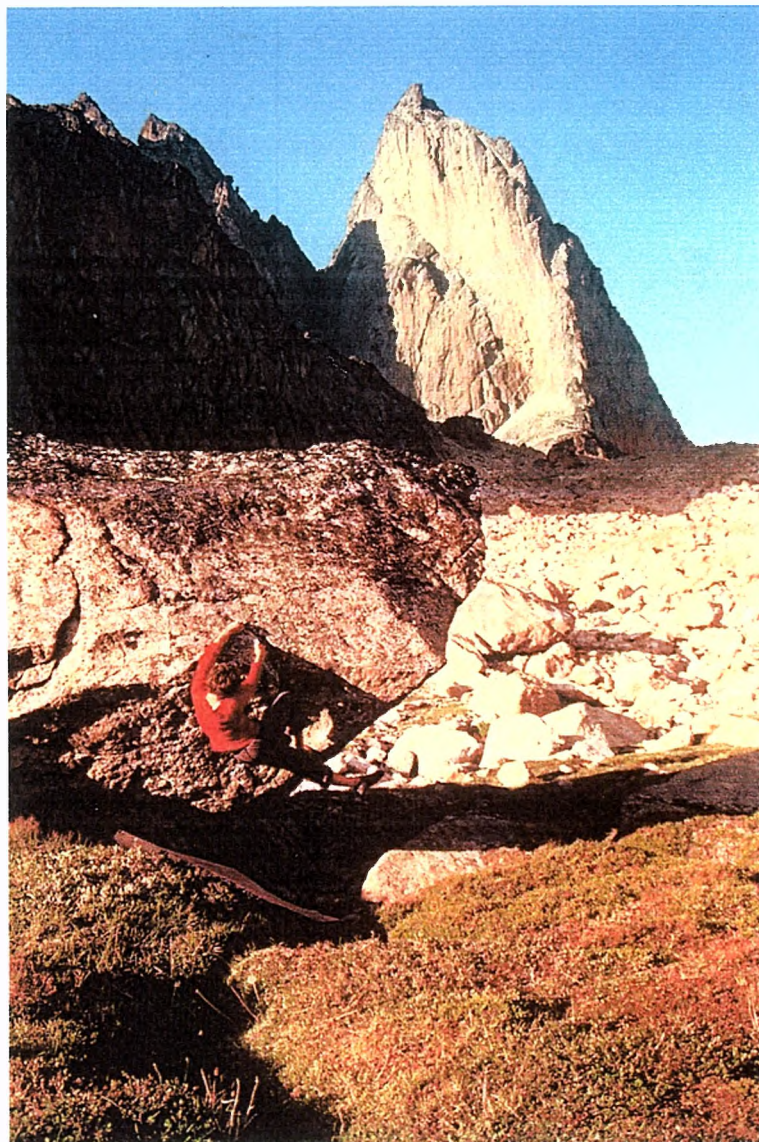
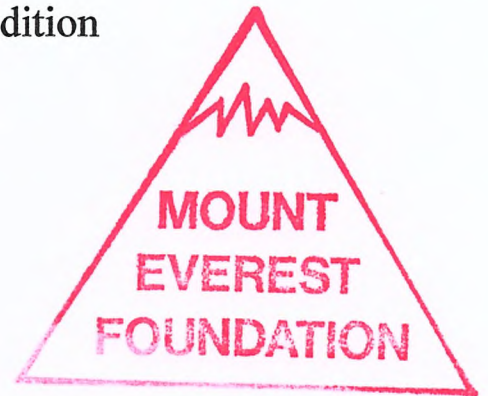


THE BARON

British 2004 Torssukatak Fjord Expedition

Pamiagdhluk Island, Greenland

26th July to 25th August 2004



By Leanne Callaghan

EXPEDITION REPORT

The British 2004 Torssukatak Fjord Expedition

Pamiagdlok Island, Southern Greenland

Dr Leanne C Callaghan

Kindly sponsored by: -

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The Team

Leanne Callaghan

Glenda Huxter

Tim Neill

Matt Perrier

Tim Riley

Jude Spancken

Louisa Wilkinson

Introduction and Objectives

We visited Greenland with the intention of free climbing on a previously undeveloped peak, which has become known as 'The Baron'. This twin-topped peak towers over the eastern shores of the Torssukatak Fjord and has 4 main sheer granite faces of up to 650m in height.

Pre-expedition photos and information were kindly provided by M Dickinson, first ascensionist of the Baroness, a well-known steep face nearby. His team explored the flanks of the Baron in July 2001 and were very impressed with its potential.

The Torssukatak Fjord has already reached an important status as one of the top adventure climbing areas of the world and has been primarily the domain of the Brits so far. In contributing to this summer's development of the Baron our team has considerably enhanced the already incredible opportunities of this fjord. There are two other important established objectives nearby. The Baroness is an impressive and sombre looking 550m shield of extremely steep dark granite, which is conveniently situated close to the fjord edge. Across the water lies the world's largest climbed sea cliff, the "Thumbnail", climbed by Parnell and team in 2000.

For anyone looking for a reasonably accessible wilderness alpine rock trip the climbing on the Baron and the Baronet is world class. The routes established this summer would occupy a climbing team for several weeks and although there is very little below E25c there is still much scope for new harder free lines. The best time to go is from mid June to late August and, oh yes, don't forget your mossie net!

Climbing on the Baron- Expedition Summary

The Baron proved to be an exciting, difficult and varied granite peak with routes of up to 650m in length. Altogether the team established 7 new routes, attempted 2 further impressive new lines and repeated 2 routes which had been very recently established by another UK team. We also developed some excellent boulder problems.

The peak is a stunning and complex granite mountain situated on the highest point of western Pamiagdhluk Island. We established a previously unused camp on a large and luxurious flat, green area to the south west of the Baron. This initially involved carrying loads up the steep and seemingly never-ending slope of the fjord edge. It was definitely worth the effort as from there the daily approach to the climbing was only around 30-40min. The 2 teams who visited the peak before us were based at the Baroness base camp, some 2-3 hours of steep and difficult walk away.

We found the rock to be of compact, well featured, solid orange granite which surpassed all of our expectations and overshadowed even the climbing we had done in areas such as the Chamonix Aiguilles and Yosemite. The predominantly stunning weather conditions, top quality base camp bouldering and jaw-dropping beauty of this Greenland wilderness just added icing to the cake.

There are 4 main faces; 2 on the Baron and 2 on the Baronet (see appendices for photo overview). The Baron has a steep main face, which faces south/ southwest. This is home to the longest routes and, in particular, 2 great corners. The left hand one of these was attempted by Glenda and I and the right hand one was R Cowie and T Marsh's excellent new route a couple of weeks before us. There is also a steep golden triangular face round to the right of this which faces south east, home to Free Will and Pink Power Tower. The Baronet is not quite as high and although the rock is less appealing in its upper half there is an excellent and less committing lower tier of up to 300m in height on the south east face. This has some varied lines (*The Fox routes, The Cams, the Cams!* and *Supercrack*) on lovely orange rock, and tends to be a suntrap. There is a north face of the Baronet which was explored by Glenda and I and has a new route by R Branner / D O'Sullivan. We did not develop any more routes here but there are some possible lines to be done by those who love overhanging off widths.

Matt Perrier and Jude Spancken

Matt and Jude made the first ascent of ***The Pink Power Tower***, a hard 6 pitch E4/5 6a/A1 (4c,5c,6a,5c,6a,5c,5c) following an impeccable fingers corner crack system on the pinkish orange south east face of the Baron. This was subsequently repeated by Tim N and Lou W who felt it was one of the best hard free routes they had ever done. Matt and Jude repeated 3 other long routes, including the second ascent of ***Free Will***, and repeats of the Voie Normale and great corner. They were instrumental in developing the base camp boulders (see appendices).

Leanne Callaghan/ Glenda Huxter

Glenda and I established 3 new free routes and attempted one other more difficult line from which we had to retreat after 10 pitches as it became unclimbable in the style we had chosen. This was the left hand of the two dramatic corners of the Baron's south/southwest face. We were unable to protect it without bolts (or bigger balls!) which we didn't have so we cast our interest elsewhere. This was very disappointing as it was one of the best lines in the fjord and we covered some really uncertain and committing terrain getting to the point we reached. Our 3 new routes were (1) ***Free Will*** a tremendous 3 star 12 pitch E35c (4b,5b,5b,4c,5c,5c,5a,5b,5b,5c,5b,5c) following an impressive line up a huge diagonal crack system on the south east face of the Baron, (2) "***The Cams, the Cams!***", a clean, sustained 8 pitch E25c (5b,5b,5c,5a,5c,5c,5b) on the south east face of the Baronet and (3) ***Supercrack of Greenland*** an exciting 4 pitch E3/4 (5c,5c,5c,5c), the first 30m of which had been climbed before by Matt Dickinson and team in 2001. We made the second ascent of a fantastic, sustained 22 pitch E36a /ED2 ish (1st ascent R Cowie, T Marsh July 2004) up a huge corner – see description in appendices- (which was also repeated by everyone else as it was so good) and also climbed what we called the '***Voie Normale***', a 600m E25c ridge route between the south east and south west faces, and the easiest way to the summit. These 2 routes were established 2 weeks previously by 4 Sheffield climbers who 'pipped us to the post' for the lines we had been hoping for!

Tim Neill, Louisa Wilkinson and Tim Riley

Tim, Lou and Tim invested much energy in their new route attempt ***Banana Crack***, a bold curving feature on the southeast face of the Baronet, (the Baron's slightly smaller 'Siamese' twin peak). They had to abandon the ascent after 10 pitches of up to E3 5c, when their paths were blocked by 2 huge suspended loose blocks. They went on to make a rapid repeat of the ***Voie Normale*** and established 2 new routes on the Baronet, ***Little Foxy***, a stunning one pitch E36a led by Lou, and ***21st Century Arctic Fox*** a tricky 6 pitch E46a/A1 (6a, 6a/A1, 5c,5c,5a,6a,4c). On return it was found that these pitches had been climbed, but not reported, 3 years previously by Tom Briggs, who freed the latter route, but only climbed the first 2 pitches. These routes were situated on the sunny south east facing lower tier of the Baronet, home to a good selection of pitches on generally excellent rock, with definitely potential for more good lines. Tim and Lou also put up ***Life of Riley*** a 2 pitch E2 on the surprisingly good "Dinas Not" (Base Camp Crag)- home to much more potential.

