

High Ridge Bouldering

By
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Introduction

The boulders along the Little Patuxent River make for a small yet fun destination for local bouldering. I first "discovered" these rocks in 2006 and spent a few days over a season developing the area. Poison Ivy and loose rock made it unfit to share with friends until New Years Day 2007 when a small group of guys came up with grade consensus and some new sends. With increased traffic, this spot can be a fun 'once a season' stop for the local pebble wrestler. Grades range from V0 to V5 with open projects. All problems are FA Shawn Seifert unless otherwise noted.



Approach

Park at High Ridge Park in Laurel, MD. (N39 06.843 W76 51.769) Walk along the paved path until you encounter a gazebo. Head straight down the hill until you find a path along the river. Head right and cross a small runoff stream, the path heading a little uphill. Walk 5 mins and cut left into the woodline towards the water. If you see houses, you've gone too far. Looking downhill from the ridge, the

Great Boulder should be visible. Make your way down to the rocks and enjoy. (N39 06.789 W76 52.209)

How to Use This Guide

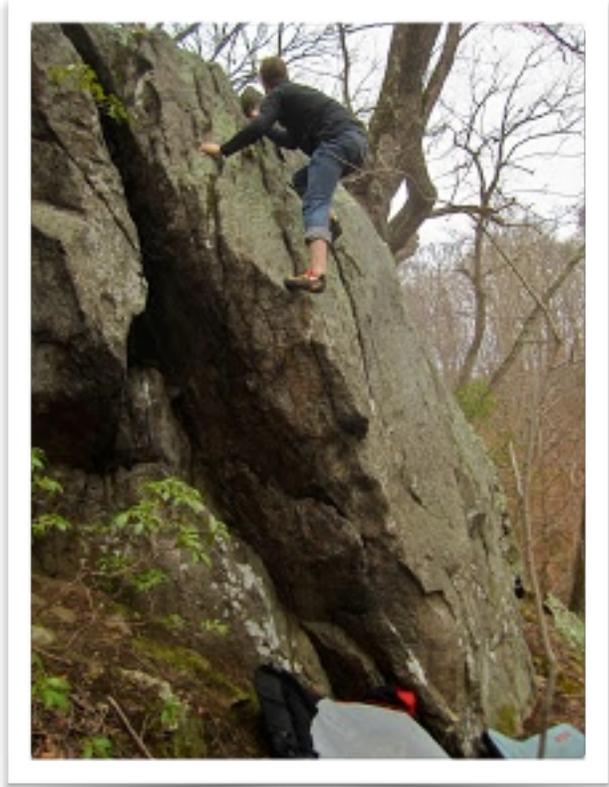
Problem descriptions are from left to right. The main boulders are all pictured except the Riverside Boulder which will be self-evident. I have not provided an overview sketch as the area is small enough to figure it out with the pictures provided. A star indicates a problem worth your time.





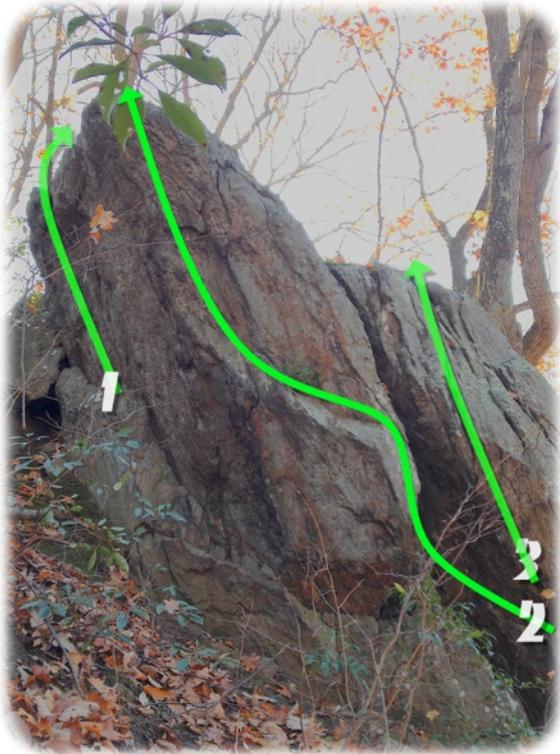
Expectations V5

Photo: Robin Close



V2 Slab

Photo: Robin Close



The Easy Boulder

1. Easy Does It V0

Sit start on obvious feature and climb straight up to jugs. Beware the loose one!

