

Egyptian amphitheater

Bastion Wall, the Ghost River Wilderness

The Egyptian amphitheater is the north most rock climbing area in the ghost and is also home to some of the most moderate routes in the ghost. The walls tend to be less steep and made of generally good quality rock with excellent natural protection.

Approach

From North Ghost parking (as per Silver Tongue Devil) cross the river and follow a road up and North-east under the Bastion wall all the way to the first lake. Cut around the west shore of the lake on faint trails then angle uphill through the trees to gain the creek drainage. Follow this to the cliff. The approach is an easy hour from the parking area.

- **Uller** (5.8) ascends the long ridge that forms the left edge of the area. It is usually in the sun. The Nile waterfall is in the back corner of the area and is a key landmark.
- **Hapi** (5.10d) climbs just left of the Nile waterfall, starting from the top of 3rd class ledges. The route can be climbed at the 5.10b standard if 4 points of aid are used.
- **Geb** (5.7) leaves from the same ledge and climbs a straight in hand crack on the second pitch; the crack is obvious from the base of the Nile waterfall.
- **Anubis** (5.10a) climbs from a different set of 3rd class ledges left of **Geb**. It starts below a large corner then traverses right into a smaller corner.
- **Set** (5.9) is on the sunny wall starting about 50m right of the Nile waterfall. The route climbs to a prominent chimney then dodges right around a steep wall then passes a large overhang on the right side.
- **Phoenix** (5.7) climbs the wall just left of the dark gully on the right side of the area. It is the crack that leads to a small roof, and then ascends up the wall until it forks and ends.

Descents

Uller, **Geb**, and **Anubis** can be descended with two ropes – prepare to leave slings. Alternatively you can rappel **Hapi** on a single rope.

Hapi and **Phoenix** can be rappelled with a single 60m rope from chain stations.

Set is not prepared for rappels. Descend by **Hapi**.

Hapi descent

- Traverse the hillside to the Nile waterfall. Descend to about 40m above the cliff's edge.
- Cut across east (towards Black Rock Mountain and look for a pink block about the size of a microwave.
- Walk downhill 10m to a clean slab with a single bolt. Can be used as a belay.
- Down scramble (loose rock) 25m to a chain anchor at the edge of the cliff. This is the top of Hapi.
- Four rappels on a single 60m rope.

"Uller" *220m 4 Pitch 5.8

First ascent: Brian Spear, Keith Haberl Dec 8th 2002

Gear requirements: gear to 3", long slings.

This moderate route climbs the low angle ridgeline/face around the corner and to the right of "Loki". It is named for "Uller", the Norse god of Winter. This north facing route was first climbed in mid December. It ascends a system of cracks and slabs and an amazing clean right facing corner to low angle ramps leading to a prominent buttress.

The climb

1. 55m, 5.8. Start just left of a raised platform and climb up and left to a crack. Climb this (bolt) past difficulties to ledges. Continue up past a bolt to a bolted belay down and right from the obvious clean corner.
2. 60m, 5.6. Diagonal up and left to a steep crack just right of the corner. Climb this past bolts until it ends then traverse left to the corner climbing it to the top (30m bolted belay station). Climb any line (loose rock) to a bolt and piton belay on a small stance between two gullies just below a small shrub.
3. 55m, 5.1. Climb any line straight up to a belay (Piton and bolt). Careful: loose rock.
4. 50m, 5.7. Ascend up and right on compact clean rock to a corner below the overhang (bolt). Climb up the corner to 8m below the overhangs and a bolt. Break out left around an arête to an easy step up leads to a bolt and easier climbing to the two bolt belay below the top. An excellent pitch.

Alternate start – 5.7

1. From a large flat ledge on the right side of the first pitch climb a bolted corner/slab to a good ledge.
2. traverse left (bolts to join pitch 1 below the crux).

The descent

Rappel the route with two ropes. Bring slings. Be cautious of rock fall while rappelling pitch 3.

