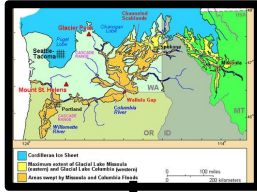


A historical timeline of the
geographical landmark
in Portland, Oregon
Rocky Butte

Elevation: 613 ft (187 m)
45.5465° N, 122.5654° W

Rocky Butte Timeline

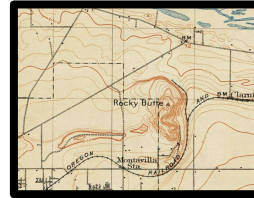
15,000 years ago
Missoula Floods



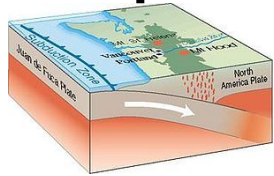
1805: Lewis and
Clark party canoes
past Rocky Butte



1840s-1920s:
Rock Quarry and
Railroads



1931: The Hill Military
Academy

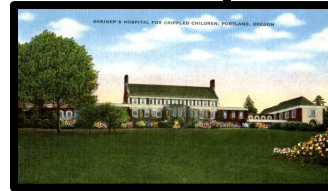


2.6 million years ago
volcanic activity

Rocky Butte was
originally called
"Mowitch Illihee,"



1920s: The Grotto and
Shriners Children
Hospital are built



1930s: The WPA in
Portland



Rocky Butte Timeline

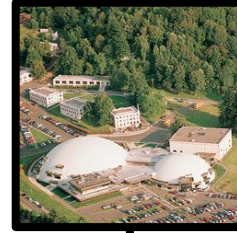
1947 - Rocky Butte
Jail is built



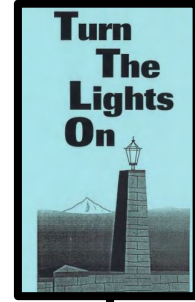
1959: Judson Baptist
College buys the
military campus



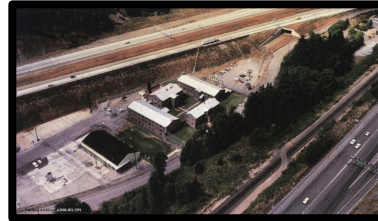
1991: City Bible
Church builds
the domes



