

Big Wall Climbing Forum--brought to you by the deuce!

News:

A first ascent is an artistic creation, the only moment when our imagination can work with original stone. It could only be done right once. --Jim Bridwell

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**Author** 

Topic: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest (Read 19258 times)

0 Members and 1 Guest are viewing this topic.

#### deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

#### Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « on: June 05, 2006, 04:08:18 pm »

Free original A5 big wall hammer (lightly used) to the first person to post two Google Earth images (one from 5 miles up, showing the wall itself, and one from a 500 mile altitude showing the region with the wall location marked), which pinpoint the location of the unclimbed big wall pictured below.

Limit three entires per person. No clues on this one, save for the wall is over 2000 feet and the fact that I took the photograph.

Good Luck!



\_. .

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

mungeclimber

Administrator A4+ Dreamer



#### Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

**Reply #1 on:** June 05, 2006, 05:39:15 pm »

I'm disqualifying myself just on the off chance that i get it right and then have an appearance of impropriety.

we can't have that without at least a few beers, and I'm still at work (tho you'd think i have with my spelling errors- edited).

oh, and there is also another excellent earth viewing site out there too...

🛍 Logged

## the\_dude

A3+ Copper Bender

Posts: 213



## □ syrinx

A3 Fool



Posts: 136

## 🗆 mso4man



2

Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #2 on: June 07, 2006,

03:05:46 pm »

Stumped.. Any other hints for us?

Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #3 on: June 07, 2006, 03:09:21 pm »

Which direction does the face face? What time of day is it? What is the altitude at the top?

#### Syrinx



Never approach a bull from the front, a horse from the rear, or a fool from any direction!

#### Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

**Reply #4 on:** June 28, 2006, 08:13:02 am »

Hey guys better get crackin' on this one. I am about to devote too much time that I don't have to get me that hammer.

I have been trying to get one for quite a while and I am striking out big time.

So we'll see.

peace

🛍 Logged

## deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



으. 🜄

CLUES!

« **Reply #5 on:** July 03, 2006, 10:33:07 am »

It looks like this contest is too difficult, so here's some more clues--additional pictures of the region:



Another shot of the wall showing local vegetation and architecture.



Locals crossing a bridge from the nearby village (you can see the wall from the village).



Another unclimbed wall in the same valley.

🏝 Logged

## -----

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

# Pete Gumby Posts: 12

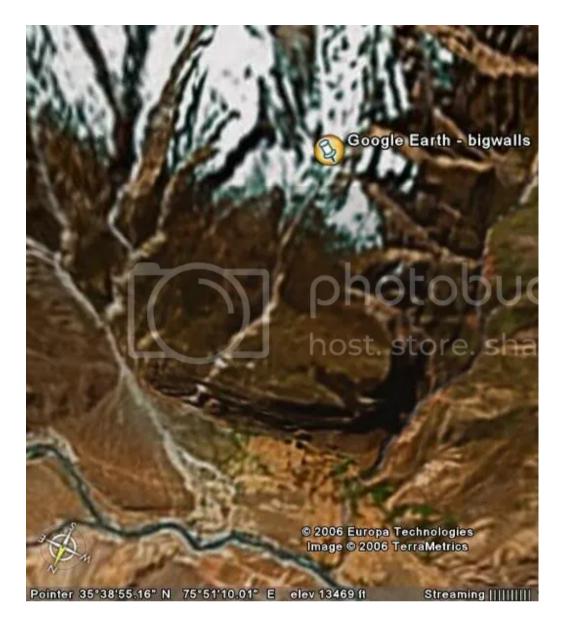
8

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #6 on: December 14, 2006,
03:51:45 am »

I know this is dredging up teh old topic, but I PM'd John and he said that along with the hammer there was beta on teh wall available, which sounds even better

So this is my try:





Pete

🛍 Logged

## deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

## Strider

A1 fiend

Posts: 34

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« **Reply #7 on:** December 14, 2006, 09:25:15 am »

Pete, great try. Lukewarm. Correct continent.

cheers

🏝 Logged

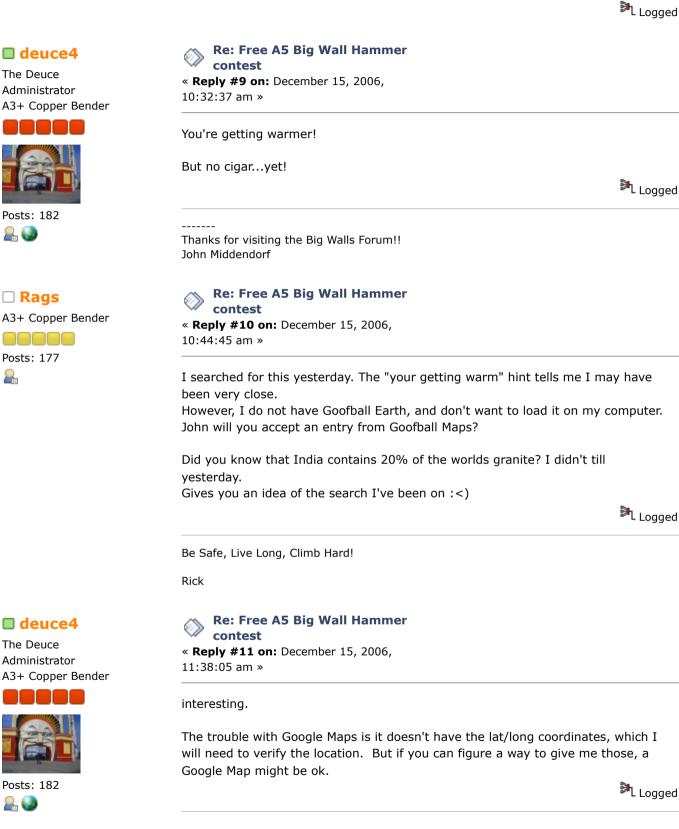
Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf



Alright, here is my stab in the dark...well maybe not a stab in the "dark" since I spent the last 6 hours looking around on googleearth and doing reserach trying to

figure this out. But i am pretty sure i am not right so I am hoping for a few clues after this try...hint...hint....

