

The Garden Wall

Jayson Nissen

The Garden Wall is adjacent to the Garden Boulders and is one of the closest climbing areas to Salem, Corvallis, and Eugene. The main cliff that is currently being developed is 40 to 80 feet tall and tends to be overhung. The cliff has poison oak so stay on the trails and keep your dogs on a leash unless you want a nice reminder of your day of climbing.

Directions

Heading east on Route 20 pass through Sweet Home and take a left onto Quartzville Rd at the east end of Foster Lake. From the point that you turn left it is 3.4 miles to the first pullout on the right and 3.6 miles to the parking just across from the trail head. Please ensure that your car is parked completely off of the road and be willing to walk a little further if the parking is full. The entrance to the trail is not that obvious, and will hopefully stay that way, but if you walk along the uphill side of the road looking for the trail you should find it. The trail is very obvious once you are in the woods and it is a very short distance to the crag.

Parking. Parking is limited. Please park to maximize the space and please don't park on the road or in any way impede traffic. Inconsiderate parking is the most likely way to get access shut down! If you have to park as far as the boulders and walk down the road. It isn't a long walk either way.

Development and Ethics

The newest wave of development started in the winter of 2016. At that time there was one aid line, which



became Scorpion's Revenge and one open project in the middle of the cliff that has likely not been climbed. The routes at the cliff are all sport routes equipped with stainless steel wedge bolts. Draws hung on the routes are likely project draws and belong to someone else.

Here are my views on route development. I've bolted all of the trad lines that I (or others with their permission) initially put up. I found that these routes were climbed so seldom that reclimbing them required a lot of cleaning. I prefer to have them regularly climbed so that I can enjoy them and spend my time scrubbing new routes. Mixed routes should not have one or two trad placements on them to surprise the unknowing leader. Routes should be protected to the same extent they would be if they were a developers project. I have been developing the routes with high first bolts that are meant to be stick clipped in order to save on money. I am slowly adding bolts to these routes so that they can be climbed safely without the stick clip where possible.

Do not top rope directly through the anchors. Feel free to lower off of the anchors as recommended by the American Alpine Club or to rappel from the anchors if that is your preferred practice. All routes should have anchors through which a bite of climbing rope can be fed.

Fixed lines are for development and indicate that a route is a closed project. Red ribbon tied to the first hanger also indicates a closed project. If there is a fixed line on a finished route feel free to move it out of your way, but please return it when you are done. Fixed lines are in place because they greatly aid developing the routes and almost every route at the cliff has been bolted on rappel via fixed lines.

Useful Information

I highly recommend bringing a stick clip. The cliff has had three communal stick clips that have all walked off. There are toilets and running water at the county park on Quartzville Rd. The wall is mostly surrounded by black berries and it is best to poop before you get to the crag.

Many of the routes are climbable in the winter after about 24 hours without rain.

Please do not step on plants or walk off the trail. Try to minimize your impact. The plants will grow back but any erosion will take years to recover, may make the climbing much less enjoyable, and it looks awful. Respect the land as if it were your own.

I saw one of the nuts come off of a bolt on Fight Club and the climber take a big whipper. Try to visually inspect the fixed equipment before you trust it with your life. I have seen some rocks just roll off the top of the hill. Some of the rock is chossy and will eventually fall. Take whatever safety precautions you deem necessary.

Routes

1. ? 5.??

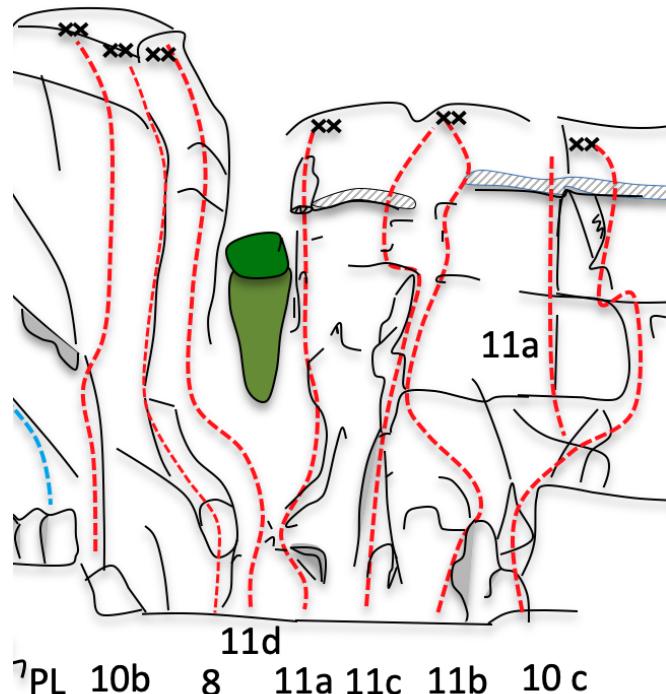
25 ft, Sport, ? bolts. The short climb just left of the roof at the far right edge of the cliff.

