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Agriculture, Marceaux, field of lettuce being harvested

“The men squatted on their hams, sharp-faced men, lean from hunger and hard from resisting it, sullen eyes and hard jaws. And the rich land was around them.” – The Grapes of Wrath

Agriculture, Teter, worker running through field

Worker Lettuce Field

Agriculture, Chiarella, closeup of strawberry

Strawberry

Agriculture, Hedman, field and hills

Spreckels Fields

Agriculture, Gilden, closeup of lettuce field

“A man may stand to use a scythe, a plow, a pitchfork; but he must crawl like a bug between the rows of lettuce...” –The Grapes of Wrath Chapter 19

Agriculture, Chiarella, orange in tree

California Orange

Agriculture, Stone, baby lettuce in field

“An (we could) live off the fatta the lan’!” –Of Mice and Men

Agriculture, Lehner, dry field, trees, hills

“But Adam, looking out over his dry dust-obscured land, felt the panic the Eastern man always does in California. In a Connecticut summer two weeks without rain is a dry spell and four a drought. If the countryside side is not green it is dying. But in California it does not ordinarily rain at all between the end of May and the first of November. The Eastern man, though he has been told, feels the earth is sick in the rainless months.” –East of Eden

Agriculture, Stone, grapes on the vine

“Grape blossoms shed their tiny petals and the hard little beads become green buttons, and the buttons grow heavy.” –The Grapes of Wrath

Agriculture, Brewer, field workers

Field Workers

Agriculture, Harnett, tractors in lettuce fields

Lettuce Fields

Agriculture, Vickers, fence at edge of lettuce field

View through Fence

Agriculture, Freeman, close-up of baby lettuce

Baby Lettuce

Agriculture, Brewer, artichokes

In Carmel Valley the artichoke plants stood gray green. –Cannery Row

Carmel & Points South, Clare, path to beach

“There is a stretch of coast country below Monterey which affects all sensitive people profoundly, and if they try and describe their feeling they almost invariably do so in musical terms, in the language of symphonic music. And perhaps here the mind and the nerves are true indices of the reality neither segregated nor understood on an intellectual level.” – The Log from the Sea of Cortez

Carmel & Points South, Lavigne, stone house
Tor House

Carmel & Points South, Hughes, view of bay
Route 1

Carmel & Points South, Lavigne, Nacimiento Pass in fog
“The moon came up and filled the valley with cold blue light.” – The Long Valley

Carmel & Points South, Barniskis, Nacimiento Pass
“Gradually the light flowed down over the ridge. The starved brush and rocks stood out in the half light, strange and lonely in high perspective. Then there came a warmth into the light. Pepé drew up and looked back, but he could see nothing in the darker valley below. The sky turned blue over the coming sun. In the waste of mountainside, the poor dry brush grew over three feet high.” -- The Long Valley

Carmel & Points South, Lavigne, stone house
Jeffers from Above

Carmel & Points South, Freeman, stone hawk in stone wall
Robinson Jeffer Hawk Tower

Carmel & Points South, Lehner, Santa Lucia Mountains
Scene from Flight

Carmel & Points South, Harnett, waves on beach
Carmel Beach

Carmel & Points South, Lavigne, bay tree low clouds
Big Sur

Missions, Stone, looking out a window
Window Detail

Missions, Freeman, front of mission
Soledad Mission

Missions, Humphrey, wood heads display
Ship Figureheads

Missions, Kavanaugh, stone fountain
“This is safety, this is warmth, this is the Whole.” – The Pearl

Missions, Gerdes, outside walk at mission
San Antonio Peace

Missions, Harnett, gravel road and wooden cross
Mission Path

Missions, Gerdes, field trees barns lettuce field
Neustra Señora Valley

Missions, Harnett, hills sky clouds
Santa Lucia

Missions, Stone, stone house, field, hill
“Two flanks of the coast range held the valley of Neustra Señora close, on one side guarding it against the sea, and on the other against the blasting winds of the great Salinas Valley.” –To a God Unknown

Missions, Hedman, front of mission
Carmel Mission

Missions, Chiarella, bell tower of mission
Carmel Mission

Missions, Adler, view of altar
Carmel Mission

Missions, Stone, San Antonio Mission
A mission in the wilderness . . .

