

## Route Synopsis - Windy Creek, GMC 2001

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### Ø Remillard – (2881m/9450') UTM – 227297

#### FA – July, 1937 Topographical Survey (Norman McConnell)

- v **GMC Route** – follow Windy Ck dropping 200' and cross Remillard Ck. Follow creek to the toe of the glacier, work SW aiming for snow ramp just west of the last waterfall. Follow obvious weakness, which is a leaning double fall line snow ramp, 45 degrees and nearly 800'. Cross small schrund on W side and ascend ramp, working left to avoid cornice as you near the top. There is some rockfall danger from E ridge. Head S. across the upper Remillard Glacier and then climb through some slots on the E. glacier to a low point on the S. ridge of Remillard. Follow a very nice granite ridge, easy 4<sup>th</sup> class to a very alpine feeling summit.

#### Descent: Retrace route

- v **Variation** – E. Ridge, after reaching the upper glacier, follow the E. ridge. Stay on the ridge proper. This route offers good climbing, 5.4 on good rock. There is a very airy rappel.
  - v **Variation** – SE Ridge, after reaching the upper glacier, head due S. to the low point on the SE ridge. It is best to start at the base of the ridge, you won't save time by trying to gain the ridge higher up. Work to the N. if you want to avoid a 5.6 crack early on the ridge. Stay on the ridge proper, it is low 5<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> class to the summit. This is a highly recommend route, in a class with the standard route on Pigeon Spire.
  - ü **Party Size** – Rope teams of 4/ Variations – Rope teams of 3
  - ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, crampons, long slings / Variations – add 4 small cams and #4-#7 nuts, 3 large slings
  - ü **Length of Trip** – 8 hours / E. Ridge 12-14 hours / SE Ridge 9-11 hours
  - ü **Highlights** – highest peak in the area, very aesthetic couloir on the approach. A very alpine feel for a 9450' summit. Rock is of a very good quality.
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### Ø Remillard – Nadir Notch Traverse

FA – Unknown maybe 2001, D. Austin, C. Bussey, N. Zupan, B. Harrison

- v **Route** – Ascend Remillard as previously described. Descend via E. Glacier to low point (large boulder) on W. side of Upper Remillard Glacier. Head E. to col between Wart and Unnamed bump S. of Wart. Climb easy, pleasant, granitic, 4<sup>th</sup> class S. ridge to summit of Wart. Traverse N., one ½ length rappel, to N. end of Wart. Use two 50m rappels off the NW side to drop into snow ridge between Wart and Half Dome. Follow ridge to S. ridge of Half Dome, scramble to summit. Down climb N. end of Half Dome on lousy, loose rock and dirt until reaching a prominent notch. Difficult down climb or 40 m rappel to notch. Continue S over Unnamed and then E. to Unnamed A. This is all 3<sup>rd</sup> class except 30m of low 5<sup>th</sup> class to summit of Unnamed A. Work E., following pleasant granite and then grassy ridge down Nadir Notch. Descend N. slopes, which are awkward boulders, gravel and heather to Windy Ck. Follow Windy Ck back to campsite
- ü **Party Size** – Variable, dependant on ability of members
- ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, crampons, long slings
- ü **Length of Trip** – 12-14 hours
- ü **Highlights** – highest peak in the area, really good rock on Remillard, Wart and Unnamed A. A really cool traverse with many variations and great views.

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## Ø **Whiteface Towers 2829m/9279' UTM – 298323**

FA – 1971, G Bell, D Michael via S. Buttress (5.6)

GMC Route – Aug 16<sup>th</sup>, 2001 (L Palechuk, E May, B Harrison)

- v **Route** - head E along Windy Ck and then N ascending pocket glacier S of Serendipity and W of Whiteface. Climb the most southerly snow chute as high as it will take you. Grovel through steep and very loose rock and dirt to ridge between Serendipity and Whiteface Tower. Ascend 250' of good granite (low 5<sup>th</sup> class) to minor bump on ridge. Stay on the somewhat airy ridge top to base of the W. summit. Ascend 300' of junky, loose boulders to W. summit. Follow 4<sup>th</sup> class ridge, again granite, to C. summit which is 4<sup>th</sup> class marble. Descend somewhat airy ridge of marble to col between C. and E. summit. Work exposed but easy ledges on S side to the E. summit.

Descent – retrace route to point where you gained the ridge. Continue along ridge towards Serendipity for about 100 meters until you see obvious place to rappel

- ü **Party Size** – Rope teams of 3
- ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, crampons, long slings
- ü **Length of Trip** – 12 hours

- ü **Highlights** – cool ridge with some good rock, three summits, a huge variety of climbing surfaces: steep snow, granite, marble and some friable junk. Difficult to protect large groups from rock fall.
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## Ø Serendipity Spire 2857m / 9371' UTM – 300330

FA – 1972, P Owzarski, J Wilson, M. Zimmerman

- v **GMC Route** – head E along Windy Ck for .5 kms, ascend slide path heading towards the Courthouse/Echo col. When you reach the base of Echo at around 7800', traverse E. and then N. around Echo. Climb snowfield and dirt slopes until you reach ridge just E of Echo. Follow ridge up and over Tango, descend to Ok glacier and ascend W slopes to the Serendipity Spire. Head for the S end of the summit block, easy but pleasant 4<sup>th</sup> class traverse of the peak.