-n



Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum !! John Middendorf



2

**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest

Gumby Posts: 12

If at first you don't suceed...





Fingers crossed!

🏝 Logged

## deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender





Posts: 182

## 🔨 Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #13 on: December 16, 2006,
01:28:15 pm »

nope. Good try, looks like an interesting area.

You were within 5 degrees of both latitude and longitude.

cheers

🛍 Logged

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

mungeclimber

Administrator A4+ Dreamer



Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest
« Reply #14 on: December 17, 2006,
09:47:17 pm »

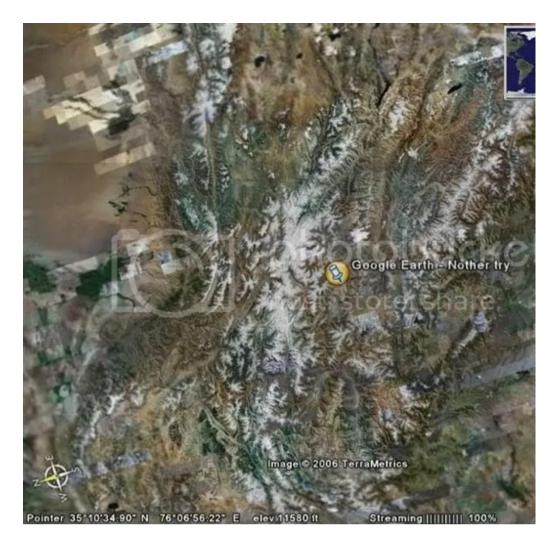
Well, i was going to guess Tien Shans, but I guess not. doh



Gumby Posts: 12

## Another effort! This is really tricky!





I wish I was planning a trip there right now instead of poor and wet! Damn Britain!

Pete

🛍 Logged

## deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

Rags
A3+ Copper Bender

Posts: 177

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« **Reply #16 on:** December 19, 2006, 06:45:01 pm »

getting colder....

د Logged

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #17 on: December 20, 2006, 12:00:21 am »

Oh my..... spent a lot of time with this. The google earth is pretty fun, now that I loaded it.

Great geography lesson, However. I should post an image of the 5000ft monster I found.

Anyway, here is my best shot, based on all the little clues I could derive from your pics and previous posts.

Actually, I don't believe this is correct. It's the pic of the river that throws me off. It appears to run somewhat oriented toward North. I assume it's the same valley. So....



Be Safe, Live Long, Climb Hard!

Rick

## deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

## **zippyslug**

A2 Flyer Posts: 57

### Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #18 on: December 20, 2006,

« **Reply #18 on:** December 20, 2006 03:36:54 pm »

no, but it looks nice.

원 Logged

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

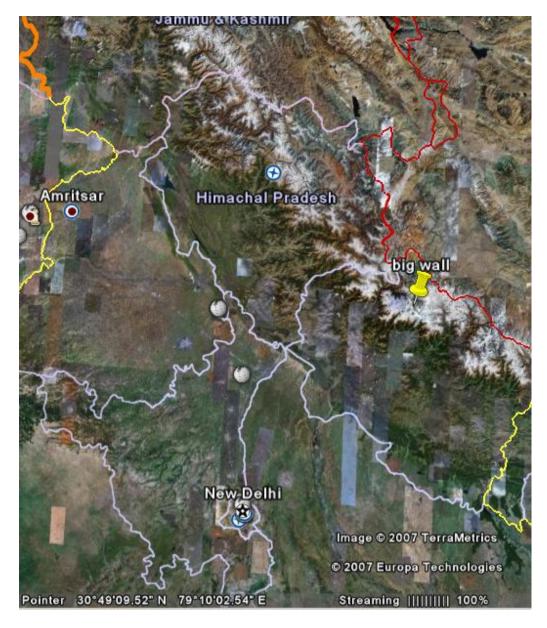
# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« Reply #19 on: April 10, 2007, 03:51:59 pm

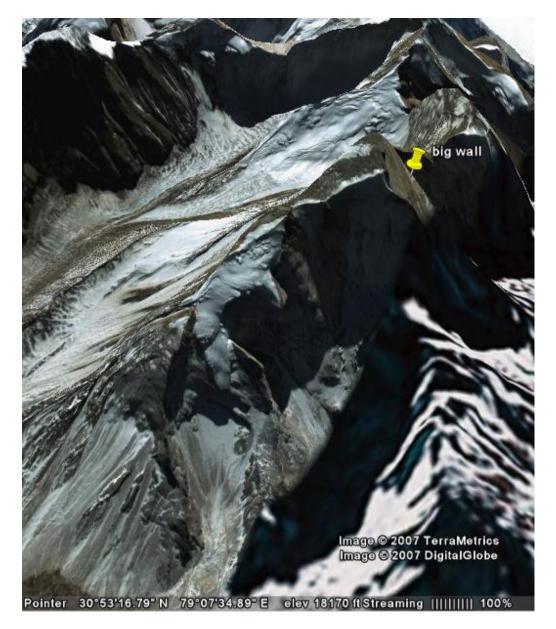
Hey, is it too late to play? The thread is damn near a year old but I never saw it solved so I'd like to take a crack.

over-all area:

»



close-up view of the wall:



How close am I 🙆

🛍 Logged

Caribouman A3 Fool Posts: 136

2

#### Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #20 on: April 13, 2007, 06:22:50 am »

John,

I just figured out a very large piece of this puzzle, but I'm not inclined to put all the neccessary pieces together (upgrading RAM etc.) to put my own entry in here. So, my question: May I put out a generalized hint or two?

