



## AAC Publications

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### **Cactus Flower Tower, Blood on the Tracks; Mt. Wilson, Cactus Connection**

Nevada, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

In early April 2012, Chris Weidner and I linked up two of the biggest peaks in Red Rock, in a day, both via new routes climbed onsite. We began in the crack system 100m to the left of the Warrior on Cactus Flower Tower and climbed 120m before veering right to the next dihedral system. The climbing was varied and never harder than 5.9, with generally good rock and protection: Blood on the Tracks (300m, 5.9). We joined the Warrior atop its final pitch, then scrambled the final fourth-class terrain to the summit.

From there, we downclimbed and rappelled to the col between Cactus Flower Tower and the Aeolian Wall on Mt. Wilson. Beginning just south of the col, we climbed 100m of excellent cracks to the shoulder of Mt. Wilson. The crux was a splitter fingers-to-hands pitch straight out of Indian Creek. From the shoulder of Mt. Wilson, we scrambled up stepped terrain to the summit. This finish up Mt. Wilson is consistent with the grade and quality of the Warrior, and would be a logical extension to that climb after summiting the tower: Cactus Connection (100m, 5.11). Even the famous, highly visible features of Red Rock still hold potential for boltless, ground-up adventures!

Blake Herrington, AAC

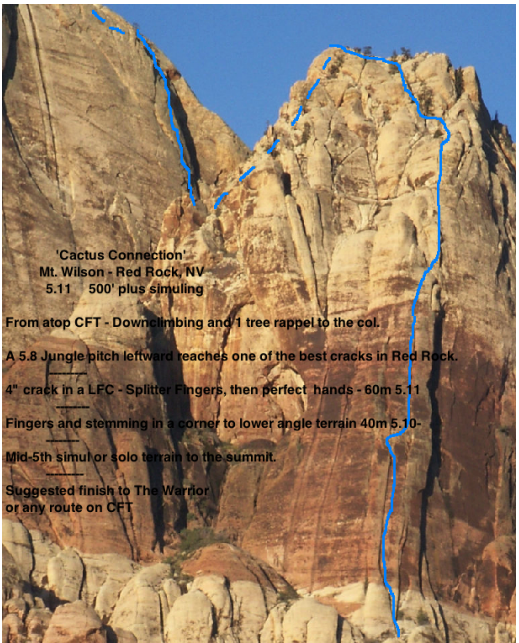
## Images



Chris Weidner following a splitter hand crack on Blood on the Tracks.



Blood on the Tracks topo.



'Cactus Connection'  
Mt. Wilson - Red Rock, NV  
5.11 - 500' plus simuling

From atop CFT - Downclimbing and 1 tree rappel to the col.  
A 5.8 Jungle pitch leftward reaches one of the best cracks in Red Rock.  
4" crack in a LFC - Splitter Fingers, then perfect hands - 60m 5.11  
Fingers and stemming in a corner to lower angle terrain 40m 5.10-  
Mid-5th simul or solo terrain to the summit.  
Suggested finish to The Warrior  
or any route on CFT

Cactus Connection topo.



Blood on the Tracks and Cactus Connection route line.



Herrington leading on Mt. Wilson.



Blake Herrington leading Cactus Connection, Mt. Wilson, the second new route of the day, established after climbing Blood on the Tracks on Cactus Flower Tower, a satellite summit of Wilson. Both new routes were climbed onsight without bolts or pins.

## Article Details

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