

## WHEN YOU VISIT OUR TOWNS

**LISBON** is a small town with a big heart. Sited on both sides of the beautiful Ammonoosuc River, Lisbon has served as the downtown for Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff, and the towns share a public school, public library, public pool, transfer station, Life Squad, and active organizations. Since 1982, the town has thrown a festival on Memorial Day Weekend to celebrate the State flower, the lilac. There were a few years when the festival had a rest, but **Lilac Time** has always been looked forward to by all ages. Once a thriving mill town, Lisbon had a vital main street full of stores, specialty shops, professional services, tradesmen, and active social, service, and civic organizations. Residents could obtain all they needed without leaving town. With the coming of the automobile and a more mobile society, all that eventually changed. Lisbon's B&M Depot was the hub of the village, but the train era was on its way out by the mid-1900s. Even though there have been so many changes, Lisbon still has the same potential and has been blessed with a wonderful community of people who love it. You will too.

Summer music and food is served on the lawn of **The White Church** on Main Street on certain evenings, and there is a weekly summer farmers market on North Main Street. Visit **The ARTS Gallery** on South Main Street where the work of local artisans is displayed for sale, sit on **the gazebo** in the park and enjoy a lunch from the deli at **Riverside Market**, stop and have a pizza at **Lisbon Village Pizza**, check out **White Mountain Hydro Electric** below the dam in the center of the village, or just sit and enjoy the river or walk around the take note of the **beautiful architecture** in the village, especially the Colonial Revival style c. 1902 **Lisbon Town Hall** and the c. 1926 **Lisbon Public Library** with its Brick Colonial architecture. Visit [www.lisbonmainstreet.com](http://www.lisbonmainstreet.com) or Lisbon Main Street on Facebook for updates and a calendar of events, and visit **Lisbon Lilac Festival** on Facebook.

**AMMONOOSUC RAIL TRAIL**– A great way to travel in any season, the Ammonoosuc Rail Trail is 19 miles long and goes between Woodsville and Littleton. The Ammonoosuc River provides a gorgeous backdrop to this gravel trail, once a busy railway. As you pass the DCI furniture factory at the border of Landaff/Lisbon, keep in mind that this was once the site of the famous Parker Young Company (1883-1920s), the largest manufacturer of piano sounding boards in the world. And, at the end of North Main Street along the Rail Trail is New England Wire Technologies, our famous international company (read more below). Visit [www.xnhat.org](http://www.xnhat.org) for more trail adventures.

**LISBON INN** – This is the only building in Lisbon on the **National Register of Historic Places**. Built in 1902 as The Moulton, the building is in the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. It is now subsidized housing managed by AHEAD in Littleton, NH.

**THE WHITE CHURCH** – the **former Lisbon Methodist Episcopal Church** built on Main Street in 1842 and enlarged in 1887 is now part of the **federated Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry**. It is a classic New England church. The building reflects the original Greek Revival style with added Italianate style details. Of note is the four-sided steeple clock, installed so train

passengers and villagers would easily know the time. **The Tudor Revival style Brick Church** built on Main Street in 1915 is also part of the Shared Ministry. Other churches in Lisbon are **St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church** on Highland Avenue, **Lisbon Bible Church** on Woolson Avenue, **Lisbon Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal)** on School Street, and **Lisbon Church of Nazarene**, 99 Armstrong Avenue.

**LISBON HISTORIC RAILROAD STATION AND MUSEUM** – Lisbon’s restored c. 1870 B&M Railroad Station is on the **NH State Register of Historic Places**. It was built by the Boston, Concord & Montreal Railroad and is known for its distinctive architecture, specifically the hip roof and six dormers, and is the only B&M Station with this design. The 5-year-long restoration process was completed in 2008 at a cost of over \$500,000 through state and federal grant funding and private donations. Most of the museum collection is on loan from train enthusiast and life-long collector, Roger Robar of Lisbon, who was also the Clerk of the Works and gave countless hours to the massive restoration project. The large gravel lot which abuts the railroad station was once home to **J. K. Atwood’s bobbin mill**, which supplied bobbins for the textile mills in southern NH and in Massachusetts. In the latter part of the 1800s, the mill was the largest rough bobbin manufacturer in the United States and handled 2,000 cords of wood annually. Also along the railroad tracks were Lisbon’s **shoe peg mills** which operated first along the river beginning in 1865, then along the tracks until the 1940s. Towards the end of the manufacturing years, the shoe pegs were used to polish items in rotating drums.

