

School of Forest Resources & Conservation

HAROLD S. NEWINS

Founder and First Director

Harold S. Newins, a native of Patchogue, New York, was educated at Lafayette College and Yale University. He embarked on a successful career including three years with the furniture industry, service as a State Forester of West Virginia, and forest utilization faculty assignments with three state universities.

When he arrived in 1936 at the University of Florida, he brought a broad perspective of the forestry field. In 1937, he was instrumental in getting the School of Forestry (later the School of Forest Resources & Conservation) established by passage of Senate Bill 15 by the Florida Legislature. From then until he retired in 1951, he dedicated his life to the School's development as its first Director. During this 14 year period the School's baccalaureate forestry program was accredited by the Society of American Foresters, teaching programs in wood products technology and wildlife management were established, a master of science program was initiated, research in forest management and utilization got underway, the 2,080 acre Austin Cary Memorial Forest was acquired, a wood products laboratory was built, and an eleven member faculty, several of whom achieved national reputation, was recruited.