🛍 Logged

when the going gets weird, the weird turn pro.



The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



« Reply #21 on: May 04, 2007, 01:17:20 pm

**»** 

Zippyslug- Close, but no cigar. It is to the East of where you spotted.



Caribouman-By all means, hint away. The hammer I have is just itching to be used again on the big stones!

🛍 Logged

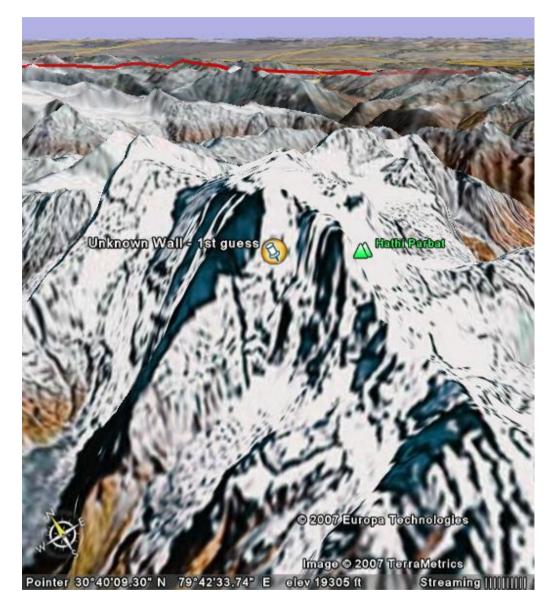
Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

## 🔊 Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

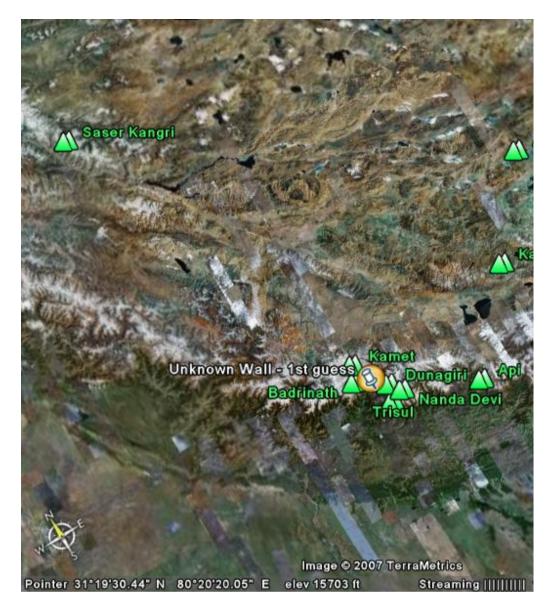
»

contest
« Reply #22 on: May 09, 2007, 07:10:18 am

I thought I'd join in on this thing. I've been having a grand time looking around this region, first time really using Google Earth. It's a great tool!



splitchard
Gumby
Posts: 19



Close? Any hints??

🛍 Logged

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #23 on: May 09, 2007, 09:19:33 am »

" first time really using Google Earth. It's a great tool! "

Meant to say something to this effect, too. I had never heard of it until this thread but now use it a fair amount. Now only if they could give a 3D look to my neighborhood....

🛍 Logged

## deuce4

□ zippyslug

A2 Flyer

Posts: 57

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest
« Reply #24 on: May 09, 2007, 10:16:34 am

spritchard- Nope, not the right region. I've never been in that area, but it looks like it would be spectacular! I did once hike around Mt. Kailas in Tibet, but it's not around there either.



Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

# Caribouman A3 Fool Posts: 136

#### Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« Reply #25 on: May 18, 2007, 03:45:10 pm

out on a bit of limb here...

»

the wall is in the Karakoram, the western part of the Himalaya, no?
Look at the photo... that face is either West, South or East, and it's sunny (given Deuce's responses to other attempts, it's in the Northern Hemisphere)
Look at how close that wall appears to be, and the angle to which the camera is tilted... low angle. Thus I'd say we're looking at a minor peak, not 7 or 8 thousand meters. Maybe 6, 6 and a half.

Look at the tree line. The tree line alititude is different in different places, probably pretty high at that latitude, but not below the 9,600 of the Sierra Nevada. That might give a rough clue to the overall peak height.
Also, I might go out on a bit more of a limb and say that the photo was taken mid day... something about the foreground shadows maybe. So that would narrow the face direction to South.

- Big stretch. The rock itself; the overall shapes and color look either Karakoram or Patagonia, and given other respones, t'aint Patagonia.

