2. Congregational Church (4 Highland St.)
Known over the years as the “North Church” or the “White House” for its prominent white spire, the church has long been the symbol of Meredith’s New England burgs. Originally built on the high school site in 1785, the church was moved to its present location in 1861. It remained there until 1842, when it was moved again to its present site.

3. Sunbonnet House (1 Drug Store St. (5 Main St.).
For well over a century, the Sunbonnet House has been a focal point of social and business activity in Meredith Village. It was built in 1841 for Dr. Josiah Smith. The first floor, 2½-story twin-chimney and a rear two-story ell show some features of the original building. In the late 1800s, Dr. George Sanborn had his practice in this building. He ran a drug store on the corner of Main and High Streets in 1883 and in 1898 moved the store into this addition to the building. Sunbonnet’s original mortar and pestle stained glass windows still decorate both sides of the entrance to the old pharmacy.

4. Town Hall (“The Great Grotto” (9 Main St. and 73 Main Street).
The corner of local government from 1875 to 1958, the “Old Town Hall” at the corner of Main and High Streets was actually the second town hall built in Meredith Village and the site of the town’s history. The first was built on Parish Road in 1798, but the town meeting in 1804 moved the hall to a near building in Meredith Village (c. 1821). The new site, during the first meeting moved to the smallish hall, the floor collapsed under the weight of 600 voters. Almost 150 fell into the basement, killing four and injuring many others. In 1875 Josiah Sturtevant agreed to construct new offices for the town at the corner of Main and High Streets. The town offices and hall were on the second floor. The first moving hall, the floor collapsed under the weight of 600 voters. About 150 fell into the basement, killing four and injuring many others. In 1875 Josiah Sturtevant agreed to construct new offices for the town at the corner of Main and High Streets. The town offices and hall were on the second floor. The first meeting picture ever shown in Meredith was taken there. Except for the stairwell, it retains its original look.

5. Baptist Church (49 Main St.).
The meetinghouse of the Second Baptist Church Society of Meredith was built in 1826. Arched side windows and semi-elliptical fans in the front gable and lower tower are Federalist in style. The onion dome is a later addition. For many years, the Baptist Church bell knelled the deaths of its members.

6. The Civil War Memorial & Meredith Public Library (5 Main St.).
Major E.B. Beede’s Civil War Monument is dedicated to the 12th New Hampshire Regiment that fought in many of the fiercest battles of that war, including Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor and the siege of Petersburg. Meredith made up the majority of Company I of the 12th, and local girls were particularly proud in those battles. Major Beede himself survived two injuries in as much as a piston. He was at the Theater when Lincoln was shot, and he helped carry the President to the house across the street where he died. After making a fortune mining diamonds in South Africa, he donated the statue “to keep alive the memory of those fallen heroes.”

The Meredith Public Library had no permanent home until Benjamin M. Smith donated $10,000 to build a library in 1906. After growing up in the village during the mid-1800s, Mr. Smith became a successful businessman in Vermont. He donated the site in memory of his parents. The building is a Classical Revival structure designed by George Sears. The original main block is a T-shaped structure with a hip roof and a slightly projecting gable above an entry recessed under a round arch. The building corners are pilastered, and there are bands ofmlabronc细轍sflghing below the main roof. Windows are set in rectangular openings, with stone sills and keystones. The name and date appear in raised granite. The original structure was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Additions to the building were completed in 1988 and in 2011.

7. The Harrisson House (83 Main St.).
The town of Meredith had as many as 20 one- or two-room school houses before 1855. Attendance ranged from five to 35. Meredith Village’s two-room school house was located on Plympton St. By 1827, the number of village school-age children had outgrown the original school house, so Harrisson acquired this parcel near the village center and built a new school made of wood. The present brick building replaced it in 1916. The building was named for John Harrisson, a popular young teacher who died unexpectedly that year. The building’s architecture imitates the library in design, but the trim is ornate, reducing a growing list of fire escapes, made ornate. In 1920, the Harrisson building became the town’s high school and a new grade school was built on Lang Street. A new high school was built in 1976, and the Harrisson building now occupied by the administrative offices of Inter-Lakes School District.

8. John Bond Sturtevant House (90 Main St.).
Village canal builder John Bond Sturtevant built this house in c. 1812. Born in 1782, the young Sturtevant moved to Meredith in 1834. Arched side windows and semi-elliptical fans in the front gable and lower tower are Federalist in style. The onion dome is a later addition. For many years, the Baptist Church bell knelled the deaths of its members.

9. Jonathan C. Everett House (4 Waukewan St.).
The house at 4 Waukewan Street was built c. 1816. John Bond Sturtevant’s mother, Hannah Sturtevant, was born here. The house is an outstanding example of Italianate architecture. Originally built on the high school hill c. 1815, the house was acquired by Jonathan C. Everett c. 1818. In 1821 he moved the house to the site of the present house and built a new addition. This house is similar to other early 19th-century homes, featuring two and a half stories, brick chimneys and the windows around central entrance at the front. The two-story side porch is an unusual feature reminiscent of southern homes. The house still belongs to descendants of Jonathan Bond Sturtevant.

