

## OTP Hike #712 June 2, 2004 Hike leader: Dick Battin

**It's time to do the Backbone trail again in segments as laid out in the LA Times on 3/23/04**

This hike will complete the first 8.1 miles of the 65-mile Backbone Trail from Ray Miller trailhead to Danielson ranch (and an additional 3.1 mile access to parking).

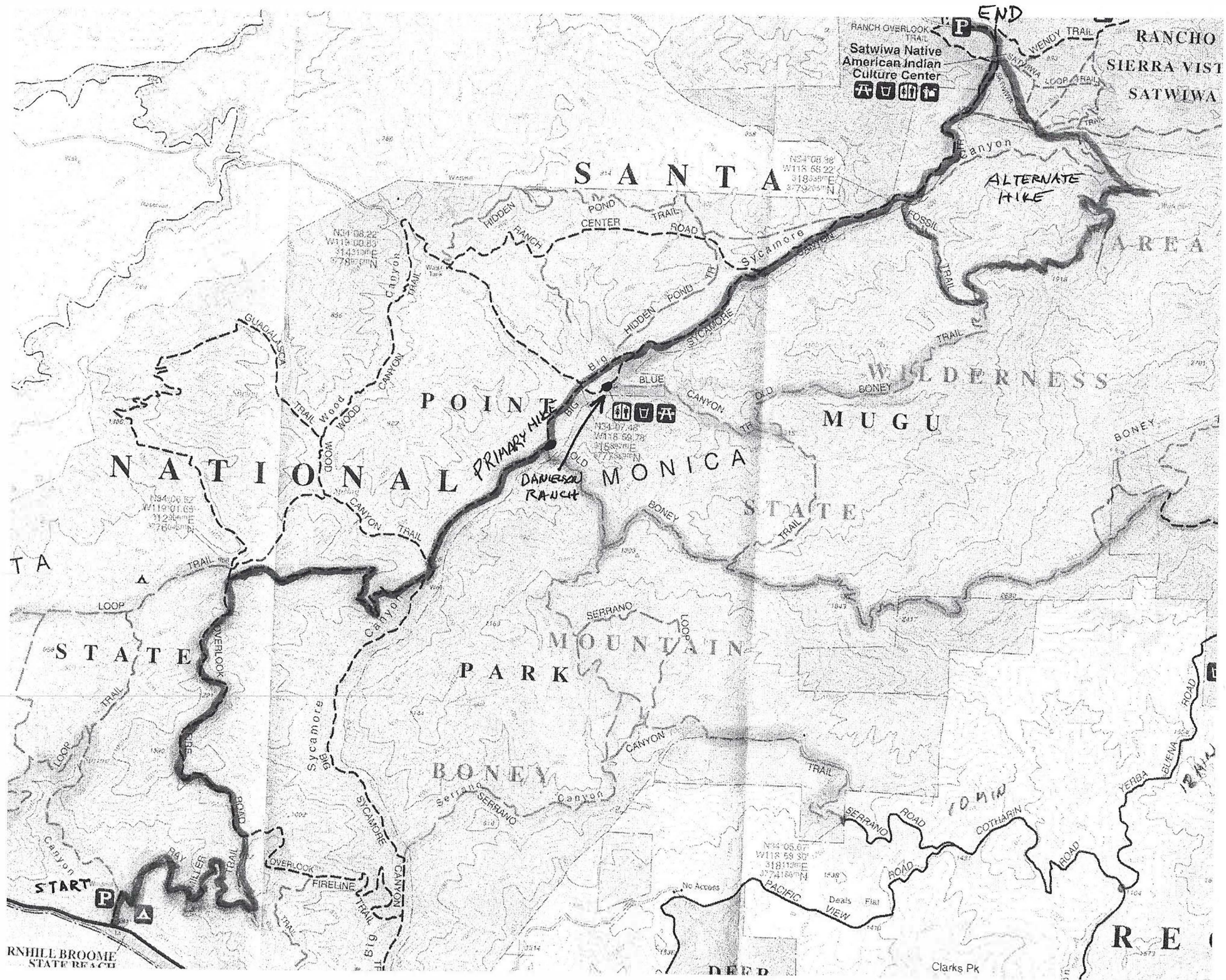
	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Alternate (Northern Sycamore Canyon In Rancho Sierra Vista Park)</b>
Distance	11.2 miles	7 miles
Elevation gain	1200 ft. (700 ft. down)	1300 ft.
Starting time	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>9:30am</b>