So Deuce, any of those ideas correct?



deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender

mungeclimber

Administrator

A4+ Dreamer

Posts: 2257

2. 🥪



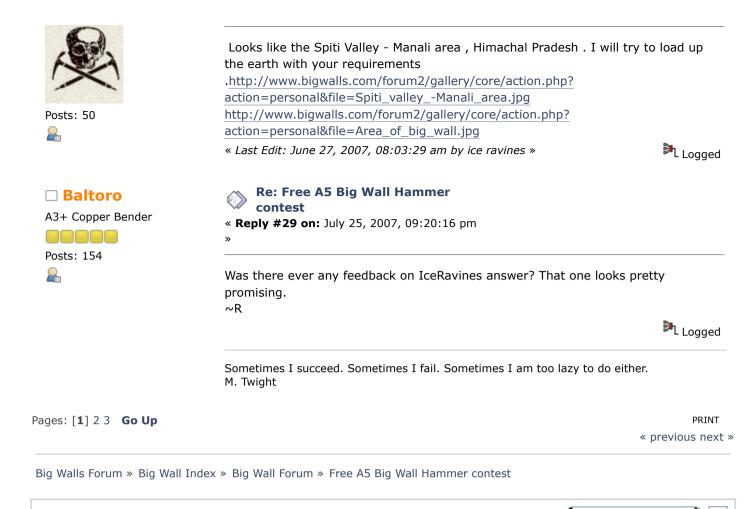
Posts: 182



## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #28 on: June 27, 2007, 07:45:13 am

**»** 



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Big Wall Climbing Forum--brought to you by the deuce!

News:

"So remember, boys and girls, double clip that sleeping bag in when you are on an Old E salvage mission!" -Deuce4

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Topic: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest (Read 19259 times)

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## □ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182 2. 🐶



8



**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** 

« Reply #30 on: July 27, 2007, 04:10:28 pm

Everyone's holding out for a virgin deuce5 hammer...

A new carrot...you gotta have some 'Beaks laying around, John. Cough em up.

🏝 Logged

🏝 Logged

## □ Mike. **Bigwall Shaman**

A4+ Dreamer



Say no to limbers, excavators and retro-bolters. No matter how much he smiles.

## skully

Guest

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

**»** 

« Reply #33 on: May 21, 2009, 08:30:47 pm

It seems the thing was left unsolved. How 'bout it, Deuce4? Are we still on for virtual wall shoppin'? (Dumb question, huh?) Where'd your hammer end up?

« Last Edit: May 22, 2009, 04:13:52 pm by skully »

환 Logged

## 🗆 KevinW

## A3+ Copper Bender





Posts: 174

## 

A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 174

## skully

Guest



I'm just waiting.. is it on, is it off, did anyone win? are you throwing in beaks to sweeten the pot? Been googling until my eyes are crossed.

환 Logged

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« Reply #35 on: May 22, 2009, 06:07:42 pm

## Well ? hammer still up for grabs? beaks?

(amazing what a guy will do for free gear)



## 🔊 Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #36 on: May 22, 2009, 07:08:23 pm

We may never know.....Apparently, Deucey has lost interest.

🏝 Logged

C KevinW

A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 174

## □ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

>>

« Reply #37 on: May 22, 2009, 10:30:58 pm

Damn, I'm always a day late and a dollar short for the good deals !



Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #38 on: May 23, 2009, 06:10:07 am

#### A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182 2. 🐶





Posts: 174 2.

skully

Guest

The contest is still on, though it may be some delays in checking the answers.

one mint A5 hammer up for grabs for just picking a point on the map....



Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

#### **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest

« Reply #39 on: May 23, 2009, 08:38:36 am

## WooHoo !!!

»

»

Thanks deuce count me in

(now to go back through the thread and check answers against my saved GoogleEarth searches)

🛍 Logged

## **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest « Reply #40 on: May 24, 2009, 08:04:12 am

I must be a doofus....I can't figure out how to transfer Google Earth images onto this board. Dammit! Got a good guess, too. Arrrggh.

🛍 Logged

## 🗆 Raaf A2 Flyer

Posts: 60 2.

## **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer**

contest « Reply #41 on: May 24, 2009, 10:09:29 am

Hmmmmm......gotta do some searchin' soon. Cool!

🏝 Logged

□ KevinW A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 174 2

skully Guest

### **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest « Reply #42 on: May 24, 2009, 12:37:19 pm »

Figure it out yet skully ? They're just screen captures, that have been uploaded to photobucket (or where ever) and then posted here.

🛍 Logged

**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest « Reply #43 on: May 24, 2009, 02:10:24 pm »

Ok, Here goes!

And Farther...

Cheers! « Last Edit: May 24, 2009, 02:22:03 pm by skully »

🛍 Logged

skully

Guest

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #44 on: May 25, 2009, 07:33:46 am »

Venture a guess, Kevin? This is pretty damn fun......

🛍 Logged



Posts: 174

Caz

Posts: 520



Well.. I've probably spent 10 hours so far on *Google Earth*, and think I'm pretty damn close, but... with a limit of 3 guesses, I'm trying to narrow it down a little more, because not only have a found a lot of very interesting unnamed peaks that appear to have little or no history, but.. I really do want that hammer!!!

🛍 Logged

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #46 on: May 25, 2009, 03:18:55 pm

Just downloaded google earth... I'll be searching through out the week while I'm off work.

Zac

»



I do this for fun...

contest

skully

Guest

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #47 on: May 25, 2009, 05:23:52 pm

**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** 

« Reply #48 on: May 25, 2009, 11:38:15 pm

Dammit! More contestants! I think my first guess is pretty good, but just in case, I have another..... That hammer is MINE! Hahahaha! (wanted to give a bit of incentive....)



