New wine areas making a splash

For decades Napa Valley has been the most prestigious regional name to appear on a when label. Indeed, the suspicion has lurked around that the word alone on a label raises the cost of a bottle at least a doil and the suspicion of the label of the suspicion of the label of the



wine

Richard Watson

Monterey is not only a sourse of grapes but an acknowledged name of prestige to use as an appellation for wineries as well.

THE MONTEREY VINEYARD is located in a dismal town, Gonzales, well inland and east of the Coastal Range. Now owned by Coca Cola (along with Sterling and Taylor of New York) and funded by their monies, winemaker Dick Petersen is reducing the varieties he makes to a manageable number.

Dick Petersen is reducing the varieties he makes to a manageable number. Still extensive, they offer roses made from Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvig-non that are excellent. Their whites in-clude Gewurtztraminer, Chardonnay, Chenin Blane, "Gruner" Sylvaner and Johannisberg Riesling.

Additionally, Petersen has experimented with some late harvest white, inducing botrytis on white Riesiling and Sawigson Blane grapes to produce rich, lush dessert wines.

They also offer Petite Sirah, Pinot Noir, Zinfandel and Gamay Beaujolais. All in all, a quite extensive line. Perhaps their most interesting is a late harvest Zinfandel, high in alcohol and powerful and chewy to drink.

With a storage capacity of 2,000,000 gallons this is a major winery. They offer good value for the money, most of their releases costing in the \$4.47 range here in Michigan.

By contrast, Monterey Peninsula Winery, in the flight path of the Monterey city airport, has storage for but

aura of a boutique winery. Somewhat unstable in their releasing patterns, they have won the affection of their fol-lowers by holding a grape "stomp" each fall. Quite a party.

THEY RELEASED a "Stomp Zinfandel," but the authorities said this was unsanitary and its product couldn't be sold as wine. So they went ahead and sold it without paying the wine taxes on it.

sold it without paying the white taxes on
While they occasionally make a Cubernet Sauvignon, a Pinot Noir or Barbera (depending on grape availability)
his is a Zinfandel winemaken
the grapes carry geographical
designations or proprietal names (as
"Big Jim's"). The style is big, the taste
huge and the prices not too bad although our local distributor is adding a
bit much for handling with this line.
But worth a try.
Monterey, along with Mendocino, is
one answer to the urban crush for wine
growers. It provides space and a benevolent climate that will shape the industry for years to come.

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Ancient Nigerian artifacts in coming DIA exhibition

"Treasures of Ancient Nigeria: Legacy of 2,000 Years" opens Jan. 17 at the Detroit Institute of Arts. One hundred objects, including rare Benin bronze plaques and the earliest art discovered in Nigeria by recent art for the Arts, Mobil, and the Four ment for the Arts, Mobil, and the Four ders Society bertoit Institute of Arts. It is also supported by a Federal Indemity from the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities.

The loan, acknowledged by the host museums as unprecedented, is the large very find a functions. The country is availability to Detroit Detroit of the capital city of Lagos.

Two works in the show, apair of two works in the show, apair of the capital city of Lagos.

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castings of a queen from Ife (1,200-1,500 A.D.) and the "Great Image" of the Queen Mother of Benin. Both dis-play sophisticated techniques which Af-rican Art historians say rival the best work done by Western Renaissance art-its.

work done by Western Renaissance artists.

Organized by Michael Kan, deputy director and curator of African, Oceanic and New World Cultures at the Detroit Institute of Arts, and Dr. Ekpo Eyo, director of the Nigerian Fz. Seral Department of Antiquities, the exhibition will acquaint Americans with the media used by African artisans over the centuries — bronze, terra cotta, ivory and stone. It will also illustrate the cultural continuum of the Nigerian artistic tradition as now defined by archaeologists and art historians.

The exhibition includes works from the earliest known Nigerian tradition, the Nok culture (500 B.C. to 200 A.D.), representative objects from Igbo-Ukwu, a site in southeast Nigeria (which dates to the mid-4bl century A.D.), and the court art of the city A.D.), and the culture of the Yoruba people. As heirs to an artistic tradition that began with Nok and is closely associated with If an artistic tradition that began with Nok and is closely associated with If and Benin, the Yoruba, one of the modern Nigerian peoples, form a conditional link between ancient traditions and modern times.

"Treasures of Ancient Nigeria" will be in Detroit through March 16.



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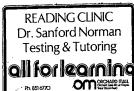
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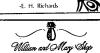
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