

# New Route Application

December 4, 2017

Pitch 1 of Cornerstone (11c), Upper West Ridge



**Picture 1:** The proposed bolts are marked with white tape.





**Picture 2:** A borrowed image from Mountain Project that shows the distance from Knight's Move that has been edited to show the proposed bolt locations of Cornerstone.

## Description

Cornerstone is a forgotten 2 pitch route located just left of Chockstone on the Upper West Ridge. It was originally bolted on lead by Mark Tarrant in the mid-80's only to be chopped a few weeks later by an unknown party. After receiving permission from Mark Tarrant, we are proposing to resurrect the first pitch of this fun face climb by adding 5 bolts and an independent anchor.

The climb starts by ascending the first 10 feet of Chockstone to its crux, at which point you diverge left to start Cornerstone. From Chockstone, follow sidepulls and underclings left for 7 feet to the first proposed bolt. This traverse is well-protected with the natural gear placed on Chockstone. After clipping the first bolt, there are two options: 1) Climb straight up the flake past 2 more bolts until you are forced to traverse left to the arete. 2) Traverse straight left from bolt 1 to the arete, then climb the arete past 2 more bolts until you gain a large stance. Both options are 11c and will be equally protected by the proposed bolt placements.

Once you have gained the large stance above bolt 3, climb past increasingly easier terrain past 2 more bolts to a proposed anchor directly above the climb. Ideally, we would like to eventually resurrect the 2nd pitch as well so this anchor may also serve as a belay for that pitch in the future.

Alternatively, one could forgo this independent anchor and traverse right to the tat anchor atop Chockstone, but this would only further crowd an already crowded anchor.

### Factors For

1. Does the proposed addition of fixed hardware alter the route's technical difficulty?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*No. The addition of fixed hardware turns the route from a top rope back to a lead climb. The bolts are for protection and do not alter the route's technical difficulty.*

2. Does the proposed addition of fixed hardware alter the route psychology?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*The current state of the route is as a top rope, so making it climbable on lead again would alter the route psychology. The original route, prior to being chopped, had only two bolts, and would have likely been considered R-rated by today's standards. The addition of five bolts would make the route safe for the onsight climber, while preserving a healthy amount of excitement.*

3. Does the proposed anchor alter neighboring routes?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*No. The anchor would be for Cornerstone. A climber could climb off route on Knights Moves and use the anchor if they wish. A climber could also climb off route on Chockstone and use this anchor if they wish.*

4. Does the proposed addition of lead bolts alter neighboring routes?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*No, the proposed bolts do not alter the neighboring routes, Chockstone and Knight Moves. Knight Moves climbs an inset dihedral to the left of Cornerstone and the proposed bolts would be out of reach and largely hidden from view. Chockstone would not be altered either. The proposed first bolt on Cornerstone is located well to the left of Chockstone in harder territory, so a Chockstone climber would not be tempted to clip this bolt. Subsequent proposed bolts would not be reachable or in any way tempting to clip from Chockstone, as they are well to left of the crack on much harder terrain.*

5. Does the FFA party (Mark Tarrant) agree with the proposed addition of fixed hardware?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*Yes. Mark Tarrant was contacted and agreed with the proposed addition of fixed hardware (see "Information from Applicant" below).*

### **Factors Against**

1. Can any of the proposed fixed hardware additions instead be protected with natural protection?  
Yes/No. Explain.

*No. There are no options for natural protection once you traverse away from Chockstone.*

### **Neutral Factors**

None

### **Information from Applicant**

*Note that this pitch was originally climbed with 2 bolts. After meticulously sussing out bolt locations, we feel that 5 bolts would adequately protect the onsight climber, while still maintaining the "eldo-feel". When we asked the first ascensionist about adding 5 bolts to this climb he responded by saying, "Well, I'd be all for making the 1st pitch lead-able again. I did it with 2 bolts, but it was kinda scary even when I was bolder."*