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Geography

Often I am asked something like this: "I'm going to be near Skeezix rocks next week. What kind of climbing may be found there?"

Perhaps I remember that Jo Blow, who used to go out with us, said he was there once but I've forgotten what he said. Something like this has happened so often that I've resolved to do something about it. It seems that someone in the local climbing group should have information of this sort available.

I hereby resolve that from now on I'm going to keep data about climbs on maps. When I see an outcrop, I'm going to designate it on a map with a reference number, say 6S589. On an attached sheet I will list its characteristics as follows:

6S589. Name: Skeezix Rocks; Material: Shale; Greatest continuous height: 50 ft.; Strata dipping outward: 10 degrees; Width of cliff: 100 ft.; Dominant angle with horizontal: 80 degrees; Climbing: Mostly Class Six, pitons needed for direct aid; Comment: Some sort of digging tool is needed in the rotten rock at the top. Climbed in 1798 by George Washington.

Of course I won't know this much about some cliffs, but I propose to put down what I do know.

Contributions of information by anyone who thinks this is worth the trouble will be welcome if accompanied by sufficient data to enable me to locate it on a designated U.S.G.S. sheet, a Trail Club map, on a map sent with the data, or any map I am known to have.

While I think of this compendium as limited to this general area, perhaps it should be expanded to cover the southern Appalachians. Under no conditions will I list anything west of the Mississippi. The country out there is too good to classify.

Sterling's North Twin, (B-23)
and Sterling's South Twin, (B-24)
both at Carter Rock.

Looking down from the top of the cliff onto the lowest portion of the Chris-Wex-Don traverse beyond its circuit, one has the North one of these twin cracks on his right hand and the South twin on his left.

To reach the foot of these climbs one can scramble down past the cedar tree along the Chris-Wex-Don to the seam in the rock above the willow tree.

From this point, the climb up the North Twin is started a few feet to the left. By face work one is able to reach the obvious lay-back holds seen above and thereby reach the crack proper. The crack provides jamb holds for one hand and foot while the other hand and foot use face roughosities.