2. Yggdrassil 5.??

30 ft, Sport, ? bolts. Climbs the shallow book behind the trees up to the ledge.

3. John Henry's Hammer 5.10c

50 ft, Sport, 6 bolts. Starts just left of the large boulder with the overhanging trees and has a pretty nice flat belay platform. Climbs up the right side of the short boulder and up an arrow shaped flake to gain the ledge with the tree. Follow the crack up and right then make the sloper move left to the undercling (crux). Can be finished either to the left (stemming) or right (small dishes) of the last bolt. Variably dry in



the winter and generally shaded. Please tread carefully on the tree overhanging the boulder as it shades a large section of the cliff.

4. Strange Fruit 5.11a

50 ft, Sport, 6 bolts. This route shares the first bolt with John Henry's Hammer but then moves left to the second bolt. Several tricky sections broken by large holds and good rests. The route is named after the Billie Holiday song about lynching of Black Americans. By reminding me of the history of violence and oppression against Black and indigenous peoples by our nation it acts to remind me to respect this place and all the creatures that call it home and to carry that respect with me throughout my life. The tree is particularly vulnerable to erosion. If enough people disrespect the tree, it will no longer provide the shade that lets us climb the route all year round.

5. Scorpion's Revenge 5.11b

50 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. This route starts on the left side of the boulder making a long and powerful boulder move to the top. The original line follows a series of crimpers up and left to the scar feature. There is a lower long move to a side pull that may be easier for some. The crimpers are now smaller than they used to be and likely much harder to climb. The route then follows the right side of the scar to a softball-sized jug

and goes straight up from that jug (crux). Lower off the quickclips.

This route and Snug are share many holds through the center of the route. Revenge was put up first and stays mostly dry throughout most of the year by avoiding all of the seepage that runs down Snug throughout the entire winter. The route was named after the scorpion found at the base of it during its development.

6. Snug as a Snail 5.11c/d

50 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts in the flared corner making difficult moves to hidden edges to get established in the corner then technical footwork to make the long reach to the jug to exit the corner. Follow the scar up and exit the scar slightly left via jugs. Lower off of Scorpion's Revenge. Wet in the winter.

7. Snail Scorpion Linkup 5.10c

50 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts as for John Henry then moves left to the scar via Revenge and finishes as for Snug.

8. Scorpion Hitchhiker's Toilet Bowl Odyssey 5.11a(b)

50 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts just left of Snug under the small roof moving left to pull the roof on large jugs then back up and right to the bolt line. Follows the left facing features straight up to the anchors.

I named this route after the little scorpion that my wife found climbing on a towel in our bathroom. For some reason this little guy never made his way outside but instead ended up going for a swim. Variable shade and mostly dry in the winter.

9. Learning to Fly 5.11d

55 ft. Sport, 7 Bolts. Starts about 10 ft left of Odyssey Moving up and left around the small alcove. Unfortunately the rock for your feet can be wet. However, the rest of the rock up the arete is solid and the climb is stellar.

This route was named after a mouse that was hiding in a mat of moss that was cleaned off of the route. The little guy had a perfect flight to land softly on the moss and then take off into the woods. Variable shade but best in the morning or evening. Mostly dry in the winter.

10. Community 5.8



Figure 1: Micah is Learning to Fly.

