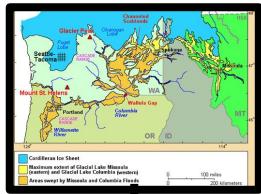


A historical timeline of the
geographical landmark
in Portland, Oregon
Rocky Butte

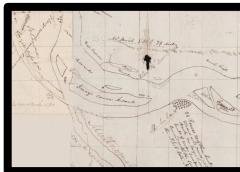
Elevation: 613 ft (187 m)
45.5465° N, 122.5654° W

Rocky Butte Timeline

15,000 years ago
Missoula Floods



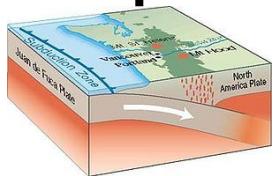
1805: Lewis and Clark party canoes past Rocky Butte



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

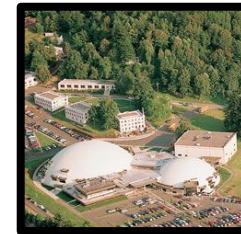
1947 - Rocky Butte
Jail is built



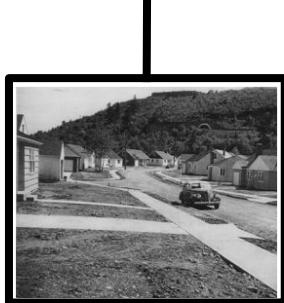
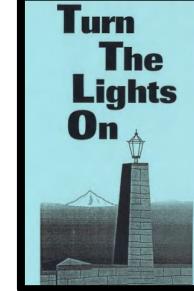
1959: Judson Baptist
College buys the
military campus



1991: City Bible
Church builds
the domes



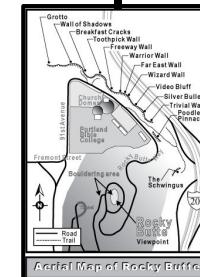
1995 -
Lamps
installed



1940s: postwar
neighborhoods
built



1984: I-205
freeway is built



Aerial Map of Rocky Butte

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

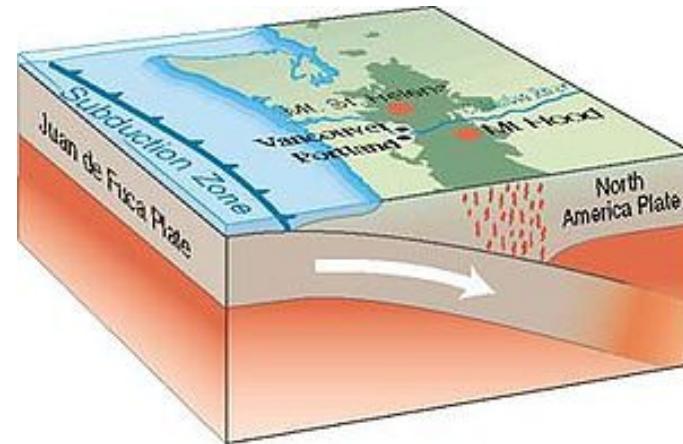
1. Green Mountain
2. Brunner Hill (2 vents)
3. Prune Hill (West)
4. Prune Hill (East)
5. Mount Norway (2 vents)
6. Nichol's Hill
7. Bear Prairie
8. Pohl's Hill
9. Bob's Mountain
10. Bob's Mountain (South)
11. Bob's Mountain (North)
12. Mount Pleasant
13. Mount Zion
21. TV Hill
22. Swede Hill
24. Elk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