Tim Riley's climbing was cut short after only 9 days by a freak and potentially lethal accident just below the summit when he sustained chest injuries from a large falling rock. Working efficiently as a team we managed to evacuate him by endless agonizing abseils and lowers in the ensuing cold and darkness back to base camp. It was 5 tense days before we could attract a boat rescue (our satellite phone hadn't worked since its accidental dunking in the fjord on day 1!) Thankfully he made a good recovery but we were all left feeling quite fortunate that it hadn't been a lot worse.

Climbing Equipment

We climbed as 2 pairs and a threesome. Each team had at least a double rack of cams, wires and extenders. Double cam sets were virtually essential on most routes as the routes were all being climbed on sight and the pitch lengths were usually over 40m. Cams 5 and 6 were also useful. We took about 30 metres of tat for retreating/ equipping abseils and we carried sets of old nuts, pegs and cams to leave behind if needed for retreat. Jude and Matt found it necessary to fix several bolts on their route “Pink Power Tower”.

We climbed on twin 60m 9mm ropes and took a total of about 300m rope per team for fixing pitches. This turned out to be too much. On some of the new routes we tended to fix the first few pitches and jumared to the high point next day to finish the rest. We didn't bother taking aid racks, haul bags or “portaledges”.

Communications and Rescue

We hired a satellite phone in Nanortalik and unfortunately it received an inadvertent dunking in the sea when we landed the boat on day one. It never worked again and cost us £900 to replace. We had 10 mini flares and these were all we had left for communicating with the outside world. Unfortunately when Tim Riley needed evacuating with chest injuries no one saw or responded to the flares we fired and it took 5 days to get the attention of a boat. Boats do occasionally sail up and down the fjord but the fjord is 2 or 3 km wide and they rarely passed anywhere near us. Matt and Jude eventually saved the day by waving a big orange poly bag, catching the attention of a random passing boat which, oddly enough, turned out to be full of Kayakers from Glenmore Lodge. They alerted the Nanortalik Police who came to rescue Tim by boat.

Travel

It took us 3 days to reach Nanortalik, where we had a day to sort gear, find fuel and buy fresh food, then another half day to sail to the island.

We flew from Heathrow to Reykjavik International Keflavik airport with Icelandair and then the next day from Reykjavik central domestic airport to Narssarsuaq in Greenland. This was booked through the agency 'Arctic Adventures'.

This leg of the journey was surprisingly complicated to arrange, involving a great deal of patience, research and emails/ phone calls. It was necessary to sit on a frustrating waitlist for some time before enough cancellations were made for us to all fit on the flight. (Large parties of Japanese tourists block book seats on these planes throughout the summer, making it difficult for others to get seats. It would be wise to try and book this flight 6 months in advance).

For speed we chose to take the helicopter the next day from Narsarsuaq to Nanortalik. This was more expensive than the ferry, which would have been very slow. From here we took a pre-arranged boat into the Fjord and arranged a pick up date 24 days later. The same boat took us right through to Narssarsuaq over 2 days on the return journey from where we flew back to Heathrow over 2 days via Iceland again. The boat 'Ketil' was hired from the Nanortalik tourist office (nanortalik@greenet.gl). This is the fastest and most convenient method of travel in Greenland but needs 8 people for it to be financially worthwhile.

Accommodation

An overnight stay was necessary in Iceland on both outward and return legs. We camped in an official campsite next to Keflavik airport on the way out and camped at Reykjavik youth hostel on the way back.

On first acquaintance, Narssarsuaq seemed desolate and windswept and it was belting down with rain so we stayed in the youth hostel, which is 400m from the terminal. We could have camped here but couldn't face it!

In Nanortalik we stayed at the Maltese House- a cosy hostel for 9 people, with full cooking facilities and hot shower, managed by the tourist officer. None of the above needed to be booked in advance but it would probably be better to have done so.

Freight

We freighted dried food, biscuits, racks of gear, stoves, tents, medical kit and clothing out to Nanortalik in advance. There is a strict 20kg weight limit on most flights. The company we used were called Eimskip, based in Immingham. They were extremely disorganised and expensive and gave very little in the way of written guidance and instructions regarding what to do with the items we needed to freight, in terms of packaging, labelling and costs. The freight took over 3 months to return to us and at time of writing is still not back in the UK. I would not recommend this company.

Food

We chose to freight out most of our food, which was probably more expensive but guaranteed us the choice of food we wanted and meant less hassle on arrival. We bought it wholesale from Squire's Caterers in Llandudno. It also meant everything was packaged in barrels ready to transport easily. The supermarket in Nanortalik could potentially have been adequate for our needs but was running very low on stock.

We ended up with a lot more food than we needed. This was partly because we had heard of people being stranded for many days due to bad weather so we overestimated by a few days worth. We also ended up with 2 fewer people than originally planned.

Fuel/ Stoves

We cooked in pairs on petrol stoves at base camp and between 7 of us we used about 25 litres of petrol for 24 days. Beware of the Danish words for each fuel type- they are confusing. 'Petroleum' was actually kerosene and 'benzin' (or something similar) was leaded petrol. We found a couple of petrol containers in Nanortalik and filled them at the petrol station. Ask the tourist officer if unsure about fuel. We found only one screw top gas canister in Greenland although there were a couple of the blue "Camping Gaz" pierceable types.

Base Camp

(a) Selection of a Suitable Base Camp

We took a considerable risk with the base camp choice and chose to be dropped off in a previously unused area, which could have potentially turned out to be a hostile and inconvenient environment to camp. As it turned out this was by far the best option of all for climbing on the Baron but would have made it hard to climb on other crags in the area if we had wanted to. As we felt that the Baron was the best climbing in the whole area this was not a problem to us.

The easy option would have been to be dropped off at the well established and convenient Baroness base camp but this would have made approaching the Baron very arduous every day, and virtually impossible to enjoy being together as a team. We could alternatively have set up an advance base or bivouac on the Baron's moraines from there but this would have been inconvenient and uncomfortable for long stretches of time, in addition to breaking up the group and being less sociable.

Deciding which of the two areas to commit to was not easy and had to be right as the drop-off zones for the two options were a long way apart and there would be no possibility of changing base camp location once the boat had left. Traversing the shores of the fjord on foot was made complicated by deep unstable rocky ravines and heather-filled holes between boulders.

From photos it had appeared possible that a reasonably flat area existed quite close to the Southwest face of the main summit. This was where we located ourselves. It was 2 or 3 hours closer to the Baron than the base camp of the Baroness and made the daily approaches much easier. The disadvantage was that it initially involved a huge slog up the slopes of the fjord with all of our food, equipment and fuel for the 24 days. Despite this we were very glad we had decided to take the risk and go for this option. (We would have been in a pickle if there turned out to be no such flat area as our boat had gone). With a day's effort we managed to do most of the ferrying of goods. On rest days we collected what remained of the spare food, which we left at the shore protected in barrels.

Our base camp was completely flat and dry on cropped heather, and was a delightful relief to discover after so much uncertainty. It was large enough for about 20 tents in comfort. It had a cluster of nearby granite boulders with some quality problems to keep us entertained for many hours (and even days in some cases!) There was an excellent looking 3-4 pitch crag about 10 minutes away which Tim N and Lou established a route on.

(b) Tents

We had a large mess tent which we used for storage and sitting in. We had 6 small mountain tents, which stood up well to the strong winds that flattened the mess tent. We did not need to bivouac on the routes.

(c) Water and Washing

There was clean running melt water for drinking and even a large pool for the brave and foolish who were determined to stay clean (i.e. the women). We washed pots and clothes in eco- friendly biodegradable detergents in a stream below the main drinking source.

(d) Food Storage

We stored food and kit in a mess tent and kept the food in barrels to keep the foxes away. Fresh food was kept in a barrel in the shade and this allowed even cheese and bacon, salami and butter to stay fresh for up to 3 weeks.

(e) Waste Disposal

There were ample spots suitable for use as latrines. We dug deep pits, well away from the water supplies, which we filled in with earth at the end.

Decomposable food waste and ash was buried with the latrines. Burnables and plastics were burnt and tins and non- burnables were carried out and disposed of in Nanortalik.

Wildlife

Flies and mosquitoes were a problem at base camp when there was no breeze but were never a problem on the climbs. Head nets were a must.

There was one fox in the area that took an interest in our food and waste, particularly at night. He (or she) was quite difficult to keep away and we tried to secure as much of the food as we could. He never damaged the tents in search of food but did have a habit of chewing through the guy lines. He particularly liked Glenda and expressed this fondness by emptying his bowels on firstly her towel and then her facecloth.

Weather

We were blessed with 20 out of 24 days good weather. Most of the time it was hot climbing in the sun (trousers and thermal top adequate) and cold in breezes or in the shade (thermal, fleece and windproof). When we experienced bad weather it was mainly very strong winds, which were strong enough to stop us from climbing, kept us awake and managed to completely demolish the mess tent.

We had darkness from 2230hrs to 0500hrs and saw several utterly staggering displays of the Northern Lights. On one particularly amazing night the sky was alive with dancing & bobbing shafts and sprays of ethereal green and magenta light, which writhed and spread around the sky in silence and slow motion.

Sponsorship

Financial sponsorship: -

Sports Council For Wales £1400

MEF £500

Alison Chadwick Award £500

Gino Watkins Memorial Fund (Polar Arctic Research Institute) £900

Equipment sponsorship: -

DMM (racks of gear)

Mammut (50% reduction on cost of clothing and ropes)

V12 Outdoor, Llanberis (20% discount on all purchases for the team)

Blizzard Bags (one Blizzard Bag each with thanks to Pete Griffiths, V12)

Food- Squires Catering (reduction of trade plus VAT)

Team Members are sponsored as Follows: -

DMM- Jude Spancken

Rab/ Outdoor Designs- Leanne Callaghan

Berghaus/HB- Glenda Huxter

Karrimor- Tim Neill

Insurance

We used BMC insurance. Most of us had the 'Alpine and Ski' category but apparently the 'Rock' category would suffice if there was no snow on the approaches, which there was for one of the routes.

