

# Robert Haley Asher Paintings

Peter Brueggeman, June 2021



**Robert Haley  
Asher,  
9 September 1945**

Robert Haley Asher was born 28 March 1868, in California to parents Josephus Marian Asher, Sr. and Sarah H. Clark. Robert Asher's father was a nurseman and County Assessor in San Diego.

Robert Asher first visited Palomar Mountain in 1901, and settled on Palomar Mountain in 1903. Asher lived in the Pauma Creek / State Park area on Palomar Mountain. The Bailey family was responsible for his interest in Palomar Mountain as he met Olie Bailey

while in school in San Diego, and later in 1901, Theo Bailey brought him up on his first visit to Palomar Mountain. Asher stayed with the Bailey's, and then camped at Iron Springs. Asher homesteaded on Palomar Mountain, and ultimately had 160 acres.

Robert Asher took **Maurice Braun's** class in oil painting at Mesa Grande. Asher moved off Palomar Mountain in 1946 for health reasons. He moved to his sister's (Mrs. Josephine A. Vacher) place in El Cajon at the sharp bend in Fuerte Road on the east side of Mount Helix,

where he slept in a tent in her backyard, and later a cabin he built. Asher continued to visit Palomar Mountain until 1951, and passed away in 25 April 1953 at age 85. He never married, and is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery in San Diego. In his immediate family, Robert Asher was survived by his sister Mrs. Josephine A. Vacher of El Cajon, a sister Mrs. Dorcas Drown of Spring Valley, and a brother Josephus Asher of Mission Beach.

Josephine Vacher's family holds several of his paintings, shown below. Robert Asher compiled a list of his paintings in 1939, which is at the end of this document. Some of the paintings below are identifiable in that list, and are linked with his comments.



No.5. Name:

Price:

Yellow tree throwing curious shadow -- part of conifer in front and to left -- on green and yellow flat -- blue ridge in background. Very little sky showing. 20x26.



No. 8. Name:

Price:

Rolling bushy yellow and green point -- eucalyptus, green ridge, blue ridge, greeny-yellow sky. 20 x 26 1/2.



No. 9. Name:

Price:

Slanting-rocks foreground -- part of large oak at left --  
small fir at right -- wooded slope -- high bare slope -- very  
little pale sky. 20 x 16.



No.12. Name:

Price:

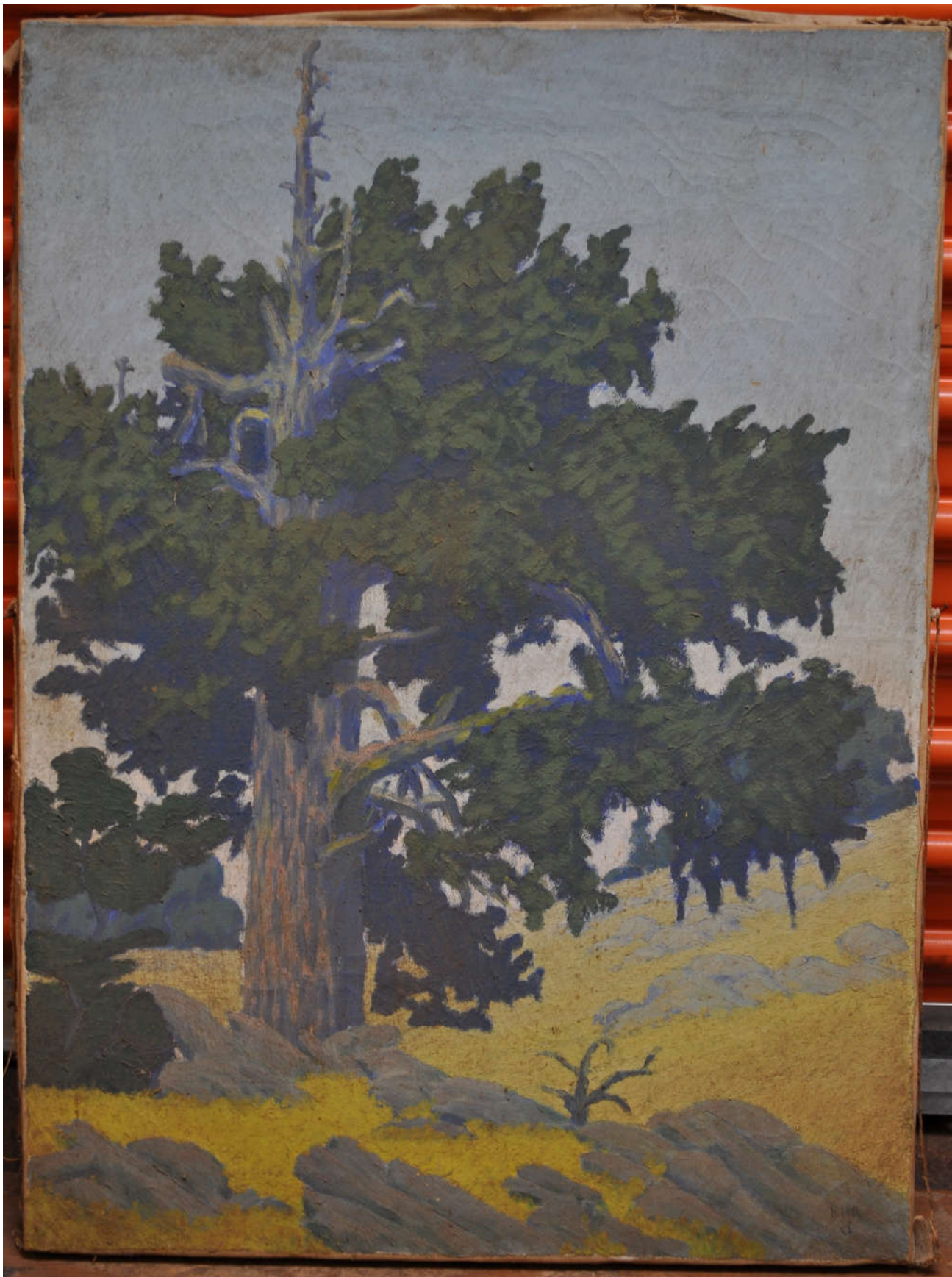
Rocky green flat -- two flat oak trees -- far blue ridge a  
and pale greenish sky. 18 x 21.



