

Project Date: July 2009**Project Description/Research Subject**

The focus of this research project is to determine how many historic winery buildings, not currently used as a winery, are on five or fewer acres, are situated in unincorporated Napa County, and are considered a "Ghost Winery".

Study Criteria:

Location: Unincorporated Napa County

Parcel Size: Five or fewer acres

Use: Unoccupied "Ghost Winery"

Built: Pre-Prohibition (1920)

Summary of Findings:

Only one extant historic winery building was found to meet the criteria stated above. Eighty-five historic wineries are, in some form, extant in Napa County. When resources extant on parcels greater than five acres, within city limits, or currently used as a winery or some other commercial purpose, or as residences, or are otherwise unviable for restoration following the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines are eliminated from the list, only one remains.

This single property is the former Franco-Swiss Winery, now the property of Richard and Leslie Mansfield, 1291 Conn Valley Road. APN # 025-180-017. This stone building is significantly deteriorated, but has adequate historic integrity to communicate its historic use, specifically in location, setting, design, materials and feeling, as was also noted by Naomi Miroglio, Architectural Resources Group, in a letter to the Mansfields dated March 5, 2009.

Definition used for Historic Winery Buildings:

For the purpose of this report, historic winery buildings are buildings built for wine production and/or cellaring prior to Prohibition (1920). The current condition of these buildings ranges from unrecognizable ruins to rehabilitated buildings for the purpose of wine production or another use. Over the years the sites of the majority of these buildings have changed significantly. Some are now in neighborhoods; some are still surrounded by acres of vineyards.

Research Methods:

A previously compiled database was revisited and the criteria for this study were applied to the list as a process of elimination. Some properties were revisited in July 2009 to verify current use and parcel size. The following is a list of repositories visited during the initial research, some of which were revisited for the purpose of this report.

- Bancroft Library, U.C. Berkeley
- Saint Helena Wine Library
- Sonoma County Wine Library
- California State Library, California History Room
- Napa City/County Library
- North Baker Research Library, California Historical Society
- Napa County Historical Society
- Napa County Assessor's Office

Researcher's Qualifications:

Meg Scantlebury is a Senior Environmental Planner, Branch Chief, Architectural Historian, with the California State Department of Transportation. She has a Master of Arts in Historic Preservation. Her thesis was on the preservation of Napa Valley's 19th-century agri-industrial landscape. Prior school projects focused on Napa Valley's architectural legacy, specifically winery properties, and included a non-intensive survey of extant pre-Prohibition wineries in the Napa Valley AVA.

While working at Caltrans, she participated in a rotation program and worked at the State Office of Historic Preservation for nine months as a project reviewer. She is now responsible for cultural resources compliance and mitigation for the Doyle Drive replacement project, which runs through the Presidio, a National Park and National Historic Landmark District. Prior to graduate school and beginning her career at Caltrans, she worked in the wine industry for several years.