Finances

The accounts were managed by myself as expedition organiser and funds were held in a Business Banking Account with HSBC opened solely for expedition purposes. Account cards were used for payments in UK, Iceland and Greenland.

Income and Expenditure

Income		Expenditure	
Grants	£3300	Flights	£5169
Personal Contribs	£7375	Boat Hire	£2425
		Sat Phone	£840
Total	£10675	Food	£669
		Freight	£1215
		Barrels	£117
		Fuel/equipment in Nanortalik	£100
		Miscellaneous Travel	£80
		Admin/organising costs	£60
		Total	£10675

BMC Insurance policies were arranged on an individual basis.

Diary

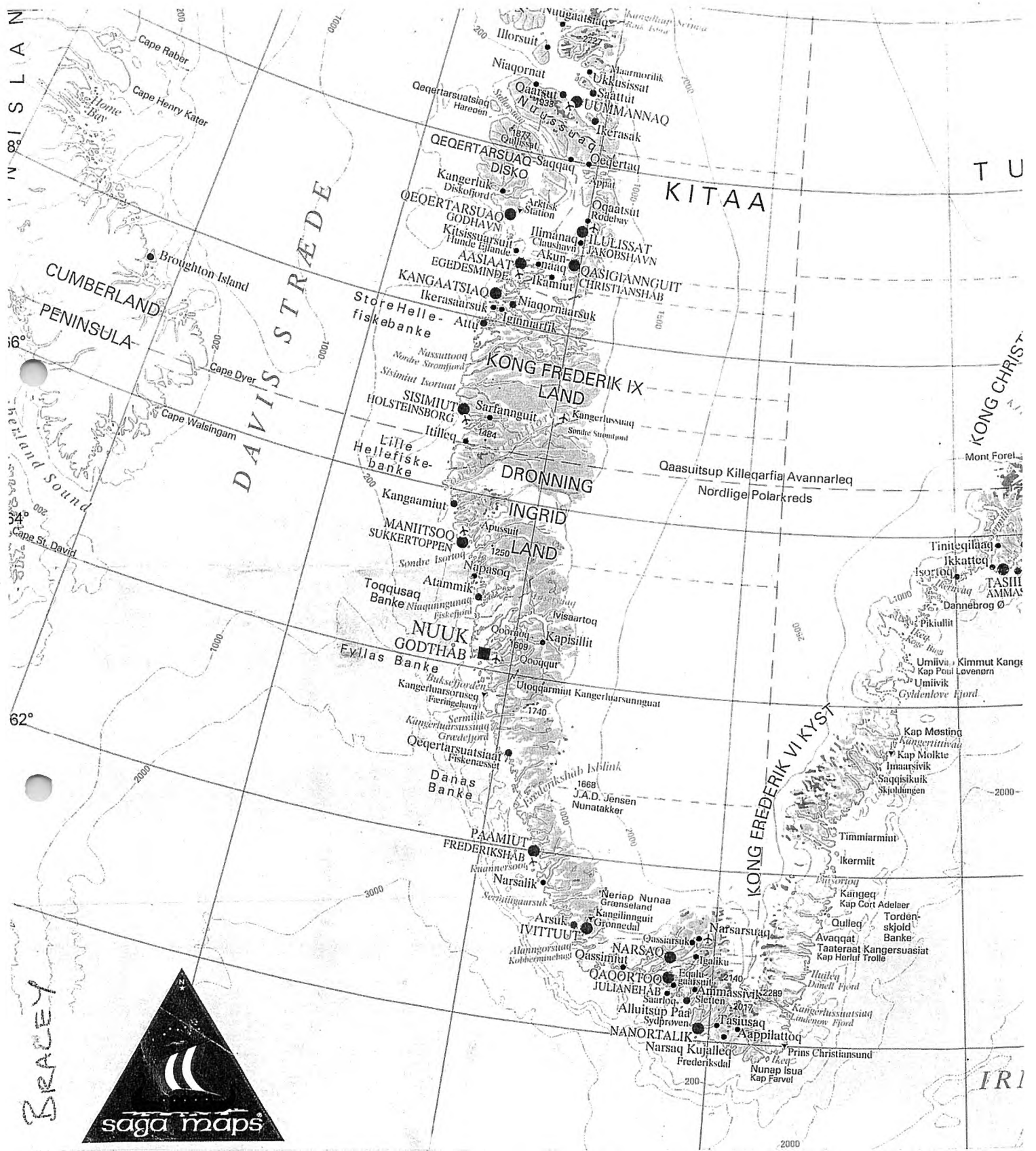
Day

1. Thurs 29th July. Boat to Fjord. Several load carries to base camp.
2. Glenda (GH) and Leanne (LC) climbed pitches 1-5 of *Free Will*. Matt and Jude (M&J) climbed the *Voie Normale* as far as shoulder. Tim (TN), Lou (LW) and Tim (TR) climbed 6 pitches up *Banana Crack*.
3. Glenda and Leanne climbed pitches 6-12 of *Free Will* and explored further up *Voie Normale*. Tim, Lou and Tim climbed another 4 pitches on *Banana* but forced to retreat at dangerous blocks. Matt and Jude explored crags.
4. TN, LW & TR went for speedy *Voie Normale* ascent to summit, reached by 4pm, watched by GH & LC from base camp (rest day). Exciting to hear them whooping and see them as tiny specks on top. All v. exhilarated on return. M & J fixed first 2 pitches of *Pink Power Tower* (PPT)- looks and sounds hard.
5. GH & LC decided to go for the new line up the giant unclimbed corner on Baron's main face. Load carried gear to a stash and climbed up 5 pitches (2 of them really awesome E3's), deposited 5 ropes and double rack + water. Hot work. TN, LW, TR had a rest day and M & J climbed the next 2 pitches of PPT- also hot work.
6. M & J finished final 2 pitches of PPT and came down exhilarated and exhausted (we began to think they were inexhaustible!). GH & LC rested, TN, LW & TR checked out the golden south/south east face of the Baronet and climbed stunning E3 crack pitch. All seemed impressed with potential there.
7. GH & LC jumared up then climbed further to 10 pitches into great corner, with 4 more ropes, extra rack and water to deposit. Sadly corner looked too hard, blind gearless cracks and very hard moves. Retreated to ledges to ab off. TN, TR and LW climbed up and met us, via same route, all descended together.
8. Everyone rested. Very windy, nice break from the flies. M & J bouldered.
9. Big day –GH & LC up far too early (4.30am) after windy night went up to do 2nd ascent of right hand big corner route on main face, climbed by other team 2 weeks before. V little info but looked great. Jumared up (horrible) to top pitch 9 (ropes in place from retreat from unclimbed corner day before). Exposed, E3 traverse to enter corner then amazing pitch after pitch of corner cracks E2/E3. LW had rest day and TN & TR followed up same line. Very sociable but cold all day. Just below summit met up with M&J who had just done 2nd ascent of *Free Will*. Large rock came hurtling towards us, narrowly missed us all but hit Tim Riley who was below us with Tim Neill, out of sight. He was hit hard in the back but fortunately well enough to be taken all the way down by tandem abseil and lowers, in severe pain in the ensuing dark and cold. Northern lights came out to bring us some cheer; Lou had dinner ready for us all.

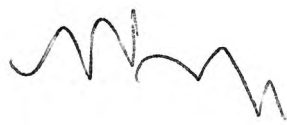
10. Rest day all, windy & overcast.
11. “ “
12. GH & LC- climbed *Voie Normale* to summit but in strong winds and threatening clouds, quite challenging and took some hard variation pitches high up by mistake. TN & LW climbed first few pitches of PPT- v impressed by quality. TR & JS stayed in camp. MP went down to Baroness base camp to see if could see a boat for rescue. No response to flares.
13. Very windy, all rest.
14. Still windy, LC, GH, JS walked around to baroness. More sheltered. Saw a whale from really close up, rising and sinking at the surface, spouting and slowly making its way along the waters edge. Jude ran with it. Really beautiful experience.
15. M & J went fishing and boat hunting again. Succeeded in getting Tim a rescue. GH & LC late start & began freeing another new route up good corner cracks on Baronet. TN & LW finished climbing PPT.
16. Sunny, all rest. Lots of sore hands and toes.
17. Rain/ cloud. Bouldering and yoga.
18. GH & LC went and finished new route, really fun & quality climbing sustained at nice level. Lots of indecision about route name. Options- *The Toenail, Riley's Rib, Desperate Jam, Blood Sweat and Biscuits*, settled for ***The Cams, The Cams!*** (sorry Glenda!) M&J went to explore enormous cave for direct start on great corners- not possible. LW & TN stripped lines on PPT.
19. LW & TN did *Little Foxy*, others rest/ boulder/ photos.
20. M & J did big corner route- really enjoyed it, LC & GH explored & climbed up into hidden west face of Baronet- more potential but nothing took our eye so downclimbed. LW & TN climbed/cleaned/ gardened a pitch on extension to ***21st century Arctic Fox***-good line.
21. Rested/ bouldering.
22. GH & LC- another new route on Baronet- ***Supercrack of Greenland***. Awesome line. Just finished in dark. TN & LW finished off ***Arctic Fox***- looks really good & lovely rock.
23. Rest
24. Packed and moved all stuff down to shore.
25. Homeward bound -after long and slightly worrying wait for boat.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Maps
Appendix 2	Photo Overview of Craggs and Routes- by T Riley
Appendix 3	Route Descriptions Leanne Callaghan/ Glenda Huxter
Appendix 4	Route Descriptions Tim Neill/ Lou Wilkinson/ Tim Riley
Appendix 5	Route Description Jude Spancken/ Matt Perrier
Appendix 6	Bouldering Topos Matt Perrier/ Jude Spancken
Appendix 7	Photos by J Spancken
Appendix 8	Route description from 2 nd ascent of great corner, (first ascent R Cowie, T Marsh) by L Callaghan
Appendix 9	Topo for <i>Voie Normale</i> by T Neill
Appendix 10	The alternative team list
Appendix 11	Route Topos - L. Callaghan - SE face of Baron - SE face of Baronet - S/SW face of Baron