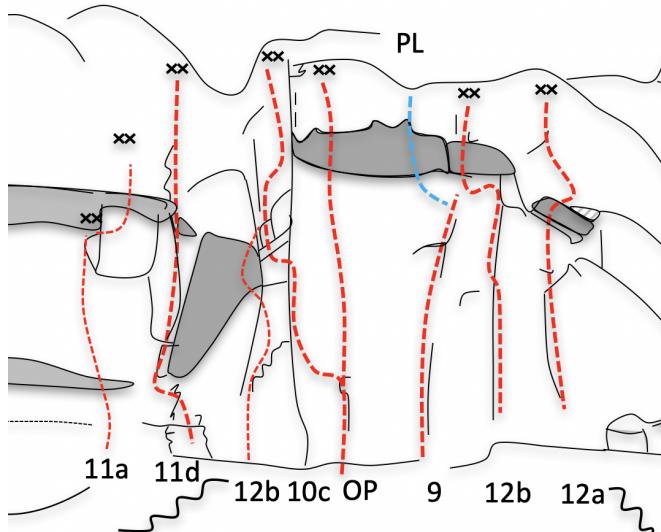
55 ft, Mixed, 7 Bolts. Starts in the hole right next to the survey marker. The climb into the hole has really cleaned up. From there move out left and up the ramp. There is a half inch bolt to stick clip for the start. This route has many hidden holds and is much harder to on sight than the grade indicates. It was initially put up as a trad climb. Variable shade and generally wet in the winter.

11. Blackberry Jam 5.10a

45 ft, Mixed, Gear to 3 inches. Starts on the far right side of the ledge just to the left of Community in a dirty right facing dihedral. This dihedral is quite fun but very short. The route moves up right through another crack system to a set of anchors with rappel rings. The crack at the top is very uncomfortable.

12. Anaphylactic Shock 5.12a

40 ft, Mixed, 3 Bolts gear to a 0.75 C4. Goes up the pumpy left leaning crack to surmount a small roof with a easy mantle onto a nice ledge. A great no hands rest lets you recover for the final boulder moves to the anchor.



13. Fight Club 5.12b

50 ft, Sport, 7 Bolts. Starts up the corner left of Anaphylactic. Fixed with permadraws. Traverses left under the roof then heads up through the roof. Variable sun and shade. Generally dry in the winter.

14. Cutting Crack 5.9

20 ft, Trad, Single Rack. Follows the hand crack a few feet left of the Fight Club start. Ends on one of the permadraws for Fight Club. Extending this route through the roof to the left of Fight Club looks possible but much harder than Fight Club.

15. Butterfly Effect 5.13a

40 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Fixed with permadraws. Follows the bolt line generally moving straight up to the large square block and then through the roof.

16. Slithering Skink 5.10c

40 ft Sport, 6 Bolts. Generally follows the corner just before the trail drops down to the lower area. Shares a start with Butterfly Effect about 6 feet right of the corner moving up to the rectangular block then traversing left into the corner via long balancy moves. Follow the corner up then move left through a series of horizontal cracks and blocks. There is an easy but hidden sequence to move above here that makes the route much easier. Variable sun and generally wet in the winter.

17. Stasis Chamber 5.12b

40 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts. Climbs the steep wall just above the stairs between Wildlings and Slithering Skink. Requires some strong technique. Meets up with the top of Slithering Skink.

18. Lazarus 5.12c

40 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts, 1 nut. Start as for Stasis Chamber but then traverse left and finish on Wildlings.

19. Wildlings 5.11d

40 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts just left of the stairs down. Powerful boulder moves with solid rests through the dihedral. Follows the bolt line generally moving straight up to the large square block and then through the roof. Afternoon sun variably dry in the winter.

20. Rainshadow 5.11a

40 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts. Follows four bolts beneath the large roof on the ledge. An open project extension continues out to the right. Afternoon sun dry in the winter though it may seep.

21. Closed Project ?

45 ft, Sport, ? Bolts. A closed project that shares the start with Rainshadow.

22. The Vine, Open Project

60 ft, Sport, 9 Bolts. Starts on the middle of the ledge. Walk over on the ledge from Rainshadow. Originally bolted as a dry tooling project, this line follows a thin shallow crack to some larger holds for pulling through the steep sections. Quite difficult.

