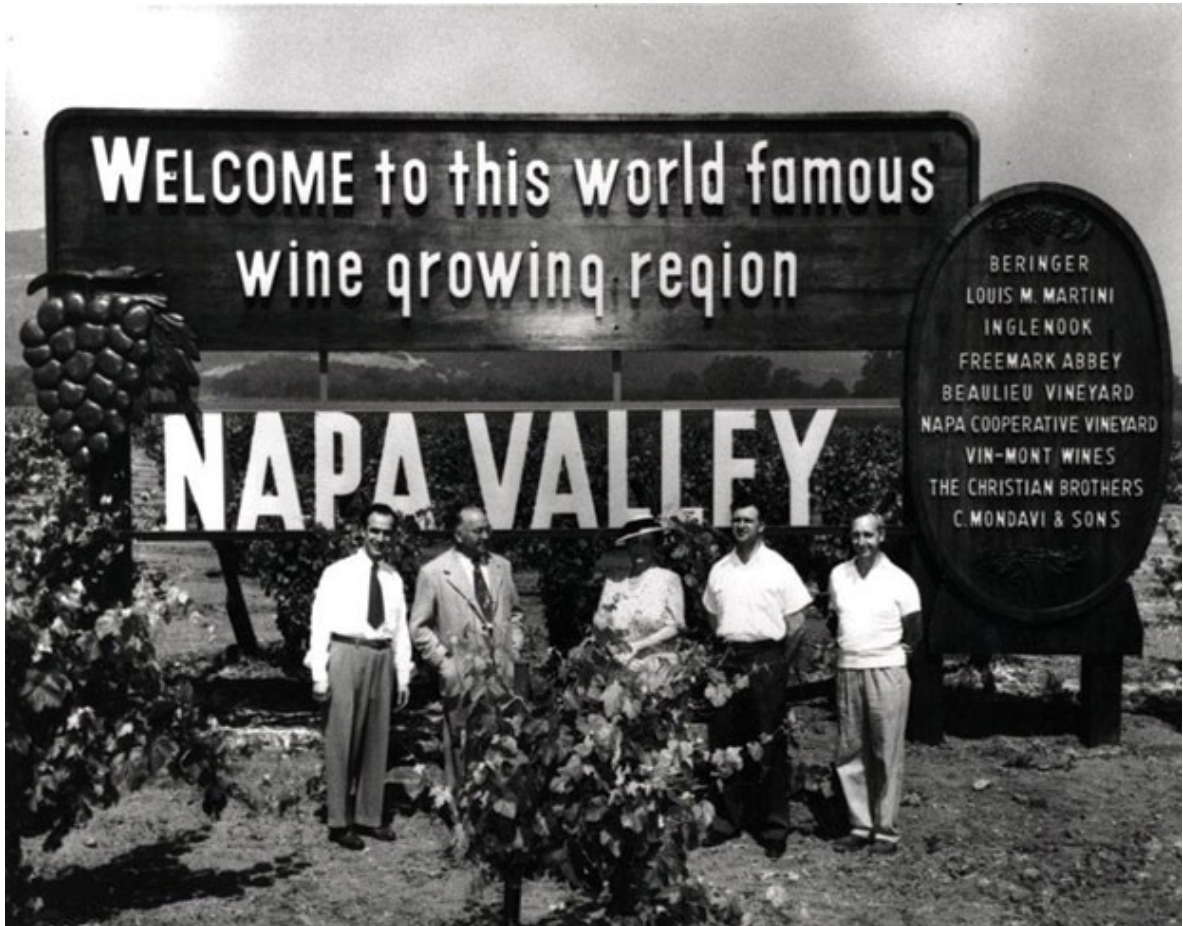


# MIT Seminar on Environmental and Agricultural History

## The State in the Vineyard



### **Kathleen A. Brosnan, University of Oklahoma**

Known today for its premium wines, California's Napa Valley has undergone tremendous changes since the mid-nineteenth century, shifting from diversified agriculture toward monocultural production and a sophisticated tourist economy intimately tied to the grape. The typical narrative identifies pioneers who introduced new *vitis vinifera* to vineyards, innovators in the winery who adopted modern fermentation, and forward-thinking vingerons who pursued the nation's first agricultural preserve in the 1960s. What is less obvious to the valley's visitors is the persistent presence of the federal government. Engaged in both promotional and regulatory processes, the state has shaped Napa's multi-faceted wine industry and, in turn, the environment upon which it relies, by transforming riverine landscapes, determining American consumption patterns, and influencing the evolution of species inherently tied to viticulture.

**Friday, March 1, 2013**

**2:30 to 4:30 pm**

**Building E51 Room 095**

**Corner of Wadsworth and Amherst Streets, Cambridge**

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