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

Boring Lava Fields

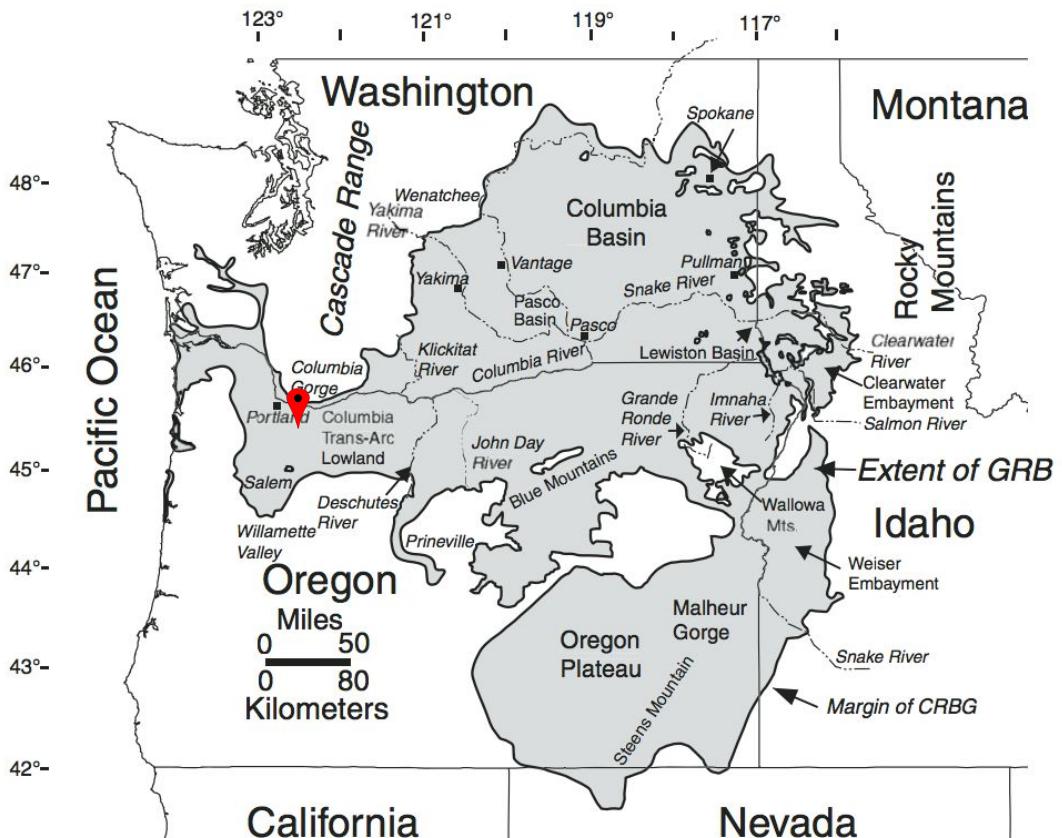
2.6 million years ago -
57,000 years ago.



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.

