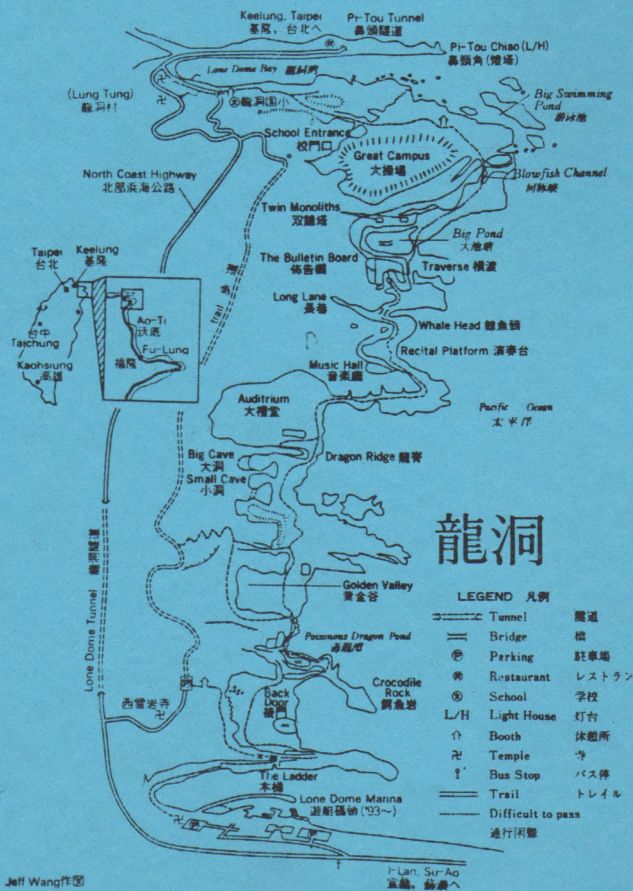


DRAFT CLIMBING GUIDE TO TAIWAN'S PREMIER ROCK
 CLIMBING AREA: LONGDONG 龍洞 "DRAGON'S CAVE"



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 Steve Wang
 王大仁
 under paul's consent.

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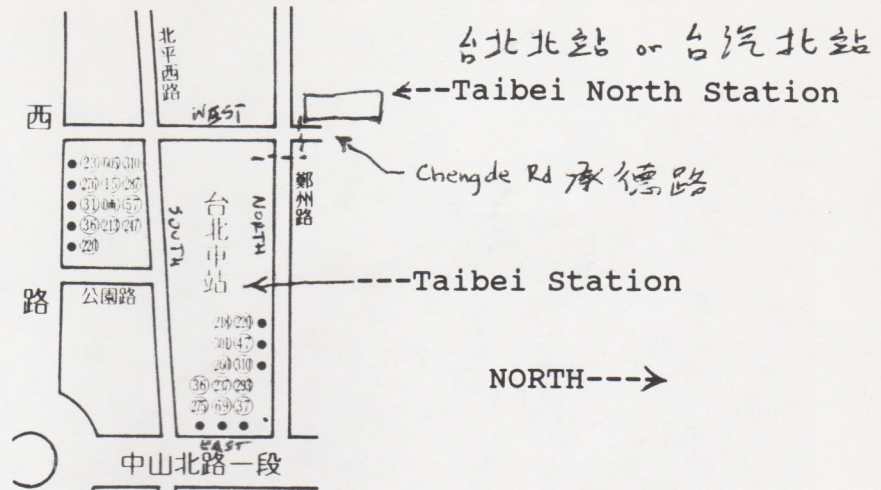
I. INTRODUCTION

The Longdong climbing area is located 50km northeast of Taipei on Taiwan's northeast coast between the port of Jilong and the small village of Fulong (renowned for its beach and deadly riptides, which took 10 lives in 1992). The rock is a generally solid sandstone which lines the coast for about 1 1/2 miles. Aside from climbing, this area is also popular for diving and fishing.

II. GETTING TO LONGDONG

From Taipei: Use Taiqi keyun 台汽客運

Go to the "Taipei north station" 台北北站 located diagonally across from the northwest corner of main Taipei Station. To get to the north station, start at the NW corner of Taipei Station, cross the elevated footbridge both over Zhengzhou Rd. 鄭州路 (the road behind the main station) and over Chengde Rd. 承德路 (the left road). Turn right immediately at the bottom of the steps into the building and you're there!



Name of Bus Co.: Taiqi keyun 台汽客運

Buying the Ticket: Go to the first ticket window on the left and purchase a ticket for \$NT69 to Longdong Harbor (pronounced Longdong gang 龍洞港). You are going on a bus marked either Yilan 宜蘭 or Luodong 羅東 above the windshield.

Getting on the Bus: Line up at the gate marked #1. The bus boards 5 min. before departure.

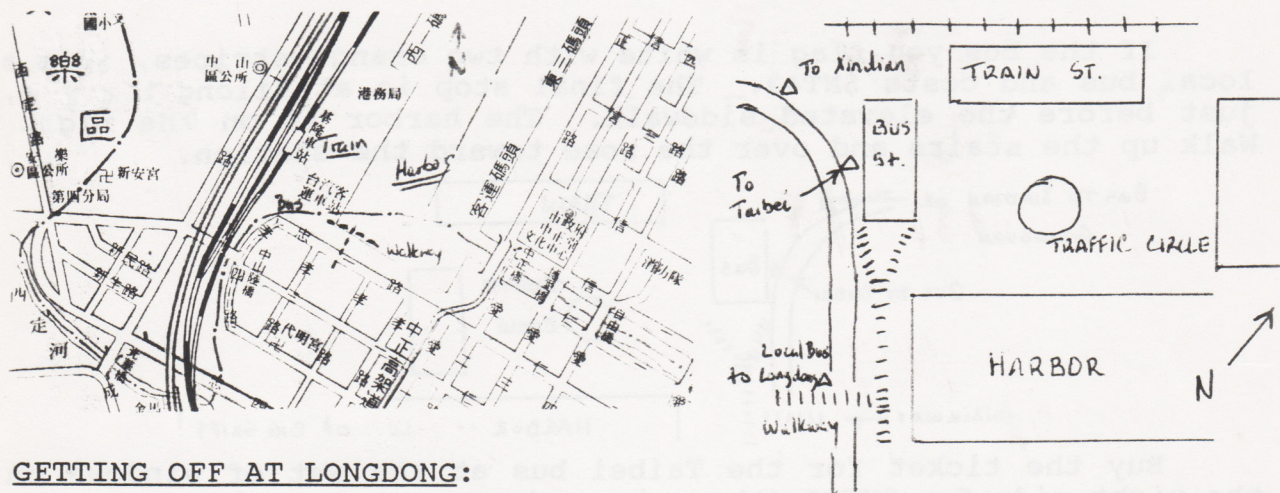
Departure times: 6:20am, 6:40, 7:10, 7:40, 8:00, 8:40, 9:05, 9:30, 9:55, 10:20, 10:35, 10:50, 11:15, 11:40....

Time to Destination: Usually 1 hr. and 20 min. Rush hour time is about 2 hours. Return time is at least 2 hours and can be 3-4 hours if you return between 4:30 and 7:30 on Sunday evening!

Seating: Usually seats are first come first serve, but in order to accommodate long distance travelers, some seats are reserved by number. There is no way to tell if anyone has an assigned seat until that person bumps you from your seat (they will show you their ticket). This is no problem if you go early and the bus is not crowded. If the bus is crowded and there are no seats available, you can either sit on the far rear platform or will have to stand until someone gets off. If you're standing, you don't have a hope of getting a seat for at least 40 minutes when the bus reaches Jilong. There is a remote possibility that someone will bump you with a reserved seat when they get on in Jilong, but this is uncommon. I suppose if you really wanted a guaranteed seat, you could spend the money on a ticket all the way to Yilan!

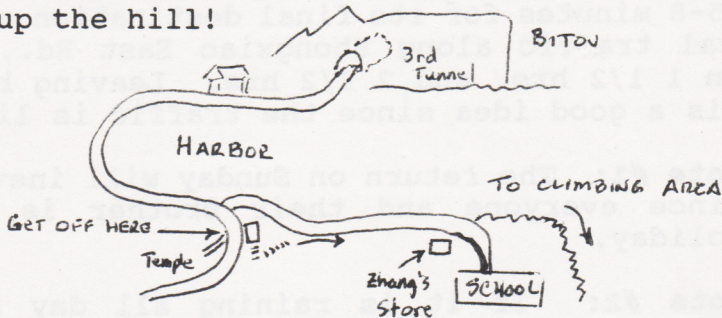
Getting There From Jilong: Use Jilong keyun 基隆客運

Take a local white bus with orange stripes from under the elevated sidewalk on the west side of the street in front of Jilong Station. The extravagant cost is \$NT43. Time: 30 min.



GETTING OFF AT LONGDONG:

Get off after the 3rd tunnel on the far side of the harbor after the bus starts up the hill!



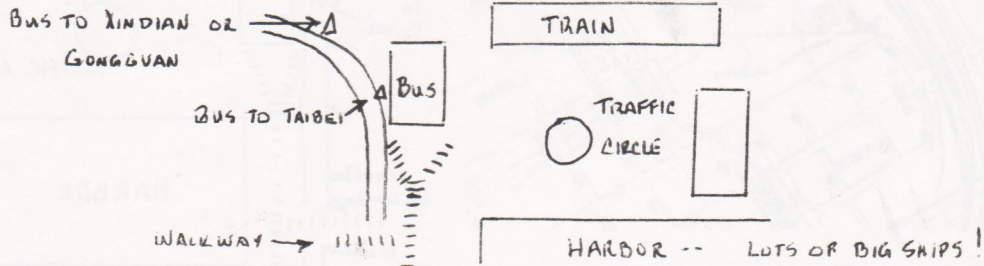
The bus from Taipei takes the highway past the Grand Hotel and then through the first tunnel arriving in Jilong. Then the bus goes past various wharves and heads SE through Jilong and out along the coast. The third tunnel is just after a quaint little fishing port of Bitou. Stand up and put on your packs while in the third tunnel--when you emerge you'll be at Longdong Harbor. The bus goes all the way to the opposite side of the harbor and will just start up the hill before the stop. Make sure to give the driver your ticket when you get off. For directions from here, see "Hiking into Longdong" section below.

If you miss this stop and the bus goes over the hill, get off at the next stop where you'll see a large resort on the left. This is the approach to the "Back Door" area anyway, so climb here or go back! You can hike all the way from the Back Door to the School Gate along the bottom of the cliffs, but be careful at the one traversing section that requires a 5.5 boulder move. There is a lot of exposure here with wicked fall potential!

III. HOW TO RETURN FROM LONGDONG

There are two ways to return to Taipei. Flag the first bus that comes along. If it says "Wang Taipei" 往台北 on the front, the final stop is Taiqi North Station, right where you boarded. This bus costs \$NT69.

If the bus you flag is white with two orange stripes, it's a local bus and costs \$NT43. The final stop is at Jilong Station, just before the elevated sidewalk. The harbor is on the right. Walk up the stairs and over the road toward the station.



Buy the ticket for the Taipei bus at the set of windows on the right side for \$NT28 (there is a sign on cardboard next to the correct window announcing the price). The bus leaves from gate #2 every 5-8 minutes for its final destination of Taipei Station. Due to local traffic along Zhongxiao East Rd., the return can take between 1 1/2 hrs. and 2 1/2 hrs. Leaving before 6pm on Saturday night is a good idea since the traffic is lighter.

Note #1: The return on Sunday will inevitably take 2-3 hours since everyone and their brother is out for this weekly holiday.

Note #2: If it is raining all day Sunday in Taipei the traffic will be light like Saturday's! Usually it doesn't rain in Longdong unless the weather comes in from the west, though, so go climbing anyway and you'll likely have a reasonably dry time!

Returning by Train:

The train station is easily identified by the electronic clock outside on the wall. The train takes about 40 minutes to Taipei Station and is the best choice on busy Sundays if you're already in Jilong. Note that this is also traffic "stress-free"!!

Avoiding Taipei Station on Return:

You can take a bus directly from Jilong Bus station to Taida 台大 (get off at Gongguan 公館) for NT\$27. Buy the ticket when you get on the bus that heads for Xindian 新店. Line up for this bus outside the station at the very head of the long line of buses.

Spelling Key: Use at your own discretion!

You may ask, what's the deal with the screwy spelling system?! Well, I've been studying Chinese for 8 years and know 5 different systems, and the one used in Taiwan is really off the wall. So I've used the mainland Chinese "Hanyu pinyin" system that is taught by just about all American Universities and renders the most consistent pronunciations for the native English speaker. The Taiwanese will probably get their act together sometime in the future and change the present wacky system, but don't hold your breath.... Anyway, here's a small translation table:

<u>Hanyu Pinyin</u>	<u>Weird Taiwan System</u>	<u>Chinese Characters</u>
Taibei	Taipei	台北
Jilong	Keelung	基隆
Longdong	Lungdung	龍洞
Bitou	Pitou (or Pi-tou)	鼻頭
Yilan	I-lan	宜蘭



FROM THE BUS STOP: HIKE INTO LONGDONG

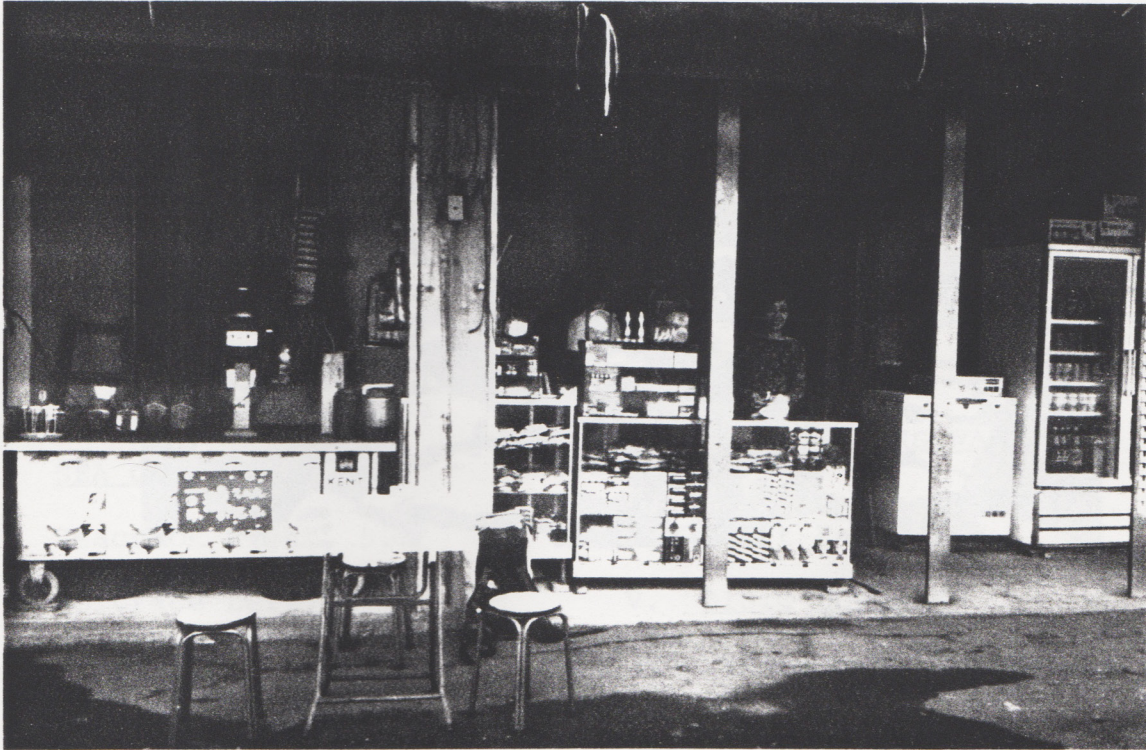
Cross the street and go down the path right of the bus shelter. After passing the chicken coops make an immediate right and pass the small house and piles of Taiwan beer bottles.



