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Guide to the Erath Winery Collection

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Linfield College

Erath Winery

Guide to the Erath Winery Collection

1963-2011

Creator: Erath Winery

Title: Erath Winery Collection

Dates: 1963-2011

Quantity: 9.75 linear feet

Collection Number: OWHA02

Summary: The collection was donated by Dick Erath, the founder of the Erath Winery in Dundee, Oregon. The collection contains financial information about the winery, publicity found in newspapers and magazines, details of the winemaking process, multiple drafts of the biographical book *The Boys Up North*, along with other ephemera and a bottle of the first commercial wine produced by the Erath Winery in 1972.

Digital items selected to highlight the collection are available here: http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/owha_erath/. Collection items available in the digital repository can include documents, photographs and/or oral history interviews.

Repository

Jereld R. Nicholson Library

Linfield College

900 SE Baker Street

McMinnville, OR 97128

Reference Number: 503-883-2734

Reference Email: archives@linfield.edu

Language: English

Historical Note

After producing his first barrel of wine in his garage in California, Dick Erath moved to Dundee, Oregon with his family in 1968. In 1969, on just four acres of land, he planted 23 varieties of grapes in order to see what he could grow, and Pinot Noir was the most successful variety among them. In continuing his trailblazing work with wine in the Dundee Hills, Erath produced 216 cases of commercial wine, the first in the area, in 1972. Over the years, Dick Erath designed and constructed the Erath Winery, received the Best American Pinot Noir award, and slowly expanded both nationally and, in 1994,

internationally. In 2003, the Erath Winery transitioned, with Gary Horner taking over as the principal winemaker. In 2006, Ste. Michelle Wine Estates bought the Erath Winery. Since this transition, Erath has continued to rank among the most successful wineries in the industry and has continued to represent the strength of Oregon wines in the international wine world.

Content Description

The Erath Winery Collection contains a variety of documents as well as a historical item. The collection spans from the early years of the Erath Winery to its recent years, and includes information about how the winery operates, taxes, public attention, awards, wine and food combinations, previous employment information, drafts and feedback about the biographical book "The Boys Up North," and a bottle from the first commercial wine produced by the Erath Winery.

Restrictions on Access

Access is by appointment only. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment.

Preferred Citation

Erath Winery Collection. Jereld R. Nicholson Library. Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon. Gift of Dick Erath, March 7, 2012.

Provenance

Dick Erath donated the Erath Winery Collection to the Linfield College Archives on March 7, 2012.

Location of Originals

Jereld R. Nicholson Library, Linfield College

Related Material

Oregon Wine Board Collection

Processing Information

Processed by Rosa Gimson and Ryan Morgan, with the assistance of archivists Rachael Cristine Woody and Rich Schmidt.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into eight series:

- Series 1: Knudsen-Erath Business and Financial information
- Series 2: Documents on Marketing and Public Relations
- Series 3: Documents on Organizations, Events and Competitions
- Series 4: Professional Publications
- Series 5: Correspondence
- Series 6: Photographs
- Series 7: Miscellaneous
- Series 8: Physical objects

Series 1: Documents on Knudsen-Erath Business and Financial information

Box 1: Employment records

- Folder: Labor contract and handwritten salary calculations, 1980
- Folder: Labor costs, 1982
- Folder: Health plan research for winery employees, 1985
- Folder: Invitation to host a German man for crush, 1985
- Folder: Recent employment history – Martha Maresh, 1987
- Folder: Worker compensation – Felix Fernandez-Madrid, 1991
- Folder: Various résumés I
- Folder: Various résumés II
- Folder: Various résumés III
- Folder: Employment terminations
- Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 2: Tax information

- Folder: Various tax forms, 1969-77
- Folder: Taxes, 1975
- Folder: Taxes, 1976
- Folder: Various tax receipts, 1976-84
- Folder: Taxes, 1978
- Folder: Taxes, 1979
- Folder: Tax discrepancy, 1981
- Folder: Taxes back-up, 1981
- Folder: Various county tax forms

Box 3: Land and Property

- Booklet: Knudsen Erath Winery, L.L.C.
- Folder: Knudsen Erath winery transition, 1972-75
- Folder: Dawson property acquisition, 1980s
- Folder: Handwritten landscaping plan, 1984
- Folder: Revised purchase agreement for nursery operations, 1988
- Folder: Acknowledgement of U.S. Bank's right to collateral, 1988
- Booklet: Closing documents for transfer of Kudsen-Erath Winery, 1988

Folder: Construction of Erath residence, 1991
Folder: Ballantine property acquisition, 1992
Folder: Property lease information, 1993