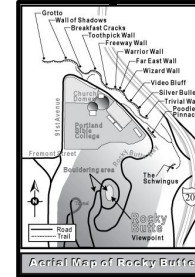
1995 -
Lamps
installed



1940s: postwar
neighborhoods
built

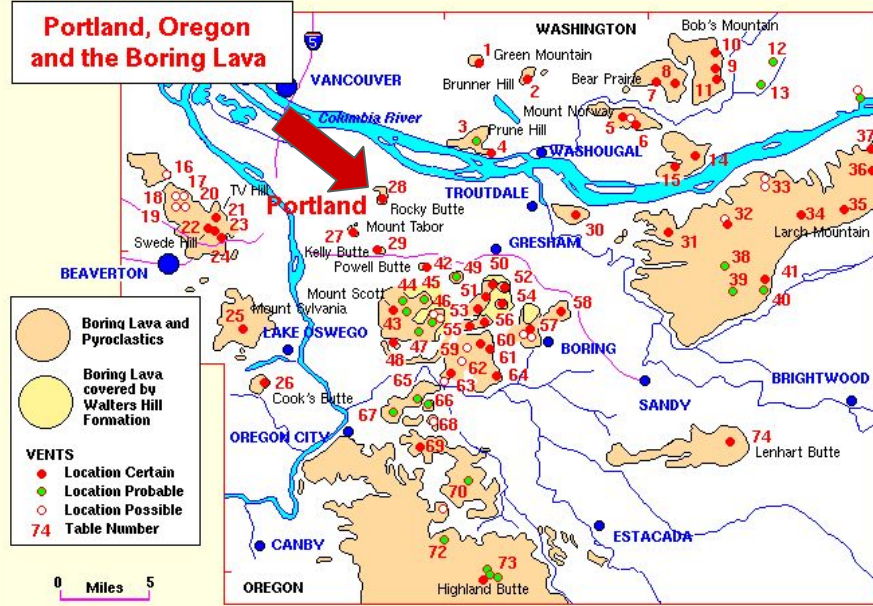


1984: I-205
freeway is built



1990s: Rock
Climbing the
Butte and more

Portland, Oregon and the Boring Lava



Location Map of 95 Boring Lava vents in the Portland area, named and unnamed

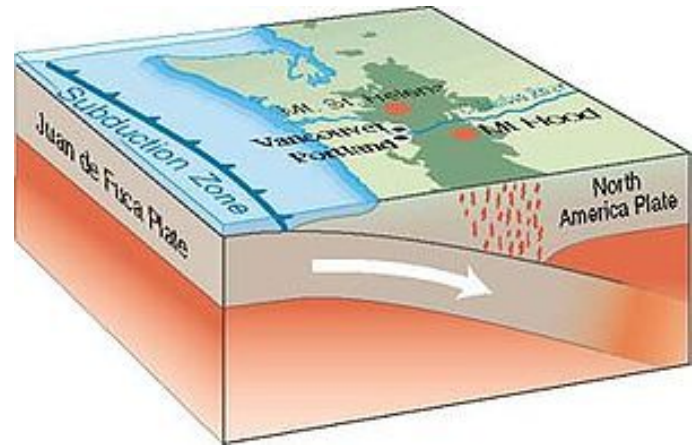
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Green Mountain | 21. TV Hill | 36. Palmer Peak |
| 2. Brunner Hill (2 vents) | 22. Swede Hill | 37. Nesmith Point |
| 3. Prune Hill (West) | 24. Elk Point (2 vents) | 40. Walker Peak |
| 4. Prune Hill (East) | 25. Mount Sylvania (2 vents) | 41. Lookout Point |
| 5. Mount Norway (2 vents) | 26. Cook's Butte (2 vents) | 42. Powell Butte |
| 6. Nichol's Hill | 27. Mount Tabor | 43. Mount Scott (2 vents) |
| 7. Bear Prairie | 28. Rocky Butte (2 vents) | 44. Willamette National Cemetery |
| 8. Pohl's Hill | 29. Kelly Butte (2 vents) | 46. Scout Camp (2 vents) |
| 9. Bob's Mountain | 30. Chamberlain Hill | 48. Mount Talbert |
| 10. Bob's Mountain (South) | 31. Ross Mountain | 69. Hunsinger Peak |
| 11. Bob's Mountain (North) | 32. Pepper Mountain (2 vents) | 73. Highland Butte (4 vents) |
| 14. Mount Pleasant | 33. Devil's Rest (2 vents) | 74. Lenhart Butte |
| 15. Mount Zion | 34. Larch Mountain | |



Topinka, USGSICVD, 1997, Modified from: Allen, 1975, Volcanoes of the Portland Area, Ore-Bir, v.37, no.9

Boring Lava Fields

2.6 million years ago -
57,000 years ago.



