



AAC Publications

Callangate, northwest shoulder to north ridge; Chaupimayu, southwest face to south ridge; Screwdriver, southwest ridge

Peru, Cordillera Vilcanota, Cordillera Vilcabamba, Cordillera Carabaya

During the 2021 season, I repeated two lesser-known routes and made one first ascent in Peru's southern ranges.

On May 30, I made the fourth known ascent of Callangate (6,110m) in the Cordillera Vilcanota with Mecario Crispin (Peru). We followed a similar route to that of the 1960s first ascent, ascending a glacial ramp on the northwest face to the northwest shoulder and finishing on the north ridge.

On June 24, I soloed a prominent peak in the northernmost region of the Cordillera Vilcabamba. On my map, it is called Chaupimayu (5,330m), but previous ascent parties referred to it as Nevado Blanco. I ascended the southwest face to the south ridge to reach the summit. Mine was the fourth known ascent and possibly the first in about 50 years; I followed a similar route to previous parties.

On July 3, Derek Field, Giselle Field, and I climbed a new route on Screwdriver (5,543m) in the Cordillera Carabaya: a new line on the southwest ridge (330m, 5.7+ AI3 M4 80°). [Editor's Note: Screwdriver had prior ascents via its northwest rib and face (see AAJ 1966 and AAJ 1968) and north ridge (see Alpine Journal 2008). Tragically, Giselle Field died in a rappelling accident on July 13 while the Fields were descending from the first known ascent of a previously unnamed rock tower they called Kawri Orcco (5,185m, Quechua for "Monster Peak"), also in the Cordillera Carabaya. The two climbers have contributed numerous reports to this journal.]

— Aaron Zimmeran, USA

Images



Derek Field in 2016 on Mamaccapac, with a view of Screwdriver's southwest ridge (left side of the face shown).



Approaching Chaupimayu (5,330m) in Cordillera Vilcabamba.



The final ridge crest of Chaupimayu (5,330m) in Cordillera Vilcabamba.



Callangate (6,110m) in the Cordillera Vilcanota showing the 2021 route, which is similar to that of the 1960s first ascent, ascending a glacial ramp on the northwest face to the northwest shoulder and finishing on the north ridge.

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