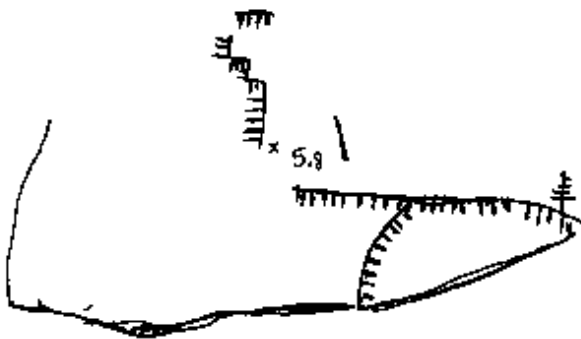
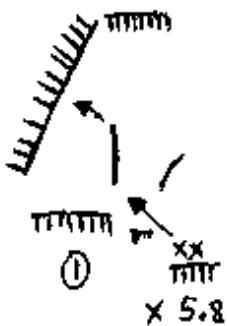




Many Options



many options



"ULLER"

(Norse God of Winter)

4pitch 5.8 (220m)

Bastion Wall (Ghost River)

F.A. Keith Haberl, BRIAN SPEAR

Dec. 14th 2002

Located on the North facing
Buttress North of "LOKI"

Anubis 140m 4 Pitch 5.10a gear route

First ascent: Brian Spear, Ken Wylie, Sept 2002

Gear requirements: Protection to 4"

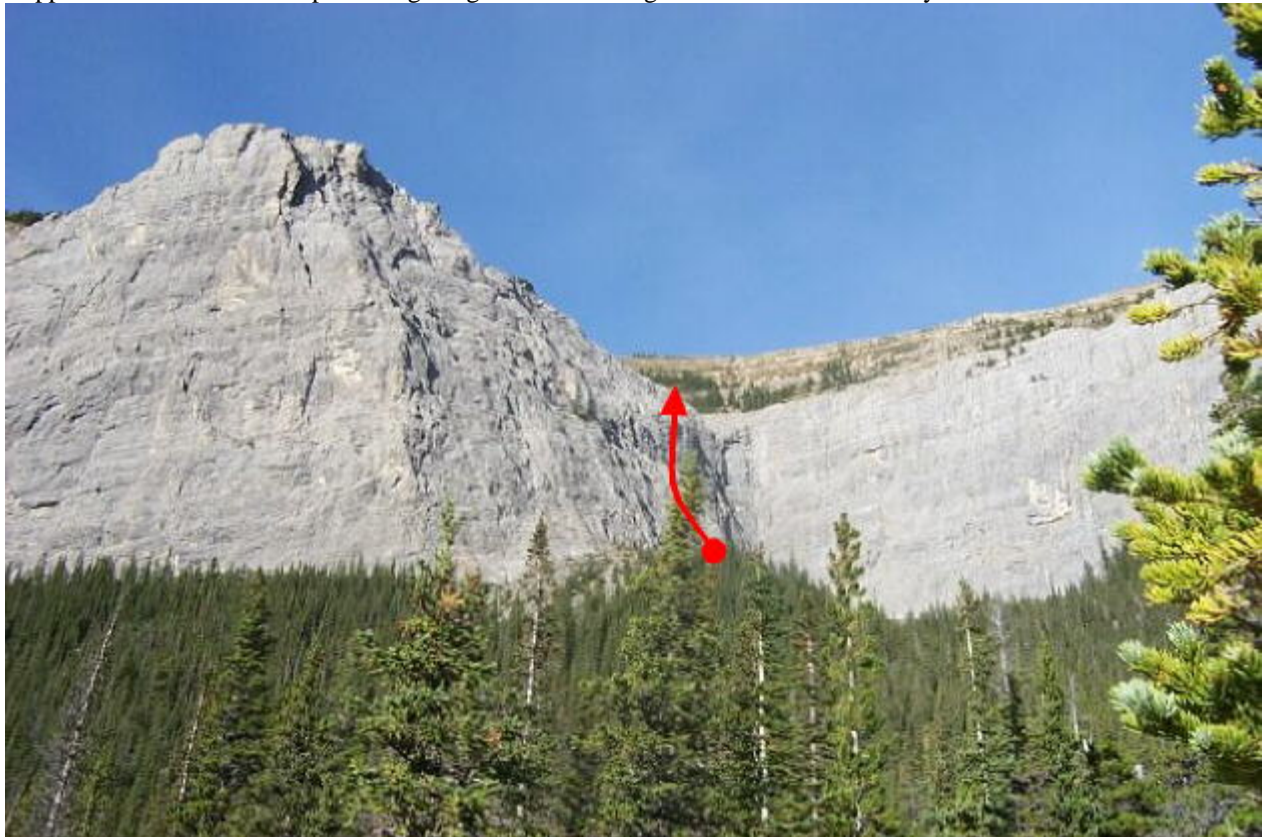
This climb is on the shady side of the Egyptian amphitheater - great on hot days. The route has great crack climbing down low and excellent friction face climbing up high. Only a short section in the middle lacks technical interest. Anubis climbs an obvious crack system on a northeast-facing wall. Scramble 20m up to a platform just tight of a major right facing corner system. There is a single bolt anchor.

