

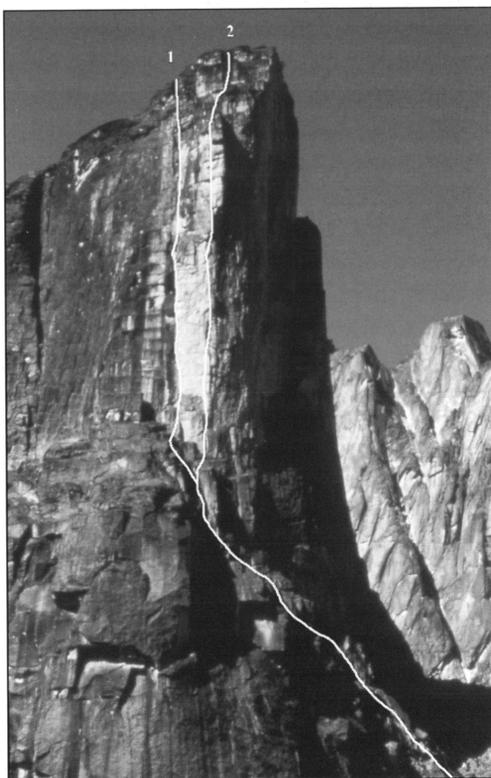
believe Project Mayhem (A5c) is harder because it is long and continuously difficult.” Project Mayhem, he feels, “is truly a route worth dying for.” His story appears earlier in this Journal.

Mt. Asgard, Charlie Porter Route and Scott Route, fast ascents. Taking Yosemite speed-climbing tactics to Baffin Island, Jason “Singer” Smith and Cedar Wright made the second ascent of the revered Charlie Porter Route (VII 5.10+ A4) on Mt. Asgard in an incredible 38-hour push (54 hours round trip from base camp). They also repeated the Scott Route (3,500', 5.11) on Asgard in 3 hours and 56 minutes. A full story on their remarkable trip appears earlier in this journal.

## LOGAN MOUNTAINS

*Bustle Tower, Lotus Flower Tower, Parrot Beak Peak, Proboscis.* In the Cirque of the Unclimbables Jonathan Copp made a series of impressive ascents with various partners. With Brooke Andrews he established the Don't Get Piggy (V 5.12a) variation to Club International, and with Tim O'Neill made the first free ascent of Club International (V 5.11b). The routes are also the first free ascents of 2,000-foot Bustle Tower. He and Josh Wharton then climbed the famous Lotus Flower Tower in 4 hours and 26 minutes. Copp and Wharton also established Pecking Order (2,800', V+ 5.11R) on Parrot Beak Peak, also in a day. After a rest day, the pair made the first all-free ascent of the Original Route (2,000', V 5.12R) on Proboscis, onsight, in a day. A full account of this trip appears earlier in this journal.

*Terrace Tower, The White Tower first free ascent, and Light in August.* Yan Mongrain and I arrived in the Cirque of the Unclimbables on July 28. On August 10 we brought our gear to Terrace Tower, a squat, flat-topped spire near Bustle Tower, to just “have a look.” We were attracted to The White Tower on Terrace Tower, first climbed by Paul Friberg and Kurt Blair in 1997 and rated III 5.11 A1. The route ascends the left side of a prominent white pillar, with the steepness of the wall giving it a Rostrum-like feel. After our mandatory groveling through two loose, grassy pitches, Yan led the first of the steep, enjoyable pitches, a perfect crack in a left-facing corner. I then set off on what we thought was the A1 section, an imposing dark, wet-looking overhang. It was dry enough to free, although we



Terrace Tower's southeast face, showing (1) The White Tower, (2) Light in August. Jay Knowler

could easily picture the roof being very wet and therefore unfreeable. Sustained, slightly loose 5.9 climbing brought us to the summit. We rated the route III 5.11, and thought that the A1 roof was not much harder than the rest of the route. After asking around camp and reading route information, we determined that the route had not been freed prior to our ascent.

While on The White Tower we spied a possible line to the right of the prominent pillar. We fixed ropes on the first two pitches, pitches shared with The White Tower. The third pitch proved to be the crux, and on our first attempt I fell onto a poorly placed .75 Camelot. I then aided to a good anchor, and we cleaned and worked the section on top rope. Dirt in the cracks and the subtlety of the moves required us to resort to this maneuver. An onsight ascent would certainly be a feather in one's cap! After pulling the rope, Yan led the pitch. Above this pitch the crack widened to an awkward, overhanging chimney, which finally led to a belay on a huge wedged block.

We had been climbing on the right side of the prominent white pillar. Above the block we could stay on the right side of the pillar and surely top out without much additional difficulty (the right side showed evidence of a previous, probably aid, ascent), or we could veer left up a steeper crack system splitting the pillar itself. We headed left, up very steep hand and finger cracks, passing three roofs along the way, giving ourselves three added pitches of sustained 5.11. The last pitch looked relatively easy, and we wearily congratulated each other on our new route, thinking the ascent was in the bag. The last move before the summit, however, presented a serious problem: a sloping, slightly overhanging mantle onto a grassy ledge. After much difficulty and many expletives, the move was accomplished by a dynamic lunge into a moss-filled crack, fingers buried in mud and moss, and the adept use of a knee. Yan and I named our route Light in August (8 pitches, IV 5.12-).

JAY KNOWER

*Mt. Proboscis, Piton Karmik and various repeats.* The story starts from a discussion we had with Paul Piana and Todd Skinner in Greenland, in the Tasermiut Fjord, in 1998. They told us about Proboscis and their route Great Canadian Knife, and we learned of possibilities for new routes. So last year on July 10 Thierry Bionda, Antonin Guenat, and I were at the Geneva airport, ready to visit the land of gold for a six-week trip. The trip was organized from Switzerland with Warren LaFave of Inconnu Lodge.

Four days later the magic of a helicopter brings us to the base of the southeast face of Proboscis, with our gear and food. We contemplated some lines, but when we looked closely, there were bolts or belay anchors. Finally, we chose the left pillar. There is no route on this side of the wall, it dries quickly, and the rock seems solid. There is no risk of rockfall, as in the central part. After two days of continuous rain the sun came out, and six days of perfect weather awaited us. Six days later our route, Piton Karmik (550 meters, VI 5.10b A3), is finished. The rock was as good as we expected, and the crack systems were clean and nice to climb. The route was mostly aid climbing, with some free pitches.

Three days later, after a friendly visit from a grizzly bear that we witnessed from the top of our route, we started the Great Canadian Knife (VI 5.13b). On the 26th we fixed 200 meters and came back the day after to finish the route. We stopped one and a half easy pitches before the end of the route because of a heavy hailstorm. Now we decided to come back to civilization. By the 29th all our gear was on What Notch pass, and we took it to base camp in Fairy Meadow. On August 2 we climbed the Lotus Flower Tower's Southeast Face route (V 5.10) on a rainless