2. Bansai V2

Sit start in the gap between 2 boulders. Traverse left along the slanted rail to the arête and top out.

3. Meatcleaver Circumcision V2

FA Craig Copelin

Start same as Bansai and go straight up.

V2 Slab

Sharp, thin and footwork intensive. Slab can be fun!

1. Headless Goddess V2

FA John Carriere

Stand start the slab directly beneath the apex and climb straight up.

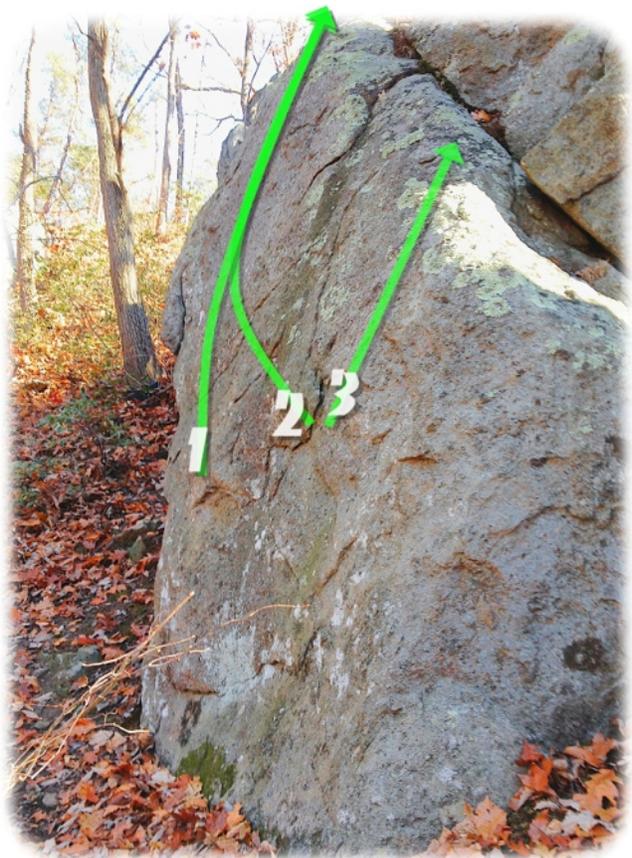
2. V2 Slab V2



Stand start matched on jug. Ascend slab up and left avoiding the lip until the apex of the boulder. When you find the right feet it will feel V2.

3. Unnamed V0-

Stand start matched on jug. Go up.



The Horizontal Boulder

1. It Takes a Trip to Hueco V3



Sit start on the big jug and traverse left into good holds then up using an undercling and v notched pocket.

2. Project

Start same as above but go straight up on really small crimps.