The climb

1. 45m, 5.10a. Angle up and right to gain a steep crack that leads to a right facing corner. Pass the small roof at its top (10a) and ascend the steep crack above until easy climbing leads up and left to a two bolt station in a clean corner.
2. 35m, 5.10a. Hard moves (10a) above a bolt lead to a ledge. Step right to gain a wide crack and climb this to a two bolt belay right of a big ledge
3. 30m, 5.6. Climb the slabs above to a grassy ledge and two-bolt belay
4. 30m, 5.9. Ascend clean slabs past a horizontal crack to gain a pedestal (bolt). Challenging moves past a second bolt (5.9) lead to an easy slab and the top of the wall (two bolt belay).

The descent

Rappel the route with two ropes. Bring slings as the old slings will be absent or destroyed.

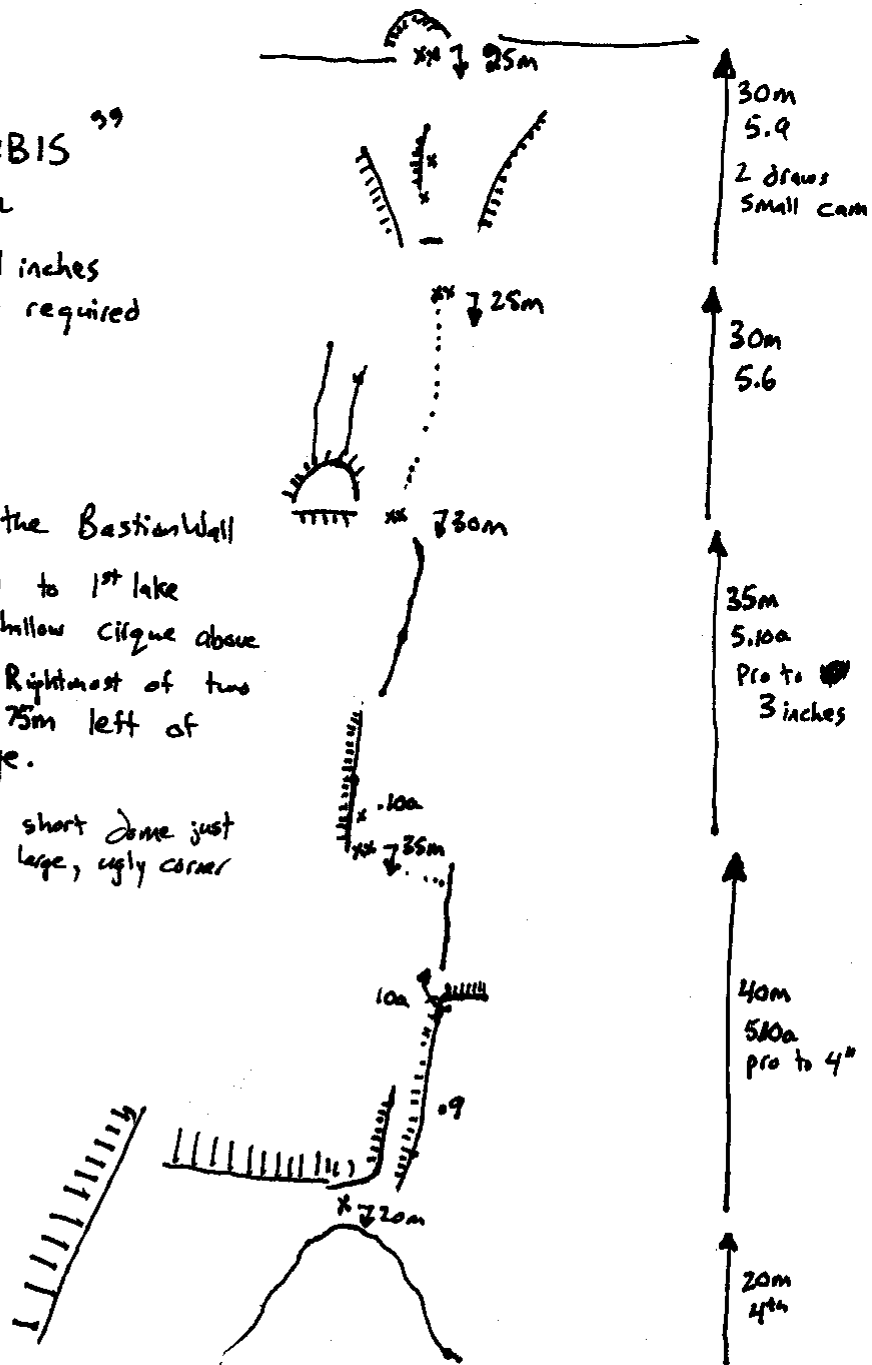


66 ANUBIS 99
 4p 5.10a
 Pro to 4 inches
 Pitons not required

Approach:

