

Agribusiness

**To live as farmers would have been,
for the acquirers of these operations,
a bewilderingly alien concept,
since their holdings were
about something else altogether:
they were temporary chips in the
greater game of capital formation.**

**Joan Didion, *Where I Was From*,
on the familial ancestors of California's
"shipper-growers," many of whom owned
tens or hundreds of thousands of acres**