BRACEY





NANOR TALIK

30 KITSIGSUT

KITSIGSUT

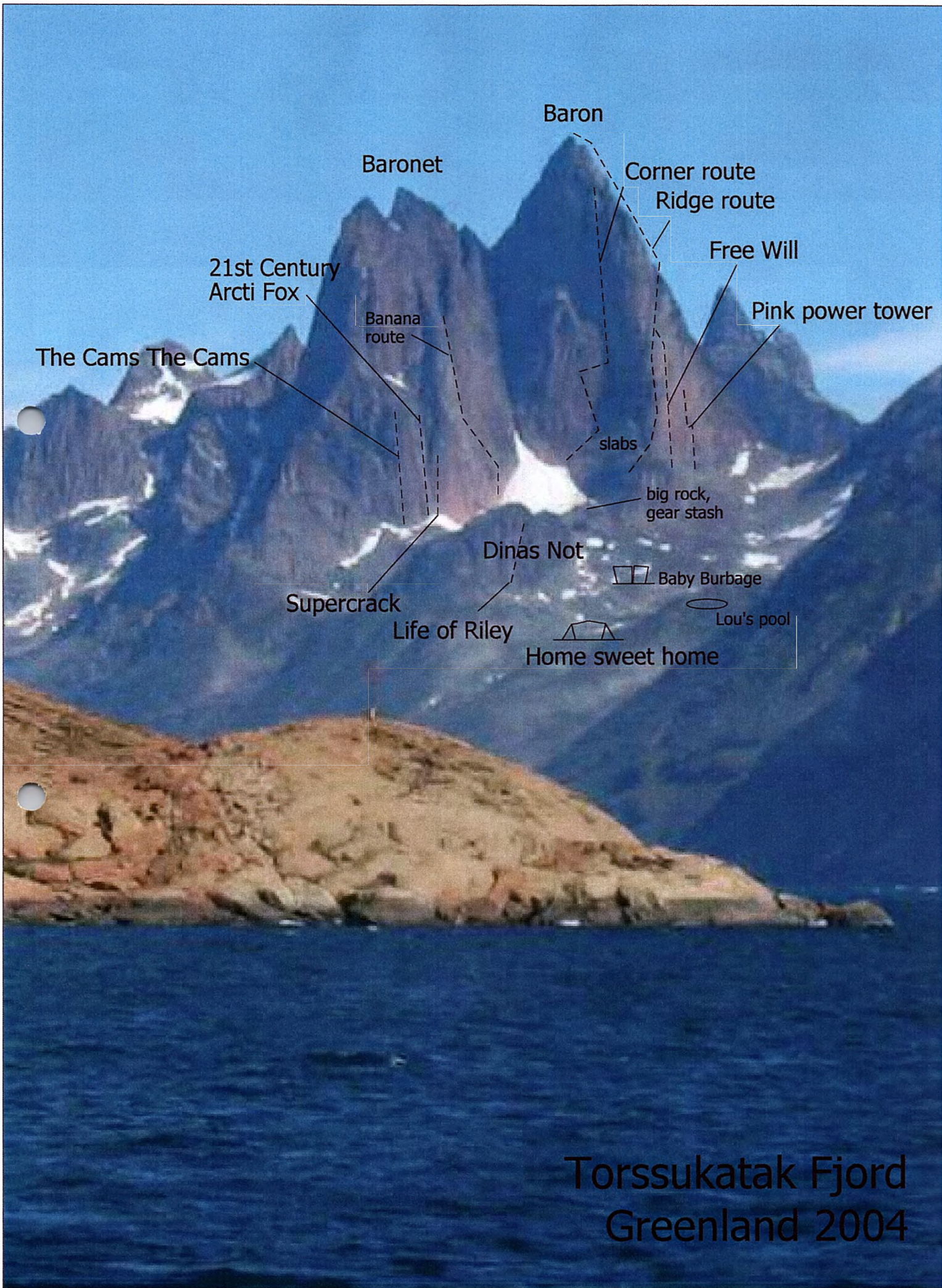
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FREDRIKS TALIK

PAMIAGDLIK

TORNAARSUK





Baron

Baronet

Corner route

Ridge route

Free Will

Pink power tower

21st Century
Arcti Fox

Banana
route

The Cams The Cams

slabs

big rock,
gear stash

Dinas Not

Baby Burbage

Lou's pool

Supercrack

Life of Riley

Home sweet home

Torssukatak Fjord
Greenland 2004

Route Descriptions- Glenda Huxter and Leanne Callaghan

Free Will. 370m E3 5c. First ascent Glenda Huxter/ Leanne Callaghan 3rd Aug 04

Dedicated to the memory of our friend Will Perrin

The striking straight diagonal crack/fault running up the left side of the steep triangular pinkish orange southeast face of the Baron. Start below the right hand end of the horizontal ledge, which runs out leftwards to meet the south ridge. A varied, classic line on excellent rock.

1. 4b 35m climb leftwards up easy grooves in the obvious weakness to the large ledge. Walk / scramble leftwards to foot of the huge diagonal feature, 20m right of a big corner.
2. 5b 25m. Go up left hand of twin cracks 'til a step right can be made at 20m. Go up to belay on a small foot ledge below overhang.
3. 5b 35m. Continue in same line up diagonal corner crack to belay in small niche at blunt spike.
4. 4c 10m. Go up and around the arete and over large pinnacle to belay in cave under overhangs.
5. 5c 30m. Climb up chimney a short way and exit rightwards onto loose flakes on the face. Continue up the corner to ledges. (climbed in wet conditions-6a)
6. 5c 40m. Struggle up the chimney at the right hand end of the ledge (possible unclimbed variation route runs up leftwards in corners from here) The chimney narrows to an off width near the top-cruix. Belay on ledge below a chimney corner.
7. 25m 5a. Bridge up the chimney corner moving left near top to belay in a niche.
8. 40m 5b. Climb the long continuation crack to a short right-facing corner, which leads to a ledge.
9. 25m 5b. Climb twin cracks above ledge 'til step left gains the nose. Nice moves up the thin crack above lead to a short layback and belay ledge below an impressive corner.
10. 30m 5c. Climb the corner, beautiful and sustained to a welcome v-groove and belay.
11. 20m 5b. Climb the easy crack leading diagonally right from the belay. This leads to a short technical groove and sloping ledge belay below a large corner.
12. 50m 5c. Climb up left to the foot of the corner where wide bridging allows a step right into the off-width. Climb this to its top and make an airy step left onto a slab and go up the chimney above. This leads to a large ledge on the huge hanging slab of the *Voie Normale* (south ridge route). Either continue more easily up this or descend the south ridge by abseil.

The Cams, The Cams! 300m E25c. First ascent Leanne Callaghan/Glenda Huxter 15th Aug 04.

The prominent corner system on the left side of the Supercrack Buttress, which ends on the midway terrace of the Baronet. Descent- abseil route.

Start at a small 3-tiered slab below the corner.

1. 50m E2 5c. Climb a short corner on the left side of the 3- tiered slab to its top. Step right into the corner and climb up to a black overhang. Layback round this and continue up corner to belay in niche on cams.
2. 35m E2 5b. Continue up corner, which becomes twin crack lines. Follow the left then step right where it becomes overhanging at about 10m. Continue up right then step back left at huge spike and climb short corner to a small ledge below a groove.
3. 20m E2 5c. Bridge up groove using blind rounded cracks 'til a step right round the arete on blunt flakes regains the main corner and belays.
4. 15m HVS 5a. Continue up corner to belay on large ledge beside huge leaning plinth.
5. 60m E2 5c. Climb the sustained immaculate corner past 2 overhangs on a variety of jams and laybacks. A stunning pitch.
6. 55m E25c. Pull through the overhanging flakes on the right wall to enter an imposing twin- cracked vertical fault line. Climb its left-hand crack/corner. The cracks eventually merge at steeper ground. Go up to large sloping ledge and belay on a small spike at foot of short corner.
7. 40m HVS 5b. From small spike step right into short chimney followed by continuation crack/arete. Traverse left along narrow ledge at 15m to a right slanting gangway/ corner with loose blocks at the top. Easier ground to huge terrace. (NB- better to stop 8m short of terrace and ab from a big spike to the right of the loose blocks to avoid some downclimbing)

Supercrack of Greenland. 4 pitches 170m E35c. First ascent Leanne Callaghan/ Glenda Huxter 22nd Aug 2004.

1. 50m E35c. Superb sustained crack. Variety of jamming techniques. (graded for when no snow present at base- would be easier if snow banked up at start)
2. 60m E2 5c. Technical bridging/ jamming/ laybacking leads to niche below wide golden corner crack.
3. 15m E3 5c. Layback the fierce off-width left facing corner crack (cam 6 useful), easing after 15m to a straight in hands/ fist crack. Climb this then step right to belay.
4. 45m E3 5c. The corner becomes right facing and technical for another 25m (hanging stance possible). Final 10m gives hard moves where the crack closes. Ledge and spike/ thread belays.

Route Descriptions- Tim Neill and Lou Wilkinson

LITTLE FOXY E3 6A 60M (first ascent Tom Briggs 2001)

Climbs left facing groove on right side of Supercrack face. Hard moves past horizontals gain classic groove with perfect pro, thin bridging high up gains cool hand crack to finish on ledge on right edge of face. Ab off peg and nut belay.

21st CENTURY ARCTIC FOX 250M

Extends a pitch previously done by Tom Briggs. Start 50m left of Supercrack.

1. E3/4 6a 20m gain and follow R. leaning crack with thin slab section above overlap. Belay on good foot ledge.
2. E5 6b 35m (6a- 1pt) follow L. facing groove to undercling section. A massive span or tension gets you a rounded groove leading to another small ledge. (Tom's high point)
3. E3 5c 40m continue up grooves to awesome cleaned hand crack. Good ledge.
4. E2 5c 30m beautiful hand crack continues up golden wall.
5. 5.9 45m climb v slot exiting l.wards under capstone. Follow more open grooves to belay in large flake rift.
6. E2 6a 40m scramble through rift then short tricky wall leads to ledges.
7. VS 4c 40m follow grooves R.wards to crest of buttress. Rope thread in situ. Ab from here to top of v slot... 60m.

