

## HATTERAS GROUP

This compact cluster of heavily glaciated peaks, lying on or W of the divide, offers perhaps the most interesting climbing in the northernmost Purcells. The main watershed extends S from Snowman Pass (7410) over Snowman Peak and Krinkleton Mtn to Hume Pass (7900; incorrectly located on 82K14), rounding the head of the middle (W) fork of Crystalline Creek. Intersecting this portion of the group about midway, a line of peaks runs W one mi through Mt Hatteras and then NW for another 5 mi until cut off by an unnamed tributary of Duncan River. At the point where the ridge turns NW, there is an important geologic contact where late Pre-Cambrian sediments yield to granitic intrusives which extend E across the Duncan River from the Battle Range. This contact runs along just E of the NW trending ridge, as evidenced by several metamorphic outliers on the E side.

Within the curve of the group lie the principal glaciers: the Hatteras Glacier (2 mi long) originating between Krinkletop Mtn and Mt Hatteras, a broad glacier between Mt Hatteras and Sugarplum Spire, and numerous smaller glaciers coming from the granite peaks to the NW. These glaciers all drain N into the same unnamed Duncan tributary which provides W drainage from the Carbonate and Vermont Groups. The S face of the group drains abruptly into the main trunk of Hume Creek, while the W side drains more or less directly into the

Purcell Trench.

ACCESS. From the Ruth Mine on Vermont Creek, the Valley of the Lakes is reached over Cold Shiver Col in approximately 6 hr (see Vermont Group). From the upper lake, ascend to a bench and contour S to a pass (8150) immediately W of the lower lake. Cross the pass and, bearing generally S, descend to meadows and open forest, thereafter crossing two wooded shoulders to a terrace far above the creek valley. A forest camp may be placed here, or ½ mi farther on, near the tongue of the Hatteras Glacier. About 4 hr are required from the Valley of the Lakes; from the mine it is a long day involving an elevation gain (and loss) of about 4000'. A less direct alternative used by the 1954 party (but not recommended): cross the pass (8100) S of the lower lake, descend to Snowman Lake (7300), and then cross the divide at Snowman Pass (7410), descending NW to

join the route described above (AAJ 9-105).

The winter of 1954 produced heavier snowfall than seen in these mountains in the years since. This should be taken into account in reading reference descriptions of routes climbed by the Robinson party although they have been updated herein based on an editor's recent experience there. Thus, the approach from Vermont Creek was facilitated, as was the ascent of Mt Hatteras, whereas the NW ridge of Sugarplum Spire was considerably more difficult than normally.

MAP: 82K/14

Snowman Peak (8950)

SW buttress of Snowman Pass.

FA 1973, C. & T. Crowley, A. Knudsen, I. & S. Little.

From camp at Snowman Lake via E face and N ridge.

2-W Ridge, Jul 1975, R. Kruszyna, D. Whitburn. Gain nearly level shoulder above camp near Hatteras Glacier, then scramble up steep blocks of ridge. Ascent 2 hr.

Krinkletop Mtn (Barrier Mtn) (9150)

Between Snowman Pk and Mt Hatteras.

FA Jul 1954, W. Briggs, R. Morden, P. Robinson. Traverse S-N. From col E of Mt Hatteras, scramble along S ridge to highest point (one hr). Continue N along ridge to broad, low col, from which descent is made to W down ledges and gullies to glacier and thence to forest camp in 3 hr (CAJ 38-29, AAJ 9-107). (Traversed in reverse direction from Snowman Peak in 2 hr, July 1975, R. Kruszyna, D. Whitburn).

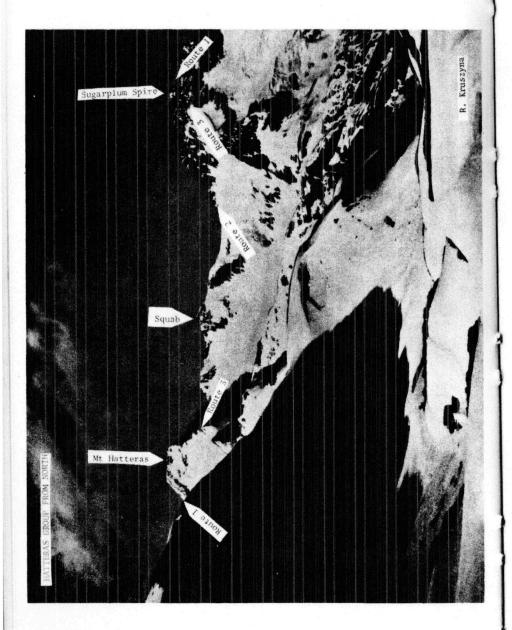
Mt Hatteras (Wedge) (9650)

Highest summit of group; a striking wedge-shaped snow

peak.

