






MT. HELEN

2  11  5 

GREAT TRADITIONAL AND SPORT MULTI-PITCH CLIMBS, GOOD BEGINNER LEADS, REMOTE YET CLOSE TO HIGHWAY, POPULAR YET FEW PEOPLE, SUNNY	5.8 -								10
	5.9								2
	5.10								1
 1 HR  PARKING	5.11 +								0

ACCESS ISSUES

THESE CLIFFS ARE LOCATED ON CROWN LAND. PARK WELL OFF THE HIGHWAY.

HISTORY

MOUNT HELEN IS A GREAT, SUN-EXPOSED (SW FACING), BEGINNER TO INTERMEDIATE MULTI-PITCH AREA (70M HIGH) THAT DUE TO ITS THOROUGH DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT AREA TO PRACTICE THE ART OF LEADING.

THE CLIFF WAS FIRST NOTICED DURING DEVELOPMENTS AT ORIENT BAY IN THE EARLY 80's. IT WAS FIRST CLIMBED IN JUNE 1984 BY SHAUN PARENT AND SCOTT HAMILTON WHILE THEY WERE WORKING IN NIPIGON AT AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE. *THE STANDARD ROUTE 5.4* AND THE SUBSEQUENT *THE UPPER DIKE 5.5* WERE CLIMBED ONSIGHT WITH A MINIMAL RACK, AND CLEANING OF LOOSE ROCK WAS DONE AT THIS TIME.

MOST OF THE WALL WAS DEVELOPED DURING THE 1984-85 SEASON, WITH A 5/16TH HAND DRILL USED ON LEAD TO PLACE PROTECTION BOLTS. IN THE EARLY 90'S BILL KONKOL AND PARENT CLIMBED *THIS IS INDIAN LAND 5.7+*. IN 1992 AFTER A DAY OF SPRING ICE CLIMBING AT ORIENT BAY, PARENT BROUGHT TWO CLIMBERS FROM HOLLAND TO THE CLIFF, AND TWO CLIMBS WERE DONE THROUGH THE STEEPEST SECTION OF THE OVERHANG. *THE DUTCH OVERHANG 5.10A*, AND *AMSTEL 5.9*. IN THE MID 90'S THE OLD 5/16TH BOLTS WERE REPLACED BY THE ALPINE CLUB. BLUEBERRIES ON TOP IN LATE JULY!

GETTING THERE



IT IS 2.5 KM PAST THE HWY 11/17 SPLIT NORTH ON HWY 11. IT IS ABOVE THE TREES ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE HIGHWAY. ROUTES LISTED FROM WEST TO EAST, AS ONE WOULD FIND THEM ON THE SHORT PATH (50M) THAT LEADS UP FROM HIGHWAY (ORANGE FLAGGING TAPE). RAPPEL DESCENTS BEST TO USE *BOWELS IN TRANSIT* OR THE TREE ABOVE *OVERDRIVE*.

CAMPING

- TAJ MAH WALL CAMP SITE – SEE ORIENT BAY AREA
- TOWN OF NIPIGON

SWIMMING

SWIMMING IN LAKE HELEN OR ~5KM UP HWY11 AT A REST AREA.

