

## Ross Register Report

According to an interview with Ella Hall in 1942, the Ross family in this line originated from Scotland and settled in Albemarle, N.C. (There is a Ross Beach there).<sup>[2]</sup> They ended up in New England by virtue of William Henry Ross being stationed at Fort Constitution in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[10]</sup>

### First Generation

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**1. John O.<sup>1</sup> ROSS.**<sup>[1]</sup> We currently have no information on John or his wife **Polly PIERCE** beyond their names, which are listed on William Henry Ross' Death Certificate.<sup>[1]</sup>

They had one child:

**2**      **i.**      **William Henry<sup>2</sup> (1825-1907)**

Generation: G3 Grandfather

Person Numbers: 36/37

### Second Generation

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**2. Captain William Henry<sup>2</sup> ROSS** (*John<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 1 August 1825 in Albemarle, NC or Stanley, NC, depending upon the source.<sup>[1,2,3,4]</sup> William Henry died in Amesbury, Essex co., MA on 13 May 1907; at the age of 82y:9m:12d.<sup>[1,2,5,6]</sup> His funeral was at the home of his step-daughter - Mrs. George S. Hanson at 158 Essay Avenue in West Gloucester, Essex co., MA.<sup>[6]</sup> He is buried in the Beech Brook Cemetary, West Gloucester, Essex co., MA.<sup>[1,6]</sup> The causes of William's death were listed as Cerebral Hemorrhage (2 hours), Dementia (6 months).<sup>[1]</sup>

According to Ella Hall's 1942 interview, William ran away from home to join the army and was subsequently stationed at Fort Constitution in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. He was supposedly 5' 6" tall.<sup>[2]</sup>

According to his obituary, however, he was a veteran of the Mexican and Spanish Wars - enlisting in the Mexican war at the age of 17.<sup>[6]</sup> He also claimed to be a veteran of the Civil War, but proof has not yet been found to substantiate it.

Other family lore says that he was a Private of Captain B. H. Hill's Co. of the 1st Regiment of Artillery - enlisting on 2 November 1854 for 5 years and discharged on 9 July 1856.<sup>[2]</sup> However, William's 1850 United States Census entry indicates that he was in the U.S. Army as early as 1850:

NAME	AGE	SEX	OCCUPATION	POB
William Ross	27	M	Private, US Army	N. Car. <sup>[3]</sup>

Once he left the Army and suffered through the loss of two wives and a daughter, William Henry gave up his children for adoption, left New Castle and went to sea as a Master Mariner.<sup>[2,7,8]</sup> By the time of his death on 13 May 1907, his occupation was given as Stonecutter.<sup>[1]</sup>

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William Henry's known residences are as follows:

1869 - Rockport, Essex co., MA (listed in one of his obituaries)<sup>[6]</sup>

1872 - West Gloucester, Essex co., MA (also listed in one of his obituaries)<sup>[6]</sup>

1886 - 53 Islington Street, Portsmouth, NH (listing in the Portsmouth City Directory)<sup>[7]</sup>

1888 - Boarding at 59 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH (listing in the Portsmouth City Directory)<sup>[8]</sup>

1898 - West Gloucester, Essex co., MA (listed on his Marriage Certificate to Melvina Wheeler)<sup>[9]</sup>

1904 - Amesbury, Essex co., MA; to live with his youngest daughter. (listed in one of his obituaries)<sup>[6]</sup> [Since this daughter is not Ella Hall, he may have had other children with his third wife.]

On 14 November 1850 when William Henry was 25, he first married **Sarah HILLIARD**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. Sarah was born ca. 1823 and died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH before 30 November 1853 (when William Henry married his second wife); she was, at best, 30 when she died.<sup>[10]</sup>

They had one child:

**3** i. Charles W. (1852-1916)

On 30 November 1853 when William Henry was 28, he second married **Sarah "Mary" Elizabeth PIERCE**, in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[10]</sup> She was born in July 1830 in South Berwick, York co., ME or Rollingsford, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[2,4]</sup> Sarah "Mary" Elizabeth died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 16 October 1863; she was aged 33y:3m.<sup>[5,10]</sup> The cause of her death was listed as Malignant Diphtheria.<sup>[2]</sup>