Go through the first of the dragon gates.



Take the short cut right to the paved road that follows the cove. Walk up the cove to the second dragon and gazebo. These are right in front of the Zhang's 張老闆 (a.k.a. Mr. Well) small store. Get your water and cookies here! The Zhang's offer noodles, ramen style, and will put out a table for you and your friends. On rainy days they will even put a table inside for you!



Walk past the fishing fields (where the divers put in) and up onto the rock path on the right.



Go in and turn right at the first "V".

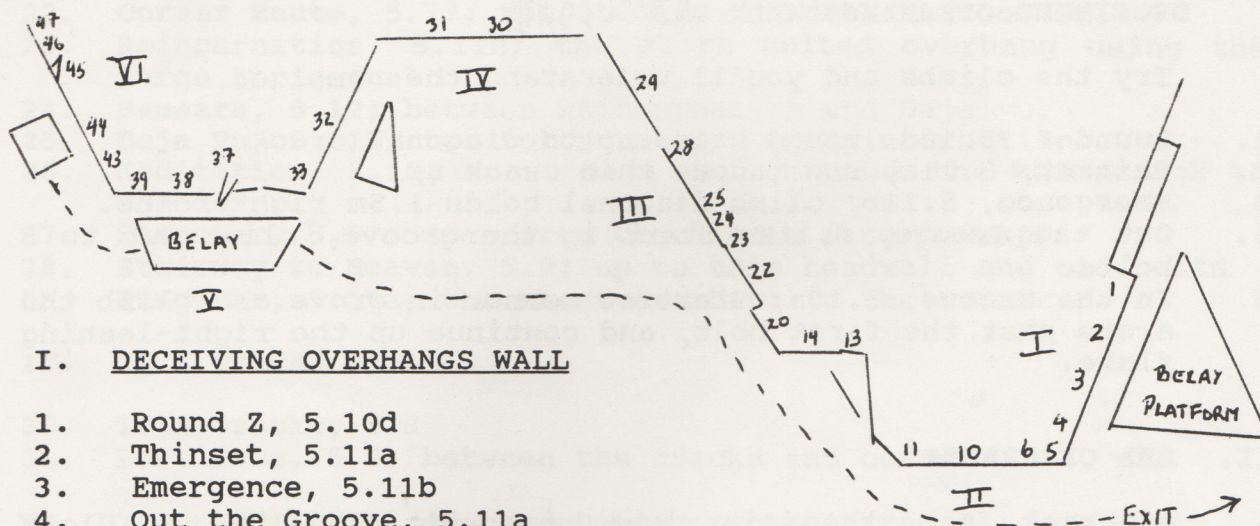


Go thru the grasses on a small path to the "School Gate".



OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL GATE AREA

48



I. DECEIVING OVERHANGS WALL

1. Round Z, 5.10d
2. Thinset, 5.11a
3. Emergence, 5.11b
4. Out the Groove, 5.11a
5. In the Groove, 5.10a

II. SEA OF CRACKS

6. Seacrack Right, 5.7
7. Boltface Right, 5.9+
8. Boltface Left, 5.9
9. Boltface, Overhang, 5.9
10. Moby, 5.6
11. Easy Arete, 5.4
12. Easy Corner, 5.3
13. Surprise Face, 5.11+
14. Right Surprise, 5.10d
15. Cross Surprise, 5.9+
16. Left Surprise, 5.11a
17. Surprise Layback, 5.10
18. Oh! Arete Surprise Start, 5.10d

III. DEJA VU WALL

19. Oh! Arete Left Start, 5.10a
20. Oh!, 5.8
21. Oh No! 5.11?
22. Corner Route, 5.7?
23. Reincarnation, 5.11b
24. Samsara, 5.12
25. Deja vu, 5.11c
26. Meditation, 5.12
27. Stepover, 5.9+
28. Stairway to Heaven, 5.9
29. Hungover, 5.10a

IV. TWIN CRACKS WALL

30. Twin Cracks, 5.8
31. Left Face, 5.9

V. DISCO BUTTRESS

32. Yum Yum 1, 5.13
33. Yum Yum 2, 5.12d
34. Yum Yum 3, 5.12
35. Yum Yum 4, 5.12
36. An She Was, 5.11b
37. Disco, 5.10c
38. Talkin 'bout a revolution, 5.11b
39. Piranha, 5.11c
40. Direct Arete,

VI. NOWHERE WALL

41. Walk It Down, 5.11b
42. Talk it Down, 5.12 "無所畏"
43. Nowhere Man, 5.11c/d
- 43a. Nowhere Man Left, 5.11d
44. Road to Nowhere, 5.11b
45. V-groove, 5.8
46. Little Creatures Arete, 5.10a
47. Television Man, 5.9+
48. Noname, 5.4

ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS: SCHOOL GATE AREA

I. DECEIVING OVERHANGS WALL 騙人的牆

Try the climbs and you'll understand the name!

1. **Round Z**, 5.10d; round holds up to diagonal crack.
2. **Thinset**, 5.11a; continuous thin crack up .
3. **Emergence**, 5.11b; climb diagonal holds 1.5m right bolts.
4. **Out the Groove**, 5.11a; Start in the groove, climb out to 3 bolts.
5. **In the Groove**, 5.10a; Start at corner in grove and climb the arete past the first bolt, and continue up the right-leaning flake.

II. SEA OF CRACKS

6. **Seacrack**, 5.7; the main right hand wide crack up to a left curving finger crack.
7. **Boltface Right**, 5.9+; the 2 bolts and continue up to the right ending at "Out the Grove" bolt belay.
8. **Boltface Left**, 5.9; finish #7 by going up and left, but stay right of the arching crack.
9. **Boltface Overhang**, 5.9; finish #7 by using the arching crack to the overhang and turn the overhand directly.
10. **Moby**, 5.6; the large crack 2m left of Boltface.
11. **Easy Arete**, 5.4; the arete 2m left of Moby.
12. **Easy Corner**, 5.3; the corner right of Surprise face.
13. **Surprise Face**, 5.11+; top-rope the thin face using the left hand crack for only one hold before finishing mid-face.
14. **Right Surprise**, 5.10d; natural protection up the right crack without using the left crack(5.10b). The second overhang is the crux (5.10d) following the thin right crack.
15. **Cross Surprise**, 5.9+; use both the left and right cracks.
16. **Left Surprise**, 5.11a; the left crack exclusively.
17. **Daji's Awesomely Strenuous Surprise Left Layback**, 5.10; Layback all the way up the shallow left dihedral using the right wall for a stem.
18. **Oh! Arete Surprise Start**, 5.10d; Reach! From the Surprise left crack reach up and over to the arete.
19. **Oh! Arete Left Start**, 5.10a; Hand traverse right on the Oh! overhang and follow the arete to the top.
20. **Oh!** 5.8; clip the 6 bolts on the face all the way to the large crack past the bush. This route has 2 rap bolts at the top and is the preferred method of descending the Sea of Cracks.
21. **Oh No!** 5.11?; the relatively blank face left of Oh! I think Yum Yum did this on top-rope.

III. DEJA VU WALL

22. **Corner Route**, 5.7?; the obvious dihedral left of Oh!
23. **Reincarnation**, 5.11b; the short bolted overhang using the large horizontal
24. **Samsara**, 5.12; between Reincarnation and Deja vu.
25. **Deja Vu**, 5.11b; two bolts 2m left of Reincarnation.
26. **Meditation**, 5.12; start Deja vu but crank the thin crack to the left.
27. **Stepover**, 5.9+; step from block onto face and up
28. **Stairway to Heaven**, 5.9; up to thin headwall and old bolts
29. **Hungover**, 5.10a; the short overhang in the corner

IV. TWIN CRACKS WALL

30. **Twin Cracks**, 5.8
31. **Left Face**, 5.9; between the cracks and corner

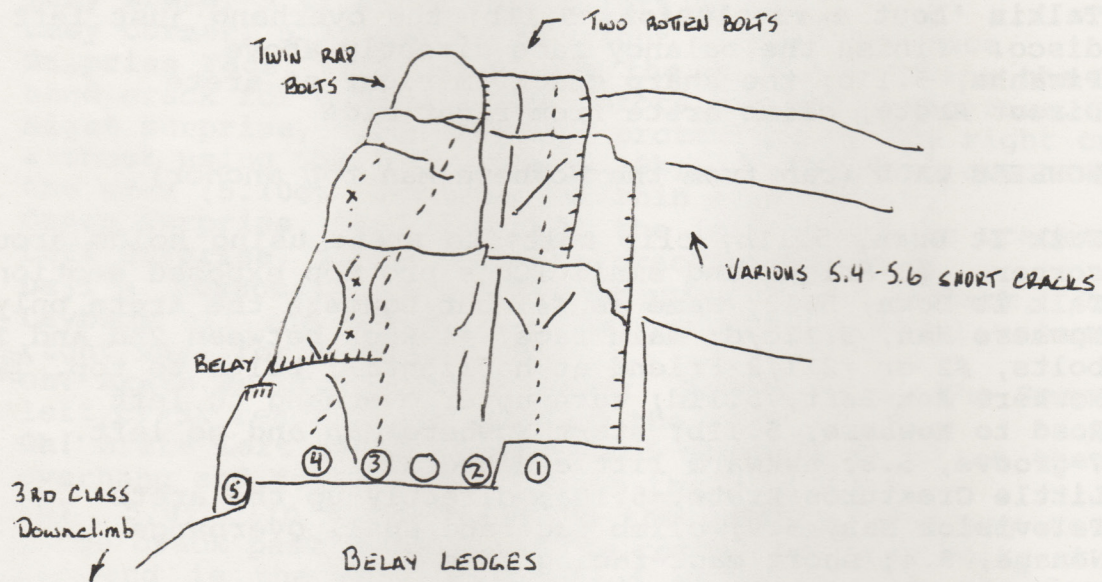
V. DISCO BUTTRESS (descend Disco: two bolt rappel)

32. **Yum Yum 1**, 5.13; step off the sloping rock, just left of black wall
33. **Yum Yum 2**, 5.12d; use massive undercling, reach to pocket
34. **Yum Yum 3**, 5.12; 1.5m right of Disco, one move
35. **Yum Yum 4**, 5.12; 1m right of Disco, one move
36. **And She Was**, 5.11b; climb Disco to nose and directly out
37. **Disco**, 5.10c; the obvious crack
38. **Talkin 'bout a revolution**, 5.11b; the overhang just left of disco. Finish the balancy face directly above
39. **Piranha**, 5.11c; the sharp crack 1m right of arete
40. **Direct Arete**; climb arete from right side

VI. NOWHERE WALL (rap from the Nowhere Man top anchor)

41. **Walk It Down**, 5.11b; clip bolts to arete using holds around corner. #3 Friend and small TCU's pro top exposed section.
42. **Talk it Down**, 5.12; same as #41 but squeeze the arete only
43. **Nowhere Man**, 5.11c/d; main face; #4 Rock between 2nd and 3rd bolts, #2 or #2 1/2 Friend at horizontal; bolts to top. "無所畏"
- 43a. **Nowhere Man Left**, 5.11d; turn upper overhang to left
44. **Road to Nowhere**, 5.11b; start Nowhere Man and go left.
45. **V-groove**, 5.8; awkward little dihedral.
46. **Little Creatures Arete**, 5.10a; directly up the arete
47. **Television Man**, 5.9; climb face and small overhangs
48. **Noname**, 5.4; short east-facing face

DECEIVING OVERHANGS WALL 騙人的牆

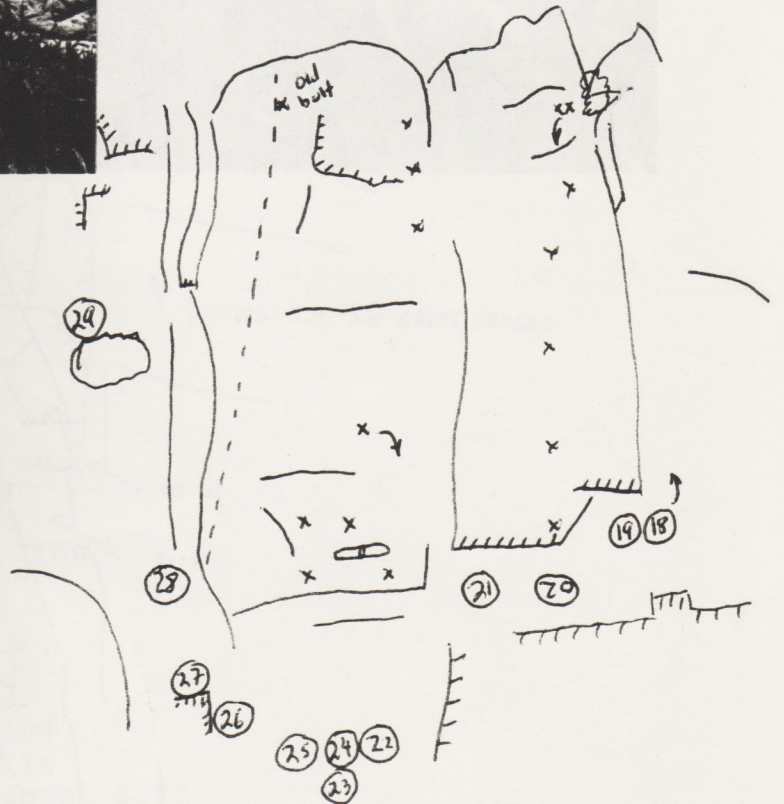


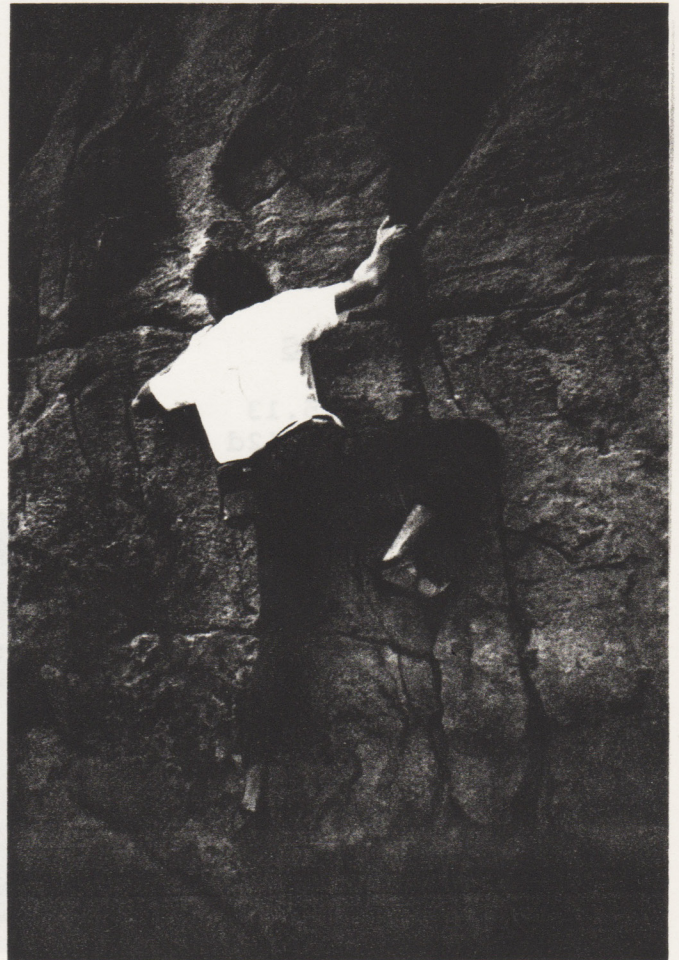
1. Round Z, 5.10d
2. Thinset, 5.11a
- 2.5 Soon to be done, 5.??
3. Emergence, 5.11b
4. Out the Groove, 5.11a
5. In the Groove, 5.10a

