

Port Hills Climbing

A photograph of a person climbing a rock face. The climber is wearing a black t-shirt, dark pants, and a climbing harness. They are positioned in the center of the frame, facing right, with their hands and feet on the rock. The rock face is composed of layered, light-colored rock with some reddish-brown spots. A blue banner with white text is at the top. A black rope is visible at the bottom left.

Albert Terrace

Tony Burnell, 2016

ALBERT TERRACE

General

The majority of the routes were climbed by Ross Cullen in the mid to late 90's, initially climbed as trad routes or soloed. Fast forward to the early 2000's and Albert Terrace had the dubious honour of being the first crag in Chch to be retro bolted on a wholesale basis, a lot of Ross's mixed pro routes became bolt ladders practically overnight courtesy of CPIT (I'm not saying this is a bad thing), subsequently the crag underwent a total grid bolting frenzy (it didn't improve the climbs). The best routes are probably the steeper ones around 'TG' but for some reason these escaped the drill. The majority of the routes are generally in the lower grades and so it is now popular with beginners & those transitioning from indoors to outdoors. Poorly described routes in previous guidebooks and a lack of research led to the retro bolting, renaming & claiming of routes toward the right end of the cliff. There is particular confusion around the routes "*Naked Ape@*" & "*Peggy Peggy Phew*" so in this guide you get my interpretation. Another significant area of confusion has been the area around "*Dirty Washing*" & "*Leonie*" both of which were climbed by Ross Cullen but were subsequently bolted in 2014 and claimed as first ascents.

Climbing Notes

Take care on the trad routes, they will in all probability be dirty, poorly protected & possibly be loose post earthquake. Hopefully I've got the right number of bolts per route it was a bit confusing with so much steel work.

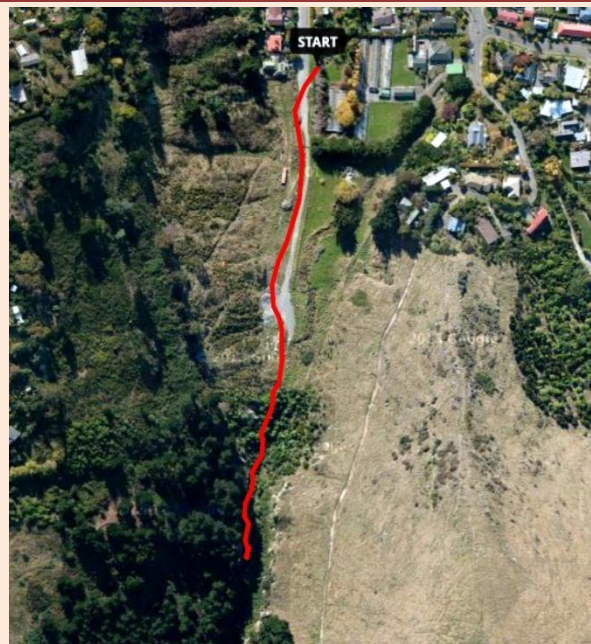
Approach

450 mts

6 minutes

Albert Terrace Crag is located at the end of Albert Terrace in St Martins, from the roundabout at the junction of Centaurus Rd & Wilsons Rd go down the side of the Mobil garage (Albert Terrace). Drive past the school and go right to the end of the road, park here. Continue on foot along the gravel track (the crag is visible on the true left) and onto the Mt Vernon Valley Track till a side track leads you up to the crag.