Park for the Bastion Wall
 Hike 4WD road to 1st lake
 Hike up to shallow cirque above
 Anubis climbs Rightmost of two
 crack lines 75m left of
 the seepage.

Scramble a short dome just
 right of a large, ugly corner



Geb * 5.7 155m.**

Protection to 4"

B Spear, M Miller, September 2004 ground up.

This route has sustained 5.7 climbing on excellent rock and good quality natural protection. This is probably the best multi pitch route of it's grade in the Ghost. The route is on the shady side of the "Egyptian Amphitheater" between "Anubis" and the Nile waterfall. A key landmark is a steep gray slab with a lightning bolt straight in crack about 10m tall on the second pitch of the route. Begin at a low angle crack/groove with two bolts on the left side of 3rd class ledges.

The climb

1. 5.7, 25m Climb a steep clean corner/groove (5.6, two bolts) to a crack below a small overhang. Belay above on bolts.
2. 5.7, 35m. Climb over the second overhang to a crack. At the top of this step right (piton) to a corner that leads to a steep slab with a straight in crack. Climb this to a ramp that leads to a two bolt belay.
3. 5.7, 35m. Mantel over a small overlap (5.7) to a fixed pin. Climb above on excellent rock and protection to a layback ramp. At the top step right to a stance then up and left (bolt) through steep climbing on excellent holds (5.7) to a ledge and a bolt belay.
4. 5.7, 40m. Climb 4th /low 5th class on excellent rock that steepens to a headwall. Where the crack angle left and eases, climb the face above to a wide crack then up that to the belay (5.7).

Descent:

Rappel with two ropes or descend by Hapi. Bring fresh slings.

Hapi ** 125m 4 pitch 10+.

Bolts, gear to 4"

FA Brian Spear, Mark Miller July 3rd 2005

This is a new route in the little Egypt amphitheater that ascends the wall immediately left of the waterfall and starts just right of a prominent right leaning crack line. It can be descended with a single 60m rope and is the easiest descent of all the routes in the amphitheater. It was established on lead with a power drill. Two of the bolts were placed from aid stances and some bolts placed from rappel after the first ascent.

Hapi was the Egyptian god of the Nile and annual flooding. The spring of 2005 had incredible floods and the river crossings on the day of the first ascent were as high as the first ascent party had seen.

Hike to the waterfall and scramble up easy ledges to where the wall gets steep.