10. William Morse House (7 Lake St.).
The house at 7 Lake St. is the oldest still standing in the Village. It was built c. 1810 by William Morse, the second blacksmith to move to the Village in 1799. He was located next door but built a new building in 1841 for Dr. Jeremiah Smith. The five bays, 2½-story twin-chimney and a rear two-story ell still show some features of the original building. In the late 1800s, Dr. George Sanborn had his practice in this building. He ran a drug store on the corner of Main and High Streets in 1883 and in 1898 moved the store into this addition to the building. Sunbonnet’s original mortar and pestle stained glass windows still decorate both sides of the entrance to the old pharmacy.

11. The First Inn (23 Main St.).
John Neal perhaps the first inn in the village (a. 1693). It was converted into the village’s first inn and twins where post roads defined the meeting the. It burned in 1867 and was rebuilt soon after.

12. The Horse Block & Lower Main Street (54 Main St.).
Beede descendants constructed the first building here in 1805. It sold to Samuel Bean, who re-adopted the building into the 1850s. The building was re-adopted by physicians in the late 1800s. The Horse Block was the Meredith’s first fire station.

13. Waterfront
The water power of the Waukewan stream was first harnessed for milling in 1789. Small saw, grist and carding mills were built here or near it. After growing into a partnership with Daniel Swasey c. 1811, John Bond Sturtevant opened a general store next door from 1814 to 1861. The latter was an immigrant who started out as a clockmaker. The latter was an immigrant who started out as a clockmaker. After returning into a partnership with Daniel Swasey c. 1811, John Bond Sturtevant opened a general store next door from 1814 to 1861. The latter was an immigrant who started out as a clockmaker.
The land that became the town of Meredith was granted to 62 colonialists in 1748. It wasn’t until the early 1760s, however, that settlers began to establish farms in the township. Earlier settlement had been precluded by the on/off dangers of the French and Indian wars, the last of which ended in 1763. By 1766, a dozen homesteads were in various stages of development in the vicinity of Parade Rd. (Rte 106 now). Ebenezer Smith, the leader of the grantees, had the town’s largest farm. Under his leadership, the town was formally recognized by the legislature in 1768. Governor Wentworth changed its name to Meredith, after his friend Sir William Meredith, an influential English Parliamentarian. The new town grew slowly, the population reaching 259 just before the Revolution. By 1790, it was up to 881, and by 1800, it had nearly doubled to 1609 dispersed from boundary to boundary.

The Meredith Village area played little role in this early settlement surge. It was not settled by anyone until 1786. By then, a road—now Main Street—had been built, connecting Parade Road (formerly the Province Road and now Rte. 106) to the eastern end that abutted Moultonborough.

As with virtually all other “villages” in early New Hampshire, its settlement arose from the presence of the water power generated by the stream running from Measley Pond (now Lake Waukewan) to Lake Winnipesaukee. The most important parcel was located where the Mill Falls Marketplace and Inn now sit because the Measley Pond stream dropped precipitously there. In 1787, Ebenezer Smith and John Jenness partnered to build a saw mill on the stream, beginning the process by which additional mills and then commercial businesses were added, leading to the creation of a thriving village.

Although long-demolished, the lot at 56 Main St. was the location of the first home built in the future village by John Jenness c. 1787. It housed successive mill yard owners and then became a tenement for workers until well into the 1900s.

Additional businesses were gradually drawn to the area, and by 1805 a small community was taking shape. The village enjoyed steady growth over the next several decades. Successive owners of the mill yard, led initially by John Bond Swasey, rechanneled the Waukewan stream and tightened the mill race to generate more water power. As a result the mill yard and village rapidly expanded during the 1820s, 1830s and 1840s, boosted by the decades-long economic phenomenon known as the “sheep craze” that brought prosperity to New England during those decades. High-

1. Historical Society Museum (45 Main Street)

This building was one of the first dozen or so houses constructed in Meredith Village. It was built in 1812 by a saddler named Abel Kimball using pegged timber framing (hand-hewn post and beam) construction techniques that were brought over from Europe. This is especially evident on the second floor, where the ceiling is exposed. Like most early village houses, it served a dual purpose as Kimball’s home and shop.

Seneca Ladd purchased it in 1854, and thereafter the building became the major focal point of village activity until 1956. It housed Ladd’s piano and melodion business for several years. In 1869, Ladd established the town’s first bank, the Meredith Mechanic Association. The MMA used public capital to further develop the village’s manufacturing potential. Larger businesses were drawn to the village. In due course a bank, a library, a local newspaper and various stores attracted people from the surrounding region. Meredith’s (and New Hampshire’s) prior identity as farming country gradually gave way to commercial development and tourism.

Thanks to the mill yard, manufacturing continued to play a leading role in the village until the 1950s when vacationing and tourism increasingly became more important to the town’s economy and personality. The mill yard finally met its demise in the early 1980s when the Mill Falls hospitality complex replaced the decades-old mill buildings, closing out nearly 200 years of prominence.