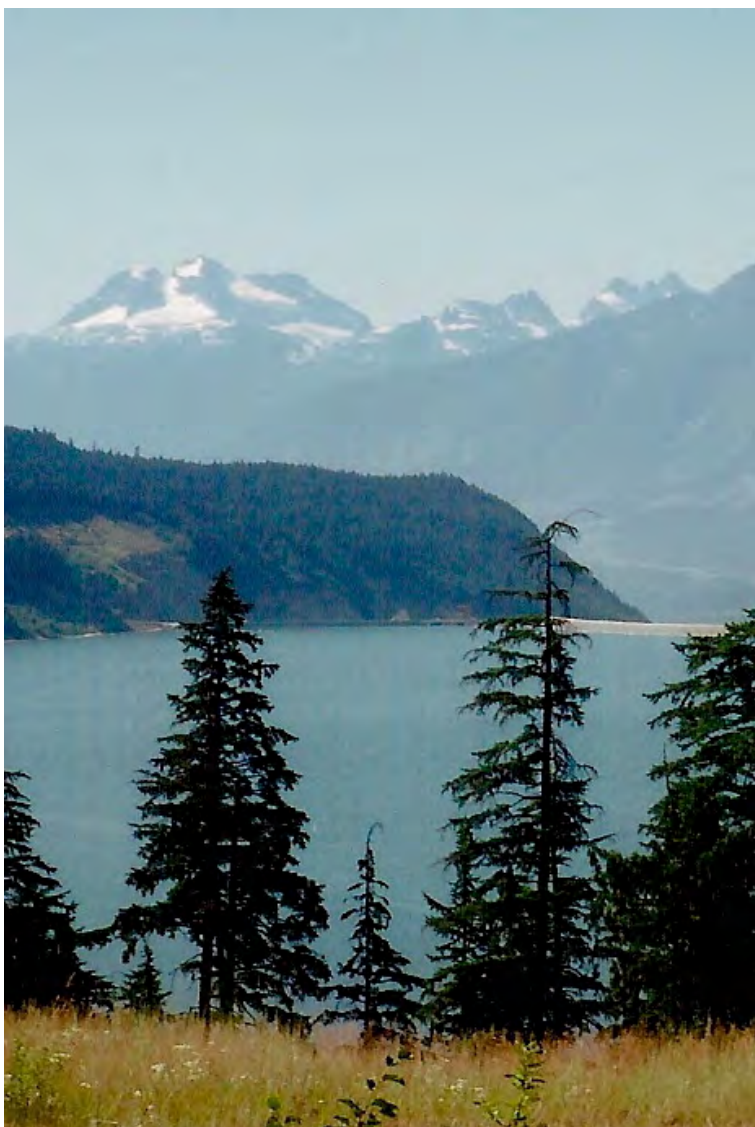
From 1.4 km north of the Shelter Bay ferry on Highway 23, drive south on the Shelter Bay FSR, on the west side of Upper Arrow Lake. The Mt. Symons Road branches off.

It eventually turns up inland and a branch goes north to the North Fosthall Creek Road (southeast of Mount Fosthall).

Just south, the Mosquito Creek FSR goes southwest to Arrow Park Lake, and the other branch (West Arrow FSR) goes east to the slopes above Upper Arrow Lake and the trail to Saddle Mountain and Upper Saddle Mountain (2330m). (No good camping spots.) An old trail goes up the southwest side of Upper Saddle Mountain.

Some Climbing and Exploration

- 1907- Rupert Hagger, James Herdman, James Robert Robertson, with Edward Feuz Jr.
(CAJ 2/1(1909):107; 19(1930):22; 21(1932):121 ski ascent)
- 1911- Topographical Survey party. (CAJ 19(1930):16, cairn record).
See Mount Begbie.
- Before 1915. Morrison P. Bridgland and a Topographical Survey party.
They backpacked up the western branch of Cranberry Creek (the creek proper). (TR)
- 1925, 1928- Ley E. Harris, Topographical Survey party. (IRBC 1937)
- 1928- Topographical Survey regional traverse party (south to north) led by Wm. Gates, August 1928. Climbed Mount Fosthall, Mount Odin and Gates Peak.
More ascents than these were probably made in 1928, for instance possibly Spam Peak and Mount Hugin.
- 1932- Jean Waterfield (Mrs. Spicer), Nels Wetterstrom. Mt. Burnham.
- 1968, 1970- Bruce Haggerstone, David P. Jones. (PC:DJ)
- 1971- Ken Baker, Joseph Lang, Lloyd MacKay, Don Vockeroth.
Traverse of Stegosaurus Ridge. (See Mt. Sigurd; PC:KB)
- 1973- Jim Brennan, Gerry Brown, Helen Butling, John Carter, Ian Hamilton, David Kennedy, Knut Langballe, Peter McIver, Gladys McLeod, Bruce MacLean, Beverly Mill, Bert and Sue Port, Howie Ridge, Gordon Stein, Peter Wood (KMC Climbing Camp). (KK 16:43,54)
- 1980- Linda Allis, Janice Isaac, Kim Kratky, Pat Taddy.
(KMCN Sept. 1980; PC: KK)
- 1981, 1982, 1984- Leon Blumer, Dan Robertson. (PC: LB, DR)
- 1982, 1983, 1984- Robert Heslop, Dan Robertson. (PC: DR)
- 1986- Ken Johnson, James Petroske Sr., John Petroske, Wm. Petroske, Alex Van Steen, Alan Wainwright. (BAE November 1986:13; January 1987:5; PC: John P)
- 1990- KMC climbing camp. (KK 33:19; 53 Mt. Thor 1990)
- 2003- KMC climbing camp. (CAJ 87(2004):101; KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004)
South of Mount Odin.
- 2006- KMC climbing camp. (CAJ 90(2007):141; KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006)
Gates Peak.



**Mt. Begbie from the north. Mt. Tilley is to the right (steep).
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

MOUNT BEGBIE 2730m

Map 82L/16 Revelstoke. Mount Begbie is by far the most prominent mountain seen from Revelstoke, and has three summits. It is named for Sir Matthew Begbie, Chief Justice and famous judge of the old Crown Colony of British Columbia. Surveyed.

1. North Glacier, North Ridge. Turn off of Highway 23, 10.3 km (6.4 miles) south of the Trans-Canada Highway (measured from their junction west of the Columbia River) or 39.7 km (24.7 miles) north of Shelter Bay. Four hours of backpacking by trail (sign) are required to reach a campsite (biffy) at 1830m (6000 feet) and four hours more to climb the peak.

Climb the glacier, and attain the north ridge of the central summit by traversing a ledge low down on its east side that ends on the crest above the first rock tower. (The rock below the ledge is loose, rubble, Class 4. A low spot on the ledge may require protection.) The easy ridge (solid quartzite) ends with a final snow wall and cornice. (See Route 7.)

A good descent (or alternate ascent) is by the east ridge on rock and steep snow to the central-east summit col, and down the steep north couloir to the glacier. Ice, Glacier (II,5,0,s). June 11, 1907.

2. Southwest Slopes. The rock of the southwest face is rotten. (II,4,s). Topographical Survey party, 1911. (CAJ 19(1930):16, cairn record)

The southwest face and southeast ridge were climbed by David P. Jones in two separate efforts in 1967. The main (central) summit was traversed. (IRBC 1975)

3. North Glacier, East Ridge. See Rte. 1. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). (CAJ 19(1930):16)

4. Southwest Ridge. Follow the southwest ridge and the watershed to the summit, after an approach up Wap Creek from Three Valley Gap (introduction, "To upper Wap Creek", and Mount English, Route 2; bushwhacking). (II,3,s). Vernon Stanley (one of a Kamloops Outdoor Club party), 1941. (PC: Hugh Neave)

5. Southeast Ridge. This is probably the southeast ridge of the east summit. Climbed by David P. Jones, 1967. (IRBC 1975)

6. Northwest Ridge, West Summit. The central summit was climbed by traversing over the west summit, but no information is available except that there is loose shingle and care is required. (IRBC 1975)

However, see the CME for an article by Sandra McGuinness (2005). Ascend the northwest glacier from the Begbie - Tilley col to a short step (Class 4, loose) to the north ridge (exposed at beginning). Beyond is good quartzite.

7. East Face of North Ridge. Approach as for Route 1, and gain the traverse ledge used to access the north ridge. Climb straight up for two pitches on sound rock (Class 5.6), and traverse left for two rope lengths on easy ground. Angle up to the left for four more pitches (to Class 5.4) to the north ridge below the summit.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.6,s). Susan Chaytor, Judy Dickie, Gary Wolkoff, July 1989. (CAJ 73(1990):73)

Robert Lymburne ascended Mount Begbie on skis in 1932, in a 14 hour round trip from Revelstoke. (IRBC 1937)

MOUNT TILLEY 2640m

Mount Tilley is three km west of Mount Begbie. It appears steep and attractive. (KK 16:19). The third and highest summit is on the west end.

1. East Slopes. The usual approach to Mount Tilley is from the Begbie Trail (see Mount Begbie) and the slopes north of Mount Begbie.

The east slopes are an easy rock and snow scramble, going over the two eastern towers. (II,3,s). FRA 1968. (PC: David P. Jones)

2. Southwest Face, South Ridge. From a helicopter camp at Revelation Lake (local name) below the south side of Mount Tilley, go up a steep talus slope, find a break in a cliff band (easy scramble) and ascend snow (possible ice) of the southwest face. Take to the south ridge to the right near the top.

(II,3,s). FRA Amund Groner, Ann Grube and Gordon White, August 4, 1997. (PC: GW). The rope was not used, but is advised.

Variation: Approach from the Begbie Trail, long. Go west under Mt. Begbie and then go down, but one must lose 300m.

There were many steep, slimy meadow traverses (after much rainy weather), and some scrambles up wet quartzite slabs.

The first ridge reached goes to one of the eastern towers, and then a gully leads up to the south ridge. The bottom of the south ridge is mostly meadows and talus slopes. The upper part is a bit more difficult (Rt. 2), and Sandra McGuinness quotes a few Class 4 moves.

Rene LeBel, Sandra McGuinness, August 30, 2008. (PC:SM). Consult the CME also.

Climb down the upper south ridge and go west and down (Route 2). Traverse east to the bottom of the south ridge. Retracing steps to Revelation Lake, climb up 200m to Tilley Lake, and up again.

UNNAMED 2670m

On the watershed, at the head of a spur running east from the watershed, south of the head of Mulvehill Creek. A glacier lies to the east.

1. Northwest Ridge. Start from a camp at a lake on the west side of Mount Begbie. Descend to the divide at the head of Wap Creek and Mulvehill Creek (beautiful country), and go up to a flat patch of ice, through a gap on the west side of a lake, and walk up to the peak, a hump. (II,3,s). FRA Leon Blumer, group from Kelowna, September 1983. (PC: LB)

MOUNT ENGLISH 2700m

Map 82L/16 Revelstoke, at the W. Located south of the Trans-Canada Highway, five km west of Mount Tilley. It can be clearly seen from the highway a few km west of Three Valley Gap.

It has three summits (unless the southeast summit is counted as a different mountain). The southeast summit (1.5 km SE of the western summit) appears equally high, and the eastern summit slightly lower.

See **To upper Wap Creek** (to Mt. English or Joss Pass), next page.

1. North Ridge. Approach via the Three Valley Mabel FSR branching off from the Trans-Canada Highway east of Three Valley Gap. The road is 17.4 km (10.8 miles) west of the junction of Highway 23 and the highway (measured from their intersection west of the Columbia River), and 25.6 km (15.9 miles) east of the Perry River road (Avoca Road).

Go up the road to a power line from where one can see the peak. Gain the cirque northwest of Mount English and climb to the north ridge, descending to the glacier to avoid bad rock on the ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). FRA Robert Heslop, Dan Robertson, June 7, 1983. (PC: DR)

2. West Ridge. Drive the road south from Three Valley Gap, starting just west of the commercial buildings in the bend of the Trans-Canada Highway (Three Valley Mabel FSR).

Drive south for four km (2.5 miles) and turn left uphill to just beyond the Frog Falls campsite. Continue uphill on the branch of the road that crosses the power transmission line two more times (three in all). Be sure to take the left branch after the second line crossing to obtain the maximum altitude west of Mount English (about 5000 feet, 1520m). The high point of the road is at about 003-387, south of the power line, 3 km west of Mount English. There are two four wheel drive sections.

(After turning left at Frog Falls, the first right turn takes one up to Joss Pass. A trail then descends to Greenbush Lake.)

Backpack northeast, enter the creek draining northwest from Mount English, and camp. Ascend the creek to a steep gully, a flat area, and the main snow couloir to the col west-southwest of Mount English and climb the west ridge. (IL3,s). Leon Blumer and party, June 7, 1992. (PC: LB)

In 2004, the road up Wap Creek was in pretty good shape. There is a long scree slope to the col. (INT)

Alternately, from the end of the road, one can go up through steep bush, and over a west ridge to a small lake (018-370) on the southern slopes. Ascend the southern slopes (flowers) to the col west-southwest of Mt. English (between it and a much smaller peak to the WSW; PC: Leon Blumer).

To upper Wap Creek (to Mt. English or Joss Pass)

Roads go from Three Valley Gap on the Trans-Canada Highway (Three Valley Mabel FSR) over a low pass (then a left turn just beyond Frog Falls; South Pass FSR). The Mount English Spur (switchbacks) goes to west of Mount English. The South Pass FSR (on Wap Cr.) goes east to south of Mount English to the trail to Davis Peak. The Joss Pass road (trail to Joss Mountain) goes south from the South Pass FSR. Consult the text for Mt. English, Route 2. (Map 82L/16, Revelstoke)

The Bowman FSR (switchbacks) branches south beyond Frog Falls from the Three Valley Mabel FSR, to the west of Joss Mountain (trail from the west).

DAVIS PEAK 2640m

Located on the Wap Creek-Shuswap River divide east of Joss Pass and west of Unnamed 2670m.

From Frog Falls, take the South Pass FSR east to its end on Wap Creek, south of Mount English, where a trail leads up the north side of Davis Peak. There is no sign of the north glacier on the map (2020).

1. North Glacier. Drive up the road to Mount English (Route 2), but turn right onto the road to Wap Creek and Joss Pass. Drive the road on the north side of Wap Creek.