Caz A4+ Dreamer

Posts: 520

I think I've put in 3 hours today so far and my eye's are killing me...

You better post up your findings Skully before I find it!

Zac

**»** 

»

🛍 Logged

I do this for fun...

## C KevinW

A3+ Copper Bender



I think I have the right valley, but everytime I fly up one of the side valleys, I find something that \*could\* be it as well, then starts the comparison game.. still narrowing it down,.. 1/2 million Google Earth Miles later.

لاتي Logged

skullv

Posts: 174

Guest

2.

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #50 on: May 30, 2009, 02:09:28 pm

I've got a guess posted, waiting for Deucey to shoot it down before tryin' again. I think it looks like a good guess.

환 Logged

Dosts: 2

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #51 on: May 30, 2009, 09:54:09 pm »

I want to jump in to the mix too.

I like what Skully has right now.

🖹 Logged

skully

Guest

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #52 on: May 31, 2009, 08:25:20 pm

Well, Podner, don't let that stop ya.....

🛍 Logged

mungeclimber

Administrator A4+ Dreamer



# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

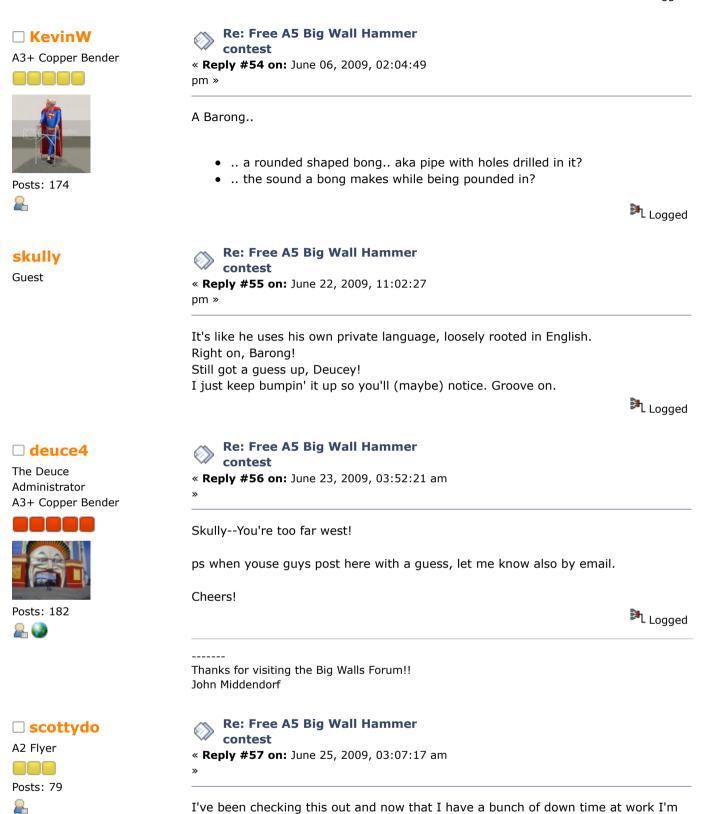
« **Reply #53 on:** June 02, 2009, 02:20:22 pm »

Quote from: MagicOPromotion on June 02, 2009, 11:22:31 am

How does your Pira compare to say your **barong** in terms of performance?

barong? Filipino wedding happening? I better go back and read the thread.

陷 Logged



🏝 Logged

goatboy
A1 fiend
Posts: 42

# Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

gonna give this a go. Let me know if I'm close cause I know I'm not spot on...yet.

« Reply #58 on: July 06, 2009, 09:48:47 am

»

Okay I?ll play?it?s in the Sangla Valley by the Baspa River between Batseri village and Banjara camp. Here?s another view of the wall from the intertubez; http://www.indiamike.com/photopost/showphoto.php/photo/30092/size/big/ppuser/32

The second peak looks like Kinner Kailash, this is what tipped me off to the area since I have seen this peak before online and squirreled it away as a place I?d like to visit whenever I get to India.



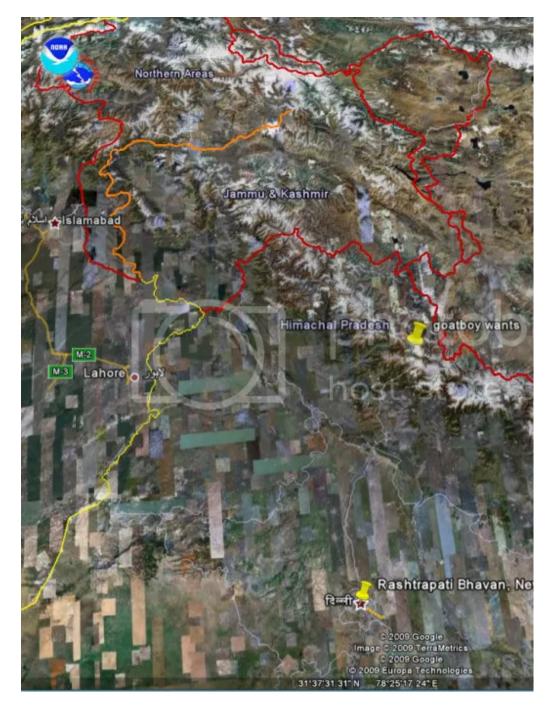
close up view



5 miles high



500 miles high



I?m a little high and hungover from this weekend when I figured all this out so in case I?m delusional and imagining all of this please forgive me.

coordinates 31degrees 26'39.27"N - 78 degrees 18'50.80"E

« Last Edit: July 06, 2009, 09:52:37 am by goatboy »

🏝 Logged

□ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« **Reply #59 on:** July 06, 2009, 10:35:30 am

GOATBOY WINS!!!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

I will be in sending you a hammer in August! Please send my your address to my email at deuce4 at bigwalls.net



Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

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Big Wall Climbing Forum--brought to you by the deuce!