- 461 THE UPPER DIKE (2P) 90M 5.5**
 FA: S.PARENT, S.HAMILTON '84
 START ON THE LEFT EDGE ABOVE *BOWELS IN TRANSIT* AND FOLLOW THE MOST VISIBLE DIKE TRENDING RIGHT ACROSS THE ENTIRE CLIFF FACE. **P1:** START ON THE LOWER LEFT SECTION OF THE CLIFF, AND CLIMB ALONG THE GROOVE MADE BY THE MAFIC DYKE. BELAY AT THE 1ST STATION ON *THIS IS INDIAN LAND*. **P2:** CONTINUE ALONG THE DIKE TO THE LARGE OVERHANG ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE CLIFF, TURN LEFT AND CLIMB TO THE TREES.
 [TRAD – PRO GEAR MEDIUM RACK]
- 462 TRAVERSE MERCATOR 40?M 5.7 R**
 FA: S.PARENT, A.VANSCHAIK '85
 START ON THE LOWER LEFT OF THE CLIFF, AND TRAVERSE THE SMOOTH FACE STAYING BELOW *THE UPPER DIKE* TO END AT THE CHAINS. BOLTED WITH LONG RUNOUTS. [MIXED]
- 463 BOWELS IN TRANSIT (2P) ** 51M 5.7**
 FA: S.PARENT, A.VAN SCHAIK '85
 THE MOST WESTERN ROUTE WITH TOP BOLTS. **P1:** START ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE WALL JUST BELOW A LEFT LEANING ALCOVE/CRACK. CLIMB UP THE FACE PAST 2 BOLTS THEN OVER A DEPRESSION (POSSIBLE SMALL GEAR) UP PAST ANOTHER BOLT TO A RAPPEL BOLTED BELAY STATION (5.7 - 26M). **P2:** CONTINUE UP PAST A FLAKE (POSSIBLE SMALL GEAR) ONTO THE FACE PAST A BOLT AND TO A TOP BELAY. THIS ROUTE HAS RAPPEL RINGS AND IS THE BEST RAPPEL ROUTE ON THE CLIFF. [MIXED OR 4 BOLTS]
- 464 AMSTEL 50?M 5.9**
 FA: S.PARENT, ERNESTO, MARTIN '92
 THIS ROUTE IS IDENTIFIED BY THE OBVIOUS ONCE CLEANED (LESS LICHEN) PATH TO THE LEFT OF *BOWELS IN TRANSIT*. THIS ROUTE CAN BE TOP ROPED ON TOP BOLTS OR LEAD WITH AN OLD BOLT BELOW THE INITIAL OVERHANG. LOOKS DIRTY BUT USED. [TR OR TRAD – 1 BOLT?]
- 465 THE DUTCH OVERHANG * 40M 5.10A R**
 FA: MARTIN, ERNESTO '92
 A FEW STEEP MOVES ON POSITIVE HOLDS TO A BOLT THEN UP FURTHER THROUGH THE LICHEN TO A SECOND BOLT (SPORT - 5.10A - 6M). YOU CAN CONTINUE ON UP TO THE 1ST BELAY STATION ON *THIS IS INDIAN LAND* (5.7 R) ABOVE OR LOWER. [MIXED - 2 BOLTS]
- 466 THIS IS INDIAN LAND (2P) *** 70M 5.7+**
 FA: S.PARENT, B.KONKOL '90
P1: THE FIRST VISIBLE RAMP WITH BOLTS VISIBLE. THE MOST TRODDEN ROUTE, CLAMBER OVER THE OVERHANG TO SMOOTH CLIPPING. BELAY UNDER ROOF AT RAP ANCHORS (5.7 - 5 BOLTS). **P2:** CONTINUE UP LICHENY FACE TO TOP (5.7 - 3 BOLTS). TREE RAPPEL DESCENT. [SPORT]
- 467 FREITAG'S DILEMMA (1ST PITCH) ** 40M 5.9**
 FA: S.PARENT, R.FREITAG '85

A SIMILAR START TO THIS IS INDIAN LAND BUT A LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE WAY TO THE RIGHT. OVERHANG IS TRICKIER, A HIDDEN BOMBER HOLD AND A HIDDEN BOLT THOUGH. SMOOTH ON UP TO RAP STATION OR ROOF BELAY ON *THIS IS INDIAN LAND*. [MIXED]

468 Ode To Rambo (2ND PITCH) **30+M** **5.6 R**
 FA: S.PARENT, P.DEDI '85
 FROM THE RIGHT BOLTED BELAY, TREND UP AND LEFT AT A 45 DEGREES ACROSS *THIS IS INDIAN LAND* TOPPING OUT AT THE SECOND BOLTED BELAY AT THE TOP OF *BOWELS IN TRANSIT*. [MIXED]

469 OVERDRIVE (2ND PITCH) * **20M** **5.7**
 FA: S.PARENT, P.DEDI '85
 START AT THE BOLTED BELAY STATION RIGHT OF *THIS IS INDIAN LAND*'S 1ST BELAY. GO STRAIGHT UP TO THE TOP. [MIXED - 2 BOLTS]

470 THE STANDARD ROUTE (1ST PITCH) **20?M** **5.4**
 FA: S.PARENT, S.HAMILTON '84
START FARTHER AROUND THE CORNER TO THE FAR RIGHT. AN EASIER BYPASS OF THE OVERHANG (5.4) THROUGH GREENERY UP THE RAMP. A BOLT LEADS TO A LEDGE. CONTINUE UP TO THE 2 BOLT BELAY AT THE START OF *OVERDRIVE*. OR BELAY ON LEDGE FROM 1 BOLT AND SMALL STOPPER IN A CORNER AND DO *NEUTRON DANCE* UP THE FACE ABOVE. [MIXED]