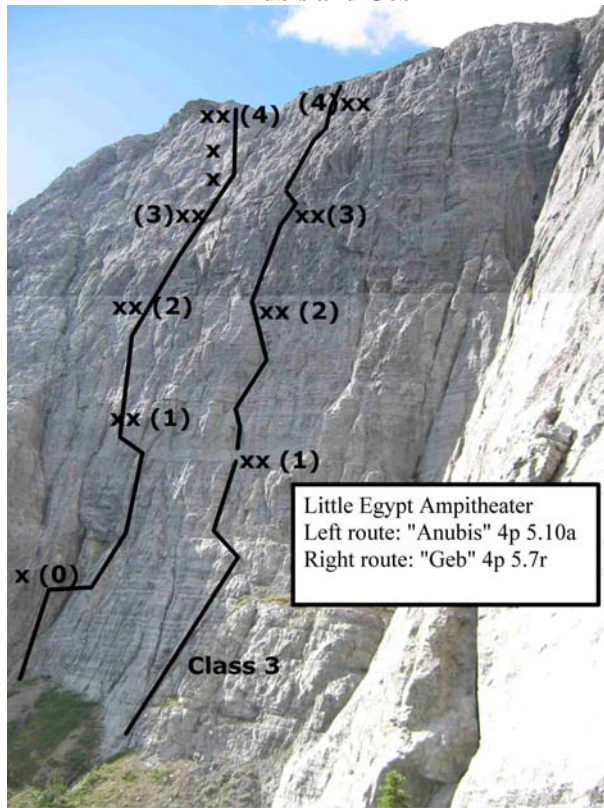
The climb

- 1) 40m 5.10+ (or 10b with 2 points of aid). Climb to a crack (10a, bolt) then up (gear and one bolt) to where the wall gets steep at two bolts. Climb the steep wall and the difficult crack above (10+ or three points of aid) lead to easier climbing and another bolt. More sustained 10- climbing on the solid wall leads to a friable arch and the belay.
- 2) 30m 5.8 climb the corner above past a bolt and occasional gear placements until it steepens. Climb this (#4 camalot) or pass it on the right and step back to the corner and climb to a belay on the higher of two ledges. Variation: from the belay traverse right and up past three bolts before stepping left into the corner again.
- 3) 25m 5.7 climb the wall above past two bolts, a piton and occasional gear placements to a belay.
- 4) 35m 5.9. Climb steep rock on surprising handholds angling right at the top. 8 bolts

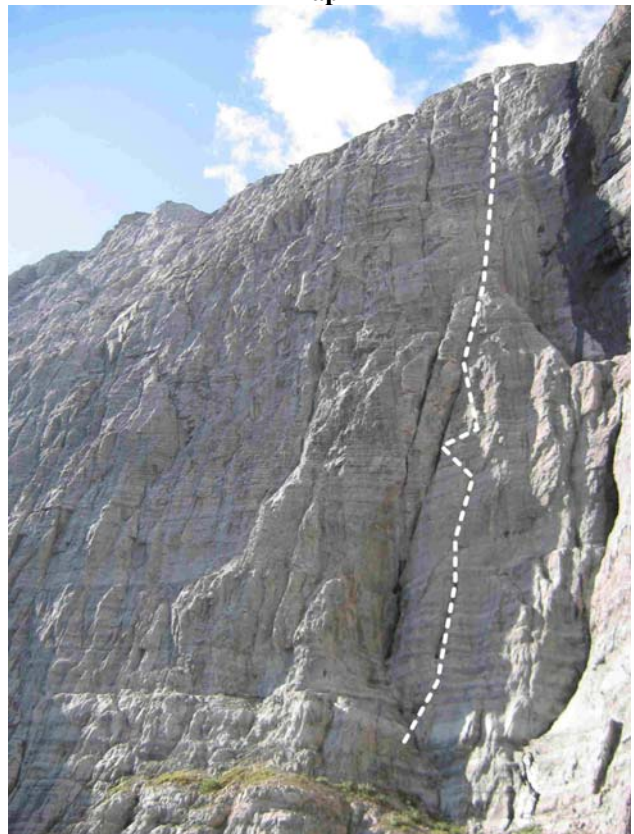
Descent:

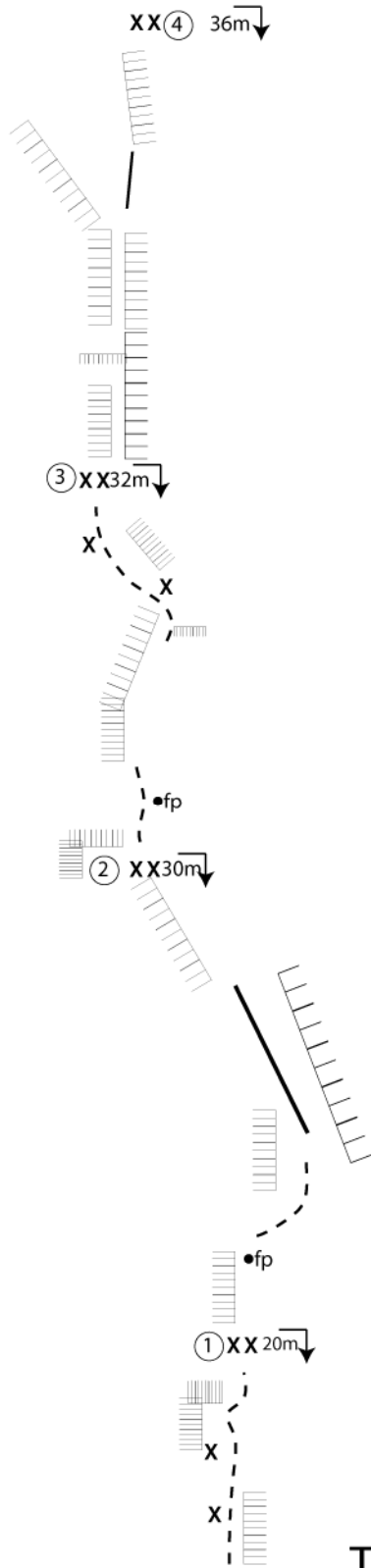
- 1) 4 rappels with a single 60m rope. Two of the rappels require the full 30m of rope

