

Georgia Quail-Hunting Plantation Sells for \$14.6 Million

Inventor Bob Kenna is the Buyer of Cane Mill, which had been in the Same Family for more than a Century



Photo: Jon Kohler & Associates

By Libertina Brandt

A Georgia quail plantation has sold for the first time in more than a century for \$14,587,500, according to listing broker Jon Kohler of Jon Kohler & Associates.

Known as Cane Mill, the plantation spans roughly 4,000 acres in the southwestern part of the state. One of the sellers, Albany, Ga., resident John Thompson, said his family had owned the property for nearly 150 years.

The buyer was Bob Kenna, who holds various patents in the prosthetics industry. The deal closed in August and Mr. Kenna said he now lives at Cane Mill with his wife, Odette Kenna. The two were married at the plantation, he said.

Cane Mill has eight employees whose responsibilities range from training dogs to maintaining the property. At the time of the sale, the property included a roughly 3,100-square-foot main lodge and two additional staff homes, as well as a horse barn, dog kennel, and two utility shops, Mr. Thompson said.



*Bob and Odette Kenna at Cane Mill.
Photo: Bob and Odette Kenna*

Cane Mill had been on and off the market for several years before Mr. Kohler took over the listing in February. He said he never officially put it on the market before Mr. Kenna signed a contract to buy it.

Mr. Thompson, who works in commercial real estate, sold the plantation with two of his brothers, Rod and Derrick Thompson. The property was passed down to Mr. Thompson and his brothers when their father died in 1992. The family used the plantation for hunting with friends until recent years, when Mr. Thompson leased out some of the land. The family decided to sell the property

because the upkeep was labor-intensive and expensive, he said, and they stopped visiting as often as they used to.

Mr. Kenna said he has already begun building new structures on the property, including a new house for himself and Mrs. Kenna. The couple is living in the main lodge while their new home is

continued

being built, he said. He is also fixing some of the existing structures and roads.

Mr. Kenna previously lived on a ranch in Florida, but sold it because new development was turning the area more industrial.

Mr. Kenna said he and Mrs. Kenna were drawn to Cane Mill because of its peacefulness and

rich wildlife, which includes fox squirrels, eagles, and deer. While living on the plantation, Mr. Kenna said he would breed dogs and hunt quail recreationally.

“The property itself is very beautiful,” Mr. Kenna said. “I do train dogs and sell dogs so I figured, ‘this is great, I can live the rest of my life here.’”



A dirt road that runs through Cane Mill is called Old Thompson Road.



Horses at Cane Mill.



The front entry of the main lodge.



A horse barn at Cane Mill.



A living area with a bar in the main lodge.



John Thompson, one of the plantation's former owners, on horseback.

Photos by Jon Kohler & Associates