

the notch, the granite was the very finest, with excellent cracks for direct aid and adequate holds for difficult free climbing. On the fourth pitch a nicely exposed piton traverse led to an overhanging traverse at a corner, really the crux of the route. A delicate openbook led to a final open chimney which worked upward to the summit block. In all, we used 36 pitons and 7 bolts.

FRED BECKEY

*Index Town Wall, Town Crier Route.* A spell of dry weather at Christmas in 1965 prompted Seattle rock climbers to seek out a *direttissima* on this large cliff behind the town of Index, less than an hour's drive from Seattle. At various times Eric Bjornstad, Mark Fielding, Bob Phelps, Dave Beckstead and I explored the crack possibilities, finally reaching the half-way point on the 550-foot vertical wall when snowfalls doomed the continuation of the climb. When spring weather returned, Leif Patterson, Beckstead and I solved the complicated triple overhang, one of the most difficult problems I have seen. It was followed by an exposed hanging belay and then a most stubborn piton crack. Beckstead and I completed the climb on April 17, clearing the last pitch in the night. Iron used on the climb totaled 103 pitons and 19 bolts.

FRED BECKEY

*Three Fingers, East Face Couloir.* On August 16, Jim Stoddard, Ted Carpenter and I made the first ascent of Three Fingers via its east side. From High Camp at timberline above Squire Creek we contoured south over easy terrain, continuing across snow slopes below the east face of the mountain to a point just beyond the south peak, the culmination of a massive wall almost 2500 feet high. Here a long broad 35° snow couloir (hidden to view from the north) rises diagonally north, cleaving the east face into two great segments. This couloir was ascended directly to its steepened upper end which exits onto the snowfield on the high northeast shoulder of the mountain. We crossed the snowfield to the notch between the middle and north peaks from where I climbed the north peak by the chimney of the usual south ridge route. Jim and Ted traversed below the normal route onto the west face proper, climbing a tricky, flaring Class-5 chimney which connects with the heather ledge above the chimney of the usual route.

JOSEPH VANCE

*Early Winter Spires, South Spire West Face.* The unclimbed wall on the west side of the highest of the Early Winter Spires had been bypassed by

climbers until this summer when on July 10 Jim Madsen and I made a direct ascent from the talus and grass at its foot. The first pitch in particular had a number of doubtful aid pitons. A total of 48 pitons were used by the time we met the upper portion of the southwest buttress.

FRED BECKEY

*Big Kangaroo, South Face.* Although it is probably the largest face on Kangaroo Ridge, the south wall of its highest point is seldom seen by climbers since it is shielded by the crested towers of the south summit ridge. To reach the foot of the wall on May 29, Dan Tate and I crossed the ridge between Half Moon and Big Kangaroo, descended a snow couloir and then traversed north. The route follows the obvious chimney system splitting the pink granite. Dan had the crux lead, a very hard layback problem, all free, on the next to last pitch before reaching the flat promontory under the summit. One more difficult pitch, this one on questionable rock, took us up a knife-edged arête to the peculiar summit block. In all 25 pitons were used.

FRED BECKEY

*The Temple (Methow Range), Southwest Buttress.* On July 8, 1964, Norm Weber and I completed a new route on the southwest corner of this dome-shaped peak located near the south end of Kangaroo Ridge. This route is on the longest side of the peak and lies in the center of the sketch in the *Cascade Climber's Guide*. The wall has a rounded apron shape at the bottom and narrows into a buttress above. We began from snow lying against the lowest slabs just left of the couloir adjacent to the south side of the peak. After one lead up the slabs we traversed horizontally on tension and pitons to a tree-filled alcove below a prominent chimney. This chimney went Class 4 and 5 for two leads before ending below a large overhang near the nose of the buttress. We traversed right to the opposite side of the buttress and climbed steep cracks and dihedrals for two leads to some trees on a sloping ledge. Here, we were delighted to find a deep cave which we called "The Gallery", complete with a window near the rear opening out onto the other side of the buttress. From the window we continued up on Class 4 broken rock to the nose of the buttress, and then left to a pedestal and up a steep face which required one "rurp" for aid. One easier lead took us to where we could unrope and scramble 200 feet to the summit. The eight pitches took eight hours of climbing, going slow, and required about 14 pitons of which six were for direct aid.

DAVID HISER, *unattached*