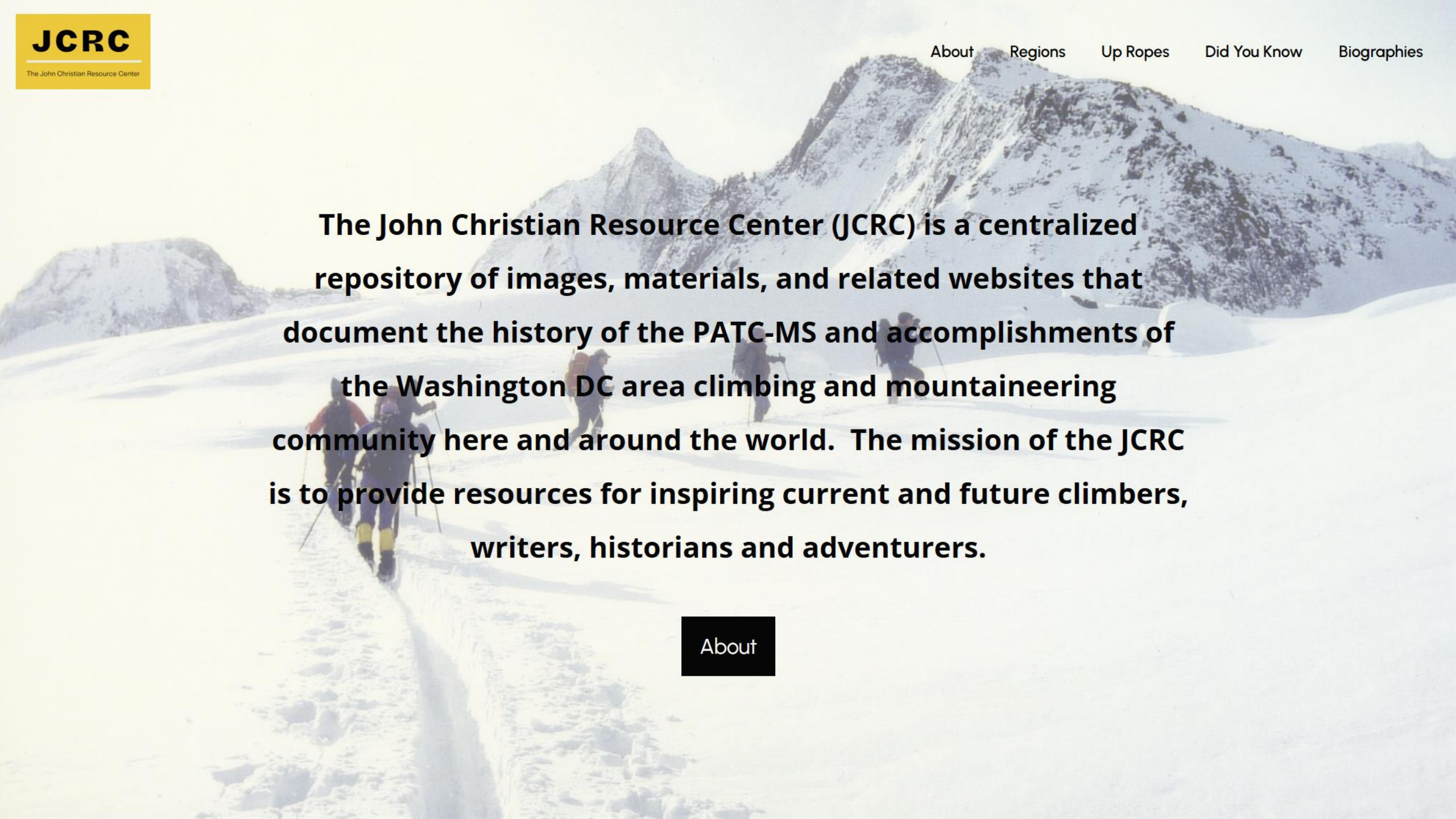


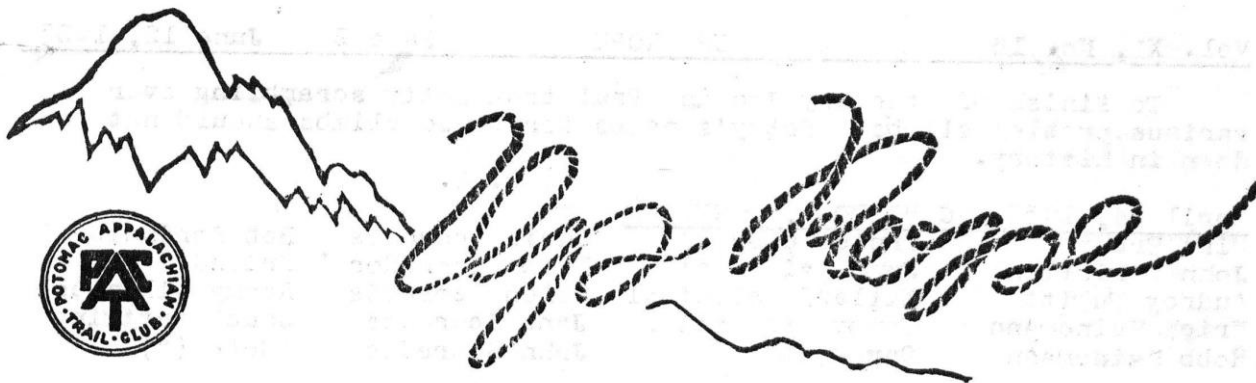
JCRC

The John Christian Resource Center

A group of mountaineers is seen from behind, ascending a steep, snow-covered mountain slope. They are wearing dark winter gear and using ice axes and crampons. The background features jagged, snow-dusted mountain peaks under a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and high-contrast due to the snow.

The John Christian Resource Center (JCRC) is a centralized repository of images, materials, and related websites that document the history of the PATC-MS and accomplishments of the Washington DC area climbing and mountaineering community here and around the world. The mission of the JCRC is to provide resources for inspiring current and future climbers, writers, historians and adventurers.

[About](#)



NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE
1916 Sunderland Place N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

Vol 79, No. 1

UP ROPE

Nov 9, 2024

The JCRC - Leader: Kate Hughes

Tony Sanders John Gregory
Carol Clayton Jeanette Helfrich
Andy Bernat Brian Florence

John Yanson
Rick Dotson
Caroline Mosher
Leslie Hill