Box 4: Winery Equipment

Folder: Purchases from Cascade Tractor, 1984
Folder: Purchase of gyropallet, 1985
Folder: Barrel purchase, 1986
Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 5: Winery and Vineyard Operations

Folder: Bottling and brewing records from California, 1964-67
Folder: Wine cellar operations, 1983
Folder: Grower summaries, 1988
Folder: Grower summaries, 1991
Folder: Inventories, 1991
Folder: Handwritten seasonal schedule, 1992
Folder: Grower summaries, 1992
Folder: Grapes, 1992
Folder: Grower summaries, 1993
Folder: Grapes, 1993
Folder: Grapes, 1994
Folder: Knudsen Erath winery operating agreement
Folder: Laboratory analyses of Erath wines
Folder: Handwritten vineyard statistics
Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 6: Licensing, Legal and Regulatory

Folder: Amendments to Oregon administrative rules for liquors, 1977
Folder: Senate bill no. 485, 1979
Folder: Petition for creation of a wine commission of Oregon, 1980
Folder: Sanitation inspections review and update, 1981
Folder: Discussion of new tax legislation, 1983
Folder: Winery special events license application, 1984
Folder: Deed creating an estate by the entirety, 1988
Folder: Land reforestation incident, 1988
Folder: Wine legislation, 1990s
Folder: House bill no. 76, 1991
Folder: OLCC legislative report, 1995
Folder: Incorporation of winery as LLC, 1996
Folder: Red Hills AVA proposal, 2002
Folder: Senate bill no. 1037, 2005
Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 7: Financial statements

Folder: Erath Vineyards' depreciation log, 1972-75

Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1979
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1980
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1981
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery balance sheet, 1982
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1982 and 1983
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1983 and 1984
Folder: Accounts payable, 1984
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1984 and 1985
Folder: Accounts receivable, 1985
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery financial statements, 1985 and 1986
Folder: Erath Vineyards' income statement, 1990

Box 8: Miscellaneous

Folder: Erath Vineyards' monthly expense summaries, 1972-79
Folder: SAIF Insurance Co. forms, 1976-85
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery accounting systems, 1977
Folder: Miscellaneous credit information, early 1980s
Folder: Loan information, 1983-85
Folder: Buckley Insurance Agency, 1984-85
Folder: Closure of Dundee tasting room, 1987
Folder: Tasting room sales policy, 1987
Folder: Disaster disbursement transaction statement, 1990
Booklet: Oregon Wine List Survey, 1992
Folder: Blue Heron French Cheese Co., an Erath partner
Folder: Communication on employee purchase of wine
Folder: Handwritten return policy
Folder: Check deposit receipts
Folder: Miscellaneous business

Series 2: Documents on Sales, Marketing and Public Relations

Box 9: Sales and Marketing

Folder: Purchase of wine seals, 1985
Folder: Memo to all Oregon Distributors, 1985
Folder: Sales by distributor, 1986
Folder: From Barrique Wine Co., an Illinois distributor, 1987
Folder: Draft of Wine Advisory Board marketing plan, 1988
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery wholesale price list, early 1990s
Folder: Wine shipments by state, 1990-91
Folder: Marketing, 1992
Folder: Suggested prices, 1993
Folder: "Wine in Wood" venture, 1994
Booklet: Oregon Wine Marketing Coalition Marketing Program, 1995-96
Folder: Bills of Sale
Folder: "Cary Oregon Wines" marketing co.
Folder: List of Oregon Wine distributors

Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 10: Public relations and brand creation materials

Folder: Erath envelope design, 1981
Folder: Robert Parker tasting, 1993
Folder: Label designs for Oregon Bach Festival, 1993
Folder: "In the Kitchen with Dick Erath" event, 2005
Folder: LAD Communications public relations report, 2005
Folder: Dick Erath interview, 2012
Folder: "Vintage Dick," an interview
Folder: "Oregon Wines and Wineries" brochure
Folder: Critical acclaim for Erath wines
Folder: Blank Erath Vineyards letter heading
Folder: Knudsen Erath folder
Folder: Siletz Bay Red wine labels
Folder: Assortment of Knudsen Erath wine labels
Folder: Draft of press release on opening of tasting room in Dundee
Folder: Various pamphlets and flyers from various wineries
Folder: In progress Knudsen Erath Winery public relations materials
Folder: Various Knudsen Erath Winery pamphlets and flyers
Folder: Miscellaneous

Series 3: Documents on Organizations, Events and Competitions

Box 11: Organizations I

Folder: Enological Society of the PNW Conference, 1982
Folder: Oregon Winegrowers' Association annual meeting, 1996
Folder: Yamhill County Wineries luncheon, 1996
Folder: Yamhill County Wineries Association
Folder: American Vintners Association
Folder: Oregon Wine Industry Task Force
Folder: Oregon Table Wine Research Advisory Board