23. Heirloom Project, Open Project?

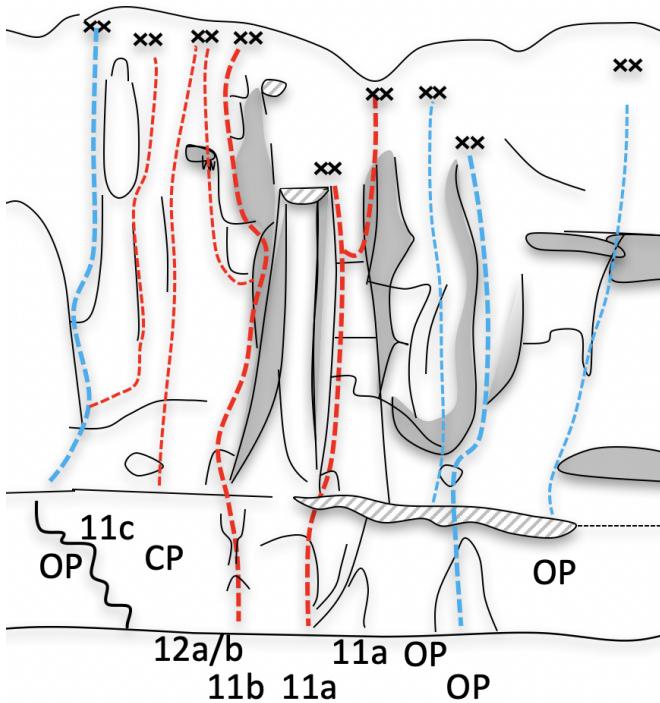
Sport. Bolt line following a stunning black arete. I assume this has never been sent since it had single biners hanging on most of the hangers.

24. Chimeras 5.13a

70 ft, Sport, 9 Bolts. Starts on the ledge which can be accessed via a low fifth class ramp. Ignore the first bolt. Access the scoop and then climb right up the middle of it. Very challenging stemming on nonexistent holds. Striking line. Partial shade. Wet all winter.

25. Whirlibird (Closed Project ??

70ft. Sport. Line between Castle Black and Chimera that is currently under development.



26. Castle Black 11a

50ft. Sport can be climbed on trad gear. Starts in the middle of the lower section going up the left corner of the strikingly angular box. The crux moves from an undercling and side pull to a ledge on the left with some technical stemming then moves right to a hidden jug. The route protects with trad very well but falls from the crux have the potential to hit the ledge below. The route finishes on the right side of a large ledge with a rap ring anchor. This route now sports bolts. Stays shady and wet until June.

27. The Littlest Birds 11a

70ft. Sport. 9 bolts extended draws are nice. An excellent extension to Castle Black. After the crux on Castle Black traverse right and follow the bolt line up and right to the anchors.

28. The Seraphim Nachash 5.11b

70 ft, Sport, 10 Bolts. Starts at the lowest level of the cliff near a small boulder and about 10 feet right of the stairs. Easy moves lead to the ledge. The crux pulls from a large jug through a sequence of smaller holds at the same level as the second permadraw. The route then heads out left through steep terrain with great exposure. Finishes on easier terrain. Tends to be dry in the winter. Gets afternoon sun.



Figure 2: Kevin on the FA of Castle Black

29. My Empire of Dirt 12a/b

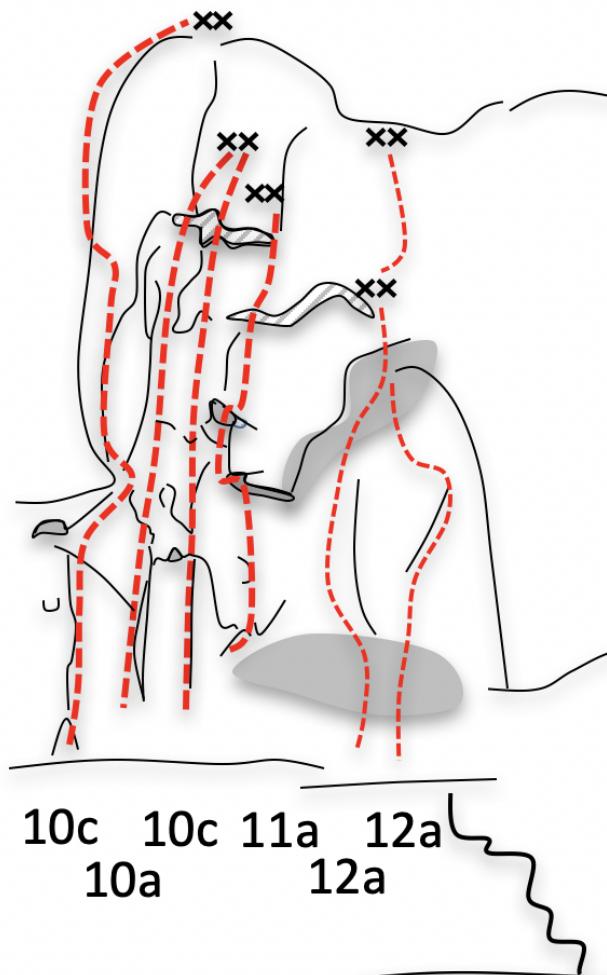
70 ft, Sport, 5 + 6 Bolts. A wonderful extension to Nachash. Pull the crux of Nachash, then head left through the overhanging rock. A long sequence of moves with no decent rests leads to a crux sequence before the climbing eases off. Tends to be dry in the winter. Gets afternoon sun.

