

Murguía approached via the Queracocha Valley and climbed the west ridge of Yanamarey Sur (5,220m). This may be a new route and the second ascent of the peak. It was first climbed from the south by Hartmann and Reiss in 1965. The summit height is given as 5,197m in the Peru ING.

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CORDILLERA HUAYHUASH

Siulá Chico, west face. In May Spanish climbers Oriol Baró and Jordi Corominas made the first ascent of Siulá Chico's (6,265m) sustained, difficult west face (900m, ED+ VI A15+ A2). The pair carried a portaledge and haul bag, placed no bolts, and bivouacked five times during the ascent and once during the descent. After this climb, they moved to the Cordillera Blanca and established new routes on Huascarán Sur and Nevado Copa, as reported above. See Corominas' Siulá Chico feature earlier in this *Journal*.

Pt. 5,740m ("Siula Antecima"), naming correction. In *AAJ 2007*, pp. 220-221, Lindsay Griffin provided information on an Italian team climbing a peak that they named "Siula Antecima." However, Lorenzo Festorazzi's photo with their ascent line clearly shows that they are referring to Pt. 5,740m on Alpenvereinskarte *Cordillera Huayhuash 0/3c*, which is the same as Jurau B (5,727m) in the Alpine Mapping Guild 2004 map and in other guides.

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Quesillo, east ridge, Electric Lane, to near summit; Huaraca, North Ridge and Northeast Face. Between July 22 and August 12, Tom Bide, Martin Lane, Graeme Schofield, and I went to the southern spur of the Cordillera Huayhuash. First, and most eventfully, we went to Quesillo's east ridge (a.k.a. Electric Lane). This route had seen attempts by at least one party, with retreat in bad weather. Setting off early in the morning, we climbed in two pairs and had made good progress, soloing the easier initial sections of the ridge, when dawn broke. The crux was a 15m steep jam crack (UIAA 5+) to gain the top of one of many gendarmes on the lower ridge. But then a 55m rappel down the north face of the ridge, and a subsequent rising traverse around a 10m gap, slowed our progress. Further climbing along the easy rock ridge led to a slab pitch of UIAA 5. Soon we reached the snow ridge, which led to a rock band that we climbed by a short runnel (Scottish 3/4). The ridge remains 60° steep from here, and the snow deteriorated, allowing no worthwhile protection.

As we neared the summit, the weather rapidly deteriorated, and we heard thunder. Our initial plan was to descend the west ridge to the glacier; the climbing now became urgent. Approximately one rope length from the summit, the state of the remaining ridge looked too time-consuming and dangerous; a notch on the ridge 50m below the summit was our high point (grade TD-). We found an ice cave high on the north face and one-by-one climbed in. It was during this process that a lightning strike struck our entire four-man team. Martin was rendered unconscious for 30 seconds, before waking up disorientated, confused, and in a state of shock (much the same as normal, really).

"What's happened?" Martin asked.

"We've all been struck by lightning, mate" Graeme replied.