LIFE OF RILEY E2 5C 100m

Above base camp is a Mot like cliff (Dinas Not). Start left crag foot below barrel shaped prow.

1. HVS 5a 35m follow cracks up and right to big ledge.
 2. E2 5c 55m from right end of ledge climb cleaned flake then thin intermitant cracks up central slab. A double sided flake with knobs near the top leads to belay under overhanging groove.
 3. VS 4c up this exiting left to Ab point.
- Much more climbing to be done here of surprising quality.

Tim and Lou also repeated 'PINK POWER TOWER'. An amazing, perfectly sustained route with bomber pro. Better than Astroman and Rostrum in Yosemite!!

Tim, Lou and Tim Riley:

Also climbed 10 pitches up big banana groove on South face of Baronet 150m R. of Supercrack of Greenland. Gave up due to dangerous blocks in the inescapable corner high up. Brilliant line- disappointing rock. Gave climbing up to E3 5c/A1.

Matt and Tim climbed 2 short cracks on prominent block on moraine slope which leads up to the Baron's base from basecamp (Baby Burbage). These are HVS and E1 to those with big hands.

Pink Power Tower

7 pitches, E5 6a

August 2004, Mat Perrier & Jude Spancken

Central line of thin cracks leading straight up, finishing on top a small, but upon reaching, obvious tower. Quality climbing on mostly solid (apart from first easy approach pitch) golden granit.

To decent abseil straight down the route again. Some of the belays are equipped with one bolt.

Pitch 1, 40 m (VS 4c)

Easy climbing up broken rock leading to the entry of pitch 2. Find the obvious (very) big hangout ledges. Pitch 2 starts about 10 meters to the right of these above some small ledges with a lot of loose rock on.

Pitch 2, 25 m (E2 5b/c?)

Start below a short crack leading to an overlap. Pull around this on its right. Continue up a wide slabby crack with loose blocks in until underneath overhang. Don't climb either of the two crack above. Instead pull right onto the face. Keep moving right to reach broken crack system. Move up this to the belay (bolt).

Pitch 3, ca 50 m (E4 6a)

Pulling over a little overlap follow the corner/groove system straight up to belay (one bolt). Sustained.

Pitch 4, ca 30 m, (E2/3 5c, 1p aid-pendulum)

Move up thin crack to an overlap. Pull over this into niche. Move up until the main crack trends rightwards and a thin seam runs leftwards. Small wires in this thin seam protect the pendulum out left to catch the arête. Pull around the arête near an overlap a few meters below a small roof. Climb up to roof. Pull over this and continue up to niche. Belay (one bolt)

Pitch 5, 40 m, (E4/5 6a?)

Follow thin crack on perfect layback moves. Where it starts to trend rightwards it all gets a little harder. The crack discontinues but you'll still find the odd good fingerjam. Where the crack runs out use hold out right on the wall to do a technical move to reach the then continuing crack to move up on once again good layback moves to the belay (one bolt).

Pitch 6, 25 m (E2 5c)

Head straight up towards some more laybacking. After ca 25 m there is a ledge on the left. Step across onto the ledge via wide bridging and using side pulls on left wall. Belay.

Pitch 7, 30 m (E3 5c)

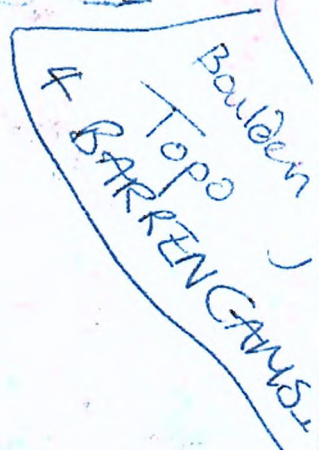
From the belay ledge head straight up past some blocks. Hand jamming leads to more laybacking. An awkward move left to pull into a groove then leads to the top of the pillar. The finish.

Rap off here (60 meter to belay on pitch 5, to avoid stuck ropes we dropped the ropes to the left of the pillar-facing the wall) or attempt to continue...

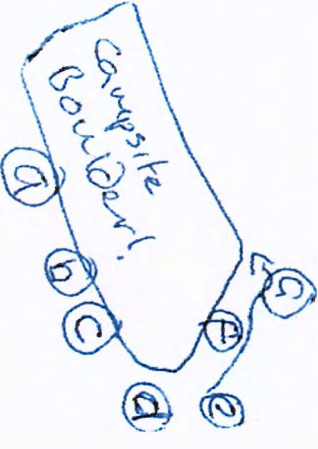
An 8th pitch (E4 5b) was added climbing the ramp line leading from the top of the pillar diagonally right. This is badly protected and climbs past some very! loose flakes. At the end of the traverse pull over a little overhang on good holds to a little stance. You'll find a bolt here from where we retreated (which proved awkward as having traversed away from main line).

We didn't feel that continuing diagonally right would add to the quality of the route and decided to end the route after pitch 7 on top of the pillar calling it the Pink Power Tower. But we didn't attempt to go straight up.

CRAIG



(B) Pool (stand up) VZ
 Full on poor piece of rock
 Small high siliceous
 hard septa launch + top
 (C)
 (D) Fine little crack dump EISC



CAMP SITE

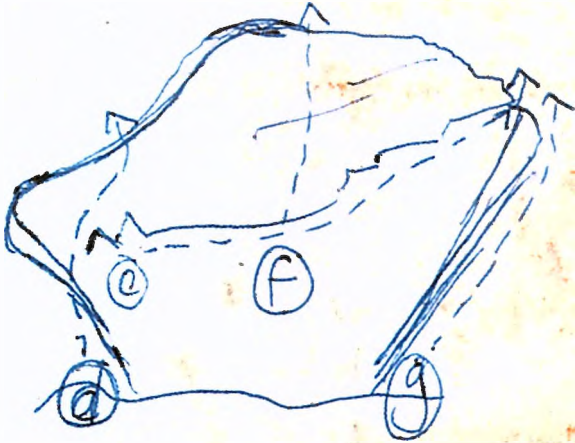


CAMPBITE Boulder

W FACE

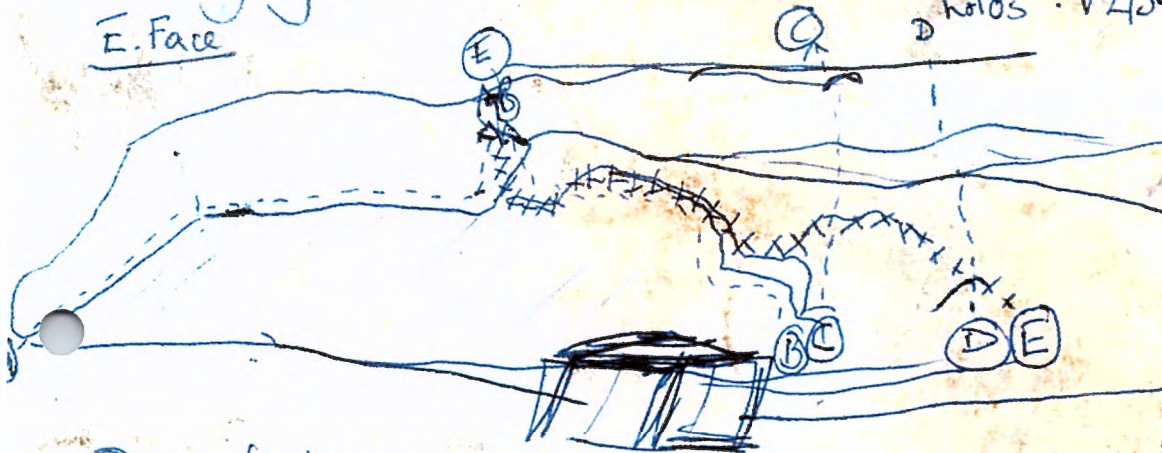


S. Face



The Flying Saucer Boulder.

E. Face



(a) The Slab via undercuts V1

(b) Groove
sit down - breaks + U cuts V2

(c) UBER GRUBER V6
sit down start on pinch + Layaway to top via precarious kneebar and slap out left to crimp rail.

(d) The flies the flies they drive me mad. V7

SDS - slap to the nose with left b4 rocking out right to poor pinch and again to sloppy backbar precariously rock over onto slab.

(e) Ramp trav. V5
start on pinches and precariously trav to the rapete and up

(f) The Black cornflake V2,
start on jug and climb straight up steep wall

(g) Fumbling for beginners. V8+ from SDS
Taking low good hold 4 left and sloppy pinch with right throw to stopper on R then lay over on 4 sharp 3 finger pinch another tricky move leads to good holds. V2/3 from standing.