No. 16. Name:

Price:

Tiger lilies. 19 x 14.



No.18. Name:

Price:

Yellow and rocky ground -- big spreading cedar with dead top. 30 x 22.



No.19. Name:

Price:

Green swale -- rocks -- brush --yellow tree middleground --  
line of cedars beyond -- glimpse of a peak against sky almost  
covered by foliage. 22 x 18 1/2.





No. 22.      name:                              Price:  
Little stream in center -- bank at left -- slope of trees  
at right -- grassy ridge -- with trees backed by blue ridge  
against blue sky.      20 x 26.



No. 26. Name:

Price:

Yellow and green ground -- bole of big tree at right -- yellow tree at left -- yellow ridge against deep blue ridge against blue sky. 18 x 21.



No. 41. Name:

Price:

White-barked sycamore trees at left and right of path running out of sight between green trees showing glimpse of ridge, and beyond a blueish ridge against pale sky. 18x22.



No. 44. Name:

Price:

Big rocks and trees and grassy patch in foreground ----  
grassy slope beyond and two brushy slopes against cloudy  
blue sky. 12 x 16.



No. 46. Name:

Price:

Rolling yellowish grassy foreground -- big tree at left.  
Wooded draw -- grassy slope to right -- grassy slopes be-  
yond rolling -- to wooded ridge against cloudy sky 16 x 20.



No. 50. Name:

Price:

Doane Valley -- rolling fore and middle ground. Big  
pines left -- foliage both sides -- glimpse of wash and  
wooded ridge against a bit of yellow green sky. 41 1/2  
x 34.































RHA

Robert H. Asner. His Paintings.

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No.1. Name:

Price:

Yellow slope foreground edged with firs beyond. Brush slope beyond firs \_ 2 blue slopes \_ pale sky with clouds -- 22x30".

No.2. Name:

Price:

Tan question mark on green slope -- oaks and firs beyond against a greenish mountain and a pale greenish sky. 18x21.

No.3. Name:

Price:

Several long slopes: 1st brushy with two trees in center backed with line of trees: 2nd. tree-covered; haze between that and 3rd, which is tree-covered and hazy; more haze and 4th. hazy slope; more haze and 5th slope; ditto a 7th; 8th and 9th short ridges. fog line and blue sky at back. 20x28".

