

POMPEII

Pompeii, a city in southern Italy founded in the 7th century BC, thrived into a prosperous settlement with around 20,000 inhabitants. Surrounded by palaces and gardens, it attracted nobles drawn to its tranquil climate, but its fate was sealed by Mount Vesuvius. In 62 BC, an earthquake wreaked havoc, and in 79 BC, a devastating volcanic eruption buried the city under five meters of ash and lava.

Despite residents' efforts to escape, the sudden eruption caught them off guard, leaving Pompeii frozen in time. In the 16th century, workers constructing an aqueduct rediscovered the city, revealing not only ruined structures but also over two thousand petrified bodies in various poses.

This discovery made Pompeii one of the most prominent archaeological sites of ancient Rome, providing a unique window into the daily life of the time. The remains, along with its structures and artifacts, have allowed historians and archaeologists to reconstruct key aspects of Roman civilization and understand the staggering history of a city trapped in time due to the fury of Vesuvius.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where was Pompeii situated, and during which time?

2. Who and when discovered the ruins of Pompeii?

3. What benefit was finding the ruins?