(a) The Slapes Trav. V6
Lip trav from lowest point finish along slapers to groove

(b) The Flakes. V4

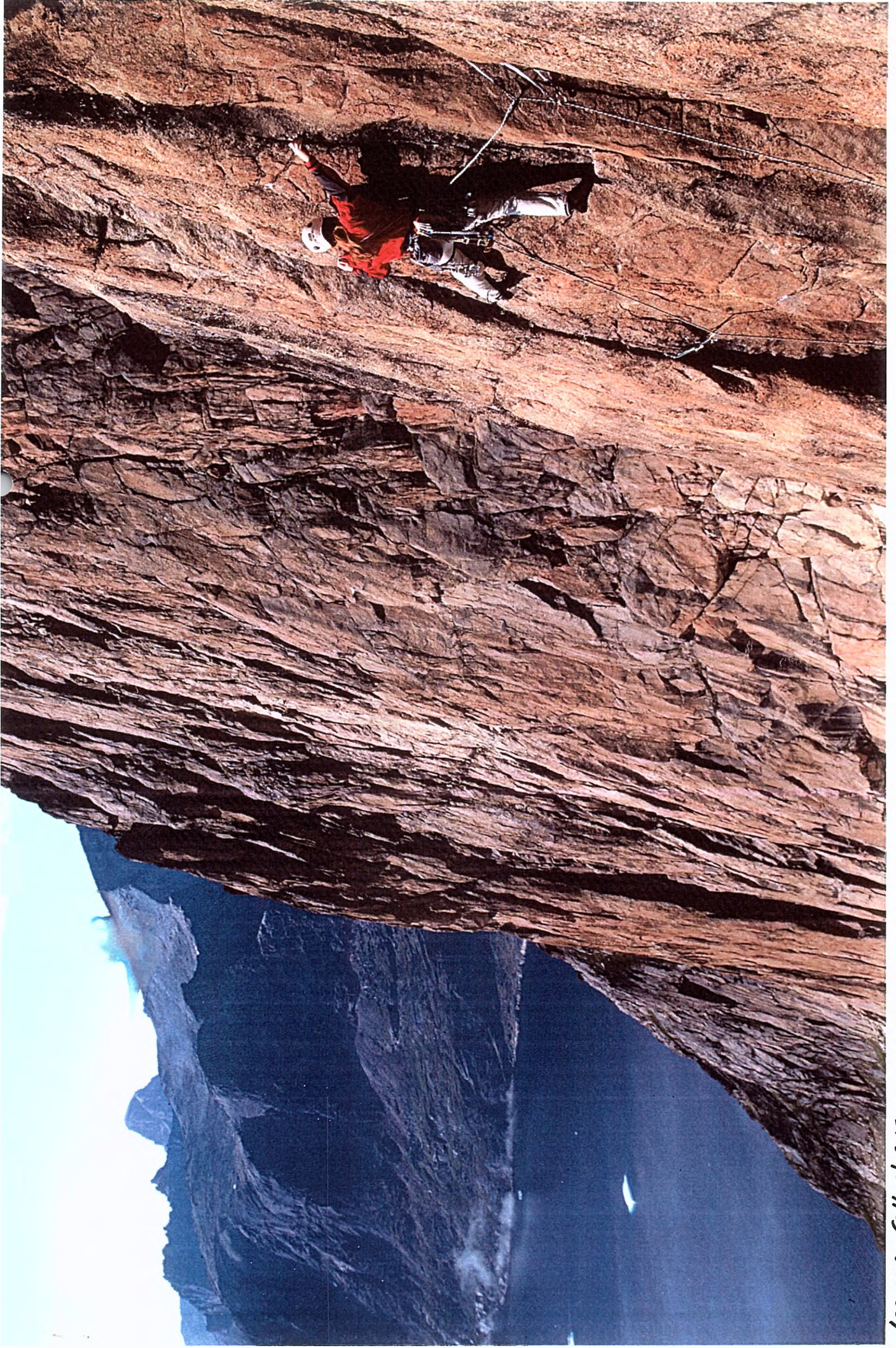
Power full first move leads to good holds on flake and awkward rock over into groove.

(c) The flakes and the Slapes V9
Big moves from the start of B lead to a slope and crimp on the lip. Fagotry and brute force lead via a very sloppy hold to top

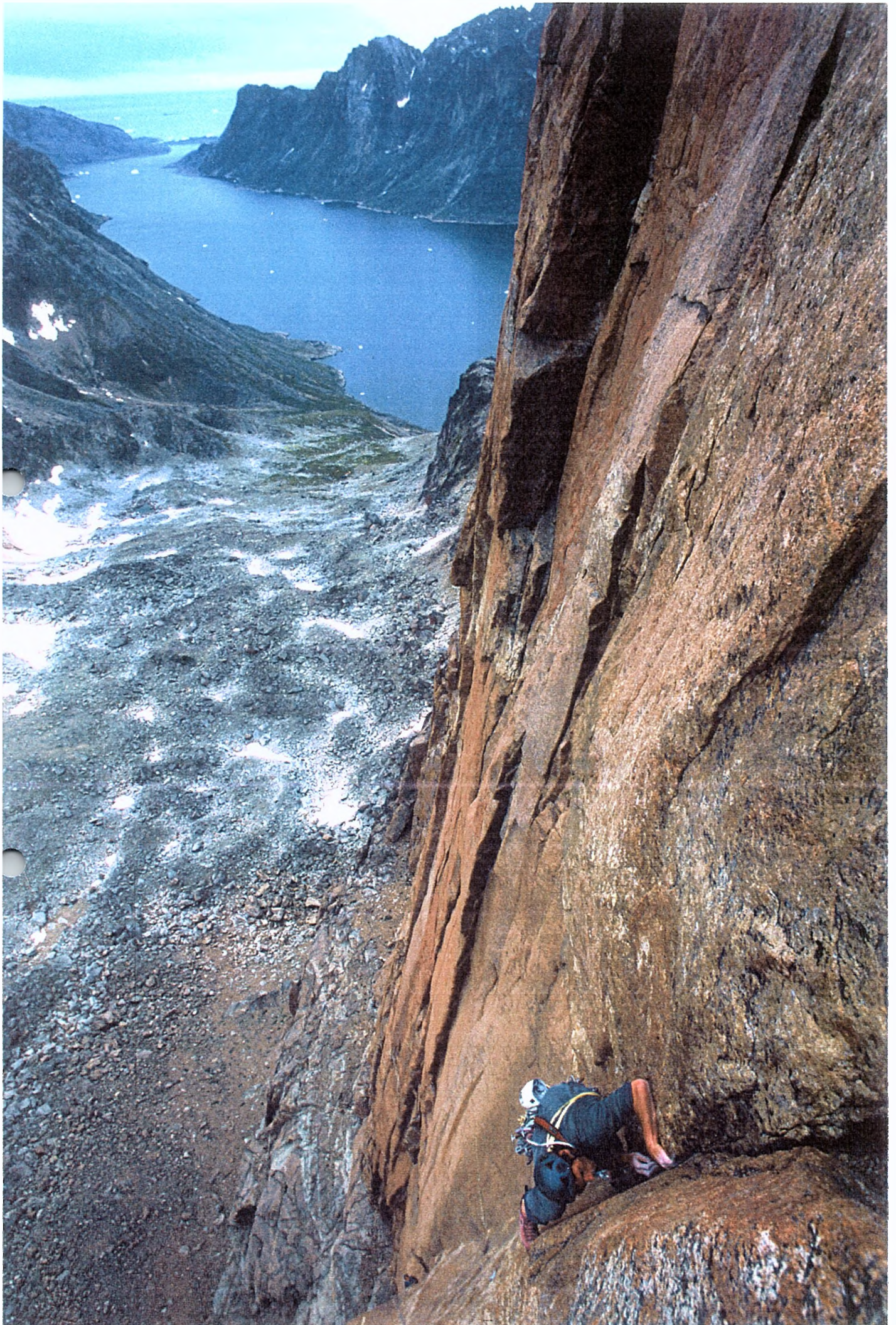
(d) Space invaders ate my Saucer. V7
Powerfull and no Kampus move to crimp leads to big recover on lip - not as impossible as it looks

(e) Space invaders chew the flakes V7

Starting as 4 (a) trav the crimp rail via an awkward cross through to the flake/slopp crimp on (c) Reverse the throw and finish as 4 the flakes.



Leanne Callaghan
© Jude Scanlon



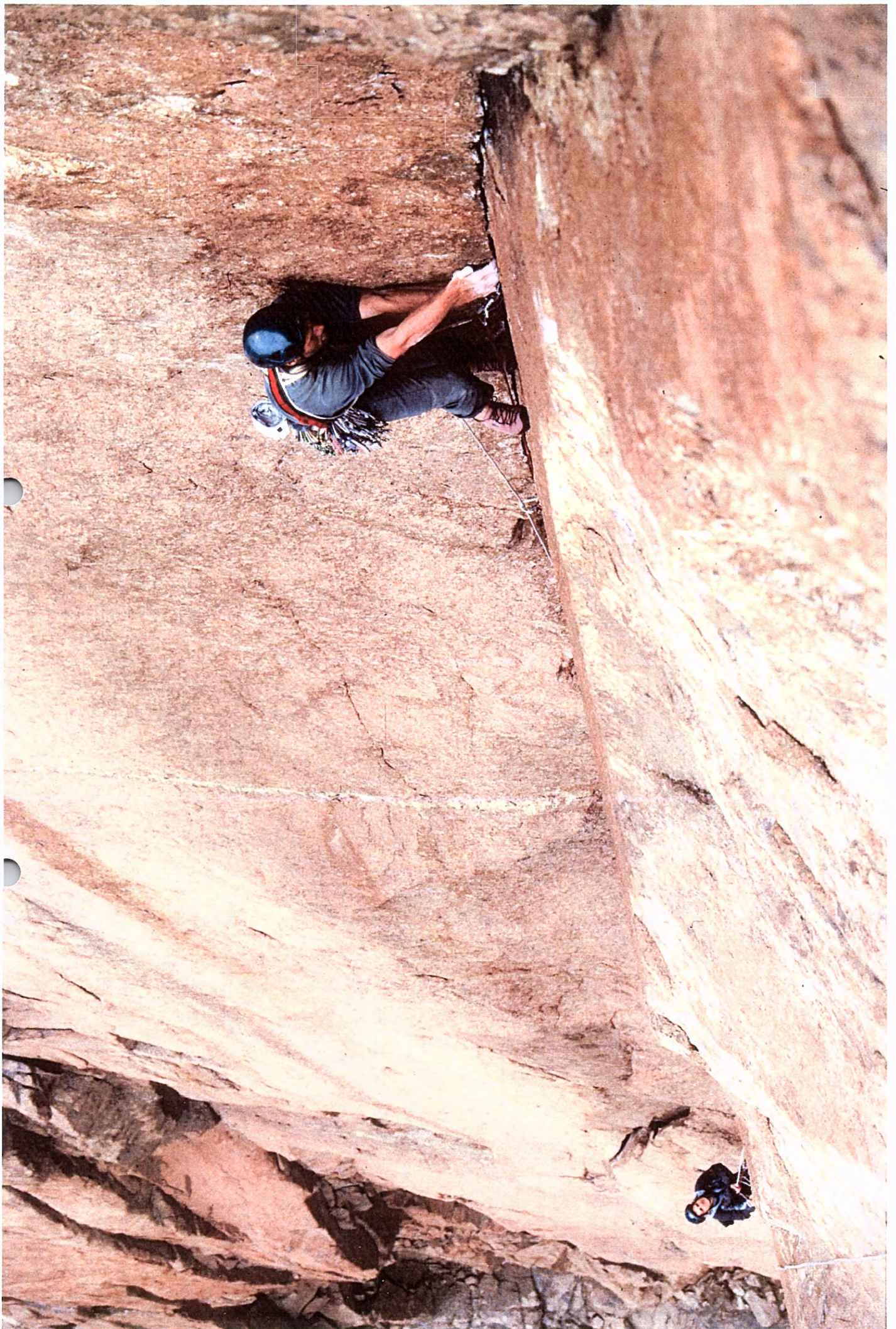
Tim Neil, 2nd ascent of Pink Power Tower, pitch 5
ESL

