



The Story We Never Want To Stop Telling

In September 1986, Vestron Pictures and Dancing Film Productions Inc. began filming a new movie at Mountain Lake Lodge. At the start of filming, the movie was originally titled “Dancing” and was later renamed “Dirty Dancing”. On Tuesday, September 2, we entered into a contract to begin serving meals for cast and crew, with filming to start shortly after on September 5. Since Mountain Lake Lodge was selected as the filming location at the last minute, The Lodge was home to both resort guests, as well as cast and crew throughout filming. Among the many staying here, were co-stars Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey, along with Jerry Orbach, Kelly Bishop, Cynthia Rhodes, and Jack Weston.

A low budget, last minute planning, and short filming timeline set low expectations for the film. However, Dirty Dancing exceeded all expectations, it has won an Academy Award® (Best Original Song) and a Golden Globe® (Best Original Song-Motion Picture), it was also nominated for a GRAMMY®, and still captures the hearts of millions and prevails as one of the greatest films of all time.

The history of Mountain Lake Lodge dates back to 1851. We recognize many milestones, but the filming of Dirty Dancing will always remain a memory near and dear to our heart. The spirit of the movie lives on and will continue to be passed down through generations.

“It’s a feeling...”



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a heartbeat.”

1 *Fun Facts*

Prior to filming, the movie company made several changes to the property, to help give it the festive resort look

- The white bollards and chains that line the Front Lawn
- The beach area in the film, now the playground area by Baby's Cabin
- Spray painting all the trees / grass green since it was early fall at the time of filming

2 *Welcome to Kellerman's*

Not many know this, but there are two different actresses that play Mrs. Houseman. Lynne Lipton was originally casted to play the role of Marjorie Houseman. Lipton became ill early into filming so Jerry Orbach suggested that Kelly Bishop would be a perfect fit. Before becoming Mrs. Houseman, Kelly Bishop was casted as the bungalow bunny! If you pay close attention to this scene, you can see Mrs. Houseman's hair changes color because of the different actresses!

3 *Who is That?*

Baby stood on this porch and looked into Harvest restaurant where she saw Johnny for the first time. This porch was also used for the scene where the Housemans ate breakfast. The white shutters seen around you were installed by the film company in 1986!

4 *Harvest Then and Now*

Most of what you see in Harvest today was used during the filming of Dirty Dancing. The lights, ceiling fans and even the tables you dine at have not been touched since 1986!

5 *Wrong Way Johnny!*

After smashing his window, Johnny drives his car on this one way road in the wrong direction. Patrick Swayze did not drive the car in this scene, the real life owner of the vehicle did! The car used was owned by a local resident and was rented from him for filming.



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6 *Pre-Watermelon*

Leading up to Baby finding Johnny's cousin on the bridge to help carry watermelons, the movie company made a transition from here to Lake Lure, North Carolina where Baby carried a watermelon. This is also where Baby & Johnny hide from Jake Houseman, Lisa, and Robbie, while Johnny accuses Baby of hiding him from her father.

7 *The Lift*

Jennifer Grey and Patrick Swayze took breaks every 5-10 minutes because the water was so cold in October! Patrick had someone under water during each take holding his legs so he could perform the lift easier. The Patrick Swayze memorial stone to your left was made from a stone pulled directly next to where the lift scene was filmed.

8 *The Gazebo*

Most recognized as the location for the salsa lessons given by Penny in the beginning of the movie, the gazebo was built by a group of architects at Virginia Tech. The crew had to do some movie magic, the year 1986 is engraved on the inside of the gazebo but had to be covered up during filming because the movie was set to take place in 1963!

9 *Baby's Cabin*

Built in the 1930s, the Virginia Cabin, more famously known as Baby's Cabin was the home of the Houseman family during the movie. The film crew used the inside of this cabin for filming scenes such as late night talks with Lisa, Baby waking up her father, and Johnny visiting Mr. Houseman.

