



### **Restaurant Hours**

Lunch: Monday - Saturday 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.  
Dinner: Friday - Saturday 5 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.  
Brunch on Sunday 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

### **Inn Hours**

Sunday – Monday 8 A.M. – 6 P.M.  
Tuesday – Saturday 8 A.M. – 9 P.M.

### *Seminole Inn*

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# *Seminole Inn*

*Florida the way it used to be!*

*A Charming Restored Inn Located in  
Cattle and Citrus Country*

*Early Inn History - The Inn Today*



*Circa 1926*

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## Early Inn History

In 1925 Mr. Solomon Davies Warfield, then President of the Seaboard Airline Railways, found what he believed to be the perfect location to build the center piece of the now Indiantown. Originally, the Seminole Inn was use as accommodations for guests of Warfield as well as railroad dignitaries.

The price for constructing the Seminole Inn was \$66,000.00 by a contractor out of Coral Gables. The condition was that the Inn had to open in time for season in January of 1926. With almost no delays, the Inn open in time with a big Gala Event at which Warfield's niece, Wallis Warfield is believed to have been the Social Hostess. At the time she was married to a hard drinking and reportedly abusive naval lieutenant by the name of Earl Winfield Spencer. She divorced him after 11 years of marriage in 1927. The next year she married Earnest Aldrich Simpson, an American businessman residing in London. This is where she met Edward VIII, then Prince of Wales. In April 1937, the Simpson's divorce became final and Mrs. Simpson legally changed her name back to Wallis Warfield. Edward became king in January 1936 but abdicated the throne in December 1936 to marry Wallis Warfield in France on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1937. It was declared that she would not share her husbands royal rank and she was exiled from England. She and Edward stayed in France until she was officially invited back to England in 1967. She attended Edwards funeral in 1972 and buried next to him after her death in 1986.

The architectural design style of the Inn is Mediterranean Revival, which was typical of the upper end construction used during the Florida Railroad Boom period. The outer walls measure 18 inches in width. The wood for the Pecky Cyprus ceilings, also typical of that period, was cut from the Allapattah Flats slightly north west of Indiantown. Pecky Cyprus wood was believed to be created when a epidemic of worms infested the Cyprus usually cut for fence posts. When the locals could no longer use the Cyprus for fence posts the typically thrifty Crackers began to use the wood in their houses for ceilings and walls. The wood floors are of Dade County pine and are some seventy-five years old now.

The Inn has survived several major hurricanes with the hurricane of 1929 being the worst because of high loss of local lives. She has withstood the Great Depression along with serious economic downturns and still her doors are open to those who seek "Old Florida". Eighty years of providing a "home away from home" for travelers, still she welcomes you. Stay a while, you'll see "another Florida" a softer, gentler one.

## The Inn Today

The Inn is owned by Iris Pollock Wall, born and raised here in Indiantown. She and her husband, Homer Wall, purchased the then dilapidated Inn in 1976. Embarking on a year renovation, the first in fifty years, the Seminole Inn was given a much-needed face lift and bathrooms were added to each room.

Iris ran the Inn for about three years until one time too many the cook not showing up for work caused Iris to miss Church as the hundreds of guests arrived for Sunday Brunch. The Inn was sold. After about two years the Grand Lady again closed her doors, broken and mistreated, she was to be sold on the courthouse steps. Once again Iris and Homer bought and renovated the Inn.

This time their middle daughter, Jonnie, became involved in the management of the Inn. Although, she would later leave for a year of sailing the Bahamas and the Inn would be sold again, it was the beginning of a love affair between Jonnie and the Inn.

Returning to the states, Jonnie found the Inn closed again. Approaching her father Jonnie pleaded for him to purchase the Inn yet again for the third time. Homer answered with a clear and decisive "NO, I am not buying that Inn again," only to soften his heart and place a bid with the Small Business Administration. Once again, in 1991, the Wall family purchased the Inn.

The third renovation costing over \$750,000.00, was completed in April 1992 and once again the Lady began receiving guests. Now over ten years later the Inn still receives her guests. Homer Wall passed away in September, six months after the Inn opened her doors for the third time and his wife continues to support this wonderful example of "Old Florida". Still managed and cared for by Jonnie on a day-today basis, she remains the Grand Lady of Indiantown, the keeper of history. As Homer once said, "she is my family's gift to a town that raised our children and supported our businesses."

# SEMINOLE INN



*"Florida, the way it used to be!"*