Cross Wap Creek, make a steep bushwhack heading east and southeast, and camp on the moraine below the north glacier. Climb the glacier, and then 50m of Class 3 rock to the top.

Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Dwight Boulton, Thomas Crowley, Barry Reiter, early August 2005. (PC: TC)

JOSS MOUNTAIN 2390m

Map 82L/16, 977-317. Climbed in 1930. See Eagle Pass Mtn., Shuswap Group.

Joss Mountain is 3.5 km west of Joss Pass and has more than one summit (introduction, above, "To upper Wap Creek", and consult Mt. English, Route 2).

There is a trail from Joss Pass, and also an approach from the west via the Bowman FSR.

BLANKET MOUNTAIN 2850m

Map 82L/16 Revelstoke. Blanket Mountain is north of the head of Cranberry Creek and Lindmark Creek, and supports the biggest icefield in the Gold Range. It may be the gentlest ascent in the Monashees, but its southeastern slopes rise more than a vertical kilometer above Cranberry Creek.

The Greenbush Lake Recreational Site is at the north end of the Sugar Lake road (see 'To Peters Lake' in Introduction to the Gold Range) northwest of Armstrong Peak, south of Joss Pass and north of Tsuius Mountain (end of Isolated Peaks, Western Monashee).

1. Northwest Glacier, North Face The original approach was from Three Valley Gap over Joss Pass to Greenbush Lake. See Armstrong Peak and the access in the introduction.

There is steep going to the top of the ridge, but gentle slopes to the northwest glacier, with a short, steep final rock climb. Glacier (II,4,s). Topographical Survey, 1925. Rated Class 4 because of the glacier.

2. Southwest Ridge. Approach over the glacier from Armstrong Peak to the notch in the southwest ridge, which requires care to ascend. There is some loose rock on the upper ridge. Glacier (III,5.0,s). FRA Leon Blumer, Geoffrey Vick, August 26, 1979. (PC: LB)

ARMSTRONG PEAK 2640m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Armstrong Peak has a large icefield on its north side, and is southwest of Blanket Mountain (on the east side of the icefield). Armstrong Lake is southeast of Armstrong Peak, at the head of Lindmark Creek.

1. West Slopes. Approach from the south, up Shuswap River from Cherryville and Sugar Lake, almost to Greenbush Lake (lake, 050-260, map 82L/16). Consult "To Peters Lake (Monashee Provincial Park) and Greenbush Lake", above. Also consult Tsuius Mountain in "Isolated Peaks, Western Monashee".

Greenbush Lake is in a large side valley off of the Shuswap River, north of the old roads to Armstrong Peak, which extends west to east nearly to the watershed. The lake is west-northwest of Blanket Mountain, and well north of the trail to Tsuius Mountain. There is at least one four wheel drive section on this road.

At 56 km (35 miles), nearly at the turnoff to Greenbush Lake, a road (marked) goes uphill to the right. Drive to about 1250m (4100 feet). Bushwhack up slopes with faded ribbons to a camp at the lakes at about 2050m (6700 feet). In 1982 the road was washed out at about 1220 m.

The route finding to Armstrong Peak is easy; also, the rope was not necessary to reach the top. However, one must cross the glacier (rope) to traverse to the southwest ridge of Blanket Mountain.

The party of two traversed over Armstrong Peak to the southwest ridge of Blanket Mountain. Nine hours round trip to the lakes camp; 1.5 hours to the slash road's end. Glacier (III,4,s). FRA Leon Blumer, Geoffrey Vick, August 26, 1979. (PC: LB)

UNNAMED 2692m

Surveyed at 8832 feet, 3.1 km northeast of Cranberry Mountain.

1. FA during the triangulation of the railway belt, by Morrison P. Bridgland and a Topographical Survey party, pre-1915. They backpacked up the western branch of Cranberry Creek (the creek proper). (TR)



Cranberry Mtn. from the southeast. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

CRANBERRY MOUNTAIN 2870m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Cranberry Mtn. is surrounded by glaciers.

1. East Glaciers, East Ridge. Start from the southwest end of Coursier Lake (see introduction, access) and backpack up the south side of South Cranberry Creek (as marked on the B. C. Provincial map, Revelstoke sheet. According to the government 82L/9 sheet, South Cranberry Creek is the next creek to the north. I.e., start at the southwest end.). Above the waterfalls, cross the creek. Continue up to a large lake. Camp.

Skirt the lake on the south, and cross South Cranberry Creek where it enters the lake. Then go up the side hill to the northwest, over into the next valley (second lake), five hours. Camp.

Climb west over a ridge to another lake. Skirt the lake to the north, then go over mixed rock and glacier, with ups and downs. The final section is mostly on rock with no difficulty. Six hours from camp. There was no cairn, so they built one.

Glacier (III,4,s). FA Rick Askew, Bob Dean and Jim Street, July 9, 1969. (KK 11:6)

2. South Ridge. Approach from the dam at the north end of Coursier Lake, and go up the ridge to the west-southwest, joining Route 1 at the lakes.

Ascend the southeast glacier and the south ridge, 7 hours from Coursier Lake. Glacier (III,4,s). 1970.

3. North Ridge. On skis, but climbed the final 200m of the wide north ridge without skis. There is a short section, Class 3 rock, to the top. Tim Auger, Robert Sawyer, David Smith, Don Vockeroth, April 1979. (KK 23(1980):7; KMCN May/June 2005)

4. Northeast Glacier. Go up the road just west of the dam at Coursier Lake (north end) that leads west toward Cranberry Mountain. Climb the glacier at the head of the valley and pass over the ridge. Ascend the northeast glacier to the top. Glacier (III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Dan Robertson, September 18, 1982. (PC: DR)

5. West Ridge. From camp at the east end of Avalanche Lake (see introduction, Approach to Avalanche Lake) proceed to the northwest end of the lake, and go up rock and snow to the ridge on the watershed and to the flat glacier (2590m) on the southwest side of Cranberry Mountain.

Traverse the glacier to the pass between Cranberry and its west summit, and climb the west ridge (bad rock). On descent, use a snow couloir directly to the glacier. Round trip 9 hours. Glacier (III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Dan Robertson, July 15, 1984. (PC: LB, DR)

The col in the west ridge was crossed to climb the north ridge on July 29, 2006 (bergschrend on north side; KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006; CAJ 90(2007):141).

WEST SUMMIT 2830m

Coordinates 143-173.

1. North Ridge. On skis to near the top of Cranberry's west summit; finished without skis. Kim Kratky, Bert Port, Fred Thiessen, April 23, 2005. (KMCN May/June 2005)

UNNAMED 2580m

West of the watershed, coordinates 122-157. Ascended from the north slopes, FRA by Kim Kratky, Bert Port and Fred Thiessen, April 24, 2005. (KMCN May/June 2005). There was a note written on the underside of a rock.

UNNAMED 2610m

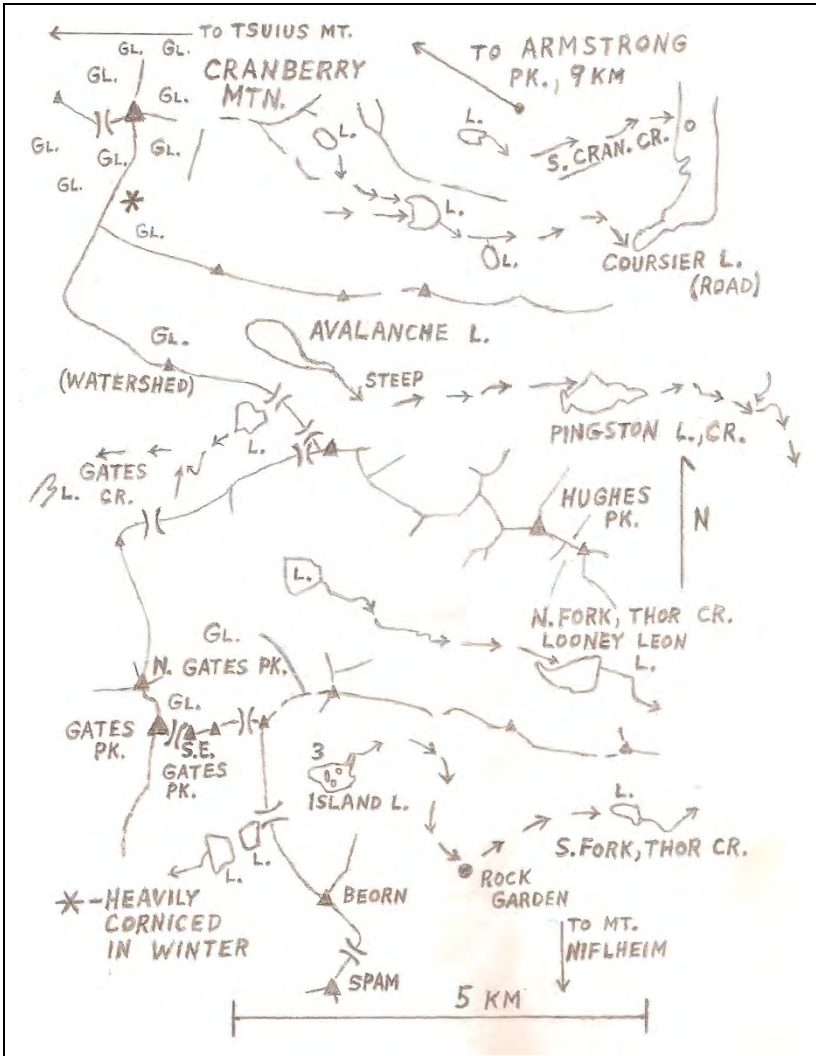
Located above Avalanche Lake on the watershed, south-southwest of Cranberry Mtn.

1. Southwest Slopes, Traverse. From camp at Avalanche Lake (introduction, Approach to Avalanche Lake), ascend the valley to a small pass (about 2190m, 7200 feet) 500 meters east of the peak and on the ridge lying south of Avalanche Lake (some glacier travel). Ascend southeast slopes and the ridge above to the junction (about 2440m, 8000 feet) with the main ridge (which continues west and then south). Scramble northeast to the summit.

Traverse the peak to the northeast notch by descending ledges (Class 4), then traverse snow slopes towards the northeast (cornices above in early summer). Eventually descend via southeast snow slopes to Avalanche Valley (glacier). Glacier (II,4,s). Leon Blumer, Don Skuratoff, June 2, 1985. (PC: LB)

Ladybird Ridge runs southwest from Unnamed 2610m, between Gates and Vanwyk Creeks. Approach as for Unnamed 2610m, pass southwest of it, and rope up. Climb along the interesting narrow ridge, at times only a meter wide, pass "Spooky Spire" on its south side and descend to just below a notch. Climb to the summit of Unnamed 2550m. Glacier (III,5.0,s). Leon Blumer, Gordon Stanley, September 4, 1989. (PC: LB)

Mount Hall, a wooded hill, is east-northeast of Hughes Peak, above Upper Arrow Lake. It has recently been ascended, but probably was climbed by the Topographical Survey as early as 1925 although they did not use it as a survey station.



The areas of Gates Peak, Hughes Peak and Cranberry Mountain. Several useful passes are located on the watershed. Bushwhacking problems are commonly encountered on approaches from the east. The symbol) (means a pass.



**Stegosaurus Ridge from the N. At the left, Tower Four (pointed) and its satellites, Mt. Thor, Mount Sigurd and Brynhild Peak (with Ring Glacier), and Mount Niflheim (pointed).
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

HUGHES PEAK 2640m

A prominent rock summit seen from the ferry; 1.6 km south-southeast of Pingston Lake. The east (lower) summit was climbed first, in 1985.

1. West Ridge. Use the trail to Avalanche Lake (see introduction, Approach to Avalanche Lake). From below the headwall to Avalanche Lake, climb up a couloir past a small ice-bound lake to a 2200m (7200 feet) col west of Hughes Peak, and camp about 150 meters below the col on the south side.

The west ridge itself is easy, and is probably a day's climb from Pingston Lake. Glacier (III,4,s). Don Skuratoff, June 22, 1986. (PC: Leon Blumer)

Variation: From camp at 164-118, north of Gates Peak, gain the southwest-facing basin west of Hughes by traversing around the north side of the big lake northeast of Gates Peak and attain the west ridge at 184-123. Climb a bump in the ridge, and descend to the basin.

There are rockfall hazard and loose gullies to gain the west ridge crest. July 27, 2006. (KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006)

2. East Ridge. Stay just on the south side of the long east ridge where the brush is thinner. At clefts, follow a goat trail on the crest to the base of the last obstacle before the east summit (cairn, no record).

Rappel 10 meters (lichens slippery, tricky, leave fixed rope) on the west side of the east summit and use the top of the north glacier to regain the ridge. It is 5 minutes to the middle summit, and 15 minutes more of easy climbing to the main (west) summit. The cairn was not inspected due to a thunderstorm. Glacier (III,4,A0,s). Janice Isaac, Kim Kratky, Eric Norton, Howie Ridge, August 31, 1986. (PC: HR)

Alternate approach: The east summit may be climbed from Pingston Lake using the north-facing gully (best in June on snow to avoid bushwhacking). Climb to the bushy and rocky ridge and skirt the snow slopes. Two greasy open chimneys require care. There are stupendous views of the Thor-Niflheim Ridge.

(III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Ian Larson, June 22, 1985. (PC: LB)

UNNAMED 2590m

Located east of Gates Peak, at 174-101. It is southwest of Hughes Peak and west of Loony Leon Lake (204-103). Altitude 8500 feet. Climbed by Richard, last name and route unknown, September 11, 2015. (INT)

GATES PEAK 2750m (North Summit)

The Gates massif is very handsome when viewed from the north. The north summit is of both snow and rock.

1. Northeast Glacier. Take the trail to Avalanche Lake and camp at its east end (see introduction, Approach to Avalanche Lake). Ascend snow and Class 3 slabs to a pass on the ridge west of the minor west peak (2550m) of the Hughes massif. (There is a small lake to the southwest.) Climb the minor peak and then descend its southwest ridge directly toward the north summit of Gates.

At the base of the peak, ascend easy rock and snow in a diagonal line to the edge of the glacier. Follow snow and then easy rocks to the summit from the east. Round trip 10 hours. Glacier (III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Dan Robertson, August 23, 1981. (PC: LB, DR marked map). Climbed in 2006. (CAJ 90(2007):141)

GATES PEAK 2770m (Central Summit)

The central summit is almost completely covered in snow and ice when viewed from the north. All three summits are on the watershed.