#### News:

"If yer not big wallin', yer stallin." - Mike.

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Topic: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest (Read 19259 times)

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mungeclimber Administrator A4+ Dreamer	Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #60 on: July 06, 2009, 11:12:10 am »
Posts: 2257	WOOT!!! Logged
<b>goatboy</b> A1 fiend Posts: 42	Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #61 on: July 06, 2009, 01:11:37 pm »
	Woot indeed! Thanks John, I look forward to swinging that hammer on the sharp and high wild. Logged
KevinW     A3+ Copper Bender	Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest



Posts: 174 2

« Reply #62 on: July 07, 2009, 11:30:05 am

»

CONGRATS goatboy!

I've had connection issues for a month now, so I haven't been able to play along, as much as I wanted to.

I was in the right area, wrong valley, but would have not guessed that peak from the *GoogleEarth* images

I looked at. The area just seemed way to flat looking, even when I was doing low altitude fly-bys up and down the valleys.

Thanks Deuce, it was a great contest!

(You wouldn't happen to have any more spare hardware laying around would you?) 🥴

**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer goatboy** contest A1 fiend « Reply #63 on: July 07, 2009, 11:58:47 am » Posts: 42 C'mon out to the Black and I'll let you use the hammer any time Kevin...I'm too big for anything over A3 anyhoo, you like decomposing pegmatite right? **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest « Reply #64 on: July 07, 2009, 02:13:22 pm

Posts: 520 2.

陷 Logged

陷 Logged

🛍 Logged

🛍 Logged

I do this for fun...

contest

»

Good Job Goatboy!

I was no where close...

□ scottydo

Posts: 79 2.

□ KevinW

A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 174 2.



**Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** 

« Reply #65 on: July 07, 2009, 11:32:14 pm

contest « Reply #66 on: July 08, 2009, 04:14:29 pm

Quote from: goatboy on July 07, 2009, 11:58:47 am

C'mon out to the Black and I'll let you use the hammer any time Kevin...I'm too big for anything over A3 anyhoo, you like decomposing pegmatite right?

Hey that sounds great goatboy! Now this peg-ma-tite stuff, that is sort of granite.. right? I'm used to chossy limestone, so it can't be that bad.. can it? But with regards to anything above A3.. I'm not too big, rather too small, (in the testicle region) for any sustained A4'ish kind of stuff.

🏝 Logged

**goatboy** A1 fiend Posts: 42 2

## **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer** contest « Reply #67 on: July 08, 2009, 09:49:05 pm

You'll be fine, did I say the pitch was A4?oh no that can?t be right, looks like easy A2, I think I see a bolt up there, you?ll be fine, here?s the rack.

# **Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer**

Dang! Good job Goatboy 🤐

A2 Flyer

8

Caz

A4+ Dreamer



## □ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender





Posts: 182

### Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest « Reply #68 on: September 10, 2009,

01:09:12 am »

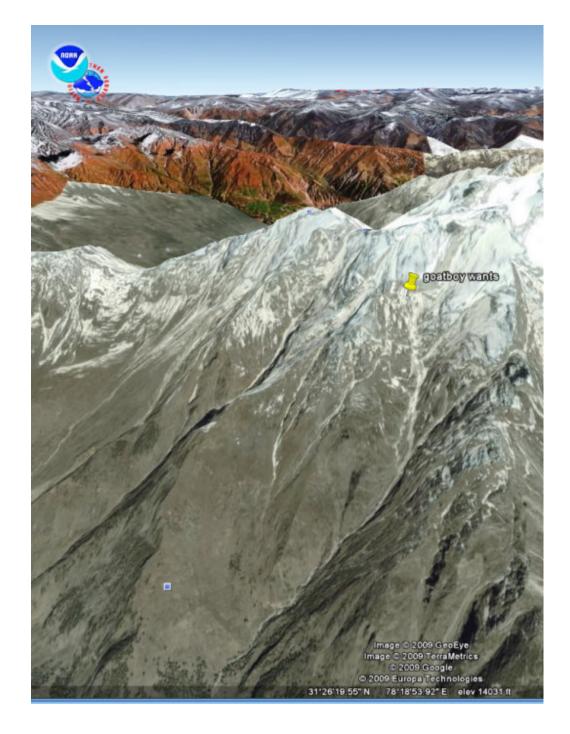
Congrats again Goatboy. I am posting your images here just in case they get lost on some other server like some of the other posts on this thread:

### The photo from the website:

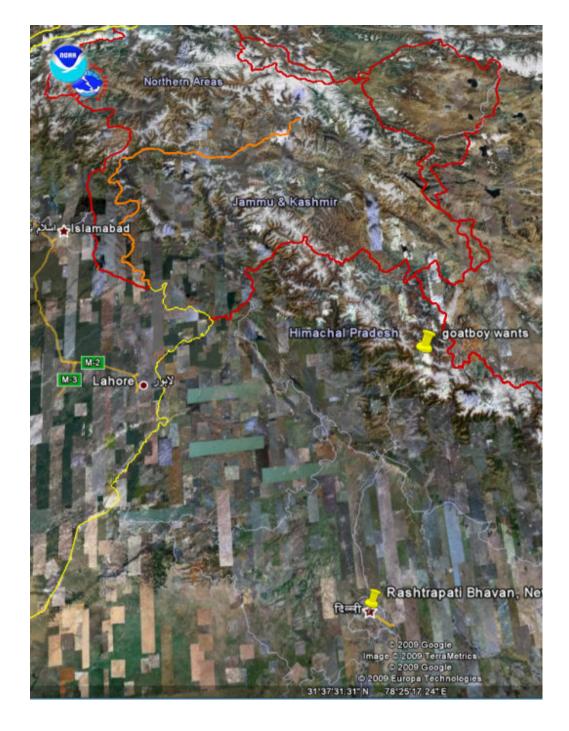
http://www.indiamike.com/photopost/showphoto.php/photo/30092/size/big/ppuser/32

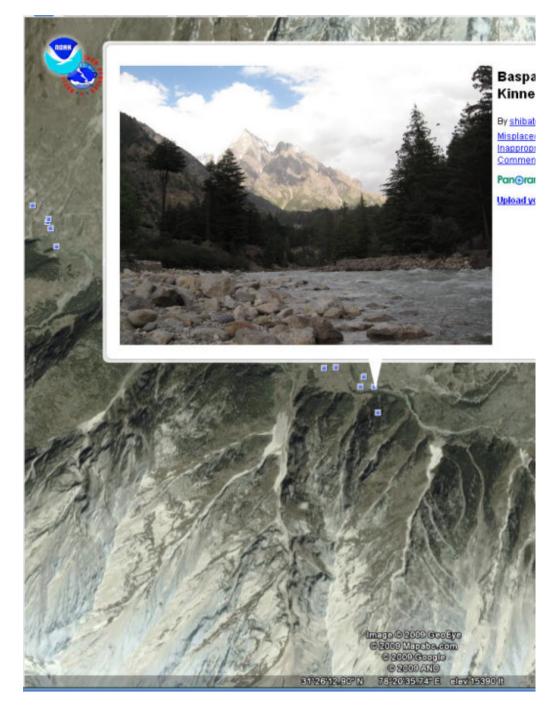


Goatboy's pics:









#### Let us know how go the adventures of the ol' hammer!

« Last Edit: September 11, 2009, 06:05:38 am by deuce4 »

환 Logged

Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

# goatboy A1 fiend Posts: 42

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest

« **Reply #69 on:** September 10, 2009, 07:46:08 pm »

#### Thanks again John!

I've owned three of these hammers in my life and have always ended up selling them for beer or gas money on the camp 4 board. This one is for keeps; it?s already replaced a couple anchors in the south Platte and will soon be heading out to Utah.

As for Sangla Valley it?s \$1,250 for a roundtrip from Denver to New Delhi then

maybe another grand or two for the trek out to Batseri village and live like a king. This hammer will see that valley eventually? **whoohoo!** 

🖹 Logged

### skully

Guest

### Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #70 on: September 10, 2009,
07:59:51 pm »

Right on, Goatboy, You're MY kinda monkey.....Let me know when you go, , cuz I wanta go, too. Best contest ever, Big John. That was great fun.

陷 Logged

## □ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

**goatboy** 

A1 fiend Posts: 42

jake
 A2 Flyer

Posts: 59

Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

« **Reply #71 on:** October 11, 2010, 03:52:05 pm »

Newsflash. This wall just got climbed by Silvia Vidal, the amazing Spanish big wall climber...

Hopefully she will send details soon.



------Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

## Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer

contest
« Reply #72 on: October 13, 2010, 09:13:17
am »

Awsome, looking forward to some close up pictures of that wall!

🛍 Logged

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Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer
contest
« Reply #73 on: October 15, 2010, 12:39:47
pm »
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http://rockandice.com/news/1199-bold-is-not-dead

Here is something I found about her climbing the wall... what a rad chick! Some misinformation in that article tho, she didn't solo the Reticent but did it with Pep Masip for the 3rd ascent. It also doesn't mention her route Sol Solet which was A5 and she used lead heads in some open corner over the course of 2 days! That route took a little over a month to put up... GNAR!!

« Last Edit: October 15, 2010, 01:00:45 pm by jake »

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mungeclimber

Administrator A4+ Dreamer



Re: Free A5 Big Wall Hammer contest
« Reply #74 on: October 17, 2010, 07:12:44

pm »

thx Jake. That's an amazing thing. High Commitment.



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Big Wall Climbing Forum--brought to you by the deuce!

News: - "battles are won in inches

"it's a war of distance, and the battles are won in inches" - kristoffer

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**Author** 

Topic: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED! (Read 2850 times)

0 Members and 1 Guest are viewing this topic.

## □ deuce4

The Deuce Administrator A3+ Copper Bender



Posts: 182

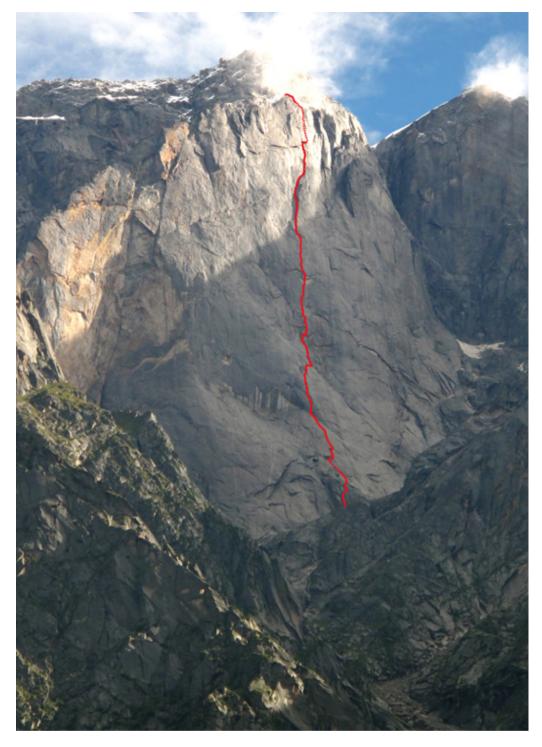
#### MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED!