DEJA VU WALL



- 19. Oh! Arete Left
Start, 5.10a
- 20. Oh!, 5.8
- 21. Oh No! 5.11?
- 22. Corner Route, 5.7?
- 23. Reincarnation, 5.11b
- 24. Samsara, 5.12
- 25. Deja vu, 5.11c
- 26. Meditation, 5.12
- 27. Stepover, 5.9+
- 28. Stairway to Heaven,
5.9
- 29. Hungover, 5.10a





DISCO BUTTRESS & TWIN CRACKS WALL

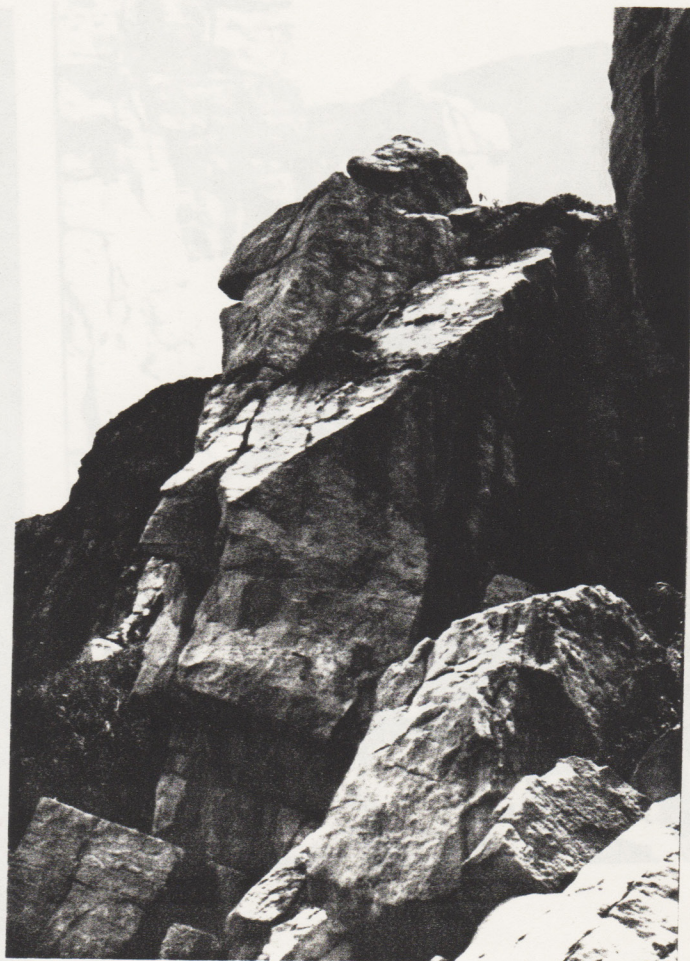


IV. TWIN CRACKS WALL

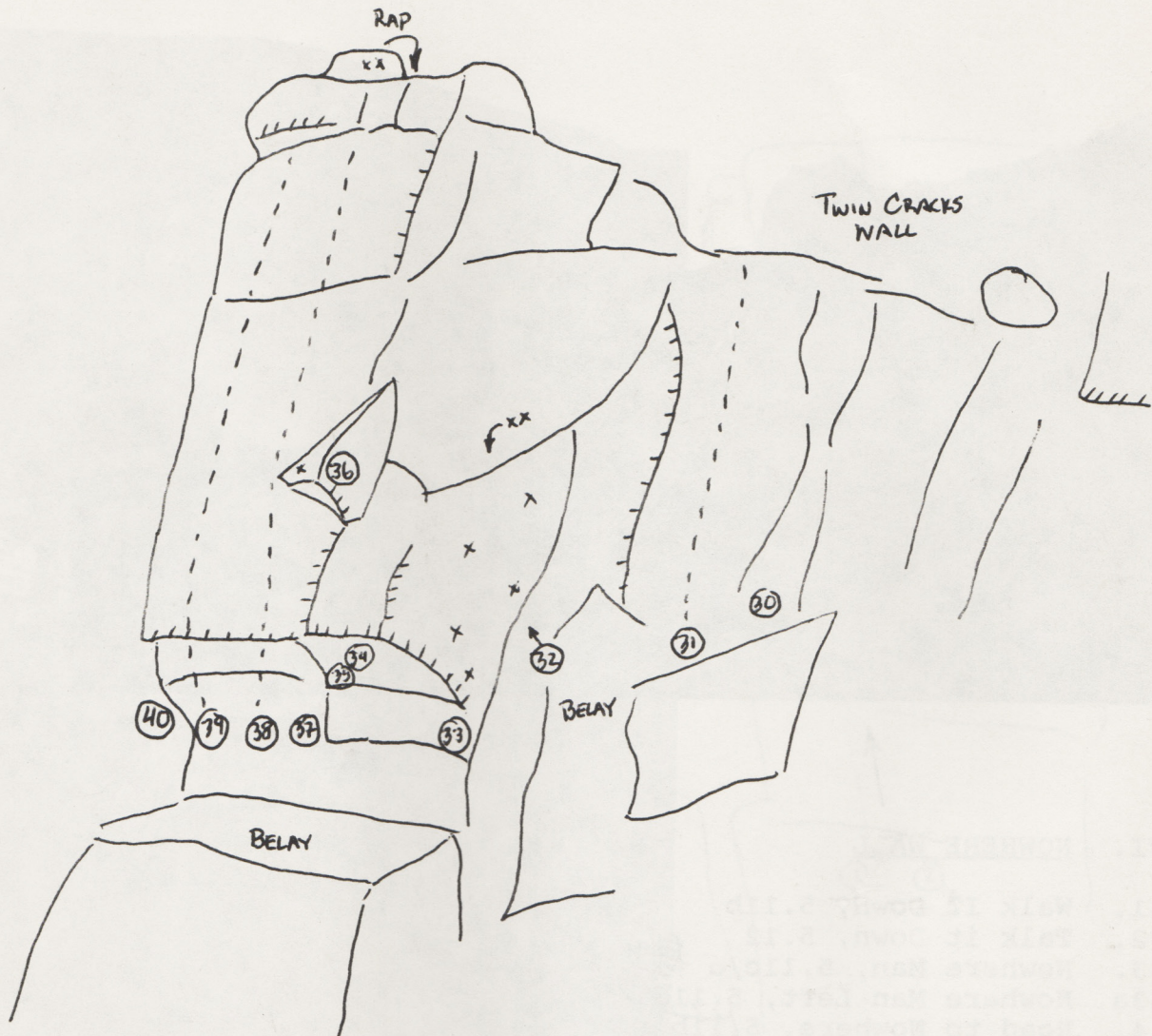
- 30. Twin Cracks, 5.8
- 31. Left Face, 5.9

V. DISCO BUTTRESS

- 32. Yum Yum 1, 5.13
- 33. Yum Yum 2, 5.12d
- 34. Yum Yum 3, 5.12
- 35. Yum Yum 4, 5.12
- 36. An She Was, 5.11b
- 37. Disco, 5.10c
- 38. Talkin 'bout a revolution,
5.11b
- 39. Piranha, 5.11c
- 40. Direct Arete, ??



TOPO OF DISCO BUTTRESS & TWIN CRACKS WALL



IV. TWIN CRACKS WALL

- 30. Twin Cracks, 5.8
- 31. Left Face, 5.9

V. DISCO BUTTRESS

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- 34. Yum Yum 3, 5.12
- 35. Yum Yum 4, 5.12

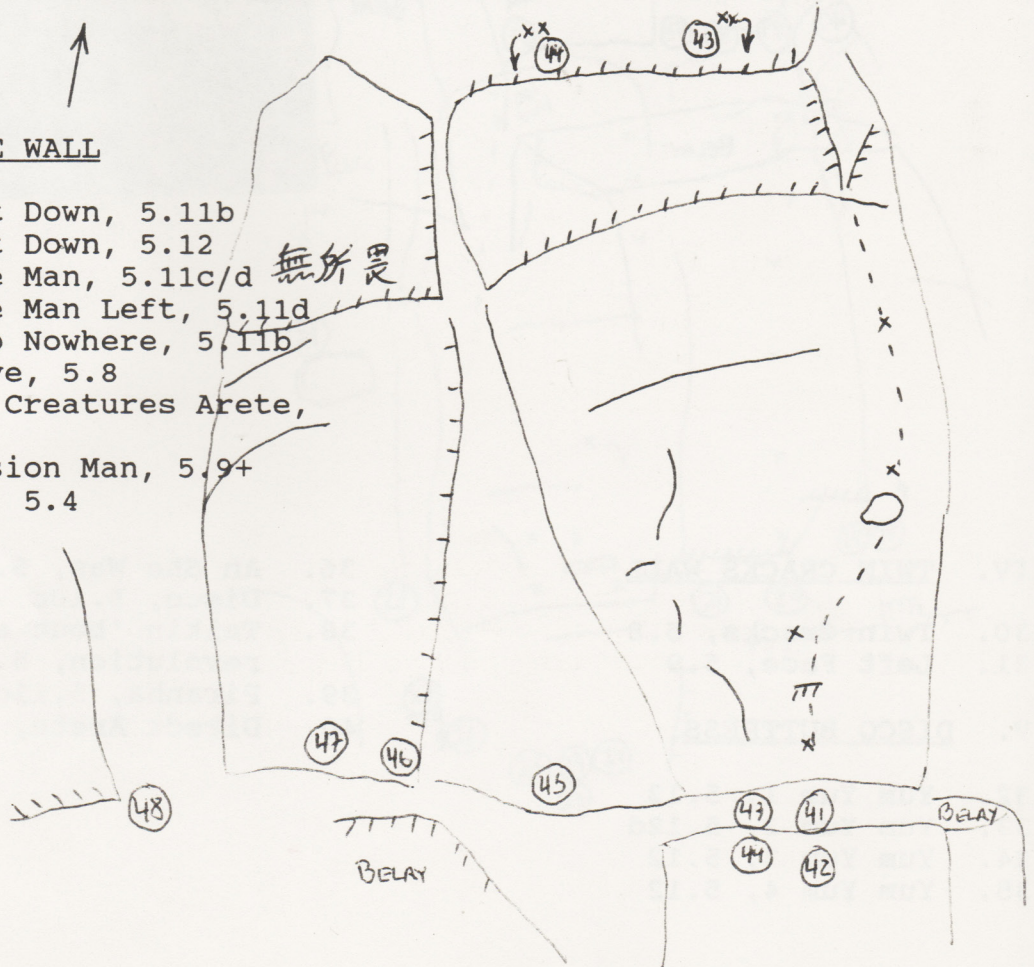
- 36. An She Was, 5.11b
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- 40. Direct Arete, ??

NOWHERE WALL 無所牆

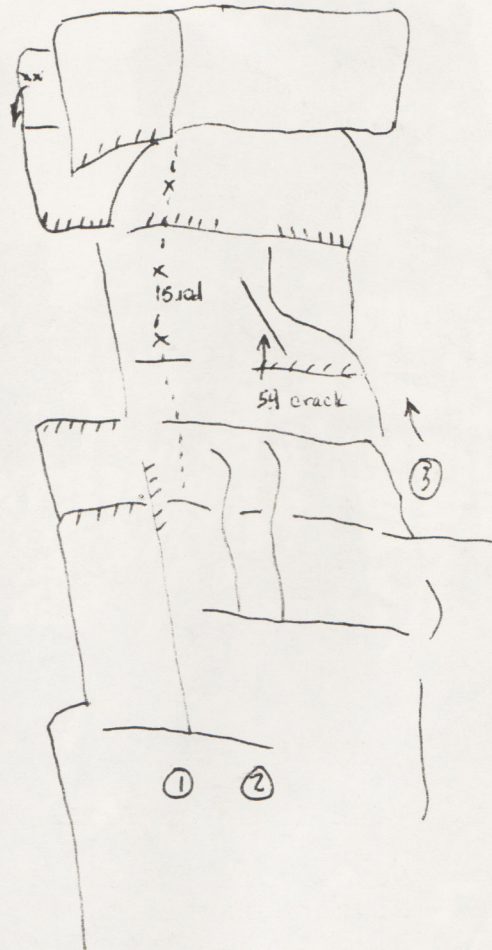


VI. NOWHERE WALL

- 41. Walk It Down, 5.11b
- 42. Talk it Down, 5.12
- 43. Nowhere Man, 5.11c/d 無所畏
- 43a. Nowhere Man Left, 5.11d
- 44. Road to Nowhere, 5.11b
- 45. V-groove, 5.8
- 46. Little Creatures Arete, 5.10a
- 47. Television Man, 5.9+
- 48. Noname, 5.4



RIGHT TOWER 鐘塔(右)



1. Buddha Sun's Meditation, 5.10d
2. Right Crack, 5.9
3. Easy Route to Top, 5.4 or 5.5
4. Various easy routes behind....

TWIN TOWERS 双鐘塔



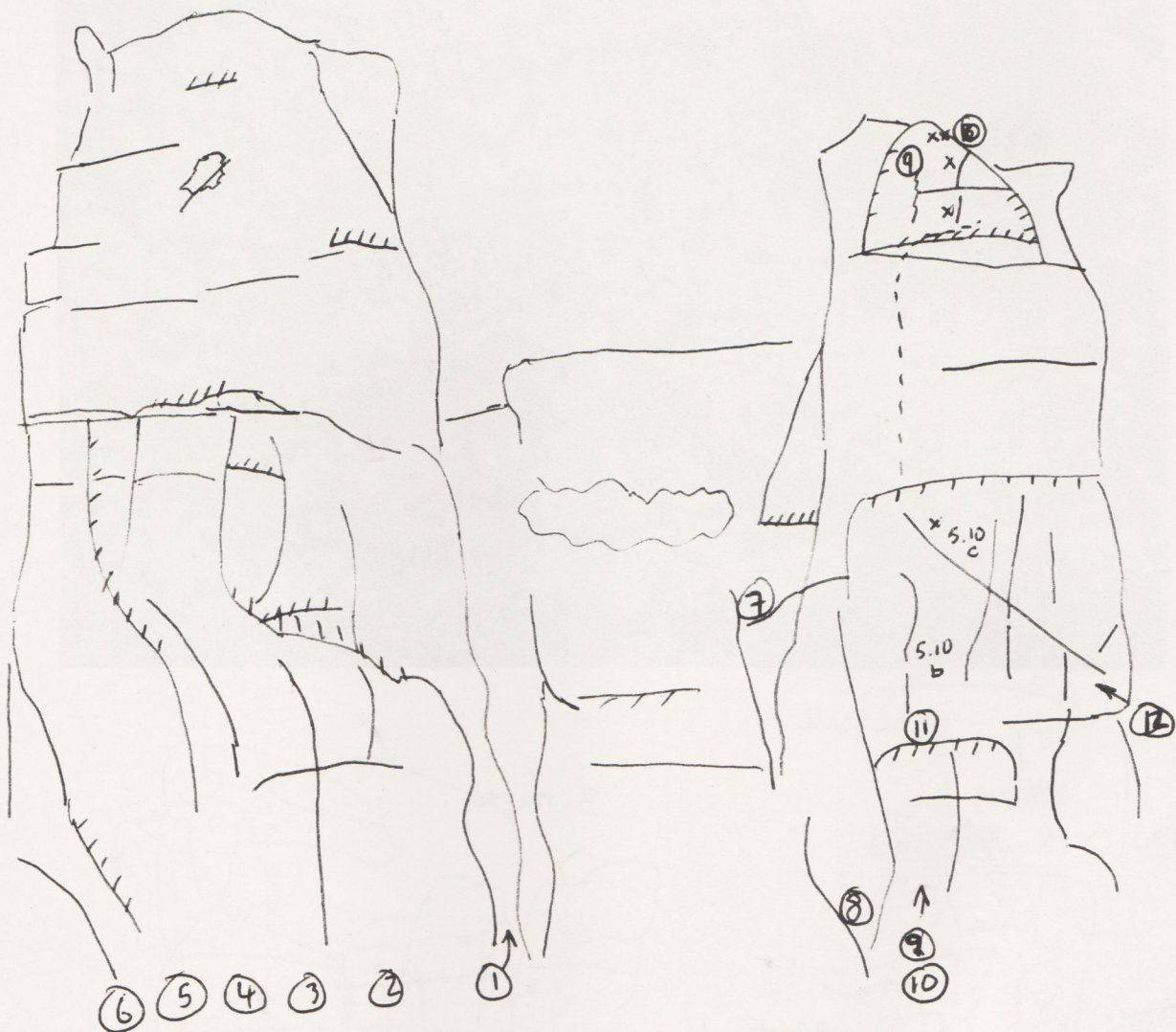
LEFT TOWER FRONT

1. Some Awful Aid Route, A1?
2. undone crack, do it!
3. undone crack, " "
4. undone crack, " "
5. undone crack, " "
6. undone crack, " "

