Quintessa Winery
Rutherford, Calif.
Walker Warner Architects

An environmentally sensitive design combines efficiency with aesthetics

Formal name of Project:
Quintessa Winery

Location:
Rutherford, Calif.

Gross square footage:
Winery = 37,000 sq ft
Winery caves = 15,000 sq ft
Office Building = 4,000 sq ft

Owner:
Agustin and Valeria Humeus
Winery Manager: Grady Sibert
www.quintessawine.com

Architect:
Walker Warner Architects
435 Terry Francois Blvd., Suite B
San Francisco, CA 94158
General Phone: 415.318.8900
Direct Phone:
Greg Warner: 415.318.8908
Fax: 415.626.8658
www.walker-warner.com

A combination of the owners' passion for winemaking and their respect for the environment inspired the winery at Quintessa. The project demonstrates how smart architectural design can efficiently facilitate the winemaking process.

The vineyard's 280 lush acres provided ample space for the winery, however, site selection was based on an analysis of many criteria. The most important issue was the need to minimize the impact of a large structure on the existing vineyards and surrounding landscapes. Almost built into the hillside, the simple sculptural main building form reflects the natural grade of the landscape. While the exterior of the winery harmonizes with the countryside, the interiors are sleek and modern.

Aside from environmental concerns, the architects chose a site that would serve many functions. The location of the crescent-shaped building provides direct visual and vehicular access to the nearby public roadway; it also allows tractors to transport grapes to the roof terrace, where the grapes can then move through the fermentation process by gravity. Gravity flow is a key element in the design of Quintessa. The gravity flow of crushed grapes helps to ensure very high-quality wine by minimizing the mechanical processing and pumping often used in typical wine production.
the People

Owner
Agustin and Valerie Huneeus
Winery Manager: Crady Sibert
www.quintessence.com

Architect
Walker Warner Architects
655 Terry Frensor Blvd., Suite B
San Francisco, CA 94138
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Principal-in-Charge:
Greg Warner

Principal:
Brooks Walker

Project Manager:
Kevin Killen

Job Captain:
Peter Albertson

Builder
Cleo & Maudri Construction
Napa, CA
Bill Mandra

Interior Designer
Stone Interiors
Mill Valley, CA
Stacy Stone

Engineer(s)

Structural:
ZTA Structural Engineers
San Leandro, CA
Gregory Zucco

Mechanical:
Larkin & Associates
Sebastopol, CA
Paul Larkin

Electrical:
Hansen & Slawter
San Rafael, CA
Ray Slawter

Civil:
Biek & Spence Associates
Napa, CA
Peter Biek & Spence

Consultant(s)

Landscape Architect:
Lasko Associates
San Francisco, CA
Ron Lasko

Lighting Designer:
Aric Johnson Lighting Design
San Rafael, CA
Aric Johnson

Waterproofing Consultant:
Ferrars Cox, LLP
San Rafael, CA
Austin Stott

Caves:

Glen Baguadale Underground
Angwin, CA
Glen Baguadale

CAD system, project management, or other software used
PowerCAD/2000 www.powercad.com

the Products

Exterior Cladding
Exposed Steel Framing:
Steel Cladding (Office Building)
Metal/Glass Curtainwall:
Store Front System - Arcadia (Office Building), Vintawall (Winery)
Concrete:
Cast-in-place concrete - A&D Concrete
Wood Screens:
Western Red Cedar (Office Building)

Roofing
Membrane Roofing:
Synthetic
Sad Roof:
Hydrotex

Doors
Custom Metal Doors:
Kiffin Fabrication and Design
Wood Doors:
Northern Woodworks

Interior Finishes
Cabinet and Custom
Woodwork:
Walnut - Casper and Menda,
Mueller Nicholls
Lighting:
Interior ambient lighting
Custom sconces and chandeliers:
McKown Lighting Studio
Conveyance Elevators:
ThyssenKrupp

Other
Catwalks:
Wolf's Welding & Fabrication

The environmentally conscious design satisfies with heating and cooling the winery, irrigated sod roofs, thermal mass, and the use of right air ventilation preclude the need for mechanical refrigeration in the bottling and wine case storage areas. The design of the detached office and reception building utilizes large roof overhangs and exterior wood screens to shield the structure from the hot summer sun.