Tim Neil, 2nd ascent of Pink Power Tower, pitch 3
E5 6a © Jude Sparcken



Tim Neil, second ascent, on Pink Power Tower, pitch 3
E5 6a

© Jude Sparcken

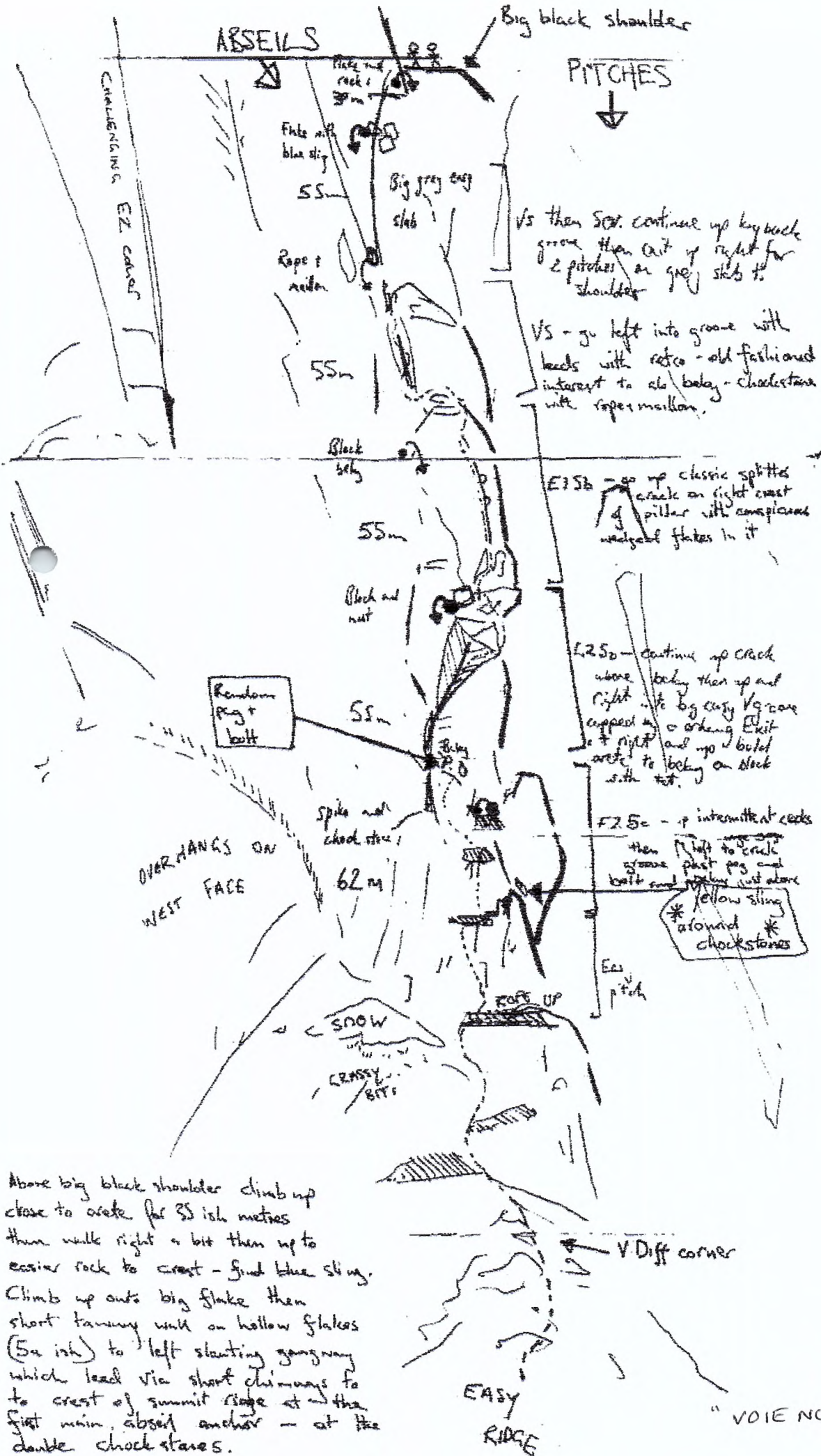


Tim Neil during 2nd ascent of Pink Power Tower, pitch 5
ES 6a © Jude Spancken

A stunning route of classic proportions up the (R) hand corner line of the S-face of the Baron. Start at the top of the snowslope, below large easy slabs.

1. Step across the bergschrund & climb easy slabs via a crack to ledge & small cave below 30m S.
2. Continue up the slabs & corner crack to cracks in the left face 30m, S. thread below.
3. Climb incipient cracks to a move (R) at 25m. Go up & traverse delicately back left to a small faint groove & continue to the large sloping terraco Antward belays. 50m E35c.
4. Go up the terraco for 40m & belay below steep corner crack.
5. Climb the corner crack, sustained, exiting (L) at the top of the V chimney. 50m E25c belay on large spike at top of slabs.
6. Step over spike & traverse up sloping slabs to a large blunt arete. climb cracks on its (R) side to broken ledges 35m. HVSSa.
7. Climb the exposed (L) wall on sloping friable holds, serious, but continue past a chokestone in the bottomless chimney to belay in a wide slot. 30m E35c.
8. Technical moves up the (L) corner of the slot on increasingly worrying rock leads to steep bridging amidst jammed boulders. ~~30m~~ a serious pitch at the top end of the grade. E35c 35m.

9. move the belay 8m to the (R). Traverse along the the lower of 2 sloping ramps into the first prominent corner where a swing (R) on weaky flakes gains a large ledge. belay ~~into~~ in the corner. 45m E35c
10. Baffle up the fist crack to a ledge. 25m 25m E25c
11. Tricky moves to enter the corner lead to pleasant hard jamming and ledge belay. 25m E25c
12. Jam up the corner above. Relentless. 45m E35c
13. (The next 2 pitches can be combined)
~~the crack begins to close Pleasant hands~~
 continue up the corner which begins to close
 small ledge belay 30m E25c
14. technical moves lead to a sloping ledge
 E25c 15m.
15. Twin cracks lead to a niche below a chimney which proves easier than it appears. continue up jammed blocks to a step (L) at the overhang. The corner leads to awkward belays below an overhanging corner. E15b 45m.
16. climb the lichenous corner & pull round the jammed block to easier ground.
- 17 & 18. 2 long pitches up broken rock in the large slot lead to the ridge E1, 120m.
19. pitches up the ridge lead to summit (Final HVS pitch)
 (1st Ascent R.Cowie / T.Marsh July 2004)



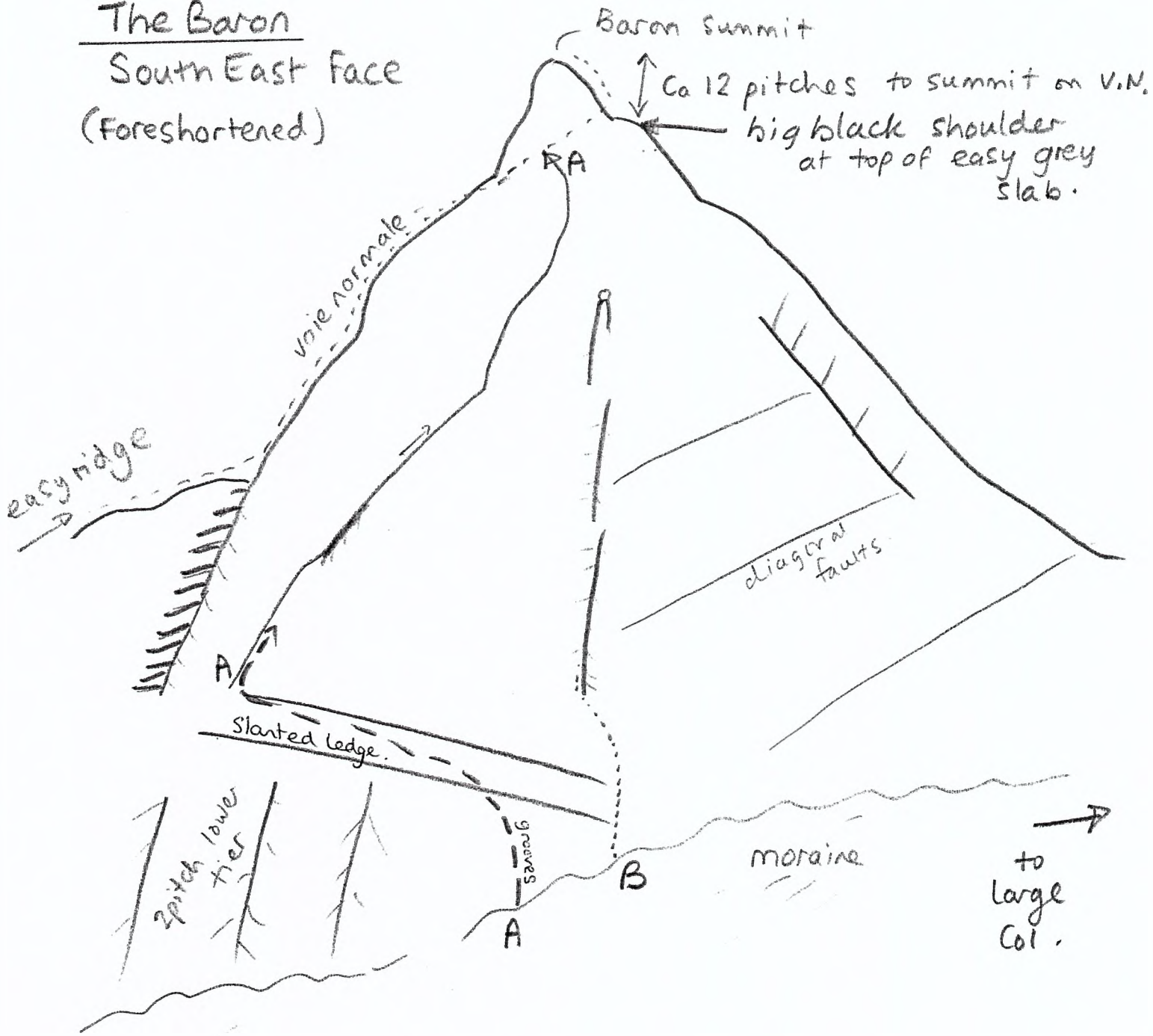
Above big black shoulder climb up close to arete for 55 ish metres then walk right a bit then up to easier rock to crest - find blue sling. Climb up onto big flake then short tummy walk on hollow flakes (5m ish) to left slanting gangway which lead via short chimneys to crest of summit ridge at the first main abseil anchor - at the double chockstones.