10 *Front Lawn Games*

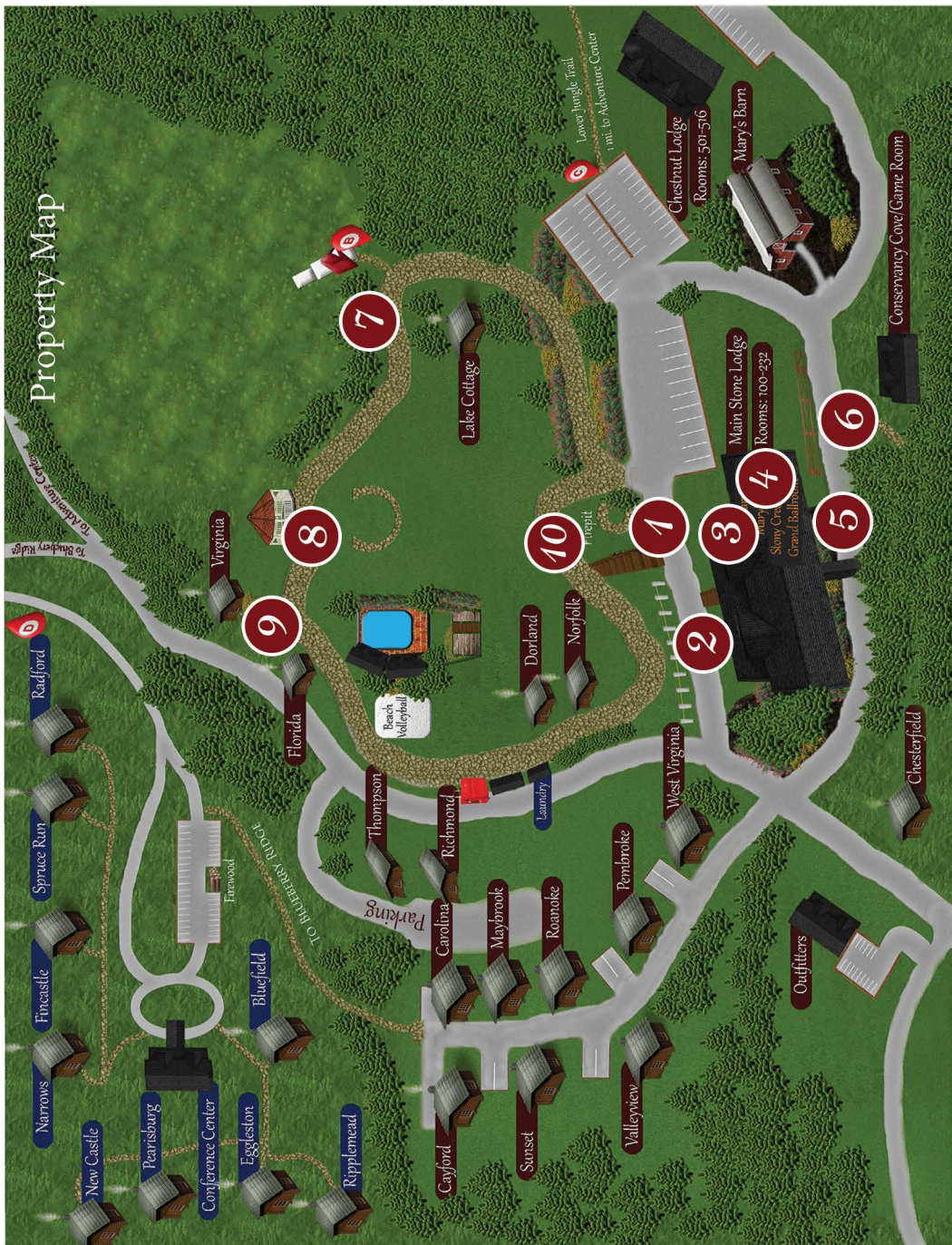
Many of the guests staying at Mountain Lake Lodge during filming participated in this scene. Due to being filmed in the colder months, most of the property began to lose its color. Especially in this scene, the film company used green food coloring to spray the grass and trees to make it look more like summer!



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Property Map



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