

65a) Unforgiven 5.11c*** 277m, Mt. Yamnuska

A. Genereux & R. Beglinger, June 2007

F.F.A. A. Genereux & B. Balazs, August 2007

This is superb climb that exploits a strip of fantastic grey rock between **58) Chockstone Corner** and the **Grillmair Chimney's** break. The climbing is very consistent as to grade and quality over the entire route. The climbing is quite varied with stemming and crack climbing sections intermingled amongst the extensive superb face climbing and a few slab sections to keep things interesting. The line was established in a solo effort by Andy Genereux over 4 days using both lead and rappel bolting techniques before he then climbed the individual pitches using rope soling methods. The first complete ascent of the route ground up waited a further week for the miserable wet weather to improve before Andy along with his partner Ruedi Beglinger to finally succeed on seeing this project completed in a single push however the pockets on the crux proved greasy and dripped with water necessitating a hang by Genereux. He returned with Brain Balazs to finally see the line free climbed in a single push.

The name for this climb relates to the trend that this route like several other recent projects established by Genereux on the mountain in recent years. It too breaks with the traditional ideals held by past generations of climbers. Some of these traditionalists have never forgiven Genereux for pushing the modern scene on Yamnuska. By bringing this cliff forward in terms of modern standards and practices has caused criticisms to be levied that these practices will ruin this great cliff. How dare I make this happen on the crucible of Canadian Rockies traditional climbing. In the past the prevailing ethic while pushing new routes was about establishing them ground up. It was about bold climbing being better. Climbs more often than not were serious affairs using a minimalist approach towards bolts and fixed protection.

I have personally experienced these past ethics and pushing several changes in style myself over the past thirty years on this cliff. I have simply continued to develop and explore the mountain using these latest changes in style good or bad. This latest methodology is referred to as the modern mixed trad ethic. Employing these practices is for me about having some fun while creating good quality, well protected climbs. Whether it on Mt. Yamnuska or other venues. This is not meant to diminish accomplishments from past generations or other styles. I feel these modern climbs and ethics only add a different experience to the cliff. Recently I have been applying these tactics more often than not using a top down perspective to aid in efficiency placing the fixed protection removing loose rock to ensure my and other climbers personal safety. There are those that may disagree with these modern practices and techniques. That is OK there is still plenty of room for all styles to coexist on this great cliff. This route should prove to be one of the finer examples on the mountain employing this modern ethic. Enjoy or be unforgiving the choice is yours to make!

To locate this climb start as for the climb **#63 Glory Days** and climb the first half of the first pitch on that route. At a major ledge move to the left side of a free standing pyramid shaped pedestal to a ring bolt belay. Information to locate this start can be found in the latest guide for this cliff **Yamnuska Rock**, 2006, by Andy Genereux. The information is detailed on the topo drawings on pages 182-183, and 189. The description for “Glory Days” is found on page 194.

The route requires a light rack; this should include a complete set of cam’s to 3.5”, a set of medium wires, one set of micro cams along with 16 draws five or six extendable. A single rope is all that is required to climb the route but a second rope is required if parties are forced to bail from the climb before reaching the top. All belays have two ring-bolts stations.

P1) 5.10a, 25m. Climb the first pitch of **Glory Day’s** on superb compact grey rock past four bolts and some gear placements to a major ledge. Move left past a directional bolt to locate a ring bolt belay on the left side of a detached rock pedestal.

P2) 5.11c, 34m. Climb the left side of the pedestal to the top. Step onto the main wall and enter a shallow right facing corner. At the top of the corner make thin moves up and leftward to gain the edge of a left facing dihedral (**Gormenghast**). Palm the edge and climb straight up for 2m to a bulge. Sustained steep face climbing leads past 4 more bolts to a good ledge to belay. Fixed Protection

P3) 5.11a, 20m. Climb the corner left of the belay to a flat spot. Launch up into shallow slot past bolts. Traverse right and up on superb face climbing to a belay at the base of a shallow right leaning dihedral.

P4) 5.11a/b, 37m. Climb the dihedral sustained past several bolts, moving right onto the face. An tricky section to overcome bulging ground and climb a shallow groove to a belay on a good ledge.

