

BAILEY CANYON TRAIL TO JONES PEAK

March 28, 2001

HIKE LEADER: ARNE FOSS

DISTANCE: 3.3 MILES TO PEAK
ELEVATION GAIN: APPROXIMATELY 2,500 FT
STARTING POINT: SIERRA MADRE PARK

DIRECTIONS TO HIKE:

- From 210 FWY (east of intersection with 710 and 134) go north on Sierra Madre Blvd. This divided street starts going north and then swings east.
- Proceed to Michillinda Avenue (divider ends).
- Proceed about 3 more streets to Lima Street (KFC on NW corner).
- Go left (north) to Carter Street.
- Go left (west) on Carter a very short block to Grove.
- Turn right into parking lot. Sierra Madre Park is a little used with many picnic tables and a flush toilet restroom.

The Bailey Canyon Trail starts at the parking lot (with a direction sign), proceeds NW through the park, through a turnstile in the fence and briefly follows a closed-off road to the canyon. It then climbs up the east side of the canyon, past Jones Peak, to the Mount Wilson Trail. You will soon find that this trail is switchback heaven. It is an excellent dirt trail but climbs rapidly. It has great views all along the trail.

There are two possible stopping points short of the peak. The first is on a promontory off the right side of the trail as it curves around the leading edge of a ridge going up the mountain (270° view). The second is an area down off the left side of the trail in a grove of trees. It has a large flat area with a low rock wall (sitting height). From here the trail climbs more rapidly.

The rough trail to the peak is off the right side and marked by a pole lying on each side. This trail is steep to the point of walking on the toes. A statue of the Virgin Mary is a couple hundred feet up the trail. Jones Peak is seldom climbed but there is a register in a can at the top (about 3,375 ft). The best way to return is down the back side to an intersection with the main trail on a narrow saddle back ridge. If a longer hike is desired, you can go further up the trail to Lookout Point.

Although the hike is not a long one, you best eat your Wheaties.