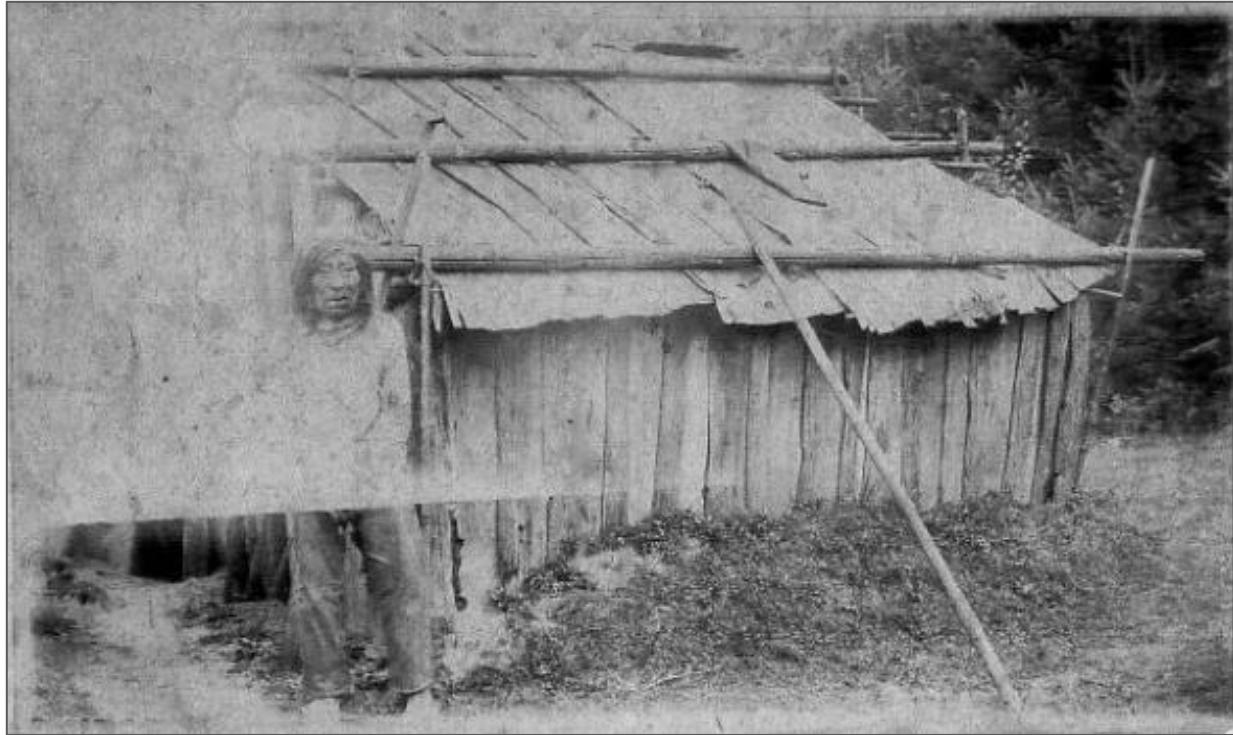
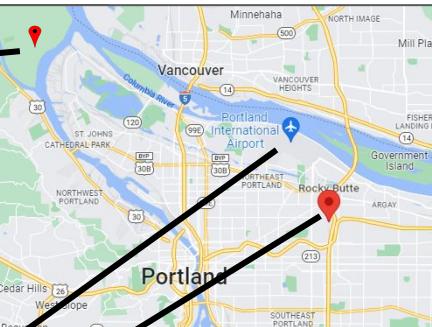
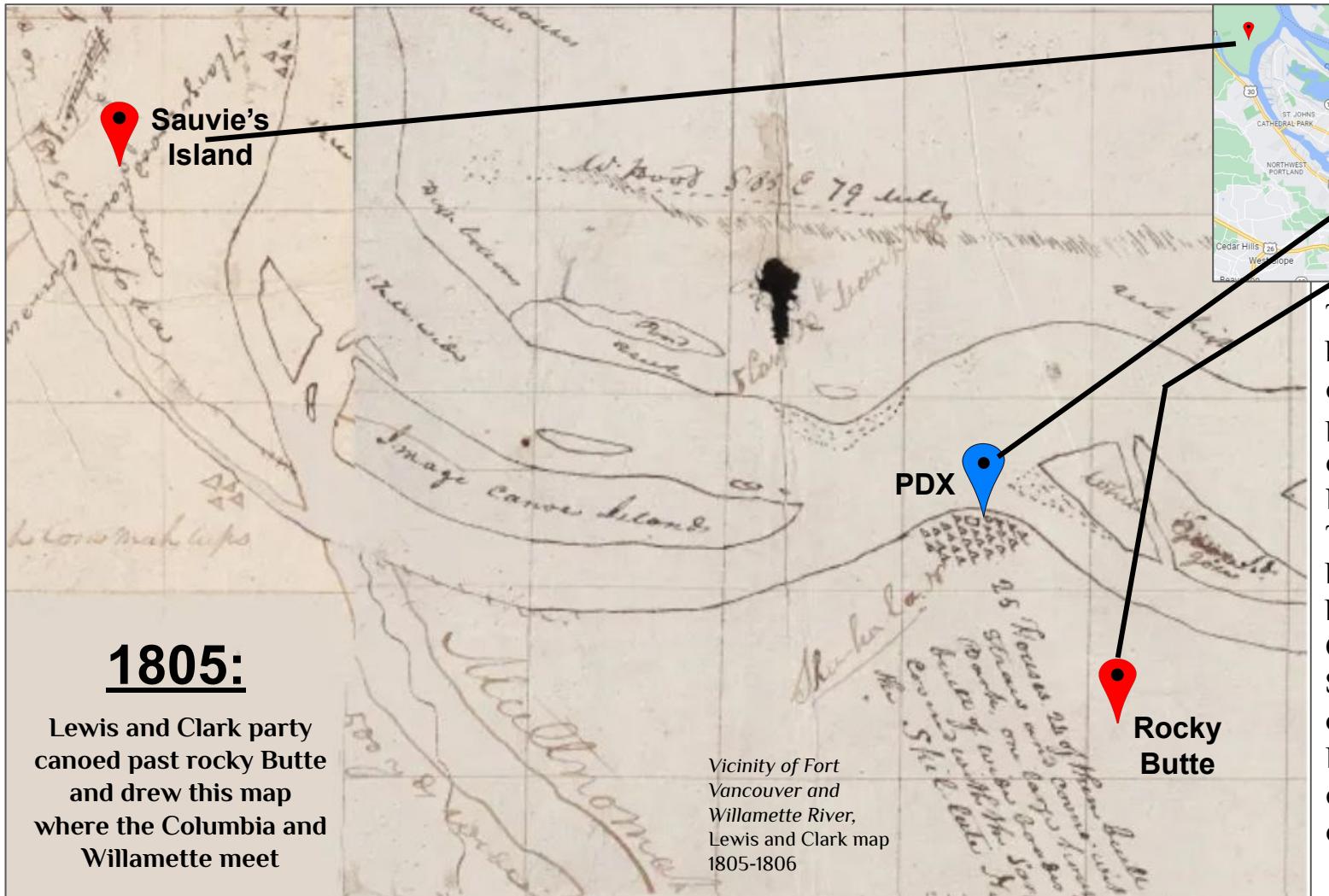


