

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1980 ERUPTION OF MOUNT ST. HELENS

MOUNT ST. HELENS 1980 ERUPTION QUIZ

1. What was the date and time of the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption?
2. What was Mount St. Helens' elevation before the eruption?
3. What was Mount St. Helens' elevation after the eruption?
4. What amount of rock was removed from the mountain by the eruption?
5. What was the Native American name for Mount St. Helens?
6. Who renamed the mountain Mount St. Helens?
7. How long did it take the eruption cloud to circle the Earth?
8. How high did the eruption column get?
9. How many board feet of timber were blown down?
10. Name the other four Holocene volcanoes in Washington State.
11. Besides erupting volcanoes, what other geologic hazards occur in Washington State?
12. When was the last previous volcanic activity at Mount St. Helens?



Photo by Patrick T. Pringle

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. May 18, 1980, 8:32 am
2. 9677 feet
3. 8363 feet
4. 3.7 billion cubic yards
5. Louwala-Clough (smoking mountain)
6. In 1792, Captain George Vancouver of the British Royal Navy named the mountain in honor of his friend Alleyne Fitzherbert, Baron St. Helens
7. 15 days
8. 80,000 feet in less than 15 minutes
9. 4 billion board feet—enough to build about 300,000 two-bedroom homes
10. Mount Adams, Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, and Glacier Peak
11. Earthquakes, landslides, tsunamis, and floods
12. The volcano was particularly restless in the mid-19th century, when it was intermittently active for at least a 26-year span from 1831 to 1857. Some scientists suspect that Mount St. Helens also was active sporadically during the three decades before 1831, including a major explosive eruption in 1800. Although minor steam explosions may have occurred in 1898, 1903, and 1921, the mountain gave little or no evidence of being a volcanic hazard for more than a century after 1857.

From: <http://www.mountsthelens.com/history-1.html>

For more information, visit the Division of Geology and Earth Resources
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/AboutDNR/Divisions/GER/> (webpage)
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_ic88_st_helens.pdf (guidebook)
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_dgernews_2004_v1_no3-4.pdf (article)
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/ger_washington_geology_1995_v23_no2.pdf (1840s field sketches)

or visit:

<http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/Volcanoes/MSH/> (Cascades Volcano Observatory)
<http://www.mountsthelens.com/> (Mount St. Helens Visitor Information)
<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/volcanocams/msh/> (webcams)
<http://www.mountsthelens.com/360-degree-view.html> (360° view)
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2000/fs036-00/> (U.S. Geological Survey fact sheet)



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