

# Squawstruck, IV 5.11-

22 pitches, 1,900'

FA: Tristan Higbee, Thomas Gappmayer, 9/17/10

(T. Higbee w/ Christian Burrell earlier on lower pitches)

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1) Sharp slab to chossy roof. Turn roof on left side. Hollow jugs above roof. Some crimpy moves lead to easier climbing to a two bolt anchor (bolts don't have chains).

2) Cross from the pillar/tower to the main wall via the "Leap of Faith" and clip the chain anchor (this is where you rappel from if rappelling the route). Climb up easy terrain to a dihedral.

*Unrope and scramble up easy 3rd class terrain up to the big, sloping ledge. Angle right after the scrambling. (Keep your climbing shoes on. It's a short walk.) Pitch 3 starts in a shallow, chossy dihedral.*

3) Make some mantle moves on chossy rock. The rock gets better shortly. Go to the right of the bush on some 5.9 moves and belay on a nice ledge.

4) Nice slab leads to steep climbing over the left side of the roofs. Belay at a great ledge. (Can combine 3 & 4)

5) Go right, then up through the "Frosted Flakes" and some beautiful white rock. Turn a roof before the belay on a ledge.

6) Climb through a band of chossy rock to the first crux, then head right over a sandy brown roof (second crux). Belay (3 bolts) on giant ledge.

*Move up and left to the base of the next pitch, which starts just left of the edge of the pillar (belay at a flat spot to the right of the pillar).*

7) Turn the roof and climb up jugs on good rock to the ledge.

8) Go up and right. Carefully stand on very tip of pillar and make an interesting move (5.8 or 5.10a, depending on how you do it) to the belay (3 bolts). (Can combine 7 & 8)

*Walk right a couple hundred feet to the base of the next buttress. Pitch 9 starts on a blunt arete to the right of a broad trough.*

9) Dirty climbing on somewhat suspect rock leads to a large, dirt-covered ledge. Belay at the base of the next section of cliff. Go right and then up at bolt 8, not straight up.

10) Lots of slopers lead to a small roof. Funky climbing beyond the roof leads to a corner, then a layer of orange julius rock to the belay.

11) Go left on the ledge, then up past a couple shiny bolts to a ledge with a large pine tree. Head up steep part left of tree, then trend right to belay (hangers only).

*Scramble up to flat spot and unrope. Put approach shoes on and head northwest uphill till you see a short red fixed rope. Scramble up short cliff band (using fixed line), then head up and left. You'll see a dark cave/mine at the base of the next section of cliff. Aim for that, switchbacking your way up the slope to make it easier. Pitch 12 starts just right of the mine. The mine offers a nice respite from the sun.*

12) Thought-provoking slab climbing with a couple bulgy sections.

13) Climb up the steep wall using the cracks to a ledge. Climb up the steep funky flaring chimney thing to a large, sloping belay ledge.

14) Tan slab with horizontals leads to a corner, which leads to a roof. Enjoy the exposure, get a rest right before the roof (there are bolted variations to the left and right here, as I didn't know which would be easier. The left one is easier and better, and the right can lead to a bigger pendulum fall. So go left.) and then can lead to a bigger pendulum fall. So go left.) and then make insecure, desperate moves to the belay. This belay (an exposed stance) is the worst on the route.

15) Climb up the face, then head into the corner to some guano-draped holds. At the roof, turn the arete to the right and face massive exposure as you crimp your way to the belay.

16) Move the belay to two bolts 10 feet to the right. Climb up the very thin slab. Some balancy moves, some big moves. Hard pitch to read. Belay at 3 bolts.

*Go up the slope, using the fixed line if necessary (put approach shoes on), then head right along the base of the cliff. Continue right (east) a few hundred feet to a shallow, right-facing dihedral. There's a 10' length of rope attached to the first bolt, making it easier to see.*

17) Climb the dihedral and pass a couple bulges to the belay.

