Mount. St. Helens
May 1980 Eruption 20 Years of Change Photograph Exhibit

Part I Part II

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Before: May 17, 1980 (1 day before eruption)
After: September 10, 1980 (four months after eruption) (shot from same viewpoint).

Before: Mount St. Helens and Spirit Lake.

After: Same viewpoint.

Before: Lake Obscurity (10 mi. N of volcano).

After: Same viewpoint.
Snow covers the sleeping giant (Early 1980)

March 1980: First steam and gas vents to the surface.

The Main Eruption
Post Eruption Images

July 1982: The Surface of Spirit Lake is choked with trees (note two men in rowboat for scale)
October 1980: Remains of Spirit Lake (Mt. Rainier in background).

1982: Several years later, lava dome is rebuilding. View from a clear portion of Spirit Lake.
A more common view of Spirit Lake with logs covering surface of the water.

September 1980: Trees blown down by blast. (Note two workers in foreground).
1980: Mudflow and subsequent erosion from flood of displaced water.
1980: Logging camp covered with blown down trees and effects of landslide.

1980: Mudline shown surrounding a garage.

1982: Clearwater area.
1983: Elk return to upper Toutle River area.

1983: Lava Dome building

1986: Lava Dome rockslide.
Total Damage Area (USGS diagram)

1994: High Altitude View of the crater and surrounding areas.
1994: NASA satellite view (North is to the right).


1994: Topographic map of area showing revised features.
1999: Satellite view of the area.

May 12, 2000: Current view of the crater and lava dome.