

been modified by volcanic or fluvial flow processes also indicates that the fracturing that created the original features occurred at least before the final stage of volcanic activity in the region. We conjecture that the earliest tectonic activity in the Tharsis province may also have been the result of lithospheric uplift, but either the scale of such uplift was considerably smaller than the present horizontal extent of the Tharsis rise or the tectonic evidence of this uplift has been long since erased by subsequent volcanism and faulting.

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