The climber's guide to U.N.H.
illustrated

Buildings, Punters, Bridges

Official edition by U.A.M.H.F. mountaineering
THE CLIMBER'S GUIDE TO U.N.H.
ILLUSTRATED
BUILDINGS BOULDERS & BRIDGES

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."
W.H. Murray

"Only a hall but all of life to me up there between the streetlight and the tree."
corrupted from Geoffrey W. Young
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"Only in climbing may one discover both the utter insignificance of man and the magnificent promise of Man."

-- an illiterate climber

Durham, being the center of the climbing world, has an evident need for a clear, concise directory of the fine routes to be found here. To this end, we have produced the following guidebook.

This guidebook is not a "How to Climb" book but rather a general explanation and description of the routes. It is left up to the climber himself to decide from where to make the approach (via the Egg Room or not) and where to retire after the climb (the Egg Room or not). It is assumed that the climber will use proper judgement as to the aesthetics, in other words, the placing of bolts, etc. Objective dangers are few but persistent, the security patrol is diligent, but not yet equipped with RHs. The hapless climber must not expect organized rescues, the Durham Fire Department is apt to be more of a hindrance than a help... But it is the climber himself who must make the final decision to actually go to the sloping slabs, crystalline cracks, tempting towers, rounded roofs, awesome arches, cringing corners, windy walls, bulging boulders, and otherwise rigorous rock. One must in the end commit himself (or herself) to the confidence of his or her muscular actions and the inevitability of absolute determination which endears one to climbing. Only in this ritual of perpetual involvement can one isolate oneself from the frustrations of everyday life. So if the rat race is driving you up a wall, if you can't face it anymore, if you're cracking up, if you otherwise can't handle it, step up to a whole new world of sensations, get a hold on yourself, relieve your anxiety and tension, don't be stuck in a jam all your life. Climb; it's a way of life.

* RHs are a technical rock climbing boot.
GEOLGY OF THE AREA

This area is geologically active as evidenced by the frequent formation of gaping holes which soon are transformed into awe-inspiring red monoliths such as Rais Smith. These monoliths may take a variety of forms from the towering spires of T-Hall to the sheer faces of Paul Arts. Erosion seems to be extremely slow as physical and moral decay is not evident. This rock is admirably suited to climbing with an abundance of holds.
WRENCH (5.8): Start ten feet south of Spider’s Delight, shimmy up pillar. (Beware of loose light), long reach, retable and traverse left.

FINGER-P (5.7): Start left of back door, chimney or layback up inside corner. Finger traverse left and negotiate hand-rail to observation deck. Downclimb—try stairs on west side.

COLD MILK (3.4): Surmount opening left of air conditioner, blind reach left, cut loose and retake.

WEST FACE

MONKEY SWING (5.6): Climb inside corner, step left, surmount overhang to top.

Variation: (3.5) surmount stals, approach overhang, descend gently.

INSIDE

U.A.W.R.P. WEST (5.4): Start in chimney located in back of fireplace, at top of chimney swing left and retake into nest.

THE CROWD PLEASER (5.10): Layback up “I” beam, finger traverse right to center of overhang, negotiate bulge by way of another “I” beam. Alternate start: Tumble over deposit chute on pastries machine, thin face over coin return, finger traverse left to bucket.

SOCIAL SCIENCE CENTER

NORTHWEST CORNER

CHAIR (5.8): Start at northwest corner, ascend dihedral, and negotiate overhang. Downclimb is equally difficult. (see photo 2)

PARSONS HALL

NORTHEAST WING

C.A.M.C. DIRECT (sustained 5.0): Thinface up obtuse corners. (see photo 3)

PAUL CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

NORTHEAST COURTYARD

THE BARELY CORNER (5.8): Thinface up corner inside Paul Art’s courtyard.
EAST FACE

THE FANG (5.6): This is the only summit route. Start in south alcove, climb windows to roof. Follow low angle friction left to huge overhang. Aid is taken from second's cranium (prerequisite--tall second) to retake on third roof. Thinface up blocks on west face, switch to pressure jam for final assault of summit. Belay is advised from the first roof for protection on overhang. This reduces the objective danger of falling. Since the bar shingles are not very resistant to tramping, this climb is not recommended. It has only been done twice in the past four years.

NEUROSIS (5.9): Laybacks similar to that in the picture (photo 4) have been situated at many locations along the building.
WEST FACE
WEDNESDAY MORNING SLAB (make your own difficulty). A similar to Sunday Morning Slab but with more difficulty. (It's about a foot higher). Located between the Library and Spaulding Life Science Building.
WALLA WALLA 1 (5.6); Start at top of Wednesday Morning Slab, move left to window sill.
WALLA WALLA 2 (5.6); Location—left of Walla Walla 1. Move left or right from window sill (a conservative climb, see photo 6 below).

SFAULDING LIFE SCIENCE BUILDING
WEST BUTTRESS
THE WALL OF LIFE (7); A fine winter climb behind closed doors. Thinface.

DEMBERIT Hall
SOUTHEAST CORNER
THE NASAL (5.5); Thinface up corner. Harder variation to right not using corner.

SOUTH FACE
ENTRANCE EXAM (5.9); Start in alcove on south face, surmount overhang to windows—end of climb.

WEST FACE
D.M.T. (5.3); Start in middle of west face, thinface to a traverse leading left, around corner and equally long traverse leads to the front entrance.

MORRILL Hall
EAST FACE
MORRILL CORNER (5.8); Climb right corner of porch to small perch, split left to layback, onto shelf, and step down to porch, downclimb steps to terra firma. (see photo 7 next page)
THE LUNGES (B1); Start on ground near middle of porch, reach up to small holds at top of arch, rip off one retake leading to another (a very dynamic move). Same downclimb as Morrill Corner.
THOMSON HALL
WEST FACE OF T-HALL ARCH (5.9); Thinface middle column, lean left, long reach up to bucket, scramble to roof, end of climb. Downclimb is advised. (see photo 8)

HAMILTON SMITH HALL
WEST GULLY
PANTWAIST (5.4); Ascend chimney on west side to overhang, cut and over, surmount wall.
EAST GULLY
GENE'S JOINT (5.4): Start on east side in dihedral z
facing southwest, thinface to ladder, climb
corner to zenith.
SOUTH FACE
THE GIRDLE TRAVERSE (5.1): A traverse leading
from one side of the building to the other
via south ledge system.

A toadstool is a funny thing,
It cannot fly, it has no wings.
It sits at home and sighs a lot,
Through wind and rain, both cold and hot.
Without an eye it stares at you
And as you walk splits on your shoe.
To harm to it may be your wish,
But step on it and it goes squish.

PART TWO-- BOULDERS

MCLAUGHLIN BOULDER: This boulder, located behind
McLaughlin Hall is visible anywhere; there are
many variations. Another boulder is located on
the opposite side of the hill. (see photo 9)

NEW ENGLAND CENTER: Numerous boulders are located
around the New England Center for an enjoyable
afternoon with picnic; no grade 5's.
To mention a few boulders:
- Hellie's Belly Boulder (see photo 10)
- Arch Rock (see photo 11)
- Spectator Boulder (see photo 12)
- Lichen Ledge (see photo 13)

photo 9
PART THREE -- BRIDGES

THE RAILROAD BRIDGE: Many cracks and jams, careful not to lose any fingers, belay can be established from top of bridge for protection from passing trains. (see photo 14)

HOOD HOUSE: First aid at cost.

photo 14