ESTATE HISTORY

Property purchased by

1849

Repeal of Prohibition. Edwin Valliant and son Edwin Valliant Jr. purchase vineyard and reinstate wine production onsite.

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A succession of corporate owners run the winery and the vineyard: The first, W.A. Taylor, a subsidiary of Hiram Walker & Sons, refurbished the winery and replants much of the vineyard. The second, Almaden Vineyards, petitions the U.S. Government to create the Cienega Valley AVA (American Viticultural Area). The petition was approved in 1982. Four years later, in 1986, Heublein acquires the property as part of a major purchase of Alamaden Vineyards. Heublein closes the winery and operates the vineyard.

William Palmtag, San Benito Vineyard acquired (Mayor of Hollister and by a partnership headed by owner of local bank) John Dickinson, a grain broker from New plants more vines and York. Eventually, Dickinson buys out partners expands winery. and purchases adjacent land, bringing property size to 1000 acres. He plants an additional 100-acres of vineyards, expands the winery, Vache is producing and in 1906 builds the main house which 15,000 gallons of was designed by architect Walter wine per year. Burley Griffin. 1916 1920 1989 1890's 1943 \bigcirc 1903 1933 1943-1989 1883 1880 Palmtag's San Joseph Gimelli purchases Due to booming Benito Vineyard is the land surrounding the Prohibition is demand and a thriving winning prizes at Dickinson house. Gimelli East Coast market, the enacted and the competitions across renames the estate Pietra Valliant family sells the estate grapes are the United States Santa (sacred stone) and sold to the Church for property. and Europe. plants nearly 100 acres to French immigrant sacramental wine. Merlot, Sangiovese and Theophile Vache plants Dolcetto. the first vineyard in Cienega Valley. By this year, Dickinson producing 100,000 gallons of wine per annum. Bring Romance_ VALLIANT to your table ... every nigh with VALLIANT Catifornia Bur



For the first time since WWII, estate wine is sold in national and international markets and the Dickinson house opens to the public for wine tasting.

2000

Present winery structure constructed onsite



The estate was purchased by Christian Pillsbury and named Eden Rift. Eden, a John Steinbeck reference and Rift because the estate is directly on the San Andreas Fault. Sustainable farming methods were adopted and the vineyard was restored to the original varieties that were planted. Forty-seven acres of grapes were grafted, with another thirty three-acres re-planted to heritage clones of Pinot Noir & Chardonnay.

2016