**Rocky Butte started as a Pleistocene
basaltic andesite shield volcano**

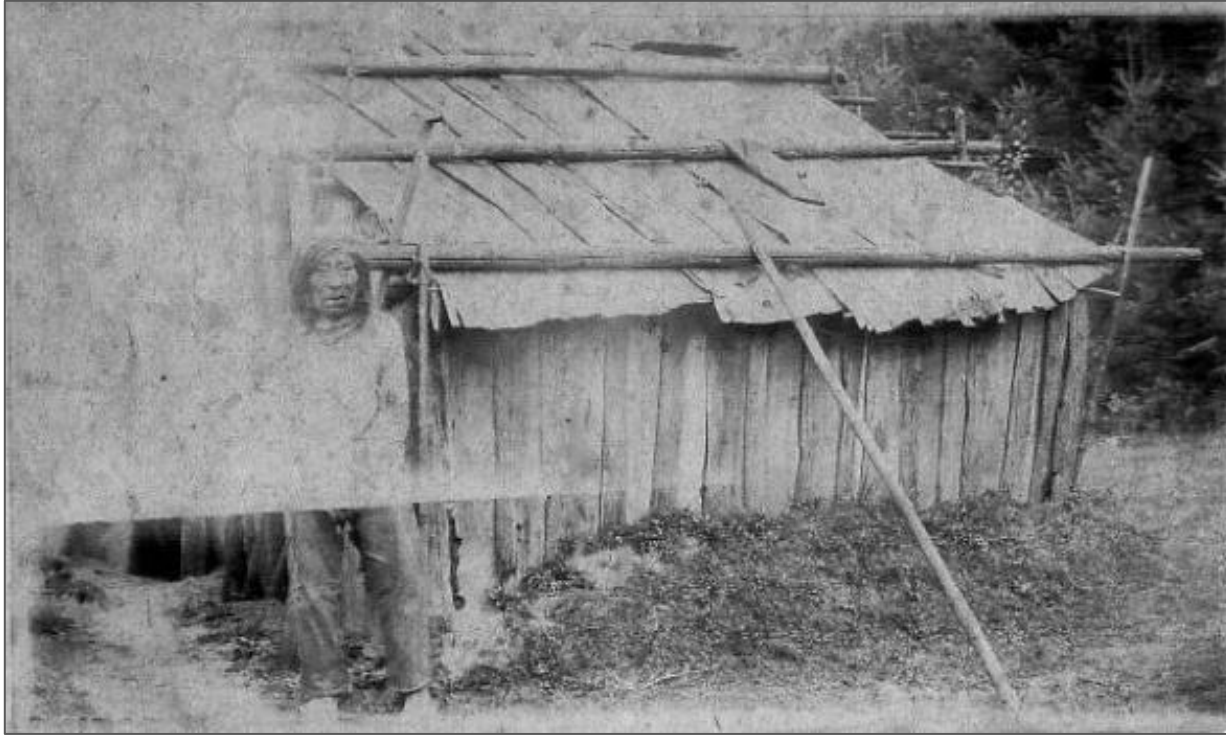
Images from www.usgs.gov

Missoula floods - 14,000 years ago

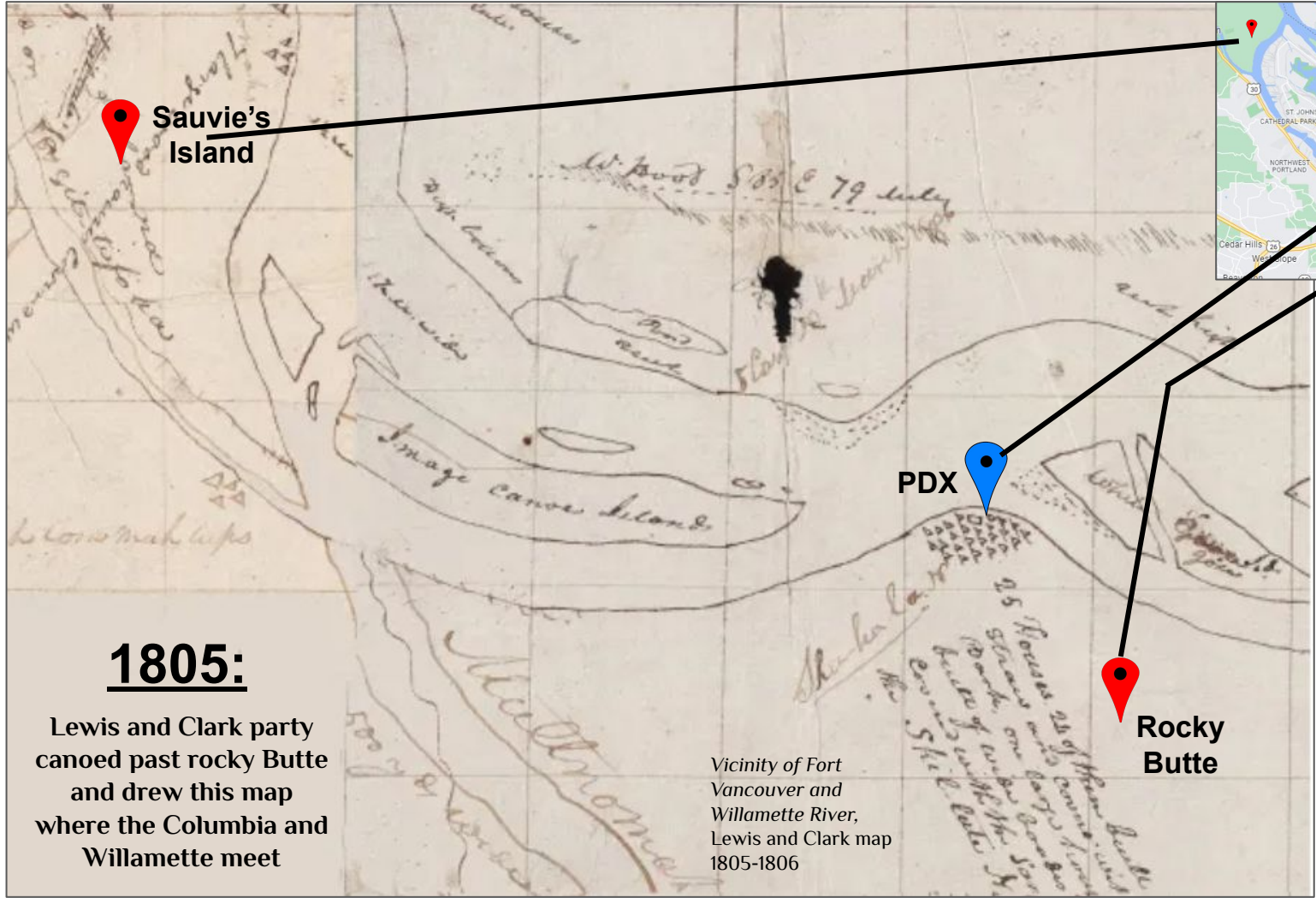


Today on the east side of Rocky Butte, Interstates 205 and 84 follow the broad channels carved by the floods. "... high velocities and turbulence induced by the submerged butte eroded huge scour pits on its upstream side; downstream, gravel bars many kilometers long were deposited. I-84 curves around the south and east sides of the butte in scour pits."

Rocky Butte was originally called “Mowitch Illihee,” which means “home of the deer” as evident by the presence of deer pits on the east end of the slope.



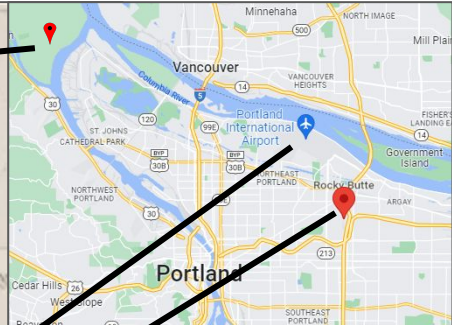
