

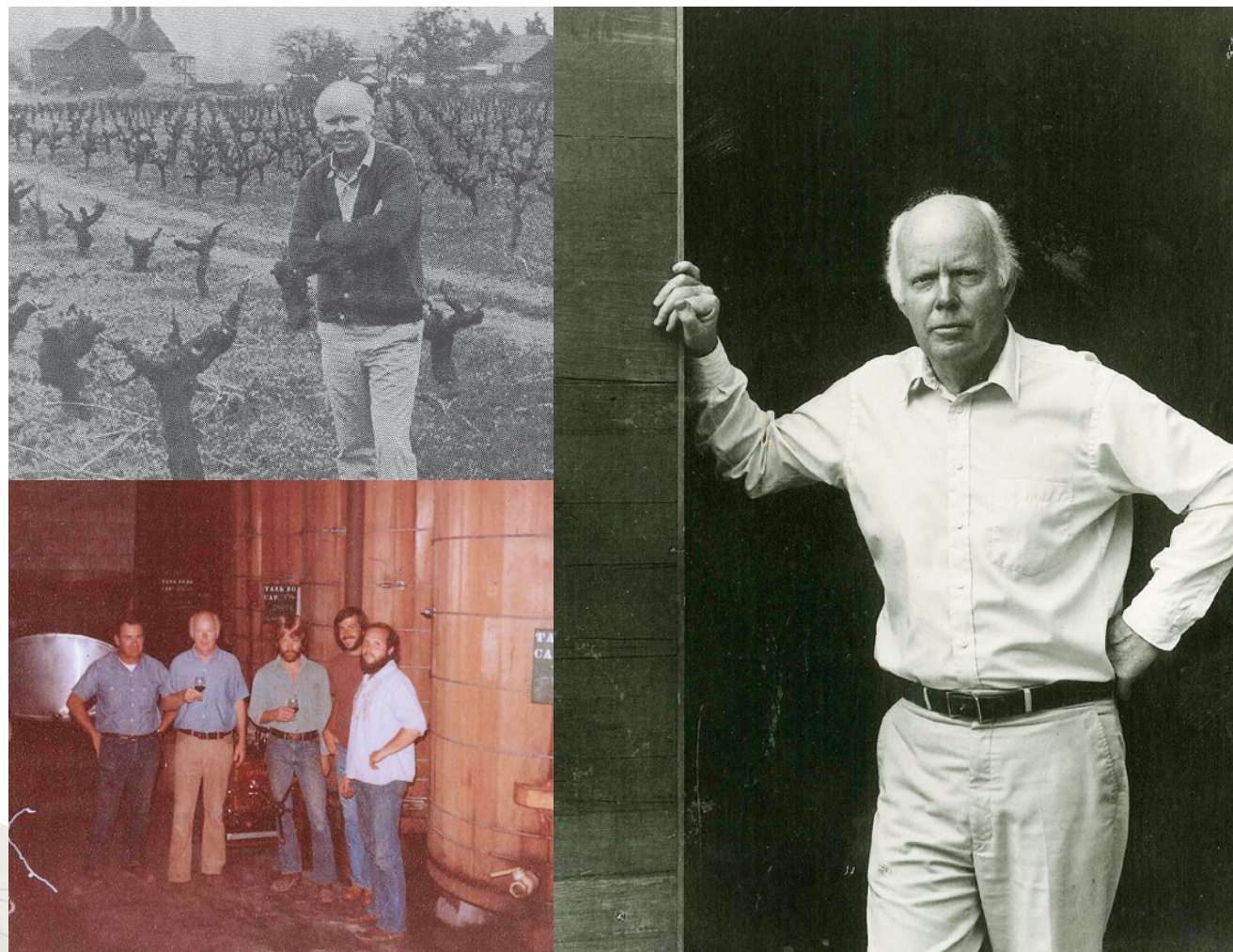
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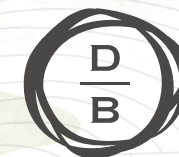
## *Russian River Valley Pioneer*

### WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

In 1973, when Davis Bynum first released his small lot of single vineyard Pinot Noir from the famed Rochioli Vineyard in Sonoma County's Russian River Valley, Pinot Noir was a relative stranger to the region, but the fickle grapes thrived in the unique terroir. The first to produce single vineyard Russian River Valley Pinot Noir, Davis Bynum was instrumental in bringing prestige to the Russian River Valley, still acclaimed as one of California's finest Chardonnay and Pinot Noir growing regions. Today, more than fifty years later, the heritage of Davis Bynum lives on through the creation of hand-crafted wines grown exclusively in the Russian River Valley.