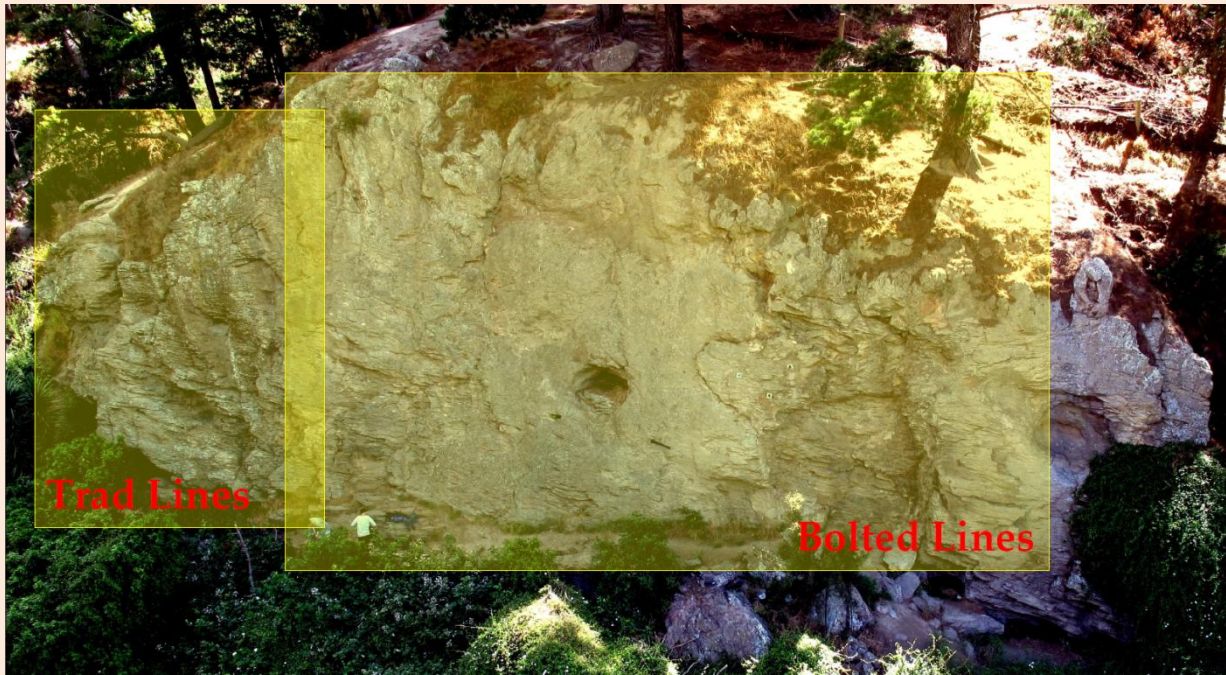
The production of this guidebook does not mean that there is there is any right of access to this area.



bivouac / outdoor

COMMITTED TO ADVENTURE

Overview



Seismic Damage



The crag stood up pretty well to the 2010/2011 earthquakes sustaining limited damage, this damage earned some company a small fortune as they reattached the shield at the right end of the crag. It is unclear whether the trad lines have been re-climbed since the earthquake as they look somewhat dirty.



MAIN CLIFF



On a buttress about 20 meters before you get to the Main Cliff and almost opposite the cave is:

Potato 8m (12) (T) - Straight up the right hand side of the face. *Ross Cullen 1997*

A climb called *Virgo* has been claimed in this area but it wasn't evident.

Main Cliff, routes are described from L to R, there are more routes recorded than really exist as a consequence of incorrect information on the web some trad routes by Ross Cullen received a makeover in 2014

1. **Small Boys (13) (Trad)** - A short climb, start off the steps, climb up into a scoop about 1.0mts off the ground, exit to the L side of the bulge via a notch. *Ross Cullen 1997*
2. **Pygmy (16) (Trad)** - Start pretty much at the bottom of the steps climb into the R side of the scoop straight up slightly R then up slopers to top out. *Ross Cullen 1997*
3. **Black Mamba (13) (Trad)** - Start at a rock sticking out horizontally from the ground, straight up over two bulges. *Ross Cullen 1997*
4. **Baboon (17) (Trad)** - Just right of the rock, pull over the initial roof, then up and go up the R trending diagonal. *Ross Cullen 1997*
5. **Panther (13) (Trad)** - Start at a small undercut below a cave, climb strenuously over the initial bulge then past the cave to a mantle exit at the top. *Ross Cullen 1997*
6. **Black & White 14 (Trad)** - Follow a line diagonal leftward between the black & white coloured rock and under a small cave to finish up a left curving crack. *Ross Cullen 1997*
7. **The Glimmerman (17) (Trad)** - Follow the broken L facing corner, at the roof go L and exit up a corner. *Ross Cullen 1997*
8. **Rongbuk (17) (4BR)** - Start on a ledge of the lighter coloured rock, go up just R of the wandering groove of 'TG', go R to a belay. *Ross Cullen 1997*
9. **Naked Ape (19) (Mixed)** - Using the bolts on the routes either side as required. Start about a meter L of the DBA low down, climb straight up the blank wall at its steepest *Ross Cullen 1997*
10. **Peggy Peggy Phew 11m (18) (5BR)** - Start straight up past the DBA at low level after the overlap & smooth bulge go L to an anchor. *Paul Roberts, 1997*

