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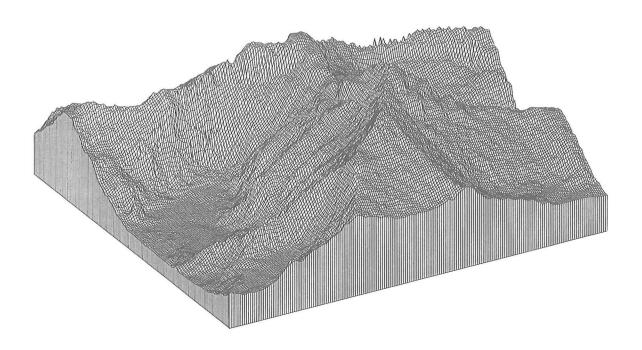


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RECENT RESEARCH



A VIEW FROM THE TOP

The data for this graphic were based on a map produced following a National Geographic Society/Boston Museum of Science expedition to Mount Everest. Miklos Pinther used this map in the field on a 1988 Everest expedition.

An area from this new base map was selected covering a rectangular region of nine by ten kilometers around the summit. From this area, 5,146 points were digitized with their elevations. The graphic shows the summit of Everest digitized at the old elevation of 8,848 meters and the slightly lower summit of Lhotse at 8, 480 meters. Between the two peaks is the south col, a saddle of 7,906 meters, and the classic route to the summit of Mount Everest. The east face is shown between the row of buttresses on the right of the diagram.

The view is from a point 30 degrees zenith and 1,000 kilometers from the center of the image. The base of the diagram is set at 5,000 meters above sea level, and the vertical scaling has been set to close to within five percent true.

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