In 2007, when it was time for Davis to sell the winery, he hand-picked his successor with the same care and attention as he used when choosing his grapes. He selected Tom Klein and the Klein family, fourth-generation California farmers who shared the same values and principles he built his own reputation on.

Today, the winery remains in the capable hands of Tom Klein, who, along with winemaker Greg Morthole, honors the expertise and shared innovative winemaking spirit of founder, friend, and mentor Davis Bynum. Greg is committed to staying true to Davis's philosophy, and through bold innovation in the vineyard and the cellar, his deft guidance keeps the winery moving forward while never losing touch with the past.



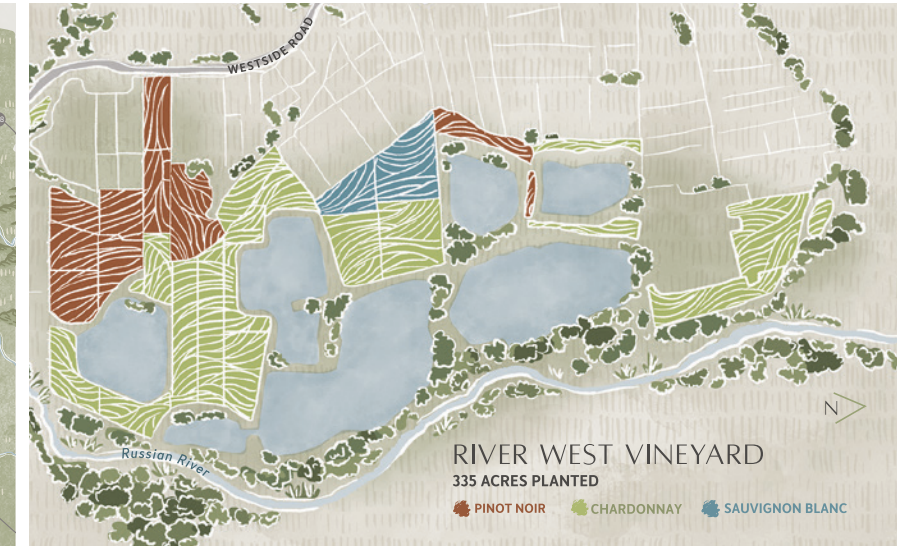




## A UNIQUE EXPRESSION OF *Terroir*

Born from a passion for hard work and testing limits, a love of place—Russian River Valley—and enthusiasm for all things wine, Davis Bynum wines are a living legacy to their namesake—a true pioneer and champion of the Russian River Valley. Drawing on over 50 years of experience capturing the essence of the Russian River Valley, we craft award-winning Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from River West Vineyard that tell the story of the land we love.

This passion for the land is at the core of winemaker Greg Morthole’s “Let the Land Speak” approach to winemaking. His intentionality and imagination continue Davis’s quality-driven approach and the commitment to the pursuit of excellence, quality, and consistency in all that we do. We believe great wine comes from great grapes and together we invite you to share our passion for letting the land speak.



### RIVER WEST VINEYARD

Located on Westside Road in the Middle Reach neighborhood of Russian River Valley, this low riverside bench vineyard is home to 335 acres of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc. The terrain is gently sloping and beautifully diverse, with well-drained Yolo sandy loam soils interspersed with very gravelly Cortina soils and a deep alluvial gravel subsoil extending down several feet. River West provides a deep variety of soils and microclimates, allowing us to meticulously plant each block to highlight the characteristics of the varietal grown there.

Our winemaker, Greg Morthole, believes the best vineyard sites yield fruit that distinctively expresses the characteristics of their location in the finished wine. Each vintage, favored blocks and only the best clones from River West are blended to showcase the terroir of that site. In the Russian River Valley, the marine layer blankets the valley in the mornings and late evenings, allowing for a balance of long warm days and cool evenings making River West a distinctive and deeply special site—one we are proud to call our home.

*Let the Land Speak*





## A DIVERSITY OF SOIL AND CLIMATE

The Russian River Valley climate is influenced by the consistent creep of cooling fog from the Pacific Ocean a few miles west. Much like the tide, it ebbs and flows through the Petaluma Wind Gap and the channel cut by the Russian River across the coastal hills. The fog arrives in the evening, dropping temperatures by as much as 35 to 40 degrees, and retreats to the ocean in the morning. This natural air-conditioning and temperature variation throughout the day allow wine grapes to develop full flavor maturity over an extended growing season while retaining their natural acidity.