RIGHT TOWER FRONT

7. Lower Left Overhang, 5.10
8. 5.5 Start
9. Return Trip, 5.10c
10. One Way Ticket, 5.10d
11. Short Steep Crack, 5.10b
12. The Day We Were Married, 5.10c

TOPO: TWIN TOWERS 双鐘塔



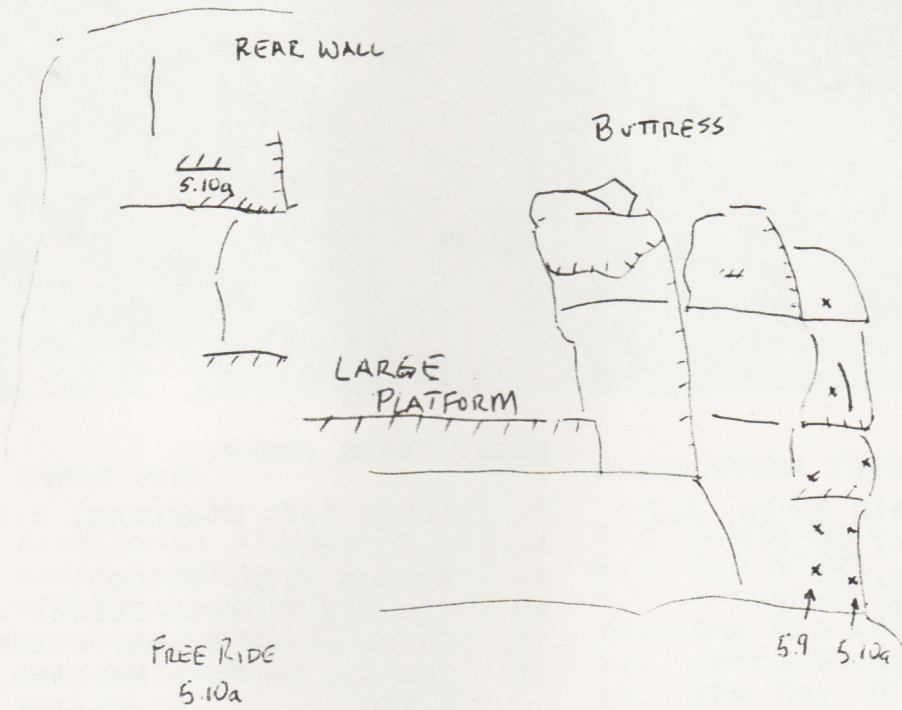
LEFT TOWER FRONT

1. Some Awful Aid Route, A1?
2. undone crack, do it!
3. undone crack, " "
4. undone crack, " "
5. undone crack, " "
6. undone crack, " "

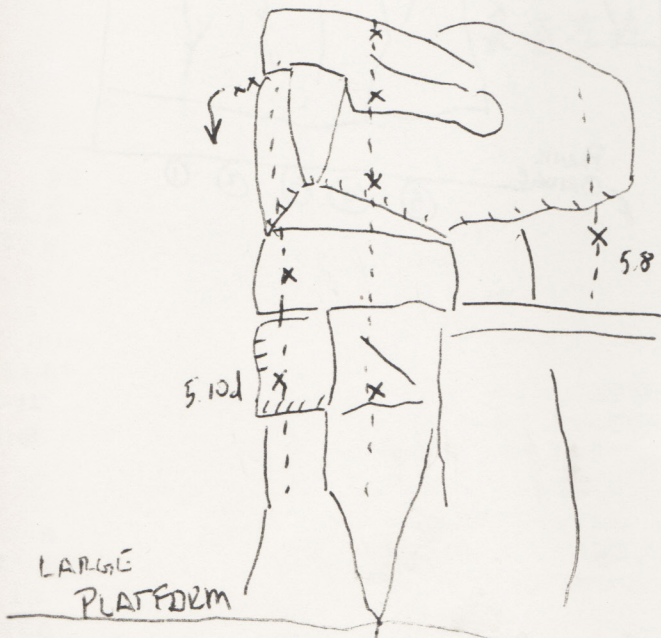
RIGHT TOWER FRONT

7. Lower Left Overhang, 5.10
8. 5.5 Start
9. Return Trip, 5.10c
10. One Way Ticket, 5.10d
11. Short Steep Crack, 5.10b
12. The Day We Were Married, 5.10c

DISCIPLINARY AREA 訓導處



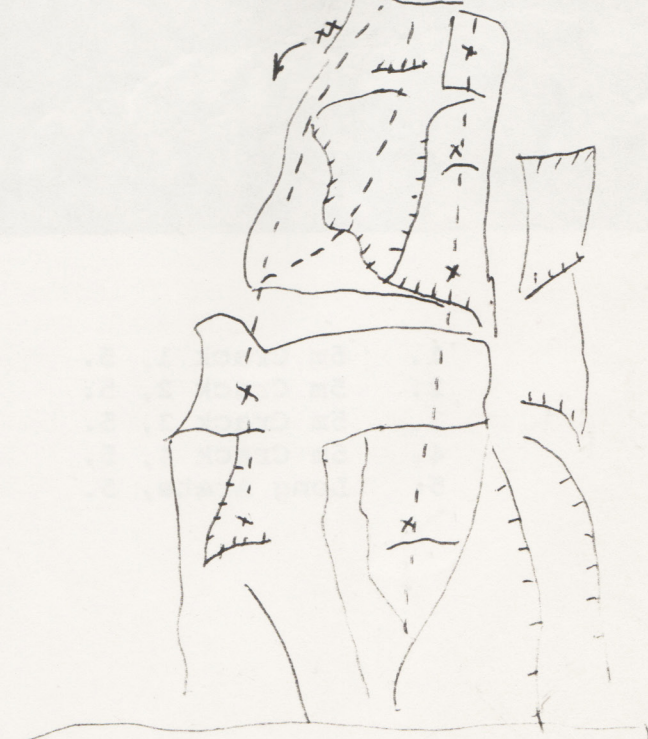
DISCIPLINARY AREA BUTTRESS 訓導處



5.10d
Has 2 var's to finish

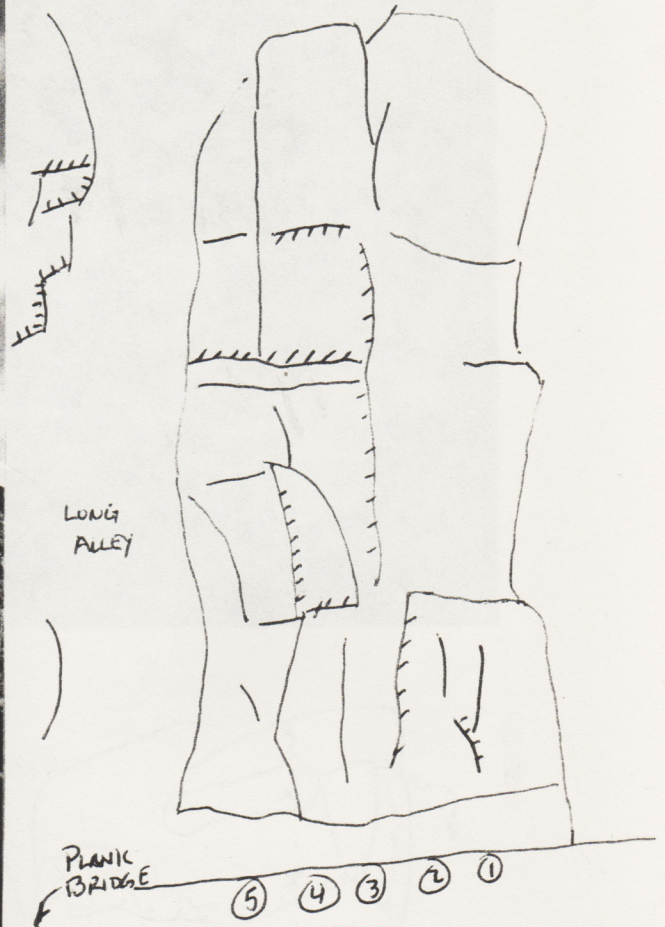
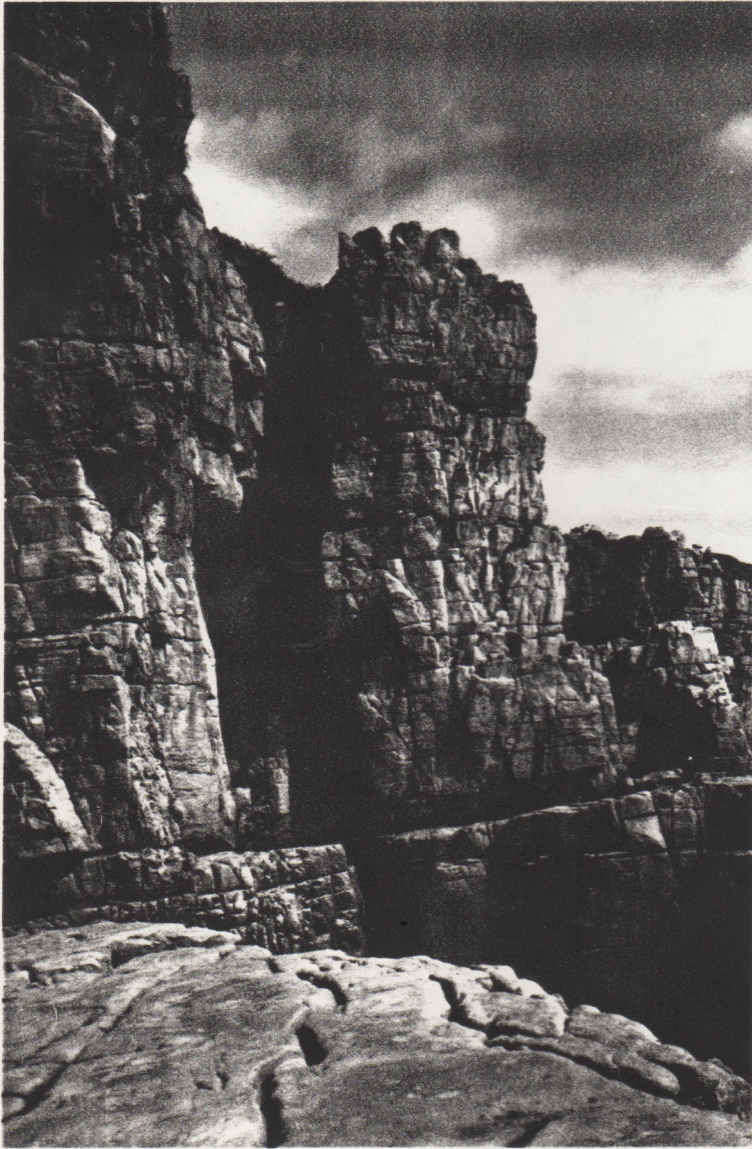
5.10b
has 2 left variations

BUTRESS
END VIEW FROM LEFT



LARGE PLATFORM

LONG ALLEY BUTTRESS 長巷



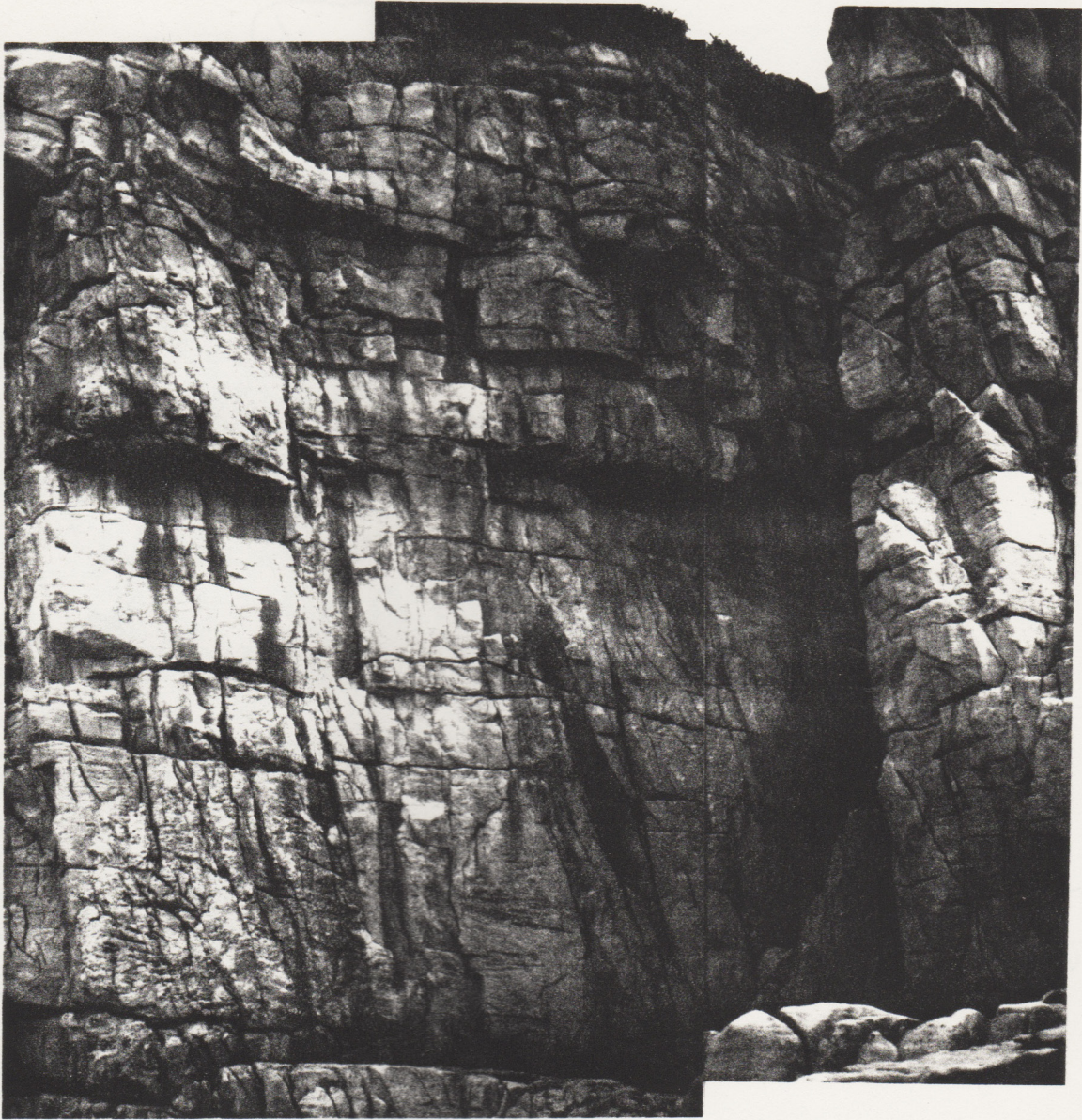
1. 5m Crack 1, 5.
2. 5m Crack 2, 5.
3. 5m Crack 3, 5.
4. 5m Crack 4, 5.
5. Long Arete, 5.

