SILVER THREAD
Riesling Expert

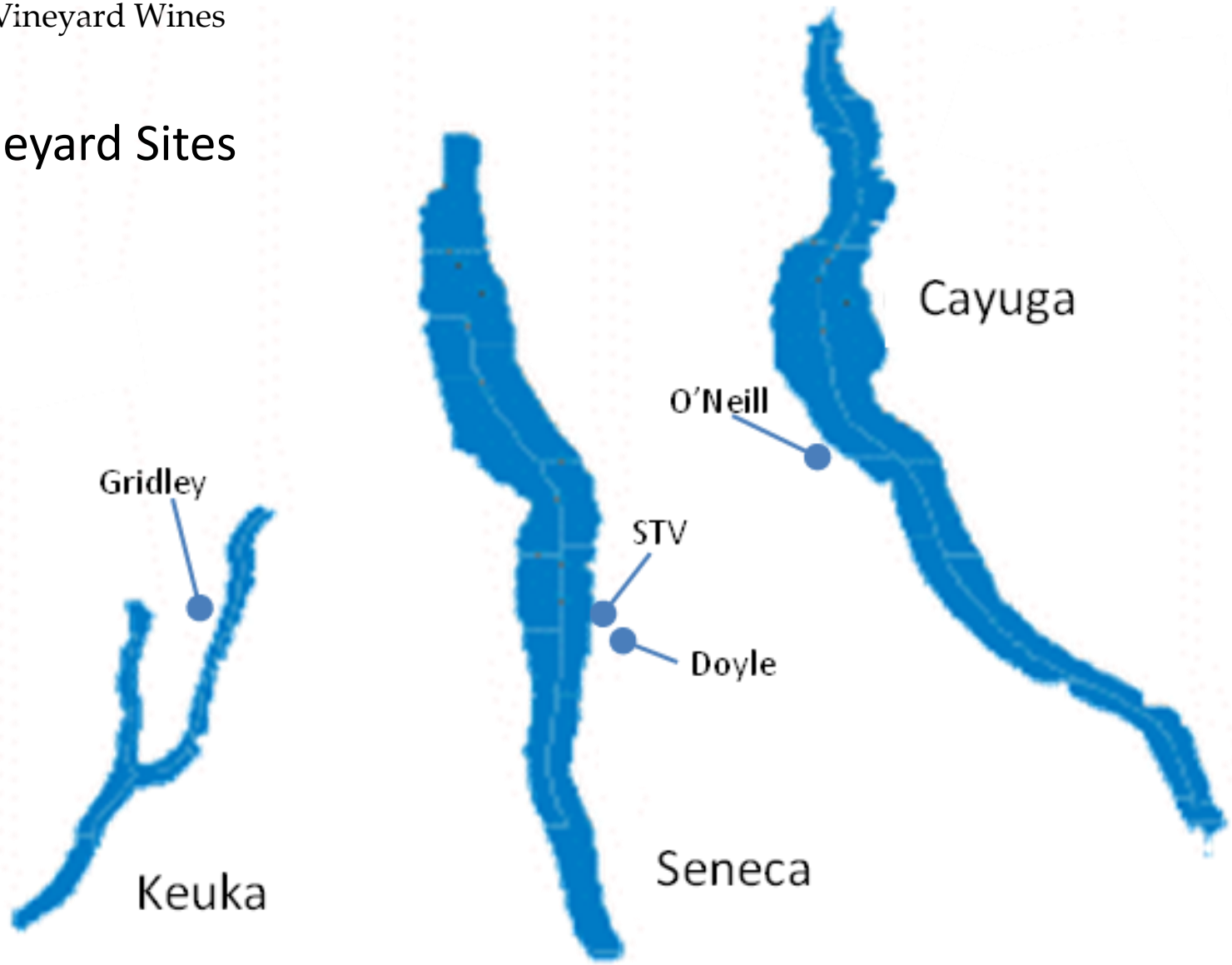
Session 2: Medium-Dry Styles and Single Vineyard Wines

Silver Thread is perched on the east side of Seneca Lake very close to the water.

