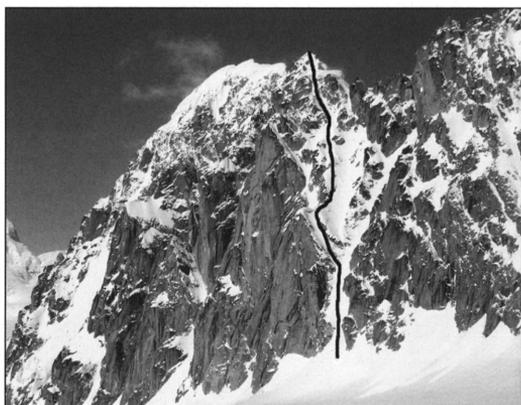


intimidating, but we continued up, traversed right, then excavated through and up to the summit.

We later learned that a week earlier, Minnesota climbers Matt Giambrone and Dean Einerson ascended this same route but did not climb the final pitch through the cornice. In subsequent research I have not found any reports of this line having been climbed or attempted. We named the route Bacon and Eggs (III/IV AI4 85°, 9 pitches) as a play on the classic Ham and Eggs, and most of all as homage to the great breakfasts prepared for us by my wife, Lisa, who is the Kahiltna base camp manager. The route is a safe, fun, and highly recommendable day outing. By comparison, the popular North Couloir route of the Mini Moonflower is longer and contains a single, more difficult crux pitch. The climbing on Bacon and Eggs is, in our opinion, more sustained and aesthetic. In thinner conditions, it would make a demanding testpiece.

MARK WESTMAN, *Talkeetna, AK, AAC*

*Unnamed Peak, Couloir Canalla.* On May 18 Luis Red Angel (Spain), Simon from Germany (I don't know his last name), and I climbed a new route on an unnamed peak on the Tokositna Glacier. The route, Couloir Canalla, was 700m long, with snow up to 70° and a short mixed section. After an attempt at the West Face Couloir route on Mt. Huntington, we saw this attractive line on the other side of the glacier, to the left of the start of the French Ridge, about a half hour from base camp. The broad, east-facing couloir was short, but steep enough that less snow accumulated, making it less dangerous. When the weather cleared, we waited two days for the snow to stabilize, as constant avalanches came down all around. Finally we moved...then it started snowing. Shit! We waited, it cleared a little, and we continued in mixed weather. We climbed through good snow, deep snow, and a little easy mixed. On the summit we sank hip-deep. It began snowing hard, and we snapped photos and started down. After 13 rappels we crossed the 'schrund in the middle of a growing storm. The hostile Tokositna!



Couloir Canalla on the Tokositna Glacier. *Cecilia Buil*

We reached base camp, where our Wyoming neighbors gave us a beer, and we called for our flight out. On the next day we enjoyed an unmatched view of these wild mountains and glaciers, and the pleasure of not having cold feet anymore.

CECILIA BUIL, *Spain*

*Mt. Dickey, Move Your Ass and Your Mind Will Follow.* We left for Alaska in April, with the goal of opening the northeast ridge of Mt. Dickey, a line that others, including French mountaineers, had previously attempted. Christophe Moulin had talked of the project for a year, and we couldn't wait to see what the Ruth Gorge looked like. [This trip was part of a youth alpine climbing mentoring program through the Groupe Excellence Alpinisme of the Federation of French Alpine Clubs; Moulin is one of the trainers—Ed.]

There were eight of us, and we chose two projects. A team of four (François Delas, Titi Gentet, Seb Ratel, and Damien Tomasi) attempted the Roberts-Rowell-Ward route on the south-east buttress of Mt. Dickey. Mathieu Detrie, Sebastien Ibanez, Patrick Pessi, and I attempted the northeast ridge of Dickey. We spent the first day sussing things out before fixing a rope up a short, steep passage and heading back to base camp confident of what lay ahead.

We set out two days later with four days of food and gear, focused on working our way past the main upper headwall, which appeared to be the crux of the route. Our progress was slow, however. We felt heavy, and the snow conditions were tough; we were often on dodgy snow plaques, with protection difficult. The higher we climbed, the steeper and trickier the wall became, and we began having second thoughts. When bad weather arrived during our first bivouac, we realized we had underestimated the scale of the task and headed down, gathering our gear as we went.

Once the other group got back with their mission in the bag [likely the Roberts-Rowell-Ward route's third ascent] and news of a week's good weather ahead, we decided to try again. This time we took six days of food and discovered what seemed like an easier starting point farther left on the wall.