The gang decided to give up some weekends and spare time to dive into dusty bins of old papers, numerous boxes of jumbled slides, sleeves and sleeves of odd-sized negatives, and oodles and oodles of old Up Rope mimeographs and photocopies to bring some of the Washington DC climbing history to life. While we began with the copious volumes from John Christian's Library, we soon started wheedling our way into other libraries of DC locals such Arnold Wexler. The JCRC will grow, bringing together photos, stories, publications, and paraphernalia to provide a fresh perspective on the life and times of DC area climbers.

Washington Area Up Rope Transcribers - Leader: Carol Clayton

Andy Bernat** Heather Jacobsen
 Jessica Hoang Peter Jensen
 Preetha Alyx Ruzevich
 Vincent Glorioso Patrick Le
 Kevin Finn Ann Hackett
 Joe Krahe Jeanette Helfrich
 Caroline Mosley Jessie Weber
 Lindsay Jackson Hung Ly
 Hannah Rodriguez Sam Shadewell
 Jon Gilson Greg Christopulos
 Jay Dominic Gagliardi
 Hannah Frohm Indy Kochte
 Kate Hughes

Sarah McKibbon
 Robert Buzzard, Jr.
 Jonathon Lambert
 William Kruse
 Roy Gabriel
 Brendan Fitzpatrick
 Ellen Gilmer
 Michelle Pappadia
 Lindsay Burleigh
 Eric Mazur
 Jeff Burka
 Brian Florence

What to Expect from the JCRC?