Pictured is Old John, son of chief Casino at his plank house just east of Rocky butte. He said the butte was a favorite hunting ground of the powerful hunting tribes.



1805:

Lewis and Clark party
canoed past rocky Butte
and drew this map
where the Columbia and
Willamette meet

Vicinity of Fort
Vancouver and
Willamette River,
Lewis and Clark map
1805-1806



The Columbia River
basin experienced
one of the highest
population densities
of the pre-contact
Pacific Northwest.
This area was full of
long houses and
homes of the
Cascade Chinook
Speaking people
called the Watlala.
Especially at the
current day location
of the PDX airport.

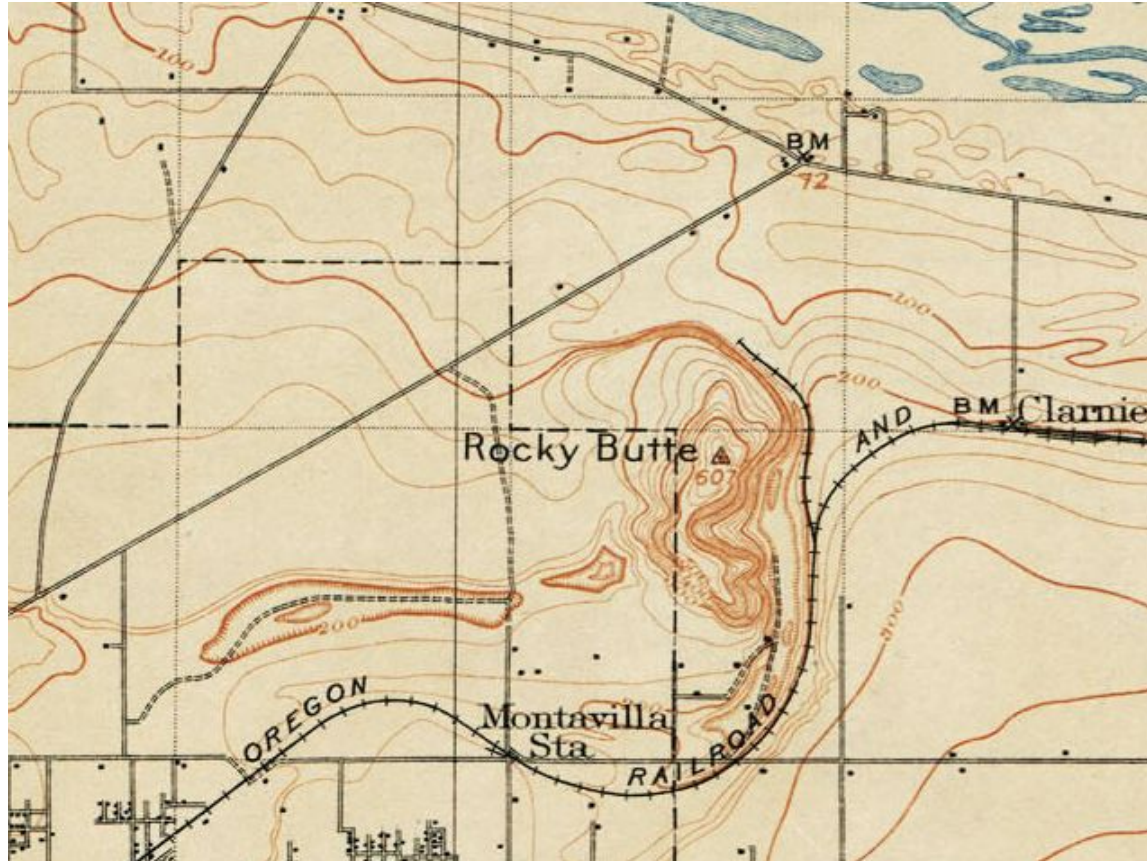
<https://ndnhistoryresearch.com/2020/06/29/encounters-with-chief-kiesno-of-the-columbia/>

