

2012 Boutique Mountaineering Camp / Carbonate Range, Purcell Mountains

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CARBONATE GROUP

A group of peaks located on the main Purcell divide bounded on the north by Bobbie Burns Creek and on the south by a line connecting the headwaters of Malachite and Syncline creeks.

The entire group is shown on the NTS map sheet Westfall River 82 K/14.

CAIRN PEAK 2655M

Cairn Peak is the northeast outlier of the Carbonate Group located on the ridge between Malachite and Bobbie Burns creeks, map coordinates 014-525.

UNNAMED 2707M

Peak located 1.5km southwest of Cairn Peak, map coordinates 001-519.

UNNAMED 2726M

Peak located 5.9km due south of Spillimacheen Mountain, map coordinates 990-512.

UNNAMED 2727M

Peak located east of Carbonate Creek and 4.6km southwest of Cairn Peak, map coordinates 974-502.

CARBONATE MOUNTAIN 2699M

Double summit located east of the divide and north of Malachite Creek, map coordinates 971-493. The peak 0.5km to the southwest is 2697m.

MALACHITE SPIRE 3038M

A chimney-like rock tower located on the east retaining wall of Carbonate Glacier and 0.5km north-northeast of Horseman Spire, map coordinates 952-470. There are two minor subsidiary 2810m and 2779m summits on the ridge extending to the northeast.

*North Ridge* *PD 5.3*

Jim Ongena, Tim Schoonmaker, *Arnor Larson* May 25, 1987 [p.c.]

From a camp on the moraine of East Carbonate Glacier, ascend the east tongue of the glacier to the base of the north ridge. Begin on the west side of the ridge then cross over the ridge and ascend snow and glacier on the northeast flanks to gain a notch on the north ridge. At the notch, traverse back onto the west side of the ridge and continue towards the upper slabs. Climb a final pitch on north facing slabs to gain the summit. Ascent: 3½ hours from camp.

HORSEMAN SPIRE 3035M

Rocky spire located on the main Purcell divide and forming the southeast retaining wall of Carbonate Glacier, map coordinates 949-466. The name arises from the need to straddle a section of the ridge *a cheval*.

*North-northeast Ridge* *AD- 5.6*

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 15, 1953  
AAJ 9(28):44

A fine ridge climb festooned with many rappel slings, however it appears that few parties are successful in climbing this spire since there were only two records in the summit register to 2007.

From a camp in International Basin (at the head of Bobbie Burns Creek), traverse the Carbonate Glacier to the Horseman-Malachite col, from which the northeast ridge is ascended. A short distance above the col, climb a corner crack in smooth, unstable slate (5.4). The last 60m of the ridge offers exposed climbing with a 5.6 off-width crack on the final, slightly overhanging face. Ascent: 5½ hours.

**UNNAMED 2910M**

Peak located at the southwest head of Malachite Creek, forming the northwest buttress of the pass between Malachite and Syncline creeks, map coordinates 957-459.

**RICHARDS PEAK 2959M**

Peak located on the main Purcell divide between International Mountain to the west and Horseman Spire to the east, map coordinates 945-464. The first ascent party named this peak after Dr. and Mrs. I.A. Richards, who with Conrad Kain, were the first climbers to venture into the range.

*West Ridge* F 4th

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 14, 1953  
AAJ 9(28):44

Following an ascent of International Mountain, climb a rock buttress from the upper Carbonate Glacier to the west ridge. Climb several pitches of sound quartzite rock on the ridge to gain the summit. Ascent from the glacier in 2 hours.

*East Ridge* F 3rd

Jim Ongena, Tim Schoonmaker, *Arnor Larson*, May 24, 1987 [p.c.]

From a camp on the moraine of East Carbonate Glacier, ascend the east tongue of the glacier and traverse west of Horseman Spire to reach the base of the east ridge. Continue easily up the east ridge to the summit. Ascent: 5 hours from camp.

**UNNAMED 2650M**

Isolated minor summit located on the east side of International Basin and 2.9km north of International Mountain, map coordinates 931-492.

**UNNAMED 2615M**

Minor summit located 2km north-northwest of International Mountain, map coordinates 926-481.

*Southeast Ridge* F 4th

Donald Chiasson, Bill McKenzie, Roel Teunissen, August 1, 2007 [p.c.]  
CAJ 91:123

From a camp in the headwaters of Carbonate Creek, ascend to the headwall ridge separating the West and East Carbonate glaciers and follow the ridge northward, with pleasant scrambling to the summit.

**INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN 3099M**

International Mountain is the highest peak in the Carbonate Group, located on the southern retaining wall of Carbonate Glacier, map coordinates 933-463. The lower summit 0.3km to the east is 3070m.

*Northwest Ridge* F 3rd

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 14, 1953  
AAJ 9(28):43

From a camp in International Basin, ascend and traverse Carbonate Glacier to the northwest ridge, which is followed easily to the summit. Ascent: 3 hours from camp.

*West Ridge* *F 4th*

Jim Fosti, Leon Kubbernus, Lyn Michaud, Mike Simpson, August 15, 2005 [p.c.]  
From a camp in the headwaters of Bobbie Burns Creek at GR 893-496, contour the basin southeast to below the Battlement-International col then ascend the easy glacier to the col. Descend about 55m on the south side and then ascend steep snow to gain the west ridge which is followed to the summit. Ascent: 5 hours from camp.

**BATLEMENT MOUNTAIN 2909M**

Double summit and most southern peak of the Carbonate Group, located on the main divide between International Mountain and Sandilands Peak at the head of Carbonate Glacier, map coordinates 916-457. The north summit is slightly higher than the south summit.

*Northwest Ridge* *PD 5.4*

Donald Chiasson, Mark McDermott, Bill McKenzie, August 2, 2007 [p.c.]  
CAJ 91:123

From a camp in the headwaters of Carbonate Creek (GR 936-478) traverse west and ascend to the headwall ridge separating the East and West Carbonate glaciers. Cross the ridge, gain West Carbonate Glacier and traverse to the Battlement-International col, continuing beneath the northeast face to the base of the northwest ridge. Climb the ridge, with a rock step at mid-height and a set of pillars immediately below the summit.

**UNNAMED 2790M**

Rocky peak located 1.4km southwest of Battlement Mountain, between the headwaters of Alicia and Hatteras creeks, map coordinates 914-448.

**SANDILANDS PEAK 2736M**

Peak, originally referred to as **Gamma**, is located on the main divide at the south head of Bobbie Burns Creek, map coordinates 907-472.

*West Ridge* *F 3rd 35° 60m, Lee Schaeffer, Norman Thyer*

CAJ 87:121; KK 34:17, 1991

From a camp in the headwaters of Bobbie Burns Creek, traverse International Basin and ascend the couloir leading to the Sandilands-Strutt col. From the col ascend the easy ridge to the summit. On return to the col, traverse south slopes of Sandilands Peak to gain the Battlement-Sandilands col, descending the north slopes to return to camp in the headwaters of Bobbie Burns Creek.

**STRUTT PEAK** **2716M**

Peak, originally referred to as **Beta**, is located on the main divide between Sandilands Peak to the east and Mount Sibbald to the west, map coordinates 902-470.

*East Ridge* **F 3rd**

Lee Schaeffer, Norman Thyer, **1991**

CAJ 87:121; KK 34:17

From a camp at **GR** 893-496, traverse southeast across International Basin and ascend the glacier to gain the Sandilands-Strutt col. From the col, hike up the easy ridge to the summit.

*West Ridge* **F 4th**

Glenn Reisenhofer (solo), **2003**

CAJ 87:121

Ascend the west ridge as part of a traverse from Mount Sibbald to Sandilands Peak.

*North Couloir, West Ridge* **PD+ 60° 300m**

Kip Beckworth, Mitchell Burke, Joseph Carpenter, Maddy Chase, Greg Conyers, Peter Green, Matt Henzi, Laura Laney, Jack Lazar, Michal Orczyk, Joel Port, Ian Wayne, Sarah Wolf

August 15, 2007

CAJ 91:122

This route ascends the 300m high couloir on the north face of the secondary summit west of Strutt Peak, which progressively steepens to about 60° for the last 30m. At the top of the couloir, follow the west ridge directly to the summit.

**MOUNT SIBBALD** **2699M**

Peak, originally referred to as **Alpha**, is the western most peak of the Carbonate Group, located on the main divide at the head of Bobbie Burns Group, map coordinates 885-472.

*North Ridge* **F 3rd**

CAJ 87:121; KK 34:16

Members of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club climbed the north ridge in 1991 but there is a high probability that it was climbed prior to this. Ascend northeast slopes to the north ridge and scramble up the ridge to the north and south summits. Descend via west slopes or the east ridge to the Sibbald-Strutt col.

SPILLIMACHEEN GROUP

The Spillimacheen Group is a small group of peaks found west of Spillimacheen River, bounded on the north by McMurdo Creek and on the south by Bobbie Burns Creek. The Beaver and Duncan rivers form the western boundary of the group.

