

# CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

CALIFORNIA HISTORY SECTION

## RESEARCH GUIDES

CALIFORNIA WINE



### [VISIT US](#)

California History Section  
900 N Street Room 200  
9:30-4 Monday-Friday

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Have you gone wine tasting somewhere here in California? Is riding the wine train on your bucket list? Maybe you'd like to do a little research before your next wine related trip. Whether you are an industry professional, a student writing a paper or just a member of the public, there is something wine-related for you in the [California History Section's](#) rich collections!

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ENJOY YOUR RESEARCH!

## DIGITIZED RESOURCES

Can't come to the library just yet? No worries! There are a number of online resources you can explore related to wine in California!



### [History Section Display](#)

Our October 2016 book and image display focused on wine-making in California. Check the display archive for our post-display booklet.



**URL:** <http://www.library.ca.gov/calhist/ca-display.html>



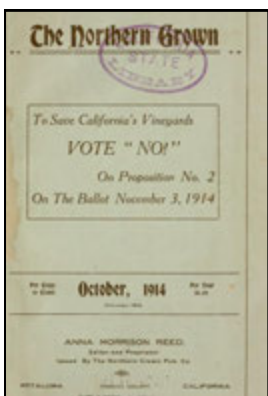
### [Digitized Images](#)

We have scanned and digitized a portion of our extensive photograph collection, including images related to wine. You can see them on Calisphere!



**URL:** <https://calisphere.org/institution/51/items/>

**Type in Search Box:** Wine\* OR Viticultur\*



### [Digitized Publications](#)

A few years ago we digitized some of our fragile wine-making publications. You can see them on Internet Archive!



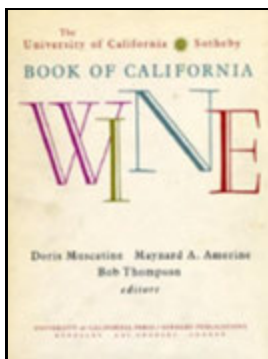
**URL:** <https://archive.org/>

**Type in Search Box:** (Winery OR Wine) AND collection:(californiastatelibrary)

## GENERAL REFERENCE

Unsure about where to start? Consult a book! If you are interested in the history of California wine, these items will point you in the right direction.

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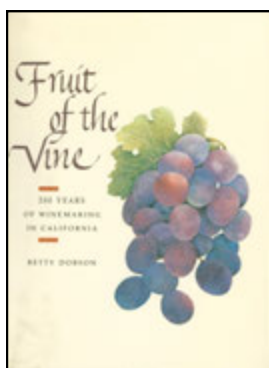
Muscatine, D., Amerine, M., Thompson, B., University of California, Berkeley, & Sotheby & Co. (1984). [The University of California/Sotheby book of California wine](#). Berkeley : London: University of California Press ; Sotheby Publications.

With chapters on almost every aspect of winemaking and evaluation, this work, while older, still serves as a good basic introduction to the wine industry and its denizens.



**URL:** [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D000399841](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D000399841)

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Dopson, B. (1988). [Fruit of the vine](#) (1st ed.). San Francisco: Lexikos.

An informal and highly approachable overview. This book provides a general history of wine-making in California from its beginnings through to the 1970s.

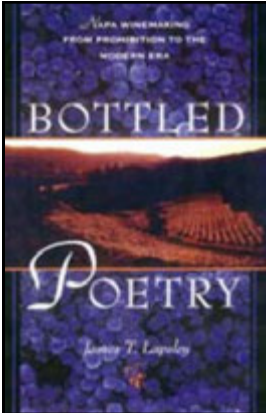


**URL:** [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D000444409](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D000444409)

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## GENERAL REFERENCE

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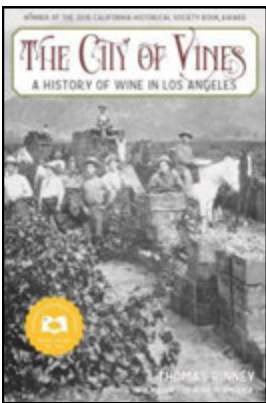
Lapsley, J. (1996). [Bottled poetry : Napa winemaking from Prohibition to the modern era.](#) Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press.

Wine and the Napa Valley, they go together like bread and cheese. Read about the development of this association over 200 years of history. A story arc that includes the prohibition era and the judgement of Paris.



URL: [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D001018066](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D001018066)

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Pinney, T. (2017). [The city of vines : A history of wine in Los Angeles.](#) San Francisco, California : California Historical Society.

While today people associate wine with the Napa valley, in the 19th century California's wine-growing powerhouse was further south, in Los Angeles. Read about the early development of this industry not to mention early wines.



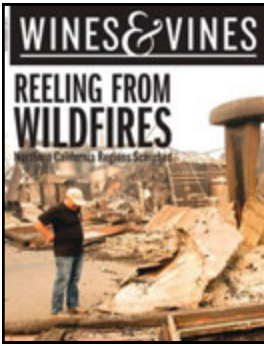
URL: [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D001610166](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D001610166)

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## PERIODICALS

Interested in real-time industry information, like what the grape crush was like in 1955? Check these trade publications for statistics, wine-making trends and more!

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### [Wines and Vines](#)

A popular trade publication, this periodical covers all aspects of the wine industry from grape growing, to wine-making techniques to wine packaging and selling.



**URL:** [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D000136098](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D000136098)



### [Wine and Spirits](#)

This industry publication not only covers wine, but other spirits, wine and food pairings and much more! Of particular interest is its lists of award winning wines.



**URL:** [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D000547496](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D000547496)

## COLLECTIONS

After primary sources? In addition to our myriad of books and trade publications, the State Library has several collections that focus largely on wine. You can read about some of them here!

