



For Immediate Release
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1920s bungalows highlighted on home tour

French Lick home tour showcases local turnaround

The magnificently restored hotels in French Lick and West Baden Springs aren't the only landmarks in Orange County's Springs Valley. On October 6, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana sponsors a ten-site tour that highlights 1920s bungalows and apartments, as well as Victorian-era homes.

Most of the structures on tour have been renovated since the arrival of gaming in the side-by-side towns of French Lick and West Baden, known as Springs Valley. Two of the tour sites are B&Bs, and some are used as second homes and occasionally rented to tourists. Historic Landmarks Foundation sponsored the tour to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the town of French Lick. Nine of the tour homes are in French Lick and one is in West Baden Springs.

Several sites on the tour are associated with the Ballard family, a storied name in Springs Valley and nationally in the hospitality industry. The tour includes the homes of Ed Ballard (owner of the West Baden Springs Hotel, 1922-1932) and Norman Ballard (owner of the historic Castle Knoll Farm on State Road 56). The tour also features the four flats in the Ballard Apartments, built in 1917 by Logan Ballard (owner of the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, 1918-1923). Three 1920s bungalows on the steep and charming Virginia Avenue were built by the Ballards for family members, casino dealers and hotel employees. The street is now a local historic district.

The ten *Bungalows & More* tour sites (*details included in addendum*) include:

Beechwood Inn, constructed in 1915 as the home of Ed Ballard, 8513 West State Road 56 (restored by owners Jerry & Carolyn Fuhs)

Ballard Apartments, a four-flat building built in 1917 for casino dealers by Logan Ballard, 646 Maple Street (Owners: Phillis & Tim Lemon)

Norman Ballard House, a high-style Craftsman bungalow built c.1917 for Norman Ballard, 711 Maple Street (a restoration-in-progress by owners Phillis & Tim Lemon).

Three Craftsman-style bungalows in the Ballard Homes historic district, all built c.1917 by Norman Ballard:

713 Virginia Avenue (Owners: William & Stace Kimmel)

724 Virginia Avenue (Owner: Jim Stickler)

759 Virginia Avenue (a restoration-in-progress by owners Eric & Denise Whitson)

Robbins-Flick House, 643 Maple Street (a restoration-in-progress by owners Eric & Denise Whitson)

MacDonald House built c.1911, 551 Summit Street (Owners: Rex G. Hinkle and Jody Hays)

Ryan House, now Artists Inn and Gallery, 592 Summit Street (Owner: Vesta Seville)

E.B. Rhodes House, built in 1900 at 726 Rhodes Avenue in West Baden Springs (Owners: Jerry & Linda Gleason)

Tickets for the *Bungalows & More* home tour are \$15 on day of tour and \$12 in advance. Sites will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m, with a map provided. Advance sale tickets may be purchased at Historic Landmarks' shops—Circa 1901 in French Lick Springs hotel and Landmarks Emporium in the West Baden Springs Hotel. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information. On the day of the tour, tickets will be sold only at Historic Landmarks' shops in the hotels and at Beechwood Inn. Buses will circulate between designated parking lots and the tour areas.

Bungalows & More ticket holders who present a ticket can purchase guided tours of the West Baden Springs and French Lick Springs Hotels at half price (\$5) on October 5, 6 or 7. The hotel tours are offered daily at 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m.