



HOME+DESIGN

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DESIGN AWARDS

Tasting Room Design

Orin Swift by Arcanum

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RIGHT: In the downtown St. Helena building, which started out as a bank, the existing vault was repurposed into a private tasting room; Orin Swift founder and winemaker Dave Phinney selected the artworks. **LEFT:** The building's original 1920s facade was restored and also enhanced with blackened steel plating; in addition to Arcanum Architecture, the project involved ZFA Structural Engineers and Terra Nova Industries.



The bar and floating wine display anchor Orin Swift's public tasting room; Arnold + Egan was enlisted for the millwork, while Eclipse handled the metal fabrication.

The lounge-style seating area includes furniture from Four Hands, Crate & Barrel and CB2.



Renovations can be full of surprises. During Arcanum Architecture's exploratory demolition of a 1920s building in St. Helena, they discovered a "happy surprise," recalls Anthony Fish. The senior design principal led the redesign of Orin Swift Cellars' new public tasting room, working alongside Arcanum colleagues Chris Canney (project manager) and Nicolas Messaritis (job captain). Beneath the existing storefront was the original art deco facade, which the firm ultimately restored.

Inside, a warm yet industrial palette contributes to a relaxed environment. A focal point is the tasting bar featuring a solid butcher block made from Monterey cypress, with a striking glass-enclosed floating wine display above. Meanwhile, sheetrock walls were removed to expose concrete—which was lightly sandblasted, retaining its raw character—and Corten steel appears on the back bar as well as outside. The design complements the four distinct tasting experiences offered. As Fish notes, "Orin Swift wines are bold and creative, made with care and craftsmanship."