1840s-1920s: Rock Quarry and Railroads

The butte was also known as **Wiberg Butte**. Stone from the butte's quarry was used to build:

- Union Pacific Railroad Bridges
- Portland Hotel 1882
- Penitentiary at Walla Walla 1886
- Steel Bridge 1912
- Old Columbia Historic Highway.
- Witch's Castle in Forest Park

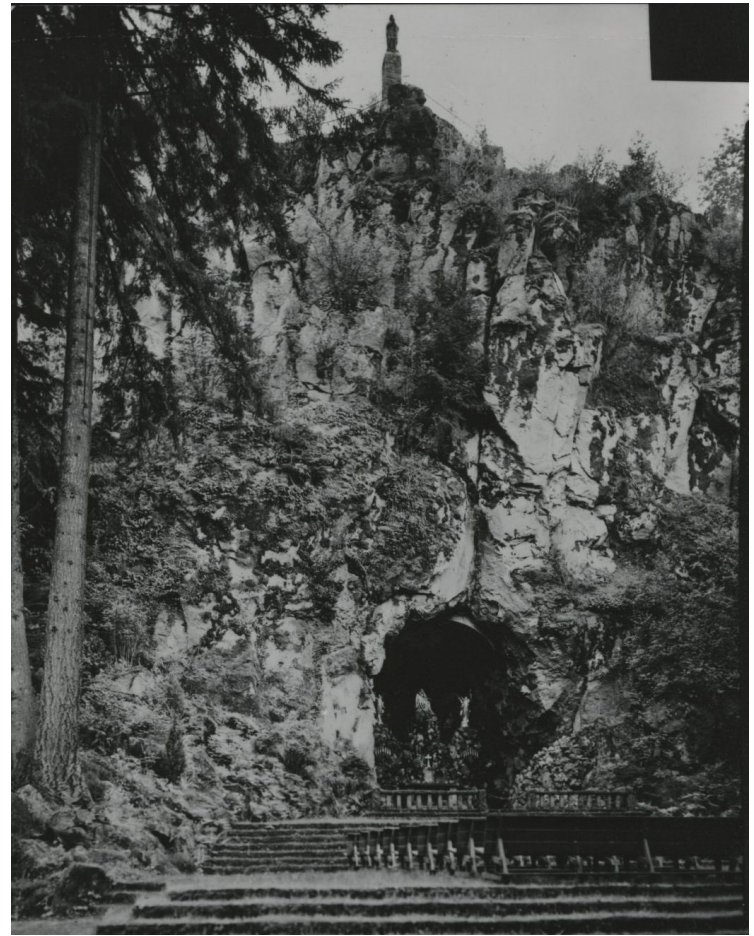
Topography map from 1896 Geological Survey
(<https://maps.lib.utexas.edu>)



1920s: The Grotto and Shriners Children Hospital are built at the 82nd and Sandy area. The natural rock formation was a shelter for Cascade/Watlala deer hunters before it was the Grotto and hospital.



"Shriners Select Site of Hospital". *The Oregonian*. April 26, 1922. p. 1.



Courtesy Oregon Hist. Soc. Research Lib., 007644 and 007649

1931: The Hill Military Academy was relocated from NW Portland to Rocky Butte. Many graduates from the Academy went on to fight in WWI and WWII



Portland Archives, A2005-005.1424.1

City of Portland Archives, Oregon, A2005-005.1424.1

THE OREGON JOURNAL, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1931



The New HILL MILITARY ACADEMY OPENS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

A **CADET**—the new, largest, beautiful Hill Military Academy is to bring side to doors, complete in every detail, modern in every respect, beautiful, dedicated to the education and betterment of the youth of the northwest. This one-half million dollar project, with its group of 12 strongly bonded buildings, opens with the Fall Term on September 16th. The new Hill Military Academy is a dream realized . . . one that was conceived many years ago by Joseph A. Hill, president and principal, and in opening September 16th brings another link in a chain of annually recognized schools for Portland and Oregon.

