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I started Hawthorne Capital to build and protect my own wealth, and that goal remains the same today. I am proud to be one of the company's largest investors.

A good partnership is one where everyone wins together. When you partner with us, you won't find any hidden fees or complex structures. Our returns are created through real profits and not financial engineering.

I am privileged to partner with you and want to thank you for considering Hawthorne Capital for your investment needs.

Founder and CEO



## Who are we?

Hawthorne Capital is a **Houston-based private equity firm** that pairs Doug Smith's funds with those of other investors to purchase, subdivide, improve and sell tracts of rural Texas land.

We will often purchase a tract of 100 to 500 acres that is located about an hour outside of a major metro area like Houston. We subdivide it into ranchettes of 10-15 acres each and sell those to people who seek a rural lifestyle.

Our unique business model is generating **predictable passive income** for our investors. Investments are backed by tangible assets, and returns are mirroring the stock market's long-term trend but without the volatility.

Our executives and advisors have well over 100 years of combined real estate investing experience, and our company has sold over \$100M worth of rural land across over 6,500 acres.



AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES 2023

#1

TEXAS REAL ESTATE **#7** 

ALL TEXAS
COMPANIES

#81

ALL U.S. COMPANIES



**HOUSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL** 



**BEST PLACES TO WORK** 



## **Our Core Values**

- Ol Utilizing honest and ethical business practices
- O2 Making calculated investments that improve the welfare of investors
- O3 Embracing a sense of optimism and possibility
- O4 Supporting team member happiness and excellence

- O5 Focusing on productivity and attention to detail
- O6 Attracting, developing, and retaining the best talent
- Actively pursuing
  measurable results to guide
  our business decisions

## Where are we now?

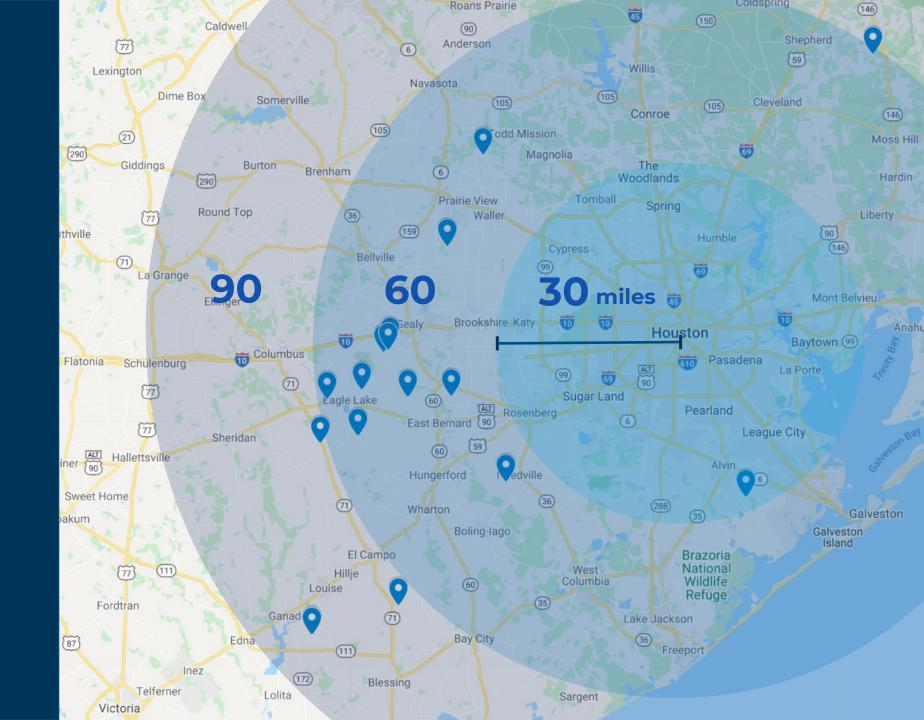




# Where are our properties located?

Our buyers typically live in the Houston, DFW, or San Antonio area. They prefer land that is located near the city but far enough away to provide an escape.

Our sweet spot for property location has been about 30 to 60 miles from downtown. We also take on projects outside of other metro areas on occasion.

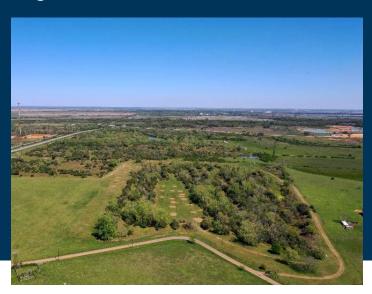


East Bernard **852 acres** Sealy **309 acres** 

Eagle Lake 205 acres







What does our land look like?



Cleveland 134 acres



Ganado 117 acres



Waller 88 acres

# How We Carve Up Our Properties

We typically divide the land into ranchettes that range from 10 to 15 acres each, ensuring that every ranchette has road frontage.