« on: October 17, 2010, 10:28:50 pm »

After seeing the bigwalls.net "Mystery Wall" hammer contest (<u>http://www.bigwalls.com/forum2/index.php?topic=96.0</u>), Silvia Vidal wrote to me for more info, which I happily provided, and now she has completed a route up this magnificent stone in one of the world's most beautiful places. She asked me if she should keep the name "Mystery Wall", but of course I told her she should name it whatever she likes!

Silvia Vidal has always been a hero of mine for her bold ascents, and was once featured in one of my A5 catalogs.

Here is the line:



From Silvia: Hi John, I'm sending you the information I've writen from the ascent. Also the line picture. Thanks again for all. Hug, S?lvia

Here is some information about the last ascent I did this summer in Kinnaur Valley, India. It was a solo ascent and I spent 25 days (from 15th August to 8th September both included) on the wall, during this summer?s strong monsoon. It has been a hard experience for me.

I went to India accompanied by my friend Eul?lia Sancho, she came to the BC and then left to continue her trip.

As always I didn?t take a phone, Internet or any kind of device to communicate.

The result was ?Naufragi? (shipwreck in Catalan) 1.050 meters climbed, A4+/6a+ at 5.250m. in the Kailash Parbat range. I didn?t get to the main summit of the

mountain, which was still far away (I haven?t seen it, it?s a huge mountain), but to the end of the main wall.

A wall picture and its localization on Google Earth was all the information I had. I found it at John Middendorf?s web page.

The area; Kinnaur valley, Himachal Pradesh, India.

Without knowing where to start the approach, once in the valley, showing the picture to the locals and taking some porters, we started to walk up in the middle of the rain.

They left the haulbags in the middle of the fog at 3.800m and left.

In the 7 days that I spent on this BC I never saw the whole wall. I spent two days trying to find the access to the wall because there was no visibility and I had no idea were the wall was.

I had to fix some ropes on the way up.

The approach to the wall is like trying to hike up a river ravine. Complicated and slippery.

I set ABC (4.430m) close to the wall, the portaledge hanging on a boulder, because there was no flat place to put the tent between the BC and the base of the wall.

I fixed the 3 first pitches (150m) and then spent 25 days hanging on the wall, alone, in horrible weather, because this year the monsoon has been very strong. A local newspaper published that the Kinnaur valley got 156% more rain than usual this year.

From the month and a half that I spent up on the mountain, there was rain and fog every single day.

One day, when jumaring, I lost consciousness, due to hypothermia because of excess of humidity.

I counted food and water for 18 days and finally I spent 25.

This and a bad logistic were the reason that more than once I thought to quit the route. But the motivation and the desire to stay there were stronger.

Fighting against my principles, from the 10th pitch (14 day) I started to make bat hooks (holes for hooks) to be able to progress through the monolithic faces. In some sections there was no natural line for extreme aid climbing.

I didn?t have enough bolts (spits) and I wasn?t able to descent from the route only for that reason. I down climbed part of a pitch but then I realised that I didn?t want to leave the wall, I was too motivated to leave even if the weather was so bad and it took me too much efforts so far. I always thought that the weather was going to change, but it didn?t...

I tried not to use the bat hooks to increase the aid climbing grade. I mean; the A4 and A4+ are naturals, without drilled holes. That?s the price I had to pay for going on an expedition without knowing about the area and the wall. And I need to explain it.

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Thanks for visiting the Big Walls Forum!! John Middendorf

## Re: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED!

« Reply #1 on: October 17, 2010, 10:56:28 pm »



2. 🐶

Administrator

mungeclimber

such deep digging. it's hard to imagine the fortitude and discipline it took to keep going.



<b>goatboy</b> A1 fiend	Re: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED! « Reply #2 on: October 18, 2010, 03:13:59 pm »	
Posts: 42	Wow what a great adventure, congratulations Silvia!	🏝 Logged
<b>johnmac</b> A4+ Dreamer	Re: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED! « Reply #3 on: October 19, 2010, 11:59:27 am »	
Posts: 486	wow, what an amazing effort	🖺 Logged
A4+ Dreamer	Re: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED! « Reply #4 on: February 15, 2012, 09:31:39 pm »	
Posts: 422	Bump!	
	Sargentana on the porcelin wall fell to this FA'ist.	
	So rad, take a pic and a few months and crush something like this	
	inspirational.	
	AAJ 2010 was a good read.	🖁 Logged
□ <b>lambone</b> WebDJ A4+ Dreamer	Re: MYSTERY WALL CLIMBED! « Reply #5 on: February 15, 2012, 09:52:30 pm »	
Posts: 571	That's badass!	Rue.
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