18) Long pitch with 3 cruxes. Make some burly moves to a big pocket, then more burly climbing leads up and left, left, left. The whole pitch angles left significantly.

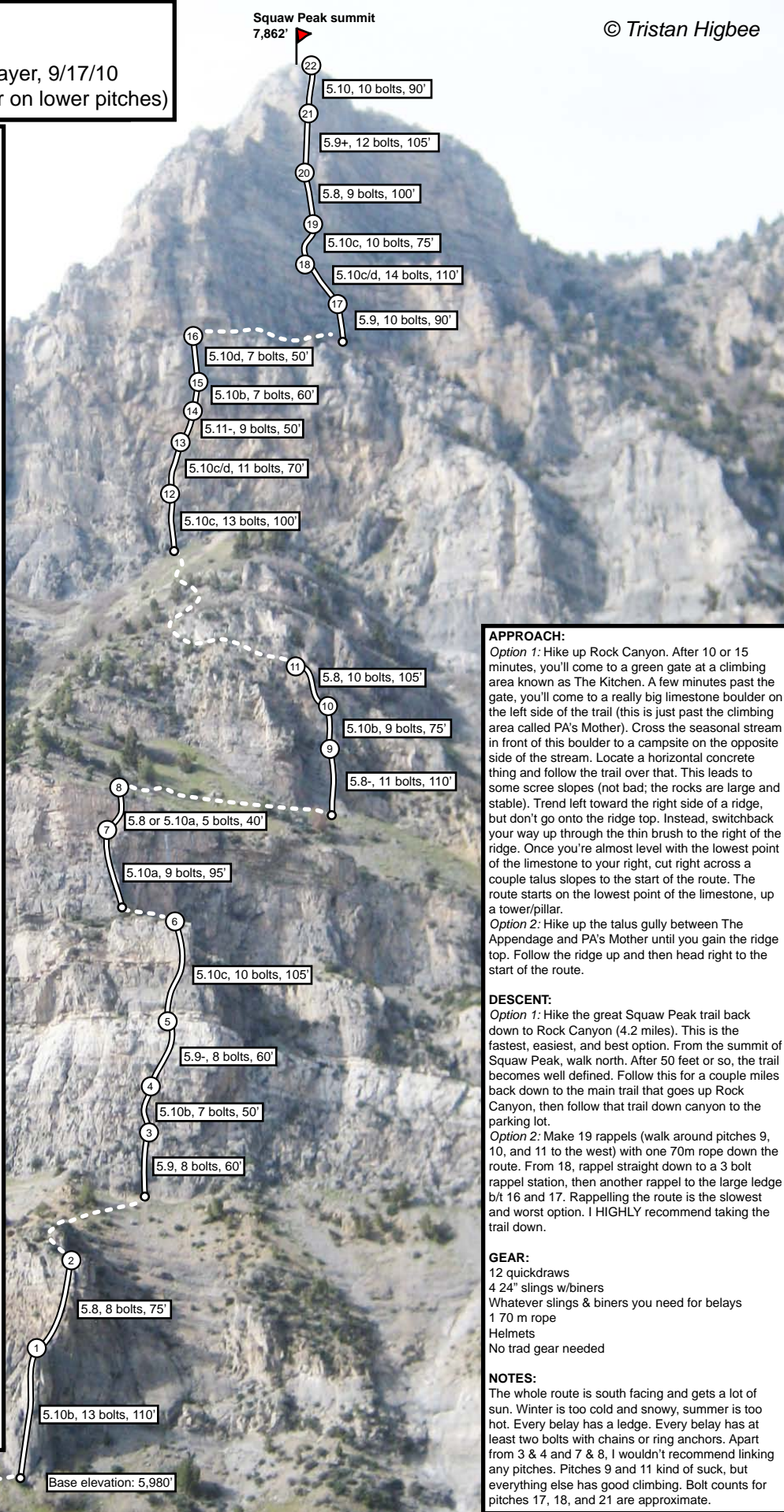
19) Thin slab leads up and left to beautiful rock and then back right on desperate and tricky holds.

