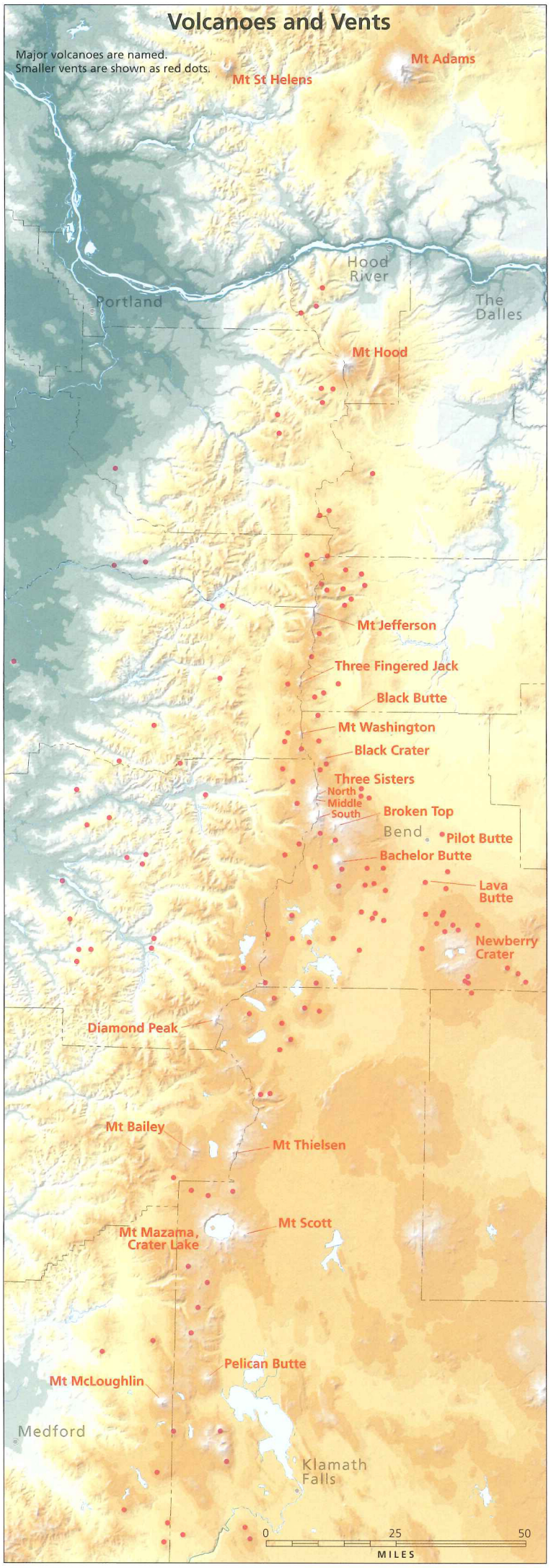



## Mount St. Helens

*View from the Northwest.*

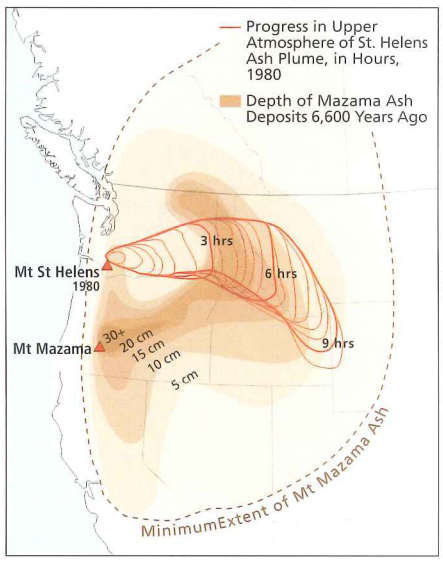
## Newberry Crater

*View from the Southwest.*

## Mount Mazama, Crater Lake

*View from the Southwest.*

## Mount Mazama and Mount St. Helens Ash Fall




Mount St. Helens in Washington is one of the smaller Cascade volcanoes, but in recent millennia the most active one. Its violent eruption in 1980 sent an enormous cloud of fine-grained, choking, abrasive ash into the upper atmosphere, where it circled the globe in only a few days. The red lines on the map record the movement of the ash plume within the first nine hours after the eruption. The much larger Mount Mazama eruption of 6,600 years ago left measurable ash deposits across virtually all of the Northwest and most of the Great Basin. This unmistakable layer is an important chronological marker for Northwest archeology and oceanography. Ash deposition is an accident of the wind currents at the time of an eruption. Mud and ash flows down glacial and river valleys are confined to narrow areas, but are potentially much more destructive (see page 125).