The Five Sacred Rights of Childhood

The Hill Military Academy subscribes and thoroughly believes in . . .

- THE RIGHT to an Education
- THE RIGHT to Superior Play and Recreation
- THE RIGHT to Moral Teaching
- THE RIGHT to a Clean Daily Life
- THE RIGHT to Military Knowledge and Training

"A job well done," in very Joseph A. Hill in the following Portland firms and artisans who helped create the new Hill Military Academy:

QUALITY WORK Quality Men's Wear Quality Men's Wear Quality Men's Wear	PUMPS BROOKMAN PUMP CO. PUMP WORKS PUMP WORKS	DRILLING DRILLING DRILLING DRILLING	PAINTING PAINTING PAINTING PAINTING	THE ARMORY THE ARMORY THE ARMORY THE ARMORY	AUSTIN AUSTIN AUSTIN AUSTIN
HILL CADETS HILL CADETS HILL CADETS HILL CADETS	GREEN TINTING GREEN TINTING GREEN TINTING GREEN TINTING	SEARS, Roebuck and Company SEARS, Roebuck and Company SEARS, Roebuck and Company SEARS, Roebuck and Company	UNIFORMS UNIFORMS UNIFORMS UNIFORMS	CLEANERS & DYERS CLEANERS & DYERS CLEANERS & DYERS CLEANERS & DYERS	THE AUSTIN COMPANY THE AUSTIN COMPANY THE AUSTIN COMPANY THE AUSTIN COMPANY

Photos from the Oregon Historical Society Digital Collections



Portland Archives, A2005-005.1424.2

1930s - The WPA employed thousands of Portlanders to build the tunnels, roads and walls of Rocky Butte.



Rocky Butte Viewpoint 1948 : David Lewis



Labor Day: The WPA's legacy in Oregon (The Oregonian)

1940s-1960s: Postwar neighborhoods are developed around the base of Rocky Butte. Madison South (previously known as Academy Heights) and other neighborhoods are built on hazelnut orchards, dairy farms, and grazing fields.



Madison High School under construction:
City of Portland Archives, Oregon, A2010-002.108



NE Siskiyou and 87th looking at Rocky Butte: Photo from
East Portland Historical Overview & Historic Preservation Study



1947: Rocky Butte Jail is built directly from rocks from the butte quarry. The structure is built at the eastern base of the Butte, currently where the Gateway Green bike park is, between I-205 and I-84 freeways



1959 -1980

Judson Baptist
College buys the
military campus



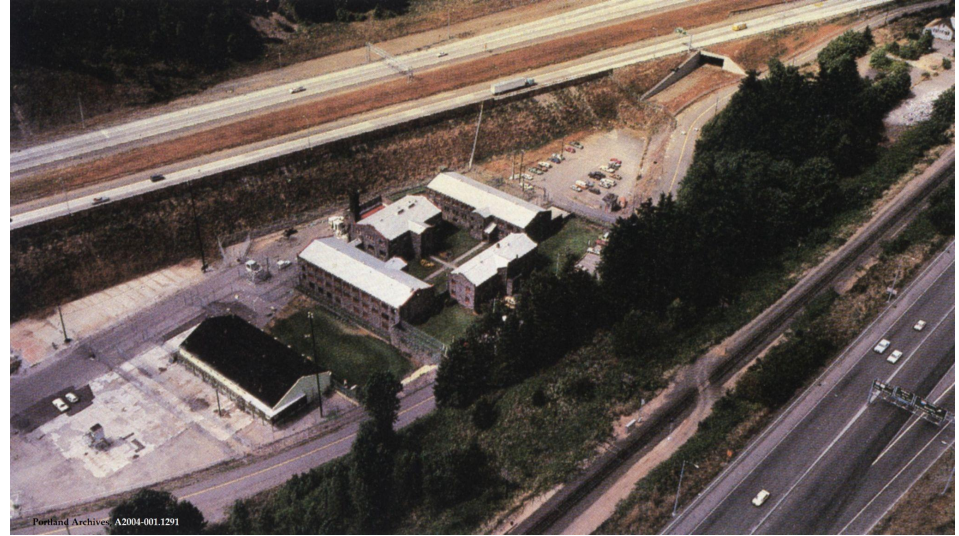
Photo from Guy Melton (Judson Baptist College Alumni Facebook Page)

Photos from <https://judsonbaptistcollege.dreamhosters.com/>

1984: I-205 freeway is built and the jail is deconstructed. The basalt stones are used in restoration projects of the Historic Columbia Highway in the Gorge.



