



At the summit, open the Trail Guide to an 8 1/2" x 11" position with the covers facing up. Orient the arrows so that the Morro Rock arrow points to Morro Rock. The arrows radiating from the center may now be used to sight on distant points of interest..

Morro Rock, Black Hill, Cerro Cabrillo and Hollister Peak are the westernmost of 8 "morros" that extend in a straight line to San Luis Obispo. Hollister Peak is the second highest of the morros at 1400'. Cerro Cabrillo has two peaks separated by a saddle. They are all the erosional remnants of extinct volcanoes which last erupted about 22 million years ago. See drawings on page 8. The upper part of the solidified vent as well as the sloping flanks have been eroded leaving the lower part of the hardened vent standing above the surrounding softer rock. Since it solidified from molten material it is referred as igneous rock.

The twin peaks of Pine Mountain and Rocky Butte are located along the top of the Santa Lucia Range. They are also remnants of hardened volcanic vents of the same age and composition as the "morros". They are lined up with some 2 dozen smaller peaks over a length of about 20 miles.

On the far horizon to the left of Pine Mountain is Junipero Serra Peak at 5800', the highest elevation in the Coast Range. Farther to the left is Cone Peak (5100'). These two peaks are 70 miles away and can only be seen on clear days.

The Morro Bay sandspit which extends south from Morro Rock separates the ocean from the estuary. It formed about 4,000 years ago. The alternate light and dark bands across the spit represent loose sand and vegetation respectively. The zones of loose sand, called blowouts, are the result of the destruction of vegetation by human activities.