LONG ALLEY RIGHT SIDE 長巷右边



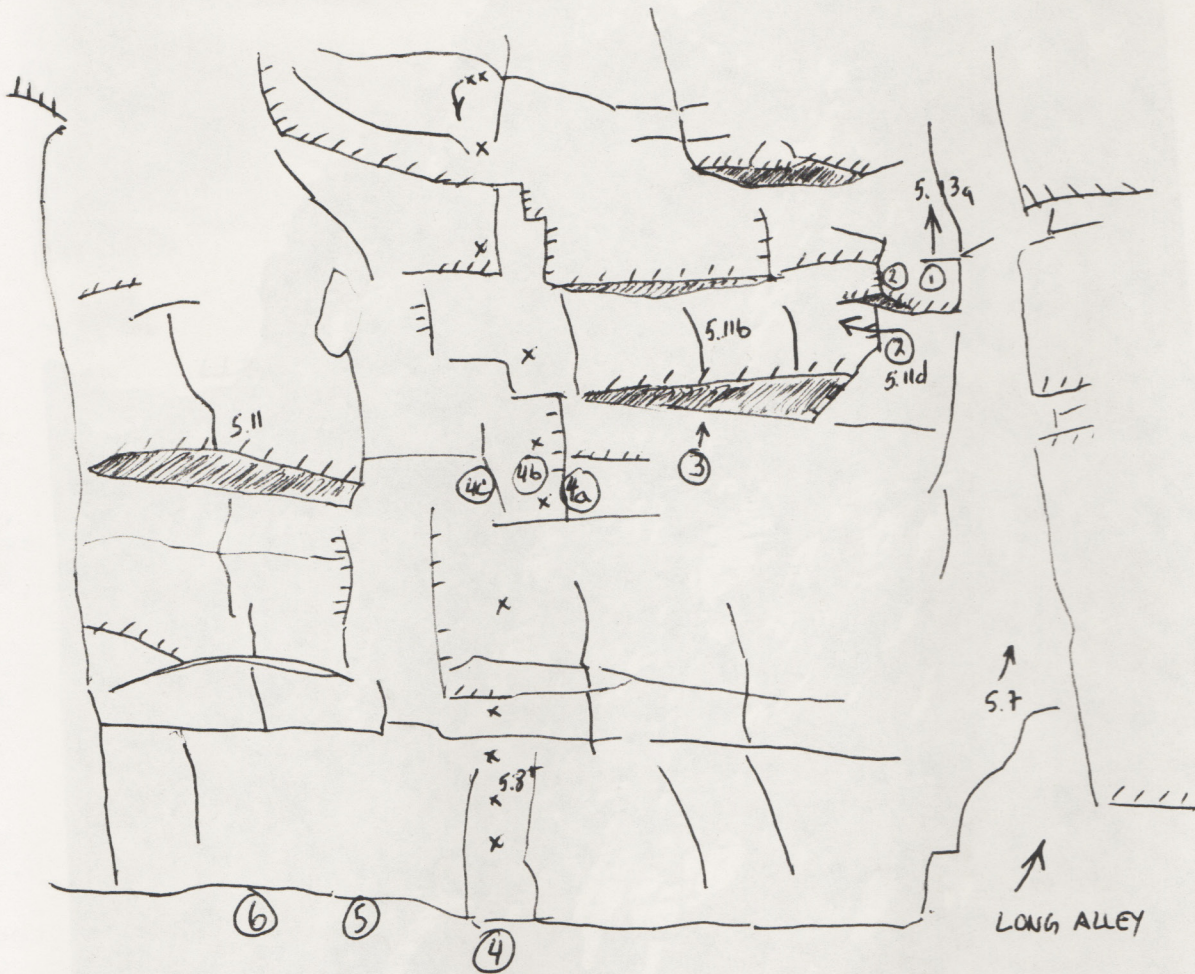
LONG ALLEY LEFT SIDE 長巷左边

OUT OF THE ALLEY OVERHANGS 長巷之外的懸岩



1. Nicholas' Overhang, 5.13a
2. Overhang Traverse, 5.11d
3. Overhang Left, 5.11b
- 4a. Inconceivable 非思, right, 5.9+
- 4b. Inconceivable, center, 5.10+
- 4c. Inconceivable, left, 5.10
5. Left Weakness, 5.9
6. Left Overhang, 5.11

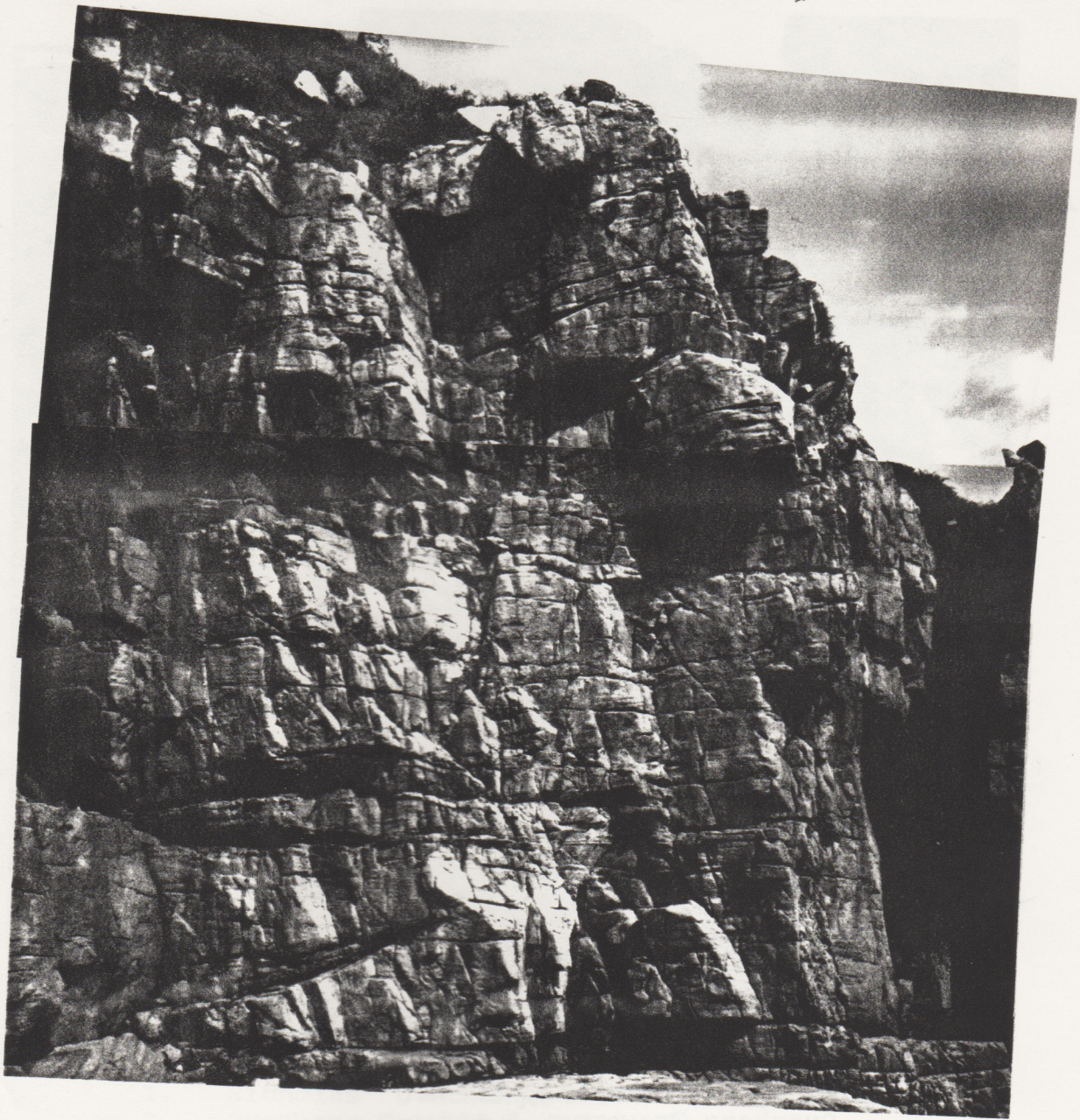
TOPO: OUT OF THE ALLEY OVERHANGS 長巷之外的懸岩



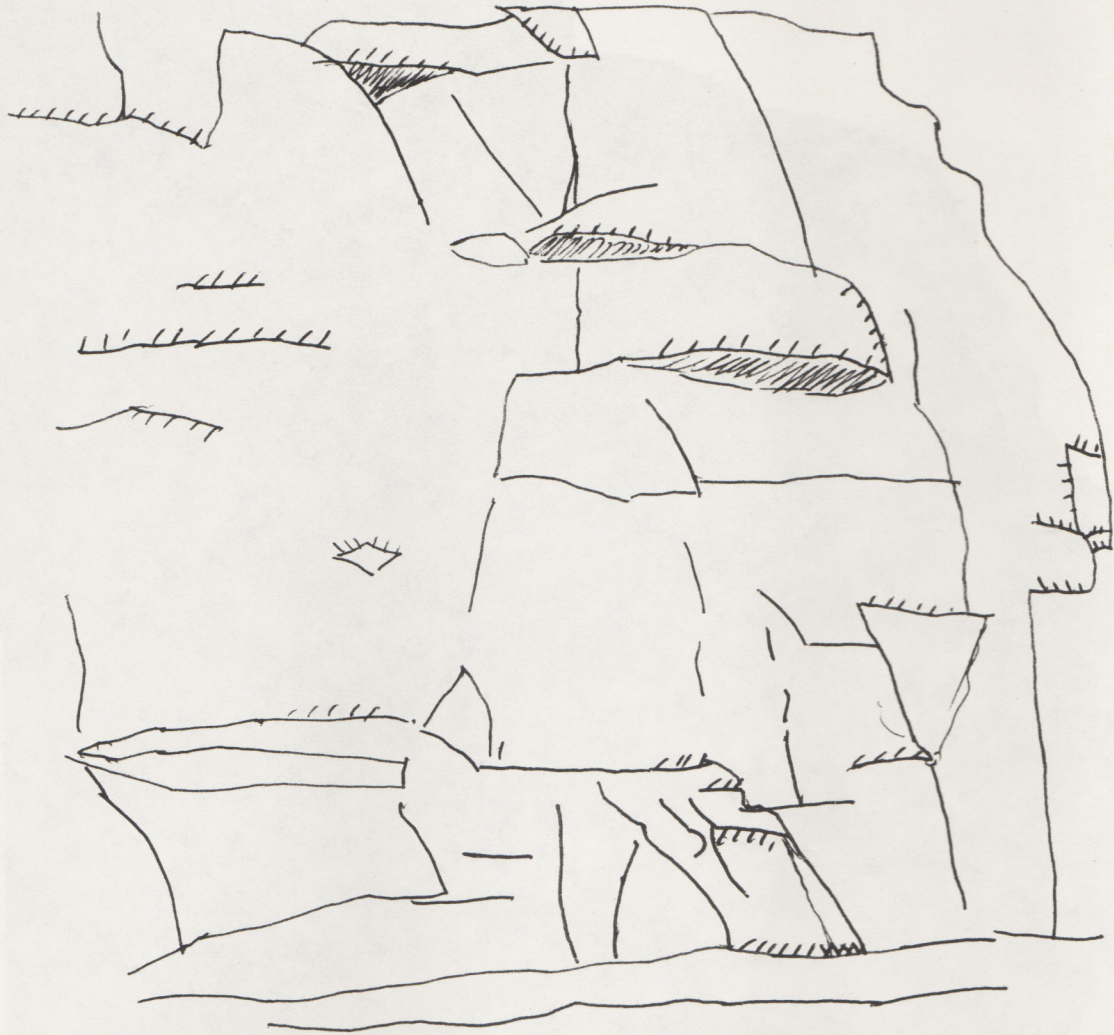
1. Nicholas' Overhang, 5.13a
2. Overhang Traverse, 5.11d
3. Overhang Left, 5.11b
- 4a. Inconceivable , right, 5.9+
- 4b. Inconceivable, center, 5.10+
- 4c. Inconceivable, left, 5.10
5. Left Weakness, 5.9
6. Left Overhang, 5.11

