

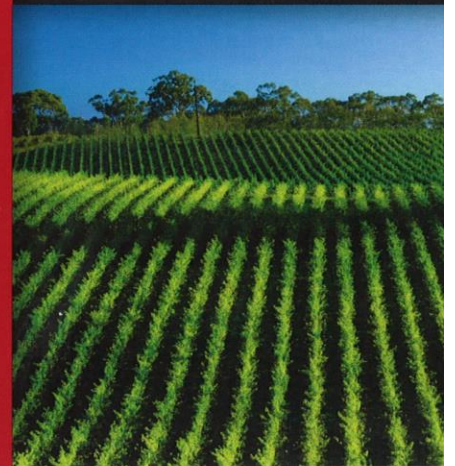
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EDITORIAL

Most Popular Technical Spotlight BUENA VISTA WINERY

by Andrew Adams, May 2015



BUENA VISTA WINERY
Elegant renovation of the '19th House' of California's wine industry
By Andrew Adams

A lot of wine has been made in the 19th House, but the renovation of this historic property was a challenge. The project was a renovation of a historic property, and the owner wanted to preserve the historic character of the building while updating it for modern wine production. The project was a renovation of a historic property, and the owner wanted to preserve the historic character of the building while updating it for modern wine production.

KEY POINTS

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The renovation of a historic Sonoma Valley property was the most-read Technical Spotlight of 2015. The end of construction coincided with the earthquake that rocked the San Francisco Bay Area in the early hours of Aug. 24, 2014. Luckily Boisset Family Estates, which purchased the property in 2011, had installed a steel skeleton inside the structure's 150-year-old stone walls as part of the renovation, which kept the previously decrepit property from crumbling to the ground.

"This would have been the story of the Napa quake. It would have been how this historic winery collapsed, because there's no doubt these walls would have fallen in," Tom Blackwood, the winery's general manager and director of retail operations, told *Wines & Vines* associate editor Andrew Adams.

Instead, Buena Vista Winery made it through the earthquake unscathed, clearing a path for the once-dormant brand to reclaim the vision set by its founder, Count Agoston Haraszthy, who is credited with bringing hundreds of *vinifera* cuttings to California and fostering the state's wine industry.

Technical Spotlight is a regular

feature *Wines & Vines* debuted in 2011 to highlight new wineries, existing brands moving to new properties and innovative wine producers using new technologies to increase quality, yields and consumer interest. The monthly feature includes a listing of suppliers used for winery construction, crush equipment, wine packaging and other elements.