Box 12: Organizations II

Folder: Oregon Wine Advisory Board (OWB)
Folder: Oregon Winegrowers Associations (OWA)
Folder: Northwest Wine Promotion Coalition
Folder: Pinot Blanc Society
Folder: Oregon Horticultural Society

Box 13: Events and Competitions

Folder: Tri-Cities wine festival, 1981
Folder: Tri-Cities wine festival, 1982
Folder: Oregon wine festival, 1982
Folder: Oregon winegrowers program from the Lane County Fair, 1982
Folder: Victory medal from American Wine Competition, 1984

Folder: Various tastings, 1986-88
Folder: Burgundy versus Oregon Pinot Noir, 1986
Folder: Fourth annual American wine championship, 1986
Folder: Bicentennial celebration of Jefferson's trip to Burgundy, 1987
Folder: Wine festival at Oceanlake Elk's Lodge, 1987
Folder: Erath harvest festival, 1989
Folder: Knudsen Erath Winery competition results, 1992
Folder: Tri-Cities wine festival, 1993
Folder: James Beard House dinners, 1994-96
Folder: IPNC registration list, 1997
Folder: Twenty-fifth anniversary tour of tastings in New York, 1997
Folder: Oregon wine walk of fame, 2004
Folder: Oregon Pinot camp, 2005
Folder: Various winemaker dinners featuring Erath wines
Folder: Miscellaneous

Series 4: Professional Publications

Box 14: Articles of note

Folder: Erath wins first prize in photo contest, 1963
Folder: "No Way to Control Grape Phylloxera" article, 1972
Folder: "Wine of the Week: Erath Pinot Noir" article, 1978
Folder: "Wine of the Week: Knudsen Erath Blanc des Blancs" article, 1980
Folder: "Apathy greets advances in Oregon" article, 1982
Folder: "Barrel Leaves Imprint on Wine" article, 1982
Folder: "Erath Knudsen Wines Win Critical Acclaim" article, 1983
Folder: "Knudsen Erath Winery Wins National Acclaim" article, 1984
Folder: "Winemaker Ponzi Takes Up Beer Making" article 1984
Folder: "Drouhin" feature, 1989
Folder: "Wine-maker Knighted" article, 1990
Folder: "Oregon Wine Pioneer" feature, 1992
Folder: The Wine Advocates' vintage guide, 1993
Folder: "The Fruits of his Labor" feature, 1997
Folder: "A Celebration of Pinot Noir" article, 1998
Folder: "Q and A with Dick Erath" article, 2011
Folder: "Knudsen Erath's Pinot Noir tagged 'greatest'" article
Folder: "From the Vine" column
Folder: Sparkling Wine in Oregon
Folder: Oregon Symphony
Folder: Gallo Brothers

Box 15: Newspapers

Folder: Wine spectator, 1982-1987
Folder: Oregon Wine Calendar and Visitors' Guide, 1985-87
Folder: Seattle Times, 1986
Folder: The Wine Almanac of the PNW, 1986-87

Folder: Various articles on Dundee, Oregon
Folder: Various articles on Oregon wine I
Folder: Various articles on Oregon wine II
Folder: Various articles on Oregon wine III
Folder: Various articles on California wine
Folder: Various articles on The Raintree, a restaurant
Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 16: Magazines

Folder: Oregon, 1981
Folder: Vintage, 1982
Folder: Sunday Oregonian Magazine, 1982
Folder: Wine and Spirits Buying Guide, 1984
Folder: Wine Country, 1984
Folder: Wine and Spirits, 1988
Folder: Vinum, 1990
Folder: Decanter Guide to the Wines of Oregon, Wash. State, and Idaho, 1992
Folder: Wine Enthusiast Magazine, 1992-93
Folder: Hemispheres, 1993
Folder: Wine Enthusiast, 1997-98
Folder: International Wine Review
Folder: Miscellaneous

Box 17: *The Boys Up North* book I

Folder: Book project preliminary correspondence, 1997
Folder: Book, Draft 1
Folder: Book, Draft 2
Folder: Book, Draft 4
Folder: "The Boys Up North"
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Draft
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Draft
Folder: Book, Manuscript as of 7/18/97
Folder: "The Boys Up North," July 1997

Box 18: *The Boys Up North* book II

Book: Lane Hinsdale Erath Vineyards
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Draft
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Draft
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Feedback to Wendy Lane
Folder: "The Boys Up North" Feedback from Wendy Lane
Folder: Book- Conceptualization and Feedback, April-November 1997

Box 19: *The Boys Up North* book III

Folder: "The Boys Up North," Dick's Edits
Folder: "The Boys Up North," 8/20/97
Folder: "The Boys Up North," August 1997