MUSIC HALL ENTRANCE

音樂廳入口



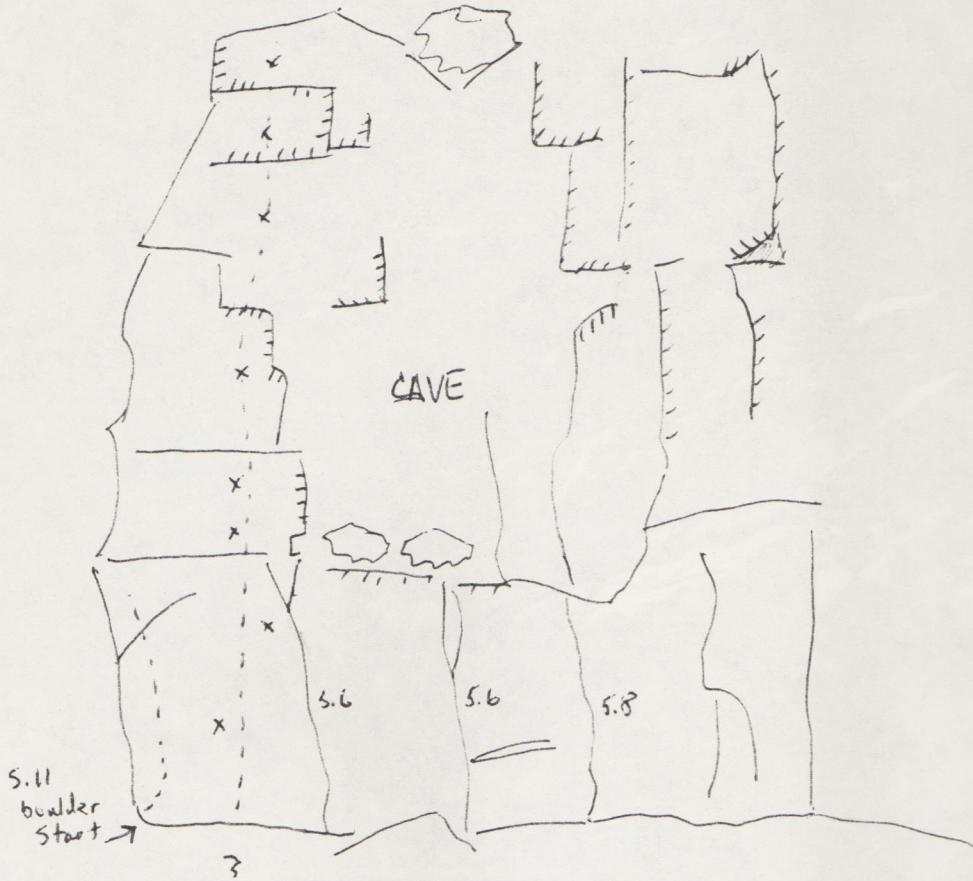
TOPO: MUSIC HALL ENTRANCE 音樂廳入口圖



MUSIC HALL CAVE



TOPO: MUSIC HALL CAVE

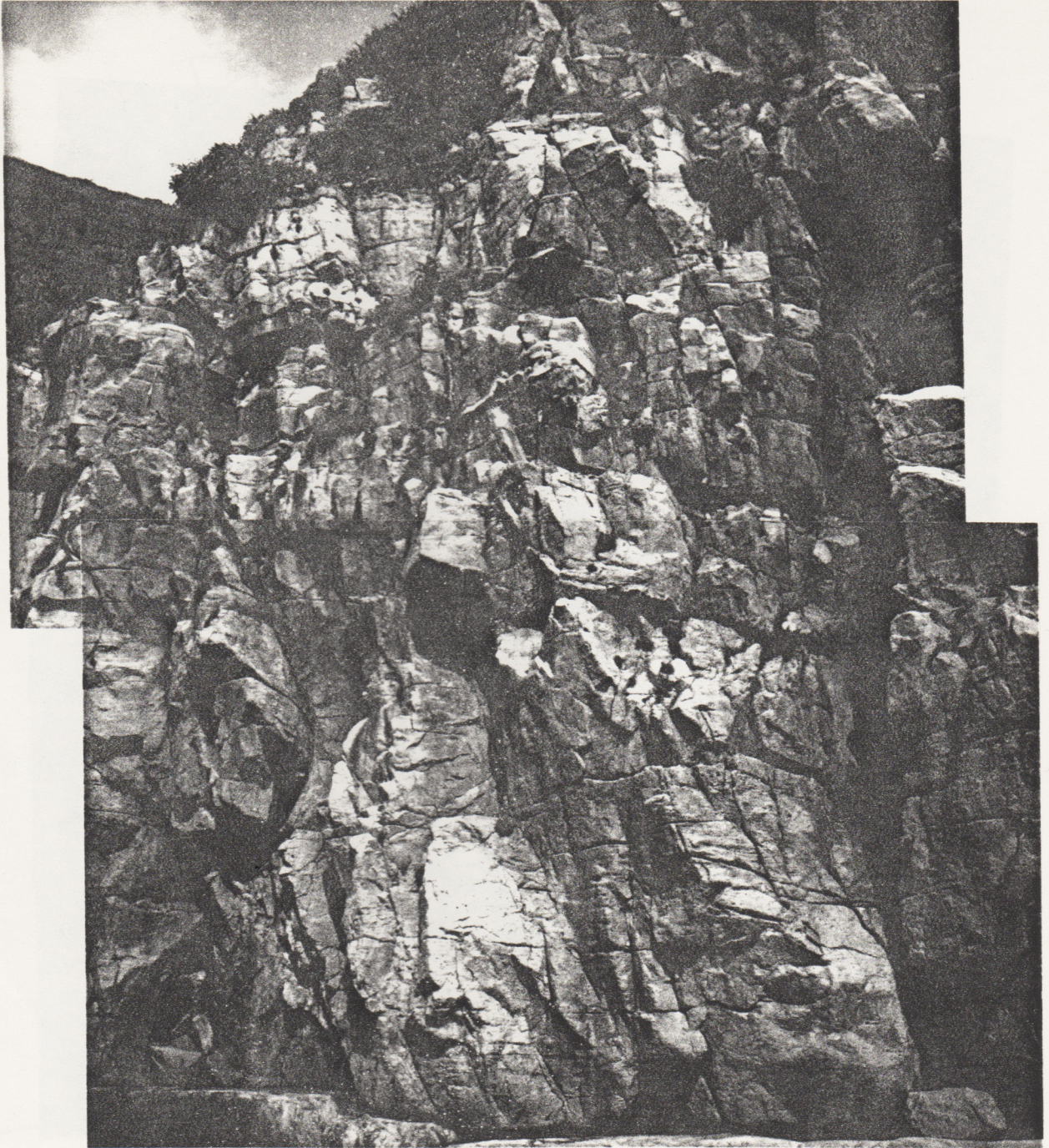


MUSIC HALL CENTER 音樂廳之中

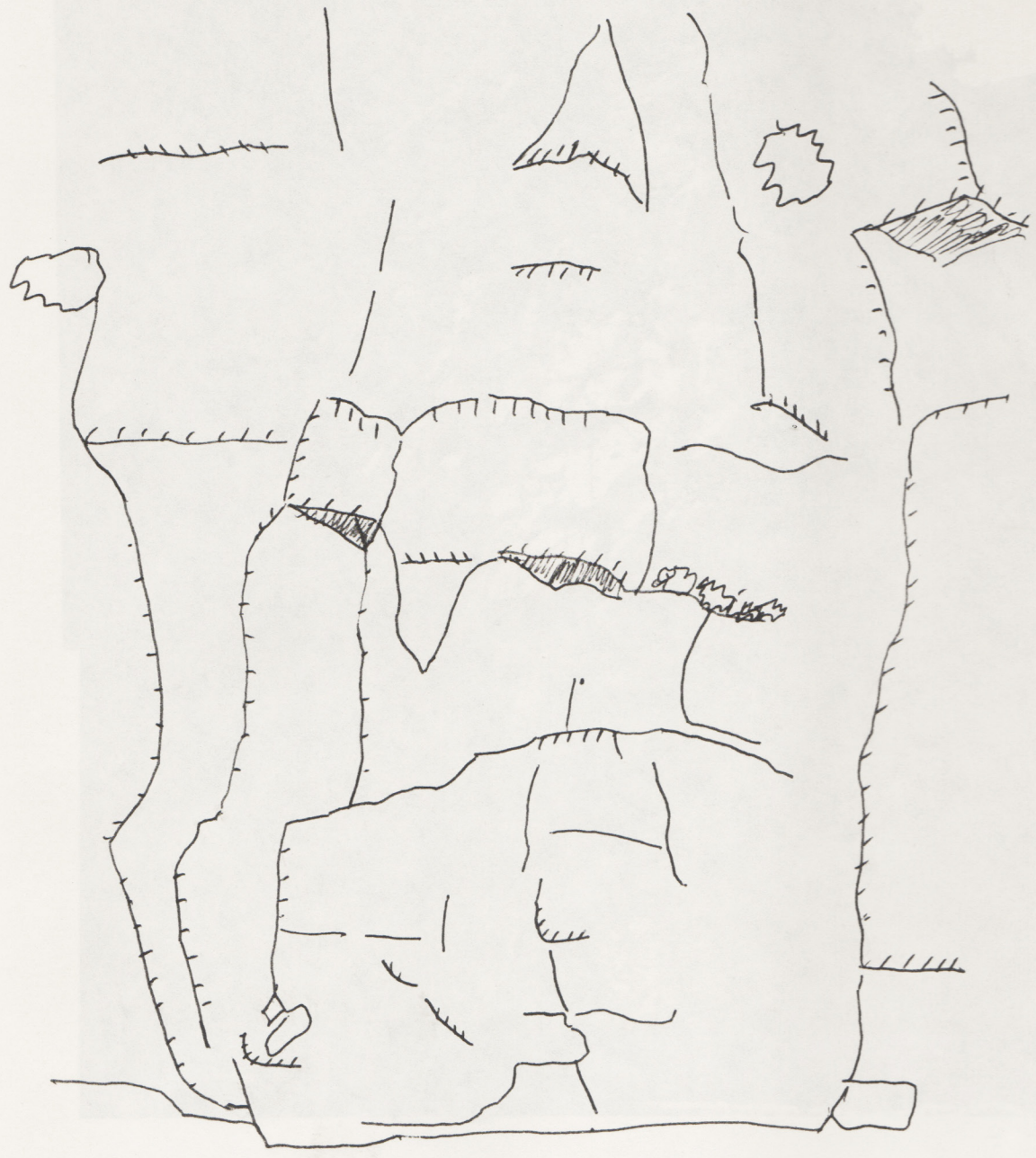


1. Finger Crack, 5.11b
2. 3 Bolts, 5.9
3. Fucking Fall, 5.10
4. Warmup Crack, 5.7
5. Warmup Face, 5.9
6. Top-Rope, left and right variations, 5.10d
7. R.O.C., 5.12