In cases where a portion of the property is difficult to access from the road, larger ranchettes are often sold to farmers or ranchers.















## **Improvements**

We generally make the following improvements to each ranchette to prepare them for our buyers:

- Electric meters
- Gates and fences
- Barbed wire fencing
- Culverts
- Water wells

Although all improvements are important, adding water wells and bringing in power are most effective for increasing each ranchette's appeal and value.

## Typical Deal

+ Recent Sales

Typical 10-acre ranchette:

Purchase price: \$100k

Improvements: +\$40k

"All in": \$140k

Sales price: \$280k

"All in": - \$140k

Spread: \$140k

Property	Purchase	Improv.*	Sales Price	Spread**	Return
15.45 acres near Wharton	\$99,153	\$37,999	\$289,000	\$151,848	2.1
12.21 acres near Hull	\$38,425	\$33,083	\$244,200	\$172,692	3.4
15.45 acres near Wharton	\$99,172	\$37,999	\$289,060	\$151,889	2.1
13.00 acres near El Campo	\$108,017	\$32,505	\$335,000	\$194,478	2.4
15.45 acres near Wharton	\$99,140	\$37,999	\$308,960	\$171,821	2.3
15.51 acres near Wharton	\$99,563	\$37,999	\$295,000	\$157,438	2.1
13.43 acres near El Campo	\$70,530	\$36,458	\$210,042	\$103,054	2.0
27.41 acres near El Campo	\$143,944	\$36,458	\$399,870	\$219,468	2.2
12.23 acres near Hull	\$38,500	\$33,083	\$244,680	\$173,097	3.4
10.12 acres near El Campo	\$84,104	\$32,505	\$220,000	\$103,391	1.9
14.00 acres near Hempstead	\$125,149	\$33,067	\$300,000	\$141,784	1.9
10.16 acres near Eagle Lake	\$92,648	\$35,841	\$255,000	\$126,511	2.0
10.18 acres near Eagle Lake	\$81,472	\$35,841	\$264,784	\$147,471	2.3
10.73 acres near Eagle Lake	\$85,848	\$35,841	\$268,275	\$146,586	2.2
11.33 acres near Eagle Lake	\$90,656	\$35,841	\$294,580	\$168,083	2.3

<sup>\*</sup> Improv. = Improvements

<sup>\*\*</sup> Spread = Rough profit before factoring in smaller deal-related expenses

## Our Model Buyer and How We Find Them

Our buyers tend to fall in the category of "Blue Collar Plus." This means that they manage and/or own a blue-collar business. Most are hardworking and have a respectable amount of disposable income.

They seek the ranchettes that we sell for the peace, freedom and quality family time that they can provide.

Most buyers will build a home or bring in a manufactured home sometime postpurchase. Over time, they will make other improvements of varying types. Examples include barns, pools, and horse stables.

Many of our buyers prefer not to work with traditional lenders. For that reason, we sell most ranchettes on owner financing.

## Lending Criteria When We Sell on Owner Financing:

- Debt-to-income ratio not to exceed 44%
- About \$10,000 down (ranges from \$5,000 to \$30,000+)
- Additional funds for mortgage payments and future improvements
- No credit score or score of 600+
- No rental evictions within the last 2 years

- No more than 3 collections in payment history
- No foreclosures or bankruptcies within the last 3 years
- No IRS liens
- No judgements or liens
- Exceptions can be made in certain cases

#### How We Market Our Properties for Sale:

- Multiple Listing Service
- Paid social media ads

- Roadside signage
- Website

+ Branded gifts upon purchase like grill or fire pit



## Why Our Business Model Works

01	Strong demand and very little supply	06	We escape competition in the big city
02	It requires a lot of capital	07	It requires a large team to scale
03	We buy in bulk and sell in small pieces	08	It seems risky to outsiders
04	We make improvements	09	Buy as agricultural land, sell as residential
05	We sell on owner financing	10	We know how to screen buyers

## Secret Sauce: Selling on Owner Financing

This sales/financing method provides us with steady cash flow for paying returns to investors, as illustrated by this typical sale:

We sell a ranchette for \$280K.

We receive a down payment of \$10k.

We finance the remaining **\$270K** over **20 years** at **10.9%** interest.

We receive \$2,769 per month for 20 years, which is \$664,454 total. That's compared to a typical investment (purchase + improvements) of \$140,000. The resulting ROI is 4.7X.

We pay the fund **\$2,492** per month for **20 years** on a fully-amortized loan. That's **\$598,008** total. This is all done from our cash flow.

# Your Investment in Hawthorne Income Fund

In the past, we have borrowed from banks to finance these land deals. We found them to be slow and bureaucratic.

This fund replaces those banks with investors like you. We're now able to move quickly and with greater ease when making purchases.

Just as a bank would, the fund (and by extension, its investors) receives first liens on our assets and predictable passive income.