Folder: "The Boys Up North" with Feedback
Folder: "The Boys Up North," Revision 9/10/97
Folder: "The Boys Up North," Revision 9/23/97
Folder: "The Boys Up North," September 1997
Folder: Published Materials, 1997

Box 20: Other publications

Folder: "The Grape in Oregon," 1901
Folder: "The European Grape in Oregon," 1905
Folder: "Wine Grape Adaptation in the Napa Valley, California," 1952
Book: Oregon Horticultural Society annual report, 1974
Book: An Expanded Wine-Grape Industry in Washington, 1974
Folder: "Progress Report of Table Grapes in the Northern Willamette Valley," 1976
Folder: "A Visit to the Knudsen Erath Winery," 1980
Folder: Rocky Mountain Wine Guide, 1982
Folder: The Oregon Wine Calendar, 1984
Folder: Yamhill County: a grape escape, 1987
Folder: Oregon's Agricultural Progress, 1987
Folder: The Northwest Palate, 1987
Folder: Yamhill County Tourism, 1990
Folder: The Moderation Reader, 1991
Folder: Crush to Judgment, 1996
Folder: Alcohol in Moderation, 1998
Folder: A User's Guide to Sparkling Wine
Folder: Miscellaneous

Series 5: Correspondence

Box 21: Correspondence of note I

Folder: From UC Davis, 1973
Folder: From the Commission of Yamhill County, 1976
Folder: From Drapier Wine Merchants, 1976
Folder: From the Department of Agriculture, 1980
Folder: From Oregon State University, 1980-81
Folder: From the House of Representatives, 1980-81
Folder: From the Society of Wine Educators, 1981
Folder: From David Adelsheim, 1982
Folder: From the Canadian Imperial Bank, 1982
Folder: From William Bissmeyer, 1984
Folder: From the Encyclopedia of Wine, 1984
Folder: To the OLCC, 1985

Box 22: Correspondence of note II

Folder: From Stephen Robertson, 1985-86

Folder: From the Oregon Wine Calendar, 1986
Folder: With the Stevens, 1986
Folder: From the US Senate, 1987
Folder: From Fred Meyer Inc., 1988
Folder: From OSU, 1992
Folder: From Maggie Konner, 1993
Folder: From the Society for American Wines, 1993
Folder: From the Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine, 1994
Folder: Concerning PNW wine coalition, 1995-96
Folder: From the Oregon Wine Co., 2004
Folder: From the House of Representatives
Folder: From Erik Erath
Folder: From Michael Peterson
Folder: From the Wine Advisory Board

Box 23: General Correspondence

Folder: Oregon Sheep Commission, 1980
Folder: Christmas cards
Folder: Miscellaneous I
Folder: Miscellaneous II

Series 6: Photographs

Box 24: General photos

Box 25: Oversized Photos

Box 26: Aerial Vineyard maps

Series 7: Miscellaneous Items

Box 27: Business cards

Booklet: US retail

Booklet: Distributors

Booklet: Hawaii

Booklet: Arizona and New Mexico

Booklet: Friends of the winery

Booklet: Personal friends: wineries, vineyards and nurseries

Booklet: Miscellaneous cards

Box 28: Miscellaneous items of note

Folder: Photo of Erath at the Shell Development Co., 1961

Folder: Aerial photo of Chehalem Mountain Vineyard, 1975

Folder: Robert Parker's review of Oregon wines, 1989

Folder: Handwritten notes on describing Burgundy wine, 1992

Folder: Portrait of Dick Erath

Folder: Matching Oregon food and wines
Folder: The "poodleknows wine rating system"
Folder: Pinot Camp CD

Box 29: General miscellaneous I

Folder: Various reports on the de-acidification of wine, 1977
Folder: Tri-State wine demonstration project, 1977-81
Folder: Summary of the enology program at OSU, 1980
Folder: Bankruptcy of the Wilkersons, 1981
Folder: OSU Pinot Noir clonal trial, 1985
Folder: Seminars offered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, 1985
Folder: Sofi's restaurant review, 1987
Folder: Courses in winemaking offered by UC Davis
Folder: Position announcement in the OSU Department of Horticulture
Folder: Assortment of wine labels
Folder: Various bottle neckers and shelf tags
Folder: Various advertisements I
Folder: Various advertisements II

Box 30: General miscellaneous II

Calendar: Oregon wine country
Folder: On food preparation and ordering
Folder: Continental frequent flier information
Folder: Various handwritten work lists
Folder: Various handwritten papers
Folder: Various papers

Series 8: Physical Objects

Box 31: Erath Pinot Noir bottle, 1972

Box 32: Noble Wines of Oregon Vol. 1 VHS