



HISTORY OF THE INN AT NEWPORT RANCH

The Town of Newport and its History

The Pomo Indians were the first inhabitants of what is now referred to as The Inn at Newport Ranch. They lived peacefully in the area for thousands of years. In the 1840s, the vast forests of giant redwoods were discovered by shipwrecked sailors, who made it back to San Francisco overland and reported their findings. The loggers started arriving around 1850 and built a series of mills and lumber chutes along the coast to transport the lumber into waiting schooners for the journey to San Francisco. The Newport chute was constructed circa 1865 and a small town was built around it on what is today the site of the Inn at Newport Ranch. Remnants of the chute can still be seen on our property. By 1885, the most accessible big trees had been cut and the mill was moved to Fort Bragg. As there was no longer a need for the chute, most of the Newport residents disassembled their buildings and followed the mill to its new location. The abandoned land then became a farm, and a number of farm buildings were constructed around 1900, including a two-story house, which forms the core of our Inn. Some of the original settlers are buried on the ranch in a small cemetery on a hill overlooking what was once the town of Newport.

The Inn at Newport Ranch Today

In 1986, a Connecticut Yankee named Will Jackson, who even as a youngster had always loved open spaces and beautiful landscapes, bought the ranch.

In 1987 Will bought a home, now known as Sea Drum, adjacent to the ranch, which we manage for guest visits.

Since the mid-eighties, Will and family have added acreage to the original ranch and opened up miles of the old logging trails. The Newport Ranch now encompasses over 2100 acres and includes three miles of continuous ridgeline as well as 1.5 miles of coastline.

In 2001, after much discussion, Will and family decided to build an Inn to give the ranch a more meaningful purpose and make it possible for others to enjoy its beauty. The Inn at Newport Ranch was created for all of those interested in exploring this magical property. A world of adventure and beauty await all those "Go West."