

OLD ST. AUGUSTINE HILLS · 100± ACRE GATED SPORTING ESTATE · LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

History & Provenance

Four centuries in the making

Some properties have an address. This one has a story — where land and history become one.

- 1680s** ♦ The road at the gate is formalized by Spain as **El Camino Real** — the Royal Road from Tallahassee's mission to St. Augustine, laid over ancient Apalachee trails.
- 1826** ♦ Rebuilt as the **Bellamy Road** — the first federal highway in territorial Florida.
- 1830s** ♦ The surrounding **Chaires district** opens as one of the wealthiest agricultural corners of the antebellum South.
- 1865** ♦ The **Battle of Natural Bridge** is fought 8± miles south. West Florida Seminary cadets — the forerunner of FSU — help keep Tallahassee the only Confederate capital east of the Mississippi never captured.
- 1960** ♦ Retired Navy captain **Albert Gallatin Neal** begins his stewardship — digging two spring-fed cypress ponds and planting 4,000+ trees.
- 1960–2003** ♦ The Neal family holds the land. **Margaret Neal refuses developers**, selling only to a family who will honor it.
- 1972** ♦ Old St. Augustine Road is designated a protected **Leon County Canopy Road** — a road that cannot be built again.
- 2003–2005** ♦ **David & René Hanselman** build the cypress residence into the land's contours and raise four children here.
- Today** ♦ Descendants of the Neal family **still live on neighboring land** — living continuity of stewardship.

THE RED HILLS · "COTTON TO QUAIL"

The estate sits in the storied **Red Hills belt** between Tallahassee and Thomasville — where antebellum cotton country became the private sporting estates that define the region today: 400,000± acres of like-minded land stewards, anchored by Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy.

Some properties are sold. This one is entrusted.