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Harnett, turtle in blue tiled enclosure
Sea Turtle

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Freeman, sea anemone plants starfish
Aquarium Tidepool

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Brewer, starfish on side of rock
Starfish

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Hughes, shark coming toward us
Shark

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Hughes, seahorse on stone finger
Seahorse

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Harnett, giant kelp
Kelp Forest

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Humphrey, moon jelly
Jellyfish

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Freeman, many moon jellies
Jellies

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Gerken, glass jellies
by renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Harnett, school of sardine in kelp tank
School of Fish

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Brewer, rock crab on rock out of water
Crab

Monterey Bay Aquarium, McMurray, barnacles, snails, kelp on rock
Barnacles

Northern California Coast, Haslach, Big Sur coast
“Our time spent at Big Sur held up my belief in a higher power, or as Emerson and Steinbeck might call it, an Oversoul.” – Lauren Haslach

Northern California Coast, Haslach, bay rocks sailboat
View from Spanish Bay

Northern California Coast, Blake, bay trees hills
“The mountains sat with their feet in the sea.” —To a God Unknown 148

Northern California Coast, Humphrey, mustard, bay, rocky coast
Big Sur

Northern California Coast, Harnett, trees on hills
Los Padres National Forest

Northern California Coast, Blake, low clouds on hills
“Curious secret mountains; he thought of the little he knew about them.” —The Red Pony

Northern California Coast, Brewer, rocky coast
Big Sur Coast

Northern California Coast, Hedman, tree with burned branches
Tree Burn

Northern California Coast, Bullman, old style concrete bridge
Bixby Bridge

Northern California Coast, Haslach, sailboat on bay
Monterey Bay

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Thorton, Portola Brand Sardines at MBA entrance
“Then cannery whistles scream and all over the town men and women scramble into their clothes and come running down to the Row to go to work. Then shining cars bring the upper classes down: superintendents, accountants, owners who disappear into offices. Then from the town pour Wops and Chinamen and Polaks, men and women in trousers and rubber coats and oilcloth aprons.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Thorton, motorcycles on Cannery Row
“But whereas most men in their search for contentment destroy themselves and fall wearily short of their targets, Mack and his friends approached contentment casually, quickly and absorbed it gently.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Thorton, lichens on fence
“Early morning is a time of magic in Cannery Row. In the gray time after the light has come and before the sun has risen, the Row seems to hang suspended out of time in a silvery light. The street lights go out, and the weeds are a brighter green. The corrugated iron of the canneries glows with the pearly luccence of platinum pr old pewter.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Schillinglaw, tide pool

“The smells of life and richness, of death and digestion, of decay and birth, burden the air. And salt spray blows in from the barrier where the ocean waits for its rising tide strength to permit it back into the Great Tide Pool again.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Schillinglaw, stone walled path to beach

“But this—this is a ladder to climb to the stars.’ Lee’s eyes shone. ‘You can never lose that. It cuts the feet from under weakness and cowardliness and laziness.’” – East of Eden

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Pellecchia, starfish wedged in rock

“The exposed rocks had looked rich with the life under the lowering tide, but they were more than that: they were ferocious with life. There was an exuberant fierceness in the littoral here, a vital competition for existence. Everything seemed speeded-up; starfish and urchins were more strongly attached than in other place, and more univalve were so tightly fixed that their shells broke before the animals would let go their hold. Perhaps the force of the great surf which beats on this shore has much to do with the tenacity of the animals here. It is noteworthy that the animals, rather than deserting such beaten shores for the safe cove and protected pools, simply increase their toughness and fight back at the sea with a kind of joyful survival. The ferocious survival quotient excites us and makes us feel good, and from the crawling, fighting, resisting qualities of the animals, it almost seems that they are excited too.” – The Log from the Sea of Cortez

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Kavanaugh, overcast day in marina

“[Henri] like boats,” Said Doc. “But suppose he finishes his boat. Once it’s finished people will say, ‘Why don’t you put it in the water?’ Then if he puts it in the water, he’ll have to go out in it, and he hates the water. So you see, he never finishes the boat—so he doesn’t ever have to launch it.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Clare, hand touching a sea hare

“Is a sea hare a sea food or a vegetable?” – Becci

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Clare, rocky shore

“Our father who are in nature, who has given the gift of survival to the coyote, the common brown rat, the English sparrow, the house fly and the moth, must have a great and overwhelming love for the no-goods and blot-on-the-town and bums, and Mack and the boys. Virtues and graces and laziness and zest. Our father who art in nature.” – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Hofsess, Cannery Row sign

“Cannery Row in Monterey in California is a poem, a stink, a grating noise, a quality of light, a tone, a habit, a nostalgia, a dream.” Opening sentence of *Cannery Row*