**Start point for Primary hikers:** Ray Miller trailhead on PCH opposite Thornhill Broome Beach campground about 21.8 miles north of Malibu Canyon Rd. N1. **Alternate hikers** can choose to hike immediately in the La Jolla Valley Preserve or go to the alternate hike starting at 9:30 at the northern end of Sycamore canyon. To get there, go north on Hwy 1, right on Las Posas, right on Lewis road, right on Potrero road and right on Via Goleta into the Rancho Sierra Vista Park. This distance is 14 miles and takes 20 minutes. We will all meet here and have refreshments at the end of the hikes. Alternate hikers going directly can exit the 101 on Lynn Road that runs into Potrero Rd. and exit to the south on Via Goleta to the Park that is well marked.

**Primary Hike: Backbone Trail.** Two trails start from the Ray Miller Trailhead at the mouth of La Jolla Canyon. We will take the narrow, inconspicuous La Jolla Ridge Trail to our right. It starts by curling up along the toe of a ridge, where it meets a short spur trail going down to an equestrian staging area. It then doggedly climbs 2.4 miles to a junction with the Overlook Trail, a wide fire road. Keep going north on the Overlook Trail, wind your way around several bumps on the undulating ridge, and arrive at a saddle 4.5 miles from the start, from where roads descend east into Wood Canyon and west into La Jolla Valley. We **go right** continuing up Sycamore canyon to Danielson Ranch. At this point we have completed the first 8.1 of the Backbone Trail and look forward to completing in the future the last miles into Will Rogers Ranch on Sunset Blvd. From Danielson Ranch we hike on or along the road the 3.1 miles to the parking area at Rancho Sierra Vista.

**Alternate Hike: Waterfall and Old Cabin Site.** **Richard Braun** has volunteered to lead this hike if he is there. If not, someone else take charge on this familiar hike.

From the parking lot follow the road until coming to a trail that crosses a big field on the left, One-half mile of trail brings us to the beginning of Old Boney Road. Walk on the road uphill for a ways, then downhill and across the stream. The road goes uphill following the stream then makes a hairpin turn to the right. A short side trip from this point takes us to a view of the waterfall. To get there, we go upstream on the path, turning right as we come to a side stream, then upstream to the waterfalls. After returning to the hairpin turn continue on the road for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile until coming to a fork. Take the left fork and reach the Old Cabin Site in 10 minutes. Other than a rock fireplace and chimney, the only visible evidence of a cabin is a level area with some rocks, indicating the cabin outline and floor. The slope downhill from the site is grassy with scattered oaks shading the soil. A monument in remembrance of Richard Danielson is downhill from the cabin site. Our hike continues on the road, dropping down slightly as it passes the spring then crosses the stream. The road is overgrown to the extent that the term "Trail" is appropriate. We follow the trail on the right of the chimney, and past the spring. The next  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile is up the steep slope on the north side of the stream where we turn left on Old Boney Road. In about .5 mile turn right and descend on Fossil trail and rejoin the main road by turning left at the trail junctions, then right up the road. Follow the road to the parking area. Near the end after crossing a bridge you follow the lower trail to the left to the parking lot.



RANCH OVERLOOK TRAIL  
Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center  
[Icons: wheelchair, stroller, dog, etc.]

NATIONAL PRIMARY HIKE

DANIELSON RANCH

RNHILL BROOME STATE REACT

Clarks Pk

N34°08.67' W118°59.32' 3181130E 37741667N

N34°06.87' W119°01.63' 3123640E 37761667N

N34°08.22' W118°00.83' 3143190E 37781667N

N34°08.36' W118°56.22' 3183497E 37731667N

N34°08.67' W118°59.32' 3181130E 37741667N