

Canadian Rockies

Mounts Outram and Erasmus, North Faces. Tom Thomas and I ascended the Glacier Lake Trail, fording the river just downstream from the lake. An excellent goat trail led us to timberline and we followed the main north ridge extending from the east shoulder of Mount Outram to Glacier Lake. We camped at 7800 feet below the main ice chute on the north face. The route ascended this 55° ice for 1000 feet to a rocky section. About five pitches of solid rock and ice up the leftmost of two main couloirs in the band brought us to the summit of Mount Outram on September 5. We descended the east ridge. By bushwhacking and following game trails from the Glacier Lake Trail, we made our way up the Valley of Lakes to below the north cirque of Mount Erasmus. We climbed the main couloir for 1000 feet to a rock chimney. Three pitches of rotten rock followed: 1. a rock chimney to a sloping rock in the gully; 2. a wall angling up and right; 3. a traverse back left and up the main chimney to the upper ice. There were 12 pitches of 50° to 70° ice to the summit of Mount Erasmus. We skirted left on the face near the summit and bivouacked in an ice cave just below the lip of the summit. An early morning start up an ice chimney popped us onto the summit snow slopes on September 13. An eight-hour descent via the west side and skirting back around to the north cirque brought us back to our camp. The grade V ascent took us 14 hours from camp to the bivouac and two hours from the cave to the summit.

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Dieppe Mountain, Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin Group, Muskwa Range. After our previous visit (A.A.J., 1986, page 184), we were so enchanted with the region of many unclimbed peaks that we returned in 1987. The problem is the approach with ferrying food and equipment and crossing streams. On June 11, Barbara Pasenow-Zimmermann and I left the bus at Mile 442 on the Alaska Highway. We traveled for four days along the woodroad to the abandoned Davis Keays copper mine. After a rest day, we climbed a ridge that led to a pass to the Magnum Creek valley. Finally, after a seven-day approach, we placed Base Camp four kms east of Dieppe Mountain in a side valley. After reconnaissance, we decided on the long, steep east ridge. After bad weather, we set out on June 24 at six A.M. At ten o'clock we got to the beginning of the ridge proper beyond a minor peak. We had to traverse two 70-meter-high towers. In places we broke into deep snow up to our thighs. There were some cornices. Most of the rock was of 5.2 difficulty with a 90-meter section of 5.4. In lightly falling snow and wind, we climbed the corniced ridge to the summit, which we reached at 7:30 P.M. We bivouacked beyond the second tower on the descent. There are other interesting unclimbed peaks in the region, but we had no more time. It took us three days