**LISBON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM** – The Lisbon Area Historical Society will be the new owners of the former historic **Lisbon Congregational Church Parish House** at the top of Depot Street. Plans are underway to make this c. 1915 building, once the parish house for the Tudor Revival style brick Congregational Church on Main Street, the Society’s headquarters and museum which has served Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff since 1964. Visit [www.lisbonareahistory.org](http://www.lisbonareahistory.org) for more, or **like Lisbon Area Historical Society on Facebook!**

**WHITE MOUNTAIN FOOTWEAR FACTORY BUILDING**– Built c. 1901 as Granite State Wire Company, the factory building at the top of Whitcher Street has been a wire manufacturing facility, Jamaica Glove Factory, grain storage facility, and shoe shop. At one time 300 employees made shoes in this building, and when production ceased in 1995, the company was the last to make leather footwear in New Hampshire.

**NEW ENGLAND WIRE TECHNOLOGIES** – Founded in 1898 in Rhode Island as New England Electrical Works, the original wooden factory on North Main Street was built in 1899. The company originally manufactured single and double-silk-wrapped magnet wire for its main customer Western Electric which used it in the manufacture of magnetic coils in the telephone industry to ring the bells in old-fashioned crank telephones. An international company among the world leaders in design and manufacture of multiconductor cables, custom braids, cables, and strands, NEWT has provided products in the areas of aerospace, automotive, communications, computers, high-energy physics, medical electronics, nuclear fusion research, public utilities, and defense. **NEWT** also has a long history of supporting Lisbon and area towns.

**MONUMENT FOR LISBON'S FIRST SETTLEMENT** – Erected by Lisbon's Gunthwaite Chapter of the DAR, the monument beside Henry Pond marks the early settlement of Lisbon where the first church and school were built as well as early log cabins.

**YOUNG-COBLEIGH TAVERN** – One mile from Lisbon Village going towards Littleton is the site of Lisbon's Revolutionary War fort and center of Lisbon's first settlement. The old tavern structure is built around the fort's blockhouse which was used as the home and tavern of Samuel Young after the Revolutionary War. A granary, gun house, and large barn were on the property at one time, and the **fields** were used for the area's military musters until the 1850s. The tavern was later owned and enlarged by Levi Cobleigh who incorporated the original blockhouse into the design. An airport was also located on the fields by the tavern from 1922 to 1940. Ernest Poole's novel, *The Nancy Flyer*, is based on the historic Lisbon tavern, called The Bull Moose in the novel. The former tavern and fields are privately owned.

**LISBON STUMP JUMPERS' ANNUAL VINTAGE SNOWMOBILE RACES** – In January or February, the Lisbon Stump Jumpers Snowmobile Club holds its annual snowmobile races in the fields along US Rte. 302. [www.lisbonstumpjumpers.org](http://www.lisbonstumpjumpers.org). Also, near this site, in 1935 the Lisbon Outing Club built the **first rope ski tow in New Hampshire**.

**SALMON HOLE CEMETERY** – This is the resting place of Lisbon's first settlers and many Revolutionary War soldiers. Of note is the grave of **Maj. Benjamin Whitcomb**, the famous scout in the French and Indian and Revolutionary War during which he led Whitcomb's Independent Corps of Rangers. He is most famous for killing on July 24, 1776, British Brigadier General Patrick Gordon, behind enemy lines in Quebec. This cemetery was moved back from its original site before 1853 to make way for the railroad tracks. The oldest stones still face the river as they did originally. Lisbon's other cemetery, Grove Hill Cemetery, is in town, just off Landaff Road.

**SUGAR HILL STATION** – The Sugar Hill Railroad station was built in 1893 and was also a busy depot. It was later a snack bar named The Whistle Stop. Now it is vacant and privately owned.

**SALMON HOLE** – This curve in the Ammonoosuc River, under the bridge near the corner of US Rte. 302 and Lyman Road, is a favorite fishing hole. The current is swift, so use caution. Swimming is done below the bridge. Watch out for the poison ivy! The one-room Salmon Hole Schoolhouse and covered bridge once graced this area. The covered bridge was torn down after being damaged in the flood of 1927. The school closed in 1951 and was removed.

**CONRAD'S MILLS WATERFALL** – Located on Burnham's Brook along Lyman Road, one-half mile from Salmon Hole, this waterfall was once a busy place over the years and home to saw, starch, and grist mills. The old mill collapsed for good in 1969.

**FARMS OF NOTE** – Along the Salmon Hole area were four farms owned by the Bishop family. In 1770, the first members of the Bishop family settled on the west side of the Ammonoosuc River before Salmon Hole. This land became a public golf course in 1930 and closed in 2010. Other Bishop descendants owned farms on both sides of the Salmon Hole Cemetery and the Bishop Farm on the west side of the river just after the Salmon Hole.

**OLD COAL KILN** – Designated with a **NH State Highway marker**, the old c. 1868 coal kiln was used to burn pine knots to make charcoal for the iron industry, particularly Franconia Iron Works. It was once 22’ in diameter and 18’ tall and built of thousands of flat stones.

**BARRETT’S CROSSING** - Barrett’s Crossing near the half-way point on the main road between Lisbon and Littleton, was named for Lorenzo “Loni” Barrett (1857-1941) who in 1895 purchased a house there where he and his wife, Addie (Hall) lived, raised a family, farmed, and kept a general store for 46 years. At one time there was a Barrett’s Station and the Andrews’ Mill located near the crossing.

There are wonderful opportunities along the **Ammonoosuc River, streams, and brooks** for fishing, nature watching, kayaking, and canoeing, such as: **Pearl Lake, Perch Pond, Henry Pond, and Streeter Pond.**

**LYMAN** is nestled in the hills to the west of Lisbon. There are beautiful views of the Presidential Range. **Dodge Pond** and **Ogontz Lake** are two wonderful bodies of water for kayaking, canoeing, swimming, and fishing. In winter, many put a bob house out on the ice to ice fish. An **annual ice fishing contest** is held on Ogontz Lake, and in late winter Dodge Pond is the site of **Dodge Pond Day**, a day-long community celebration with great food and other activities. Other events are held year-round by the **Lyman Community Group**, which works toward continuing to make Lyman a great place to live. Lyman was once the mining center of the area in the Ammonoosuc Mine District and Gold Field. The Dodge Mine was the largest gold mine and where a piece of gold ore was discovered in a stone wall in 1866. The Paddock Mines produced copper and was the largest copper mine in New Hampshire. It is a bat hibernacula, too. Most of the old mines are on private property now, and we are not encouraging anyone to explore the horizontal and vertical shafts, because it’s a safety risk to both people and the vulnerable bat population which has been devastated by White Nose Syndrome.

**OGONTZ CAMP**, originally an exclusive girls’ camp started in 1923 on the shore of **Ogontz Lake**, has had many chapters. It is now promoted as a rustic resort and event center. [www.ogontzwhitemountains.com](http://www.ogontzwhitemountains.com).

**POND, PARKER HILL, CENTER, AND MOULTON HILL CEMETERIES** are beautiful cemeteries that tell the history of the settlers and more recent residents. Stroll around and look at the interesting gravestones.

**LYMAN BIBLE CHURCH** is a non-denominational bible church and just north of the Parker Hill-Pettyboro Road intersection in Lyman. It was built in 1828 by townspeople of all denominations so that there would be a suitable house of worship in the town.

**LYMAN TOWN HALL** was built in 1860, and across the road is the **LYMAN GRANGE HALL** built in 1901. Three historic painted stage curtains were rescued from the Lyman Grange Hall and are being restored by funding through a NH Council on the Arts \$14,500 NH Moose Plate Grant. The restoration work is being done by Curtains Without Borders of Burlington, Vt. The restored curtains will be available to the public after restoration.

**LANDAFF** is a beautiful little town with an active town center. The **LANDAFF TOWN HALL** built in 1922 also housed the **MOUNT HOPE GRANGE** founded in 1876 and discontinued in 2021. The hall has a gorgeous **HISTORIC PAINTED GRAND DRAPE** stage curtain made in 1929 and restored in 2008 by Curtains Without Borders of Burlington, Vt., through grant funding from NH Electric Co-op. Also, in the center is the **Landaff Methodist Church** built in 1923, now known as **Lisbon-Landaff Shared Ministry's Landaff Church**. The **Friends of Landaff** nonprofit group raises funds to support needed town hall renovations and improvements. The **Landaff Ledger** is an online newsletter [www.landaffledger.com](http://www.landaffledger.com) and good source for what is going on in town. The **Annual Landaff Old Home Day and Fire Department Auction** are always well attended. The town still has a one-room school in operation. **The Blue School**, built in 1858, has a modular addition multi-purpose room. The school houses grades K-3 and is located at the intersection of Mill Brook, King Hill, and Rabbit Path Roads.

**LANDAFF CEMETERY** is on Cemetery Road, one of the roads that meet in the town center. There are many old stones in the cemetery, and one of the most interesting marks the resting place of Susannah Brownson who lived in three different centuries and died two months before her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday. She was 83 years old when she traveled with her nephew Jonathan, and family and two yoke of oxen for the 6-week, 200-mile trip from Connecticut to Bath, N.H. in 1781. They stayed in Bath for one year before moving to Landaff.

**JOCKEY HILL VIEWS** are beautiful year-round, but especially during foliage season.

**CHANDLER POND** is at the end of Mill Brook Road which intersects with Pearl Lake Road. It was once a brook flowing through pastureland. After the hurricane of 1938, the brook was dammed up to make a holding pond for the many logs from trees that were blown down. The pond is wonderful for nature watching.