30. Honey Comb Direct Closed Project

50 ft, Sport, 9? Bolts. Start on the ledge about 10 feet right of the top of the stairs. Best to belay from the stairs. Hard climbing straight up leads to a challenging shallow dihedral then a roof pull to end at the same anchors as My Empire of Dirt. If the two routes ever get busy separate anchors can be added. Tends to be dry in the winter. Gets afternoon sun.

31. Honey Comb Traverse 12a

50 ft, Sport, 9 Bolts. Start as for Criss Cross but keep traversing right. The route finishes



out right on My Empire of Dirt but also can be finished on Criss Cross. The Criss Cross finish makes cleaning the route a lot easier. Highly recommend fixing the traverse with project draws, the bolts are very hard to clip. Tends to be dry in the winter. Gets afternoon sun.

32. Criss Cross Applesauce 5.11c

45 ft, Sport, 8 Bolts. Starts right at the top of the stairs. Climb up and right though pumpy moves to a cryptic crux. Fun jugs lead to a mantel and short jaunt to the anchors. Tends to be dry in the winter. Gets afternoon sun.

33. Vandals in the Graveyard 5.12a

45 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Goes straight up from the Criss Cross start. Gets afternoon sun.

34. Closed Project ?

45 ft, Sport, ? Bolts. As of fall 2020 there are 2 closed projects between the start to Criss Cross and the start to Sendsation.

35. Closed Project ?

45 ft, Sport, ? Bolts. As of fall 2020 there are 2 closed projects between the start to Criss Cross and the start to Sendsation.

36. Ovulation Sendsation 12a

45 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts 20 feet left of the top of the stairs at a large tree. Please protect the tree and its roots from unnecessary harm. Very technical climbing up and slightly right leads to a large pocket. After the pocket head left to meet up with Fertile Crescent under the roof. Pull the roof to the lower anchors. The climbing above is dirty and tends to be wet all winter. Generally shaded in the summer and dry during the winter.

37. Fertile Crescent 12a

45 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts five feet left of the tree. Height allows skipping some of the technical moves but not the cruxes.

38. Closed Project closed project

25 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts in the shallow corner with the overhang eliminating the feet. Climbs straight up to an anchor on the same ledge as the anchor for Fertile Crescent.

39. My Secret Garden 5.11a

50 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts a few feet right of Nest on the really large sloper. Move right from the sloper to some nice edges and up into the roof crack. Move left into the corner to work then out right onto the small ledge. Route moves straight up.

40. Nest 5.10c

40 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts about three feet right of A Garden Called Peace in the short finger crack in a little corner on the far right edge of the ledge. The climb moves straight up to the anchor.