Doyle Fournier Vineyard has a western aspect and sits uphill from the eastern shore of Seneca Lake.

Gridley Bluff Point Vineyard has an eastern aspect and overlooks the eastern fork of Keuka Lake.

Map of Vineyard Sites



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The first Riesling vines were planted in 1982

An old, low-yielding Riesling vine grows in fescue at Silver Thread Vineyard

Soil profile of Silver Thread Vineyard showing shale formation

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Doyle Fournier Vineyard is owned and operated by Matt and Carre Doyle

Gridley Bluff Point Vineyard is owned and operated by Donna and Louis Gridley

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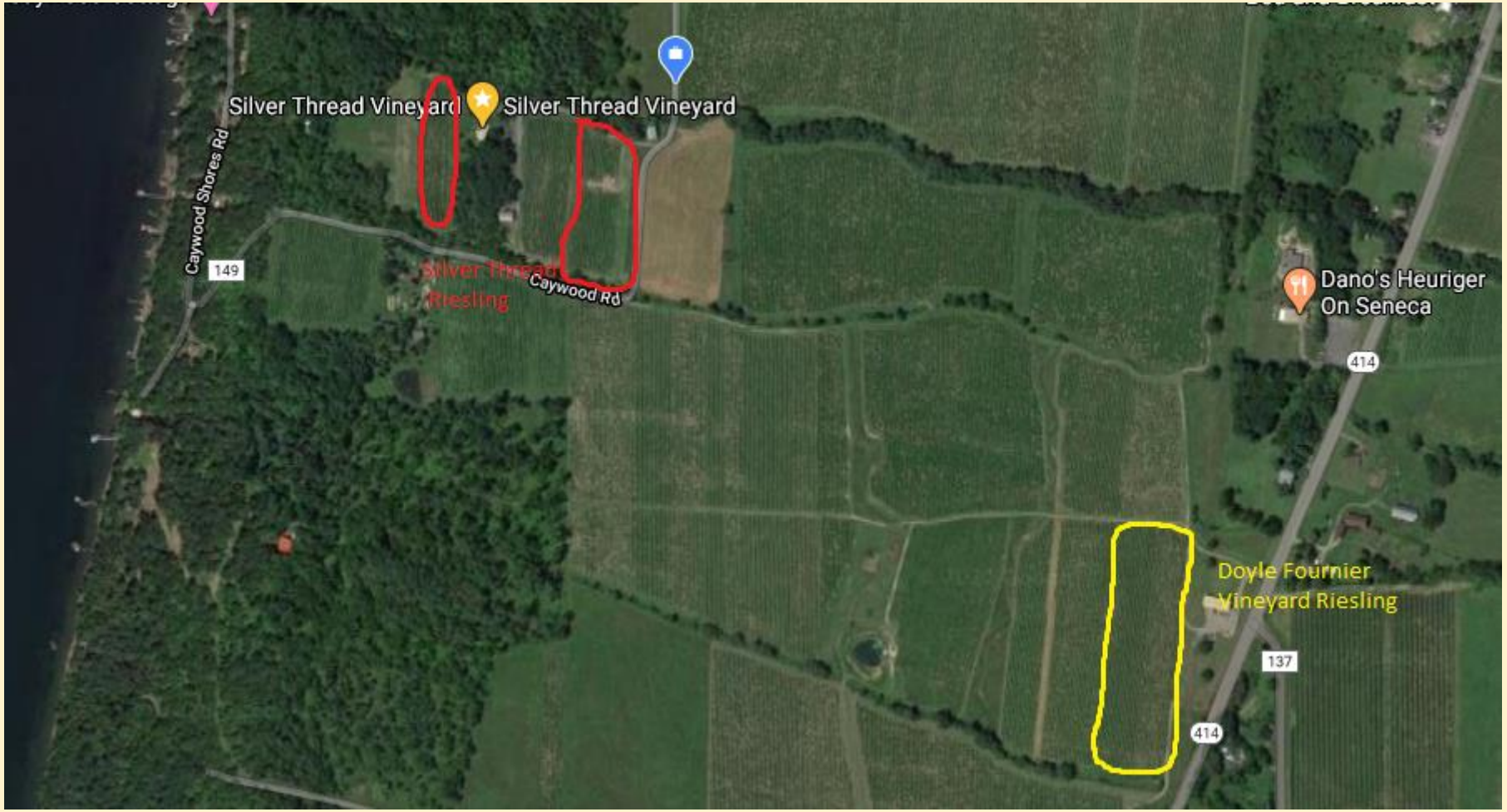