No.4. Name:

Price:

Red and yellow swale backed by bushes, colorful undulations backed by line of trees.-- hazy strip and wooded ridge. Yellow and blue sky. 22x26 1/2.

No.5. Name:

Price:

Yellow tree throwing curious shadow -- part of conifer in front and to left -- on green and yellow flat -- blue ridge in background. Very little sky showing. 20x26.

No.6. Name:

Price:

Bushy green foreground -- yellow middleground with a scattering of oaks and firs -- Campsite Hill in background -- big white bird clouds in greeny-blue sky. 16x20.

No.7. Name:

Price:

Big rock -- Hill cabin -- trees -- far wooded slope, green and purple stippled effect sky. 20 x 16.

(2) Asher's Paintings at Hill's.

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No. 8. Name: Price:

Rolling bushy yellow and green point -- eucalyptus, green ridge, blue ridge, greeny-yellow sky. 20 x 26 1/2.

No. 9. Name: Price:

Slanting-rocks foreground -- part of large oak at left -- small fir at right -- wooded slope -- high bare slope -- very little pale sky. 20 x 16.

No. 10. Name: Price:

Warm green flat -- part of big tree on right and on left. Wooded ridge -- foggy strip -- wooded ridge -- foggy sky. 16 x 20.

No. 11. Name: Price:

shadow mottled foreground -- two tree boles at left. Bob's cabin nestled in trees -- brushy ridge beyond and a very narrow strip of sky. 14 x 18 1/2.

No. 12. Name: Price:

Rocky green flat -- two flat oak trees -- far blue ridge and pale greenish sky. 18 x 21.

No. 13. Name: Price:

Colorful bushy foreground -- old stone wall (?) --- green swale -- oak ridge -- two misty blue ridges against a greenish sky. 18 x 21.

No. 14. Name: Price:

Little rocky stream -- steep banks -- big colorful rocks at right -- little tree with new foliage at far point of stream -- trees in full foliage against white clouds and pale sky. 16 x 20.

(3) Asher's Paintings at Hill's.

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No. 15. Name: Price:

Foreground green brushy slope -- yellow trees against deep blue ridges with sunset sky. 20 x 26.

No. 16. Name: Price:

Tiger lilies. 19 x 15.

No. 17. Name: Price:

Pink sunset. 22 x 18.

No. 18. Name: Price:

Yellow and rocky ground -- big spreading cedar with dead top. 30 x 22.

No. 19. Name: Price:

Green swale -- rocks -- brush -- yellow tree middleground -- line of cedars beyond -- glimpse of a peak against sky almost covered by foliage. 22 x 18 1/2.

No. 20. Name: Price:

"Beach's Flower-Garden." Brush and big rock in colorful foreground -- rocks and trees at edge of flat -- bluish marked hill in background against cloudy sky. 22 x 30.

No. 21. Name: Price:

"Seven Sisters." Little stream right through middle --- clay banks, brush and trees, and, in background, seven conifers against bluish hills and a little pale blue sky at top. 22 x 26.

No. 22. Name: Price:

Little stream in center -- bank at left -- slope of trees at right -- grassy ridge -- with trees backed by blue ridge against blue sky. 20 x 26.

(4) Asner's Paintings at Hill's.

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No. 23. Name: Price:

Grassy point -- pinkish rocks -- slender shrubs -- one tree on left -- three smaller trees on right -- mist and a near tree-covered ridge -- mist and a far misty tree-covered ridge against a pale greenish and blue bit of sky. 20x28.

No. 24. Name: Price:

Colorful broked brushy swale -- big tree at right -- rocks at left -- trees beyond outlined against misty pink ridge with bunch of blue trees on top -- outlined against yellowish misty green ridge -- narrow strip of green sky

No. 25. Name: Price:

Rocky foreground -- green swale -- big tree at left -- sharply rising brushy slope at right showing a light colored ridge against a dark ridge which in turn is outlined against blue mountain -- sky shading from pale rose through yellow to dark greeny blue. 18 x 21.

No. 26. Name: Price:

Yellow and green ground -- bole of big tree at right -- yellow tree at left -- yellow ridge against depp blue ridge against blue sky. 18 x 21.

No. 27. Name: Price:

Cabin at right with trees on edge of blue canyon -- glimpses of ridge against pale blue sky. 29 x 22.

No. 28. Name: Price:

"Upper Sweetwater" in lovely pale shades. 22 x 30.