The Spillimacheen Group is covered by the 1:50,000 NTS maps McMurdo 82 N/2 and Mount Wheeler 82 N/3.

**DAVID PEAK** **2869M**

Peak located on the main divide forming the southern rim of Spillimacheen Glacier, map coordinates 894-527. There is a 2771m subsidiary summit 0.8km to the east. Following the first ascent, associates of geologist David Simpson considered mountain climbing foolish and named the peak "David's Folly".

*East Ridge* **F 3rd**

E. Carl Johnson, David Hope Simpson, 1946

APP 27:25

Ascend the east ridge via steep snow, which may be absent late in the season.

*West Ridge* **PD- 5.5**

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 12, 1953

AAJ 9(28):41

From a camp above the mine at the head of McMurdo Creek, ascend the glacier to the col between Cony and David, thereafter following the rock ridge. The only difficulty is the steep quartzite cliff for the last 30m to the summit. Ascent: 3 hours.

*Northeast Ridge* **F 4th**

Kip Beckworth, Mitchell Burke, Joseph Carpenter, Maddy Chase, Greg Conyers, Peter Green, Matt Henzi, Laura Laney, Jack Lazar, Michal Orczyk, Joel Port, Ian Wayne, Sarah Wolf  
August 13, 2007

CAJ 91:122

From camp, cross Spillimacheen Glacier and ascend to a small pass just east of the peak. Climb a rubbly 45m rock step to gain the imposing northeast ridge, which is followed in its entirety to the summit.

**CONY PEAK** **2864M**

Peak on the main Purcell divide forming the southwest retaining wall of Spillimacheen Glacier, 1.1km west of David Peak, map coordinates 884-525.

*East Ridge* **F 4th**

Sterling B. Hendricks, Don Hubbard, Alvin Peterson, Arnold Wexler, July 17, 1947

APP 27:21; CAJ 31:143

From Silent Pass via the north face between two small hanging glaciers, thence circling east to the east ridge, which is followed directly to the summit. Ascent: 3½ hours.

*East-West Traverse* **F 4th**

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 11, 1953

AAJ 9(28):41

From a camp above the mine at the head of McMurdo Creek, ascend via snow of east ridge and descend the west ridge traversing over two conspicuous gendarmes.

**TWIN TOWERS PEAK 2864M**

Double summit located on the main Purcell divide and forming the west retaining wall of Spillimacheen Glacier, map coordinates 879-525. Also known as **Notch Peak**.

*East Ridge* F 4th

Winslow Briggs, John Humphreys, Peter Ray, Robert West, August 11, 1953  
AAJ 9(28):41

Approach from nearby summit of Cony Peak in one hour. Descend via a steep rock buttress leading from the northwest ridge to the glacier and return to a camp above the mine. Descend in 3 hours.

*North Ridge* F 3rd

Charles Duerig, Chris Ritcey, Paul Werbaneth, Gregg Zaffaroni, *Arnor Larson*,  
September 5, 1987 [p.c.]

From a camp in Silent Pass, ascend to the glacier between Cony Peak and Twin Towers until it is easy to traverse west to gain the north ridge. Ascend the north ridge to the summit with no difficulty. Ascent: 5½ hours from camp.

**SILENT MOUNTAIN 2648M**

Peak located in the northwest headwaters of McMurdo Creek, 1.7km northwest of Silent Pass and 4km east-northeast of the Beaver-Duncan divide, map coordinates 860-570.

*Southeast Slopes* F 3rd

Winslow Briggs, Peter Ray, August 18, 1953  
AAJ 9(28):41

First recorded ascent. From Silent Pass climb steep grassy ledges and easy rock to the summit. On descent, traverse west over a prominent gendarme that the first ascensionists called "**Noisy Needle**".

*South Ridge* F 4th

Charles Duerig, Chris Ritcey, Paul Werbaneth, Gregg Zaffaroni, *Arnor Larson*,  
September 6, 1987 [p.c.]

From a camp in Silent Pass, ascend the south ridge to the southwest summit. Then proceed northeast along the rocky ridge crest to the main and highest summit. Descend easy southeast slopes to return to Silent Pass.

**UNNAMED 2673M** Peak located at the northeast end of the ridge between Caribou Creek to the west and McMurdo Creek to the east and 4.8km north-northeast of Silent Mountain, map coordinates 877-618.

**ROUTE INFORMATION COMPILED AND USED BY PERMISSION OF DAVID P. JONES**