Anubis and Geb



Hapi

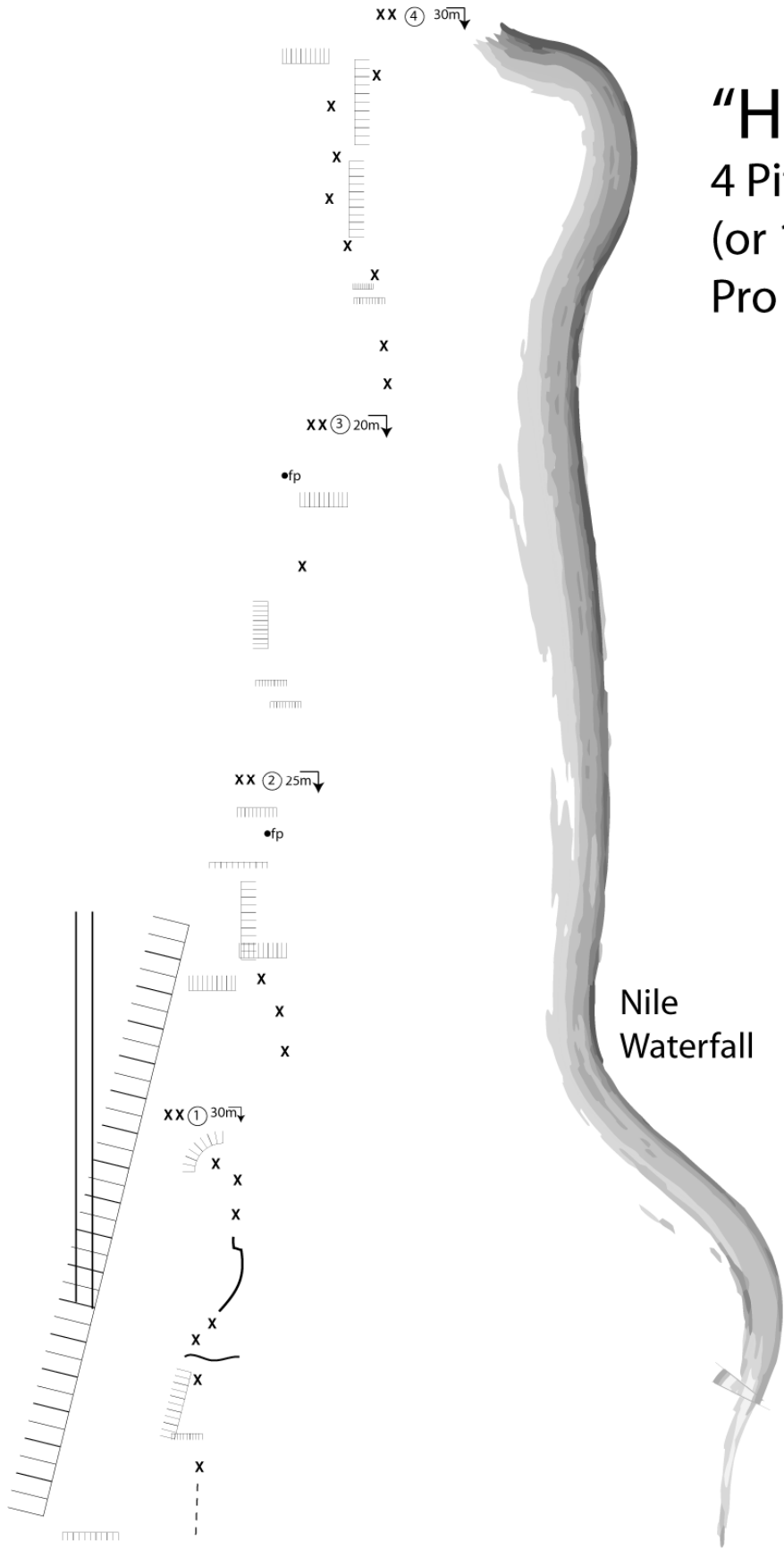




"Geb"
 4pitch 5.7
 Protection to 3 inches



To "Hapi" 25m →



"Hapi"
4 Pitch 5.10d
(or 10b a0)
Pro to 3"

Nile
Waterfall

Set * 5.9 190m.