Photo with permission of Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society.

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.



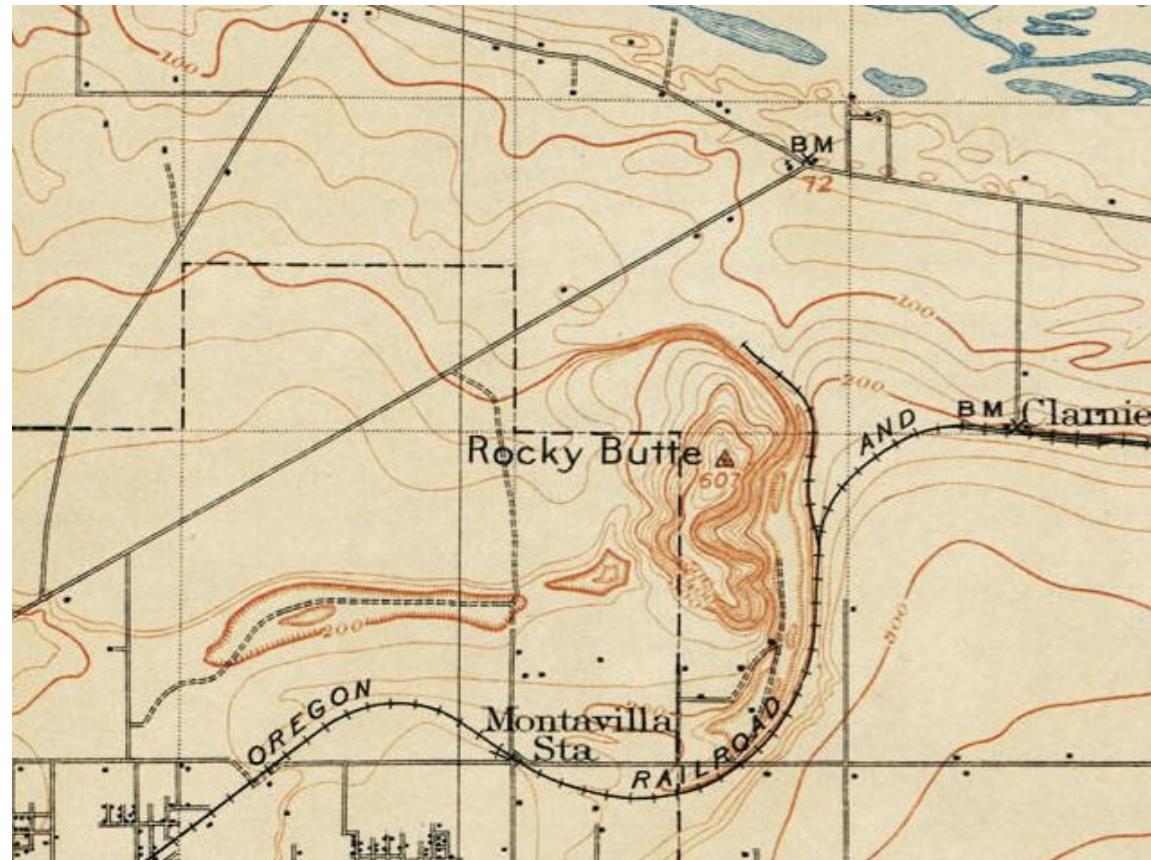
The Columbia River basin experienced one of the highest population densities of the pre-contact Pacific Northwest. This area was full of long houses and homes of the **Cascade Chinook Speaking people called the Watlala**. Especially at the current day location of the PDX airport.

