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OTP Hike for January 4, 2012

**Hike: Orchard Camp**, on Mt. Wilson Trail, up Little Santa Anita Canyon, out of Arcadia.

**Leader:** Sally Spotts

**Driving Directions:** Exit the 210 freeway at Baldwin Avenue in Arcadia.

Proceed north on Baldwin approx 1.5 miles. Turn right on to Miramonte Avenue and park by the park. Note: the park is just past Mt. Wilson Trail Drive. The trailhead is a short walk up Mt. Wilson Trail Drive.

Restrooms at the park; refreshments at the park.

**A. Main 8 mile hike**, about 2000 ft gain. Hike up main trail to Orchard camp and back. Note: on way back, you could take “Upper” First Water trail down steep trail to First Water area. If you choose to go beyond Orchard Camp, please watch your return time.

**B. Take the Main hike route BUT turn around as you see fit.**

**C. 3 mile hike**, 1000 ft. gain. At about 1 ½ miles the trail splits. See the First Water sign. The main trail goes up straight ahead, but the right trail drops down to a beautiful stream side location to walk around. Note: you could take main trail to “Upper” First Water Trail junction, go down steep trail and come out at “First” Water Trail junction.

**History**, Per Jack’s write up, Orchard Camp was originally called Halfway House in 1864, as it was halfway between Sierra Madre and Mt. Wilson. Followed a Garbrielino trail. The first telescope was carried up this trail to Mt Wilson in 1904. Orchard Camp was closed in 1940 and only foundations remain.