

Dirty Dancing Area / Update

This sector of **North Phantom Crag** saw some late season development in 2012 with a retrofit to **The Separated Reality** ** which saw the replacement of fixed pitons with bolts and changing out of all rappel stations from self drive bolts with new stainless 3/8th studs and ringbolt hangers. This climb also had a direct two pitch start added and a couple of harder variation pitches worked out that now make up the **3-Star** version called **The New Reality** *** described below. This reworked line is now considered a modern mixed traditional affair with steady grades at the top end of the 5.10 range that I feel will be very popular in the coming years.

The author climbed for his first time the classic off-width climb **Crack-a-Jack** *** and found this experience to be a bit of an “old school” sandbag. This climb was one of the very first 5.10's in the Ghost, this sustained experience now gets in my humble opinion the well deserved 5.10d grade on the physical first pitch (remember its an off-width and its awkward and sustained). I recommend a double rack to 6” if you have it. I got by with two 4” cams but the wider crack at the top part of the pitch was definitely a bit run out. The second pitch grade was also moved up to 5.9/10a from the previous 5.8 rating. After climbing **The Separated Reality** 5.10c, I found the **Crack-a-Jack** start somewhat of a miss-match for the climbing on the upper wall. I returned a week later, by way of ground up rope solo adding **The New Reality** *** combinations making this overall combination a truly exception climb. There is also an optional harder second pitch called **Dose of Reality** ** S-5.11c/d for those climbers looking to up the technical anti as part of the cragging circuit offered in this mid-summer destination.

The **rappel route** down from **The Separated Reality** is now fixed with ring bolts at all stations and the need for replacement slings has been eliminated. Also the top anchor was moved up a few metres and is now an easy access from the top of the cliff if coming off other climbs in this area greatly improving this route as a viable descent option.

The New Reality *** M-5.10d, 160 m, gear to 3.5”

Andy Genereux, September 2012

This is basically a “New” two pitch direct start to the climb **The Separated Reality** with some optional harder variations on the upper pitches making for an excellent consistent outing at his grade and style. In my mind now one of the better hard 5.10 climbs in the Ghost in the mixed modern traditional style. A little bit of “New” to go with the “Old.”

To Start: Locate a large detached boulder and flake 10 m left of the climb **Crack-a-Jack** detailed on **page 301** of Ghost River Rock Climbs.

P1: 5.10d, 27 m. Climb the hand crack on the right side of the boulder to a protruding flake. From the top of the flake clip a bolt then make a difficult traverse right and work

up to a bolt (crux). Head up an intermittent crack to reach a stem slot. Move up past bolts to bulging terrain (sustained) to reach a small ledge with ringbolts to belay.

P2: 5.9, 25 m. Slightly left of the belay gain a crack in a shallow corner. Take the corner up to reach easier ground (the *Pinnacle Chimney* climb). Locate a bolt on the upper wall, move past this to a hand crack, up-to a ringbolt belay and a good ledge.

P3: 5.10c, 45 m. Climb the groove above the belay past a bolt to an ever steepening corner. Make difficult moves past a second bolt to enter the upper corner. Sustained stemming, continues up the corner. As the corner ends move right to a ring bolt belay.

P4: 5.10b, 20 m. Traverse right from the belay for 1.5 m then move up to a bolt, make thin moves up to a small roof and turn it on the right. Work up to a bolt and traverse up and left to a ledge with widely spaced bolts to belay.

P4: Var. 5.10d, 20 m. Directly above the belay move up past a bolt difficult to then complete the remainder of the original pitch as detailed above.

P5: 5.10a, 30 m. From the belay move left and clip a bolt stepping down and left to enter a right facing corner. Climb the corner until below the second roof on the right-hand wall. Make thin face moves traversing right to a slot below this overlap. Continue right into a shallow corner. Climb this corner past a bolt to a ring belay on a small ledge.

P5: Var. 5.10d, 25 m. Climb directly above the belay to the first overlap. Make delicate moves to enter the corner on the right of this feature. Move past 3 bolts (sustained) staying with the corner to a ring-bolt belay on the left. **Note:** Pitch 4 and this variation can be combined as one longer pitch. Similarly this version of 5 combined with pitch 6.

P6: 5.10a, 30 m. Climb the steep groove corner to the top of the cliff moving past two old anchor bolts below the top lip to a small rock band above with ringbolts to belay.

Dose of Reality ** M-5.11c/d, 55 m, gear to 3"

Andy Genereux, September 2012

This is a variation pitch off the first pitch of *The New Reality* described above.

