

LIVINGSTON

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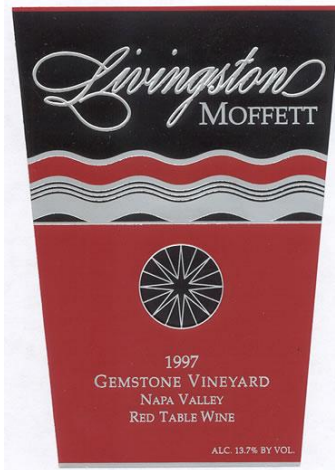
MOFFETT

When John and Diane Livingston purchased their Napa home in 1976, the seven year old Cabernet vines and ghost winery may not have been the principle attraction. But whether on account of John's training as a geologist, of the Napa Valley boom in the early eighties, or the power of the spirit world, they found themselves transformed from casual sellers of grapes to passionate farmers out to showcase the potential of their own vineyard.

In 1984, Randy Dunn helped them vinify a proprietorial Cabernet Sauvignon and three years later came their first commercial release. John and Diane had been lucky: their vineyard was planted on phylloxera-resistant rootstock. By the '90s, Moffett Vineyard was one of the few Cabernet sites in the Rutherford Bench on half way "old" vines.

Nineteen eighty-nine witnessed the debut of "Stanley's Selection Cabernet Sauvignon", comprised of fruit from other carefully-chosen growers and locations. John works hard to earn and keep the loyalty of his "Stanley's" suppliers. "It's not part of my contract," he says, "but I rack off some of the wine from these individual sites before I put the final blend together, just so the owner can have some of his own stuff to enjoy."

From 1997-2001, John Kongsgaard joined the Livingston team of John, Diane and sons Trent and Mark. Not coincidentally, the Livingston-Moffett label has begun to grace some exceptional wines from varieties with which Kongsgaard has been notoriously associated. A rich,



powerful Chardonnay from Ken Laird's vineyard in Carneros and Sangiovese from a mountainous site on the Napa-Sonoma line both debuted from the 1996 vintage. Syrah from Mitchell Vineyard, near the Livingston home, followed a year later.

And in 1997, too, came yet another Cabernet-based project, this one from Gemstone Vineyard. A 7 acre site along the Silverado Trail, Gemstone is planted with a wide range of rare Bordelaise clones and cultivated with a meticulousness and scientific sensitivity that border on fanaticism. This little piece of Napa terroir is destined to become a legend.

Meantime, the Moffett vineyard has been replanted, so we can expect very little of this Cabernet for a few years. But with so many other wines now in the portfolio, in anticipation of what modern clones and planting practices will bring to Moffett Vineyard, not to mention a new winemaker, Marco Di Giulio, there will be no lack of excitement here in the early 2000s.

Napa

Varieties: *Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Franc*

Acreage: *Moffett Vineryard – 8 acres. 5 acres of nearby Syrah.*

Purchased fruit - see below

Production: *ca. 7,500 cases.*

Syrah Napa V., Mitchell Vynd.

A high percentage of whole clusters, and long fermentation on ambient yeasts with 5% viognier make this a syrah from near Moffett Vineyard very much in the stylistic tradition of the northern Rhone.

Chardonnay Genny's Vineyard

Barrel fermentation with ambient yeasts and extended working of the lees give this wine the fat, richness & exotic ripe aromas that are John Kongsgaard's legacy to Livingston. Genny's Vineyard is in Napa-Carneros.

"Gemstone" Napa Valley

The complexities inherent in a great site and in multiple low-yielding clones of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Petite make this wine reminiscent of a First Growth Medoc. Its creamy palate, honied and floral aromatics and salty minerality all take it far beyond the usual parameters of Napa Cabernet.

Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Moffett Vineyard

With the replanting of the virtually the entire vineyard, available quantities from vintages '98 through at 2000 will be miniscule.

Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley "Stanley's Selection"

The location of each of the component vineyards – as scrutinized by John Livingston's nose, but also his geologist's eye! – is worth noting. Price Vineyard is contiguous with Spottswoode; Walter Vineyard is near some of Caymus' best blocks; Corbett Vineyard is adjacent to Moffett ... and the fourth vineyard is none other than Gemstone: any barrels that don't make the stringent cut for the vineyard-designated bottling!