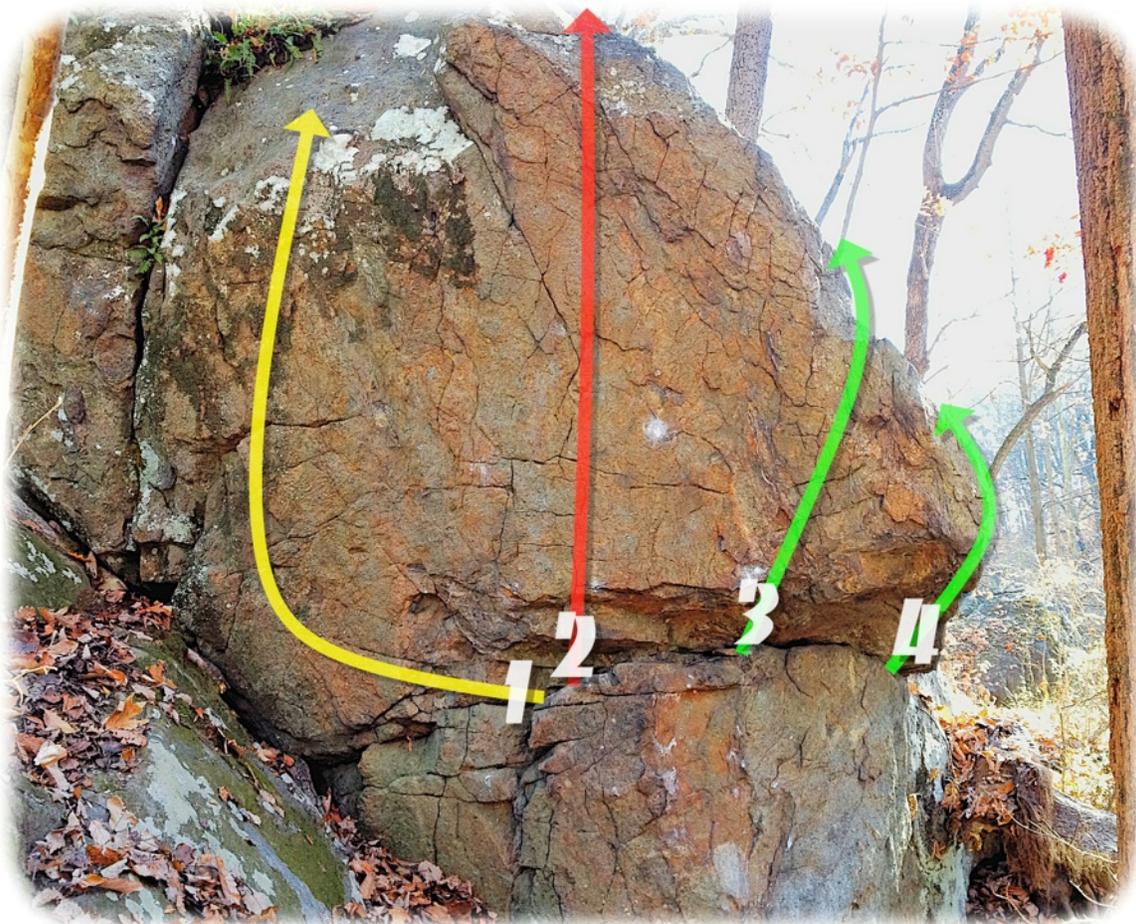
3. Lunge #2 V1

Start in large horizontal and dyno for the faint knob near the lip.

4. She Said She Was V18 V0

FA Bill Seifert

Start at the far right of the large horizontal seam and go straight up.



The Riverside Boulder

This obvious bloc is touching the water below The Horizontal Boulder. The climbs are on the West face.

Chewbacca V4



Sit start with slopy pinch and undercling. Climb up through awesome underclings, a solid crimp, and a slopy rail. V3 from the stand matched in the big undercling.

Project

Anything right over the water. It would require willingness to get wet.

The Great Boulder

This large boulder has the best problem in the area **Expectations**. A low start on this problem would be a fine FA.

1. Elephant Trunk V2

Stand start pinching the arête while standing inside the dihedral. Fun moves put you on the slab and into easy highball territory. Can be done as a less classic sit at the same grade.

2. New Eyes and Old Knees V3

FA Brian Spiering

Stand start with left hand on the arête and right on a crimp on the face. Immediately move onto the slab and top it out. The sit start **Coon City** starts with a left hand sidepull and right undercling, going at the same grade.



1. Left to Expect V5

Start same as Expectations but with your right hand on the diagonal rail, immediately move out up and left to topout left of the apex.

2. Expectations V5



Bear hug the double arête over head height. Slap and heel into the diagonal rail. Topout up and right of apex.

3. Project

A low start to Expectations from a right pinch and left undercling or possibly lower has V-hard potential.