41. A Garden Called Peace 5.10a

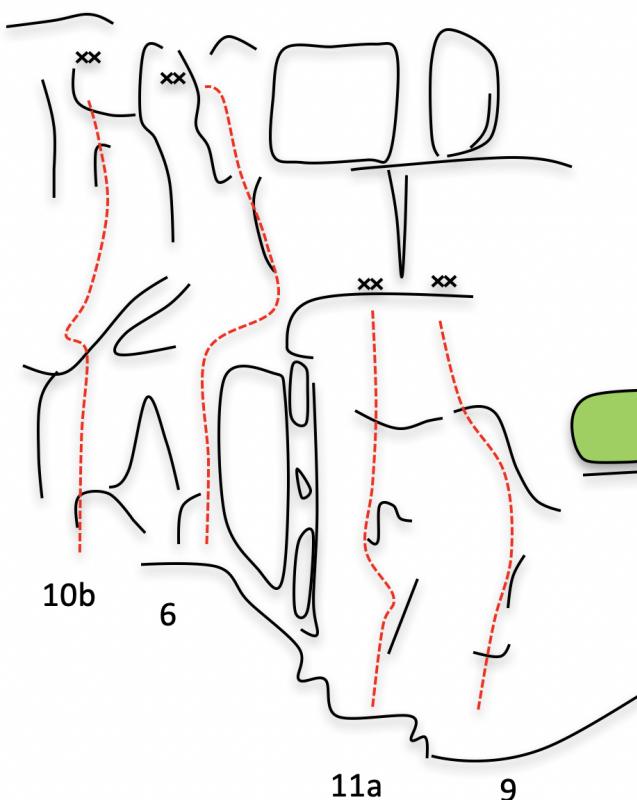
40 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Layback up the huge flake. If you layback all the way up there is the potential for a hard fall near the bolt, but it is easy to step left into the corner before you get that high. Follow the bolt line straight up making crux moves to gain and move past a small ledge. I bolted this route on the day of the Orlando shooting and I wanted to give it a name to remember that day. I chose this name as a variation on the Tacitus quote, "They make a desert (desolation) and call it peace."

42. Hive 5.10c

50 ft, Sport, 9 Bolts. Technical moves getting off the ground lead to easier climbing on the right side of the ledge. Traverse from the right to left sides then make a tricky clip to a permadraw. Many climbers are uncomfortable with the slab climbing out left and attempt to climb straight up the arete, which is much harder. Finish at anchors. Afternoon sun and mostly dry in the winter.

The Fairy Tale Wall

The next set of climbs are on the Fairy Tale Wall. We named it for the extensive blackberry vines all over the ledges on these cliffs. The cliff starts after the break in the two cliffs. Currently there are no climbs on the right side. It is wet on the right most of the year. Four climbs cover the left side of the cliff and tend to be dry all winter with a little seepage.

**43. Baba Yaga 5.9**

20 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts. The trickiest moves are off the ground. The anchor can be easily accessed by traversing the ledges over from The Feather of Finist the Falcon. Afternoon sun and mostly dry, except the bottom, in the winter.

44. The Death of Koschei the Deathless 5.11a

20 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts. The trickiest moves are off the ground. Really a one move wonder where the difficulty is very height dependent. The anchor can be easily accessed by traversing the ledges over from The Feather of Finist the Falcon. Afternoon sun and mostly dry in the winter.

45. The Feather of Finist the Falcon 5.8

25 ft, Sport, 4 Bolts. Starts in the off width behind the large block. A car jack couldn't move the block, but geological time includes now! Climb the off width (5.0) onto the ledge. Move right, then go straight up following the bolts. Large holds that are hidden are key to the grade.

46. Fe Fi Fo Fum 5.10b

25 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Technical and slabby. Starts at the built up landing with the log wall. Climb basically straight up through some slabby technical climbing. Afternoon sun and mostly dry in the winter.