MUSIC HALL LEFT 音樂廳左邊

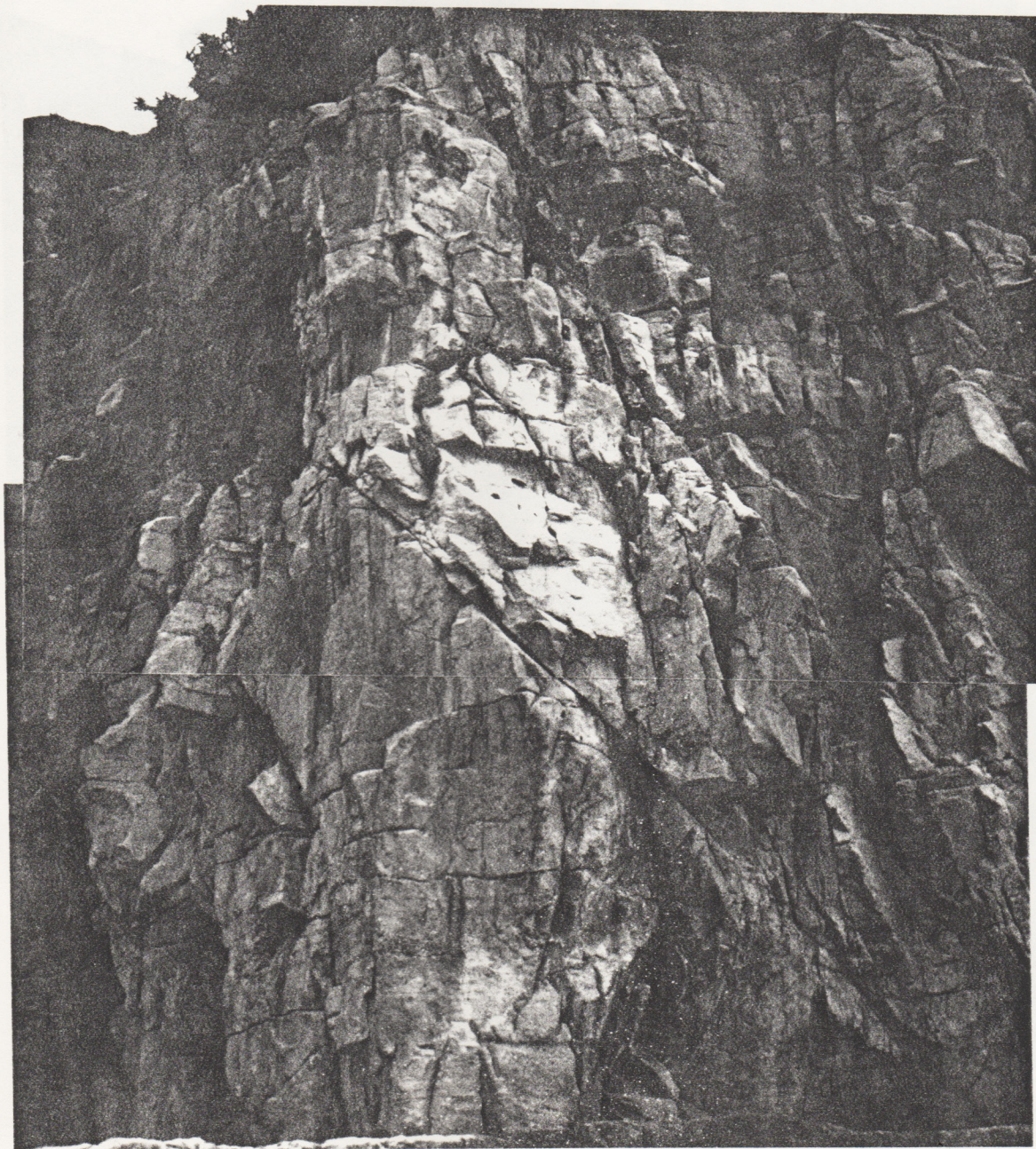


TOPO: MUSIC HALL LEFT



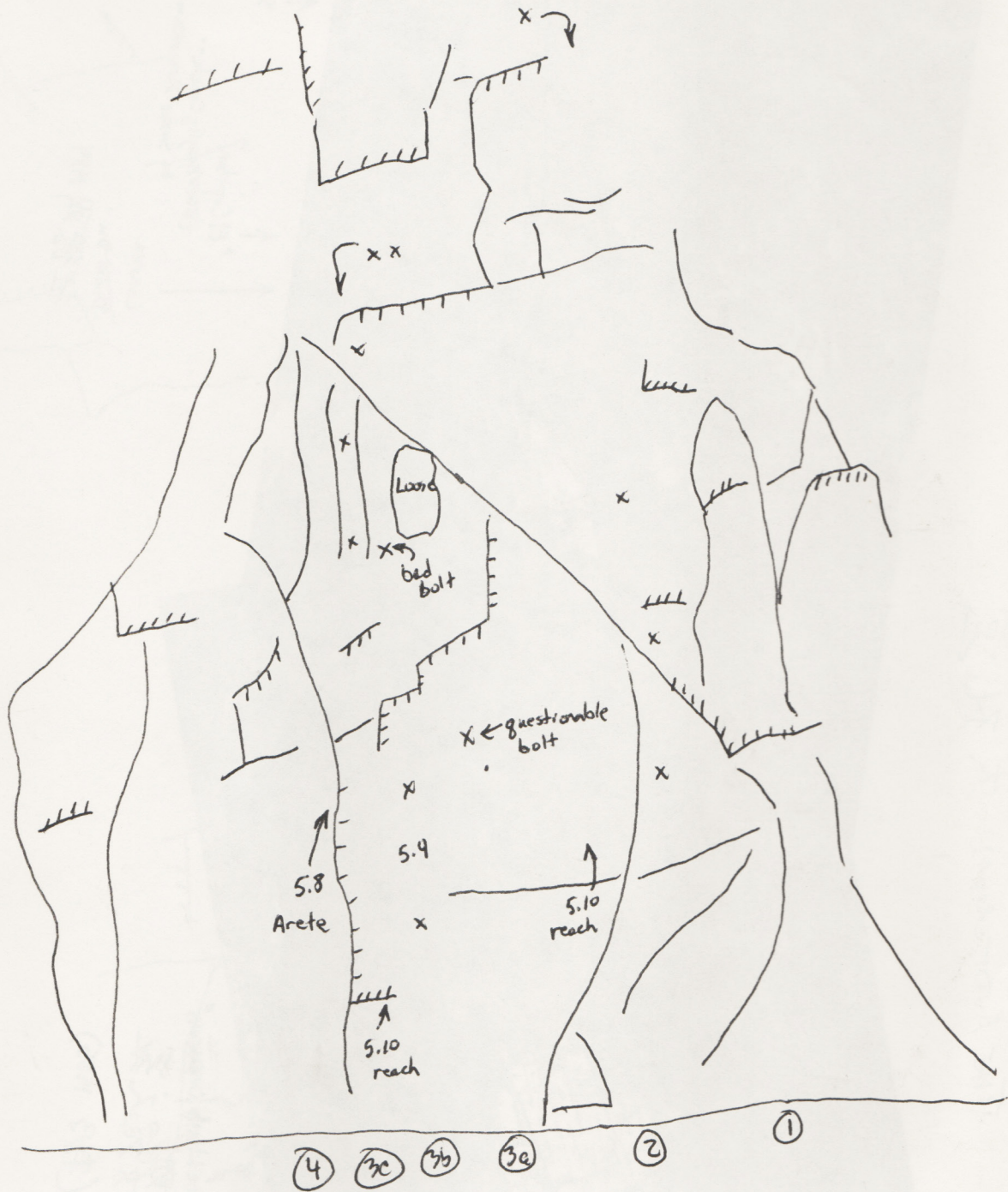
MUSIC HALL FAR LEFT

音樂廳極左邊



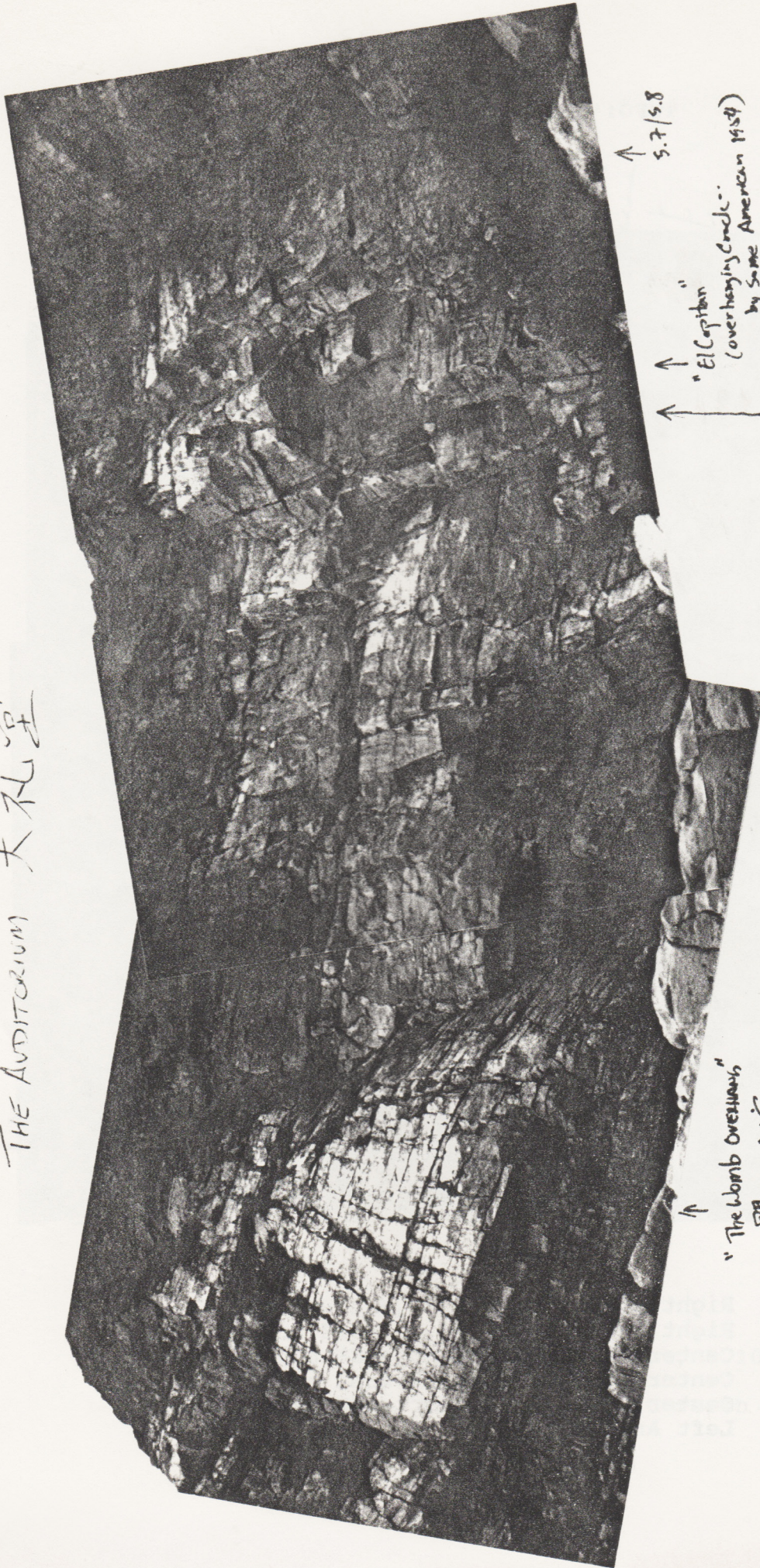
1. Right Crack, 5.9
2. Right Face, 5.10
- 3a. Center Face, right arete start, 5.10 reach
- 3b. Center Face, direct, 5.9
- 3c. Center Face, thin start, 5.10 reach
4. Left Arete, 5.8

TOPO: MUSIC HALL LEFT



1. Right Crack, 5.9
2. Right Face, 5.10
- 3a. Center Face, right arete start, 5.10 reach
- 3b. Center Face, direct, 5.9
- 3c. Center Face, thin start, 5.10 reach
4. Left Arete, 5.8

THE AUDITORIUM 大礼堂



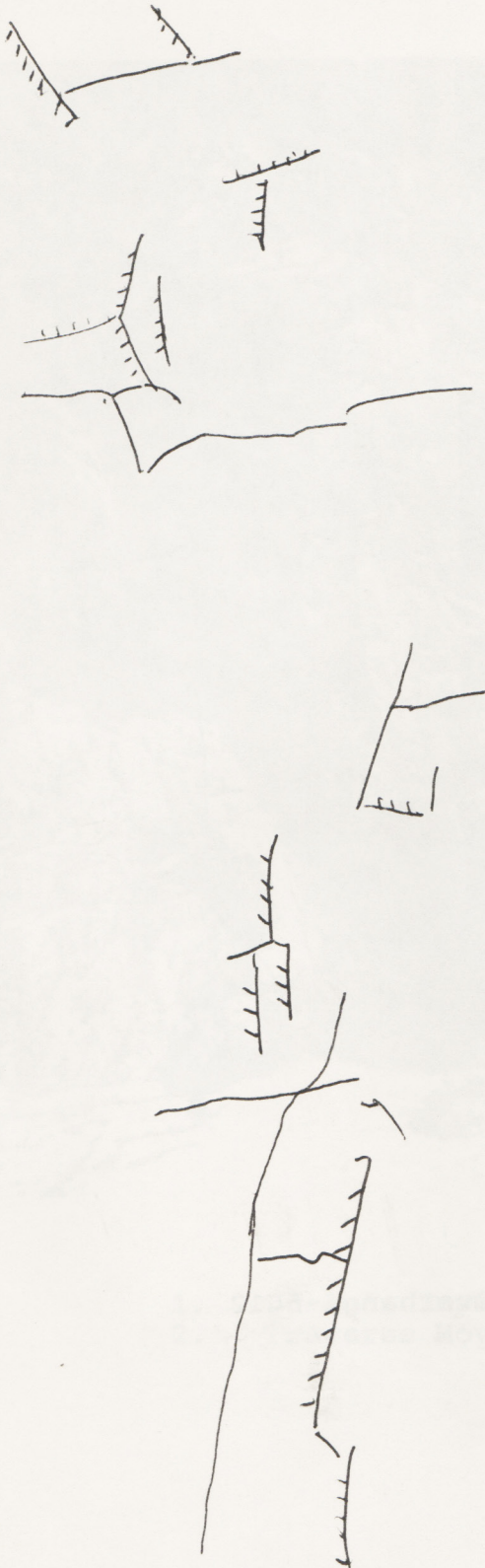
↑ 5.7/5.8

↑ "El Capitan"
(overhanging cornice)
by some American artist

↑ CORNER
David Du
杜德明 1984

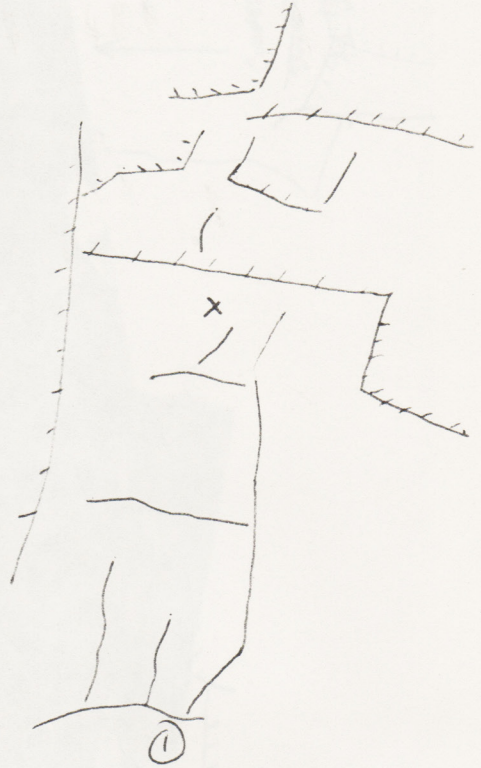
↑ "The Bomb Overhangs"
黑兒之家
(特刊 1985)

TOPO: THE AUDITORIUM



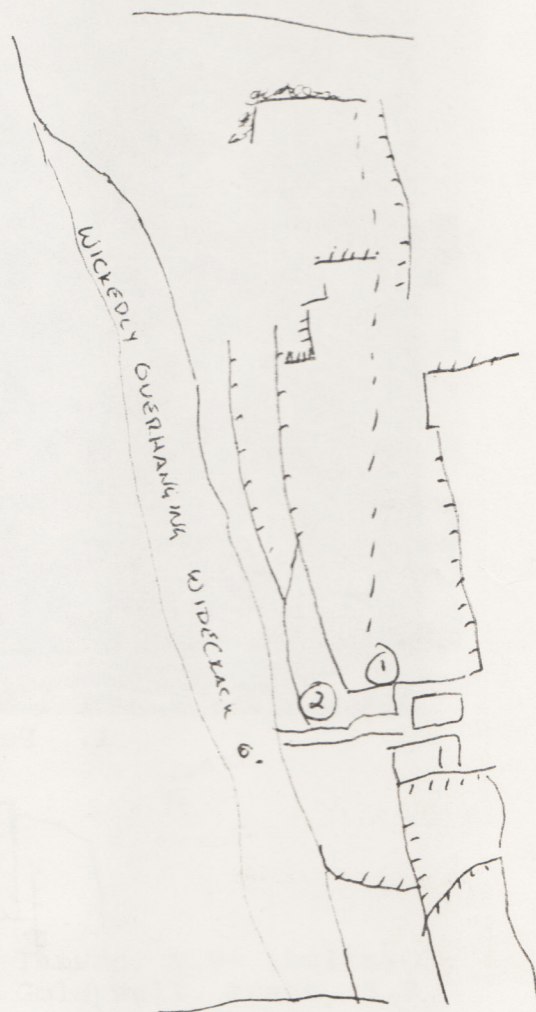
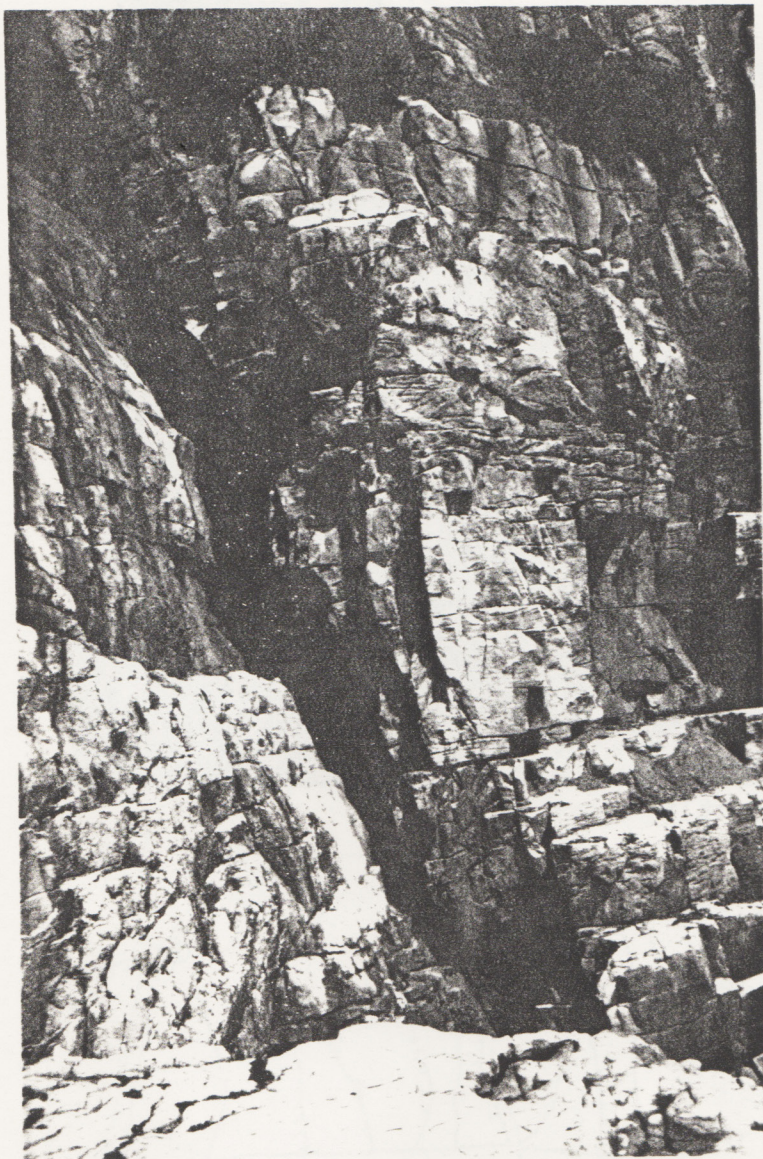
THE DRAGON'S CAVE

