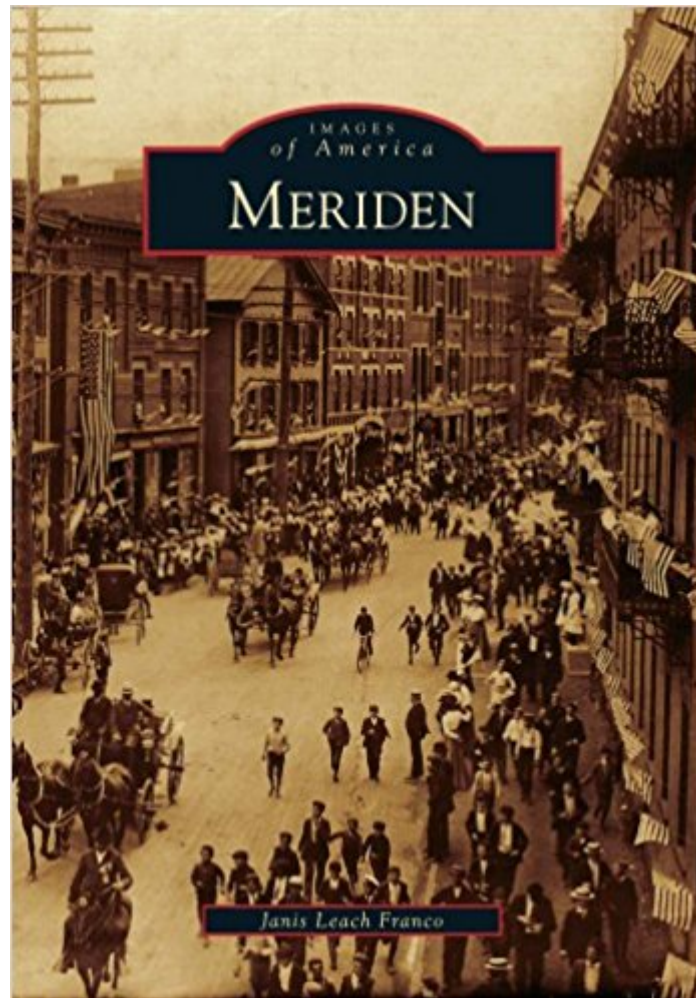




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# Meriden (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

Incorporated in 1806, Meriden was once proposed as the state capital. Although the plan was not implemented, the rural village quickly burgeoned into a major manufacturing center with the advent of the industrial revolution. Meriden advanced to become renowned as the "Silver City." International Silver Company and other key businesses, such as Parker Gun, Manning Bowman, Wilcox and White, and Handel Lamp, made Meriden a familiar name. Home to Gov. Abiram Chamberlain, Arctic explorer Hugh Johnson Lee, opera diva Rosa Ponselle, and baseball's Connie Mack, the city has also long been enlivened by a diverse mixture of immigrants and newcomers. Bordered on the north by dramatic traprock ridges, Meriden has a larger percentage of parklands than any other town in Connecticut, with Hubbard Park its crowning jewel.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Janis Leach Franco, local history librarian and Meriden Historical Society board member, has selected over 200 of the best images from the archives of the Meriden Public Library and combined them with extensively researched captions to provide an authentic journey into Meriden's past from the 1860s to the 1970s.

This Meriden Images of America book is a well-written pictorial essay. It has an amazing collection of pictures that document this once nationally-acclaimed industrial giant. You learn in this book that Meriden was an early colonial settlement on the ONLY road between the Connecticut Colony (at

Hartford) and the port colony of New Haven. And, that Meriden is the source of the original "Yankee Peddlers" who sold ivory and wooden combs and buttons as well as tin spoons and knives to other settlers since the 1700's! The book celebrates Meriden's industrial history with many vintage photos and captures the lost innocence (and architecture) of the 1930's, 40's, 50's and 60's. Buy it and learn what you didn't know about where you live.

Having grown up in Meriden, I loved seeing pictures of the old buildings in their original glory, especially those representing the town's history that have been torn down. As with many of the older towns and cities, so much has changed or disappeared and this book brings them back to life in print. Any Meriden native would love to have this book as part of their personal library.

This book brought back many memories, but much more information that I didn't know about my home town. I think that anyone who remembers 'The Silver City' would enjoy the book.

I thoroughly enjoyed the pictures in this book. The captions were very instructional with facts I didn't know about Meriden's history only having lived here for 33 yrs. I think this is a great book for those in Meriden who are interested in local history and especially good for relative new comers like me.

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