20) The "Marble Slab" pitch. Climb up a steepish section, then enjoy the sweet slab with cool rock to the next belay.

21) Thin holds over a less-than-stellar roof make you wish you were at the top already.

22) Keep climbing up then right over some roofs with depressingly small holds.

*You can unrope here and scramble up 30' to the summit of Squaw Peak (7,862').*



## APPROACH:

**Option 1:** Hike up Rock Canyon. After 10 or 15 minutes, you'll come to a green gate at a climbing area known as The Kitchen. A few minutes past the gate, you'll come to a really big limestone boulder on the left side of the trail (this is just past the climbing area called PA's Mother). Cross the seasonal stream in front of this boulder to a campsite on the opposite side of the stream. Locate a horizontal concrete thing and follow the trail over that. This leads to some scree slopes (not bad; the rocks are large and stable). Trend left toward the right side of a ridge, but don't go onto the ridge top. Instead, switchback your way up through the thin brush to the right of the ridge. Once you're almost level with the lowest point of the limestone to your right, cut right across a couple talus slopes to the start of the route. The route starts on the lowest point of the limestone, up a tower/pillar.

**Option 2:** Hike up the talus gully between The Appendage and PA's Mother until you gain the ridge top. Follow the ridge up and then head right to the start of the route.

## DESCENT:

**Option 1:** Hike the great Squaw Peak trail back down to Rock Canyon (4.2 miles). This is the fastest, easiest, and best option. From the summit of Squaw Peak, walk north. After 50 feet or so, the trail becomes well defined. Follow this for a couple miles back down to the main trail that goes up Rock Canyon, then follow that trail down canyon to the parking lot.

**Option 2:** Make 19 rappels (walk around pitches 9, 10, and 11 to the west) with one 70m rope down the route. From 18, rappel straight down to a 3 bolt rappel station, then another rappel to the large ledge b/t 16 and 17. Rappelling the route is the slowest and worst option. I HIGHLY recommend taking the trail down.

## GEAR:

- 12 quickdraws
- 4 24" slings w/biners
- Whatever slings & biners you need for belays
- 1 70 m rope
- Helmets
- No trad gear needed

## NOTES:

The whole route is south facing and gets a lot of sun. Winter is too cold and snowy, summer is too hot. Every belay has a ledge. Every belay has at least two bolts with chains or ring anchors. Apart from 3 & 4 and 7 & 8, I wouldn't recommend linking any pitches. Pitches 9 and 11 kind of suck, but everything else has good climbing. Bolt counts for pitches 17, 18, and 21 are approximate.