No. 29. Name: Price:

Yellow broken foreground -- yellow tree on left -- yellow ridge at right -- pale blue tree-wooded at back against very pale sky. 22 x 29 1/2.

(E) Asher's Paintings at Hill's.

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No. 30. Name: Price:

Yellow flowered foreground -- pinkish slope beyond outlined in trees against blue peak -- some trees and brush and big rocks -- greenish and blue sky. 22 x 30.

No. 31. Name: Price:

Colorful foreground -- big rock on right showing part of storehouse behind it -- trees surrounding teepee in middle distance. Glimpses of greenish sky. 16 x 20.

No. 32. Name: Price:

Different view of teepee showing ferns and rock and trees in background -- glimpses of sky. 16 x 20.

No. 33. Name: Price:

Big rock left -- bigger rock right -- little stream between. Tree beyond and wooded slope -- Three dim ridges of different colors against strip of cloudy sky. 20 x 26.

No. 34. Name: Price:

Path running up a rocky brushy slope -- parts of three sloping ridges against blue sky. 12 3/4 x 17.

No. 35. Name: Price:

Dry grass foreground -- small rocks and brush -- pale pale green tree about center. Trees and brushy hill slope beyond against pale blue sky. 12 x 16.

No. 36. Name: Price:

Dark foreground -- big old tree against distant blue ridge and heavy clouded sky. 20 x 16.

No. 37. Name: Price:

Rocky point with one spindly tree at left center against a misty green wooded ridge with light mist beyond and another wooded ridge. Pale sky. 22 x 26.



(6) Asher's Paintings at Hill's.

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No. 38. Name: Price:

Suggested road between rocky banks -- tree center left -- other trees right -- distant wooded ridge. heavy clouds with dark linings across sky. 14 x 18.

No. 39. Name: Price:

"Postman's Trail." Rolling golden-green foreground and center -- four trees on top of ridge at left -- clumps of smaller trees at right -- three distant misty ridges, blue against a pale sky. 16 x 20.

No. 40. Name: Price:

Heavy shadow of trees on golden ground -- big rock at right with shadowed green underside -- big rocks and trees at back outlined against distant brushy ridge. Pale sky. 16 x 22.

No. 41. Name: Price:

White-barked sycamore trees at left and right of path running out of sight between green trees showing glimpse of ridge, and beyond a blueish ridge against pale sky. 18x22.

No. 42. Name: Price:

Sloping brushy foreground 1/2 big tree, and rock, on right -- tree on left -- wooded draw -- brushy slope to right -- and then draw and higher scantily wooded ridge at back against a pale sky. 26 1/2 x 21 1/4.

No. 43. Name: Price:

Stream bed with big rocks in foreground. Shadowed valley floor with saddle horse under four big pines -- wash and wooded ridge against cloudy blue sky. 28 x 20 1/2.

No. 44. Name: Price:

Big rocks and trees and grassy patch in foreground ---- grassy slope beyond and two brushy slopes against cloudy blue sky. 12 x 16.

(7) Asner's Pictures at Hill's.

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No. 45. Name: Price:

Grassy yellow foreground -- flat gray rocks -- one shrub -- grassy slope beyond wooded draw -- a brusht slope beyond and a faint glimpse of distant blue ridge against cloudy sky. 12 x 16.

No. 46. Name: Price:

Rolling yellowish grassy foreground -- big tree at left. Wooded draw -- grassy slope to right -- grassy slopes beyond rolling -- to wooded ridge against cloudy sky. 16 x 20.

No. 47. Name: Price:

Rocks in yellow grassy foreground -- single tree beyond at left -- clump at right -- brushy ridges beyond against clear-sky cloudy sky. 14 x 18.

No. 48. Name: Price:

Suggestion of road between big rocks in colorful foreground. Brushy wooded ridges with four higher trees on top against sky line at right -- at left a blue ridge -- thunder heads against greeny sky at top. 21 1/4 x 26.

No. 49. Name: Price:

Close up of Teepee with tree at left -- broken tree at right -- other trees and two wooded ridges beyond against rich green and blue sky. 22 x 26.

No. 50. Name: Price:

Doane Valley -- rolling fore and middle ground. Big pines left -- foliage both sides -- glimpse of wash and wooded ridge against a bit of yellow green sky. 41 1/2 x 34.