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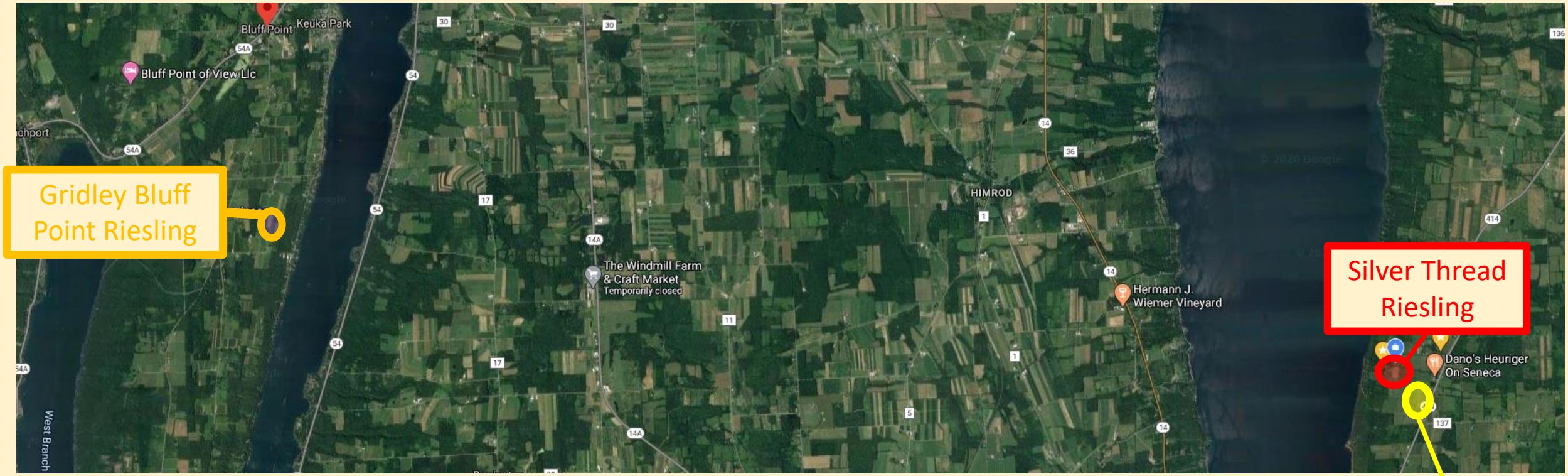

Glossary of Terms: *Oxford Companion to Wine third ed.; Robinson J.; 2006*

Grand Cru—literally "great growth" in French. An elevated appellation accorded to several specific vineyards in Alsace and Burgundy.

Classification—a system used in many regions of France and Germany to rank the quality of the vineyards and/or estates; ex: Einzellagen ("individual site") in Germany, Grand Cru in Alsace

Scoring—when wine writers award scores to individual wines, thereby guiding wine buyers using a universal numerical language. Some argue that scores have become more important than classification in recent decades.

Vineyard Site Selection—the single most important aspect of grape production in the New World. Considerations include elevation/altitude, mesoclimate, aspect; and soil condition, fertility, drainage, and acidity

Aspect—the direction in which a slope faces, an especially important characteristic of vineyard sites in cool climates

Mesoclimate—site climate, usually on the scale of tens or hundreds of meters, used to describe the conditions of a particular vineyard.

Microclimate—widely misused term meaning strictly the climate within a defined and very restricted space or position. In viticulture, it might be at specified positions between rows of vines, or distances above the ground.

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