

Stunning Florida estate hits the market with a staggering \$9.6million price tag and its own baseball field



by Abby Montanez

A breathtaking 100-acre estate in Florida just hit the market for \$9.63 million - and it comes with a resort-style swimming pool, spring-fed ponds and its very own fully irrigated baseball field.

Known as Old St Augustine Hills, the estate sits in Leon County, just eight miles from the Florida State Capital and around 18 miles from the Gulf Coast.

While its proximity to Tallahassee makes it convenient, the property manages to feel secluded and quiet in the best way. The estate is being sold by Jon Kohler & Associates.

‘It’s been the privilege of a lifetime to live in this home on this amazing land,’ owner David Hanselman said in the listing. ‘The memories we have are endless and timeless,

leaving here will be one of the hardest things we ever do in our lives.’

A private drive stretching for more than half a mile winds beneath towering Southern magnolias before crossing a wooden bridge and passing fruit orchards.

At the end sits the 6,000-square-foot cypress post-and-beam residence, custom designed by Rene Hanselman with architect Ken Pieper.

The six-bedroom, 7.5-bathroom home was finished in 2005, designed to blend into its surroundings rather than overpower them.

The house was crafted from cypress, with more than 20 pages of custom millwork drawings used to create its unique

moldings, doors and cabinetry.

A stained-glass tree adorns the front door, while inside, a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace anchors the enormous living space. A wall of glass can be opened completely to give the room an open air feeling.

When walking into the kitchen, guests are greeted with Viking appliances, a pair of quartz islands, custom cabinetry and a stone arch that surrounds the range.

In the master suite, there is yet another fireplace shared between the bedroom and spa-like bathroom. A soaking tub is situated in front of a picture window overlooking the water, with direct access to the pool deck.

Outside, there's a waterfall pool surrounded by Tennessee boulders, complete with a jump rock, shallow play platform, night lighting and heating.

An outdoor kitchen features a built-in grill, twin frying stations and a wood-burning fireplace, while an entertaining courtyard allows guests to move between the house, pool and outdoor spaces without intruding on the family's private quarters.

A three-car garage, maintenance equipment and tools needed to care for the grounds are also included.

But it is the baseball field that may be the biggest surprise - which comes fully irrigated and tucked away into the sprawling grounds.

Even better, the sale includes custom furniture and original artwork created specifically for the home - family heirlooms and personal possessions will remain with the owners.

There is also a workshop, pole barn, raised-bed gardens and fruit orchards growing pears, figs, persimmons, satsumas and blood oranges.

The grounds themselves have a rich history, as the property sits on the Cody Scarp - an ancient geological formation where the Red Hills meet the coastal plain roughly 100 feet above sea level.

The road outside the gates has been used for centuries.

Originally traveled by the Apalachee people and later formalized by the Spanish as the Royal Road, or El Camino Real, it was rebuilt in 1826 as the Bellamy Road, one of the earliest federal highways in territorial Florida.



The property itself was purchased in 1960 by retired Navy captain Albert Gallatin Neal, who dug the spring-fed ponds and planted thousands of trees.

After his death in 1980, his widow Margaret continued to care for the land for two decades. Margaret turned away developers, eventually passing down the estate to family in David and Rene Hanselman in 2003.

‘After twenty-three years, David hunts every morning and every afternoon on this land,’ broker Lori Bembry Weldon said, ‘and hasn’t pulled the trigger in four years. He’s come to intimately know the animals that live here. That’s the kind of relationship this place creates.’

They built the current residence and raised their four children on the property. Now, after more than two decades, the estate is once again looking for a new owners.



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