



**2004 Outpost Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon
Napa Valley**

<i>Release Date</i>	February 2007
<i>Appellation</i>	Howell Mountain
<i>Winemaker</i>	Thomas Rivers Brown
<i>Varietal composition</i>	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
<i>Production</i>	253 Cases
<i>Cooperage</i>	75% new French oak barrels

The Winemakers Tasting Notes

Creating this wine was probably the simplest blending task of the vintage. Given the miniscule yields in `04, the two clones of Cabernet grown on our Petite Sirah hill were picked and fermented together. They produced the most exotic Cab lot we've experienced up here. This combination of See and P clones had elements of white flowers, roasted nuts, pain grille, baking and cooking spices, kirsch, cassis, balsam wood with red/black fruit core. We couldn't find much missing until we tasted our other `04 Cab lot, clone 337 grown on relatively flat piece next to the old vine Zinfandel. The 337 was all chocolate, cocoa and mocha, an exotic milkshake with tannin. We began by layering the 337 into the SEEP one barrel at a time until we had our blend. In the end, 11 barrels out of 14 made the cut.