1. South Ridge. See the introduction and the 1981 traverse for access.

From camp at the lakes at the foot of the mountain and at the head of the north fork of Vigue Creek, climb the glacier and the long south ridge. Glacier (II,4,s). Wm. Gates and Survey party, 1928.

2. Northeast Glacier, East Face. Take the trail (but overgrown) part way up the north side of the north fork of Thor Creek, and camp at the big lower lake (Loony Leon Lake) after some bushwhacking. See Access to Gates Massif (above), and just below the road distance tables (above).

Go around its north shore (bush not so bad) and continue around the north shores of the two upper lakes in open terrain. Climb the glacier to a prominent knoll on the west side and ascend, next to the knoll, to a broad terrace on the glacier. Traverse south and up to gain the east snow face, which can be gained from the col, 5.5 hours to the top. Glacier (III,4,s). Robert Heslop, Dan Robertson, August 1, 1982. (PC: DR marked map). (Error in previous guidebook.)

A better approach was from Pingston Creek (see North Summit), but the trail may make the direct approach up the north fork of Thor Creek more favorable, when available.

3. North Side. Go down the snow from the summit (some of it steep), over the bergschrund, and traverse to Gates North. Ice, Glacier. Doug Brown, Rene' LeBel, Marvin Lloyd, Sandra McGuinness, July 24, 2006. (KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006; CAJ 90(2007):141)



**Gates Peaks from the N. The southeast summit (rock) is to the left.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

GATES PEAK 2730m (Southeast Summit)

The southeast summit is a blunt rock tower, with a pass to the west. It was attempted from the pass by the Kamloops Outdoor Club in 1968. (CAJ 53(1970):96)

East Gates Peak (Gates IV, 8250 feet, 2510m; 166-097), east of the southeast summit, was climbed (south ridge) in 2006 by Jane Weller. The 2006 group climbed the southwest slopes the next day, Class 2-3. (CAJ 90(2007):142)

One may also approach from Three Island Lake (175-090) after backpacking up South Thor Creek to the Rock Garden (189-079), if the trail through the slide alder is open. The text is in 'Access to Gates Massif' (above), and on the next page. The trail up the north side of (north) Thor Creek is certainly overgrown.

1. East Ridge, Traverse. Ascend the glacier north of the east ridge to the lower ridge (bergschrund; loose rock and ice); the east ridge itself is about Class 5.6.

There are two or three rappels to the snow above the col on the west side of the peak. Ice, Glacier (III,5.6,s). Robert Bauman, Ron Blaue, early July of (probably) 1988. (PC: RB, RB)

2. West Ridge. The rappel route on the west ridge was climbed by David Jack, Sacha Kalabis, Delia Roberts and Jane Weller (KMC) on July 24, 2006. Two ropes found two different lines; three pitches of Class 5.6 to 5.7 with some loose rock. (KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006). Camp was at the lakes south of Gates Peak.

3. South Ridge. A cliff band separating the upper and lower snow-fields was passed on the left (on a "vertical meadow" (!), ice axes used, front pointing). A line on the left side of the south face intersects the south ridge in one and a half pitches.

Pitch 1. Climb clean slabs to two vertical cracks. Climb the left one, somewhat awkward, to a broken, steep corner. 50m, Class 5.6.

Pitch 2. Climb the awkward corner, or the face to the right; turn left onto a ramp (loose blocks above) that leads to the south ridge. 25m, Class 5.6.

Pitch 3. Good climbing up the crest of the south ridge. 40m, Class 5.3. Then fourth class to the top.

(II,5.6,s). Doug Brown, Rene' LeBel, July 25, 2006. (KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006)

4. South Face. Approach as for Route 3. Start in an obvious gray corner at the top of the snow.

Pitch 1. Climb the gray corner, Class 4.

Pitch 2. Ascend a large chimney-crack, Class 5.6.

Pitch 3. Move right over a roof and up a slab to the east ridge, Class 5.4.

(II,5.6,s). Marvin Lloyd, Sandra McGuinness, July 25, 2006.
(CAJ 90(2007):141)

To Three Island Lake and the Gates Massif

One way to Three Island Lake (175-090), near Gates Peak, a hard way, is by bushwhacking up the slide alder from the Rock Garden (189-079) at the head of South Thor Creek. This nasty patch of alder is shown in the photo in the Introduction in the beginning of the book. Leon Blumer and the author wanted to climb a summit above the lake, and the going was so laborious that we only made the lake.

A trail has been cut through the left side of the slide alder blocking the way to Three-Island Lake, but this trail is certainly overgrown. (PC: Leon Blumer). The approaches are in the road distance tables (Introduction); also 'Access to the Gates Massif' (Introduction), and Gates Peak, north summit.

The 2006 KMC climbing camp in the Gates area came in by helicopter.
(CAJ 90(2007):141)

UNNAMED (TOWER FOUR) 2760m

Starting from a point northeast of Mount Thor, a ridge of towers runs north-northwest. Tower Four is the largest and the most aesthetically pleasing of the approximately nine towers on this ridge.

1. South Face. Follow a gully system (steep dirt) to approach. The first pitch is delicate face climbing and stemming, with a hanging belay.

After the easier second lead, there is a huge ledge splitting the face. Climb a Class 4 gully to the left. Scramble up slabs and chimneys, and gain the exposed ridge that rises from the top of the south face. It is a long day's climb from the basin below Mount Thor. (III,5.6,A1,s). Ken Johnson, Alex Van Steen, August 22, 1986. (BAE, February 1987)



Tower Four from the northeast. Mount Sigurd and Brynhild Peak on Stegosaurus Ridge are at the extreme right. Mount Thor is hidden behind the ridge. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



On the way to Three-Island Lake. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

Some Campsites in the southern Gold Range

Avalanche Lake - north of the Gates Peaks (167-144).

Small lake just south of Avalanche Lake - good campsite for Gates Peaks (165-134). West side of watershed. A pass exists southwest of the lake to the east side of the Gates Ridge. There has been a primitive trail from Pingston Lake to a pass north of the lake.

High lake under Gates Peaks, below glacier - open going from Loony Leon Lake. (170-115)

On west side of divide, just south of Gates Pk. between two large lakes. (162-083). KMC climbing camp, 2006

Loony Leon Lake - head of north fork of Thor Creek, near Gates Peaks

The Rock Garden - head of the south fork, Thor Creek, (and Niflheim Cirque) trail (189-079)

Niflheim Cirque - north of Stegosaurus Ridge, very good; mosquitos

South side of Stegosaurus Ridge, very high, southeast of Mount Niflheim (205-045) in an old goat wallow, reached by helicopter (marginal). See Un. 2670m

Mooncastle Lake - south of Frigg Tower, beautiful. See before Mt. Odin, also Mt. Odin, Frigg Tower, Hugin, Munin

Small lake east of Mount Burnham - (265-988)

Lakes west of Mounts Burnham and Grady - between the two Shark's Teeth ridges (KMC climbing camp)

Ten Cent Lakes - Odin Creek headwall. High camp (north) for KMC climbing camp, 1973. (173-036)

Top of Odin Creek headwall - KMC climbing camp (by helicopter), approx. 6400 feet. (KK 1973; also Thor-Odin geology, gneisses)

UNNAMED 2730m

This is one of the unnamed towers on the ridge which trends north-northwest, one kilometer northeast of Mount Thor.

1. South Ridge. Climb to the col in the northeast ridge of Thor and ascend the south ridge. (II,4,s). Petroske party (James Sr., James Jr., John and William), August 1980. (PC: John P)

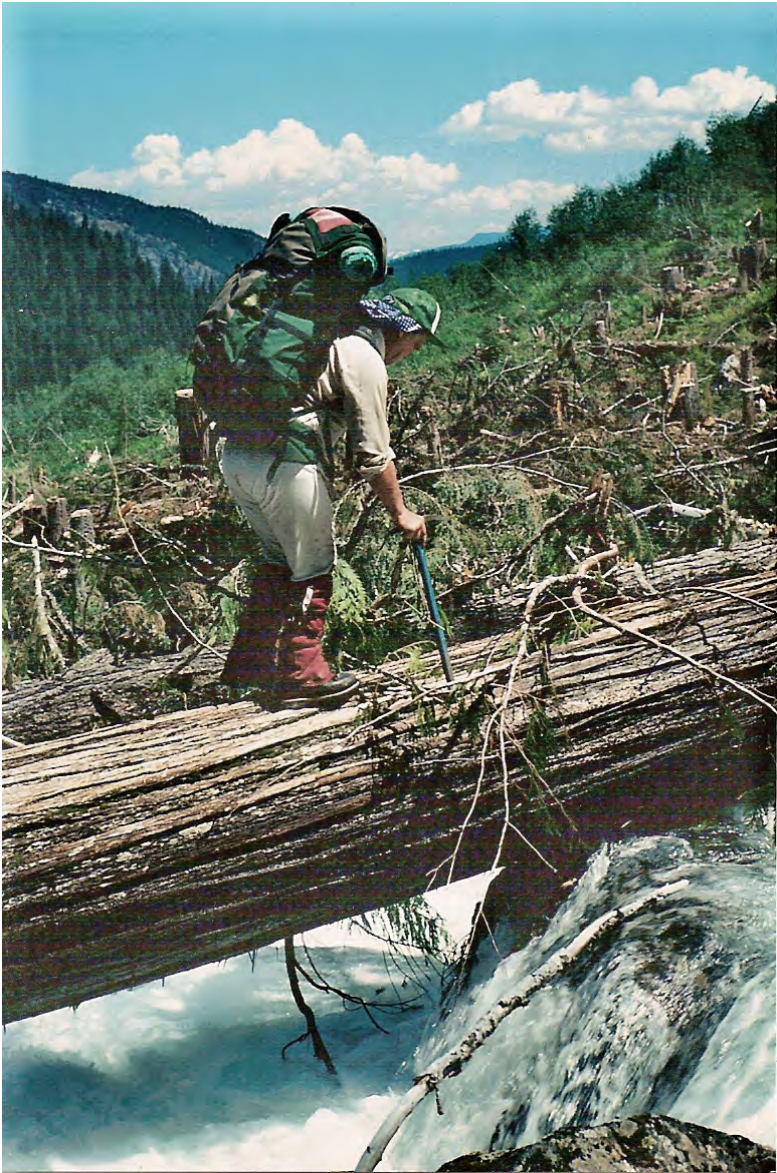
The Escarpment Trail

High above the north side of Odin Creek, the edge of the cliff is bare of soil and vegetation for more than a kilometer, and the scenery is magnificent. It is a hiking route, and also gives access to Mount Thor, Route 1. In 1985, Leon Blumer and the author descended the Escarpment after climbing Mount Thor. We approached approximately where the trail was later cut and were not the first to be there.

The trail, cut by Leon Blumer and friends in 1993 (but now certainly overgrown), starts at the upper left of a big clearcut 1.6–2.0 km north of Odin Creek and 2.1–2.5 km south of the Pingston Creek bridge. Orange tape markers (and later blazes) start a bit left of center, and the trail goes left, first below cliffs and then at the top of the clearcut on an old skid road, into the trees and then willows. Higher, a traverse up and left on a rock band free of trees has fine views and reaches the edge of the escarpment above Odin Creek at about 1830m (6000 feet). The unmarked pathway on the escarpment begins a little above this point. At two or three places, the escarpment is cut by small joints or faults. Bushwhack in and out of these and regain the edge. (PC: LB; ERW; KK 36(1993):28)

If a two-day backpacking trip is desired, camp near treeline below the east glacier. It is probably best to cross the meadows well below the glacier to avoid a short overhanging step in the southeast ridge. While climbable, the step would be very trying with a pack. Pass over the col in the northeast ridge (a little glacier travel) and descend into the cirque north of Stegosaurus Ridge (Niflheim Cirque) going down next to a waterfall, or one half km north of the fall, to the flat meadows at 1740 meters. Take the trail out of the cirque, on the east side of the stream, and descend to the trail on the N side of South Thor Creek, and to the road on the S side of Thor Creek (Killeen Road).

It is best to carry a rope, an ice ax, a few long slings (for trees) and a little protection in case parts of the descent into the Niflheim Cirque become a bit technical, especially with heavy packs, and for the glacier.



A stream crossing in the Gold Range. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



**Mount Thor from the north-northwest, from the Niflheim Cirque.
Routes 1 (high, left), 2 (right) and 3 are visible.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

MOUNT THOR 2940m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Height 9645 feet. Hughes Peak, and Mounts Thor, Grady and Burnham (north to south) are seen from the ferry when nearing Galena Bay. Mount Thor is massive and of complex design. It appears pointed from this angle, but is really a ridge seen edge-on. The summit is hidden from view from the northeast by ridges.

The second (high) road on the south side of Thor Creek may be better for access to Route 1. Consult Access, and Access to Niflheim Cirque. It starts south of the first road, south of the Pingston Creek bridge.

A point (7351 feet, 2241m) on the northeast ridge was occupied as a triangulation station in 1925, from a camp on the south ridge of Mount Hall (2228m; north of Mount Thor and just southeast of Coursier Lake. Map 82L/NE Revelstoke, B. C. 1979; IRBC 1963).

A huge cairn was found below the southeast ridge at about the same altitude by Leon Blumer and Earle R. Whipple in the year 1985 (near the Escarpment Trail).

The south slopes of Mt. Thor were skied in 2021. (CAJ 104(2021):27). The party used the south couloir. (AAJ 2022:170)

1. East Glacier, Northeast Ridge. Bushwhack into the basin north- northeast of the peak (see below) from the south side of Thor Creek, and ascend a rockslide to the glaciers above. Bivouac above treeline (now a long one-day climb).

Climb to the ridge above and descend to the glacial col of the northeast ridge of Thor. Avoid the first short section of the ridge by climbing snow and ice to a notch, from either side. It is best to climb high on the snow southwest of the ridge and ascend a short gully to reach the ridge. (ERW)

At the first step (notch), attain the ridge by climbing a short vertical wall on the north side (2 adjacent routes; 5.4). (It is Class 4 if suitable couloirs are chosen on the southwest side of the ridge. PC: Howie Ridge) At the second step (on north side of ridge), climb it directly or outflank it by zigzag ledges.