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Hofsess, four ladies feet pushed together

“And, of course, people are interested only in themselves. If a story is not about the hearer he will not listen. And I here make a rule – a great and lasting story is about everyone of it will not last.” Lee to Sam Hamilton in *East of Eden*

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnett, windows on a house

White Quail Window

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnett, bike along fence at Monterey Marina

Fisherman’s Wharf

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Blake, bike along fence at Monterey Marina

“He was walled off a little, so that he worked at his philosophy of “breaking through,” of coming out through the back of the mirror into some kind of reality which would make the day world dreamlike” —From About Ed Ricketts

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Blake, concrete wall next to Ed Rickett's lab
"He was walled off a little, so that he worked at his philosophy of "breaking through," of coming out through the back of the mirror into some kind of reality which would make the day world dreamlike" — About Ed Ricketts

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnet, rocky shore in Pacific Grove
Pacific Grove Trail

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Chiarella, concrete collecting tanks at Ed Rickett's lab
"Then you go through the backyard to a covered shed on piles over the ocean and here are the tanks for the larger animals, the sharks and rays and octopi, each in their concrete tanks." – Cannery Row, Ch. 5

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Zipfel, front of Holman's department store
"Probably nothing in the way of promotion Holman's Department Store ever attracted so much favorable comment as the engagement of the flag-pole skater. Day after day, there he was up on his little round platform skating around and around and at night he could be seen up there too, dark against the sky so that everybody knew he didn't come down." —Cannery Row 107

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Gerken, needle work next to vase of flowers
"I am his Sister" needlework by Steinbeck's sister, Beth, in their 11th Street cottage, Pacific Grove, CA

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Lehner, covered walkway over Cannery Row street
"Cannery Row is the gathered and scattered, tin and iron and rust and splintered wood, chipped pavement and weedy lots and junk heaps." – Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Zipfel, California poppies
"And mixed with these were slashes of California poppies. These too are of a burning color—not orange, not gold, but if pure gold were liquid and could raise a cream, that golden cream might be like the color of the poppies" —East of Eden 2

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnet, dry grass, trees and hills
Pastures of Heaven

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Barniskis, golf course and lighthouse
"William had always been introspective and self-accusing. He put on his hat and walked out along the sea, clear out to the Lighthouse. And he stood in the pretty little cemetery where you can hear the waves drumming always. William thought dark and broody thoughts." —Cannery Row.

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Oppenheim, clock tower at Pacific Grove City hall
Pacific Grove Landmark

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Lehner, Holman's Department Store
"Probably nothing in the way of promotion Holman's Department Store ever did attracted so much favorable comment as the engagement of the flag-pole skater. Day after day, there he was up on his little round platform skating around and around ..." —Cannery Row

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnet, boats moored in marina
Monterey Bay

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Teter, looking over Monterey Bay
Afternoon Fog

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Bulman, bronze bust of Ed Ricketts near where he was hit by the train
Ricketts with Flowers

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Gronholz, roof tops of Hotel Del Monte
“A view of Monterey Bay from the top of the Del Monte Hotel, a place that through the first half of the twentieth century embraced the values against which Steinbeck wrote in books like Cannery Row.”

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Oppenheim, red house with white trim on windows
Steinbeck’s 11th Street Cottage

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Grubbs, sunset over bay
“From early times we were impressed and awed by the fantastic accidents of nature, like the Grand Canyon and Yosemite and Yellowstone Park. The Indians had revered them as holy places, visited by the gods, and all of us came to have somewhat the same feeling about them” –John Steinbeck, “Americans and the Land,” 1966.

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Grubbs, stone pillar at shore
“In *The Grapes of Wrath* Steinbeck refers to Ma Joad as the family’s citadel, and this sunset rock outcropping at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove brought to mind Ma’s steadfast, unbroken spirit that remained fiercely devoted to her family’s survival even when others refused or failed to adapt to the harsh treatment delivered by man and nature.” –Paul Grubbs

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Harnet, rock protrusion above hill
The Castle

Pacific Grove & Monterey, Bulman, house boat in a field
Henri’s Boat

Red Pony Ranch, Vermaat, horse in field near water trough
“At last he walked snorting to the water-trough and buried his nose in the water up to his nostrils. Jody was proud then, for he knew that was the way to judge a horse.” – The Red Pony

Red Pony Ranch, Brewer, Old Herbert Ranch: Windows
“At about ten o’clock in the morning the sun threw a bright dust laden bar through one of the side windows . . .” – The Red Pony