# Approaches



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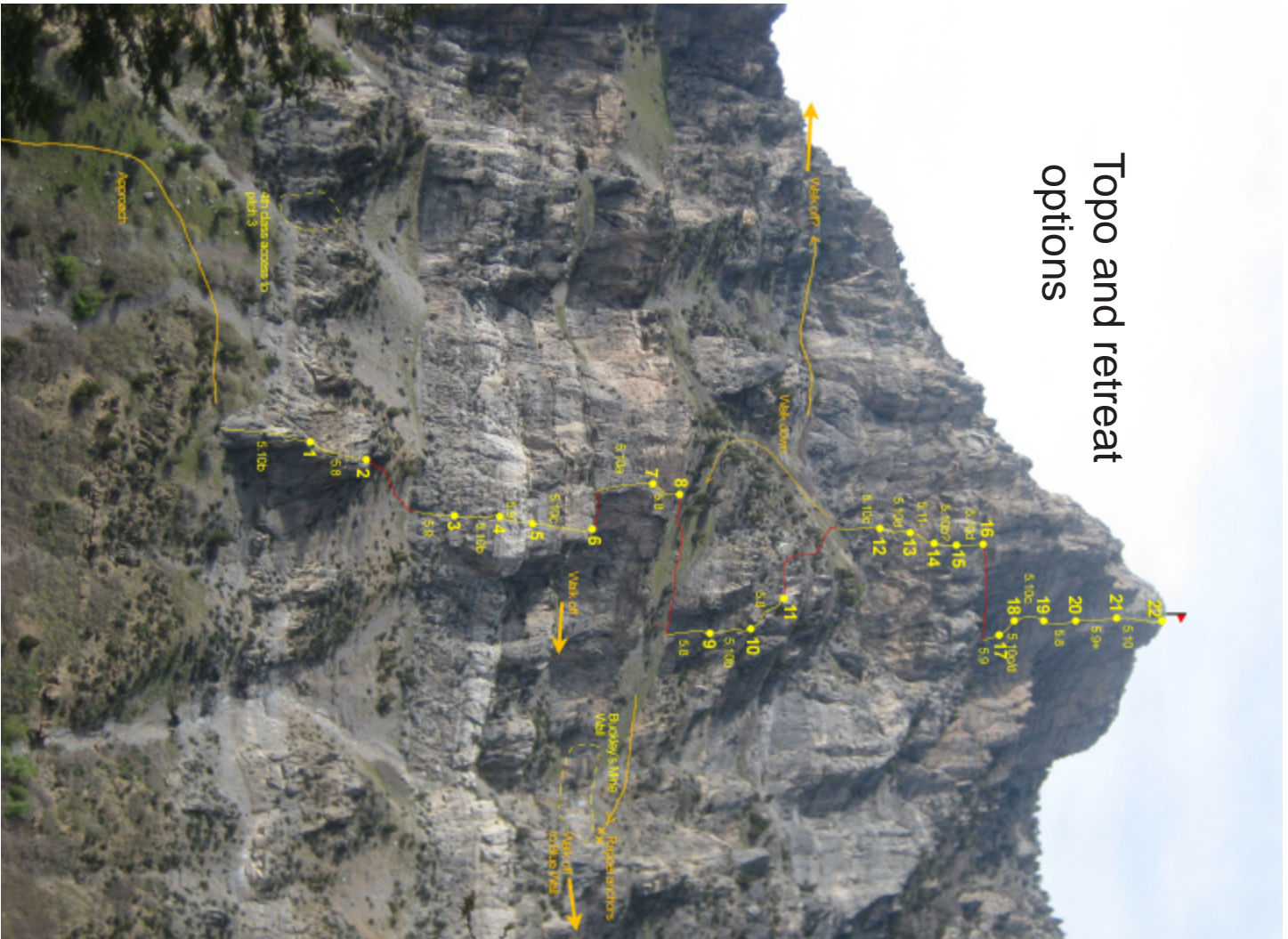
## Driving directions to Rock Canyon:

From the **north**, (Salt Lake City) drive south on I-15 and exit at 800 N in Orem (exit 272). Drive east until 800 N ends; take the exit right onto University Avenue (if you go straight, you'll end up driving through Provo Canyon). Continue south on University Avenue until 2230 N (the 7th light signal). Turn left and drive east through a residential neighborhood until the road starts to curve right (south). Turn left on N. Temple Drive (the Mormon Temple is visible just before you turn). Continue east on N. Temple through a 4-way stop sign. As the road curves to the south (right) the Rock Canyon parking will be directly ahead.

From the **south**, exit from I-15 at University Avenue in Provo (exit 263). Continue north on University Avenue until 2230 N (the first light signal after passing BYU's football stadium on your right). Turn right and follow the rest of the directions, above.

You could also take the Provo Center Street (265) or University Parkway (269) exits.

For climbing gear and beta, go to **Mountainworks** in Provo (near Shopko and Movies 8 dollar theater and attached to The Quarry climbing gym) @ 2494 North University Parkway, Provo, UT 84604. Phone: 801-371-0223



# Topo and retreat options