471 NEUTRON DANCE (2ND PITCH) * **25M** **5.8**
 FA: S.PARENT, P.DEDI '85
 FROM THE POOR BELAY (1 BOLT MAYBE GEAR IN CORNER) SMEAR AND EDGE STRAIGHT UP THE (5.8+) FACE TO EASIER ABOVE. END AT RIGHT TREE ON TOP. [MIXED - 3 BOLTS]

472 SLAB AND SHAKE (2P) **60M** **5.8**
 FA: S.PARENT, R.FREITAG '84
P1: CLIMB THE LOW ANGLE SLAB ON THE FAR RIGHT OF THE CLIFFS UP 40 METRES, USING SMALL WIRES, AND BELAY OFF A PIN? AND AN OLD BOLT? **P2:** CLIMB OVER THE OVERHANG TO THE AWAITING BOLTED BELAY. (NOTE: THESE BELAY STATIONS MAY NOT EXIST ANYMORE?) [TRAD]

HISTORY

ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN SEEN DURING FREQUENT VISITS TO ORIENT BAY IT WAS FIRST EXPLORED IN 1984, WHILE SHAUN PARENT WAS RIDING HIS BIKE ALONG HIGHWAY 11. HE RETURNED WITH SCOTT HAMILTON ONE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS AT NIPIGON, A FEW DAYS AFTER ASCENDING MT. HELEN FOR THE FIRST TIME. SHAUN AND SCOTT TOP-ROPE A CLIMB *HIGHWAY PANCAKE* NAMED AFTER A CRITTER THAT HAD MET ITS DEMISE ON THE HIGHWAY BELOW THE CLIFF. THE AREA WAS REVISITED BY SHAUN AND PAUL DEDI IN 1984, AND SEVERAL OTHER CLIMBS WERE CLEANED AND LEAD.

GETTING THERE

CHIPMUNK ROCK IS LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 11 ABOUT 1 KILOMETER PAST MT. HELEN. A TRAIL TO THE TOP IS VIA THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CLIFF. THERE ARE OLD BELAY BOLTS AND ROUTE BOLTS FOUND ON THE FACE.

CAMPING

- TAJ MAH WALL CAMP SITE - SEE ORIENT BAY AREA
- TOWN OF NIPIGON

SWIMMING

SWIMMING IN LAKE HELEN OR ~4KM UP HWY11 AT A REST AREA.



473 HIGHWAY PANCAKE **20M** **5.8**
 FA: S.PARENT, S.HAMILTON '84
 CLIMB STRAIGHT UP THE FACE, PAST THE SMALL ROOF, AND FOLLOW THE SLOPING FINGER CRACK SYSTEM TO THE LEFT. UP TO THE DEAD TREE. [TR]

474 TRAVERSE EH! **25M** **5.9**
 FA: S.PARENT, P.DEDI '84
 START ON THE FAR LEFT, CLIP THE BOLT, TRAVERSE RIGHT ALONG SLOPING ROOF, CLIP BOLT AND GO STRAIGHT UP ALONG FINGER CRACK TO THE AWAITING BOLTS. [TR]

475 FOR THE GIRLS **25M** **5.9**
 FA: S.PARENT, P.DEDI '84
 USE THE SAME START AS HIGHWAY PANCAKE, BUT CONTINUE STRAIGHT UP THE THIN CRACK TO THE BOLTS. [TR]

476 HORIZONTAL RELEASE **20M** **5.9**
 FA: S.PARENT, S.HAMILTON '84
 START ON THE FAR RIGHT SIDE, AND TRAVERSE ALONG THE HORIZONTAL SEAM TO JOIN *HIGHWAY PANCAKE*, CONTINUE TO THE LEFT AND JOIN THE UPPER SECTION OF *TRAVERSE EH!* [TR]

CHIPMUNK ROCK 0  4  0 

EASY ROAD ACCESS, RARELY CLIMBED, WEST FACING.	5.8 -					9
	5.9					2
	5.10					1
 1 HR  PARKING	5.11 +					0

ACCESS ISSUES

THESE CLIFFS ARE LOCATED ON CROWN LAND. PARK WELL OFF THE HIGHWAY.