Descent – Downclimb or rappel the N ridge, then retrace ascent route.

- ü **Party Size** – unlimited
  - ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness,
  - ü **Length of Trip** – 9 hours
  - ü **Highlights** –pleasant ridge walk with great views and nice summit block
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## Ø Craw Pk 2637m / 8649' UTM – 291292

FA – 1972, T Dabrowski, P Owzarski, J Rowley, T Seim, M West, D Wilson, J Wilson

- v **GMC Route** – head E along Windy Ck until you are opposite of Nadir Notch. Cross the creek and ascend grassy slopes/boulder field to the Notch. Follow the ridge W for a short distance and then contour on grassy ledges (7000') until you are just past Staircase Point. Descend slightly on glacier, working S of prominent buttress. Once past the buttress ascend glacier and snow (40 degrees) to low point on N ridge approximately .3 kms S of Craw Notch. Follow ridge, good granite, with a couple of short 5<sup>th</sup> class steps to summit.

Descent – Retrace ascent route

- ü **Party Size** –rope teams of four
- ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, slings (good horns are available)
- ü **Length of Trip** – 9 hours

- ü **Highlights** –very nice climb with a relatively steep snow approach and then a pleasant ridge climb.

#### Variation #1–WSW Ridge –FA Aug 17, 2001, K Klassen, S Fedyna, J Clark, T Ogasawara

- v **Route** – same as noted above. Once you are below the buttress ascend the glacier working through some slots S and W to the base of the SW ridge. Stay on the snow bypassing the first notch and prominent gendarme. Head for the second notch on the ridge, upon reaching the notch climb slightly left and up to the ridge proper. The rock is a bit loose up the face (5.5) and the suggested route is to stay on the ridge proper (5.6-5.7) right from the notch. The climbing is slightly harder but the rock of a much better quality. Continue on the ridge, a short rappel will put you at the base of the summit block where a ½ pitch of 5.3 will lead you to the summit.

#### Descent – N.Ridge as per normal ascent route

- ü **Party Size** –rope teams of three
- ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, slings, 4 small cams and #4-#7 nuts, 3 large slings, 3 lost arrows
- ü **Length of Trip** – 10 hours
- ü **Highlights** –very nice climb, with an aesthetically pleasing glacier approach, good granite on the ridge and an easy descent

#### Variation #2 – N Ridge - FA unknown – CMH guides have completed it

- v **Route** – same as noted above – once you are past Staircase Point ascend to low point, Crow Notch, just S of Staircase Point. Climb snow and then lousy boulders to the notch. Rock on the ridge is good, slightly furry granite. Three gendarmes block the ridge but are negotiable. The climbing is low 5<sup>th</sup> class but very exposed and complicated to protect. Work the ridge proper on the first gendarme and the W side of the next two. Once over these follow the ridge proper, 4<sup>th</sup> class and small sections of low 5<sup>th</sup> class to the summit.

#### Descent - N.Ridge as per normal ascent route

- ü **Party Size** –rope teams of two for the gendarmes, three for the rest
- ü **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, slings, 4 small cams and #4-#7 nuts, 3 large slings, 3 lost arrows
- ü **Length of Trip** – 10 hours
- ü **Highlights** –very nice climb, an exciting, exposed but easy ridge climb on good granite and an easy descent

\* E Ridge has been climbed by the CMH guides – date unknown

\* SE Ridge is likely unclimbed

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Ø Courthouse 2595m / 8511' UTM 270326

FA – 1972, T Dabrowski, P Owzarski, J Rowley, T Seim, M West, D Wilson, J Wilson

- v **GMC Route** - head E along Windy Ck for .5 kms, ascend slide path heading towards the Courthouse/Echo col. Continue through col, crossing pocket glacier to low point on NE ridge of Courthouse. Follow ridge, 4<sup>th</sup> class, to the summit

Descent – retrace ascent route

- ii **Party Size** –unlimited
- ii **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness,
- ii **Length of Trip** – 6-8 hours
- ii **Highlights** –short day, good scramble on a rest

Variation – W. Ridge – July 30<sup>th</sup>, J Gudjonson, ????????

- v **Route** - head E along Windy Ck for .5 kms, ascend slide path heading towards the Courthouse/Echo col. Once you reach the 7000' level, traverse NW across sandy ledges until you reach the ridge proper. Follow ridge, low 5<sup>th</sup> class until you reach 2<sup>nd</sup> pitch which is the crux, it is an interesting but difficult to protect 5.4, 25 meter section. Stay on the ridge until you reach 8<sup>th</sup> pitch, here head left and around the NE side of the S summit. Once you are back on the ridge descend an easy 60 m, and then three more easy but exposed pitches will lead you to the summit.

Descent – normal ascent route

- ii **Party Size** –rope teams of three
- ii **Equipment Required** – helmet, ice axe, harness, slings, 6 small/medium cams and #2-#7 nuts, some pins
- ii **Length of Trip** – 8-10 hours
- ii **Highlights** –interesting climb on marble, some challenging moves with exposure, short approach and quick descent