Rocky Butte Jail in 1957. (The Oregonian)



Rocky Butte Jail and Interstate 205 in 1984
Photo from City of Portland (OR) Archives, AP/10932

1991: City Bible Church builds the dome structures

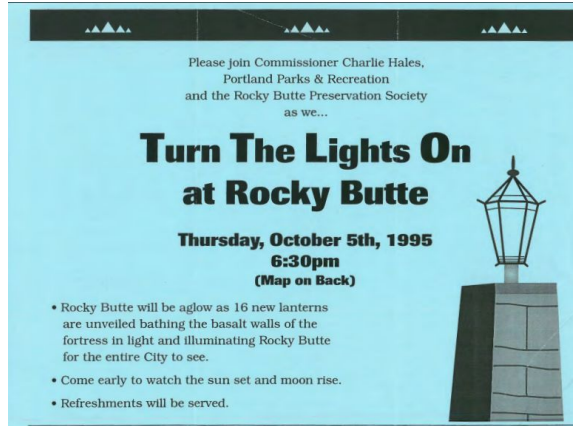


During construction latex was inflated with air to support rebar and foam which was then sprayed with concrete. “Most everything was done with volunteers. Basically it was an inexpensive way to get a big piece of square footage.” Pastor Robert Jamison, of City Bible Church, was present in the construction in 1991, and recalls “getting maximum square footage for minimal budget without sacrificing energy efficiency was the reason for the unusual domed architecture. Interest rates were 20 percent at the time, you're not getting a big loan.” In 2018, the church changed its name from City Bible Church to Mannahouse Church.

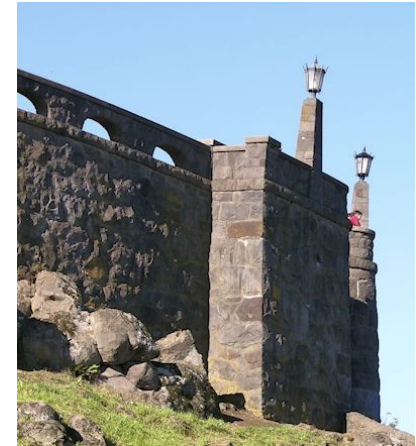
1995 - Lamp posts are installed

For over 60 years the bastions were absent of lights until 1995 when the neighbors in the area advocated, organized and installed the 16 cast aluminum lamps. The lamps are modeled after the lights at Crown Point Visitors Center in the Columbia Gorge.

In 1991 the Butte's crest was listed under the National Register of Historic Places considering the aircraft beacon, recreational park, basalt stone parapet walls, 74 riser staircase, wide viewpoints, commemorative monuments, landmark viewfinder, scenic drive, pedestrian tunnel, and roadside bollards within the 21.48 acres.

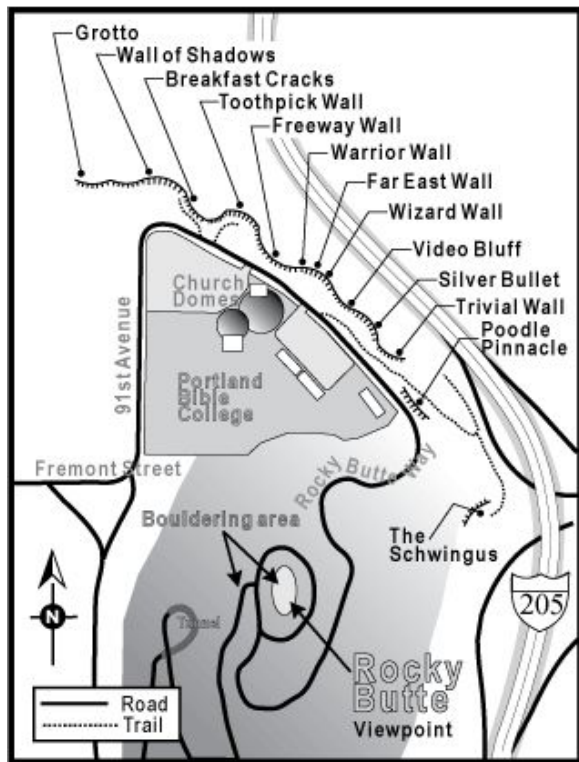


Multnomah County Archives



ColumbiaRiverImages.com

1990's - present: Recreational hiking, cycling, rock climbing, beekeeping, Neander Games Farmers' Markets and more.