- Resource focused on Washington DC area climbers' accomplishments
- History based on personal photographs and writings
- Searchable and downloadable Up Ropes
- Commentary on special topics from history – our “Did You Know” newsletter
- Biographies of key individuals



Resources We Have

- **Photographs**
Spanning more than 70 years from John Christian, Arnold Wexler, Sallie Greenwood, and others
- **Up Ropes**
Nearly a decade of newly transcribed *Up Rope* newsletters (thank you, transcribers!!!)
- **PATC Bulletins, AAJ, CAJ, etc**
Decades of other published resources
- **Written notes and oral histories**
From John Christian, Arnold Wexler, John Gregory, Mike Nicholson, others



Current State – “Beta Launch”

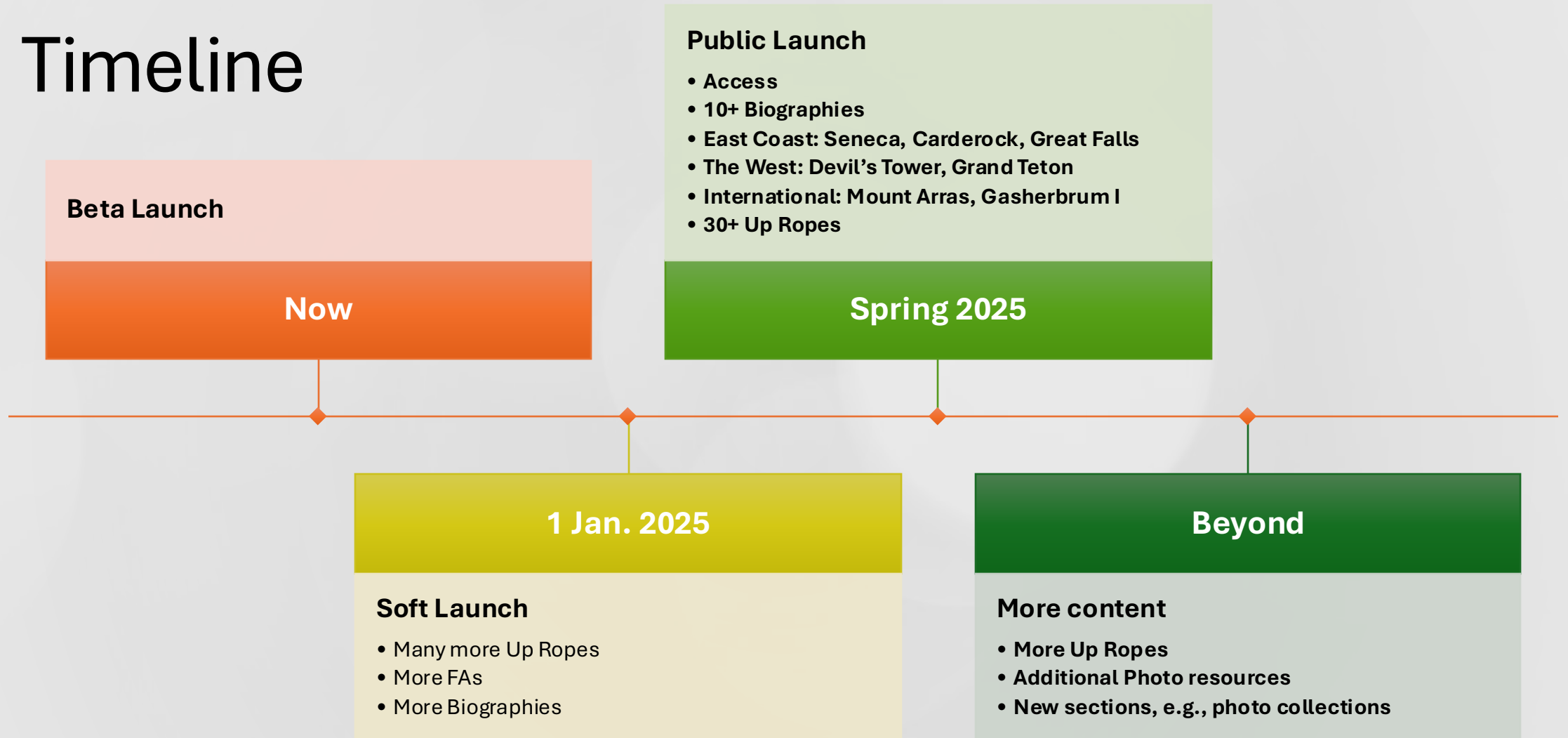
Purpose

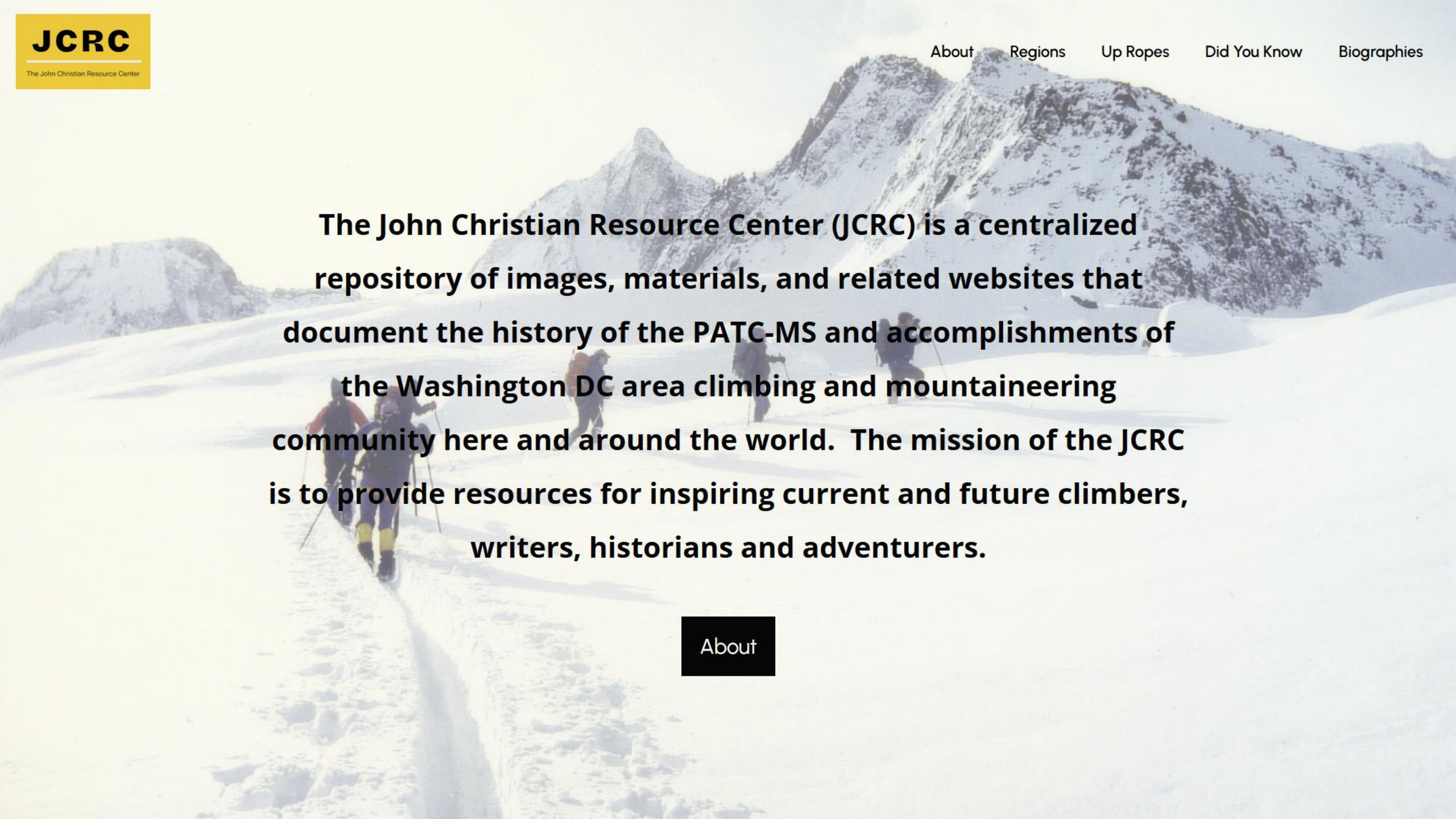
The site has the basic look and feel of the final site. We’re looking for several people to poke around the site and tell us what works and what doesn’t work.