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### [Wine Label Textual Files](#)

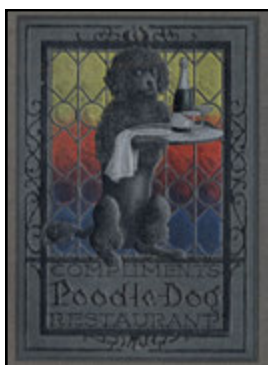
Curious about the history of wine packaging? Check out our extensive collection of wine labels! Dating back to the 19th century, these show not only changes in marketing techniques but in popular wine types.



**URL:** [http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext\\_html/QueryCalinfo.htm](http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm)

**Type in Search Box:** Wine labels

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### [Poodle Dog Restaurant Collection](#)

A San Francisco French restaurant that closed due to the difficulties of operating during prohibition, this collection contains among other things, wine labels, invoices and menus as well as political materials on Prohibition.



**URL:** [http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl\\_term=SYS%3D001303221](http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-c&ccl_term=SYS%3D001303221)



## CATALOG GENERAL RESEARCH TIPS

While many of our materials are online, even more are only in hard-copy. You can use the following resources to learn about our books, articles, and manuscripts on wine



### Catalog

If you are looking for [images](#), [books](#) and [articles](#) on wine, your best source is our [catalog](#).



**URL:** <http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/?func=find-a-0>

**Type in Subject Box:** ( ( Wine\* ) OR ( Viticultur\* ) )

**Limit:** By desired material type



### California Information File II

Sometimes the catalog doesn't provide as much detail as you might like. This is why we created the California Information File II. In this resource, you can find information about individual articles, race fliers, even receipts.



**URL:** [http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext\\_html/QueryCalinfo.htm](http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm)

**Type in Subject Box:** Wine\* OR Viticultur\*

**For a narrower search:** Add a place to your keyword search

## SUBJECT-SPECIFIC RESOURCES IN OUR CATALOG

Wine has been known to inspire fiction and poetry. Making wine involves large amounts of grapes, water, and labor. See some of the resources we have on this industry via these catalog links.



### Resources by Type:

- [Images](#)
- [Manuscripts](#)
- [Maps](#)
- [Periodicals](#)

### Wine by Subject:

- [Anecdotes](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Fiction](#)
- [Poetry](#)
- [Railroads](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Water](#)

### Individuals

- [Italian Americans](#)
- [Latin Americans](#)

## COUNTY-SPECIFIC RESOURCES IN OUR CATALOG

Curious about wine-making in a specific county? While these catalog links don't list all of what the California History Section has, they are a good starting point.



[Orange](#)  
[Placer](#)  
[Riverside](#)  
[Sacramento](#)  
[San Bernardino](#)  
[San Diego](#)  
[San Francisco](#)  
[San Joaquin](#)  
[San Luis Obispo](#)  
[San Mateo](#)  
[Santa Barbara](#)  
[Santa Clara](#)  
[Santa Cruz](#)

[Sonoma](#)  
[Sutter](#)  
[Tehama](#)  
[Ventura](#)  
[Yolo](#)

## ON-SITE RESEARCH RESOURCES

Our collection predates computers and so do some of our access points! If you are in the library, be sure to check the following analog files for leads on more resources.

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### **California Information File**

In the library? Check the California Information File before you do anything else! This file indexes over 130 years of California wine articles, books, and manuscript collections.



#### **Subject Headings:**

1. Wine and Wine making
2. Viticulture
3. Specific regions such as “Counties: Napa: St. Helena”
4. Prominent individuals in the industry (look up by name)



### **Photographic File**

Sometimes a picture is worth a 1000 words and not all of our pictures are online. To check the rest of the collection search our picture file card catalog.



#### **Subject Headings:**

1. Wine and wine making
2. Fruit: grapes

## OTHER ON-SITE RESOURCES

Despite our best efforts, some of our resources defy complete description. We suggest that you ask a librarian about any wine or viticultural information contained in the following files.

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### Vertical Files

Our massive collection of vertical files covers a wide variety of topics including wine and wine making. You can check them for information on organizations, companies, and even wine labels.



**Subject Headings:** Check with librarians.



### Postcard Files

Separate from our photo collection, our postcard collection contains a number of images related to wine. Most are not online.

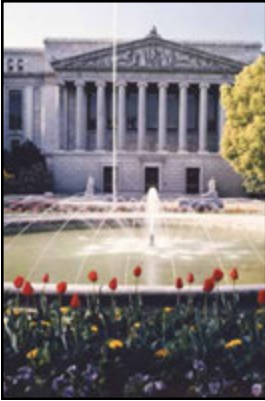


**Subject Headings:** Check with librarians

## OTHER PLACES TO LOOK

Of course the California History Section doesn't have everything, so we suggest that in addition to looking at our collections, you contact the following organizations

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### **Other California State Library Sections**

[Government Publications Section](#)

[Witkin Law Library](#)

[Sutro Library](#)

[General Information](#)



#### **URLs:**

- <http://www.library.ca.gov/gps/index.html>
- [http://www.library.ca.gov/collections/law\\_coll.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/collections/law_coll.html)
- [http://www.library.ca.gov/about/sutro\\_main.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/about/sutro_main.html)
- [http://www.library.ca.gov/collections/general\\_coll.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/collections/general_coll.html)



### **Other Government Agencies**

[California State Archives](#)

[Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control](#)

[California Department of Food and Agriculture](#)

Local California libraries or archives



#### **URLs:**

- <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/>
- <http://www.abc.ca.gov/>
- <https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/>

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This guide is also available online at:  
<http://www.library.ca.gov/calhist/researchguides.html>