

Silver Spray Cabin Area Objectives

Cabin Peak

This is the obvious, long NE facing ridgeline with 3 sub peaks that sits just SW of the cabin.

South Cabin Peak

E. Ridge – 5.4 This super fun, short ridge line is a classic with some great positions, rock gendarmes, a bit of exposure and a quick descent.

Approach - Hike past the tarn below the outhouse towards the low point of the extended ridge. Once on the ridge, turn right and walk up towards the steep pyramidal face, aiming for the right side. 25 min.

Follow the ridgeline as closely as possible all the way to the summit. The crux is a ~20m corner crack system on good rock just before the summit traverse.

NE Couloir – 5.4 The obvious attractive couloir seen from the hut that gains the col between the South and Centre peaks. Expect snow to ~45 degrees. Gear belays can be found in the moats on both sides when the snow is hard. Once near the col, head left up through a notch and traverse a short ledge towards a short pitch of 5.4 that leads to another easier pitch and then the summit.

Descent – Scramble down the S. Ridge until it is possible to drop west onto the talus and climb back up to the NW col and then descend the NE snow couloir. The col can also be reached more directly by rappelling or down climbing a short bit of 5.4 and traversing north to a notch. A longer but easier descent once down on the slopes SW of the peak involves traversing talus slopes to the col NW of North Cabin Peak and walking down the NE side back to the hut. To avoid a large cornice here early season you may need to continue over the next peak to the NW and descend from that col.

Cabin Peak Traverse

A fun outing that can be combined with Mt. McQuarrie for a complete clockwise loop of the ridge system west of the hut. Start as per the E. Ridge of S. Cabin Peak to gain the South-Centre col, then climb a slab on the east side of a step rock tower that guards the col to gain the S. Ridge of Centre Cabin Peak. Walk up ledges on the west side of the ridge and then scramble up a loose gully or climb a short steep rock slab before it to regain the ridge which leads easily to the summit. Now scramble down a gully just beyond the summit or better yet backtrack a short distance and walk down a scree gully that leads to the Centre-North Peak col. Gain the SE Ridge of North Cabin Peak right away to maximize the more technical terrain although it is possible to bypass much of the ridge on the SW side and scramble to the blocky summit more directly. The descent down to the NW col is an excellent scramble on solid blocks. It is possible to exit the ridge towards the hut down snow here although to avoid a large cornice early season you may need to continue over the next peak and descend from that col. The ridge that continues on to McQuarrie is class 2 with a bit of 3rd to gain the summit. Descend to the McQuarrie-Sunrise col and follow the cairned trail back to the hut to complete the loop.

North Cabin Peak

NW Ridge – Class 4 This excellent ridge scramble offers good blocky rock on mostly 3rd class terrain with a touch of exposure in a few places.

Approach – Follow the Violet Mine trail from the hut until on the broad ridge that separates the tarn from the valley to the west. Drop down into the valley and link snow

ramps on the other side to gain the col NW of North Cabin Peak. In the early season a cornice overhangs this col and may require gaining the next col to the NW and traversing the ridge a bit.

Descent – back down the NW Ridge or off the SW side and contour back to the NW col.

Cabin Wall

This is the impressive wide wall beneath North Cabin Peak that is riddled with dihedrals and cracks.

Story Time – 5.10- F.A. S.King & S. Tasker July 2010

The obvious open book corner.

Approach – Ascend the ridge to the NW of the cabin, contour into the valley and ascend a diagonal ramp towards the obvious corner. 35 min.

Scramble up easy rock to a flat dirt ledge in the corner with gear cracks for the belay.

P1. 5.9 25m Climb the corner and belay at a good foot ledge about 5m below the roof.

P2. 5.10- 25m Climb the corner past a fixed pin and traverse left beneath the roof.

Surmount a small overlap to regain the corner above and a crack with good holds out left. Belay at a good ledge and 2 bolts up and left.

P3. 5.7 25m Follow the corner up to a long vertical block and step left to continue up a large groove to the ridge crest and a 2 bolt belay.

Descent – either scramble up over N. Cabin Peak to the NW col and descend snow slopes back towards the cabin, or rap the route with 2 x 50m ropes. The bolts have rings for rapping.

Bring a full rack to #3 Camalot with double small nuts and TCUs down to #0 if you have it. Double up on mid sized cams.

Mystery Crack - ???

The crack system left of Story Time that has at least 2 pins in it. Looks good and likely easier than its neighbour. Probably done in 2 pitches to a large corner above.

Mount McQuarrie

E. Ridge 3rd Cl.

An enjoyable scramble up an easy peak close to the hut with good views to the north.

Approach – ascend a draw SW of the hut that drains a large tarn. Pick up a cairned trail that leads to the McQuarrie – Sunrise Col in 25-30 min.

Ascend the talus slope to the east and contour left around the high point to reach a flat ridge that heads towards McQuarrie. The easier terrain starts on the lookers left of the summit and requires a bit of route finding to keep the scrambling 3rd class.

Descent – either retrace your steps or if conditions are right, and you have an axe and know how to self arrest, you can go south to the start of a SE facing snow slope and descend this to the basin below.

Sunrise Prow

This is the striking feature on Sunrise Mountain seen from the cabin on the looker's left of the snow couloir that leads to the summit ridge.

The Serpent's Path 5.10- F.A. S.King & D. Lavallee July 2010

This is a snaking line that starts up a steep avalanche path, then corkscrews right up the summit block. There are some airy positions with good exposure, but the cruxes are very well protected. The rock is quite good on the harder pitches. Note that there is a lot of black lichen on the last pitch that would be very slippery when wet.

Approach – 60m left of the snow couloir starts a recess of light grey rock that gets cleaned by avalanches out of a hanging basin that is difficult to spot from the ground. From the cabin, the start of the recess can be spotted by a teardrop shaped rock sitting on pillars and a broken slab. Belay on a flat ledge between the pillars on the left beneath good cracks. 20 min. from the cabin.

P1. 5.7 45m Climb the cracks to lower angled rock and trend right past mossy rock steps to a steep groove with good jugs. Continue up the guts of the recess to a large grassy bay and belay in small cracks on the left.

P2. 5.8 45m Head up the groove on the left, and step right past a pillar into a nice alley with good rock. Diagonal up and right into a steep groove and on top of a massive horned flake that is chockstoned into place. Continue up and right on easier ground to a good gear belay on a flat ledge in an alcove.

P3. 5.5 35m Climb 5m to reach the hanging basin*. Turn right and climb a blocky rib to its top and belay at a flake below a steep wall.

*If weather is coming or you've had enough, you can ascend the basin to the summit on 3rd and 4th class terrain and scramble off to the Sunrise – McQuarrie col.

P4. 5.10- 20m Traverse right and make a bold step around the corner into a flaring chimney. Climb up and right onto a ledge, then up onto another ledge that wraps right around the corner with big exposure. Belay at a thin vertical crack just left of a deep corner.

P5. 5.9+ 20m Walk right on the belay ledge around the corner and up the weakness on the right. Climb the right facing corner above past tricky moves on licheny, but well protected rock to the top.

Descent – Either scramble up to the summit and down to the Sunrise – McQuarrie col, or traverse right on a good ledge with some exposure to reach the snow couloir. The couloir has one short section of down climbing on rock.

Bring a full rack from #2 TCU to #3 Camalot with doubles in the #.5 to #1 BD sizes