The Alternative Team List

The Person most likely to...

- Lou* ...still look sensational after 25 days in the wild
- Tim N* ...have an unquestionably ginger beard
- Glenda* ...get her revenge on the fox
- Matt* ...be found lifting heavy things
- Tim R* ...be up at 4 am looking for hard drugs
- Jude* ...be up at 4am looking for hard moves
- Leanne* ...be reading Lord of the Rings *again*

The Baron
 South East Face
 (Foreshortened)



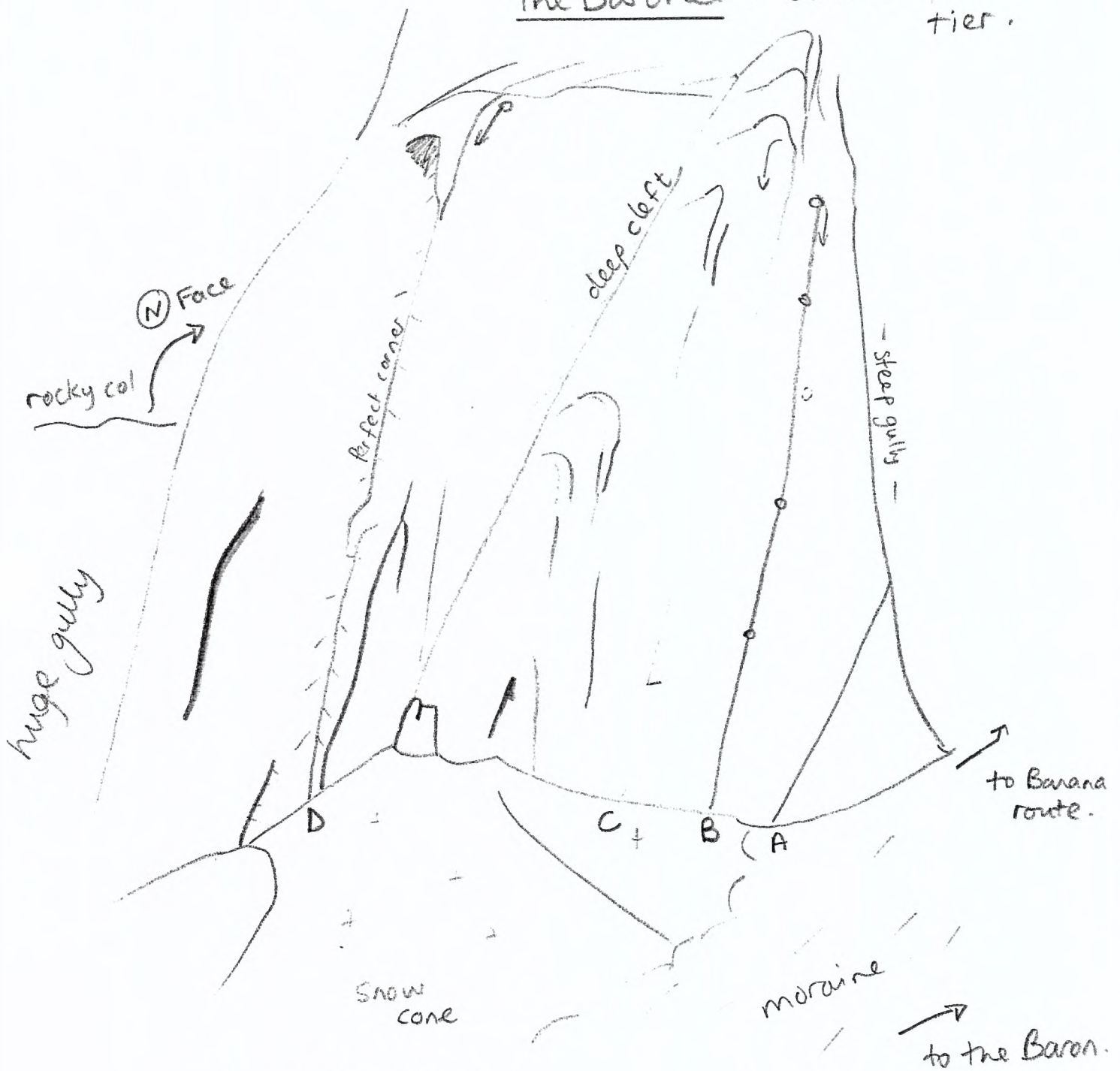
A - Free Will
 B - Pink Power Tower

←
 to base camp

→
 to large Col.

L. Callaghan '04

The Baronet - SE Face lower tier.



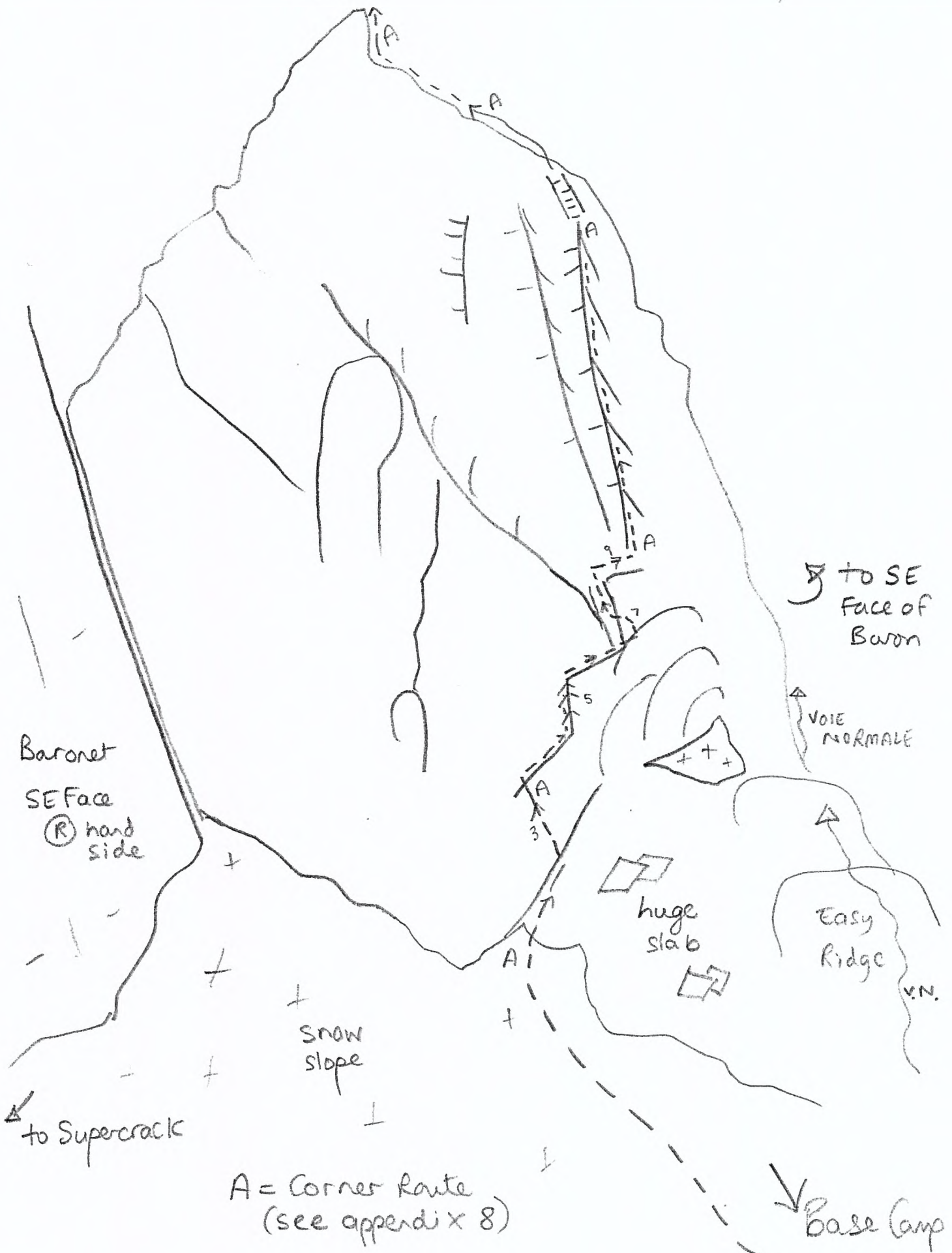
- A - Little Foxy
- B - Supercrack of Greenland
- C - 21st century Arctic Fox
- D - The Cams! The Cams!

L. Callaghan 2004

The Baron - South/Southwest Face.

? Pt 1340

Summit



to SE Face of Baron

VOIE NORMALE

Baronet SE Face
Ⓜ hand side

huge slab

Easy Ridge
V.N.

snow slope

to Supercrack

A = Corner Route
(see appendix 8)

Base Camp