

Brewer - Clifton

Vineyards

Brewer - Clifton focus solely on site-expressive wines from the Sta. Rita Hills appellation using Chardonnay and Pinot Noir as voices of place. The area's cool climate, morning fogs, long growing season and diversity of soils combine to produce extreme wines that reflect the special characteristics of the area. The vineyards selected for Brewer - Clifton wines represent the full range of the Santa Rita Hills - from the furthest eastern point to the coastal vineyards to the west.

From our inception, we have sourced grapes from what we consider to be the most representative vineyards in the appellation - working with each grower to produce fruit that will allow the pedigree of place to shine forth in each wine. In 2007 we were able to assemble what, in our opinion, is a premier team of grower associates who manage vineyards directly and from which we receive the entire production.

3-D
In the winter of 2007, we were approached by Tom and Jan Davidson who own a beautifully situated property nestled between Lafond and Ampelos that had yet to be developed. Thrilled at the prospect of working there with them, we swiftly penned a land lease arrangement and set forth on our first vineyard planting.

The primary emphasis of the predominantly-sandy ten-acre vineyard is chardonnay, with equal amounts of five clones planted (4, 76, Hyde, Mount Eden and Sea Smoke Wente). In addition to chardonnay, there is a smaller field of pinot noir planted to Swan, Pommard, 667 and 828 clones.

Ampelos

The vineyard, near the eastern end of the appellation, is owned and farmed by Peter and Rebecca Work. Our two-acre parcel is on a west-facing slope and was planted at 7' by 3' spacing to pinot noir clone 828 in 2004. We first obtained fruit from the parcel in the 2009 harvest. The vineyard is managed by Jeff Newton of *Coastal Vineyard Care*.

Cargasacchi

Peter Cargasacchi's sixteen-acre clone 115 Pinot Noir vineyard was planted in 1998 at his family's ranch at the far western end of the appellation. The hills surrounding his vineyard look almost lunar as they are comprised almost completely of diatomite and other calcareous materials. Our two acre section features some very unique soils. Peter's commitment is admirable, and his insatiable quest to further his knowledge and his vineyard is inspirational.

Clos Pepe

Our one-acre pinot noir section was planted in 1998 on a knoll to Pommard clone on this 30-acre site owned and farmed by Wes Hagen and the Pepe family, in consultation with Jeff Newton of *Coastal Vineyard Care*.

Gnesa

We began working with this four-acre "secret spot" vineyard in 2007 when the majority of the fruit was destined for our Sta. Rita Hills bottling. The vineyard was originally planted in 1996 with self-rooted chardonnay, clone 4, by the Gnesa (pronounced knee-sa) family who farmed with tremendous care and attention through the 2008 harvest.

We feel privileged and flattered that they entrusted us with the management of the vineyard starting in 2009, and we look forward to the integration of the fruit in both our appellation and single-vineyard bottlings in the future.

Kimberly

This is a very special, 1/2-acre vineyard planted on two steep, opposing slopes at Melville to Pinot Noir clone 777. The block is planted at a spacing of 3'x3' (4,200 vines per acre). We produce two barrels per year of this block which was created to memorialize Greg's cousin, Kim, who was brutally attacked and murdered in Philadelphia while jogging in the mid 1990's. The wines from the vineyard are only sold at select restaurants nationally to long-time friends and supporters of our wines. All proceeds are donated to philanthropic causes.

Machado

Looking to secure a mirror-image sister ranch to 3-D, we began working with the Machado family in the winter of 2008. Our fifteen-acre parcel on their land is located adjacent to Clos Pepe and immediately behind the recently-planted Kessler-Haak vineyard. The site is marked by a gorgeous rolling terrain with sandy clay loam soils.

At Machado, the majority of the planting is dedicated to pinot noir with equal amounts of such selections as Pommard, Merry Edwards, Mount Eden and 459. In addition to pinot noir, we also planted a small, two-acre plot in the sandiest portion of the field to the Sweeney Canyon selection of chardonnay.

Melville

Chad Melville and the Melville family farm this stunning vineyard from which we have access to three particular sections. Our one-acre Pinot Noir section was planted to clones 114 and 115 on a windswept clay loam mesa in 1997.

We also receive the entirety of the fruit from Kimberly as mentioned above.

Mount Carmel

The Mount Carmel vineyard is a steep, south-facing and celestial vineyard that was planted by Ron Piazza and Paul Albrecht in 1991 in accordance with a cloistered order of Carmelite nuns. There are currently 15 acres of pinot noir (clones 667, 2A, 5, 115, 777 and Mount Eden) and 7 acres of chardonnay (Wente clone). Most of the vines are self-rooted and have been dry-farmed for years. The vineyard overlooks the Sanford & Benedict property and is just west of Sea Smoke. The vineyard is brutally influenced by the marine winds due to its severe elevation and aspect.

Soils are a diverse combination of botella clay, limestone, diatomaceous earth, calcareous deposits and sandy loam. With the 2005 vintage, this special site became our monopole and we could not be more excited to have complete access to this most revered and auspicious site.

Rio Vista

This vineyard was planted in 2000 and came into production for us in 2003. It is located on a steep, west-facing slope on the extreme eastern end of the appellation. Our one-acre section is planted to pinot noir clone 777. The vineyard is owned by the Thorne family and is managed by John Belfy of *Buona Terra Farming*.

Sea Smoke

We are extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the limited Chardonnay from this prestigious vineyard planted predominantly to Pinot Noir in the late 1990s. We have access to a three acre parcel from which we receive dijonnaise clones 76, 95 and 96. The block is in Metz loamy sand and is situated on a small mesa immediately above the Santa Ynez River.

Sweeney Canyon

This eighteen-acre, chardonnay vineyard was planted in 1981 by the Marks family who still own and farm it. The property is located along the Santa Ynez River channel just down and to the west of Mount Carmel and immediately to the east of Cargasacchi. Not only is this our oldest planting, but Sweeney is also the only vineyard in our current portfolio with which we have worked every year since our inception in 1996. We currently control approximately 3 acres of the property, which is managed by John Krska.

Zotovich

This exciting vineyard project on Highway 246 is owned by Steve Zotovich and is under the vineyard management of Coastal Vineyard Care. Our four-acre pinot noir section is planted in sandy loam soils to clones 113, 114, and 115. Our chardonnay section is planted to clone 76. The vineyard is managed by Jeff Newton of *Coastal Vineyard Care*.