The third step, close to the summit (at the junction of the NE and SE ridges) may be climbed, or avoided by a descending traverse on the south face (slabs, a vertical mile above Odin Creek) and reascending to the ridge (Class 4; ERW). One can rappel the third step on descent. Ice, Glacier (III,5.4,s). Graham Hollins, Chris Kopczyński, John Roskelly, David Parfitt, August 7, 1966. (AAJ 15:375; CAJ 50(1967):35; KK 5:11; 13:12; KMCN 2006-10; Kinnikinnick, Autumn 1966:57)

David P. Jones approached from the northeast in 1968, and used the north ridge on the east side of the basin north-northeast of the summit (PC: DJ). When part way up, traverse to the center of the basin. The lower ridge has timber with little undergrowth. (PC: David Kennedy)

See the Introduction, "Access to Niflheim Cirque", last paragraph.

One may reach the glacial col on the northeast ridge from a camp on the east side of the creek in the Thor-Niflheim Cirque (Access to Niflheim Cirque, Introduction) on the north side of Stegosaurus Ridge. Climb a 150 meter headwall to the left of the central waterfall and then a moraine to the glacial col of the northeast ridge. Amund Groner, Dan Robertson, Patrick Triggs, August 5, 1984. (PC: AG, DR marked map). The route on the southeast ridge does not exist.

An alternate approach to Route 1 is from the east-southeast. Consult 'The Escarpment Trail', just before Mount Thor.

2. West Ridge. See Mount Sigurd for the 1971 traverse. The 1971 traverse was repeated in 2019 by Dan Rohn and Adam Zok over largely low to mid-fifth class slabs and along the exposed sidewalk in the sky. The crux was 4 to 5 pitches from 5.8 to 5.9 between Mount Andvari and the west summit of Thor. (CAJ 105(2022):84 photos)

3. Northwest Buttress or Ridge. The northwest ridge is well defined and consists of buttresses and ridges. The second ascent was by John and William Petroske, August 21, 1986, who provided most of the description.

Gain the north pocket glacier from the basin directly below the mountain. Starting from the eastern edge, ascend the glacier to the start of the northwest ridge. Climb through three small overhanging roofs. Two are Class 5.8 and the crux roof requires four pitons for aid. Several roped pitches up to Class 5.6 follow, and the final pitch below the summit is 5.7.

There are about 15 technical pitches, 12 hours up. Glacier (IV,5.8,Al,s). Late August 1971. (PC: KB, JP)

MOUNT THOR 2820m (West Summit)

This is 0.8 kilometer west of Mount Thor. The west summit was traversed west to east in 1971. No data available.

MOUNT ANDVARI 2760m

This wedge-shaped spire, smallest of the spires, was traversed west to east in 1971, and is west of the west summit of Mount Thor.

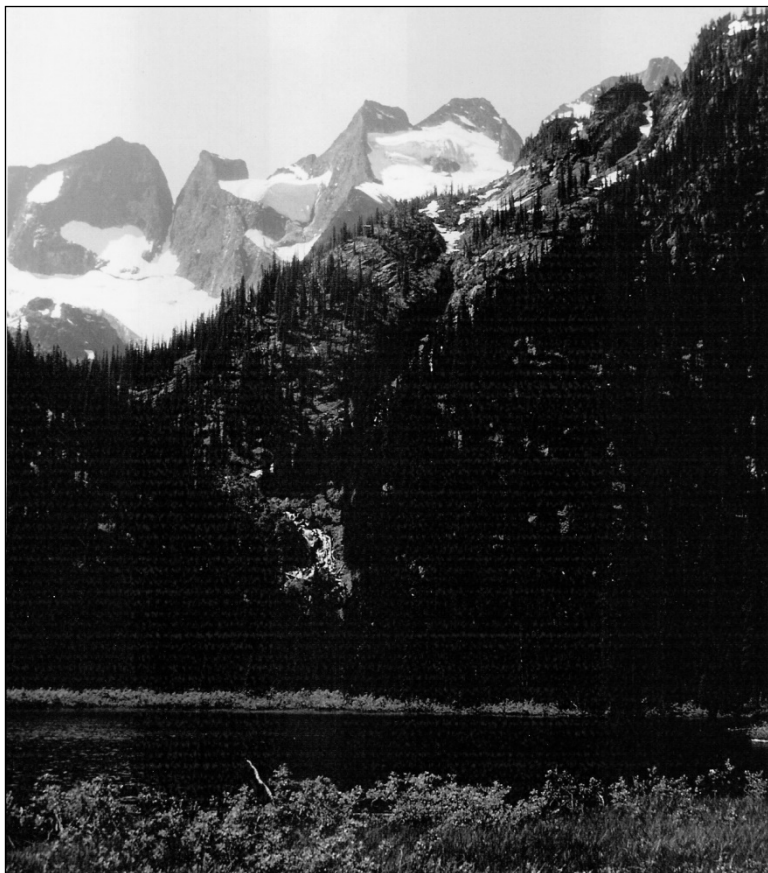
The gold of Fafnir, who transformed himself into a dragon, was accursed and included the gold ring originally owned by the dwarf Andvari. Sigurd killed the dragon and took the accursed gold which tragically affected his life, and especially his love, Brynhild.

Access to the Western Glaciers of the Thor-Niflheim Cirque and the
North Ridge of Niflheim

When in the cirque, it is not necessary to bushwhack to reach Ring Glacier under Mount Sigurd and Brynhild Peak and the northeast glacier of Niflheim, or the north ridge of Niflheim, nor is it necessary to climb the smooth bluffs.

Instead, hike south up the valley in the Thor-Niflheim (Niflheim) Cirque (See 'Access to Niflheim Cirque' in the Introduction to the Gold Range.), bear right and enter the avalanche chute that receives icefall from the ice cliff. The ice cliff is not highly active, and the right side (true left side) receives less than its share of the falls. One can use the side of the chute part way. About 200 meters downslope from the final dead-end ice and rock cliffs, turn up and right on an easy, very large ledge system out of the chute, and cross the streams that cascade down the bluffs on a wide, nearly level bench. Above the bluffs lie heather and snow. (Leon Blumer, ERW). **Crampons are useful.**

The trail cutting to the cirque, and the trail up South Thor Creek, were done by Leon Blumer and friends.



Stegosaurus Ridge from the north. From left to right, west summit of Mt. Thor, (V-shaped col), Mt. Andvari (wedge), Mt. Sigurd and Brynhild Peak (center), Mt. Niflheim (barely seen). Ring Glacier is at the top center.

Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



Mt. Sigurd (E, left) from the Niflheim Cirque. Brynhild Peak (W) is to its right, then the cliff of the east ridge of Mt. Niflheim; Mount Andvari is at the left border. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

MOUNT SIGURD 2850m

Next west on Stegosaurus Ridge are Mount Sigurd and Brynhild Peak, of which Sigurd is the eastern with the long north ridge.

1. West Ridge, Traverse. Mount Niflheim, Brynhild Peak and Mount Sigurd, Mount Andvari and Mount Thor were traversed west to east in 1971. The 1971 party bivouacked high and climbed the north ridge of Mount Niflheim without setting foot on ice, and then made the very long traverse of all the summits. The route is exposed and there is some loose rock. The west ridge of Mount Thor was easy, with a little glacier travel on descent.

The 1971 traverse party probably rappelled the difficult pitches on the east ridges, and so the maximum difficulty is probably about Class 5.6.

The west ridge of Mount Sigurd (east) is Class 5.4 (see Route 2). Ice, Glacier (IV,5.4,s). Late August 1971. The entire traverse of Stegosaurus Ridge is at least a IV.

2. Northwest Glacier, West Ridge. Start from camp northwest of Mount Thor (in the valley of the Niflheim Cirque), and ascend the lower part of the glacier. Traverse up and left in the upper glacier below the "shooting gallery" (a cliff of loose rock with an ice cliff above). Climb straight up a 200 meter ramp of ice (45-50 degrees) and head for the notch between Sigurd and Brynhild. Black ice in a narrow gully leads to the notch, and then climb the west ridge, using the south face on one pitch (5.4), 12 hours up. Ice, Glacier (IV,5.4,s). August 19, 1986.

There were seven rappels on the ice ramp, using pickets.

3. North Ridge. Ascend the ridge on the left (east) edge of the face, where the lower part of the north ridge widens into a face. There is some friction climbing on slabs to begin, and about 1000 meters in all.

Mud-filled cracks, overhangs and considerable loose rock are at the bottom. There is much Class 3 climbing higher up, and a headwall with an easy Class 5 chimney two thirds of the way. The rock is better higher up, in general, but with slippery lichen.

The party of two bivouacked on the west ridge and climbed the east ridge of Brynhild, which was descended in 1971, and descended the glacier of Route 2. (IV,5.6,s). Ken Johnson, Alex Van Steen, Aug. 20, 1986.

BRYNHILD PEAK 2850m

See Mount Sigurd (above) for the 1971 traverse of Stegosaurus Ridge. Brynhild Peak is the western of the two, and has a south ridge. Mount Sigurd (east) has a north ridge and a south face.

1. West Ridge. Climbed by the 1971 party. When approached from a camp on its south side (see Mt. Niflheim and Un. 2670m), go up a steep, snow-filled couloir (two large chockstones, short rappels on descent) to the col between it and Niflheim.

Climb on the ridge crest (beginning is 5.6; most is low Class 5) to a small notch below the summit block, and then ascend to the left of the block on the north side (exposed) to the top for 2.5 pitches.

To descend, climb down (not route of ascent) and rappel into the small notch. Rappel again for 50m onto a slab (slab looks scary). Climb down the slab to just above the main couloir and make a 25m rappel into it.

Eight pitches in all. (III,5.6,s,*). Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, July 26, 1994. (PC: SH, HM)

2. East Ridge. Descended in 1971. The party of Mount Sigurd, Route 3, climbed the east ridge, Class 5.6. (above)



Stegosaurus Ridge from the SW. Mt. Niflheim is left of center, and Mt. Thor is to the right. The small pinnacle on the north ridge of Niflheim (far left) is 'Rat Rock'. Photo: Hamish Mutch.

MOUNT NIFLHEIM 2870m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Mount Niflheim is on the west end of Stegosaurus (Thor-Niflheim) Ridge. The ridge continues west-southwest to Kelly Peak, forming the rim of the northwest basin or cirque which is accessible from the Rock Garden (campsite).

A trail now goes into the Niflheim Cirque from the south fork of Thor Creek (see 'Access to Niflheim Cirque', Introduction) and gives access to Routes 1 and 2, and Mount Sigurd and Brynhild Peak. To reach the above, climb up the ice avalanche chute (reasonably safe) at the head, southern end, of the cirque (see 'Access to the Western Glaciers - -', just above). There is camping in the cirque, in picturesque meadows, but bring mosquito repellent.

Mount Thor and Un. (Tower Four) are also accessible from the cirque.

1. North Ridge, Traverse. For the traverse, the party bivouacked high above the valley, and climbed the north ridge without setting foot on ice. They traversed all the summits, finding a little glacier travel on descent from Mount Thor. The rock on Stegosaurus Ridge is loose in places. Glacier (IV,5.6,s). Late August 1971.

The north ridge is a day climb, and starts with an extremely exposed knife edge. Ascend the ridge to the lower west summit, a scramble. Descend rubble to a col: three leads with some Class 5 moves on good rock lead to the summit, 8 hours from camp in the meadows. Rappel off. (III,5.4,s). (PC: H. Ridge). Crampons are handy in the avalanche chute.

2. Northeast Glacier, East Ridge. For access, see Kelly Peak variation, Route 1. Drop down 300 meters from camp and gain the north ridge. From the prominent notch, reach the glacier east of the ridge (accessible from north also) by a short but very steep descent to the snow.

Climb to the highest point of the NE glacier, and ascend mixed rock and snow to the summit. Ice, Glacier (III,5.7,s,*). John Barton, Nicholas Dodge, August 1, 1973. (PC: ND). Consult Route 5.

3. West Face, Southwest Ridge. This complex route begins on the west flank of the northwest basin (south of the Rock Garden; campsite). Climb several hundred meters of somewhat loose slabs and ledges on the west face (keeping north of the west ridge). Eventually, matters become serious. The climbing trends right, with a final long committing pitch (5.7; best feature of climb) to the craggy, exposed southwest ridge and then to the east ridge (Consult Route 4). The most difficult part is the two last pitches, to the flat part of the east ridge. The rock is good on the ridge (easy to moderate), but not so good on the lower part. The rock is generally sound, though friable at times, and sometimes gives problems with protection. (III,5.7,s). Fred Beckey, Keith Hertel, Gary Speer, July 24, 1987. (AAJ 30:148; PC: FB). Consult Route 4.

4. Southwest Ridge. Gain the Niflheim-Un. 2670m ridge from a helicopter camp (205-045) south of Brynhild Peak. The landing site is marginal; the tentsite was excavated in an old goat wallow. Rope up when on Niflheim and climb 12 roped pitches to the top, quite sustained except for the last 4 pitches.

Climb down the easier rock to descend, and then make two 50 meter rappels down a concave part of the face west of the route, to a prominent fault which rises to the col between Niflheim and its west summit. (III,5.7,**). Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, July 24, 1994. (PC: SH, HM)

Beckey's route (#3) follows close to the rappel route left (west) of the southwest ridge (in gullies). It crosses Route 4 and gains the flat part of the east ridge near the summit (most difficult part of climb is the last two rope lengths below the east ridge). (PC: FB)

The rappel route lies above the change in angle of the prominent fault that runs up the wall from the northwest basin.

5. East Ridge. Descended by the 1971 party. When approached from a helicopter camp on the south side of Brynhild Peak (see Routes 2, 4, Un. 2670m and the list of campsites), use a steep snow-filled couloir (two large chockstones, short rappels on descent). The base of the east ridge is a cliff.

From the col between Niflheim and Brynhild Peak, descend about 30 meters to a steep ramp to the north with a good crack in its middle (5.4) and climb to the glacier on the north side. Then two pitches on the north side (up to 5.7) exit to the upper ridge. Follow the east ridge proper, steep, narrow and solid. The final section is a flat, level walk on the ridge, 1-1.5 meters wide, reaching the summit tower.