Red Pony Ranch, Chiarella, old tires again a solid fence
Tires

Red Pony Ranch, Gerdes, peak of a barn w/ hawk in sky
“In the humming heat of a midsummer afternoon the little boy Jody listlessly looked about the ranch for something to do. He had been to the barn, had thrown rocks at the swallows’ nests under the eaves until every one of the little mud houses broke open and dropped its lining of straw and dirty feathers.” —The Red Pony

Red Pony Ranch, Hedman, field fence tree hills
Red Pony Ranch Scenic

Red Pony Ranch, Harnett, broken down farm equipment field tree
Red Pony Corral

Red Pony Ranch, Brewer, horse in dry field

“Children have always understood the little book *The Red Pony*,” Steinbeck wrote to Aaron Copeland on September 22, 1964. “They have been saddened by it, as I was when it happened to me, but they have not been destroyed by it. Perhaps some of our difficulties which drip bitterly out of the leather couches of the psychoanalysts are the results of our children being told in advertising and in the literature shoved at them that life is happy and gay. So it is in moments, but when they find it is not always so, the weak and stupid break down under the knowledge.”

Red Pony Ranch, Brewer, horse in dry field

“Under the constant currying and brushing his coat lay as smooth and gleaming as orange-red lacquer.” – Red Pony

Red Pony Ranch, Teter, crooked fence in dry field pointing to lone tree

Oak Tree

Red Pony Ranch, Lavigna, horse in dry field w/ tree overhead

“Joy walked up the hill in back of the house...to the sagebrush line...and a round wooden tub.”

Red Pony Ranch, Aylward, stacks of hay in barn

Inside of the barn on Red Pony Ranch, the setting of Steinbeck’s *The Red Pony*. It gives a great picture of what the barn in *Of Mice and Men* could have looked like as well.

Red Pony Ranch, Hedman, red horse in field

Red Pony Glimpse

Red Pony Ranch, Webb, rail fence in dry field

“The high gray-flannel fog of winter closed off the Salinas Valley from the sky and from all the rest of the world. On every side it sat like a lid on the mountains and made of the great valley a closed pot.” —*The Chrysanthemums*

Red Pony Ranch, Brewer, dry field overlooking crops

Old Herbert Ranch: Fields

Red Pony Ranch, Vickers, cows in dry field rail fence hills

Gabilan Mountains

Red Pony Ranch, Miller, corral

Joy’s Corral

Red Pony Ranch, Sieloff, old barn

Bunkhouse

Red Pony Ranch, Barniskis, barn with corrugated roof

“The bunk house was a long, rectangular building. Inside, the walls were whitewashed and the floor unpainted. In three walls there were small, square windows, and in the fourth, a solid door with a wooden latch.” —*Of Mice and Men*

Red Pony Ranch, Brewer, dirt road barn

Old Herbert Ranch: Barn Site of *The Red Pony*

Red Pony Ranch, Quillen, pony in field near trees

“And then they stood self-consciously before the pony, and then they looked at Jody with eyes in which there was a new admiration and respect. Before today Jody had been a boy, dressed in overalls and a blue shirt—quieter than most, even suspected of being a little cowardly. And now he was different. Out of a thousand centuries they drew the ancient admiration of the footman for the horseman. They knew instinctively that a man on a horse is spiritually as well as physically bigger than a man on foot.” —The Red Pony

Salinas Valley, Pellecchia, very dry land w/ gentle hills

“If the land had been any good then Hamiltons would have been rich people. But the acres were harsh and dry. There were no springs, and the crust of topsoil was so thin that the flinty bones stuck through.” – East of Eden

Salinas Valley, Kavanaugh, Ng-Ka-Py liqueur

Lee said, “I’m going to tell you. And it’s fairly long story. Will you have a touch of mg-ka-py?” “You mean the drink that tastes of good rotten apples?” “Yes. I can talk better with it.” “Maybe I can listen better,” said Samuel. – East of Eden

Salinas Valley, Clare, dirt road on dry land

“They left the valley road and drove into the worn and rutted hills over a set of wheel tracks gulleys by the winter rains. The horses strained into their collars and the buckboard rocked and swayed. The year had not been kind to the hills, and already in June they were dry and the stone showed through the short, burned feed...’It’s not likely looking country,’ Adam said. ‘Likely? Why, Mr. Trask, it’s country that will break a man’s heart and eat him up...’” – East of Eden

Salinas Valley, Stone, front of John Steinbeck theatre

“Steinbeck’s influence is evident everywhere in the region, even after 50 years.” – Jennifer Stone

Salinas Valley, Lavigne, weather worn house
Crook’s Little Room

Salinas Valley, Harnett, small river in chaparral
Salinas River

Salinas Valley, Aylward, fields barns trees hills

Near the Santa Lucia Mountains, reminiscent of the setting of *Of Mice and Men*

Salinas Valley, Lavigne, fog up the side of the coastal hills
Pasture of Heaven

Salinas Valley, Webb, palm trees hills

“On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up to the strong and rocky Gabilan mountains, but on the valley side the water is lined with trees- willows fresh and green with every spring, carrying in their lower leaf junctures the debris of the winter’s flooding; and sycamores with mottled, white, recumbent limbs and branches that arch over the pool.” —Of Mice and Men – first paragraph

Salinas Valley, Gronholz, small weathered barn

“Below the castle, on the nearly level floor of the canyon, stands the old ranch house, a weathered and mossy barn and a warped feeding-shed for cattle. The house is deserted; the doors, swinging on rusted hinges, squeal and bang on nights when the wind courses down from the castle. Not many people visit the house. Sometimes a crowd of boys tramp through the rooms, peering into empty closets and loudly defying the ghosts they deny” –from “The Murder” in *The Long Valley*.

Salinas Valley, Freeman, small weathered barn
Murder House

Salinas Valley, Vickers, Steinbeck mural
Mural

Salinas Valley, Hedman, old town street w/ cars
Main Street Salinas

Salinas Valley, Oppenheim, Victorian style house
Steinbeck House

Salinas Valley, Freeman, front of wood fire house
Spreckel's Fire House

Salinas Valley, Freeman, Steinbeck sign
Cemetery Directions

Sea Coast, Marceaux, person holding up starfish at tide pool
"It has always seemed strange to me," said Doc. "The things we admire in men, kindness and generosity, openness, honesty, understanding and feeling are the concomitants of failure in our system. And those traits we detest, sharpness, greed, acquisitiveness, meanness, egotism and self-interest are the traits of success. And while men admire the quality of the first they love the produce of the second." – Cannery Row

Sea Coast, Marceaux, students at tide pool
Tide Pool

Sea Coast, Kavanaugh, cypress trees at golf course over looking bay
"One who was born by the ocean or has associated with it cannot ever be quite content away from it for very long." – Sea of Cortez

Sea Coast, Chiarella, hand holding tiny starfish
Tiny Discoveries

Sea Coast, Teter, sea urchin shell
Sea Urchin Test

Sea Coast, Brewer, sea lions covering rocks
Sea Lions

Sea Coast, Kavanaugh, students at low tide
"The tide goes out imperceptibly. The boulders show and seem to rise up and the ocean recedes leaving little pools, leaving wet weed and moss and sponge, iridescence and brown and blue and China red. On the bottoms lie the incredible refuse of the sea, shells broken and chipped and bits of skeleton, claws, the whole sea bottom a fantastic cemetery on which the living scamper and scramble" —Cannery Row

Sea Coast, Harnett, Bird Rock at high tide
High Tide

Sea Coast, Shillinglaw, harbor seals on beach
Harbor Seals

Sea Coast, Haslach, harbor seal in surf
Harbor Seal

Sea Coast, Teter, open mouth on seagull on rock
Singing Gull

Sea Coast, Teter, Canada geese harbor seal surf zone
Geese and Baby Seal

Sea Coast, Vickers, hand holding chiton
Chiton Underside

Sea Coast, Booth, tide pool w. sea anemones
“The anemones expand like soft and brilliant flowers, inviting any tired and perplexed animal to lie for a moment in their arms...” —Cannery Row, Chapter 6

Wineries, Judnick, stop sign at River Street high clouds
Stop

Wineries, Webb, vineyards
”The spring is beautiful in California... (T)he first tendrils of the grapes, swelling from the old gnarled vines, cascade down to cover the trunks.” —The Grapes of Wrath Chapter 25

Wineries, Vickers, straight road through trees
Hahn Winery

Wineries, Quillen, young grape vines in vineyard
”Jus’ let me get out to California where I can pick me an orange when I want it. Or grapes. There’s a thing I ain’t never had enough of. Gonna get me a whole big bunch a grapes off a bush, or whatever, an’ I’m gonna squash ’em on my face an’ let ’em run offen my chin.” —Grampa in *The Grapes of Wrath*