----- June, 1939. -----

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- A: mesa Grande -- yellow swale -- poplar tree at left -- Powam Lodge pump house l. c. trees and brush dotted slopes beyond. A left glimpse of blue ridge -- pale sky. 12 x 16.
- AB:C.Mesa Grande. Big rock at right --rocky brushy foreground -- trees -- and distant glimpses of peaks and wooded slopes -- blue peak center back -- cloudy sky. 12 x 16.
- B: mesa Grande. Boles of two trees shading foreground ---- brushy or wooded draw -- wood dotted hills beyond -- glimpse of pale sky. 12 x 16.
- D: "Haloes Trees" in cedar bark frame. Tall grass in foreground -- grassy slope to knoll center and up to trees. Trees at top of knoll throwing heavy shade and haloes by setting sun -- haloes green beyond -- two wooded ridges blue ridge to right break against yellow green sky. 12 x 16.
- E: Pine killed by pine beetles -- against green trees and sky flecked with white wisps of cloud. 40 x 34.
- F: Crayon sketch of road and trees at Bailey's. 10 x 14.
- G: Crayon of hill cabin from fern patch. 9 x 12.
- H: Green floor of valley after rain. Big yellow tree on left -- sky reflected in water center -- bit of rocky slope at right --green yellow and orange colored trees along swale and at back green ridge against cloudy sky. 12 x 16.
- I: Parched foreground -- bare sycamore at left -- green trees at right -- green alfalfa patch in middle distance -- trees -- yellow, tan, and gray ridges beyond -- steep and rocky against pale sky. 22 x 30.
- J: Tunnel through the lilac on road to top of French Valley hill. 18 x 14.
- K: Path through grassy opening -- past rose thicket -- trees beyond -- green ridges -- blue ridges -- greeney-blue sky. 18x22.  
18 x 22.
- L: "Lark Meadow." Green with yellow drifts of flowers -- fence across foreground. Hills beyond with scattered clumps of trees -- blue peak left -- ridge beyond -- sky full of thunder heads. 22 x 30.
- M: Long vista of Doane Valley -- pines each side -- wooded ridge against pale sky. 16 x 20.
- N: "Wind." Brushy ledge -- pale ridges against storm clouds -- two tall slim trees in foreground blown by wind. 7 1/2 x 10.  
7 1/2 x 10.
- O: Foreground little stream -- steep cut banks right and partly seen left -- willows beyond -- then conifers -- and a wooded ridge against a dark gray-blue sky. 12 x 16.

(2) Pictures by Asher belonging to Mrs. Hill.

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P: "March of the Giants." Odd shaped trees marching across grassy meadow -- wooded ridge to right. Blue San Miguel against cloudy sunset sky. 22 x 30.

Q: Woodland with glimpses of grass opening in center. In the right center the bole of the tree is red. 14 x 18.

R: Big rocks in right foreground -- yellow trees left --- conifers right -- glimpses of meadow in between -- tree clad ridges to strip of cloudy sky. 14 x 18.

S: Frenchman's Cabin in Lower French Valley -- a sunset picture with long shadow to foreground from cabin. Rocks left -- trees right -- wooded ridge at back against yellowish sky.

T: wide grassy swale, part of big tree l.c. -- rock and tree r.c. -- scattered trees edging distance outlined against blue ridge. Cloudy blue sky -- all clouds pink under side -- purple above in blue evening sky.

U: Rock point with three big trees touched by sunlight -- in distance left hand woody ridge blue -- right hand ridge scattered trees and sunlit -- far ridges misty -- sky pale yellowish. 22 x 30.

V: Yellow point -- big sycamore left bending over rocks center -- blueish ridge -- with yellow road -- sky blue -- everything very springlike in color and suggestion. 12 x 16.

W: Big trees framing a sunlit meadow with cabin at far edge backed by high wooded ridges -- wee glimpse of pale sky. 14 x 18.

X: Doane valley in Fall -- yellow trees at left -- green and yellow trees each side of shadow striped grass and gray rocks. In distance canyon up Morgan Hill -- sunlit in ridges -- fall foliage -- glimpse of cloudy sky. 12 x 16.

Y: Brushy green foreground looking across ridges to Salton Sea and ridges beyond. 9 x 13.

Z: Post card picture of Doane Valley painted in oils.

O.K. Foregoing correct. June 26, 1939.

*Robert H. Asher,*