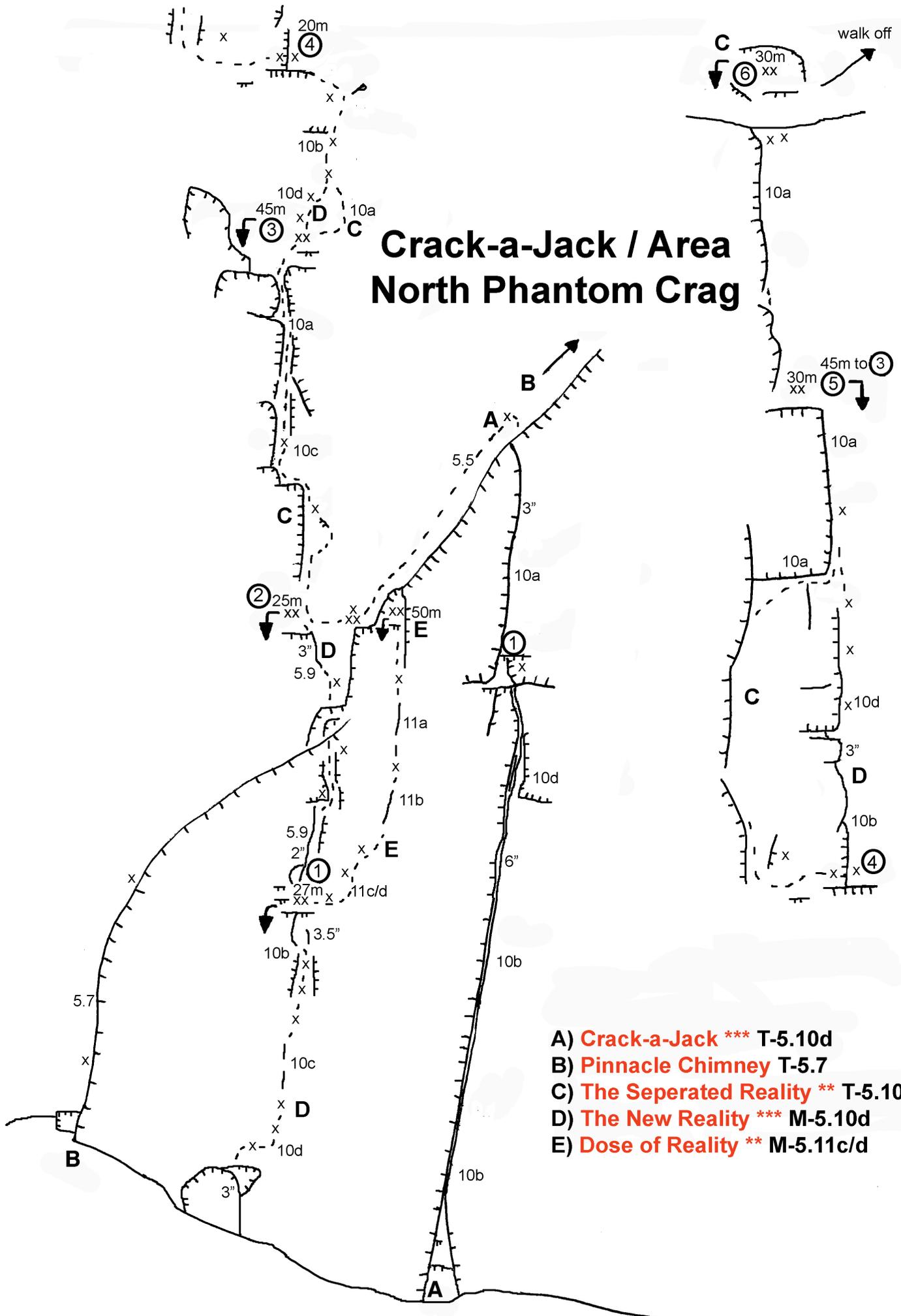
P1: 5.10d, 27 m. Climb the crack on the right side of the boulder to a protruding flake. From the top of the flake clip a bolt then make a difficult traverse right and up to a bolt. Head up an intermittent crack to reach a stem slot. Move up past bolts to bulging terrain to reach a small ledge with ringbolts to belay.

P2: 5.11c/d, 28 m. From the belay traverse right to a bolt, make very committing moves right to a shallow groove moving up to a bolt. Angle up and right past a bolt. Take intermittent cracks up to a shallow left facing corner. Climb the corner to a ring bolt belay.

P3: 5.10c, 15 m. Traverse left past a three bolt anchor to a second anchor off ringbolts. Now climb the upper pitches of *The Separated Reality*

Descent: Rappel from ringbolt stations, see the topo below.

Crack-a-Jack / Area North Phantom Crag



- A) Crack-a-Jack *** T-5.10d
- B) Pinnacle Chimney T-5.7
- C) The Separated Reality ** T-5.10c
- D) The New Reality *** M-5.10d
- E) Dose of Reality ** M-5.11c/d