Aerial Map of Rocky Butte

<https://www.portlandrockclimbs.com/metro-area/rocky-butte-quarry.htm>



"Rocky Butte Sunset" by Uptography is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.



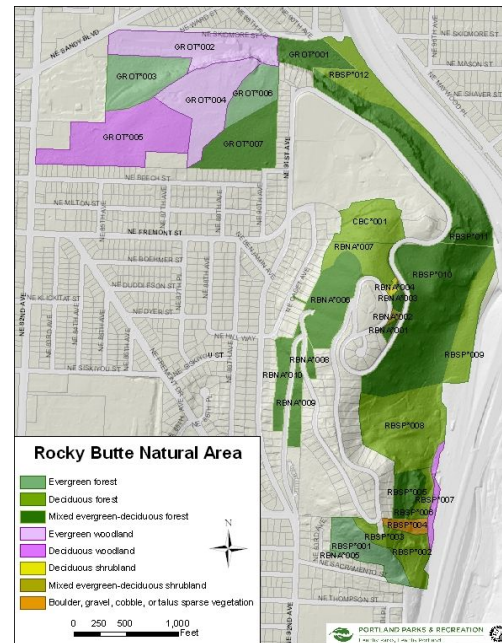
www.rockybuttemarket.com



Neander Games Photo courtesy Shawn Kelley. WWeek 2015



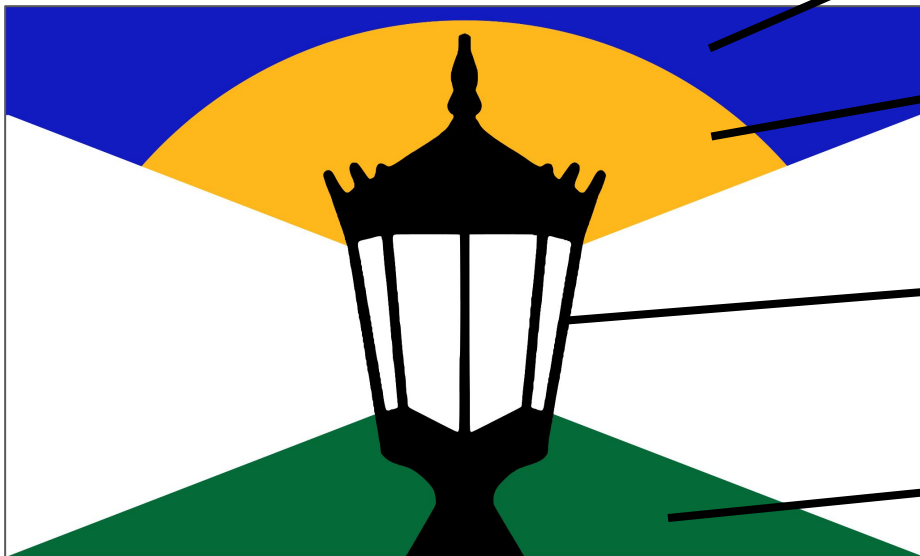
Some local beekeepers



<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/93745>

The unofficial Rocky Butte Flag

Rocky Butte is a beacon of Portland both geographically and culturally.



Sky: the Butte has one of the city's best 360° views

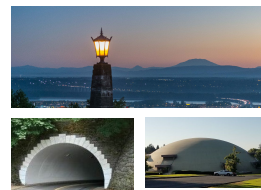
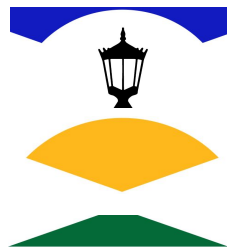
Architecture: distinctive masonry, tunnels and Church.

Lamp: iconic at the Butte as well as the large revolving flashing beacon that was constructed in 1933

Flora: a variety of plants now cover the extinct cinder cone volcano

Hello Neighbors and Friends!

For more information about Rocky Butte history and how to purchase the flag go to:
rockybuttecoffee.com/pages/rocky-butte-community
-Graham Houser (neighborhood resident)



Portland Flag

The colors are a combination of the **Cascadia** flag and **Portland** flag.

Thank you to these local organizations:

