



LAHS Moments in History

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018

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LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY - JANUARY 2018

LISBON'S SKI TOWS and the FIRST ROPE SKI TOW IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Early winter recreation in our towns included skating on the river and ponds, sledding on the hills and snow-packed roadways with toboggans or other makeshift sleds, and skiing on some of the hills with very rustic skis or barrel staves fitted with strapping. Trudging up a snowy hill while hauling skis and poles for the thrill of quickly skiing down was improved upon in 1935 when Lisbon built a rope ski tow. Lisbon had three ski tows over the years, and Lisbon can claim **the first rope ski tow in the State of New Hampshire** thanks to the efforts of the Lisbon Outing Club which was formed in 1935 to promote winter recreation.



Lisbon's first ski tow used a rope from a tow in Woodstock, Vermont which the Club purchased and installed on the east side of Route 302 opposite the Stephen Trevena farm just about one mile towards Littleton from Lisbon Village. Trevena leased to the Club a side hill on his property. One of the men involved with the first tow was Lisbon native and garage owner, Harlan Jesseman. One of Jesseman's salesmen was interested in skiing and talked Harlan into going over to see Woodstock's tow. Woodstock was in the process of making their tow longer, so they sold their old rope to the Lisbon Outing Club. According to Harlan's memoirs, the Town of Lisbon willingly loaned its tractor which the Club used to drive the wheel for the rope tow. Jesseman rigged up the wheel with a series of pins every three or four inches that made the rope zigzag so it wouldn't slip off. Jesseman and Harold Eastman, a mechanic from Landaff, worked all winter on the tow. As Jesseman remembered, Eastman's hands were always warm, and his were always cold, so on a really cold day they would swap mittens back and forth so they could continue to work comfortably.

The Route 302 tow was ready to go and first used on January 10, 1935, and the first person to go up the tow was 17-year old John Bailey who lived on Bishop Road across the Ammonoosuc River from the tow. The Route 302 ski tow was built and operated by volunteer labor, but when there was a small crowd, the Club asked for donations to help pay for gasoline for the tractor.



Route 302 Ski Tow looking east to west from the top of hill towards the Trevena Farm. There are no buildings there now.

Two years later, the tow was moved to a hill on the Cheney Farm just past Savageville off the left side of the beginning of Pearl Lake Road in Lisbon. The Cheney Farm tow was used for a few more years before being abandoned. In 1959, the Lisbon Outing Club purchased a 500-foot rope tow from the Mittersill ski area in Franconia and installed it on a steep slope off Lisbon's Grafton Street on the west side of town.



Volunteers pose at the opening of the Grafton Street Ski Tow on December 28, 1959. (Left to right: Wallace Berry, Russell Rankin, Steve Hilvar, Lisbon High School Principal and Ski Coach

Oliver Cole, Tow Chairman Wallace Clough, Lisbon Outing Club President Bill Clark, Dennis Marshall and David Clough. On steps (left to right) Jeff Allbright, Skip Besaw, Bob Smith.

The Grafton Street slope was immediately very popular for free ski, child and adult lessons, and free use by the public school. If the school used the tow, the operator had to be approved by the Club. Students David Clough and Keith Wegener were approved operators, and approved rollers were Wallace Smith, Wallace Clough, and David Clough. A warming shed was built beside the tow shed which had a blower transferring the heat from the motor to the warming shed. Grooming consisted of local youth packing down the snow for the first few years until the Club purchased for \$600 an old Oliver wide-track tractor which they used to pull a board or roller while packing snow down with boards they bolted to the tracks. Later, a used groomer was purchased from Cannon Mountain.

The left slopes were lit for night skiing by 1962. The lit hillside could be seen from all over town and parts of Landaff. That and the hum of the tow motor echoing through the hills and valley made it known to all that the tow was operating. By that time, there were ninety-one members. Season passes cost \$2 for juniors or \$4 for families. A senior membership was \$4 per year, except for wives of members who only had to pay \$2 per year. The Club had invested \$5,000 in the tow which included purchasing the previously-leased property. In 1963 a new rope was purchased, and the slopes were widened and graded. Skiers were required to have some type of safety strap to prevent their skis from flying loose down the slopes, and signs were posted prohibiting loose hair, clothing, or scarves which could get caught in the rope tow.



Anyone remember this homemade sign at the Grafton Street Ski Tow?



The top of the Grafton Street Ski Tow c. 1963 overlooking Lisbon Village





Grafton Street Ski Tow motor and warming sheds c. 1959



Hanging on to the rope and heading up the hill

Volunteer labor, donations, and clever mechanical know-how by Club members kept the tow going over the years. The Grafton Street tow was a unique in-town, family-oriented operation in a neighborhood close to the school, a perfect and inexpensive location for meets, lessons, and school ski team practices, winter carnival events, and old-fashioned fun. Drives were held to provide ski equipment so everyone could be included. Those who couldn't afford a ticket could ski in exchange for helping on the tow or maintenance on Club property. Lisbon Ski Tow organizers hoped they could find a way to have affordable snowmaking capabilities, but it never happened. Over the years, usage of the Lisbon Ski Tow dwindled due to rising costs of ski equipment, availability of lessons at Cannon Mountain with rentals and free skiing after lessons, less snowfall, and changes in winter recreation habits in general.

The tow officially ceased operations in 1998, but locals continued to sled and occasionally use the hill to ski or snowboard at their own risk. In 2012, the Lisbon Ski Tow equipment was donated to the Mt. Eustis Ski Hill organization in Littleton, NH by the Lisbon Lions Club to which ownership had been transferred years before. Now the slope sits idle. The Lisbon Lions Club retains ownership of the property.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – FEBRUARY 2018

LISBON ARCHITECT, SYLVANUS DAYTON MORGAN



Sylvanus Dayton Morgan (1857-1940)

Architect Sylvanus Dayton (S.D.) Morgan first made his mark on Lisbon when he was hired to build the c. 1891 Lisbon Public School on Highland Avenue. During completion of the school in 1891, he also built his own Queen Anne “cottage” across from the school's ball field. To the south side of his home he built a cottage for his foreman (now the home of Tom and Karen White). On the other side of his home he built a duplex (now “the annex” property of Lisbon Regional School) to rent as a home for William Price and Ben Webb, founders of New England Electrical Works, now New England Wire Technologies. S. D. proceeded to build and improve many Lisbon homes and buildings as well as being one of the most prolific White Mountain builders.



The S. D. and Kathryn Morgan home on Highland Avenue with their son, George, and family posing on the side lawn c. 1920. On the hill above is the former home of Wallace and Mary Clough off Ash Hill Road.

S. D. was born in Weld, Maine in 1857. By the time he was fourteen his parents and six siblings had died of tuberculosis leaving him an orphan. He walked 150 miles from Weld to Hooksett, New Hampshire where relatives resided. He finished high school there and worked at different jobs, one being at a saw mill where his health suffered. His family sent him to Bethlehem, New Hampshire. Whether they had heard about the relief from hay fever for which the White Mountain town was known, we don't know. S. D. was by that time twenty years old and first worked as a barber in Bethlehem. Three years later he was working as a carpenter and at Maplewood, one of the many Bethlehem hotels during the era of the grand White Mountain resorts. It was at Maplewood that S. D. became acquainted with hotelier Frank Abbott and learned the hotel business. He went with Abbott to South Carolina and Florida and built hotels. When he returned to Bethlehem he enlarged the Sinclair Hotel and accepted contracts to build private homes in and around Bethlehem and to update and modernize the Upland Hotel in Bethlehem.

In 1883, S.D. married Kathryn George Aldrich whom he had met while working in Franconia. S. D. adopted Kathryn's son, Calvin, from a previous marriage, and the couple had one son, George, together.

S. D. was thirty-three years old when he secured the contract in 1890 to build the Lisbon Public School for \$30,000. The Goodall Pinnacle on the site had already been leveled at the cost of \$3,000 in preparation for the new school building.



Looking up the Ammonoosuc River towards Lisbon village c. 1890, the red star shows the plain on Highland Avenue after it was prepared for construction of the new Lisbon Public School.



Looking from Ash Hill west to east over Lisbon Village c. 1891, the new Lisbon Public School at right center sits alone on the Highland Avenue plain before the rest of Highland Avenue was developed.



Lisbon c. 1908 showing the new school which was completed in 1891 and the increase of homes along Highland and Armstrong Avenues and along West Street. Note the footbridge at lower right center built c. 1895 crossing from West Street over the Ammonoosuc River primarily to accommodate foot traffic for employees of Parker Young Company on South Main Street. The footbridge was removed in 1970.



A great image c. 1910 looking down from the hill above Grafton Street showing the beautiful new Lisbon Public School and the development of the Highland Avenue area to the right.

Morgan and his descendants kept no detailed list of his building accomplishments. There have been a number of articles published about S. D., and the list has grown over the years due to oral tradition, comparison of building styles, news items, town records, and S. D.'s existing blueprints. The structures we can be sure of in Lisbon on Highland Avenue include his own home (now McKeevers'), the duplex now known as the Lisbon Regional School "annex," the Whites', a major renovation of the former George McGregor home across from Highland Place, and the house at the corner of Forest Street. S. D. also built the former home of Roland and Barbara Jesseman on Highland Place. On the east side of Armstrong Avenue going up, he built

the former Backer house (now Morrisons') and the former Butson house (now Perhams'). On the west side going up, he built the former Weymouth and Elliott house, former Harlan Jesseman house (now Wrights'), and the former Methodist parsonage, now Northrops'.

S. D. built the 1900 addition to New England Electrical Works, the Lisbon Manufacturing Company mill on the former Parker Young Company property, the Boynton and Bank Blocks, the United Congregational Church parsonage (now offices for White Mountain Footwear), some of the rooms in the former Masonic building (torn down in 1980s), and the H. B. Moulton mansion on Park Ridge (torn down in the 1940s).



The front of the Herbert B. Moulton mansion at the corner of Park Ridge and Woolson Avenue ran along Park Ridge. Below is the back view with the driveway coming off Woolson Avenue. The home on the site is now owned by Barry and Gerri Liveston.



S. D. also built Elmwood House in Franconia (burned in 1889), Hotel Lookoff in Sugar Hill (razed in 1973), the new Profile House in Franconia (burned in 1923), Randolph Hotel (Eastern Slopes Inn) in North Conway, the Club House at Bethlehem Country Club, Lake Tarleton Club in Pike,

Lincoln Episcopal Church, the third Mt. Washington Summit House, Glencliff Sanitorium, North Conway Memorial Hospital, Newport National Bank, and banks in Newbury and Wells River, VT.

S. D. pre-fabricated the Mt. Washington Summit House in sections in his barn workshop on Highland Avenue and transported them to Mt. Washington by train, up the mountain by the Cog Railway, and then by wagon to the site.

S. D. also completed expansions and additions to Sinclair Hotel and Upland Terrace in Bethlehem, The Balsams, Forest Hills Hotel in Franconia, Mt. Washington Hotel, and the Tip Top House on Mt. Washington. S. D. built many private dwellings including beautiful private summer residences in Bethlehem, Sugar Hill, Franconia Notch, and Dixville Notch. Many of the cottages were built on hotel properties.

In 1908, S. D. financed an opening inventory for his son George's new store named S. D. Morgan and Son which was located in the Parker Block in Lisbon. The store carried a variety of items as well as handling daily papers and magazine subscriptions for forty years. It also was the base for their railway express business which began in 1931.



Complimentary fan from S. D. Morgan & Son



S. D. Morgan standing at right in a fur coat beside a horse-driven sled transporting an automobile carrying a generator during the short time the S. D. Morgan & Son sold generators.



S. D. Morgan's drafting set

S. D. Morgan died on October 31, 1940 at the age of 83 and is buried in Grove Hill Cemetery in Lisbon. Members of the Morgan family lived in the Highland Avenue home until 1970.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – MARCH 2018

LISBON PHOTOGRAPHER ALVIN THURBER'S WORK RETURNS HOME

Alvin Thurber was a photographer who was in business in Lisbon from about 1913 until the mid-1920s before he and his wife moved to California where they lived for the rest of their lives. Thurber was born in Trout Brook, Quebec in 1894. An only child, he moved in 1896 to Lisbon with his parents. His father was employed at Parker Young Company in Lisbon as a piano sounding board maker. At the age of 21, Alvin was married to Leta Gormley of Bath, N.H. By that time, Alvin was becoming an established photographer with a studio in the Parker Block in Lisbon. He also photographed local views.

By 1930, Alvin and Leta Thurber were living in Pasadena, CA where he worked in his own photo supply store and as a photographer. They remained in California where Leta died in 1968, and Alvin died in 1976. The couple had no children of record.

Thurber's prints and glass negatives were for some reason stored in the upstairs of Clark Goudie Hardware store on Main Street in Lisbon. During the early 1970s, a student at Franconia College who was interested in photography was given the collection. He has had them all these years and recently donated to the Lisbon Area Historical Society a large number of wonderful original prints and copies. Most of the photos of people are not labeled, but it is still very interesting to study their clothing and hair styles. We do recognize a few of the individuals. The views around town are fascinating and invaluable to our historical research.

Here are a few of the c. 1913-1926 standout images from the recently received Thurber collection.



Winter scene looking up School Street near the Lisbon Town Hall towards the intersection of School and Grafton Streets.



A winter scene looking down South Main Street near the intersection of Main and Central Streets.

In the above photo, the first house on the left is the former home and office of Dr. Eugene McGregor. Now it is an apartment building and home to Styles by Suzanne. The back section of the house is the oldest remaining wood structure in Lisbon Village, built c. 1800 by the first merchant in town, William Porter Beane and used as a coffeehouse, tavern, and post office. The front part was built in 1831. The house was for years home to Lisbon physicians. The next house down on the same side of the street was the home of the Allen family. It was torn down in 1945, and a newer home sits there now. That little Allen cape was built in 1815 and was among the first four houses built in the village. The property's carriage house was moved across the road and is now a private dwelling to the north of the information booth.



Parker Young Company on South Main Street looking east to west in its heyday going full steam with its lumber operation and manufacturing of piano sounding boards, boxes, hardwood flooring, and custom cabinetry.



Looking across the footbridge from West Street to South Main Street. The footbridge was built in 1895 to accommodate foot traffic to and from Parker Young Company. The footbridge was torn down in 1970.

One old Lisbon resident remembers a man who pulled his wife across the bridge in a sled to go to church. The express delivery truck was driven across the bridge with a delivery at least one time.



This building was originally built at the top of Whitcher Street c. 1901 as a factory for Granite State Wire, an early and unsuccessful competitor to New England Electrical Works, now New England Wire Technologies. The Jamaica Glove Company factory was in business from 1913-1934. It is now a warehouse for White Mountain Footwear.



Lisbon Selectman Allen Ash stands by the town's gravel spreader on Main Street c. 1926.

Ash invented the gravel-spreading contraption which was used with a Town of Lisbon vehicle. This was a stretch of Lisbon Main Street where two automobile dealerships were beginning to flourish: Lisbon Auto Garage in the background and Jesseman's Garage to the right of Ash. Both dealerships took the place of blacksmith operations.



Memorial Day parade in 1923 heading across the School Street bridge over to Main Street for ceremonies.

The H. T. Andross store is pictured at center left across from the Lisbon Town Hall. Three years later, the Lisbon Public Library was built between that store and the riverbank after a retaining wall had been built on that part of the riverbank. An interesting vehicle with rollers is at right coming along Water Street. The Charles Parker mansion on Park Ridge can be seen above the Lisbon Town Hall. Charles Parker was an owner of Parker Young Company. His partner James Riley Young had built his own mansion to the right of Parker's, but it is obscured in this photograph.



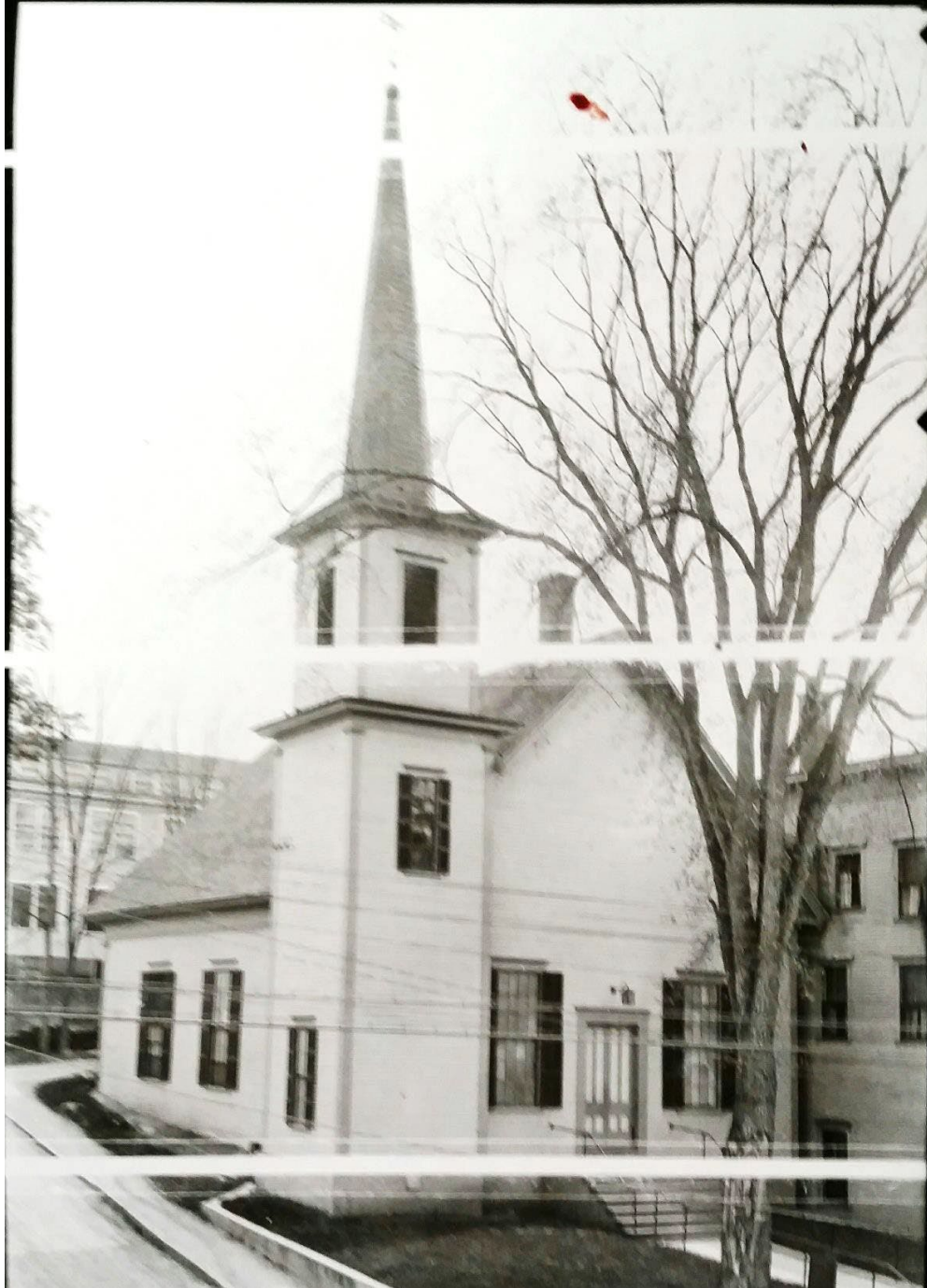
A band plays in front of the Lisbon United Congregational Church on Memorial Day 1923.

Try to look past the defects in this wonderful image. The sign tacked to the tree by the church steps reads "Notice in celebrating on this sidewalk in front of this church per order of commissioners."



Memorial Day 1923 unveiling of the monuments on the lawn of the Lisbon Methodist Church. Present that day were the Governor and other State dignitaries.

Columncrest, the mansion of local businessman and financier William H. Cummings is above the right roof of the church. It was built in 1853 and razed in 1970.



Lisbon Advent Church at the corner of Main and Whitcher Streets.

The church was built in 1874 by Rev. Isaiah Shipman. The First Congregational Church of Lisbon was organized in 1878 and used this church for services. In 1882 the United Church of Christ purchased the building and used it until 1914 when it was sold to the Advent Church. It burned in the fire of July 1941 along with all the other buildings along Main Street from Whitcher Street to the brick Congregational Church at the corner of Main and Depot Streets. A brick building formerly used for restaurants and other businesses is now on this site.



The Young-Cobleigh Tavern, a local landmark along the left side of Route 302 headed toward Littleton just outside Lisbon.

The barn across from the tavern blew down in a windstorm in June of 1932. This is Lisbon's most historic site. Lisbon's original settlement was centered around this site where the settlers built a fort in 1775. The fields around the property were used for annual musters which drew thousands of practicing militia and spectators well into the mid-1850s. The blockhouse from the fort became the home and famous tavern of Samuel Young who like many other Lisbon settlers served in the Revolutionary War. The structure was enlarged and changed over the years by different owners. The novel *The Nancy Flyer* by Ernest Poole is based on this tavern. Samuel Young's brother Jesse built the next house on the road. It was later owned by Presby, Trevena, and Simpson, and was burned years ago for fire training. The old tavern is now a private home.



White Mountain Ice Cream Factory which was located in the old carriage shop behind today's Lisbon Public Library.

Truman Glover's White Mountain Ice Cream was known for its rich ice cream which was delivered locally and to White Mountain resorts. The old building burned in 1969 and the site is now parking space behind the library.



An example of the many unlabeled images in Thurber's collection, this lovely image is typical of an old hardscrabble farm and its multi-generational inhabitants.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – APRIL 2018

SAMUEL MARTIN AND THE TALE OF TWO POWDER HORNS

It has been recorded throughout Lisbon history that Samuel Martin (1722-1806) was the first white settler in Lisbon, arriving sometime after 1763. Also passed down through the years is the story that ten years earlier, around 1753, Martin traveled from his home in Woodbury, Connecticut on a hunting expedition to our northern wilderness on the heels of hearing glowing accounts from prisoners taken by Indians. Martin followed the Connecticut River continuing as far north as Lancaster where there is a Martin Meadow Pond named after a trapper named Martin, probably this Samuel. Martin's young son William born in 1744 in Connecticut accompanied him on the trip. After serving in the French and Indian War, Samuel Martin returned to the meadows in Lisbon along the Ammonoosuc River. Beside Henry Pond which is located on the left just outside Lisbon along Route 302 on the way to Littleton, Martin built the first cabin in our town. Some may know this pond as Hanno Pond, named for the Hanno family that lived on the abutting property, but Henry Pond is the original name taken from a Henry family that lived there in the very early 1800s.



Henry Pond c. late 1800s, in Lisbon between Route 302 and the Ammonoosuc River

While living in Lisbon, Samuel Martin was one of many settlers who served in the Revolutionary War. He lived in Lisbon, first at Henry Pond and then owned property near Salmon Hole, a portion of which is now Salmon Hole Cemetery. Samuel and his wife Ann (Hurd) had four children. Samuel died in Woodbury, Connecticut in 1806, and Ann died there in 1781. The couple's gravesite is unknown to us. William was their oldest child and also settled near Salmon Hole and served in the Revolutionary War in Bedel's Regiment. William married Lois (Verbeck), and they had eleven children.

According to *Historical Sketches of Lyman, New Hampshire*, by E. B. Hoskins published in 1903, William Martin moved from Lisbon and settled in Lyman about the time of its settlement. He married and settled on Quebec Road. He was a famous hunter and trapper and went off on long expeditions. He was frequently accompanied by an Indian to whom he was very attached. He was 70 on his last expedition

which was at a camp at Victory Bog. He returned with furs which he took to Haverhill and sold for \$60. He was a large, tall man who wore his hair long and braided down his back. He was a firm believer in witches.

William died in Lyman in 1842 at the age of 98. According to notation made by a local DAR member in the 1930s, William is buried in an unmarked grave beside his son, William Jr., in Pond Cemetery which is across from Ogontz Lake in Lyman not far from their Quebec Road farm. William's wife, Lois (Verbeck) Martin died in 1839 at the age of 80, and she is buried in Center Cemetery in Lyman. Her marker is a broken gravestone. If the notation is correct, it seems odd that William and Lois would be buried in different Lyman cemeteries.

William and Lois's only son, William Jr. was born in 1789 and married Betsey Noyes, but the couple never had any children. They lived on the family farm on Quebec Road. In 1880, at the age of 90, William Martin Jr. gave an interview to Lisbon historian Samuel Emery. William Jr. recounted that his grandfather, Samuel Martin, was fond of hunting and frequently hunted with John Stark.

William Martin Jr. passed away at the age of 92. William Martin Jr. and his wife Betsey are buried in Pond Cemetery.



Pond Cemetery gravestone for William Martin who died July 22, 1882 at age 92, 8 months & 21 days

So, the Martin family holds a special place in the history of both Lisbon and Lyman.

The Lisbon Area Historical Society has in its collection a powder horn carved "Samuel Marten This Horn Mead at Cro Point Novr 20, 1759." Samuel Martin must have been among the 12,000-plus British regulars and provincial troops encamped at Fort Crown Point that year during the French and Indian War. Troops that didn't winter over at Crown Point went south by October, and since Samuel's powder horn has a date of November, there is a good chance that he stayed at the fort and later went with the other Connecticut troops to Montreal with British General Jeffrey Amherst in 1760.

In late 2005, Samuel Martin's powder horn disappeared from our museum which led to an investigation not only about who took the horn and when, how, and where it was, but how the precious artifact even became part of the Society's collection. Once it was noticed that the powder horn was no longer in its place, the Society alerted local antique and primitive dealers and put a notice in a widely-circulated

antiques publication hoping the thief would try to sell it and it would be intercepted and returned to Lisbon.

In the meantime, a written list of items donated in the early years (1964 or so) during the organization of the Society was found deep in our files. One notation on the list read, "Replica of powder horn carved by Samuel Martin, on loan from the DAR." So, the Society had all those decades had a copy, not the original powder horn. There was a very active DAR member during the early years of the Society's existence whose family had a past connection to the Martin family. A call to a descendant of the DAR member revealed that the actual original Samuel Martin powder horn was in a private collection. The owner of the powder horn was just as surprised as us that there was a replica. So, someone who knew the historical significance to Lisbon of Samuel's powder horn had seen to it over fifty years ago that a replica was carved for posterity and donated to our museum.



Replica of the Samuel Marten (sic) powder horn, made at Crown Point Nov. 20, 1759 (*Lisbon Area Historical Society Collection*)



The back of the replica Samuel Martin powder horn showing a tally of the different animals he saw or killed: deer, bear, beaver, and turkey



The original Samuel Martin powder horn is in a private collection

We still hoped to find the powder horn, even though it was a replica. One morning in the spring of 2007, the Society received a call that an old powder horn had been deposited in the Bath Public Library's book return box. Library staff found the story of the stolen powder horn on the Internet and contacted the Society. How the powder horn ever ended up in Bath is a mystery. It is very possible that whoever took the powder horn left it at the Bath Public Library after an attack of guilty conscience or maybe out of disappointment after reading online that it was only a replica.

The Samuel Martin powder horn again took its place of honor in our collection, a reminder of the first white settler in Lisbon and his descendants who lived in Lisbon and Lyman.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – MAY 2018

HOW WE HAVE REMEMBERED OUR VETERANS

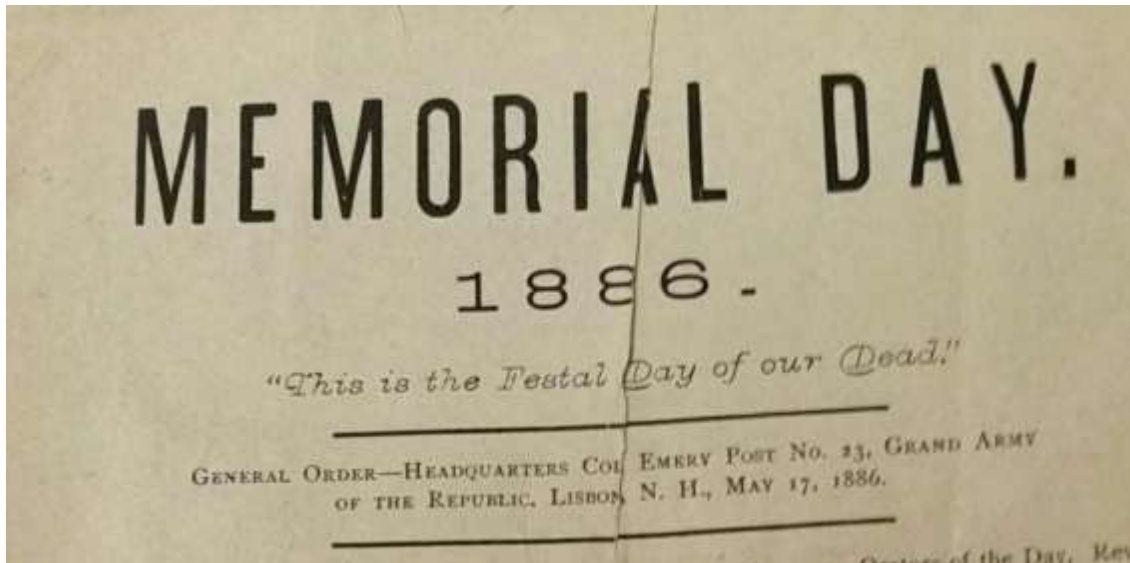
The Lisbon Area Historical Society museum has many documents, photos, and artifacts which show how we have celebrated and remembered residents who have served our country from the Revolutionary War to the more recent conflicts in the Middle East with Memorial Day services, special celebrations, flagging and decorating graves, monuments, memorial streets and bridges, awarding scholarships to students, and appropriations for the support of veterans and their families and for patriotic celebrations.

The Gunthwaite Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in Lisbon in 1922. In the 1930s, member Mary Carleton Brummer compiled a journal with all the information she could find for the 90 men from Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff who served in the Revolutionary War along with pictures of some of their gravestones. One of the most celebrated Revolutionary War soldiers is Major Benjamin Whitcomb (1737-1828) who rests in Salmon Hole Cemetery. A scout in the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War as well as leader of Whitcomb's Independent Corps of Rangers, part of the Northern Department of the Continental Army, Whitcomb is famous for killing the commander of the British First Brigade, Brigadier General Patrick Gordon behind enemy lines. Whitcomb was from southern New Hampshire but settled in Lisbon after the Revolutionary War and became a prominent citizen. Many men who settled our three towns fought in the Revolutionary War, and dozens and dozens of them rest in Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff cemeteries as well as Sugar Hill which was a district of Lisbon until 1962.



Lisbon's DAR placed this granite marker beside Whitcomb's original gravestone in Salmon Hole Cemetery.

Lisbon's Col. Emery Post #23 of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized in 1886 and named for Lisbon native Harvey Webster Emery (1826-1862), a Lieutenant Colonel in the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, who came home to die in 1862 at age 35 after a relapse of malaria while fighting at the Second Battle of Bull Run. The Col. Emery Woman's Relief Corps #20 organized in 1884, supported the post and was very active and instrumental in our early Memorial Day celebrations. Meetings for the Post and Relief Corps were held in the old library block which stood on Main Street. Civil War totals for those who served are: Lisbon 110 with 12 casualties, Lyman 60 with 9 casualties, and Landaff 85 with 17 casualties.



The earliest document for Lisbon's Memorial Day celebration on May 17, 1886.

The 1886 celebration was sponsored by Lisbon's Col. Emery Post and included Lisbon, Landaff, Lyman, and Bath. Post members were expected to be present and clad in a dark suit and soft black hat. Townspeople were to meet at the Lisbon Town Hall and follow a band, Post members, and participating veterans as they marched along Main Street, up Central Street, and into Grove Hill Cemetery to follow the program of music, prayer, reading of orders, addresses, benediction, strewing graves with flowers, and firing three volleys over the graves. People were encouraged to drop off beforehand at the town hall flowers or wreaths, and a specific name could be put on the decoration so it would be properly placed. It was a serious ceremony with the reminder of promptness and military precision to insure the proper and successful observance of the "Day so fraught with tender memories to Comrades and Friends, and so significant to all good citizens."



Lisbon Cornet Band c. 1870, the type of band that played during our early Memorial Day celebrations.

A Grand Campfire Entertainment program was held at Franklin Hall, upstairs in the Masonic Building (last used when owned by Clark-Goudie Hardware) which stood on Main Street, and sponsored by the Col. Emery Relief Corps in 1899 assisted by Maj. R. H. Hendershot, Original Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock, his son, and some of Lisbon's best talent.

By 1908, Lisbon's Memorial Day celebration was not quite as formal or strict. Veterans and townspeople gathered at the town hall and proceeded to Grove Hill Cemetery. Carriages were available for all veterans. After a short halt and salute, they returned to the town hall for services which included the reading of orders, a prayer, reading and songs by school children, an address, and the whole audience singing "America."

The 1914 Memorial Day Program contained the schedule, order of exercises, and a list of graves to be decorated for veterans of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, and Civil War. Graves in Lisbon, Lyman, Landaff, and Sugar Hill that had been flagged were decorated by different delegations of adults and children in the morning with flowers and wreaths. At noon Post members, veterans, and invited guests dined at the headquarters in the old library building, and in the afternoon everyone proceeded to Grove Hill Cemetery in Lisbon for devotional exercises and grave decoration. The procession counter-marched to the town hall for final exercises which included prayer and song. Lyman and Landaff each had their own afternoon program at the Grange Hall and church, respectively.



June 1917 send-off for WWI enlistees at Lisbon Depot

When a group of local enlistees left home in June of 1917 to report for duty in WWI, townspeople followed the band from Lisbon Square up to the railroad station to see the enlistees off on the 10:25am train bound for Berlin, N.H. According to a newspaper article at the time, such a send-off had not been seen since the Civil War.



Enlistees lined up at Lisbon Depot June 1917

Enlistee Timothy Dickinson, pictured at the left end of the line in a dark suit, did not survive the war. He served as a Corporal in Company M, 128th Infantry and was shot on August 30, 1918 near Juvigny, France. He died from his wounds while in the hospital in France on November 4, 1918 at the age of 28. He is buried in the family plot in Grove Hill Cemetery in Lisbon.



Cpl. Timothy Dickinson



The next week, Lisbon Square filled with people celebrating the end of WWI.



Troops returning home in June of 1919, Lisbon Square

WWI troops were welcomed home with a parade and special program including everyone singing patriotic songs at the town hall. Lisbon residents who served in WWI number 103 with 6 casualties. On August 5, 1919 there was a meeting for eligible veterans to enroll in Lisbon's newly-organized American Legion Post #14 which would be named for Timothy F. Dickinson. November 11, 1919, the Post held its First Annual Concert and Ball at the opera house with music provided by Liberty Orchestra from Berlin, N.H.

A Lisbon street was named for Timothy Dickinson as well as the four following Lisbon men:



PFC Percy Bergin
Co. L, 103rd Division, Co. A, 29th
died at age 23 of
pneumonia in France
on June 12, 1918.
Grove Hill Cemetery
Lisbon, N.H.



PVT Clark Goudie
Engineers, died
at age 22 in France
Aug. 5, 1918 of
ulcerative colitis.
Grove Hill Cem.



PVT William Bergin
^{1st} Battalion, 2nd Co.
of the Infantry d. at
age 23 of pneumonia
at Camp Devens, MA
Sept. 27, 1918.
Grove Hill Cemetery



PVT Howard Towle
Co. B Machine Gun
Battalion died of
pneumonia at Camp
Devens, MA at age
27, Sept. 27, 1918
Pleasant View Cem.,
Orleans, VT.

The town continued an annual Memorial Day celebration with a community church service and other events including the traditional parade from the town square to Grove Hill Cemetery. All ages participated with veterans marching and on horseback, bands, schoolchildren and other groups and organizations following in line similar to this image from 1920 led by the Lisbon Military Band.



Marching up Central Street to Grove Hill Cemetery - 1920



Lisbon Military Band



Memorial Day 1923, a World War Monument and Civil War Monument on the Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church lawn were dedicated. Governor Fred H. Brown gave the address, and the Lisbon Town Band and high school chorus provided music.



WWI Monument



Civil War Monument



Parades from 1930-1939 were filmed by Dr. Pickwick who had a good view from his home at the corner of Main and Central Streets.



Memorial Day 1934, Lisbon Square

When WWII ended, troops were welcomed home again with a town-wide Welcome Home Day for Veterans of WWII held July 4, 1946. It was a token of appreciation from the citizens of Lisbon who dedicated that 4th of July to their sons and daughters who served. The day began with a parade at 10:30, dinner at Franklin Hall at noon, afternoon movies at the Lisbon Playhouse, a softball game between WWI and WWII veterans, a baseball game between Woodsville and Lisbon, an evening concert at the town hall, and a dance until 1am. Veterans of WWII were given tickets for admission to the events. A ticket for the dinner could be used for a couple, and the movie ticket included one lady guest. Lisbon soldiers who served in WWII totaled 232 with 7 casualties.

In 1947, the name of Lisbon's American Legion Post was changed from Dickinson Post #14 to Dickinson-Sweet Post #14 after two Lisbon brothers, Allen and John Sweet gave their lives while serving their country during WWII. They were two of three Sweet brothers, Allen, John, and Morris who grew up in Lisbon and served at the same time during WWII.



S/SGT Percy Sweet

U.S. Army Air Force 493rd Bomber Squadron.
in action at age 19 on Oct. 22, 1944
during a mission from India to Burma.
sea, he is memorialized on
the tablets at the Manila American Cemetery.



S/SGT Allen Sweet

Army 301st Infantry Regiment, killed
at age 23 in a battle in Hamm, Germany
on March 2, 1945. He is buried in
Hamm, Luxembourg.

The Dickinson-Sweet Post began an annual VJ Day celebration, and the Second Annual VJ Anniversary Celebration and Bazaar was bigger and better than ever with a schedule for the two- day event included in a full booklet of advertisers and over \$1,000 in prizes for “tots, children, bobby soxers, teen agers, brides and grooms, Pa and Ma, Gramp and Gram, as well as the older folks.” Prizes included dishes, kitchenware, teddy bears and donkeys, table lamps, wall lamps, western style cap pistols, balloons, shaving sets, bobby pins, and a “million” others by wheel, darts, bingo, bowling, ball and many others. The grand prizes were 1st prize: a G. E. combination radio-phonograph; 2nd prize: an electric mixer, and 3rd prize: an automatic toaster!



Landaff WWII Honor Roll beside the Shared Ministry’s Landaff Church



In 1962, the Town of Lisbon erected a flag pole with memorial plaque along the riverbank beside the town hall.



Lisbon Honor Roll located at corner of Whitcher and Main Streets before present-day granite WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, and Gulf War Monument was erected on the lawn of the Shared Ministry's White Church, Main Street, Lisbon

Memorial Day celebrations continued throughout the years of the Korean and Vietnam War, but we have very little in our collection about those wars. Lisbon had 41 residents who served in the Korean War with 4 casualties. Lisbon had 65 residents who served in the Vietnam War with two casualties. One Lisbon resident is listed under the Gulf War, but there were others who served and have not been added.



Lance Cpl. Dennis Marshall

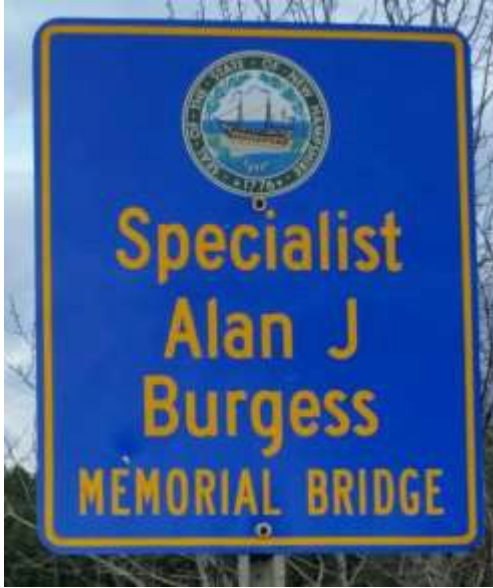
U.S. Marine Corps mortar man was killed in action in Vietnam on September 7, 1967 at the age 21. Grove Hill Cemetery, Lisbon



Uniform of S/Sgt. Eugene Harriman who was killed in Action Dec. 23, 1967 while serving as Army Combat Engineer

In 1968, we were still very united as a town with a Sunday Memorial Day Union Service at the United Church of Christ and Memorial Day Exercises at the town hall with music, the National Anthem, prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and benediction. Afterward, a rifle salute was made over the bridge as townspeople marched up to Grove Hill for a service including prayer, recitation of the Gettysburg Address, music, and taps. Everyone participated: Dickinson-Sweet Post, WWI veterans riding in cars, WWII and Korean War veterans, the DAR, Col. Emery Relief Corps, the American Legion Auxiliary, Gold Star Mothers, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, and Lisbon school children.

At some point, townspeople stopped marching to Grove Hill and gathering afterward at the town hall for a patriotic and religious ceremony. After the 1970s, focus was put on the long Memorial Day weekend of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Named for the State flower, Lisbon's famous Lilac Time celebration was first held in 1982. Every year there was a special theme, and always a tribute to our veterans. During the early years of the celebration, Main Street was packed with spectators who came to watch the huge parade and enjoy other activities such as pancake breakfasts, carnival rides, games, food concessions and vendors, music and other productions, contests, exhibits, rubber duck races, bed races, the Miss Lilac Time Scholarship Pageant, golf tournament, stamp cancellation, float races on the Ammonoosuc River, and a road race.



On May 30, 2010, Lisbon's Salmon Hole Bridge was renamed the SPC Alan J. Burgess Bridge after the Lisbon/Landaff resident who gave his life on October 15, 2004 at the age of 24 while serving in the Army National Guard in Mosul, Iraq. There is also a memorial monument to Alan Burgess in Landaff beside the church.



SPC Alan J. Burgess



Also, on May 30, 2010, the Lisbon School Street Bridge was renamed the Lisbon Veterans Memorial Bridge.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – JUNE 2018

LISBON OPERA HOUSE AND TOWN HALL

The first town meeting places in Lisbon were in the Young Tavern and neighboring church located near Henry Pond just outside Lisbon, going towards Littleton. The old church was torn down in 1860 after a new town hall was built in Lisbon Square on the lot where today's Parker Block is located. That town hall cost \$1,200, and in November of 1901 it burned along with other wooden structures along the west side of Main Street from the School Street bridge to where today's Lisbon Inn is located.



The foundation of the present Lisbon Town Hall at the corner of School and Water Streets had already been built before the fire. A vote was taken on whether to stop that construction and have the town hall in one of the new brick buildings. It was voted that construction would continue on the new town hall on School Street. The cost of the new town hall was \$30,776.99 on two lots purchased by the town for \$2,500. Dirt excavated was used to build up Water Street. The town hall was built by Lisbon contractor Lawrence Goudie, who was paid almost \$19,000 for his services.



Stage view of opera house with balcony above



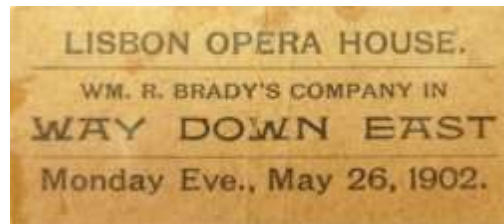
View of opera house from stage showing balcony

A fine municipal building, the Lisbon Town Hall also boasted the largest performance stage in the North Country at the time and a spacious auditorium with a balcony known as the “golden horseshoe,” because of its shape going along the back wall and part of both side walls. The seating capacity of the opera house was over 900. The 12 front entry steps up to the hall cost \$1,009 and are made of granite from Ryegate, Vermont. Scenery and decoration, which included a beautiful painted stage drape with a scene of Venice, Italy, cost \$486 and was completed by W. H. Sullivan of Manchester, N.H. Lisbon’s wood-framed, red and white landmark town hall is trimmed with fluted pilasters with Ionic capitals. The pilasters support a full frieze with dentils above, an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style so popular at the time.

The new Lisbon Town Hall construction along with the brick Parker, Bank, and Boynton Blocks, and the present-day Lisbon Inn building were completed within a year of Lisbon’s big fire of November 1901. This rebuilding reflected the village’s prosperity at the time when Lisbon’s

population was 2,220. According to a mid-1990s inventory by the N.H. Division of Historical Resources, Lisbon's town center is unique as many places in New Hampshire were economically depressed during that time and construction of that scale was very unusual.

The grand opening for the new opera house was held on May 26, 1902 and featured a performance of Brady's *Way Down East* accompanied by Wilder's Orchestra from Montpelier, Vermont. All ladies were reminded to remove their hats prior to the performance, and a notation in the program mentioned that the snowstorm effect in Act III and the appliances by which it was produced were invented by Jos. R. Grismer and protected by U.S. and foreign patents.

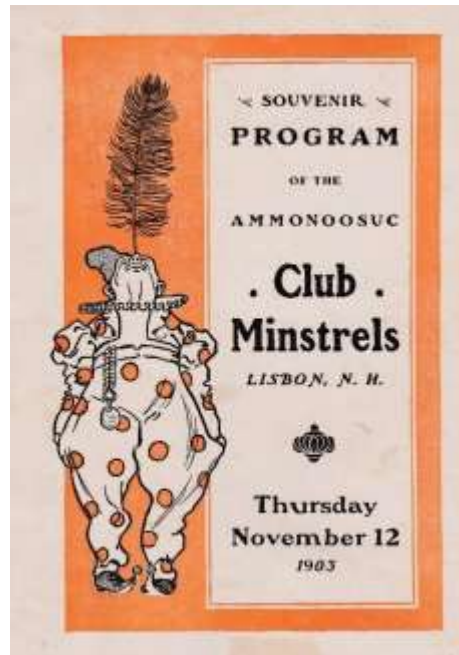


The first ticket sold at the grand opening of the Lisbon Opera House

Lisbon advertisers in the grand opening souvenir program included Marston's Gilt Edge Pharmacy (ice cream soda 10 cents and Apollo chocolates 50 cents a pound), T. W. Glover's livery, sale and feed stable (fine turnouts, safe horses, open all night, and with Woodsville and long distance phones), A. G. Moulton, dealer in flour, grain, and feed, coal, wood, and hay, and Mrs. A. K. Deming & Co., millinery, laces, ribbons, silk, and velvets (agent for Concord Steam Laundry, bundles go Tuesdays).

Annual town hall expenses even in the very beginning years included repairs, supplies, wood and coal, paint, water, and a town hall manager. The first year, the town paid \$350 for a new piano, and the following year a piano cover was purchased for \$4. The town paid to have the piano tuned on a regular basis.

Over the years the magnificent public building was the venue for every type of event hosted by local civic, social, service, religious, and political groups as well as local schools. Municipal Court was also held at the town hall. Many a family rented the hall to hold private celebrations. Over the years, the stage was filled with graduates and performers of all types, and many autographed the walls in back of the stage. Here are just a few of the many town hall programs in our collection.



1903 Minstrel Show, one of many held over the years



1908 First Annual Firemen's Ball

Friday, January 11, 1907
LISBON OPERA HOUSE
... THE ...
Iron Master

CAST

ANDREW KNOWLTON, owner of the "Knowlton Iron Works,"
 By C. Oakes
 ROBERT WALTER, superintendent of "The Works,"
 W. E. Pike
 ELLIS SCANDON, the lost half of the Family Tree
 George Pike
 BEN ARDENSON, half fellow, half nut, and not very often
 George W. White
 MR. FLETCHER, Mr. Knowlton's man of business
 Arthur Reed
 ZOE BARRETT, Boston
 Mabel Parker
 SORORINA, }
 LOU KIRKLAND
 Old friends, } sons of "The Works," }
 GEORGE WATSON
 HARRY, }
 GUY MORGAN
 BILLY-BROTHERS, a quart from the Family Tunes
 Ned Cough
 Mrs. KNOWLTON, a motherly working; Andrew Knowlton's
 wife }
 Mrs. H. S. Wells
 MARGARET KNOWLTON, (Ellis' daughter) a pearl and the
 belle of "The Works" }
 Miss Lavinia Mann
 PAULY FLETCHER, (Mr. Fletcher's niece) a country slip in
 city set }
 Mrs. E. H. Hallett
 JEAN, maid at Mr. Knowlton's }
 Miss Ruth Merrill
 NELL, }
 Mrs. G. C. Strammet
 "Cleveland" girls at "The Works" }
 Miss Mabel Norton
 KATE, }
 Miss Ida Denning

SYNOPSIS

Act I.—The home of the Knowltons. Where the part is set.
 Act II.—The superintendent's home at "The Works." How the part is set.
 Act III.—At the Knowltons'. The part without price.

The time of setting

1907 *The Iron Master*, with a cast of Lisbon locals

THE AMMONOOSUC GOLF CLUB
 PRESENTS
"Circus Solly"
 THREE ACT MUSICAL COMEDY
 Lisbon Opera House, Monday, Aug. 28, 1933, Curtain 8.15
 40-PH CE CIRCUS BAND CONCERT AT 7.15 P. M.
 IN FRONT OF OPERA HOUSE

Staged by Frederick D. Logan, Productions, Inc.
 Directed by Elmer Wilson
 Made by Dennis, Thorpe and Osborne

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act I—McClure's Barber Shop, Morning of Circus Day
 Act II—Circus Grounds That Evening
 Act III—Same as Act I, One Year Later

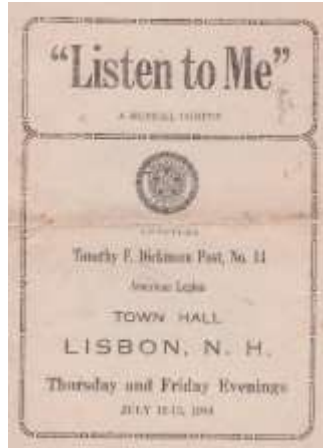
CAST OF PLAYERS

Walter Bradley, the Village Constable	W. E. Pike
Harry W. and a Cigar Counter Girl	Arthur S. Reed
McClure, the Town Barber	Ernest Johnson
Just Be so, who sells Huckleberry Candy	Walter C. Scott
Ernest F. and a Circus Clown	Stanish Johnson
Ernest F. and a Circus Clown	David Pomeroy
And the by a Circus Clown	Dorothy Woods
Anna, a Maid at Mr. Knowlton's	Carleton Johnson
William, Father of a Circus Clown	Janice McEwen
Tim, a Circus Girl	

THE HULA DANCERS

Ralph V. and	George Bennett	Hi Rogers	Bessie Curtis
Bill Dapkins	One Boyton		

1933 Ammonoosuc Golf Club sponsored concert and play with local performers



1934 Timothy Dickinson Post No. 14 American Legion play

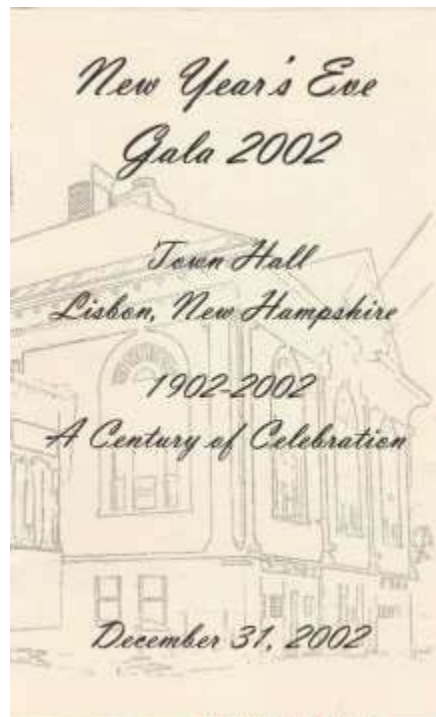


1941 Monster Mass Protest Meeting

In 1957 the opera house balcony was removed to make more space for Lisbon Public School’s basketball games. A couple years later, a new gymnasium was built onto the school. When the town hall was improved as part of preparations in celebration for our country’s bicentennial, thought was given to reconstructing the balcony, but it just wasn’t feasible. However, other ambitious improvements were made to the town hall. Members of the Lisbon women’s group, Friends in Council, renovated the entry hall and bathrooms and installed a new kitchen. The Lisbon Lions Club painted the walls and restored the floors of the opera house, and Lisbon school alumni donated a new stage curtain. Board rooms were renovated, a new heating system was installed, and the fire station was remodeled updating it from the original “fireman’s room” finished in 1914.



1980 performance of *Oklahoma*, one of the many fine performances at the Lisbon Town Hall by the Upstage Players, a community theater group originally based in Lisbon



2002 New Year's Eve Gala Souvenir Program - A Century of Celebration

Today the town hall building houses the Lisbon town offices, Lisbon Police Department, Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department and Fast Squad. The fire and rescue will in the near future move to a new home being built on South Main Street.

Times have changed. The "opera house" is now commonly referred to as the town hall, and that space

is rented infrequently. Since the town hall building is not handicap accessible, annual town meetings are held in the Lisbon Regional School gymnasium. All voting is done in the gym as well. Smaller board meetings are held at the Lisbon Historic Railroad Station and Museum on Central Street.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – JULY/AUGUST 2018

THE FIRE OF JULY 14, 1941

In August, seventy-seven years ago, Lisbon was recovering from a big fire that wiped out a whole block of businesses on Main Street from Whitcher Street up to the brick United Congregational Church (now the Shared Ministry's Brick Church) at the corner of Depot and Main Streets. The fire began at 2am in one of the old wooden buildings and destroyed six buildings in four hours, displacing six families and causing \$60,000 in damages.



This picture of the east side of Main Street shows the blocks that were destroyed in the fire, including the Advent Church on the corner of Whitcher and Main Streets. Destroyed in the fire were the Pike Block, which housed the first A & P Store in Lisbon, the Puglisi Block, Butson's Market, Garbarino Block, a warehouse that was originally used as Lisbon's first train station, and the c. 1874 Advent Church. (That first train station is pictured in a c. 1865 view of Lisbon and was originally located on the site of today's Lisbon Historic Railroad Station and Museum.)



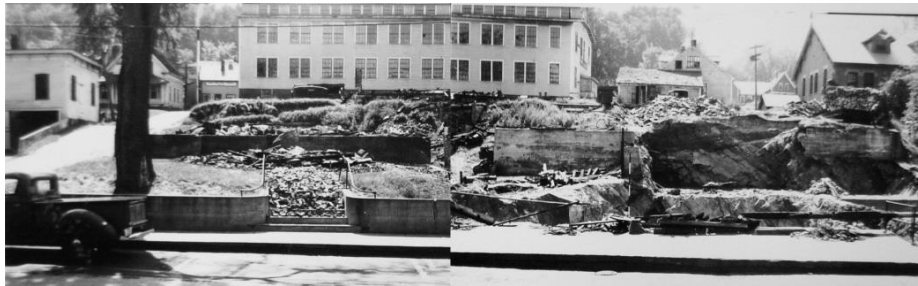
The Advent church is being sprayed as the whole business block is engulfed in flames



Morning light showed the ruins and Garbarino's store which was damaged beyond repair and soon demolished. Lisbon Riverside Market is now on that site.



Looking down from the Parker Block over the ruins.



After the fire of 1941

The corner lot at left was where the Advent Church stood. John Garbarino built a new grocery store on that lot. Over the years it was the site of Garbarino's, White's Grocery, a tack shop, attorney's office, and restaurants. Today it is the site of the new Thai restaurant.

The next lot became home to the Snell Block, built by Vic and Catherine Snell, which has over the years housed Snell's bakery, different businesses and apartments. The last lot became the site of the new Butson's Market which had operated on that site since 1920. Before that time there was a building on that lot which housed over the years an early cabinet shop, cobbler, a Chinese laundry, the Joe Roman Fruit Store and A. L. Sherman general store. Lisbon Riverside Market (formerly Northrop's Market) it now on the site.

Above the ruins is the large c. 1901 Granite State Wire factory building built as an early, short-lived competitor to today's New England Wire Technologies, then known as New England Electrical Works. That old factory building was used by Jamaica Glove Factory from 1913-1934 and later used for grain storage, local shoe businesses, and now White Mountain Footwear storage. At far right is the UCC parish house built in 1914 by Lisbon architect S. D. Morgan. The building was sold in 1952 to the Assembly of God. It is now owned by White Mountain Footwear and used as office space.



Lisbon's Main Street was bustling before and after the fire of 1941. Butson's Market rebuilt immediately, and all the other lots were built on within five years. The brick Parker, Boynton and Bank Blocks and The Moulton pictured at right were built in 1902 after the devastating fire of 1901 which destroyed all the buildings from the iron School Street Bridge down to Brigham's Hotel, now the Lisbon Inn. Lisbon did a remarkable job of coming together and immediately rebuilding after these early fires in order to maintain its vital downtown business district for which it was known.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY - SEPTEMBER 2018

BACK TO SCHOOL

The first school in Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff was Phillips' School in Landaff, a grammar school built by Dartmouth College in 1780 and named for its Trustee, John Phillips. The exact site of the school is unknown. At that time, Dartmouth College owned the unfulfilled 1764 Landaff charter. That school was in operation for two years and supported by the College's farm, mills, and other properties in Landaff. By 1791, Dartmouth College had relinquished its claim back to the original 1764 grantees.



The first school in Lisbon was built around 1801 beside Henry Pond (1-above) just outside the village going towards Littleton. It was a small, low, unpainted wooden building with a traditional fireplace and wooden benches. That was the area of early settlement in Lisbon. The population then was 663, which included the Sugar Hill District of Lisbon which had its first schoolhouse built around 1807 near today's Sugar Hill Sampler.

In 1832, a fire started near the chimney of the Henry Pond schoolhouse. Students escaped with their books, but the building was burned beyond repair. School continued to be held in the abutting c. 1818 meetinghouse, and in 1834 a new schoolhouse was built (2-above) for \$350 on a little knoll beside the meetinghouse. The schoolhouse became crowded, and in the winter of 1849 it was moved on runners to South Main Street just below today's information booth. It was used as a shop by wheelwright Peter Grattan.



The 1834 schoolhouse is now part of a private home on Lisbon's South Main Street.

Lisbon's village center had gravitated from the Henry Pond site to where it is today after a dam was built in 1800 on the natural falls of the Ammonoosuc to harness energy for mills. Lisbon Village itself had a c. 1835 schoolhouse at the corner of Grafton and School Streets. There was also a private school for boys

and girls in an old shop that was located on the site of today's Lisbon Inn, and Bartlett's School for Girls was located at the end of North Main Street where Clark's Garage was later located.

The 1835 Lisbon village schoolhouse at the corner of Grafton and School Streets was a one-story building with a shed. The seats faced each other instead of the front. As enrollment grew, an addition was added. This was a tuition school, elementary and high school, and with over 100 students by 1853, it became crowded. The main part of that school was moved up School Street, becoming the front part of the former Doug McKown house.



Former Doug McKown home, School Street, home includes the c. 1835 Lisbon school



1853 Lisbon Academy, now Myers'

After the 1835 school was moved, a new public school, Lisbon Academy, was built in 1853 on the same site at the corner of Grafton and School Streets for \$1,200 by Lisbon merchants James Allen and Greenleaf Cummings. The original size was 53' long by 33' wide and two stories high, finished in the modern style of school architecture. A spacious common was kept beside it and adorned with shade trees. At first there were two terms a year at the Lisbon Academy, with an additional fall term held for private or tuition school. The 1857 catalog for Lisbon High School listed 48 ladies and 21 gentlemen. Board with good families ranged from \$1 to \$1.50 per week. Rooms for self-boarding students were .25 cents per week for each occupant. Class tuition ranged from \$8 for music with use of the piano to \$1 for penciling. English, ancient languages, French, German, watercolors, and crayoning were also offered. By the 1870s, the school had a full set of astronomical charts, one globe, and blackboards. By 1873, the school was becoming crowded and needed more teachers.

An 1872 school history touched upon the common theme of student behavior, even then. "Residents will exalt the good old days when schools were properly kept and scholars behaved themselves and bewail this degenerate age with its free-and-easy-mannered youth and their disregard for age and dignity." In 1876 there were 11 school districts in Lisbon, which included the Sugar Hill District. All children between the ages of 8 and 15 were required by law to attend school at least 12 weeks a year. The reporting committee expected that everyone should be able to read and write. At that time, the committee believed there were only two or three people in Lisbon between the age of 15 and 21 who could not read or write. With rare exceptions, the schoolhouses were in wretched physical condition, the textbooks were not uniform, and to save money superior teachers were not hired, and few students studied the history of the United States. Teachers were counseled to keep order in the schoolroom and not fly into a passion, use epithets or slang phrases and rarely resort to corporal punishment, especially when angry.

As late as 1896, regulations for Lisbon schools included that the scholars build fires and keep the schools at a suitable temperature, sweep, and keep the schoolhouse clean. No child under the age of four could attend school. Teachers were required to make sure the school yard and outbuildings were kept in proper condition. It was required that instruction in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alcohol and narcotics on the human system, be given to all scholars over the age of 10 years old. A 15-

minute recess was to be held morning and afternoon. Students absent more than four half days or tardy more than four times in any month without satisfactory excuse, could be reported to the school board for suspension.

After winter months, children walked to schoolhouses carrying their shoes and to keep them clean. There were two sessions of school, one beginning the first of December and lasting three months, and the other going through mid-summer. The winter term was taught by a man, and the summer taught by a woman. Girls swept, boys hauled water and built fires. Girls learned sewing and embroidery.

In 1860, the population of Lisbon was 1,886, which at the time included the Sugar Hill District of Lisbon. There were eleven one-room schools: Pearl Lake Road, Cole Hill (Dyke Road), Salmon Hole, Georgeville, Jesseman Road, Sugar Hill and Center District, Lovers Lane/Rte. 117, Jackman, Streeter Pond, and Streeter Pond Road/Crane Hill Road.



In 1876 Salmon Hole School (above left), located at the corner of Lyman Road and Route 302, was considered the banner school in Lisbon due to its kind, firm, energetic, and thorough teacher, qualities many teachers did not possess, a report stated. The Salmon Hole schoolhouse had its own maps, and the district had made improvements in and around the schoolhouse. Scholars with their teacher are pictured (above right c. 1900). The schoolhouse closed in 1951, and the building was later used for 4H meetings and named the Elwood D. Bishop Memorial Center. When the new bridge was built and the main road was changed in 1979-1980 the schoolhouse was torn down and used for salvage.



North Lisbon School (above) on Route 302, just before Barrett's Crossing, was built in 1903 on land purchased for \$5. It closed in 1959 and is now a private home.

Lyman schools in 1860 were: Ash Hill, Moulton Hill, Parker Hill, Clough Hill, Under the Mountain, Tinkerville, Ogontz, and Mormon Hill. In 1860, Lyman had a population of 743. According to *Sketches of Lyman, N.H.*, by E. B. Hoskins, as early as 1807, Lyman, which then included West Lyman, now the Town of Monroe, had over 500 people and was divided into seven school districts.



Moulton Hill School beside Moulton Hill Cemetery – torn down.



Parker Hill School, left side just south of Pettyboro/Parker Hill intersection - torn down.



Clough Hill School (above) was first located on the upper side going up Clough Hill Road on the sharp corner by the huge boulder. It was moved to the lower side well after it was closed and is now a private home.



Under the Mountain School intersection of Bobbin Mill Road. It was torn down in 1930.



Tinkerville School, lower side of Skinny Ridge Rd. just past intersection with Lyman Road. Now a private home.



Ogontz School located just past Ogontz Camp. It is now a private home.



Lyman School built in 1938. Private home.

In 1860 Landaff, which included Easton at the time, had a population of 1,012. The schools were: Blue, Center, Ireland, Scotland, Foster Hill, Whitcherville, and three in South Landaff. In 1942 there were still three Landaff schoolhouses in operation. By the early 1960s Blue School was the only one-room school in Landaff.



Blue School was built in 1858 for \$725. It was the second school on the site, the first being sold. Blue School wasn't painted blue until 1873. The school now has a portable classroom unit attached to it and has grades K-3.



Center School on Allbee Road was built Chandler for \$1,000 in 1864. It is now the home of the Landaff Fire Department. The first Center School stood on what is now the new part of Landaff Cemetery.



Ireland School built 1878 on Gale Road, now a private home.



Scotland School, built in 1858 on Jim Noyes Road, at left in 1922, probably at an end of term celebration or picnic as there are adults, a baby in a buggy, and an ice cream churn. It is now a private home (right).

Boys and girls entered separate doors, if a schoolhouse had two doors. Water was usually carried from a nearby house, and students drank with a ladle from the same water bucket. Boys could take their rifle to school and lean it in the corner for the day. Teachers and students were close, especially if the teacher boarded at one of the student's family farm. Some teachers were lucky enough to use the family's horse and buggy or wagon to travel to and from school.



The c. 1853 Lisbon Academy on School Street was last used in the winter of 1890-91. It is now the Myers' home. The only photo we have of the student body at Lisbon Academy is above, dated 1885.



The 1891 Lisbon Public School was built for \$30,000 by Lisbon architect Sylvanus D. Morgan during 1890-1891 on a three acre parcel on Highland Avenue where the Goodall Pinnacle had been removed to make a level site for the new school. Trees were set out along the property. It was thoroughly up to date,

well equipped, and modern. The first annual catalog of Lisbon Public School was published in 1893-94. There were seven teachers and a janitor. Rules and regulations listed included that morning exercises in all departments would begin with reading from the Bible followed by singing and prayer. There were two sessions per day from 9am-noon and from 1:15-4:15. When on school grounds, the girls occupied the east side of the building, and the boys occupied the west side and entered through separate doors. Within the building, the girls and boys remained in their respective ends of the building. The right to inflict corporal punishment was vested in the Principal alone. Tuition for students not living in the district was \$5.50 per term for the high school English course or \$7.50 per term for the Classical course. Lower grades ranged from \$4 to \$2.50 per term. In 1912 there were 10 teachers and 300 pupils, and the school was valued at \$50,000.

Some students who lived outside the village traveled to school with their family's horse and buggy or wagon, dropping off the farm's milk at the creamery in Lisbon. Sleighs were used in the winter. Students kept their horse in a nearby barn and visited and fed it hay during the long lunch break.



This is the oldest photo we have of students at the 1891 Lisbon Public School from the 1892-3 school year. It is labeled grades 3 and 4. Some of these granite steps were repurposed as benches on the present school's patio.

The former practice of carrying ones shoes and stockings to school seemed to be going by the wayside now that Lisbon had a new, modern school. We have in our records from that same year, a petition signed by students asking the youthful members of the Pike family to “give their feet a damned good scrubbing at the earliest possible moment” as the health and character of the school would be seriously endangered if their feet remain in their present condition.

The Lisbon Public School had many extracurricular activities. One was the High School Society of Christian Influence. The pamphlet from 1898-99 listed weekly prayer meeting topics with the student's name who would be reading the scripture that week.



Lisbon boys' baseball – 1904



Lisbon boys' basketball - 1911



Lisbon girls' basketball - 1911



Lisbon boys' football - 1921



Lisbon students - snowshoe outing in 1919.



Lisbon High School Glee Club - 1927 operetta "Tulip Time" at the Lisbon Opera House



Lisbon High School orchestra- 1934



Lisbon High School ski team - 1948

An elementary wing and gymnasium were added to the Lisbon Public School in 1959. Lisbon Public School became Lisbon Regional School in 1969 consisting of Lisbon, Lisbon Town (outside the immediate village), Lisbon Special (The Acre in Landaff), and Lyman. Landaff voted down the option to join but has always had a tuition agreement sending children from Blue School first starting at Grade 6-12 and now sending Grade 4-12. There was also the famous “chicken coop,” a portable classroom building purchased from Sears and Roebuck and installed behind the school. In the 1970s the school’s building trades class built a rectory for St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church on Kelsea Avenue in exchange for a duplex at the corner of Kelsea and Highland Avenues that the church used as a rectory. The duplex the school traded for became known as The Annex and was used for kindergarten, music, special education, and storage. Now it is used for cold storage. By the late 1980s the old wooden 3-story high school building had more than outlived its usefulness and had many problems, two major issues being that it was a fire hazard and was not handicap accessible. After a handful of bond votes to build a new school, the vote was finally passed, and in 1992, the original bell tower was removed with a crane and installed beside the Annex, and the high school building was demolished to make way for a new high school/middle school with gymnasium and library at a cost 3.9 million, designed by Stuart White a Hanover architect and built by Bonnett, Page, & Stone of Laconia. The final addition was put on in 2005 and consisted of two additional rooms and renovation of two other rooms for kindergarten.

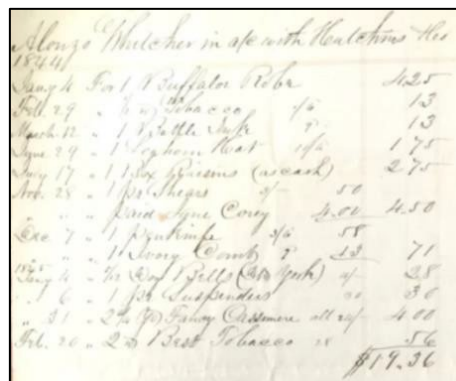
LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY – OCTOBER 2018

WHEN EVERYTHING WAS AVAILABLE RIGHT IN TOWN

The centers of Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff were once set up to supply residents with necessities, services, entertainment, and even luxuries. General stores were in operation in all three towns early in the first half of the 1800s. With the coming of the railroad in 1853 through the middle of Lisbon Village, the town grew quickly and prospered in every way. By the late 1800s, Lisbon had become the “downtown” for the three towns and offered just about everything wanted or needed. General stores and specialty shops carried fresh, canned, bulk and packaged foods, hardware, clothing, footwear, jewelry and accessories, medicine and medical supplies, and all household, housekeeping, and farm and feed supplies. Tradesmen of all types, factories and mills, restaurants, boarding houses, physicians, insurance agents, pharmacists, dentists, and attorneys had set up business in Lisbon. Employment opportunities were plentiful. The first Lisbon bank was incorporated in 1889, but decades before that Lisbon investor William Huse Cummings served as a “walking bank” transferring money for locals to and from his bank in Wells River, Vermont. In the late 1800s, a house in Lisbon, Lyman, or Landaff could be built and finished by local contractors and furnished, decorated, and stocked with most of the necessities and frills of the time by shopping at Lisbon stores.



The Hutchins/English Block, Lisbon Square c. 1886

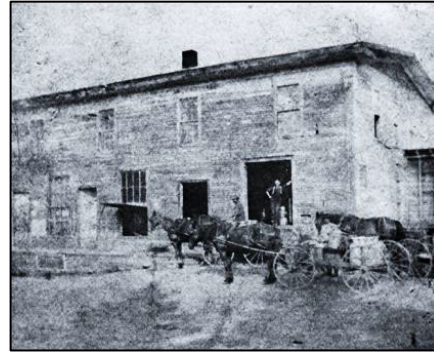
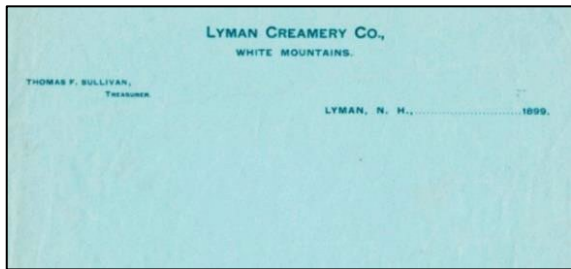


1844 bill of goods

Built by merchant John Adams Smith c. 1820, the Hutchins/English Block at the corner of School Street and Main Street was the anchor of Lisbon Square for over a century. It housed a general store, apartments, a pharmacy, post office, the first Lisbon bank, an insurance office, tailor shop, jewelry shop, boot and shoe shop, restaurants, and other types of stores before it burned on July 7, 1929. After the ruins were removed, a gas station and garage were built on the site. It is now a memorial park with a gazebo and town information sign. Stores, shops, and mills crowded both sides of Lisbon’s Main Street and North and South Main Street at the time the above picture was taken. The 1844 bill pictured above shows the Hutchins account of Alonzo Whitcher of Landaff. He purchased in the general store a buffalo robe, tobacco, bottle of ink, leghorn hat (fashionable straw hat), raisins, shears, penknife, ivory comb, suspenders, and 2 yards of fancy cassimere for \$19.26.



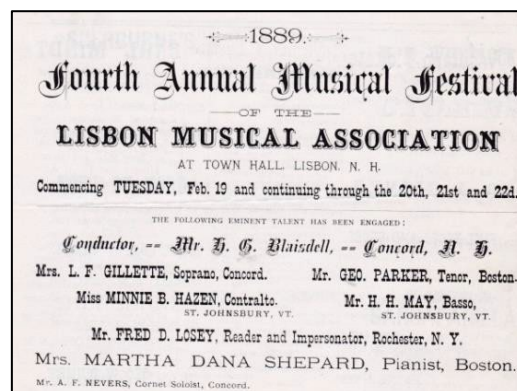
Samuel Peavey operated a general store in Landaff Center c. 1840 across from the town hall on the lower corner of Cemetery Road. It was later owned by Rufus Noyes and then housed the post office. It is now much smaller and a renovated private home. The photo at left was taken in 1930.



The Lyman Creamery was located at the intersection of Parker Hill and Pettyboro Roads and was an active creamery in the 1800s. The building was owned by John Olin who used it as a general store and post office. Olin was appointed Lyman Postmaster in 1898. The store ledger for 1903 shows he sold one customer tea, sugar, soda, flour, salmon, oil, cheese, salt, eggs, coffee, beans, oats, soap, pork, yeast, bananas, peanuts, strawberries, molasses, cigar hooks, apples, candy, oranges, lard, starch, a broom, crackers, a pail, nails, and thread. The building is no longer standing.



In the 1870s Lyman milliner Hattie E. Titus was an agent for Singer Manufacturing Co., selling both new and used machines as well as making and selling gloves and hats and having other goods constantly on hand.



One of many types of entertainment and cultural events offered by civic, social, service, and religious organizations in our three towns, the Lisbon Musical Association held its four-day Fourth Annual Musical Festival in 1889 featuring artists from St. Johnsbury, Concord, NH, Boston, and Rochester, NY. As early as 1827 a Union Ball was held at Young's Tavern in Lisbon, and a wide variety of local and traveling entertainers presented concerts, plays, minstrel shows and cultural programs continually through the years. Accommodations in Lisbon Village and boarding farmhouses, cottages and resorts on the outskirts such as Lisbon's Breezy Hill House and Sunset Hill House employed many locals while catering to the wealthy tourists who came to the White Mountains for the summer in the 1800s and early 1900s. There was a golf course at the Sunset Hill House and by the 1930s a public golf course in Lisbon.

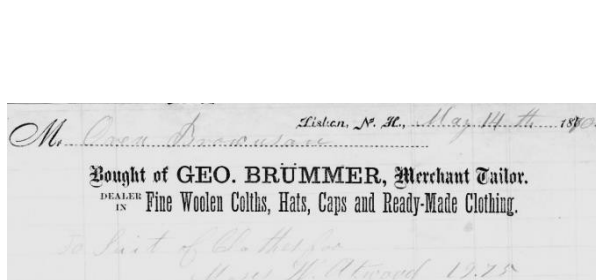
In 1913 Lisbon had a core group of 91 leading businessmen responsible for the tremendous success and growth of Lisbon from the mid-1800s on. Their professional photographs were put together for posterity in a rather large collage. Even though the same wasn't done for the town's women, they certainly made their mark on local business and in organizations. Everyone was very engaged in the town where they lived, went to school, made a living, shopped, did business, served in town offices, and socialized - most within a one mile radius.

By 1921, Lisbon was at its height of prosperity with a movie theater and bustling Main Street having become the daily downtown shopping and service center for Lisbon, Lyman, Landaff, and some of Bath. Friday and Saturday were especially busy day and night when people came to do their weekly shopping, business, and socializing.

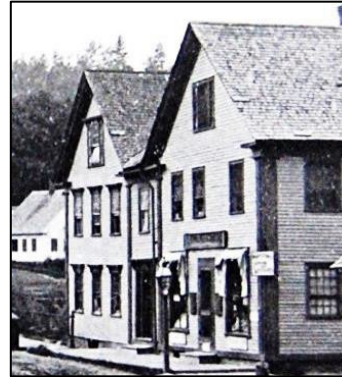
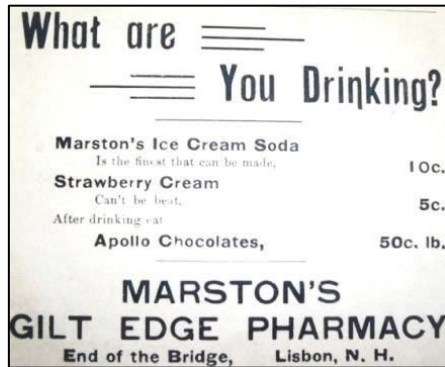


The Lisbon Playhouse was on today's vacant lot on North Main Street between the Sunoco station and Whitcher Street. Built c. 1921, it was modernized in 1930, burned and rebuilt in 1943, and finally razed in 1974.