<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:

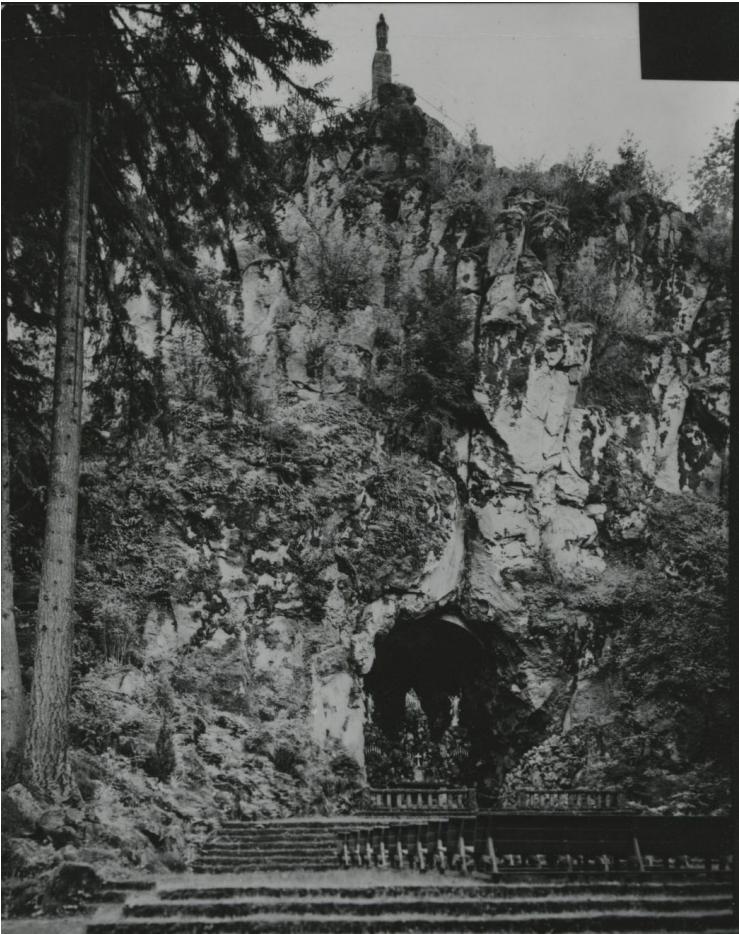
- Union Pacific Railroad Bridges
- Portland Hotel 1882
- Penitentiary at Walla Walla 1886
- Steel Bridge 1912
- Old Columbia Historic Highway.
- Witch's Castle in Forest Park



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.