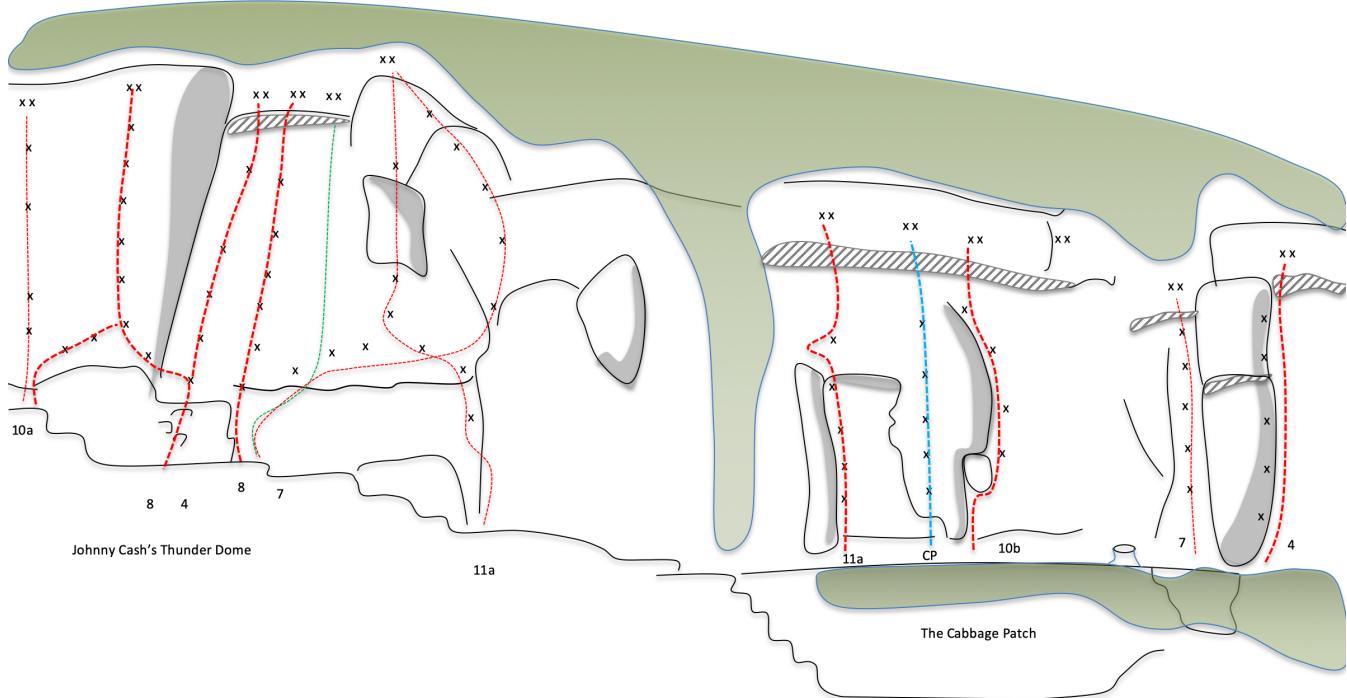
The Cabbage Patch

Continuing on the trail past Fe Fi Fo Fum will take you to a wide shorter cliff. The cliff is split in the middle by a waterfall. The routes on the right of the water fall are known as the Cabbage Patch because of the heinous lead climb up the now 5.4 to get an anchor established at the top. The climber was never worried about falling because she was tunneling upward through blackberries. These routes are shorter and worth climbing if the rest of the crag is busy or if you haven't ticked them yet. The Cliff gets afternoon sun and is toasty in the summer afternoons. Some of the routes tend to seep a bit until the sun has dried them out. These can be climbed late in the day during the spring depending on how wet the winter was. The routes are listed from right to left. The Cabbage Patch can be accessed from the right side or the middle staircase.

47. Don't Forget the Nooch 5.4

30 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. The farthest right route. It moves up the right facing corner with a crumbly crack. The climb is very mellow and a gentle first lead.

48. Tabooli 5.7



30 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Moves up the left facing corner just left of Don't Forget the Nooch and about 20 ft to the right of the tree stump on the ledge. This route tends to seep but dries out later in the day. It can be climbed with a bit of water on it without affecting the grade.

49. Babaganoush 5.10b

30 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. The first route to the left of the tree stump. This starts in a right facing corner under a large block. Many attempts could not move the block. The route moves up under the block on some fairly crumbly holds pulls over the block and then follows the easy crack to the top. Stick clip highly recommended.

50. Crux Cruciferous Closed Project

30 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Pulls straight up the face just to the right of a left facing corner. Tricky moves throughout the bottom half with the top half being an easy jaunt up the slab to the anchor

51. Kim Chi Corner 5.11a

30 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts off a horn feature in a right facing corner. Consistent climbing up to a small roof that is avoided to the left. The slab is gained via a balancey move back right with a scramble to the anchors.

Johnny Cash's Thunder Dome

The far left side of the last cliff forms a nice dome with two large flakes on the bottom. These

routes, confusingly are labeled from left to right. The key feature to look for is the shallow corner separating the left dome from the right wall with the large flakes at the bottom.