The first day passed quickly, because we knew the way, and on the second day we reached the foot of the headwall. We chose the best-defined crack, and after two days of artificial climbing (A3) we made it through. A final pitch of mixed climbing brought us to the top of the headwall the evening of day four. It was midnight as we went to bed, but our spirits were high. The enormous snow mushroom that had been looming over us was now just ahead. As it turned out, the next day brought an unforgettable bivouac on top of the mushroom itself; we knew that the next day we'd summit.

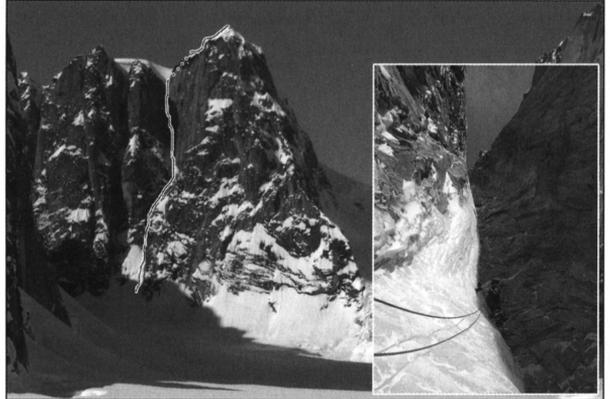


Mt. Dickey from the northeast, showing Move Your Ass and Your Mind Will Follow (Detrie-Ibanez-Maynadier-Pessi, 2008). For reference, starts to: (1) Gross-Kormarkova (1977). (2) Wine Bottle (Bonapace-Orgler, 1988). (3) Byrch-McNeill (2003). Several other routes exist left of (2), but are poorly seen in this angle. See *AAJ* 2006 p. 95 for a complete overview. *Mathieu Maynadier*

The evening of the sixth day, we hit the summit. We named our route Move Your Ass and Your Mind Will Follow (1,600m, ED, 5+ A3+ M5). The rest of our group watched our triumph through binoculars from base camp, before heading up to meet us with skis. That night we celebrated back at base camp.

MATHIEU MAYNADIER, *France*

“Peak 747,” *Kuriositeten*. Between April 7 and May 3 Eiliv Ruud and I had a great time in the Ruth Gorge. Though bad ice and long sections of vertical or overhanging snow turned us back from four new route attempts, we climbed several outstanding classics. Our best memory from the trip, however, is from establishing *Kuriositeten* (Norwegian for “Rarity”; ca 800m, AI5 M3+) on the east face of the mountain between Mt. Bradley (9,100') and Mt.



*Kuriositeten*, near 747 Pass. Nils Nielsen. Inset: Nielsen on the crux pitch. Eiliv Ruud

Dickey (9,545'), a.k.a. Peak 747. Our research, including communication with Alaskan climbing luminaries Kelly Cordes and Joe Puryear, revealed no recorded ascents of this line.

I don't know if the mountain has an official name, but it sits near 747 Pass, so “Peak 747” seems reasonable. We had been calling it “Littlefjellet,” which means “small mountain” in Romsdalen dialect. The mountain is small only compared to its massive neighbors.

We left camp at 3 a.m. on April 28 and started climbing two hours later. The first pitch consisted of 20-30m of vertical snow followed by a huge chockstone. This was interesting and fun, and I would give it a grade of M3+ ST4 (ST = Snow Tunneling). After that, the couloir widened and we simul-climbed steep snow, with sections of ice (AI3-4) for 300-400m. I was then the lucky winner: Just as the sun hit I got the sharp end on the crux pitch, which had 60m of steep, perfect ice through the couloir's narrowest point. This has to be one of the best ice pitches I have ever climbed. Higher the couloir opened up again, and we then followed the ridge with short mixed steps to the summit, which we reached at 9 a.m.

We descended via the west face and walked through 747 Pass, getting back to camp by 1 p.m. The route was repeated twice in the next two weeks, by Matt Tuttle and Jason Kue and later by a French team. Due to the route's short approach from the Gorge, its moderate difficulty and the fact that most parties can easily climb it in a day, *Kuriositeten* has potential to become a classic.

NILS NIELSEN, *Norway*

*London Tower, Battle of Britain*. In May, Tristan Gray-Le Coz and I, both of Ouray, Colorado, repeated several Ruth classics, established one new route, and had one new bail. While soloing Freezy Nuts to the summit of London Tower, I noticed a 10' wide runnel of 4-5"-thick ice ascending the left side of the wall about one-third of the way up the couloir. On May 9 we returned, establishing the Battle of Britain (3,200', V WI5 M4 5.9R; topo at the Talkeetna