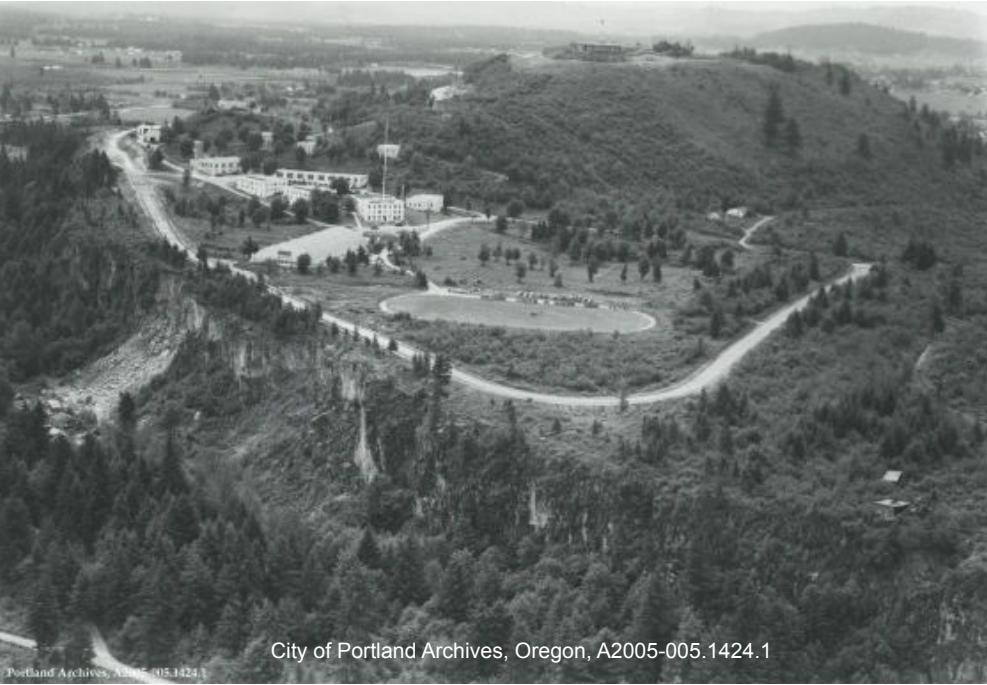


Courtesy Oregon Hist. Soc. Research Lib., 007644 and 007649

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



Photos from the Oregon Historical Society Digital Collections



City of Portland Archives, Oregon, A2005-005.1424.



Portland Archives A2003

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



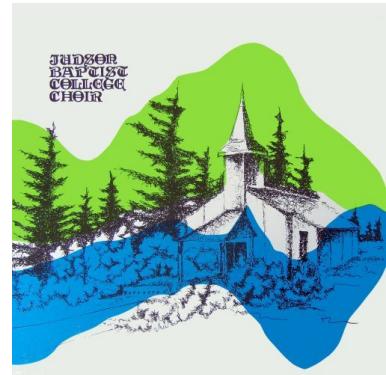
1947: Rocky Butte Jail is built directly from rocks from the butte quarry. The structure is built at the eastern base of the Butte, currently where the Gateway Green bike park is, between I-205 and I-84 freeways

Photos from the Multnomah County Archive



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

1959 -1980
Judson Baptist
College buys the
military campus



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



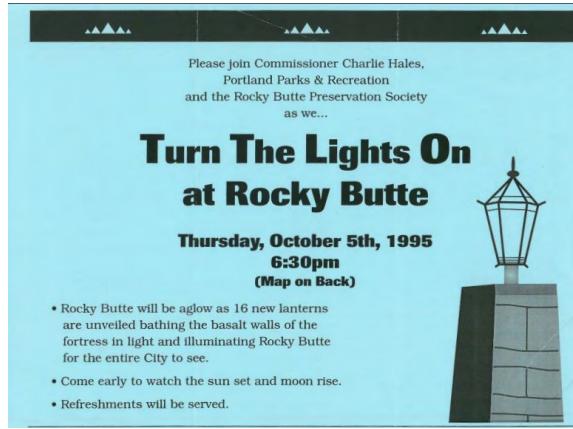
During construction latex was inflated with air to support rebar and foam which was then sprayed with concrete. “Most everything was done with volunteers. Basically it was an inexpensive way to get a big piece of square footage.” Pastor Robert Jamison, of City Bible Church, was present in the construction 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.

<https://www.monolithic.org/featured/featured-churches/city-bible-church>

Domes of the rock: visiting City Bible Church's concrete Rocky Butte complex By Brian Libby