The first four pitches and the last have moves to Class 5.7, twelve pitches in all. Protection is good. On descent (few short rappels) there are two spectacular 50 meter rappels to the col. (III,5.7,s,**). Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, July 29, 1994. (PC: SH, HM)



UNNAMED 2670m, just east of Kelly Peak. Mount Fosthall is at the left in distance. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



**Un. 2670m and Kelly Peak (center) from the Northeast.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

UNNAMED 2670m

Located on the ridge between Mt. Niflheim and Kelly Peak.

1. Northeast Glacier. From camp in the valley north of the mountain, above the Rock Garden, climb the northeast glacier, cross the bergschrund and scramble to the top. Ice, Glacier (III,4,s). Leon Blumer, Ian and Robert Crosthwaite, Don Skuratoff, July 1, 1991. (PC:LB)

2. East Ridge. Gain the Niflheim-Un. 2670m ridge from a helicopter camp on the south side of Brynhild Peak (only one level spot, 205-045). The helicopter landing site is marginal at the base of the south ridge of Brynhild Peak, and the tent site had to be excavated from an old goat wallow. The terrain south of the west end of Stegosaurus Ridge is steep, and the existence of other sites is questionable.

The east ridge is long, with several summits, and has good rock. (II,4). Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, July 28, 1994. (PC: SH, HM)

3. West Ridge. Continue the traverse from the east ridge. Climb down the west ridge (Class 4, and up to 5.4), pass over another small summit and continue to Kelly Peak, all on excellent rock. (III,5.4,*). Steve Horvath, July 28, 1994. (PC: SH)

KELLY PEAK 2820m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Kelly Peak is just east of the watershed, southwest of Mt. Niflheim.

1. Northwest Ridge. From a helicopter camp above the Odin Creek headwall at the foot of Odin Glacier, ascend to a col and go down snow slopes to the Ten Cent Lakes (173-036). From the vestigial glacier west of Kelly Peak, reach the ridge, cross a boulder field and attain the northwest ridge from the west side.

The climbing is more difficult at a notch in the ridge (rappel on descent). Ten hours round trip. (III,5.2,s). IH, HR, GS, PW, July 30, 1973. (KK 16:44; PC: PW, Kim Kratky)

Variation: North Glacier, Northwest Ridge. From a helicopter camp on a knoll below the north face, climb the glacier to a small rock summit with a snow patch on top. Traverse it and go up the northwest ridge. Below the summit, at the notch, the last pitch is 45 meters, which is most difficult at the top (5.2).

This party exited along the north side of Thor Creek, and encountered some bears as well as the usual bushwhacking (trail now) and stream crossings.

Ice, Glacier (II,5.2,s). John Barton, Kay and Nicholas Dodge, James Petroske, July 30, 1973, the same day as above. (PC: ND; CAJ 58(1975):111 photo backwards)

There is a campsite at the Rock Garden at the right angle bend near the headwaters of the south fork of Thor Creek. From the south side of Thor Creek, use the road and then trail on the north side of the south fork (see introduction, access, just below the distance tables) to approach.

Variation: Robert Heslop and Dan Robertson climbed the northeast side of the north glacier (the southern of the two lobes) starting from the Rock Garden, following the stream from the glacier, on August 29, 1982. The pitch at the notch below the summit may be avoided by using slabs on the south side, 5 hours from the Rock Garden. (PC:DR)

At the KMC climbing camp of 2006, Kelly Peak was approached from a helicopter camp at the lakes south of Gates Peak by climbing the ridge northeast of Spam Peak (173-065; 2.2 km north-northwest of Kelly Peak), bypassing its summit and climbing the 150 meter step (Class 4, loose rock) on the ridge south of Spam Peak. This gains Route 1 (some climbed the glacier instead of the step; KMCN Nov.-Dec. 2006; CAJ 90(2007):141).

2. South Face. Start from the Ten Cent Lakes (head of north fork of Odin Creek, from the camp above the Odin Creek headwall) and take a straight line to the summit, about 600 vertical meters. Above the talus, climb on the east side of a gully and exit right below the summit. The rock is fairly clean and broken up (slabs), Class 5.4 at the most; 3.5 hours from the lakes.

(III,5.4,s). Paul Allen, Steve Horvath, July 30, 1990. (PC: SH; CAJ 74(1991):69; CAJ 75(1992):73)

3. East Ridge. Traverse over Un. 2670m. Climb another unnamed summit via a lovely narrow ridge of white rock, cross a gap between this and the ridge and follow the east ridge to the top. The exposure is sobering on a knife edge or a ridge up to one meter wide. (III,5.3,**). Steve Horvath, July 28, 1994. (PC: SH)

BEORN PEAK (HORSEFLY)
SPAM PEAK

These two peaks, both of about 2500 meters, are on the watershed north of Kelly Peak. Beorn Peak (north, 175-078) was first climbed in July 1970 by Brian Berry, J. McMeans, R. A. Person and D. Person. Beorn is a character from "The Hobbit" (bjorn is bear in Norwegian). There were grizzly diggings on the summit!

Both were climbed in 1973. The southern summit (Spam Peak, west of camp on north side of Kelly Peak) carried a cairn with a Spam can inside. (CAJ 58(1975):111 photo). Spam Peak (173-065) was ascended by its south ridge, descending the northeast ridge to the southeast ridge of Beorn Peak, all scrambles. John Barton, Kay and Nick Dodge, Ann and Jim Petroske, July 31, 1973.

The first ascent of Spam Peak may have been by the Topographical Survey party of 1928. Spam was a favorite variety of canned ham during World War II (1939-1945).

UNNAMED 2320m

Altitude 7600 feet, grid 161-069. It is south of Gates Peak and west of the watershed. Climbed by the KMC party of 2006, Class 2-3.

Access to Odin Creek Area

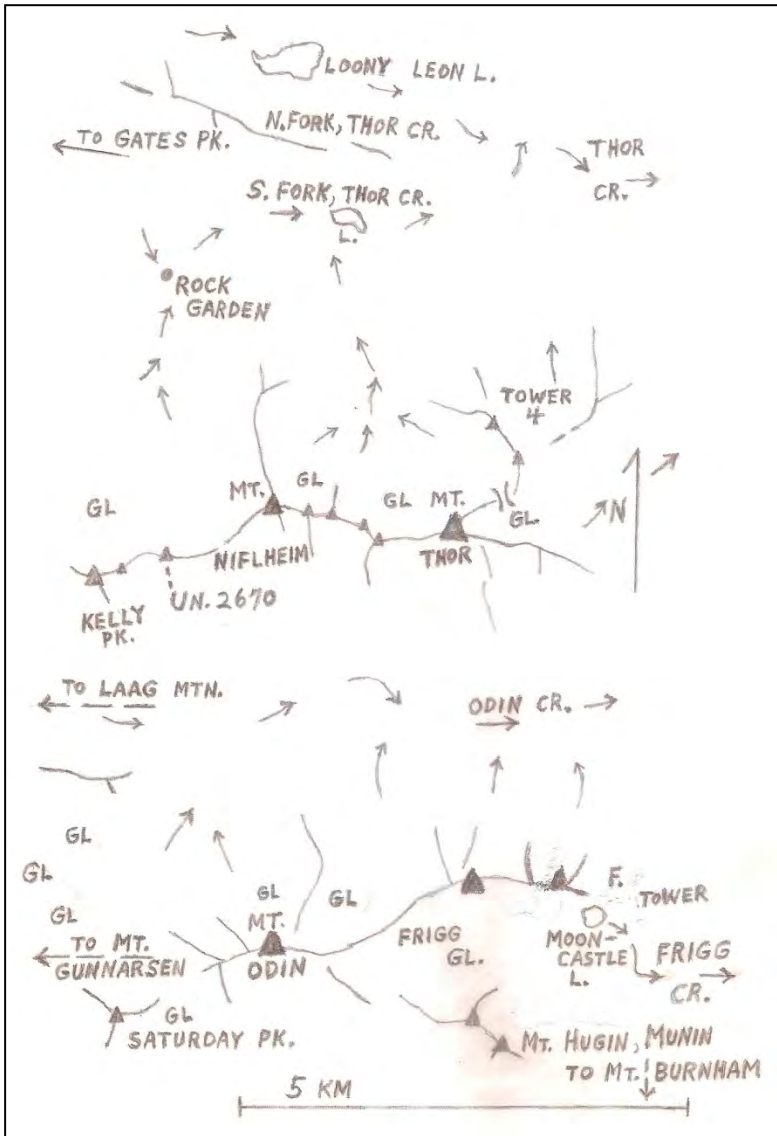
Access to this area in general is given by the road over the Pingston Creek bridge. Consult the mileage tables at the beginning of the group (several other approaches to other areas given there). Take the main (left) road 80 meters beyond the Pingston Creek bridge to reach Odin Creek (high clearance, four wheel drive recommended). The right turn after the bridge goes to trails on Thor Creek and the south fork of Thor Creek (Niflheim Cirque).

Odin Creek Trail

On the north bank of Odin Creek, follow a road and trail (tape) up the creek to rock bluffs which tend to block the canyon. The trail will probably be overgrown. (ERW)

"Finally it was agreed to use Trident Creek (in the Northern Selkirks) as an escape hatch. This short cut to Kinbasket Lake drops over a mile in less than three miles, and with its extensive areas of slide alder, and devil's club, and its precipitous walls is approximately equivalent to going through a meat grinder."

Don Hubbard



Sketch Map, southern Gold Range.

FRIGG TOWER 2620m

Map 82L/9. From Highway 23, south of Galena Bay, one has a good view of this spectacular flat-topped tower. The name is a proper one (rather than improper), since Frigg was a goddess, the wife of Odin (note Frigg Glacier on the map).

1. Northeast Buttress (Frigg Newton). Follow the south side of Odin Creek from the road at Pingston Creek, and go up to the base of the tower, 6 hours. Make camp. The bushwhacking continues part way up the buttress.

Much of the northeast buttress is Class 3 until the final headwall. A Class 5.8 pitch is followed by some Class 4 rock. A Class 5.9 pitch on the headwall leads to a long 5.6-5.7 pitch to the summit. (II,5.9). Mel Fish, Scott Flavelle, David Lane, August 9, 1984. (PC: SF via Roger Laurilla; CAJ 68(1985):83)

2. Northwest Buttress. This is the rappel route to the ridge west of the tower. It is by far the fastest way off, either one 50 meter (165 feet) rappel or two rappels.

The northwest buttress is two short pitches of Class 5.9-5.10 on ascent. A bolt has been placed to reinforce the rappel piton in the middle of the route.

Robert and Mavis Bauman, Ron Blaue. (PC: RB, RB). This appears to be their way of descent.

3. Southwest Face. This route is 120 meters (400 feet; 6 short pitches) in a series of crack systems on the southwest face, Class 5.7 at the most.

(II,5.7). Rob Dalinghaus, Rob Whelan, August 17, 1991. (PC: RW)

One may combine the lower three pitches of the south face route (southwest face?) with the upper four pitches of the southeast ridge (7 pitches, Class 5.9), a nice, direct line. David Jones, Joie Seagram, August 2005. (KMCN Mar.-Apr. 2006)

4. Southeast Ridge. From Mooncastle Lake, the climb starts in a treed area above slabs. The first 6 pitches follow the ridge proper, bypassing difficult sections on the north side. The last 4 pitches go up the summit headwall, using diagonal ledges to bypass blank sections. A long day; much route finding on good rock, sustained Class 5.8-5.9 at the top.

(III,5.9,**). Robert and Mavis Bauman, August 1996. (Summit cairn record; PC: Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, 1999; CAJ 83(2000):123)

Descend by one (or two short) rappel on the northwest side (50m) to the notch. Pass over the unnamed bump to the west and sidehill over steep snow and heather back to Mooncastle Lake.



Left, the top of Frigg Tower, Mjollnir Tower (center) and then Mount Odin. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

To Mooncastle Lake; Odin climbing camp

One could reach Mooncastle Lake by a tedious, serious bushwhack on the north side of Frigg Creek (see introduction, after road distance table, to Odin Creek). A hidden trail now avoids this bushwhack. See also Mount Odin. (PC: Leon Blumer, Dan Robertson, 1981)

To reach Mooncastle Lake on foot, one must be on the west side of Pingington Creek. To reach the west side, one must cross Odin Creek and then attain the north side of Frigg Creek.

The KMC climbing camp of 2003 was at 204-990, south of Mount Odin. (CAJ 87(2004):101. The Odin Creek headwall camp of 1975 was below Odin Glacier, northwest of Mt. Odin.) Mosquitos! Gain Frigg Glacier by the col northeast of camp and east-southeast of Mount Odin at 214-997.

The helicopter takeoff point was on the North Fosthall Creek Forest Service Road, above Margie Creek, map 82L/8 Mount Fosthall at 195-894. (KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004)

MJOLLNIR TOWER (STORM TOWER) ca. 2660m

This is the blunt rock tower, seen from the Escarpment Trail, on the left in the photo of Mount Odin. Frigg Tower is left, out of sight.

Mjollnir was the magic hammer of Thor.

The contours of this ridge, on the map, are highly inaccurate.

1. East Ridge. From Mooncastle Lake, gain the col between the objective and Frigg Tower. The east ridge has some unroped climbing and six pitches up to Class 5.6 on good rock.

(II.5.6,s,*). Mavis and Robert Bauman, Ron Blaue, about 1989. (PC: Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch, MB, RB; summit cairn record). Descent was by Route 2 to Frigg Glacier.

2. West Ridge. The west ridge is partly a walk-off, and partly Class 3, using the southwest side at times. See Route 1.

3. South Face. This line, up the center of the south face, is 5 pitches of an amazing sequence of edges, flakes, chicken heads and friction on superb gneiss.

(II.5.9,s,*). Bruce Fairley, Hamish Mutch, August 2005. (KMCN Mar.-Apr. 2006)

MOUNT ODIN 2970m

Map 82L/9. Mount Odin, the highest peak of the group, is often hidden from view from the roads. East of the ice tongue of its east glacier (Frigg Glacier) lies Mooncastle Lake, under Frigg Tower.

1. East Glacier, East Ridge. From a lake to the south in the valley of Ledge Creek, go over the ridge to steep ice east of the summit. The party approached from Peters Lake. The east ridge itself is easy. Rated Class 4 because of the glacier. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s.). FA by a Topographical Survey party led by Wm. Gates, August 1928. They also ascended Mt. Fosthall and Gates Peak.

Alternate approach: Start from a helicopter camp above the Odin Creek headwall. From the Odin-Saturday col (glacier), descend a steep snow and ice couloir (one of the easternmost; one rappel) and traverse open country south of Mount Odin.