<u>©</u>	10% annual preferred return	<b>(§</b> )	10.47% IRR from reinvestment option	<b>1</b>	No debt (rare), owns debt
	Secured by first liens		Returns start accruing immediately		Pays out (or compounds) monthly
	Moderately liquid	<del>6</del>	Can invest long term	<b>3</b>	Diversified across multiple deals
	Returns paid from cash flow		Large investments accepted		No UBIT (rare)
	No fees or expenses (rare)		Multiple investment periods		Strong track record
	Recession and pandemic resilient	® ® © 0.100	Audited financials	<u>.</u> 8 4-4-8	Third-party administration



## Our Track Record



# Better Alternative to the Stock Market

#### On paper, both have similar average returns:

- Hawthorne Income Fund: 10.47%
- Stock market investments: 9%-11%

#### But reality paints a different picture:

- For the twenty years ending in 2015, the S&P 500 Index averaged 9.85% a year. The average investor earned a market return of only 5.19%.\*
- A new study finds that the average investor in all U.S. stock funds earned 3.7% annually over the past 30 years, a period in which the S&P 500 Index returned 11.1% annually.\*

#### Stock market investments

Most people start their investment journey when they are excited about the market's upward trend.

This upward trend inevitably stalls and reverses, sometimes requiring decades to recover.

Unfortunately, people buying high and selling low is the norm.

#### S&P 500 peak to recovery



## What Investors Are Saying

"I visited one of his projects and saw first-hand how this business model works. I trusted Doug as a long-time colleague and friend, so invested part of my IRA in his first fund. He has **communicated regularly** about the projects, and almost all **have exceeded projections**. Payments have come like clockwork. I plan to re-invest my IRA allocation into his next fund, and **endorse his business model as well proven**, **relatively safe, and as offering better returns than available elsewhere** for this level of risk."

Glenn, Real Estate Investor

"Hawthorne Capital has been wonderful to work with. Having known Doug for over 10 years, I wouldn't expect anything less than the best. I have been investing with Hawthorne Capital for 3 years and couldn't be more pleased with my customer experience as well as my returns!"

Daniel, Business Owner

"This has been **one of the best investments I have ever made**. I've known Doug for 20 years now and
he's one of the most trustworthy, does what he says
person I know. Everything has gone exactly as it was
described and the returns have been outstanding.
The team he has assembled to manage the fund is
amazing and great to work with. The
communication has been fantastic and they are
quick to answer any questions I have. I **highly recommend the fund to everyone**."

John, Inventor and Entrepreneur

"I'm an active real estate investor. I've known and worked with Doug for close to 20 years. Hawthorne has been a great investment with interest payments coming on the first business day of each month without fail. The communication in regards to the specific purchases and sales have been exceptional. I've referred many of my friends that invested in Hawthorne, as well. They have been equally as happy. The Hawthorne team has always quickly answered any questions."

"As a business owner, I appreciate other businesses that operate with the level of expertise and integrity as Doug Smith and his team at Hawthorne Capital. My wife and I have known Doug personally for over three years and began our initial investment two years ago, during which time we have found him to be very timely, communicative and forthright in his reporting of the fund's progress and status. Equally importantly, we are very happy with his expertise in providing a high yield, low risk fund."

Madhu, Business Owner

"I'm so pleased to have had the opportunity to invest with Doug and Hawthorne Capital. I've been **very satisfied with the cash returns** that I receive monthly. Having known Doug personally, I can also speak to the **integrity of his character and business**. As I continue to look for investment vehicles that provide passive income, I know I'll want to increase my capital contributions to the fund."

Realtor and Real Estate Investor

Jeff, Real Estate Investor

## **Key Team Members**



**Doug Smith**Founder and CEO



**Spencer Grogan** 

President



**Jeffrey Burrell** 

Vice President of Investor Relations



**Jack Berger** 

Vice President of Investor Relations



Jaime Alvizar

Operations Manager



**Aletha Bradley** 

Operations Manager



**Chad Andrus** 

Licensed Texas Broker



Francois Delille

Licensed Texas Broker



**Richard Drake** 

Real Estate Investor & Business Owner Board of Advisors



**Brant Phillips** 

Real Estate Investor & Business Owner Board of Advisors



Glenn Dickson

Real Estate Investor & Business Owner Board of Advisors



## **Doug Smith**

## Founder & CEO

01	Bought and sold 100+ houses and 6,500+ acres of rural land	02	Named to the Houston Business Journal (HBJ) 40 Under 40 list
03	Founded, led and ultimately sold an Inc. 5,000 property technology company named REI Network, LP	04	Gives back by investing in veteran-owned businesses, mentoring local entrepreneurs and granting scholarships
05	Former software developer for ExxonMobil	06	Graduated from the business and honors colleges at Texas Tech University as the top graduate out of 500+ students



# Hawthorne Capital Predictable passive income backed by Texas land

## Thank You

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