

A Postbellum Plantation in Georgia

The owners of this property in the Quail Belt wanted a Southern-style home with modern infrastructure and hunting options. It is asking \$3.195 million — Sarah Tilton

Location: Dougherty County, GA

Price: \$3,195,000



Terri Younger Miller and her husband, Douglas, were living in Florida when they decided they wanted a property in Georgia's Quail Belt, an area long popular with bird hunters. After years of city living, they were looking for a home where they could hunt in the morning and fish in the afternoon. While exploring country roads in southwest Georgia, they found a 114-acre parcel in Dougherty County, which Mrs. Miller describes as the 'perfect blank canvas.' TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



They bought the land in 2002 and the following year built a 3,833-square-foot, Southern-style home. 'We considered buying an old Southern mansion, but then decided to build from scratch,' says Mr. Miller. While they wanted the house to keep with the architecture of the surrounding plantation belt, they also wanted a modern infrastructure. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



The fireplace in the living room is antique. 'I looked at a lot of the mid-19th-century plantation homes around us and talked to a lot of designers,' says Mrs. Miller. 'We needed a modern home but we wanted to keep the feeling you'd have in turn-of-the-century Georgia.' TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



In 2005, they bought a 600-acre parcel across the road, which they manage for quail, dove and deer hunting as well as its 450 acres of timber resources. Over the years, they have built roads, fences, bridges, a lake and a 4,000-square-foot headquarters building. The Millers estimate spending \$1.5 million on purchasing the land and another \$1.5 million on improvements. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



The French chandelier in the dining room has amber crystals. The china and most of the lighting fixtures are antiques, in keeping with the historic style of the home, says Mrs. Miller. The heart-pine floors came from logs salvaged from a river. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



The house has five bedrooms and 3½ baths. A breezeway connects the house and the three-car garage. A 1,000-square-foot unfinished space above the garage could be turned into guest quarters, says Mr. Miller. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



They are selling the home because the couple, who also have a home in Napa, Calif., are ready for another project. Mr. Miller, a retired real-estate investor is 66. Mrs. Miller, a retired entrepreneur, is 57. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



'We have all these expansive porches,' says Mrs. Miller. 'The porches are one of the things that have added a lot of enjoyment.' They like to sit outside and watch the wildlife. The furniture on the porch shown here dates to the 1920s, according to Mrs. Miller. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS



Mr. Miller's favorite memories of the home include shooting his first wild turkey and catching a 10-pound, large-mouth bass in their own lake. 'It's a 75-yard walk to the dock and the fire pit. On a nice, crisp fall evening, we'll have a fire and fish after dark,' he says. Shown is a hunting dog. JON KOHLER & ASSOCIATES



'The surrounding area is one of the things that really attracted us to it. There are very historic plantations all around us. It's really fun to be in that area with all that history but yet still have a manageable piece of property,' says Mrs. Miller. It's about 12 miles to Southwest Georgia Regional Airport and about 20 miles to the town of Albany. JON KOHLER & ASSOCIATES



They named the property Twin Eagles because of the bald eagles they see in the area. Mrs. Miller found two cast-stone eagles which they placed on either side of the front gate and inspired a logo for the home. The home has an asking price of \$3.195 million. Jon Kohler of Jon Kohler and Associates has the listing. TECHNICAL IMAGERY STUDIOS