Protection to 2"

B Spear, C Norman, July 2005 ground up

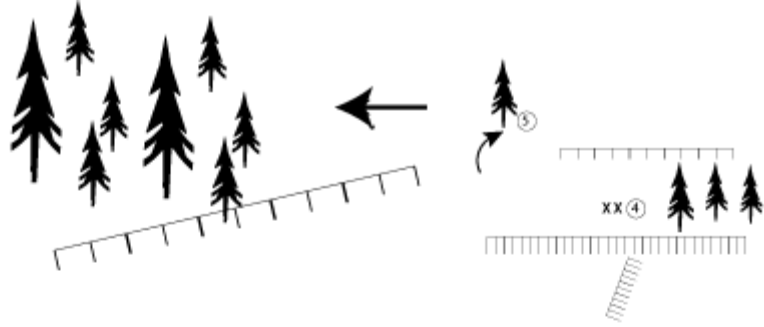
This route is on the sunny side of the Egypt amphitheater, 50m right of the Nile waterfall. The route gains a prominent chimney below a large overhang, then passes the large overhang by a corner to the right. Left leaning corners then lead to the top of the cliff.

The climb

1. 5.6, 50m. Climb straight up to a bolt belay below the main chimney. This pitch has some loose rock and intermittent protection.
2. 5.7 35m. Pass the roof (loose rock) and gain the chimney. Climb this a few meters until it opens up (piton). Either climb straight up the chimney to it's top or climb excellent rock to the left until a challenging step right (bolt) leads to the top of the chimney. Climb an easy ramp to belay at a fixed piton (small cams required).
3. 5.9 56m. Traverse right into a gulley (thin moves) and climb easily to a ledge. Diagonal left onto a compact slab below a corner to the right of the prominent route (bolt). Climb the corner on sustained, bolted 5.9 climbing to the top (fixed piton). Climb diagonally left up a clean slab to a bolt, then up on compact rock to a bolt belay where the wall's angle changes. Possible rope drag - double ropes may be helpful.
4. 5.4R 35m. Climb straight up solid rock to a treed ledge and bolted belay. Almost entirely unprotected.
5. 5.4 15m. Walk left on the ledge then up a short groove.

Descent

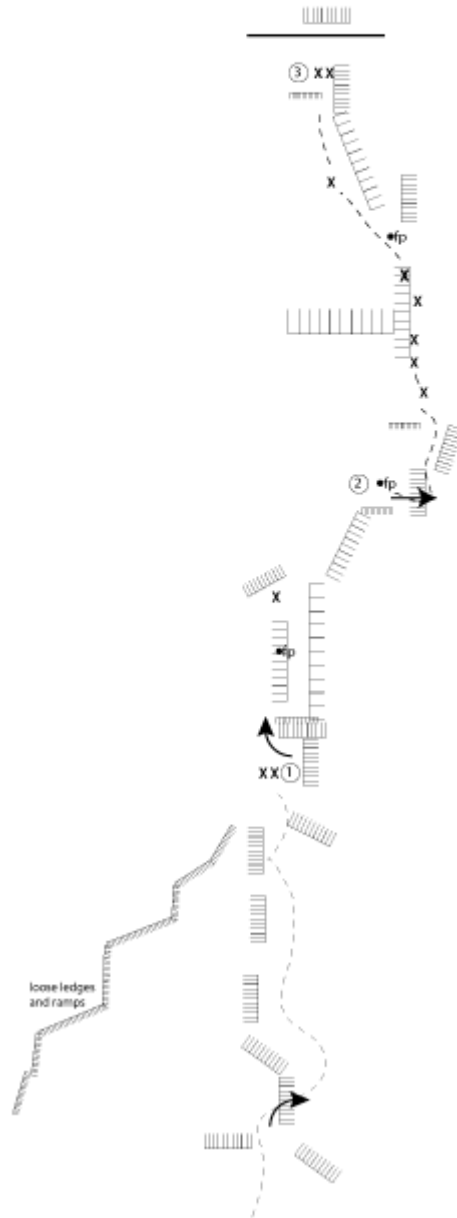
Cross the hillside over to the Nile waterfall before descending to the top of "Hapi" and rappelling the route. On the west side of the creek is a large pink block about 30m above the cliff's edge. 5m below that is a small clean slab with a single belay bolt. The first rappel station is 20m of careful scrambling below the bolt. Be cautious of loose rock, especially if there are parties on "Hapi". Four rappels with a single 60m rope leads to easy down climbing.



"Set"

5 pitch 5.9

Protection to 2"



Phoenix * 5.7 140m.