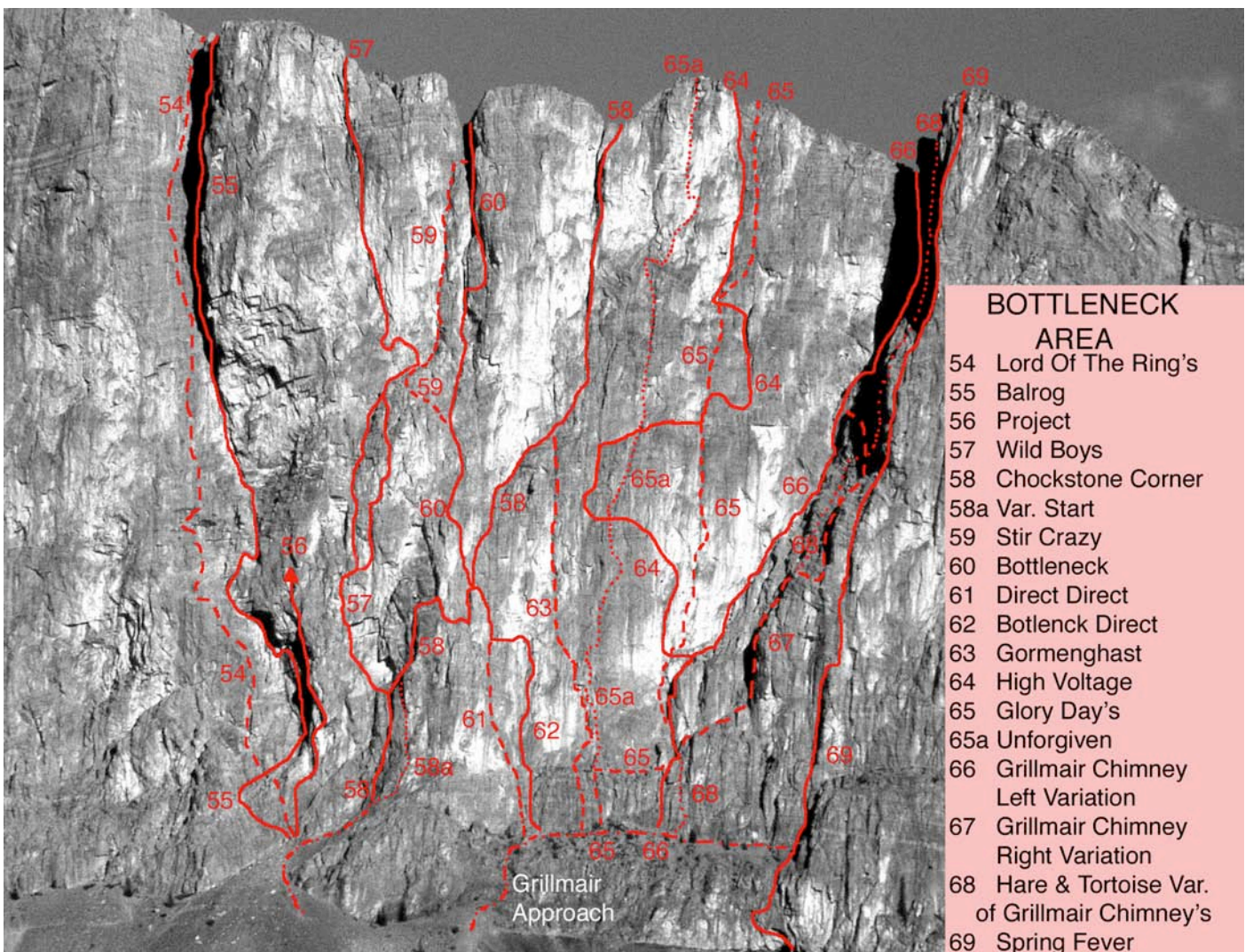
P5) 5.10b, 36m. Climb a line of bolts starting just left of the belay that angles back to the right as you ascend the pitch on superb grey stone. The ring-bolt belay is on a good ledge next to a blocky feature on the right.