Attain Frigg Glacier very easily just west of the western set of "shark's teeth" (see Mount Grady also for more details). Twelve hours round trip. There is also a steep, icy snow gully leading up to Frigg Glacier. (KK 16:42; PC: Bert and Sue Port, Peter Wood, Kim Kratky)

Alternate approach: From a camp at beautiful Mooncastle Lake under the south side of Frigg Tower, ascend the north margin of Frigg Glacier to the east ridge; four hours up. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). August 9, 1980.

Leon Blumer and Dan Robertson also reached Mooncastle Lake, on foot, on September 13, 1981. (PC:DR)

 One can now (2022) reach Mount Odin from the east (roads) by a new, high clearcut on the south side of lower Odin Creek west of the N-S road, and then via bushwhacking and a high ridge (some roped scrambling). Descend and camp at Mooncastle Lake. Rather strenuous.

Then it is an easy walk across Frigg Glacier (September) and the top.

There is now a cut and flagged route out beside Frigg Creek. The entrance is hidden by 50 feet of uncut trees and bush from the spur road, and could be used to climb Mount Odin in one very long day.



Mt. Odin from the lower SE ridge of Mt. Thor, from the Escarpment Trail (see just before Mt. Thor). Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

UNNAMED (HUGIN) 2780m

Located 2.4 km east-southeast of Mount Odin, south of Frigg Glacier. Surveyed height 9121 feet. It is just east of the col (214-997) 1.5 km east-southeast of Mount Odin. Its rock faces are black. A cairn, no record, was found in 1980 (on Mt. Hugin, the northwestern summit).

The names Mount Hugin and Mount Munin (0.5 km southeast, lower, a double summit) are proposed for this double summit (1999). These two were the ravens that sat on Odin's shoulders on his throne in Valhalla. When Odin needed to know what was going on in the world, he sent his ravens out to gather the information.

Mount Hugin 2780m

1. North Slopes. Start from Mooncastle Lake and proceed over Frigg Glacier (see Mount Odin). Cross the bergschrund on the north side of the mountain and climb to the summit rock. The last 15m are very exposed but easy; 2.5 hours. Ice, Glacier (II,4,s). LA, KK, PT, August 10, 1980.

2. Northeast Ridge. From camp at Mooncastle Lake, cross Frigg Glacier and gain the lowest point of rock. The northeast ridge is 16 pitches with some snow, much Class 4 with some Class 5.4-5.6 sections. Scenic.

Ice, Glacier (III,5.6,s,*). Steven Horvath, Hamish Mutch, July 31, 1999. (PC: SH; CAJ 83(2000):123). Descend on snow, then via Frigg Glacier.

3. West Ridge. Mount Hugin is easily reached by the west ridge after gaining the col east-southeast of Mount Odin (214-997; see Mt. Odin).

Glacier. A KMC party, Doug Brown, Diane Colwell, Maurice St. Jorre, Sandra McGuinness, and David Shadbolt, July 27, 2003. (KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004; CAJ 87(2004):101)

Mount Munin 2770m

1. Northeast Rib (Nowhere Buttress; Mt. Munin). This buttress is the mirror image of the northeast ridge of adjoining Mount Hugin.

From a small lake one kilometer southwest of Mooncastle Lake, make a very difficult approach by descending 300 meters to cross a stream. The first four pitches are a series of small roofs and overhangs, back and forth through them (rope drag); the following 8 pitches are easier. The climb ends on easy terrain just below the southeast ridge (unrope). The party of two did not go to the summit.

Rappelling is the easiest return, down the rib if one has enough equipment, but the return was by rappel to the next valley south, joining the approach to Mount Grady. Go to the upper edge of Frigg Glacier, and descend the glacier (which resulted in a bivouac).

(IV,5.6). Bruce Fairley, Hamish Mutch, August 2005. (KMCN Mar.-Apr. 2006). This rating ignores the return on the glacier.

SATURDAY PEAK 2730m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Saturday Peak is 1.8 km west-southwest of Mount Odin. The KMC climbed two routes on it during the 1973 KMC climbing camp.

Between 1963 and 1965, members of the Geological Survey of Canada were active in this area and may have done some unrecorded ascents.

1. West Ridge. This peak is easily reached over Odin Glacier from a helicopter camp above the Odin Creek headwall. FA July 28, 1973. See Route 2. The west ridge is Class 3-4, and begins where the glacier touches the ridge. Ice retreat has altered the beginning of this route.

2. East to West Traverse. Ascend Odin Glacier to the notch east of the first significant outcropping on the ridge. The second lead, on a buttress, has a fixed aluminum piton (Class 5.7 straight over), but it is easier to detour to the left on slabs (Class 5.3). Much of the climbing is Class 4 on good gneiss (lichen-encrusted), and there is one rappel to a notch.

Return via a notch near the summit where the glacier touches the ridge (Route 1). An enjoyable route. Glacier (II,5.3,A0,s). DK, BMacL, August 4, 1973. (PC: Kim Kratky)

3. South Ridge. Cross over the west ridge of Saturday Peak and enter the basin below the southwest face. Gain the south ridge via a small buttress on the left (north) side of a fairly rotten gully (two pitches, to Class 5.6), and easier ground goes to the south ridge proper.

Scramble to the summit headwall, and two pitches on beautiful, clean white rock (Class 5.6) go to the summit. Glacier (III,5.6,s,*). Paul Allen, Steve Horvath, August 3, 1990. (PC: SH; CAJ 74(1991):69; 75:73)

Variation: One can gain the ridge by crossing the bergschrund of the glacier on the southeast side, and then up very steep snow (exposed) to reach a rib of rock. Above is Class 4 rock to reach the upper ridge. Ice, Glacier. Doug Brown, Sandra McGuinness, David Shadbolt, July 30, 2003. (CAJ 87(2004):101; KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004). Camp was at a lake below Mount Gunnarsen (163-993). Mosquitos!

MONDAY PEAK 2490m

Altitude 8170 feet. Located 3 km southeast of Saturday Peak and east of upper Ledge Creek.

FRA and descent via the northwest and northeast ridges, probably not difficult. Tim Clinton, Klaus Haring, Mark Lacasse, Judy O'Leary and David Smith, with John Buffery, July 2002. (INT)



A view south from the lower SE ridge of Mt. Thor. Mts. Burnham (left) and Grady are to the left, Frigg Tower (flat top) just right of center, and Mjollnir Tower at the far right. Mounts Munin and Hugin are behind, right. Photo: Earle R. Whipple.



**Mount Burnham from the north. The north spurs on its east ridge show clearly. The top of Mount Grady is just visible.
Photo: Earle R. Whipple.**

MOUNT BURNHAM 2910m

Map 82L/9. Mt. Burnham is farther east from the Monashee watershed than any other summit in the group, and is the most easily seen. Mounts Burnham and Grady were formerly known as Halcyon Peak, and also Thor and Odin by residents of the area.

1. East Ridge. The 1932 expedition started from Nakusp by boat! The group of three crossed Pingston Creek by felling a tree, spent a rainy night under a boulder and arrived at the meadows on the second day after leaving Nakusp.

Two members climbed the ridge while Axel Wetterstrom remained at the meadows. A short chimney was the most difficult place. (II,5.4,s,*). Jean Waterfield (Mrs. Spicer), Nels Wetterstrom, August 24, 1932. (PC: JW, AW, NW)

Alternate approach: Traverse Mount Grady from west to east, and pass under the south face of Burnham to its east ridge.

Return to the advance camp, near the lake west of Burnham and Grady, on the south side of the peaks with one rappel on broken ground. (KK 16:45; PC: Bert and Sue Port)

Alternate approach: Cross the bridge on Frigg Creek (consult 'To Mooncastle Lake', above) and after 100 meters angle south through bush to a switchback of a skid road. A clearcut area leads up to dry open ground interspersed with cliff bands on the **south side** of the east ridge. Find a route through the cliff bands to the alpine zone and a small tarn (2060m, 6760 feet). Five hours. Camp.

The rope is required at a few steps on the upper east ridge, 5 hours. The rock is quite solid. Rappel on descent. Robert Heslop, Dan Robertson, August 24, 1984. (PC: DR)

The north side of the east ridge, gained from the road below, has the worst bushwhacking that the author has seen, and the attempt failed.

Alternate approach: Approach from Mooncastle Lake. (See Mount Odin.) Scramble the eastern north spur of the east ridge to the east ridge at 2590m (8500 feet). There are five rappels on descent. August 1980.

2. North Couloir, North Spur. Climb up the small glacier under the north side of the Burnham-Grady col. A vertical ice pitch overcomes the large bergschrund, and another vertical ice pitch gains the couloir leading to the col. The couloir itself is about 55 degrees steep.

From the col, traverse on a good ledge system to the north spur. Ascend to the summit; the hardest place is about 1.5 pitches from the top. Ice, Glacier (III,5.7,s). Cameron Cairns, Mike O'Reilly, 1984. (PC: CC)



Mount Grady from the north. Route 2 of Mount Burnham is the blue ice couloir between the two. Photo: David Swetland.

MOUNT GRADY 2900m

Mount Grady is just west of Mount Burnham. The Burnham-Grady couloir was skied in 2021. (CAJ 104(2021):27). The party made several rappels (AAJ 2022:169). This north-facing couloir has much falling rock during the summer.

1. West Ridge. From the KMC helicopter camp above the Odin Creek headwall, go over Odin Glacier to the Odin-Saturday col and descend the snow and ice couloir (see Odin).

Place an advance camp near the highest small lakes (2270m, 7450 feet) northeast of Bearpaw Lake, by traversing open country south of Odin for 1.5 km. Approach a north-south ridge of "shark's teeth" (the western shark's teeth ridge) connecting to Frigg Glacier; aim for the notch just N of the highest shark's tooth and descend the east side of this col on tilted, exposed strata (unpleasant Class 4) to the snowfield above the lakes.

"Notch 3" (213-987) in the western shark's teeth ridge is the lowest, most southerly notch. The approach gully is loose and dirty (hard Class 3), but the descent on the east side is easy on talus and meadow. (KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004)

From high camp at the lakes, ascend to an obvious col on the shark's teeth ridge east of camp (the eastern shark's teeth ridge), and contour around the basin to the east. Aim for a point just below a big notch on the north-south ridge ahead, and gain the ridge just south, right, of it (the ridge that runs south from the west ridge of Grady). Ascend the ridge to an obvious buttress, then ascend to the right until two gullies are seen. Take the right hand, less obvious, gully and climb it to the west ridge.

The long west ridge consists of false summits, clefts, and slabs slanting southwest. Pass the clefts on the south side, using the rope occasionally. The north side of the ridge overhangs. The climb is dry, carry water.

If one climbs down the ridge, there are few opportunities for rappelling, because the ridge is not steep but is a knife edge. (Two rappels were used in 2003; KMCN Jan.-Feb. 2004)

Eight hours return to camp at the lakes for the west ridge alone. The party of three traversed and descended the east ridge to Mount Burnham. (III,5.0,s,*). GB, BP, DK, August 1, 1973. (PC: Peter Wood, Kim Kratky)

Make an early start; the west ridge is a long climb. If one is caught by bad weather, the slabs will be slippery. Bring rock protection.

2. East Ridge. The party of the west ridge descended the east ridge, en route to Mount Burnham. The east ridge is similar to the west ridge, but is steeper and a bit more difficult. (III,5.0). (PC: Bert Port)

3. North Ridge (Grady Train). From camp at a hanging lake across the valley from Mount Grady, stay at the left side of the slope above the glacier, 80m west of the north couloir (loose rock, little protection, 5.8). Climb low Class 5 and 4 rock to the central weakness. A notch is reached between the central weakness and a small NE-facing gully (5.5 to 5.7).

From the notch, climb up and left onto mid-class 5 slabby terrain. Continue until the angle begins to increase again (5.8). Climb a left-facing corner system to a belay beside a small tree (shrub; 5.9).

Climb right onto the face of the ridge and then to a prominent ledge (5.10 to 5.12). Continue along the path of least resistance directly up the middle of the face (difficulties on solid rock to 5.8).

Then scramble about 150m of Class 4 terrain to the base of an obvious tooth. Climb around the left side of the tooth (5.13 to 5.14) to the base of the upper headwall. Belay at the notch between the headwall and the tooth. Then enjoyable climbing directly up the headwall to the summit (to 5.8).

They rappelled and climbed down the east ridge, scrambled around the south side of Mount Burnham and bivouacked.

Steve Howett, Dan Rohn (Backcountry Mountaineering camp), August 14-15, 2021. (CAJ 105(2022): photos, one marked)

The difficulty rating system used on this route does not appear to be equivalent of the one used in this guidebook.

LAAG MOUNTAIN 2640m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Coordinates 157-031. This double summit is named for the layering in the mountain (laag is Norwegian for layer). It is located 2.8 km north of Mount Gunnarsen. A huge, 100 meter high, slab is upended on the south face.

1. Southeast Ridge. Attain the Gunnarsen-Laag col, or the col east of the south end of the ridge, at the western head of Odin Glacier.

The rock of the southeast ridge is heavily layered and sometimes flaky, but firm; much good scrambling with some detours to the right. Where it steepens it is Class 4, and a 5 meter mossy, gritty slab (Class 5.2) is just below the summit (rappel on descent).

Both summits were climbed in 1973, and the second is the highest. Eight hours round trip from base camp below Odin Glacier. Glacier (III,5.2,s). KL, PM, July 29, 1973. (PC: Kim Kratky)

MOUNT GUNNARSEN 2640m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Mount Gunnarsen is on the watershed at the head of Ledge Creek, 4.3 km west of Mount Odin.