龍洞



1. Yum Yum's Overhang, 5.12

THE TRAVERSE AND WICKEDLY OVERHANGING WIDECRACK

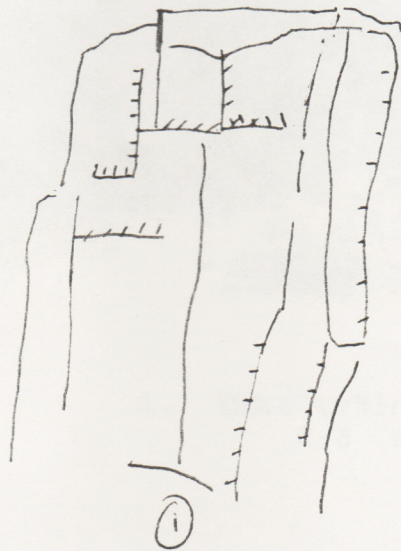


1. Bu-Ah's Insanity, 5.10
2. Traverse Move, 5.5

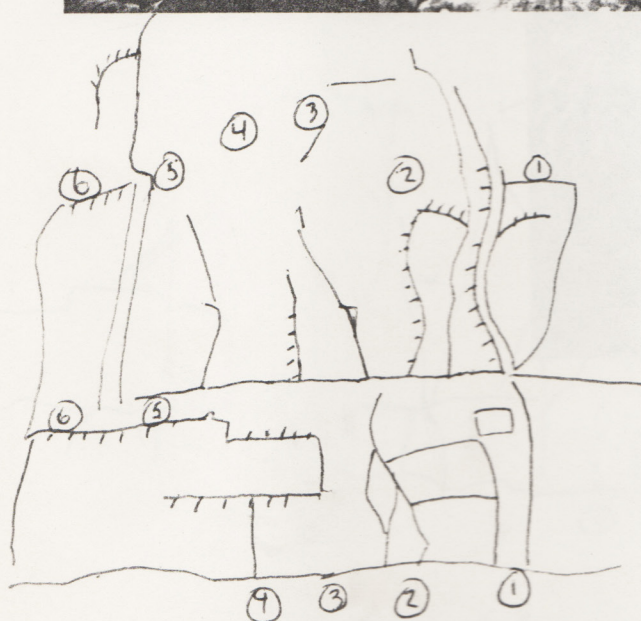
PERFECTLY OVERHUNG 美好的懸岩



1. Perfectly Overhung, 5.10



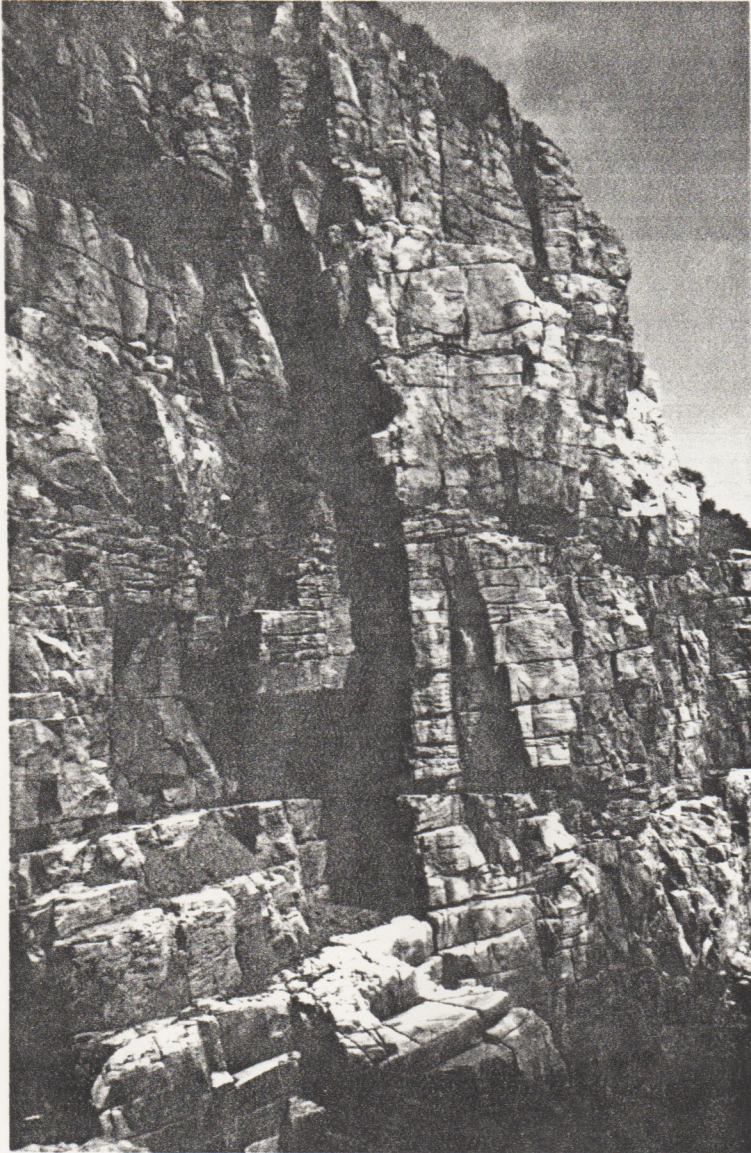
GOLDEN VALLEY 黄金谷



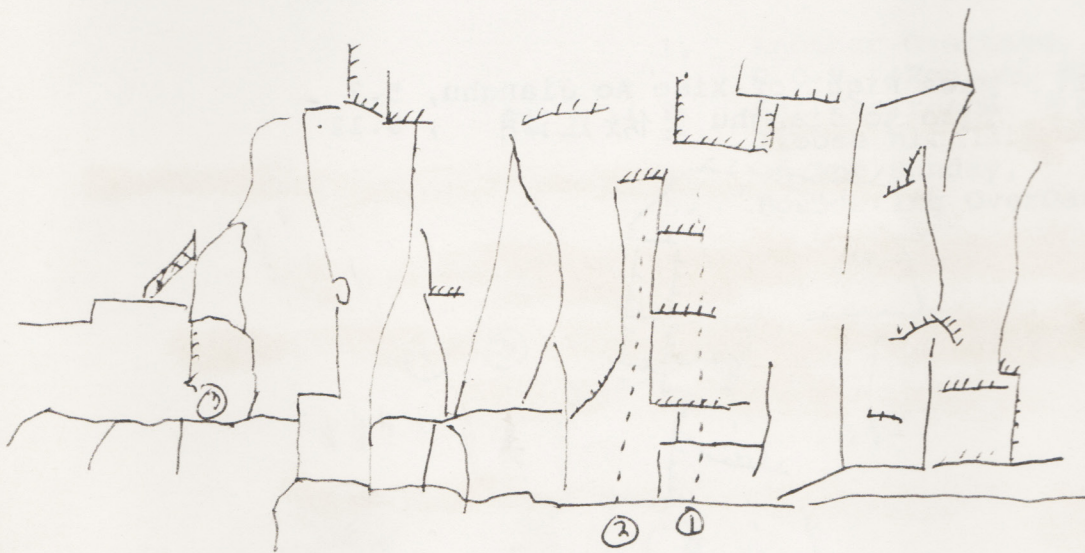
1. Taiwan, 5.9+ (bolts)
2. Gold Wall, arete, 5.?
3. Gold Wall, crack, 5.10-
4. Gold Wall, left, 5.10 (bolts)
5. Perpendicular Wall, 5.?
6. Bu-Ah's Face, 5.?

BEYOND THE WAVES

浪之外



THE BACK DOOR, 1 後門一

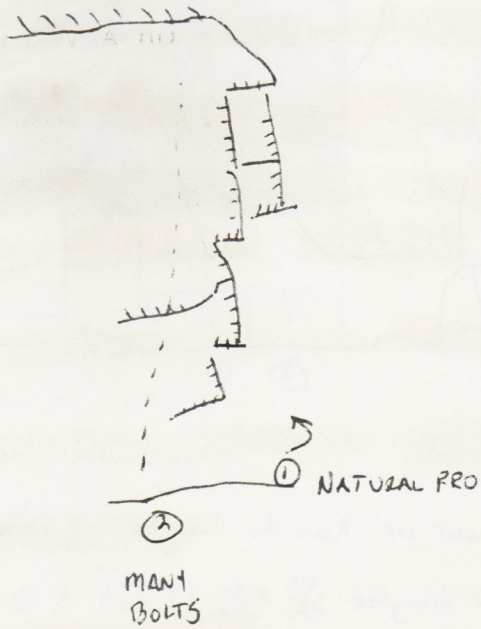


1. FACE RIGHT OF Xiao Ao Jianghu 笑傲江湖右面 5.12T?
2. Xiao Ao Jianghu 笑傲江湖 5.12
3. Bok. 5.12b

THE BACK DOOR, 2



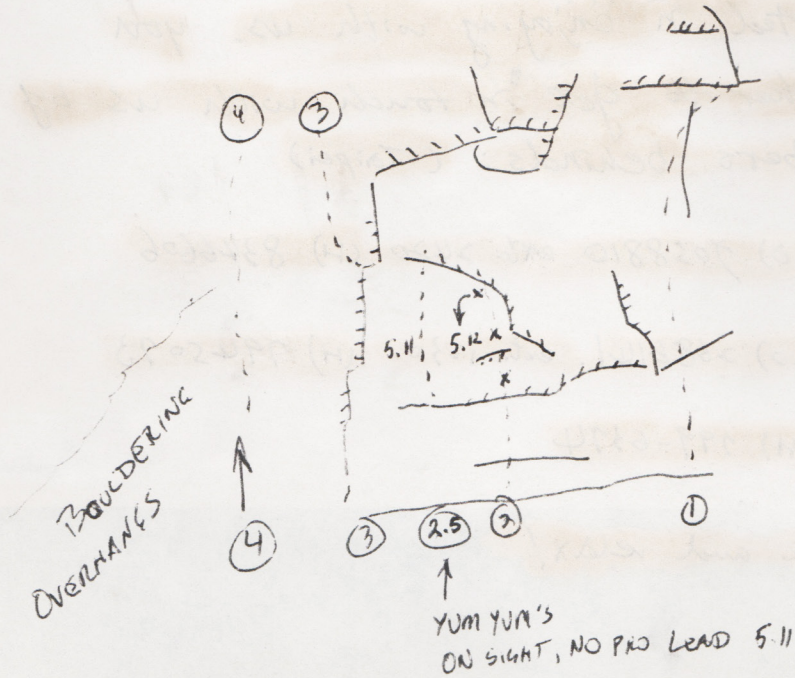
1. Face Right of Xiao Ao Jianghu, 5.?
2. Xiao Ao Jianghu 笑傲江湖 , 5.12



BACK DOOR, 3



1. Another Overhang, 5.9
2. R.O.K. (Rep. of Korea), 5.12b
3. Sea Cockroach 海蟑螂, 5.9
(loose blocks!)
4. On Any Sunday, 5.?
5. Bouldering Overhangs



AFTERWORD

This guide was compiled as an introduction for my foreign rock climbing friends to Taiwan's climbing (but actually, I was bored with my studies and interested in getting to know Longdong with greater intimacy). I hope whoever uses the guide will argue the ratings, update the incomplete sections, and be inspired to do a few new climbs!

The ratings of most of the climbs are my own impression, but I want to thank Steven Wang 王大清, Laurence Huen 賴志剛, Niunai 劉乃重, and Yum Yum (for all those climbs I couldn't do at 5.12 and above), for both their climbing contributions and the ratings of the routes I haven't climbed. Contact them on any Sunday at the crags if you have any questions or embellishments!

Since I'm leaving Taiwan, I turn this project over to Stefan, Daji, Laurence, or anyone who cares enough to complete it. I can't wait to come back and climb all the new ones!

Finally, I'd be glad to update my database of climbs from the States if you're interested in mailing me topos and new route descriptions:

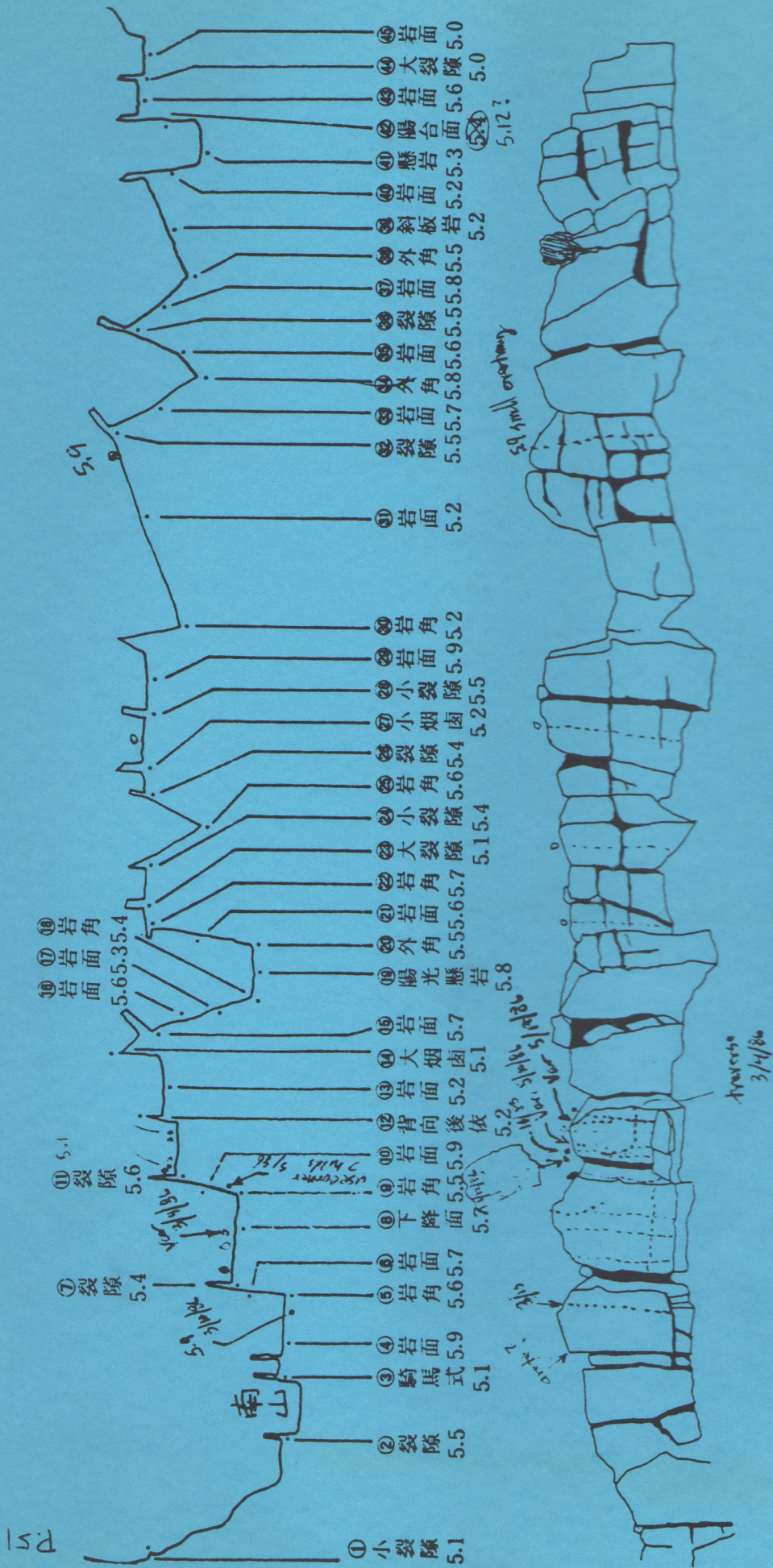
Paul Foster
2277 Vistamont Dr.
Decatur, GA 30033
USA

ph. 404-633-9048

You can reach us, local climbers, using the phone numbers
behinds:

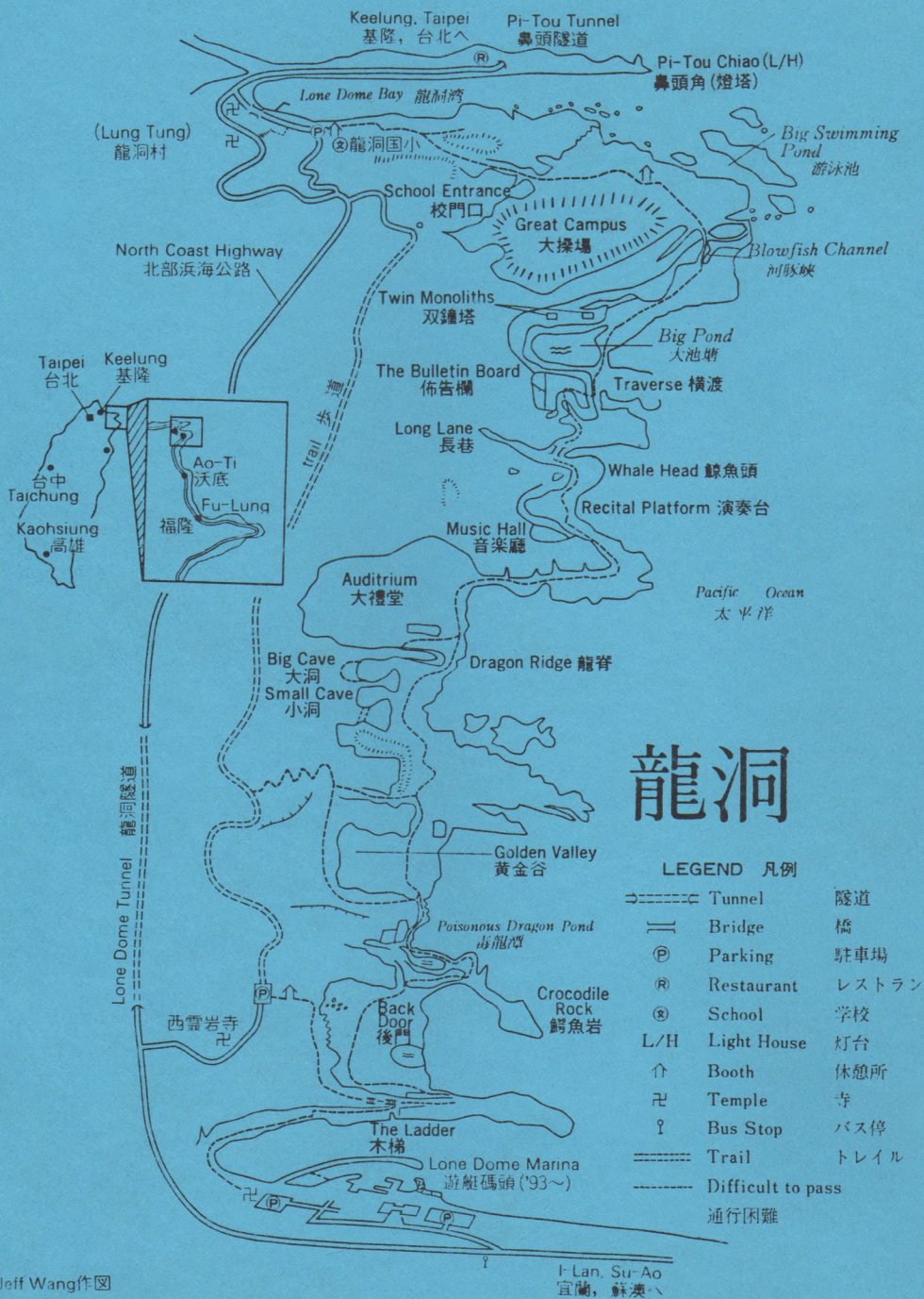
Steeve Wang	H: 02-8346606	O: 02-7058810 ext. 2420
Laurence Huen	H: 02-7945073	O: 02-2686141 ext. 1230
Yum Yum	H: 02-7996374	

APPENDIX: Dapao Yan Toro!



大砲岩場有路線圖

Overview of Longdong Climbing Areas



龍洞

Jeff Wang 作図

I-Lan, Su-Ao
宜蘭, 蘇澳へ