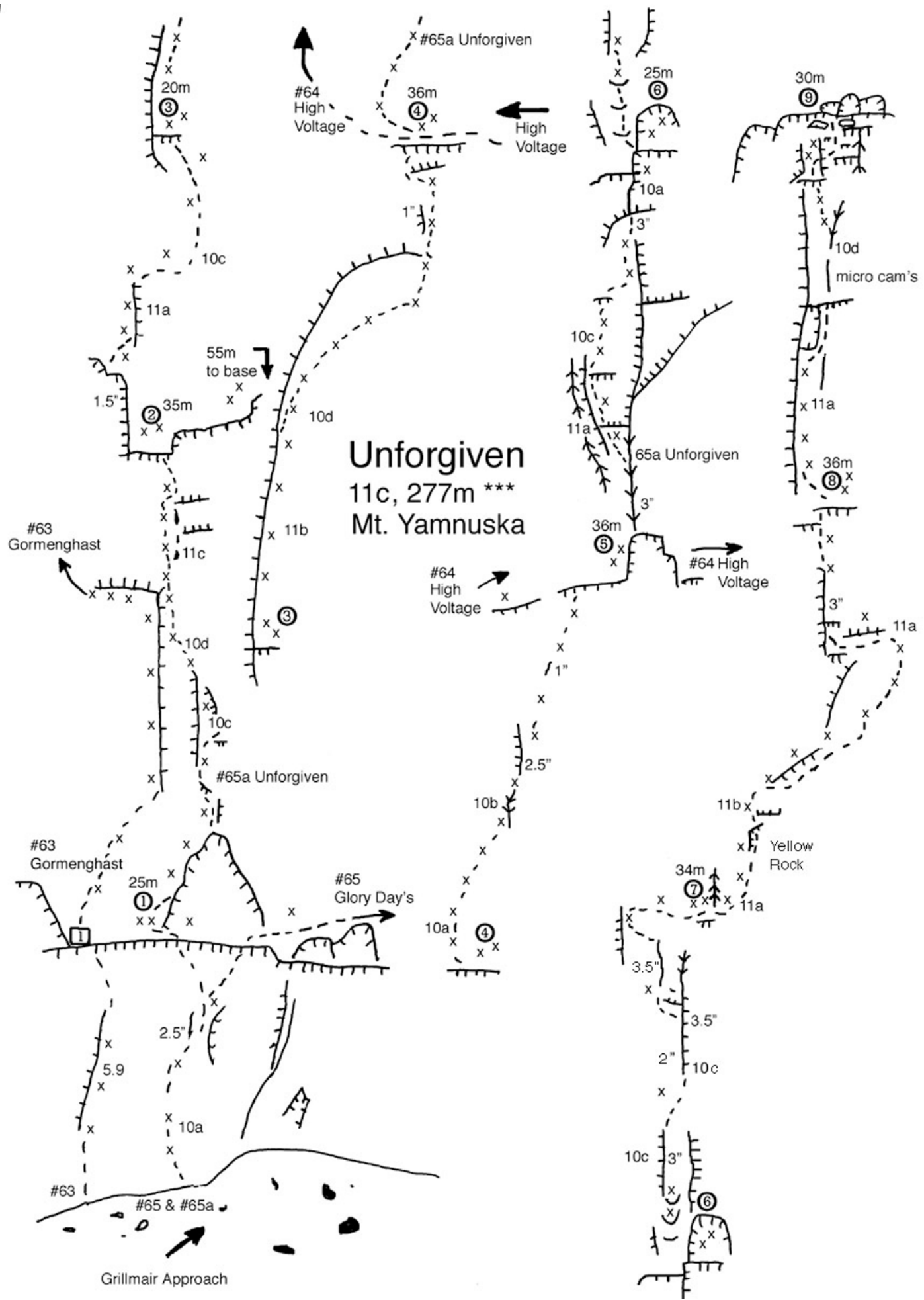
P6) 5.11a, 25m. Squeeze up the slot to gain the top of the large block. Step off this into a corner. Climb the corner on gear to a bolt. Move left to a steep less defined corner past a second bolt. Climb directly over bulging rock past two more bolts and angle right to a shallow corner. Climb the corner past a small roof to gain a ledge to belay.

P7) 5.10c, 34m. Enter a stepped bay and move past two bolts to gain a shallow right facing corner with a thin crack. Move up and right past a bolt to a second left facing corner. Difficult moves up the hand crack then move left onto prickled face to a bolt. Climb a wide crack moving left to a bolt. Climb a shallow corner to bolt then traverse right across a slab for 5m to a ring-bolt belay.

P8) 5.11b, 36m. Hard thin face climbing moves right from the belay. Sustained face climbing continues past four more bolts to a sloping ramp. Move up and right to the end up the ramp and climb up onto an exposed rib. Move up to the right side of a bulge and traverse left 3m to a hand crack. Climb the crack then pass two bolts on good in-cut holds to gain a good belay ledge.

P9) 5.10d/5.11a, 30m. Climb the dihedral sustained stemming past four bolts. Work past a large block to the right and climb a thin crack on the right wall. At a bulge make an awkward sequence left to a bolt. Finish up the corner to a bolted belay a 4m below the top. Scramble to the top over loose blocks.





Unforgiven
 11c, 277m ***
 Mt. Yamnuska

Grillmair Approach