11. **Quacker 11m (15) (5BR)** - One meter right of the DBA at low level up past a BR in a L facing corner, go back diagonally left to the anchor. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
12. **Defenced 11m (13) (4BR)** - Start on the flat rock platform at ground level, up the vertical wall past 2BR continue up going R to an anchor in the groove. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
13. **Kinny 11m (14) (5BR)** -. Start at the bottom of the natural S below a small hole at 2.5mts, climb straight up the wall. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
14. **Itbeckonstan 11m (16) (5BR)** - Climb straight up on the left side of the large hole. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
15. **Ramahana Road 11m (15) (5BR)** - Climb up the right side of the large hole and move left to the anchors. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
16. **Postman Road 11m (19) (MXD)** - The only real evidence of this climb is the eyebolt in the head wall which is clipped before grovelling over the top. One must assume that you climb straight to the eye-bolt passing the slot low down on the crag. *Stu Mconney, 1999*
17. **50 Cents Worth 11m (15) (5BR)** - There is a shield of rock that has been bolted on, climb up the left side of the shield direct to anchor. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
18. **In Tims Back Yard 11m (16) (5BR)** - Climb up the right side of the shield, starting L of a DBA at low level in a shallow recess. *Ross Cullen, 1997*
19. **Dirty Washing 11m (14) (3BR)** - From the DBA go straight u the wall. *Ross Cullen, 1997* (*subsequently bolted climbed and called "In A Rush" by Justin Hall, 2015*)
20. **Leonie 10m (14) (5BR)** - Climb up the corner at the right side of the recess and the continuation crack above. *Ross Cullen, 1997* (*subsequently bolted climbed and called "I Bit My Tongue" by Justin Hall, 2014*)
21. **Kopu's Edge 8m (18) (4BR)** - The arête to the right of the corner, start on the arête then the face above. *Rob Blackburne, 1997*
22. **Chinese Ladder 8m (17) (4BR)** - A diagonal line across the final face start 2mts right of the arête. *Ross Cullen, 1997*

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COMMITTED TO ADVENTURE

we ARE climbing

Jennifer Olson
"Scared Peaches" 5.12a (25)
Air Force Wall
Lake Louise
Photo: @Bivouac Staff member - John Prew / johnprewphotography.com

ARCTERYX

Black Diamond

what a climb

LA SPORTIVA

PEZZI

prAna

WILD COUNTRY

WILD COUNTRY

For twenty five years Bivouac Outdoor has been proudly 100% New Zealand owned and committed to providing you with the best outdoor clothing and equipment available in the world. It is the same gear we literally stake our lives on, because we are committed to adventure and we ARE climbing.

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ALBERT TERRACE TICK LIST

No.	Name	Grade	Rating	Style	Comments
	Potato	12	☹		
01	Small Boys	13	☹☠		
02	Pygmy	16	☹☠		
03	Black Mamba	13	☹☠		
04	Baboon	17	☹☠		
05	Panther	13	☹		
06	Black & White	14	☺		
07	The Glimmerman	17	☺		
08	Ronbuk	17	☺		
09	Naked Ape	19	☺		
10	Peggy Peggy Phew	18	☺		
11	Quacker	15	☺		
12	Defenced	13	☺		
13	Kinny	14	☺		
14	Itbeckonstan	16	☺		
15	Ramahana Road	15	☺		
16	Postman	19	☺		
17	50 Cents Worth	15	☺		
18	In Tim's Backyard	16	☺		
19	Dirty Washing	16	☺		
20	Leonie	16	☺		
21	Kopu's Edge	15	☺		
22	Chinese Ladder	15	☺		

☺ - Well worth doing ☹ - An OK route ☹☠ - Having done it I wouldn't bother

☝ - Pokey ☞ - Fingery 💣 - Powerfull ✂ - Sharp ☠ - Gulp

(S) Sport Climb Bolt Protected (MP) Mixed Protection Bolts & Trad Gear (TR) Trad