1994 ESTATE PINOT NOIR

BLEND: 100% Pinot Noir

APPELLATION: Napa Valley/Oak Knoll Region

ALCOHOL: 13.9%

pH: 3.60

TOTAL ACID: .64

AGING: 13 months in French Oak

Production is Extremely Limited

WINEMAKER NOTES

This 1994 Pinot Noir celebrates the 24th harvest from our vineyards located in the cool Oak Knoll area of the Napa Valley. This wine was crafted from grapes grown on a small parcel located in the heart of our estate.

The grapes were thinned at verasion by about 50% of the crop level to insure low yield and maximum flavors. The yield was approximately 1.7 tons/acre. Clusters are hand picked, immediately delivered to the winery and crushed into 1/2 ton open top fermenters for 10 days. This special process allows for maximum color extraction without harsh tannins. The harvest of 1994 began in September and our Pinot Noir was picked on the 19th. The wine was aged for 13 months, we chose a combination of Allier and Vosges french oak barrels, adding touches of spice and aromatic smokiness.

Toasty oak aromas are well integrated with the sweet strawberry and ripe black cherry fruit. The flavors are intense, yet suppleness and balance are the dominant impressions.

Winemaker