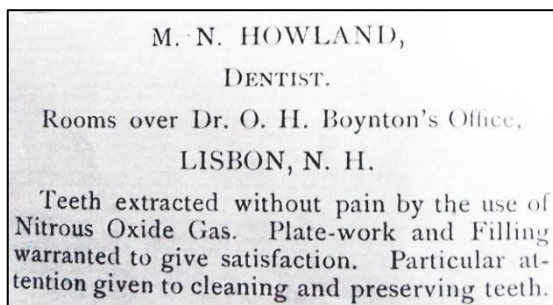
Most homes outside the downtown village still had no electricity, telephone, or automobile in 1921, but an automobile could be purchased in Lisbon as early as 1915 if one could afford to do so. It wasn't unusual to see horsedrawn buggies and wagons parked among automobiles on Lisbon's busy Main Street in the first decades of the 1900s. Most outlying farms were self-sufficient, but families still had to travel into town for supplies or services once in a while. Stores in the village made home deliveries by horse and wagon. Lisbon teamsters hauled goods to and from the Lisbon railroad station. Individuals had ice, milk and egg routes as well, and peddlers came by horse and wagon to deliver fresh fish and a variety of items to the outskirts of Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff. Lisbon's doctors and nurses also made house calls and even performed minor surgery in private homes. If one needed anything they could get it in town or have it come to them.



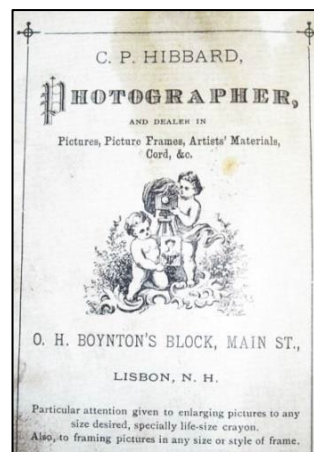
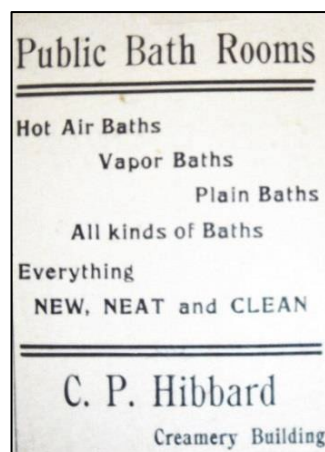
For over seventy-five years the Brummer family provided tailoring and more in their Main Street store in Lisbon. Their tailoring business was established in 1859 by the family patriarch, George Brummer, a German immigrant, and it became one of the most prominent tailoring businesses in the North Country. The receipt above dated May 11, 1870 was to Oren Brownson of Landaff, who purchased a suit of clothes for \$19.75 for Moses Atwood, the 21-year-old who lived and worked on Brownson's farm. The store site is now part of the parking lot beside the gazebo and park.



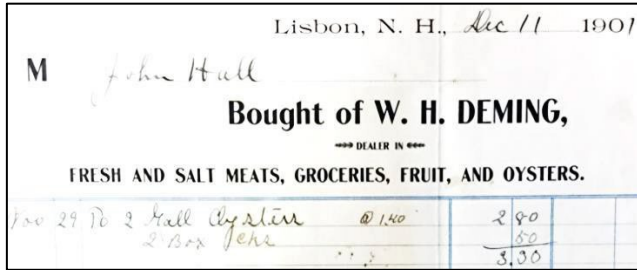
Lisbon had a number of drug stores, one of the first being Whitcher's in operation by 1870 in the Hutchins/English Block. Lisbon's pharmacies sold a very wide variety of items and gifts as well as drugs and compounding. The Woolson Block built in 1849 beside the bridge in Lisbon Square was originally a tailor shop and apartments before being purchased by H. C. Marston to house his Gilt Edge Pharmacy which operated from 1888-1925. The building had different owners until pharmacist George Marshall purchased the pharmacy and building in 1940. George and his wife, Ruth, operated their Family Drug Store, a local landmark and gathering place with a rather famous old-fashioned soda fountain, until George's death in 1997. The building was sold and the pharmacy space was used as a restaurant and coffee shop. The building has now been converted solely to apartments.



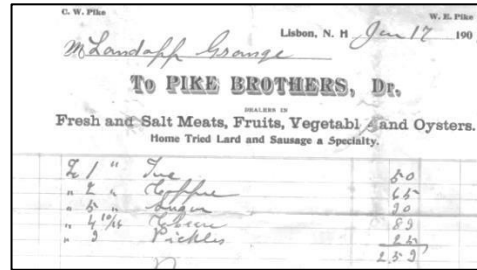
Moses Howland offered modern dentistry as early as 1880 in his office above Dr. Boynton's office, the white house at the corner of Main and Central Streets where many Lisbon doctors lived and practiced. The building is now apartments and houses the hair salon Styles by Suzanne.



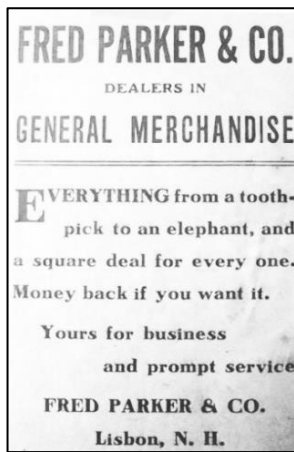
Charles P. Hibbard, late 1800s Lisbon photographer and entrepreneur, kept public bath rooms in the old creamery building located on the site that is now a parking lot behind today's Lisbon Public Library. Hibbard also kept a photography studio in the Boynton Block.



Oysters and two boxes of crackers were purchased by Landaff's Mount Hope Grange from W. H. Deming on Lisbon's Main Street in December of 1901, probably for an oyster stew supper or meeting. Total: \$3.30.



More refreshments for Mount Hope Grange: tea, coffee, sugar, cheese, and pickles from Pike Brothers, Main St., Lisbon for \$2.59. The store was known for its tried lard and sausage.



Fred Parker's store pictured c. 1916 was located in the south end of the Parker Block in Lisbon Square from 1902 into the 1940s. Advertising "everything from a toothpick to an elephant and a square deal for everyone," one side of the store sold material and notions, and the other side of the store was a grocery and general store.



Sherman and Moulton sold boots, shoes, groceries, and hardware. It was located in the early 1900s on the site of today's Lisbon Riverside Market. The building burned in the fire of 1941. At the time of the fire, Butson's Market and Garbarino's general store were on the site.

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 ture Knobs, Cord, &c. at the lowest
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GEO. C. WOODS,
 Main St. Lisbon, N. H.



George C. Woods, furniture dealer kept a store on South Main Street in Lisbon c. 1890. This building, two lots up from today's information booth, was an apartment house when it burned in September of 2017.



The first A&P grocery store in Lisbon pictured at left c. 1916, was in the Pike Block which was beside today's Lisbon Riverside Market. The building burned in 1941, and the Snell Block was built on the site. The A&P store later moved to the Goudie Block on Main Street across from the Boynton Block.

When in need
 of any thing in the Jewelry line give me a call and I can save you money. A full line of WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS and CHINA in fact everything to be found in a first class Jewelry Store. All kinds of repair work done promptly and at reasonable prices.

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LISBON, N. H.

DO YOU EVER
 STOP AND
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That we carry the largest line of
 WATCHES, CLOCKS,
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 AND SILVERWARE
 To be found outside
 the large cities

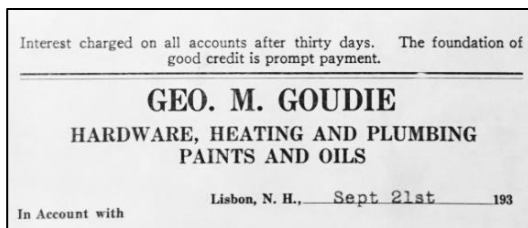
REPAIRING A SPECIALTY

E. R. FORBUSH
 LEADING JEWELER
 LISBON, N. H.

F. B. Jones, Jeweler was in operation for a short time c. 1920 probably in the Hutchins/English Block. Edward R. Forbush kept a jewelry store in the Boynton Block in the 1940s.



S. D. Morgan and Son was located in the Parker Block in Lisbon from 1906-1948. It was a local variety and “paper store” handling local newspaper and magazine subscriptions as well.



George Goudie opened Goudie’s Hardware in the Masonic Block on Lisbon’s North Main Street in 1919. Robert Goudie purchased the store from his father in 1954 and went into business with Frank and Bill Clark in 1956, and the name was changed to Clark-Goudie Hardware. The business was sold in the 1970s. Clark-Goudie also had stores on both sides of the hardware store. One was an appliance store in the Corey Block to the south, and the other was a second-hand store in the Carleton Block to the north. The Masonic Block and Corey Block were torn down in the early 1980s.



Not all stores were on Lisbon’s Main Street. H. T. Andross Groceries and Bakery was in operation during the 1920s at the corner of School Street and Meadow Lane. The Lisbon Public Library was built between the store and river in 1926. One corner of the brick library can be seen in this picture. The library’s side lawn is where the store once stood. In later years there were other little markets on School Street and Atwood Street.



H. F. Hibbard's blacksmith shop was in operation from 1867 through the early 1900s on North Main Street in Lisbon. The Lisbon Lions Club tennis and basketball courts are now on the site.

Blacksmiths, horses, wagons, carriages, teamsters, passenger trains, and automobiles - Lisbon had repair and transportation supply needs covered. The earliest blacksmith, Timothy Bailey, was in business in Lisbon by 1775. There were early liverys and carriagemakers in Lisbon, and at one point there were three car dealerships on North Main Street as well as other filling stations, and there were mechanic shops in Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff.

In 1892 George A. Clark of Bath, N.H., purchased property at the end of North Main Street where he sold horses, carriages, sleighs, blankets, and buffalo robes. By 1915 he was in the automobile business. In 1993 after more than 100 years in business, Clark's Garage closed, and the property was sold to New England Wire Technologies.



Lisbon Auto Garage pictured above left in 1920 and at right after enlargement was a former blacksmith shop on North Main Street and featured "expert mechanics." Operated first by the Olneys and then the Dexters, the garage was in business from 1918 into the 1960s. Now there is a parking lot on the site.

In 1926, Eli Swinyer and Harlan Jesseman purchased Leslie Jesseman's blacksmith shop on North Main Street and enlarged the building significantly to go into the automobile garage business, eventually becoming a Chevrolet dealership. It stayed in the Jesseman family until sold to Lisbon Chevrolet in 1996. In 2008 the buildings were torn down. It is now a parking lot.

We hope you appreciate receiving these Moments In History from our historical society. We will welcome your comments as well as suggestions for possible topics for future Moments. Please also provide us with the names and e-mail addresses of relatives and friends who you feel would appreciate receiving from us our future Moments In History.

LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY - NOVEMBER 2018

A PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE THROUGH LISBON – UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL



President William H. Taft stops in Lisbon Square – October 10, 1912

It is difficult to imagine a time when the United States President would stand up in his car in the middle of a huge crowd with members of the press and onlookers completely surrounding and practically touching the vehicle. That is what happened on October 10, 1912 when William H. Taft the 27th President of the United States, came through Lisbon in the White House vehicle.

Lisbon Police Officer Fred Foster can be seen in the right corner two rows in front of the flag wearing his tall “bobby” hat. One of the children in the picture lived to be 101 and tell about the exciting event.

Edward Carleton Brummer was born in January of 1909. His father, Karl, was the son of Lisbon’s merchant tailor, George Brummer, who emigrated from Germany to Massachusetts and moved to Lisbon in 1859. In the picture above, Karl Brummer is by the right front wheel of the President’s car holding his son Edward up to be a witness to history. Edward’s mother, Mary, wrote on the picture showing where Karl and Edward were standing and also drew a line to where she was standing and wrote above it “my hat.”

The Lisbon Board of Trade prepared ahead of time for the President’s visit and all the buildings and homes on Main Street were decorated with bunting and flags, and a large flag with pictures of Taft and Sherman floated over the square. According to Littleton Courier and White Mountain Republic newspaper articles, three cars carrying Lisbon businessmen and town leaders met the Presidential motorcade at the Sugar Hill Railroad Station and escorted the party into Lisbon Square where nearly 3,000 people waited. In the car with the President were his wife, Helen Herron Taft

and Miss Mabel Boardman, a Red Cross worker from Washington. A vehicle with three Secret Service men followed, and a third vehicle carried a Japanese maid and valet. President Taft addressed the local schoolchildren who stood together and then addressed the crowd saying it was a trip of rest and pleasure, not of a political nature. The motorcade then continued on to Haverhill, New Hampshire.

Edward Brummer, the little boy lifted up in his father's arms so he could see the President of the United States, enjoyed an exceptional childhood as the only child of a prominent and well-to-do Lisbon family. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1931 and married and settled in Rindge, New Hampshire where he and his family ran Woodbound Inn on Lake Contoocook His wife was Margaret Sloane, whose family began the historic memorial site, Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge. Edward Carleton Brummer followed politics very closely for the rest of his long and distinguished life.