Content

- **Seneca Rocks**
Descriptions of 3 FAs
- **Carderock**
History and Photographs
- **Did You Know**
Our 8 initial “Did You Know?” newsletters
- **Up Ropes**
5 of the transcribed issues
- **Biographies**
John Christian and Andy Kauffman

Timeline



A group of mountaineers is seen from behind, ascending a steep, snow-covered mountain slope. They are wearing dark winter gear and using ice axes and crampons. The background features jagged, snow-dusted mountain peaks under a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and high-contrast due to the snow.

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[About](#)

Regions

East Coast

The West

International

East Coast



Carderock



Seneca Rocks



Seneca Rocks

Routes

- [Horrendous Traverse](#)
- [Marshall's Madness](#)
- [Thais](#)

This draft is dictated from: Seneca, the Climber's Guide, Fourth Edition, 2021, Kevin O'Brien, Andy Weinmann

Welcome to Seneca Rocks, centerpiece of the Monongahela National Forest Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area and pride of Pendleton County West Virginia. This Magnificent fin of ancient hardened Sandstone is a special place for climbers for many reasons. Seneca is rich in both climbing history and long climbs on rock of the highest quality. geographically the rocks are within an easy weekend's reach of climbers from many major metropolitan areas.

Climbing history of Seneca remains almost completely undocumented prior to the year 1939. of course it has been argued that Native Americans may have climbed South Peak prior to the coming of European settlers with European settlers later living almost in the shadow of the cliff it seems reasonable that someone must have explored the cliff to the extent necessary to find one of the easier roots to the top

The first recorded ascent appears to have taken place in the year 1908 when Paul Bradt, Don Hubbard, and Sam Moore were making their historic 1939 ascent they discovered an inscription carved on the summit Rock for September 1908 between 1908 and 1939 climbers made several attempts on Seneca's walls. A more documented climbing history of Seneca Rocks begins in 1935 with a roped Descent of North Peak by Paul Brett and

REGIONS

Horrendous Traverse

At Seneca Rocks, West Virginia, a traverse was made from the notch between the Cockscomb and the South Peak around and on to the West Face to the Old Man's Route during the Lacor Day weekend, 1954, by Earl Reed, Huntley Ingalls, Bob Hinshaw and John Christian. Most of the traverse from the notch to the corner required tension. Nine pitons were used, none of which were removed except for the most critical one which was pulled out by hand. Earl's venture out on the face was marked by a difficult time accommodating his body to a narrow wedge-shaped chimney. Huntley coined some new names for the nylon cord slings used on the first portion of the traverse. On the second day, Bob reached the corner and traversed about 15 feet on the west face along a ledge. The following day, John led out to the corner, belayed Bob over, and then traversed about 50 feet on an ever narrowing to the wide ledges on the Old Man's Route. Six pitons were used on this last pitch.

Up Rope, Vol. 11, No. 10 February 27, 1955

CLIMB

Horrendous Traverse

WALL

Face of a Thousand Pitons

FIRST CLIMBERS

John Christian and Bob Hinshaw (FA). Earl Reed and Huntley Ingalls (SA)

Brian Florence and Tony Sanders September 15, 2024

DC area climbers were very accustomed to traverses – many outings at Carderock were spent seeing how well climbers could manage getting from the Garbage Chute 400 feet downstream to where the cliffs met the ground again. Not many 400 foot climbs near Washington, DC. Until one finds Seneca Rocks. Still, Horrendous Traverse was only the 18th climb put up on

The First Ascent



John Christian leading from Triple S (future FA 1960) across Agony (future FA 1965) all the way to Cottonmouth (future FFA 1969).



John Leaving Agony looking to traverse to Marshall's Madness (future FA 1955).



John Christian at the end of PI belaying Bob Hinshaw. Notice the manila rope and lack of harness, but also the nylon cord sling hanging from his waist.



Bob Hinshaw following John across the Face of a Thousand Pitons.



John belaying Bob as he is crossing from Marshall's Madness to the belay ledge on Cottonmouth.

Volunteers?

- Review the web site!
- Web Work
- More Up Rope Transcriptions
- Writing (bios, stories, etc)
- Research





The JCRC
Coming soon!