River West Vineyard boasts a diverse range of soil types, each carefully selected for the grapes grown there. We've planted our Pinot Noir on the upper bench in well-drained, reddish soil that lends concentration to our wines. Our Chardonnay is planted down in the lower bench near the river in well-drained sandy loam soils interspersed with gravelly Cortina soils. This combination of varied soil types and distinctive climate allows our winemaker room for innovation and creativity, while letting the land speak, as he selects fruit that distinctly expresses the characteristics of the site.

## FARMING FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

We believe it is our privilege and responsibility to be stewards of the land and safeguard the ecosystem of the Russian River Valley in all we do. Sustainability begins in the vineyards, choosing the right vine for the right block; carefully selecting cover crop to support healthy soil structure; monitoring and adapting our water usage at all stages throughout the growing season; and maintaining the wildlife habitat in our vineyards are all integral to the health and longevity of the region's ecosystem.





## OUR WINES



### VIRGINIA'S BLOCK—JANE'S VINEYARD SAUVIGNON BLANC

Deep in the heart of the Russian River Valley is a five-acre gem of Sauvignon Blanc named Virginia's Block as a tribute to Davis Bynum's wife. The vines are planted in east-west rows in shallow gravelly Huichica loam. The vines are cane-pruned and trained to open up the canopy to allow the sunlight to touch the fruit. These fruit clusters turn golden through harvest, as the flavors become fully mature. The wonderful tropical fruit character and vibrant acidity is a highlight of this wine complemented by a richness from old French oak barrels.

### RIVER WEST CHARDONNAY

River West Vineyard is located in the eastern part of the Russian River Valley, where it's slightly warmer than the very cool western reaches. It has been said that Chardonnay shows the hand of the winemaker more than any other varietal. Our winemaker, Greg Morthole, believes there is some truth in that, but also believes the best vineyard sites yield fruit that distinctively expresses the characteristics of their location. Greg's signature is embedded in each vintage as he blends his favorite blocks and clones from our River West Vineyard. The end result is a Chardonnay that maintains ample crispness due to balanced acidity.



### RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR

Russian River Valley Pinot Noir is a marriage of fruit grown in distinctly different neighborhoods of the Russian River Valley. The dark fruit tones, rich mouthfeel, and velvety tannins come from vineyards in the warm climate of the Santa Rosa Plain with its clay-rich soils underlain by volcanic ash. The sandy, low pH soils of the warm Middle Reach neighborhood add to the spice, floral, and red cherry fruit tones. A few vineyards in the much cooler Green Valley neighborhood add fresh blueberry and vibrant acidity from fruit grown in the lauded Goldridge sandy loam soils.

### DUTTON RANCHES PINOT NOIR

Davis Bynum wines showcase terroir, differences in flavor from distinct sites in the Russian River Valley. Our Dutton Ranches Pinot Noir comes from the Dutton Ranch-Gregori and Dutton Ranch-Lorenzo vineyards in the cooler-climate Green Valley neighborhood of the Russian River Valley. The vines are grown in the fabled Goldridge sandy loam, common to that area, which provide exceptional drainage. This Pinot Noir showcases the briary fruit tones and higher acidity this area is known for. Specific clones are selected each vintage for the unique characteristics they impart into the wine.







## GREG MORTHOLE, *Winemaker*

Greg Morthole started working for Rodney Strong Wine Estates in 2005, when he accepted a job as lab director. His acumen for winemaking became immediately clear and he quickly ascended to associate winemaker in late 2007. In the spring of 2010, Greg was promoted to Davis Bynum Winemaker, overseeing all aspects of operations and winemaking.

Morthole first met Davis Bynum in the fall of 2010 and their relationship became a real friendship with regular lunch dates where they talked about a wide range of topics. “Davis was always a gentleman, and we grew to have a great relationship.” Morthole’s intentional winemaking honors Davis’s quality-driven approach and the belief that great wine comes from great grapes.

Philosophically, Morthole believes wine is intriguing to those who enjoy it partially because the transformation from juice to wine is mystifying. “I think that the synergistic effects of all the different things found in wine are incredible.”



“The attention to detail that we pay to the vineyards and wines as we dutifully follow traditional winemaking ways are occasionally belied by inventiveness, slight irreverence and a pinch of laissez-faire sensibility toward the process as the wine wishes to speak for itself.” — Greg Morthole, Winemaker



FOUNDER Davis Bynum    WINEMAKER Greg Morthole



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