



Ancien  
2002  
Pinot Noir  
Mink Vineyard - Napa Valley



### **Tasting Notes:**

We chose Swan selection and the Dijon 115 clone for their complementary attributes. Swan providing deep, briary blackberry and dark cherry flavors and Dijon 115 providing mid-tone plum, layers of spice, and high flying perfume.

### **Winemaking Notes**

Bill Mink planted this vineyard for us back in 1996 to our specifications. We jumped at the opportunity to contract the fruit, knowing the potential of this relatively unknown niche east of the city of Napa. We habitually add the "Mt. George" name after Napa Valley as we feel this is such a unique region within a larger appellation more known for Cabernet than Pinot. The climate here is similar to areas in Carneros but the soils are very unique - made up of a rocky/cobbly alluvial with underlying volcanic tufa. The tufa acts as a wick, pulling moisture out of the soil early in the season and releasing it back as the summer progresses. It is a very nice system, not unlike the soils in Burgundy where limestone substitutes for this ash layer.