President William H. Taft and his wife, Helen look towards the crowd in Lisbon Square during their stop on October 10, 1912.

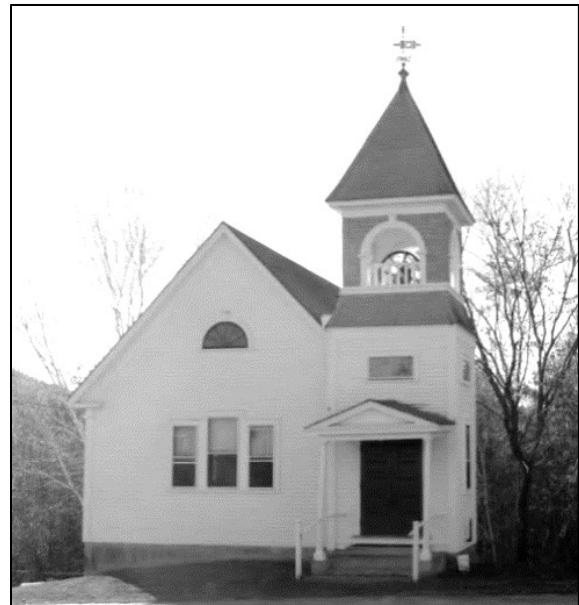
LAHS MOMENTS IN HISTORY - DECEMBER 2018

CHURCHES AND ORGANIZED RELIGION IN OUR THREE TOWNS

One of the first things the settlers in Lisbon, Lyman and Landaff did was appoint a place for worship. In the late 1700s people congregated to worship in homes or barns. By 1800 Methodist ministers were supplied through the Landaff Circuit which covered most of northern New Hampshire and northeastern Vermont. One of the early riders was Jesse Lee who was so large a man he rode one horse and led another so he could alternate horses on his trips. He first came to Lisbon about 1798 and stopped at Young's Tavern, one mile from the center of today's Lisbon village. Landaff was the first of our three towns to build a church. Lisbon and Lyman followed with churches built in 1818-1820 and 1820 respectively.



1840 Landaff Methodist Episcopal Church



1923 Landaff Methodist Episcopal Church

A Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in Landaff in 1800 with twelve members under Rev. John Broadhead. The first Methodist Church was built in Landaff Center in 1802 below today's Landaff Town Hall. The first preacher there was Elijah Sabin. In two years, there were over 160 members. In 1840 a new Landaff Methodist Church was built near the site of today's church. It replaced the 1802 church. In 1897 the Ladies' Aid Society of the Landaff Methodist Episcopal Church held a birthday party to raise funds to pay the pastor. The women's group continued its work over the years to help support the church. The 1840 church was torn down in 1923 and replaced with the present Landaff Methodist Church. There has not been a settled minister serving the church and living in Landaff for 100 years. Today the church is called the Landaff Church, part of the Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry*. Special events are held in the church, and The Shared Ministry holds services there during part of the summer months.

The Free Will Baptist church was built in Landaff c. 1833 on what was referred to as "Meetinghouse Field" near the top of Barrett Hill Road. In December of 1833, Jonathan Brunson (1776-1861) purchased pew number 28 on the floor of the church and pew number 29 in the gallery together with the privilege to and from the pews and around the meetinghouse in common with other pew holders. He paid \$50, and with the pews came the guarantee of benefit and use of his executors, administrators and assigns forever. A Report of the Building Committee from 1833 states that the church was to be built for \$1,000 in like manner as the (first Baptist) meetinghouse on Sugar Hill. The Free Will Baptist Church in Landaff was very well attended. The church is shown on the 1860 map of Landaff. It was later used as a town house before being torn down.

In Lisbon the first Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1817, and its first church building erected c. 1818-1820 across from Henry Pond just north of Lisbon Village on Route 302 on land purchased from the Young family. A bill of sale dated April 16, 1818 from the trustees of the Methodist meetinghouse conveyed to early Lisbon settler Josiah Bishop (1750-1824) a pew for \$20 in the east side of the meetinghouse designated as “pew #20.” Sunday School was organized at the same time, with classes for all ages. The c. 1818-1820 church was the site of the first New Hampshire Methodist Conference in June of 1827. Services were held in that church until a new church was built on Main Street in Lisbon Village. That first church also served as a town hall and stood until 1860 when it was torn down after a new town hall was built in Lisbon Square on the site of today’s Parker Block.



c. 1842 one-story Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church, Main Street



c. 1842 Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church, Main Street, after 1887 renovation (view from back of church)

The 1842 one-story Methodist Episcopal Church built on Lisbon’s Main Street is hardly recognizable today. In 1869 carriage sheds were built behind the church. In 1887 the church building was lifted up and a new addition was built underneath leaving the original church building and sanctuary on the second floor. A four-sided clock was added to the steeple in 1888 so townspeople and passengers on the train tracks behind the church could see the time of day, and a reopening and dedication was held.

More carriage sheds were built in 1906. The carriage sheds were torn down in 1942. At the beginning of the 1900s a Methodist women’s club was formed to help support the church. This church was the site of a huge and very successful 2-week revival in January of 1895. From the beginning of the founding of the Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church youth programs such as the Epworth League and Methodist Youth Fellowship and others along with women’s and men’s groups helped promote and support the church. The church building has been modernized and made handicap accessible and is called “The White Church” as part of The Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry*.



Lyman Meetinghouse late 1800s, Parker Hill

In 1828 a church was built in Lyman on Parker Hill, going towards the town center from the Parker Hill-Pettyboro Road intersection. It was at first named the “yellow meetinghouse” because of its color. It was built as a union house for all denominations but became primarily a Methodist meetinghouse, so Congregationalists and Universalists built their own Union Church just below the Parker Hill-Pettyboro Road Intersection. That church was torn down in the early 1860s. The yellow meetinghouse continued to grow. In 1888 a bell was given in memory of early Lyman settler David Locke, and the next year horse sheds were built behind the church. The sheds are now gone, and the church has been modernized over the years and is now known as the Lyman Bible Church.



Lisbon Advent Church c. 1930, Main Street

This church was originally built in 1874 as the Messiah’s Church at the corner of Main Street and Whitcher Street in Lisbon by Rev. Isaiah Shipman with money raised by going around the area selling pews. Shipman’s wife, Charlotte, had two years earlier started a Sunday School in the old town hall on today’s

Parker Block site. Shipman offered the building to the Congregational Church of Lisbon which was organized in 1878. At that time a group of women formed the Dorcas Society to help support the church. They raised money to erect a building on Main Street (later the site of Dexter's Garage), half of which was owned by the Dorcas Society and used as a dining room, kitchen, and Sunday School. The Congregationalists used the Messiah's Church for services, and after Rev. Shipman's death in 1882, the United Church of Christ purchased the church. In 1895 a winter revival was held with 67 people joining the membership totaling 127 at the end of the year. The Young People's Congregational Club began in 1912. The UCC continued using the church until selling it to the Advent Church in 1914 after building a new brick Congregational Church at the corner of Main Street and Depot Street. The Advent Church burned on July 14, 1941.



The United Congregational Church and Parish House, Main Street, Lisbon

In 1914 a new brick Congregational Church was built at the corner of Depot and Main Streets in Lisbon. It was designed by Lisbon-born architect Chase Roy Witcher and built by Lisbon contractor Lawrence Goudie. The parish house in back of the church was built by Lisbon architect Sylvanus D. Morgan. The first service was held in this church on May 23, 1915, and the parish house opened the next month, furnished by the Dorcas Society. The beautiful pipe organ in the brick church came from the old Messiah's church which the UCC had used. When the UCC sold that old church building, the organ was moved to the new brick church because it had been donated at a cost of \$1,050 specifically for the UCC by the Cummings family of Lisbon. In the early years that pipe organ was pumped by local youth, and many signed the boards where they sat in the room behind the pulpit. The parish house was a popular hangout for locals. There was a separate reading room and room for board games and ping pong. There was a big room with basketball hoops and a jukebox. On Saturday nights dances were held. There was also a one-lane bowling alley. The parish house was sold to the Assembly of God in 1952. It was sold and is now office space for White Mountain Footwear. The Congregational Church building is now known as "The Brick Church" and part of the Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry*. It was closed in 2005 to conserve resources, and there was a brief effort after that to work through the Sacred Places organization in Philadelphia in an attempt find a way to use the building in the community. The Shared Ministry holds services at The Brick Church twice a year.



Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal), School Street, Lisbon

As early as 1889 priests from All Saints' Church in Littleton were conducting occasional services in Lisbon, and in 1906 Rev. Frederick Cowper, priest-in-charge at Woodsville, began conducting regular services in Lisbon members' homes, at the Hotel Moulton, and in the "Guild Room" upstairs in the Boynton Block in Lisbon. In 1911 a lot was purchased on Lisbon's School Street where the Church of the Epiphany was built at a cost of \$3,420. It was designed by Boston architect Edmund Q. Sylvester. Opening services were held on Christmas Eve of 1911. Windows were donated by the Church of the Transfiguration in Bretton Woods, and a small organ was donated by St. Luke's in Woodsville. The church was consecrated on August 5, 1913. A church school operated in the church's upper room. In 1963 the church built a parish room which for some time was used for the Lisbon Development Center which provided services for developmentally disabled children during weekdays. The Church's women's group holds a popular annual rummage sale among other efforts and is part of the national Episcopal Church Women's organization.



Saint Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church Early 1900s - Highland Avenue, Lisbon

A mission of St. Joseph's Parish in Woodsville, N.H., St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church was built from 1908-1909 on Highland Avenue in Lisbon and on August 9, 1909 dedicated and blessed by Bishop Guertin. The organ loft is notable as it is high above the floor and accessed by a very narrow, winding stairway at the back of the sanctuary. In 1958 the Church purchased an existing duplex built by

Lisbon architect Sylvanus D. Morgan for the founders of New England Electrical Works at the corner of Kelsea Avenue and Highland Avenue. It was used as a rectory until the late 1970s when it was exchanged with Lisbon Regional School for the building of a new rectory constructed by Lisbon and Littleton High School building trades classes on a lot behind the Church at the corner of Kelsea Avenue and School Street. The new rectory was sold in 1997 and is a private residence. The old rectory is known as the Lisbon Regional School Annex. The basement of the church is used for dinners, meetings, and other special community events.

There was other organized religion present in Lisbon, Lyman and Landaff over the years. As early as 1832 Mormon missionaries were in Lyman preaching. Meetings were held in West Lyman (now Monroe) and in Lyman in a home in the area that now bears the name Mormon Hill, a ridge between Perch Pond and Ogontz Lake. In 1832 one Mormon convert left West Lyman for Salt Lake City with only \$11 to his name. Other Lyman converts eventually went westward to Salt Lake City as well. Mormon leader Brigham Young stopped at Young's Tavern in Lisbon. The porch bench where he sat, having been named "Brigham Young's Bench," was once a relic of the old tavern.

In 1888 Mary Baker Eddy, founder of Christian Science stayed at the home of early students and practitioners of the faith, Ira O. and Flavia Stickney Knapp, off Quebec Road in Lyman. By 1900, the Knapps had moved to Boston to further their work in the church. Ira Knapp was one of the original directors of the church. The Knapps' son, Bliss, became a famous practitioner and lecturer of the church.

The Assembly of God first met in a tent in Lyman and later in the Pond Schoolhouse near Ogontz Lake. The congregation then met at a blacksmith shop in Landaff and later upstairs in the H. T. Andross Grocery building on School Street in Lisbon. In 1952 they finally purchased their own building for church services, the Lisbon UCC parish house at the top of Depot Street. That building is now owned by White Mountain Footwear, as previously mentioned.

The Lisbon Bible Church owns the former William and Alice Oliver mansion on the prominent hill at the corner of Woolson Avenue and Grafton Street. The property has been modernized over the years. The sanctuary, gymnasium and other church rooms are downstairs, and the upstairs is living space for the pastor and family.

The Lisbon Church of the Nazarene has held services in different places in Lisbon. It has property in Lisbon on Lyman Road where there is a foundation ready to build upon sometime in the future.

In the 1950s an Inter-Church Council was formed and included the UCC, Methodist, Catholic, Episcopal and Assembly of God churches. The Council sponsored services at Thanksgiving, Lent, and other special times. During the years when the Council was active, the ecumenical programs did much to bring about an understanding and appreciation of other denominations.

*Due to declining attendance and scarcity of ministers, The Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry was formed in April of 1967 comprising of the Lisbon United Congregational Church and the Lisbon and Landaff United Methodist Churches. Initially, each church belonged to a State conference, retained its own officers, treasuries, and governing body but shared a minister, and services were split during the year between the three church buildings. The separate treasuries and women's groups were eventually consolidated into one self-governing federated church with one congregation meeting mainly in The White Church on Main Street and at other services in The Landaff Church and The Brick Church on Main Street in Lisbon.