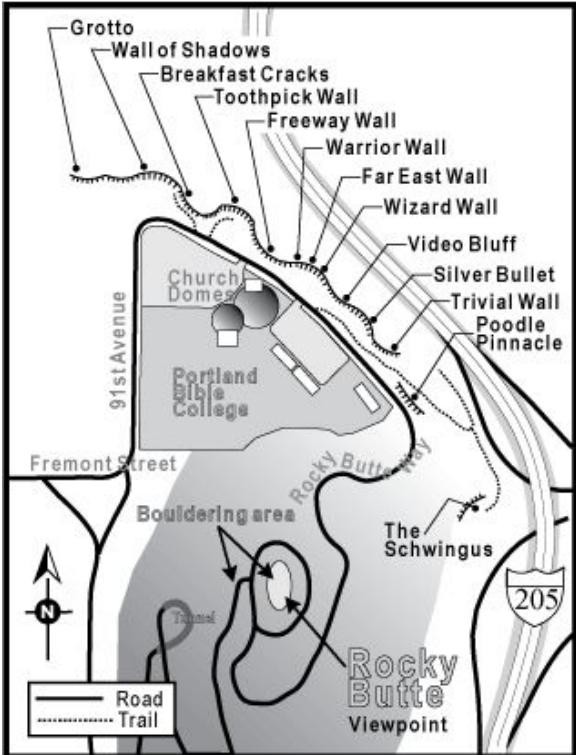
1995 - Lamp posts are installed

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.



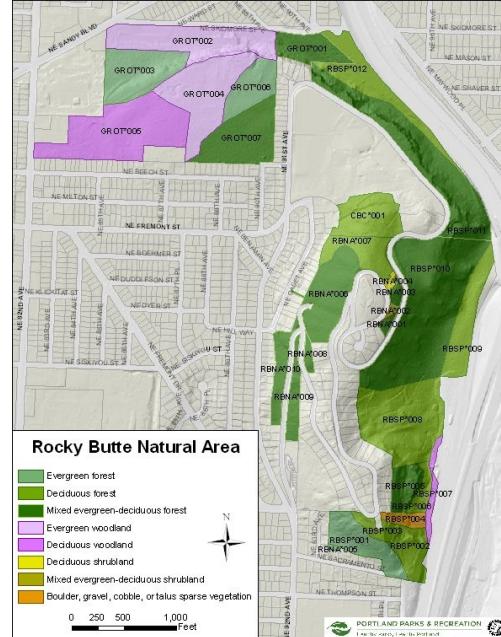
In 1991 the Butte's crest was listed under the National Register of Historic Places considering the aircraft beacon, recreational park, basalt stone parapet walls, 74 riser staircase, wide viewpoints, commemorative monuments, landmark viewfinder, scenic drive, pedestrian tunnel, and roadside bollards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

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



Aerial Map of Rocky Butte

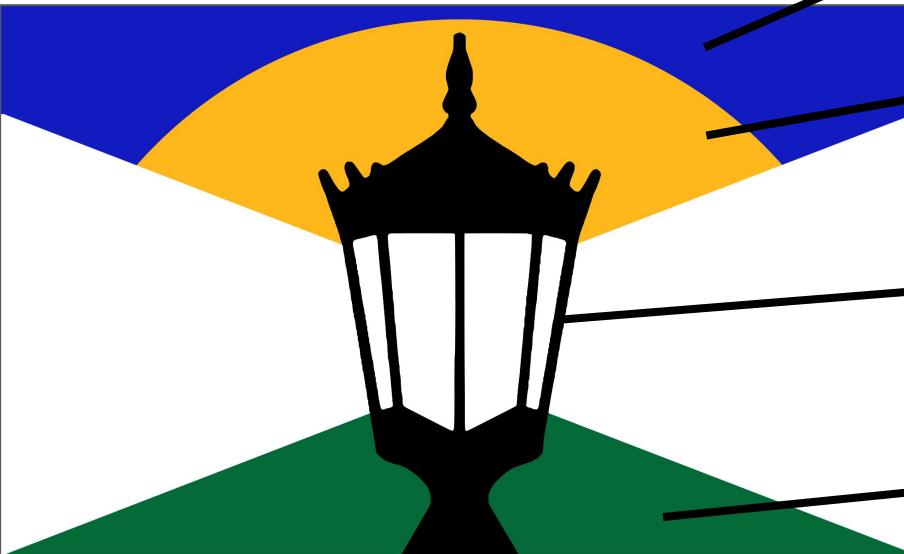
<https://www.portlandrockclimbs.com/metro-area/rocky-butte-quarry.htm>



<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:



Portland Archives
& Records Center



THE OREGON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1898



PORTLAND PARKS
& RECREATION



OREGONLIVE
The Oregonian



Portland Flag
Association



Rocky Butte
Owners
Association