52. Shake all your trouble from your worried mind 5.?

XX ft, Sport, X Bolts. A shorter route up a gulley feature. This is the furthest left route and it is currently just a plan.

53. Stop once to wipe the sweat away 5.10a

30 ft, Sport, 5 Bolts. Starts from the break between the two large flakes at the base of the dome and from relatively far up on the terraces. The route is a bit of a one move wonder that may be height dependent. It starts out very easy on large steps, moves through a short crux, and then up a fun easy slab.

54. I fell for you like a child 5.8

45 ft, Sport, 8 Bolts. Goes up to the left of the corner. This route has two starts either from the right center of the lower large flake or from the left and along the large flake. The crux comes in the slabby face climbing on the dome

55. I will let you down 5.4

35 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Same start as the previous route but keep on heading straight up the face just to the right of the corner.

56. A million dollars of good 5.8

35 ft, Sport, 6 Bolts. Starts on the far right of the large flake then takes a small step out right. Keep on heading straight up. The business is in the slabby climbing higher up.

57. Lies, Lies, Lies 5.?

35 ft, Sport, 0 Bolts. Not yet bolted this is the water streak that continuously ran all summer in 2020. Starts as for 'I dropped a man in Reno' but then cuts right along the shallow ledge before heading straight up.

58. I dropped a man in Reno 5.7

45 ft, Sport, 11 Bolts. Starts just right of the large flake but then cuts right along the shallow ledge before heading up and back left to the anchors. The rock is a little crumbly and you have to traverse through the water streak.

59. Where do you go when the sun goes down

5.11a

45 ft, Sport, 8 Bolts. Starts right of the other climbs and to the left of the waterfall that runs late and falls over the cliff in a shallow right facing corner. Be very careful clipping the second bolt. The bottom 18 feet to the ledge are really good 10c climbing. The middle section is pretty tricky and crumbly slab climbing. Then run it out up the giant detached flake. Wet all winter.

60. A victim of the times 5.10c

45 ft, Sport, 8 Bolts. Start on Where do you go when the sun goes down and finish on I dropped a man in Reno. This is a better climb than either of the other two climbs. Careful clipping the second bolt.

1 First Ascents

1. CP**2. CP****3. John Henry's Hammer Jayson Nissen, May 2016****4. Strange Fruit Jayson Nissen****5. Scorpion's Revenge Micah Klesik, March 2016****6. Snug as a Snail Jayson Nissen, June 2016****7. Snail Scorpion Linkup Jayson Nissen, July 2016****8. Scorpion Hitchhiker's Toilet Bowl Odyssey Jayson Nissen, March 2016****9. Learning to Fly Micah Klesik, April 2016****10. Community Jayson Nissen****11. Blackberry Jam Jayson Nissen****12. Anaphylactic Shock Equipped by Jayson Nissen****13. Fight Club Micah Klesik, May 2016****14. Cutting Crack Micah Klesik, April 2016****15. Butterfly Effect Evan Powers equipped by Micah Klesik 2016****16. Slithering Skink Jayson Nissen, April 2016****17. Stasis Chamber Andrew Child****18. Lazarus Andrew Child****19. Wildings Kevin Paurelli****20. Rainshadow Jayson Nissen****21. Closed Project Equipped by Andrew Child****22. The Vine Open Porject Equipped by Jayson Nissen****23. The Heirloom Open Project? Equipper unknown****24. Chimeras JD equipped by Jayson Nissen****25. Whirlibird Closed Project****26. Castle Black Kevin Paurelli, July 2016****27. The Littlest Birds Jayson Nissen****28. The Seraphim Nachash Jayson Nissen****29. My Empire of Dirt Jayson Nissen****30. Honey Comb Direct Closed Project****31. Honey Comb Traverse Jayson Nissen****32. Criss Cross Applesauce Kerstin Cullen****33. Vandals in the Graveyard Chris equipped by Jayson Nissen****34. CP**

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37. **Fertile Crescent** Jayson Nissen
38. CP
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40. **Nest** Kerstin Cullen and Jayson Nissen, June 2016
41. **A Garden Called Peace** Jayson Nissen and Kerstin Cullen, June 2016
42. **Hive** Jayson Nissen
43. **Baba Yaga** Kerstin Cullen
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