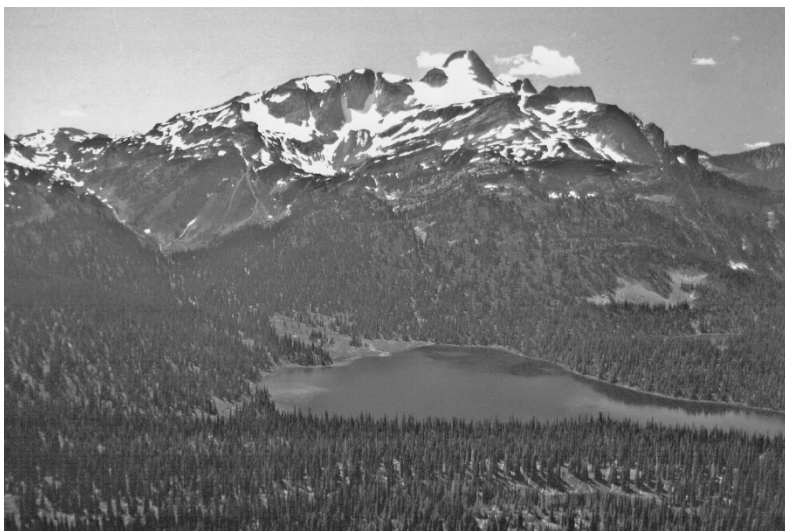
1. East Ridge. Start from the KMC helicopter camp at the top of the Odin Creek headwall, go across Odin Glacier and traverse Mount Skade (on the map) on the watershed east of Mount Gunnarsen.

The east ridge begins as a dirt-streaked buttress (loose, unpleasant) below the east face. Cross a snow patch to the base of the east face. One can scramble grassy ledges or harder rock and slabs. Higher up, the route joins the ridge (good rock). The eastern summit is higher.

Glacier (II,4,s). JB, HB, KL, PM, GM, BMacL, BM, SP, July 29, 1973. (PC: Kim Kratky)

2. Northwest Face. Descended by Knut Langballe and Peter McIver, July 29, 1973, en route to Laag Mountain. There is some traversing, a steep couloir to be glissaded and a bit of rockfall.

3. West Ridge. The west ridge is rather sharp and does not require the rope. (II,3,s). JC, KL, August 2, 1973. (PC: JC)



**Mt. Fosthall from the northeast, with Peters Lake (aerial).
Photo: Richard Caunt.**

MOUNT FOSTHALL 2680m

Maps 82L/8 Mount Fosthall and 82L/9 Gates Creek. Mount Fosthall is the last high peak in the south of the Gold Range. It is located in the large Monashee Provincial Park to the southwest and west of Mount Odin. See BCM 1975 (10):3.

Drive north on the Sugar Lake road on the west side of Sugar Lake, and turn east of the Spectrum Creek road. Then the Spectrum Lake Trail.

There are trails and campsites (fee) in the park. The campgrounds are at Spectrum Lake (largest), Big Peters Lake, Little Peters Lake and Margie Lake. One may camp in the back country without a permit.

Dogs are not permitted, and please clean your campsite and pack out garbage. There is a fire ban.

1. The first ascent was by a Topographical Survey party, led by Wm. Gates, August 10, 1928. (summit cairn record; CME)

The Survey party camped at Peters Lake, and climbed via South Cariboo Pass and the south slopes (see Route 2).

2. South Ridge. From Little Peters Lake, hike up the valley south of Peters Lake, and go over South Cariboo Pass on the east side of the mountain. Traverse around the southeast side of the peak maintaining elevation until the south ridge is attained. Then scramble to the top. (II,3,s). FRA Pamela Mellows Jenkins and companions, 1973. (PC: PMJ)

3. North Face (probably NE slope). Descended by the party of Route 2.

4. Northeast Couloir. Ascend a grassy ramp from Cirque Lake and go around the northeast ridge on a flat plateau. Climb the steep snow of the northeast face and the northeast couloir directly to the summit, or exit to the east ridge near the top.

Return by the southeast face (a talus slope) and the high col on the east ridge. (II,3,s). Allan Baker, Jim Kienholz, John Steed, August 1982. (PC:JS)

The northeast face was also climbed from the KMC hiking camp in the Valley of the Moon (NE of the mtn.). (III,3,s). Aug. 1, 1994. (KK 37:10)

5. Southeast Face, East Ridge. Approach as for Route 2, but ascend the southeast face (talus) to the high col on the east ridge. Thence, go by the east ridge. See Route 4, descent (of 1982).

A website for the B. C. Parks is

www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/ (B. C. Provincial Parks)

www.backroadmapbooks.com (trails, roads, etc.)

The Sol Mountain Lodge is southeast of Mount Fosthall and north of Mount Baldur. One may reach Mount Baldur by the North Fosthall Creek road, from the east, from the Shelter Bay Forest Service Road, south of Shelter Bay (ferry from the east from Galena Bay) south of Revelstoke on the west side of the Columbia River (Upper Arrow Lake).

CARIBOO MOUNTAIN 2270m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Cariboo Mountain is located west-southwest of Mount Odin, in Monashee Provincial Park. Both Cariboo and Slate Mountains were climbed by members of the 1994 KMC hiking camps, and the routes are not clear. (KK 1994)

Approach from either Peters Lake or the Valley of the Moon. Steep, grassy southeast slopes lead up to Cariboo. The summit is a wooded, rocky ridge (2014). FA unknown.

To climb the Cariboo-Slate gully, start low, the sides are steep. However, there is a passage above, on the east side, shown by deer that used it. (PC: Peter Tchir). One can gain the top of Cariboo Mountain by the Cariboo-Slate col. (PC: Ken Holmes)

SLATE MOUNTAIN 2500m

Map 82L/9 Gates Creek. Slate Mountain is just west of Cariboo Mtn. Both Cariboo and Slate Mountains are north of Peters Lake and north of Mount Fosthall.

An ascent route is left (west) of the Cariboo-Slate gully. Ascend through forest to meadows on the south side of Slate Mountain, and then steep, grassy slopes, going around cliff bands. Some scree and boulder slopes go to the summit, more attractive than Cariboo Mountain (2014). (PC: Peter Tchir). FA unknown.

From the Valley of the Moon, traverse past Fawn Lake and then above Mike's Lake to reach a ridge where a long slope or ramp leads down to a creek crossing. (The creek flows to Peters Lake.) From the crossing, there is a short, easy exit through forest, and then the steep, grassy slopes to Cariboo Mountain. (Map 82L/9 Gates Creek, south border) (PC: Peter Tchir)

To climb Slate Mountain, proceed to the west after the creek crossing.

The summits below are south-southwest of Mounts Burnham and Grady across the Ledge Creek Valley.

A curving ridge of lower peaks extends to the east of Mount Fosthall, south of Ledge Creek and north of Fosthall Creek. The Mount Symons Road leads up the valley from the east from Upper Arrow Lake, south of the ferry.

UNNAMED (ORDER) 2417m

Height 7930 feet. Located 2.4 km WNW of Moderation Peak.

UNNAMED (MODERATION) 2424m

Height 7953 feet. Located 2 km NNW of Sincerity Peak.

UNNAMED (SICERITY) 2327m

Height 7635 feet. Located 1.3 km west of Mount Symons.

MOUNT SYMONS 2315m

Height 7595 feet. Map 82L/8. Mount Symons is northeast of Mount Baldur across the North Fosthall Creek road. The Mount Symons road switchbacks up from the east (see above).

It has gentle south slopes and a short, steep north face.

The following summits are located south of the head of Fosthall Creek on the east, and south of the head of Bill Fraser Creek to the west.

For access from the north, see the section in the beginning of the Gold Range 'Traverses in the Gold Range, 1981'. There is a road up the north side of Fosthall Creek.

The Sol Mountain Lodge is southeast of Mount Fosthall and north of Mount Baldur. See the paragraph two pages above under Mt. Fosthall.

MOUNT BALDUR 2370m

Mount Baldur (2370m), east of Unnamed (Twin Peaks) and south of the head of Fosthall Creek, is easy by the northwest ridge.

FRA by Doug Brown, Sandra McGuinness, Vivien Bowers, Emily Fanjoy, Andy and Ken Holmes, Jason, Mike Kent, Murielle and Roland Perrin, and Maurice de St. Jorre on skis, Jan. 4, 2005.

UNNAMED (TWIN PEAKS) 2450m

Map 82L/8 Mount Fosthall. Altitude 8050 feet. Located directly south of Mount Fosthall, and also directly south above Twin Peaks Lake. They appear to be very easy ascents.

UNNAMED 2470m

Altitude 8105 feet. Three kilometers east-northeast of Goat Mtn. and northwest above Twin Peaks Lake. It is an easy ascent from the south.

GOAT MOUNTAIN 2430m

Map 82L/8 Mount Fosthall. Located southwest of Mount Fosthall, and southwest of Bill Fraser Creek. A double summit.

Approach by road as for Sugar Mtn., but take the Kate-Sitkum FSR which branches from it. Two bridges are probably out near the end. Then bushwhacking northeast.

SUGAR MOUNTAIN 2190m

Altitude 7185 feet. Located west of Goat Mountain.

The Kate Creek Forest Service Road starts at the south end of Sugar Lake, far to the west (see 'To Peters Lake' in Introduction) and winds its way north to end west of Sugar Mountain (switchbacks). A trail then leads east to Sugar Mountain.

WHATSHAN RANGE, PINNACLE GROUP

MAPS- 82L/1 Eureka Mountain, and 82L/8 Mount Fosthall, 82K/4 Nakusp, 82L/2.

This isolated group of lower peaks rises well above its surroundings and stands out from Highway 23, north of Nakusp. It is 30 km south of Mount Fosthall.

By the easiest routes, the climbs are scrambles; there may be technical climbing on the faces. The first ascents here are unknown. Smaller peaks extend along the watershed north of Mount Severide.

UNNAMED 2510m

Map 82L/1 Eureka Mountain, north border. Located at 144-649, east of the watershed.

MOUNT SEVERIDE 2571m

Map 82L/1 Eureka Mountain. On the watershed at 108-638. Ascended by a Topographical Survey party, date and route unknown. Surveyed at 8435 feet. Goat Col is just east of Mount Severide. The large Goat Lake is southeast of Mount Severide and east of the divide.

Mount Severide is north of Monashee Lake (west of the divide, at the head of Monashee Creek) and the headwall below. Two of the three pinnacles are roughly east of Pinnacle Lake (at the head of the northeast fork of Railroad Creek, west of the divide and south of Monashee Lake), and South Pinnacle southeast of it. Sunny Peak (not listed, see KMCN Dec. 1993) is directly east of Monashee Lake, just east of the divide. Five other summits are north of Mount Severide.

Approach from the west by the South Fork FSR and the Monashee Lake Trail. Mostly good rock, a scramble.

Sunny Peak is just south of Rioux Lake, at the end of the trail.

NORTH PINNACLE 2570m

East of the watershed, 124-608. It is possible that this summit is the highest of the group. From its position, it might best be called "East Pinnacle". Approach is by the South Fork FSR and the Monashee Lake Trail. Poor rock. Class 3.

MIDDLE PINNACLE 2510m

On the watershed, 116-611. Approach from Monashee Lake.



South Pinnacle from the west-southwest, near the camping spot (trail to Pinnacle Lake). Photo: Earle R. Whipple.

SOUTH PINNACLE 2550m

Map 82L/1 Eureka Mountain. On the watershed, 112-606. One best approaches from Pinnacle Lake. The three Pinnacle Peaks are scrambles from the north side. (PC: Pamela Jenkins)

Monashee Lake (111-624) and Pinnacle Lake (104-610) are both west of the watershed. Vista Pass (103-586) is on the watershed in the south.

The headwall below Monashee Lake is steep and one short section of the trail may be dangerous for the inexperienced hiker. (This is located above the rockslide on the north side of the stream.) Two tent sites have been excavated in the hillside (2009) just before the trail crosses the stream to the north side and the rockslide. They are the only sites in this rocky and alder-filled valley, and are about 150 meters upslope from the trail, on the south side of the stream (red shoelace on small tree. ERW).

The trail to Pinnacle Lake (south of Monashee Lake, at the head of the northeast fork of Railroad Creek) has been destroyed by an avalanche (2009) just below the steep section. The steep upper trail leads to the very beautiful Pinnacle Lake. There is camping and water at road's end. It is a 3.5 hour drive from Kelowna.

From the west, approach from Vernon on Highway 6, and from the east (Lower Arrow Lake) via the Fauquier Ferry south of Nakusp. At 22.5 km (14 miles) east of Lumby (and 0.8 km east of Heckman Creek, marked) there is a road marked "Pinnacle Hiking Area" and "Monashee Lake, Pinnacle Lake, Vista Pass". From the eastern side, from the Needles-Fauquier ferry on Lower Arrow Lake, this road is 2.7 km (1.7 miles) west of Monashee Creek (marked) west of Monashee Pass.

To reach Monashee Lake (at head of Monashee Creek, just south of Mount Severide) follow the turns in the table below, measured from the beginning of the road.

Miles Km turn

1.6	2.5	Stay right.
1.7	2.7	Stay left.
4.0	6.4	Stay right.
8.1	13.0	Stay left.
9.3	15.0	Stay left. Do not cross Monashee Creek.
10.4	16.7	Straight ahead.
14.9	24.0	Park.

To reach Pinnacle Lake (via Railroad Creek, high clearance vehicles), at 15 kilometers keep right and cross Monashee Creek.

Miles Km turn

9.9	16.0	Stay left.
11.5	18.5	Cross bridge.
11.8	19.0	Stay left, turn onto northeast fork of Railroad Creek.
14.0	22.5	Park in log landing area.

Hiking trails lead from the parking areas.

To reach Vista Pass, stay right at 19 km and go 2.5 km farther.

One may cross the Arrow Lake Narrows by the Arrow Park ferry 25 km (16 miles) south-southwest of Nakusp; drive west up Stevens Pass to North Whatshan Road, and cross the bridge (not on map) on Whatshan River. Follow Fife Creek Road (sign) and arrive at the 34 km mark from the ferry. Take branch 34, which goes in 1.6 km (1 mile), then Winter Road. This approaches the southeast corner of the Pinnacles. (PC: Tom Fulkco)

Four fairly high peaks, the highest about 2450 meters, may be reached from Twin Lakes at the end of the North Fork Forest Service Road, north of the Pinnacle Group. (Consult the 'Mark Berger Traverse' in the guidebook listed below, a hiking traverse. Maps 82L/8 Mount Fosthall and 82L/1 Eureka Mountain.) See also the 'Twin Lakes' hike in the same guidebook.

A trail guide has been published that covers some areas of the Monashee Range: "Hiking Trails Enjoyed by the Vernon Outdoors Club" (1989), Wayside Press Ltd., Vernon, B. C. The author is grateful to the Vernon Outdoors Club for the distance tables and location of the features above, and to Pamela Jenkins. The address of the Vernon Outdoors Club is P.O. Box 1241, Vernon B. C. V1T 6N6.