FA Jul 1954, Robinson party (see Krinkletop). E Ridge. From forest camp ½ mi from Hatteras Glacier, ascend glacier to E col (3 hr). Climb easy rock rib, then a very steep snow slope. Circle left to avoid cornice overhanging the top of the ridge, then scramble to summit. 11/2 hr from col; descent 1 hr (AAJ 9-105; CAJ 38-29).

2-Traverse. 1959, HMC parties led by R. Page, M. Wortis. Peak traversed both E to W and W to E, including Unnamed



(8950) (Squab) located between Mt Hatteras and Sugarplum Spire. Rock loose on W ridge (Harvard 15–22; AAJ 12–137).

3-N Ridge. Jul 1975, H. & R. Kruszyna, D. Whitburn. From camp near tongue of Hatteras Glacier to upper basin below objective, from which the level section of the ridge is gained. The ridge is followed, mostly on snow, by-passing several rock pinnacles. The final steep, exposed ridge above the schrund offers mixed snow and rock problems with two pitches of F4. Ascent 7 hr.

Sugarplum Spire (9350)

A striking granite peak 2 mi NW of Mt Hatteras.

FA Jul 1954, Robinson party (see Krinkletop). NW Ridge. From forest camp, ascend glacier toward the col N of objective, avoiding icefall to the right (2.5 hr to col). Skirt the initial buttress for 100' to the right to gain a gully which leads to crest of ridge. Climb ridge for several hundred feet to first step, which requires 4 leads to surmount (F3). An easy descent, then a sharp ridge offering strenuous and exposed climbing lead to the top of the second step. The ensuing deep gap is passed by swinging down on a jambed stone under an overhang and then climbing back out on the other side. Scramble the broad ridge to the base of the "Plum". Two pitches, one a blocky chimney (F3), and some scrambling gives access to the summit. Difficulties comparable to Bugaboo Spire below the gendarme. Ascent from col 4.5 hr (AAJ 9-107; CAJ 38-29). Descent is made from the "Plum" to the broad part of the NW ridge before the gap. Zig-zag down ledges of the W face, working diagonally N to cross the couloir from the "gap" about half-way down. Circle W to regain col of ascent route; 2 hr. While this route is the easiest on the peak, crossing the W face couloir becomes progressively harder as the snow cover disappears.

2-SE Ridge. Aug 1959, R. Hartshorne, W. Pott, M. Wortis. Gain the col at the end of the ridge (2 hr from camp near glacier snout). Scramble on good rock, traversing the first two towers and then descending into the deep notch before the third tower. Circle left (W) and then back to regain the crest, which is interjected by several gendarmes. Pass these, mostly on the right (N) (F3), to reach a sharp notch overhung by a spectacular minaret. Descend (or rappel) on the W to the col before the summit pyramid. Avoid the cliff by climbing a ramp to the left

and then a chimney (F4) which leads to the top. 4 hr from the

col. A fine route (Harvard 15-22; AAJ 12-137).

3-NE Face. Aug 1959, R. Coe, R. Goody, A. Nickerson. Gain nearly level section of E ridge by easiest access from S side. Ascend ridge almost to steep portion, then traverse a tower to the right and cross a steep ice gully. Ascend NE face by zig-zag route along ledges (sound granite). 300' higher, regain E ridge (F3) and scramble to the summit. An enjoyable climb. 7 hr round trip from camp near glacier (Harvard 15–22; AAI 12–137).

4-Traverse S-N. Jul 1975, H. & R. Kruszyna, D. Whitburn.

Pirouette Pinnacles (8900)

A group of several minor summits ranging in elevation from 8500' to 8900' along ridge one mi NW of Sugarplum Spire.

FA Jul 1975, H. & R. Kruszyna, D. Whitburn. Traverse S-N. To col at S end of objective as in Route One for Sugarplum Spire (2 hr). Scramble up E face of Pinnacle #1 to top. Rappel to sharp notch between #1 and #2. Traverse onto W face and climb 150' wall (F5) to regain crest which is followed to summit of #2. Continue along ridge over #3 (highest point) through #6 (3 hr from col). The first two and the last pinnacle are granitic, the rest metamorphic. Descend down glacier and around to camp near tongue in 2 hr. (Note: Pinnacle #1 (8600) was first ascended by its broken W ridge in 1971, C. & T. Crowley, R. Fryling).

Unnamed (9000)

Another group of minor summits along the ridge one mi NW of Pirouette Pinnacles; the first two are granite.

Greater things are believed of those who are absent.

C. Tacitus