Protection to 3"

B Spear, N Hanson, Sept 2002 ground up

This climb has been retro-bolted by B Spear and M Tremblay in 2004 and is an excellent route for the moderate leader. The route climbs a striking line left of the big gully on the right side of the Egyptian Amphitheater. The climbing is consistently very good and much better than it looks from the base. Scramble a natural staircase 8m to a ledge that juts out from the face. A left rising overhang is visible 25m above and to the right.

The climb

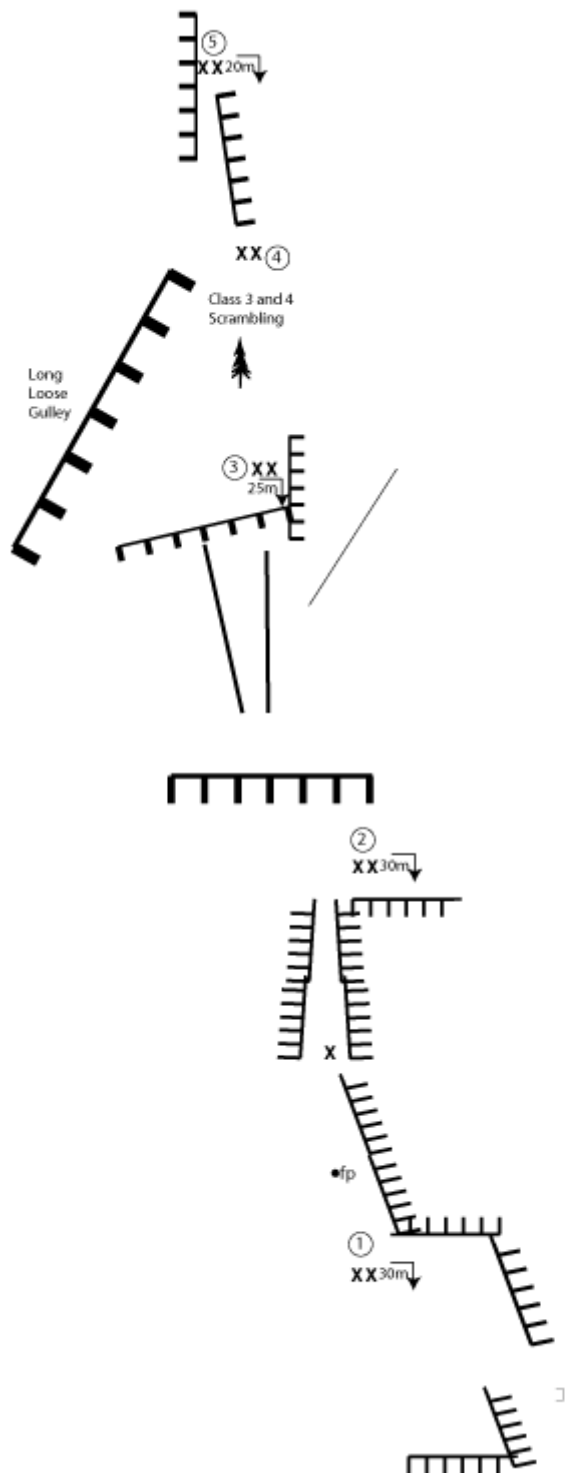
1. 5.6, 35m. Angle right past ledges to a corner. Climb this past a ledge to a steep corner (crack) which rises to a large overhang. Traverse left and step down to a bolted belay/ rappel station.
2. 5.7 30m Climb back to the overhang and pass it in a left facing corner to a stance (piton) Climb the steep corner to a bolt below a chimney. Classic stemming moves or face climbing on jugs leads to a clean ledge with a belay/rappel station.
3. 5.5 35m. Climb a groove to the left and a big ledge. Climb the clean wall above on a clean crack that angles left to an arête. Follow this to a bolted belay/rappel station.
4. 3rd/4th 20m. Climb broken ground to the base of a corner topped by a "yellow mushroom of rock" (bolt belay)
5. 20m 5.6 Climb the corner above on beautiful water worn rock with good holds and protection to a two bolt belay/rappel station where the corner becomes third class.

Descent:

Rappel the route with a single 60m rope (tie knots - there are some rope stretchers! Pitch 4 should be a belayed down climb - Adventure!

Note – in this picture the descent is shown in the gully to the right. Do not do this. Also – pitch 3 as shown is divided in half.





Phoenix

5 Pitch 5.7

Protection to 3 inches
 Single 60m rope to
 rappel