INDEX OF PASSES

- AVALANCHE PASS** at the head of Dore' River, north of Geology
2240m Pass, on the Avalanche Valley Trail
(map 93H/1; Halvorson Group)
- AZURE PASS** Azure River - Raush River (Wells Gray Group)
1630m (map 83D/12, 092-394)
- CARIBOO PASS** (Halvorson Group) This pass appears to be just west
of Mount Christie. See Mount Christie.
- CARIBOU PASS** Caribou Mtn. - Slate Mtn. (Gold Range)
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- SOUTH CARIBOU PASS** just east of Mt. Fosthall (Gold Range)
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- DAVID PASS** Mt. Sir J. Thompson - Mt. Macken. King (S. Premier)
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- FURY PASS** Un. 2300m - Un. 2180m (Scrip Range)
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- TURQUOISE PASS tributary of Clearwater River - tributary of
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Pierre Trudeau, mt	N. Premier
Pierrway, glac (E and W), mt	Wells Gray

Pingston, cr, lake	Gold
Pinnacle Lake	Pinnacle Group
Pinnacles (N, Middle, S)	Pinnacle
Pinstripe, mt	Halvorson
Poem, mt	Dominion
Ptarmigan, cr, Provincial Park	Halvorson Group
Pussycat, mt	Scrip
Pyramid, mt	S. Premier
Pyramid, mt	Dominion
Pyrite Lake	Shuswap
Quanstrom, mt	Wells Gray Group (at N)
Quesnel Lake	N. Cariboos (S of Halvorson Gr.)
Raft, mt	Wells Gray Group
Railroad, cr	Pinnacle
Rainbow (Spectrum) Cr. and Lake	Gold (at S)
Rat Rock	Gold
Ratchford, cr, mt	Scrip (at S)
Raush, riv	Wells Gray-Premiers
Redsand, mt	Hellroar
Revelation Lake	Gold (at N)
Revelstoke Lake (Columbia River)	Monashee-N. Selkirks
Revenge, mt	Dominion
Richard Bennett, mt	N. Premier
Roberts, mt	Halvorson
Rock Garden, campsite	Gold Range
Round Survey Station (Mt. Lutkea)	Scrip Range
Ruddock, cr	Scrip
Sandman, mt	Dominion
Saturday, mt	Gold (at S)
Sawtooth Range	Isolated Pks., W. Monashee
Schrund, mt	Shuswap Group
Scrip, cr	Scrip
Serac, mt	Hellroar
Serpentine, cr, icefield	Dominion
Severide, cr, mt	Pinnacle Group
Seymour Arm (of Shuswap Lake)	Monashee
Seymour Creek	Scrip (at S)
Seymour River	Seymour Group
Shark's Tooth, mt	Wells Gray Group
Shuswap Lake	Monashee (in S and W)
Shuswap River	Gold (on W)

Sibley Creek	Scrip
Sigurd, mt	Gold
Silt Lake	Wells Gray
Silver Horn, mt	Scrip
Sir John Abbott, mt (Kiwa)	N. Premier (at W)
Sir John Thompson, mt (David Thompson)	S. Premier
Sir Mackenzie Bowell, mt (Welcome)	N. Premier
Sir Wilfred Laurier, mt (Titan)	N. Premier (at S)
Sitkum, cr	Pinnacle-Gold
Siwash, cr	Dominion
Skade, mt	Gold (at S)
Slate, mt	Gold (at S)
Slog, mt	Halvorson
Snowshoe, cr	Halvorson
Soards, cr	Scrip
South Cariboo Pass	Gold (at S)
South Fosthall, cr	Pinnacle Group-Gold Range
South Thor Creek	Gold
Spahats, cr, falls	Wells Gray (at S)
Spam, mt	Gold Range
Sphinx, The	Wells Gray
Spranger, mt	Halvorson
Stanley Baldwin, (Challenger)	N. Premier
Steeple, mt	Wells Gray
Stegosaurus Ridge	Gold
Stormking Creek	Wells Gray (on E)
Sugar, mt	Gold (at S; see Sugar Lake)
Summit, cr, lake, Lake Trail	Wells Gray
Sunset, cr, lakes	Seymour
Symmetry Spire	N. Premier
Symons, mt	Gold
Tam, mt	Shuswap Group
Ten Cent Lakes	Gold
Tete, cr (Sand Creek)	N. Premier (at NE)
Tete, glac, icefield	N. Premier
Tete Jaune Cache	N. Premier (at NE)
Thompson, mt	Malton Range
Thompson, glac	S. Premier
Thor, cr, mt	Gold Range
Three Island Lake	Gold
Thunder River	Wells Gray (on E)
Thunderbolt, mt	Scrip

Tilley, mt	Gold (at N)
Toque, mt	Shuswap
Torii, mt	Dominion Group
Tranquility Lake	Wells Gray Group
Trigon, mt	S. Premier
Triple Peak	Scrip
Triplehead, mt	Halvorson
Trophy, mt	Wells Gray
Tryfan, mt	Wells Gray
Tsuius, cr, mt	Isolated Pks., W. Monashee
Tumtum Lake	Scrip (at W)
Turtle, mt	Shuswap
Twin Towers, mt	N. Premier
Upper Raush Protected Area	N. Cariboo Range
Valley Glacier	Scrip Range
Valley of the Moon	Gold (at S)
Vanstone, cr	Gold (E of Mt. Fosthall)
Vanwyk, cr	Gold (at W)
Vigue, cr	Gold (at W)
Wallis, mt = Berthe Survey Station	Scrip Range (at S)
Wap, cr (two Wap Creeks)	Gold (at NW)
Watchman, mt	Wells Gray (at SW)
Watt, mt	Halvorson
West Foster Creek (Moose Cr.)	Scrip
West Twin Creek	Halvorson
West Twin Provincial Park	Halvorson
Whitespine, mt	Halvorson
Willis Lake	Wells Gray
Winder, mt	Wells Gray
Windpass Mine	Wells Gray (Dunn Peak)
Windy, mt	Scrip
Withers, mt	S. Premier
Wolverine Glacier	Scrip
Wotzke, mt	Halvorson
Youngren, mt	Halvorson Group
Zillmer, cr (S4 Creek), mt	S. Premier Range
Zillmer, mt (various numbers)	Dominion Group
Zodiac, mt	Wells Gray

REGIONAL (BACKPACKING) TRAVERSES AND HIKING

Also, read 'Trail and Hut Guidebooks' in the References.

CARIBOO RANGE

Halvorson Group

The B. C. Parks branch has created new trails in this and other areas, and renovated old ones. These may be found on the Internet (see beginning of Wells Gray Group). A selection of these is presented here. Some qualify as regional backpacking traverses.

Avalanche Valley Trail. Start from the South Dore' FSR, backpack over Avalanche Pass and descend to Geology Pass and Cariboo Lake. There is a campsite at Cariboo Lake. Map 93H/1 Eddy.

Christie Glacier (Cariboo Pass) Trail. 11 km. Dore' River (middle fork; river runs SW to NE). Middle Dore' Road (bridge out). Access to Mount Christie. (Dore', pronounced door-ray.) Campsite at end of trail.

Eagle Valley Trail. South Dore' FSR. 10 km, including return. In beginning of the group. Map 93H/1 Eddy, 790-920.

Erg Mountain Trail. 7.5 km. In text, beginning.

Goat River Trail. Northeast of Highway 16 to near Kruger Lake (NW boundary of Bowron Lake Provincial Park). One may also start at the junction of the Milk and Goat Rivers, shorter (using Forest Service road). The west terminus is the Littlefield-Kruger FSR. 65 km (error in Internet data). There are several fordings of rivers, especially in the western section, and a cable crossing. Two of the fords can be hazardous. Mentioned in middle of the group.

Ozalenka Trail. 12 km. West Dore' Road. Northeast of Mt. Halvorson.

Ptarmigan Creek Trail. 12 km. Mentioned in middle of group. Access to Mt. Hammell and The Boxcar. Erg Mtn. Trail nearby.

Quesnel Lake to Cariboo Mtns. Loop (overgrown?). Mentioned at end of group. Mountain access (4 summits). Very long, reaches to Niagara Creek.

Trails to Mount Spranger and Mount Youngren, branching north from the trail on the north side of Mitchell Lake (if not overgrown).

Boating and approaches by boating on Ghost Lake (at end of group). This is for small boats only; no launching ramp.

Wells Gray Group (and Wells Gray Park)

A guidebook has been written about the southern part of the park: 'Exploring Wells Gray Park', by Roland Neave (various editions). The main entrance to the park is at the town of Clearwater; **there are many trails in the south part of the park. The Wells Gray Park Information Centre is off of Highway 5, Clearwater.**

Hobson Lake Trail. Connects Clearwater Lake with Hobson Lake.

Summit Lake Trail (maintained ?). This trail is in a pass to upper

Hobson Lake from the east arm of Quesnel Lake. A very long canoe trip goes up Quesnel Lake in magnificent surroundings.

The huge Wells Gray area is difficult of access. In the past, prospectors and miners approached from the east arm of Quesnel Lake (boat; from the west), then overland to Hobson Lake. In the far north, in the really mountainous areas, almost no alpinists approach on foot, even today.

Access from the Blackstone Creek FSR (west bend of the North Thompson River; south of the Southern Premier Range; noted also in the Dominion Group, Monashee Range). This long FSR also provides some access to the Southern Premier Range. The trail starts from the west branch of the upper FSR, ascends to McAndrew Lake (pass) and descends to the east bank of Azure River (a powerful stream). It then heads north; the north branch (junction about 6 km upstream) to Raush River, the northwest branch to the old mining areas southeast of Fred Wells Creek (and to upper Hobson Creek; Blue Ice mine). Long. This trail (as often happens with trails) may be overgrown.

The hike to the lookout on Baldy Mountain is outside the Dunn Peak Protected Area. An old forestry road is encountered off Dunn Lake Road near the north end of Dunn Lake. It is probably not passable for a four-wheel drive vehicle, and it makes an excellent hike (Internet data).

The Wavy Range, east of the north arm of Murtle Lake, should offer very good mountain hiking among small lakes and forest. A narrow road goes west to the south end of Murtle Lake, starting from just north of the town of Blue River (Highway 5) east of the park. Travel on the lake is by canoe only. One might backpack and bushwhack up from the lake. There is a small glacier under the north side of one high mountain. The lake level is 1060m (3500 feet) and the highest summits are about 2440 meters. Map 83D/4, coordinates 240-870 for the mountain above.

The Wavy Range Trail and seven others leave from the lake shore.

There are canoe transport facilities. This region is especially isolated. Bring mosquito repellent.

Premier Ranges

From 1939 to 1947, Tiefenthaler and Zillmer made several long traverses, including to the Braithwaite Icefield in the Wells Gray Group. Even today, part of this latter trip would be without any trail whatsoever. See the references on the introductory page. The approaches in these groups are trips in themselves. See the two ranges, including the middle of the Northern Premier Range,

The approach to the Mica Mountain Trail (Tete Creek) is given in the middle of the Northern Premier Range (Access to Kiwa Valley).

MONASHEE RANGE

Dominion Group

Regional Traverse: Moonbeam Cr. to Kirbyville Cr. (Scrip Range).

Regional Ski Traverse to Revelstoke, 2004. Also under Mount Milton in the Scrip Range.

There is hiking starting from the Clemina Creek road.

Scrip Range

Regional Traverse: to Hallam Peak, from the north (1952).

Regional Traverse: Mud Creek (southeast fork) to Mud Lake.

Regional Traverse: Pettipiece Creek to Ruddock Creek.

Regional Traverse: Ruddock Creek to Scrip Creek.

Regional Traverse: Ratchford Creek to Kirbyville Creek.

Shuswap Group

The 1968 trip was a backpacking journey in the Shuswap Group (north to south; see text). Their ascents are marked by the date. Consult the access in the introduction and in the Scrip Range, 'Access by Boat'.

Regional Traverse: Copeland Cr. to Big Eddy Cr. (and Pettipiece Pass).

The road up Hiren Creek, and the Copeland Mine on the road, are two kilometers from the lake's south end (below). (KK 40:22). A bridge has been removed.

The KMC hiking camp for 1999 was placed near the headwaters of Hiren Creek, west-southwest of the summit of Mount Copeland. This helicopter camp was at the south end of a large lake (1890m; 6200 feet) that drains into Bews Creek (grizzly habitat; see Mt. Copeland).

The 2014 climbing camp (GMC) of the Alpine Club of Canada was held in the Frenchman Cap area.

Isolated Peaks, Western Monashee

Regional Traverse: Anstey Range

Gold Range

A few trails are available, as on Mount Begbie, the approach to Monashee Provincial Park (titled: To Peters Lake and Greenbush Lake), on South Thor Creek, the Escarpment Trail (now overgrown; see just before Mt. Thor) and to the Nifflheim Cirque (on the north side of Stegosaurus Ridge, between Mounts Thor and Nifflheim). The trails on South Thor Creek and to the cirque may be overgrown. (These trails were recut in 2006, and the trail to the Rock Garden cut in 2015.)

Numbers of access routes and regional traverses, including some of the above, are given at the beginning of the Gold Range.

The 2002 KMC hiking camp was held at the headwaters of Blanket Creek in the northern Gold Range. (KMCN Aug.-Oct. 2002)

A hiking camp was held in the park in 1982 (Margie Lake; KK 37 (1994):8, map, no other ref.) and one at the Valley of the Moon (near Mt. Fosthall) in 1994. (KK 37:7)

The 2015 hiking camp in the Valley of the Moon entered by helicopter. (KMCN Sept. 2015. Were the roads not passable ?)

A ski traverse, Mount Odin to Revelstoke. (CAJ 94(2011):94 photo)

Many campsites in the southern Gold Range are listed in the middle of the text.

Pinnacle Group

A trail guide covering some areas in the Monashees has been published (see end of group). Good hiking.

The headwall below Monashee Lake (head of Monashee Cr.) is steep and one short section of the trail may be dangerous for the inexperienced hiker. (This is located above the rockslide on the north side of the stream.) There is only one campsite, on the upper trail (because of bush and rocks) south of the creek, which was dug by hand (2009; ERW).

Part of the trail to Pinnacle Lake (south of Monashee Lake, reached from Railroad Cr.), has been destroyed by an avalanche (2009) just below the steep section.