Mary Elizabeth Pierce and Sarah Pearse are the same person. Her given name was "Sarah Elizabeth" but she was commonly called "Mary". Her last name has the variations of "Pierce" & "Pearse" in various records. Mary (then age 18) was living with her sister Rachel [Pearse] Yeaton's family in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH in 1850.<sup>[3]</sup>

According to Ella Ross Hall, Mary was a cousin of President Franklin Pierce – while this is entirely possible, since he was the only US President to hail from New Hampshire, it is an assumption yet to be proven.<sup>[2]</sup>

When Mary died and William decided to go to sea, Eva, Charlie and Ella were adopted by William & Hannah T. Jackson. Henry was adopted by a family named Campbell. Sarah J. had already died.<sup>[2,12]</sup>

They had the following children:

**4** i. Sarah J. (ca.1855-1863)  
**5** ii. Eva/Evy F. (1858-)  
**6** **iii. Ella<sup>3</sup>/Annie (1860-1943)**  
**7** iv. Henry (1862-)

Generation: G2 Grandfather

Person Numbers: 18/19

William Henry third married **Mary "Mame" [surname not known]**. According to Ella Ross Hall, Mame was still living in Bradford, Essex co., MA in 1942.<sup>[2]</sup>

In 1898 when William Henry was 72, he fourth married **Melvina WHEELER**.<sup>[9]</sup> She was born in 1836 in Rockport, Essex co., MA and lived in Gloucester, Essex co., MA at the time of her marriage to William Henry.<sup>[9]</sup>

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### Third Generation

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**3. Charles W. ROSS [JACKSON]** (*William Henry<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 14 February 1852 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[4,11]</sup> Charles W. died in Hampton, Rockingham co., NH on 26 July 1916; he was 64.<sup>[2,5]</sup> Charles W. married **Hannah [surname unknown]**.. He was adopted by the Jacksons.

They had the following children:

- i. Kenneth<sup>[2]</sup>
- ii. [Unknown Daughter] (According to Ella Hall, she had died by 1942.)<sup>[2]</sup>

**4. Sarah J. ROSS** (*William Henry<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born ca 1855 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[4]</sup> Sarah J. died in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH on 1 February 1863; aged 8y. 5m, only 6 months before her mother's death.

**5. Eva (or Evy<sup>[2]</sup>) F. ROSS [JACKSON]** (*William Henry<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 14 February 1858 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[4,11]</sup> After her mother's death and father's decision to go to sea, Evy was adopted by William & Hannah T. Jackson. Eva married **Henry ROBERTS**, who was born in England, and they lived in Boston, Suffolk co., MA in 1942.<sup>[2]</sup>

**6. Ella ROSS** (*William Henry<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 12 July 1860 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[4,10,12]</sup> Ella died in Quincy, Norfolk co., MA on 11 April 1943; she was 82.<sup>[5,10]</sup> and is buried in Cedar Grove Cemetary - Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA.<sup>[13]</sup> She had suffered from Broncho-Pneumonia and Chronic Myocarditis for 1 year and 6 months.

Ella was the third child of William Henry Ross and Mary Elizabeth Pierce and was listed as "Annie (Ella)" on the 1860 Federal Census.<sup>[4]</sup> After Mary died, she was adopted by William and Hannah T. Jackson.<sup>[2]</sup> William S. Jackson was born on 28 March 1831, probably in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH<sup>[11]</sup> and died on 8 November 1904.<sup>[5]</sup> Hannah T. Jackson was known as "Crazy Grammie Hall" and was born on 28 September 1837, probably in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[2,11,13]</sup> She died on 24 July 1925.<sup>[5]</sup>

In 1901, Ella took her husband Ordway's job as Clerk at 40 Market Street, Portsmouth, Rockingham co., NH<sup>[14]</sup> presumably to "hold" the position for him while he worked at the Navy Yard in Portsmouth. By 1903, he was back at his old job.

On 27 April 1882 when Ella was 21, she married Ordway Rider HALL (*see Hall*), son of Stacy HALL Sr. & Abbie NEAL in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[2,10,15]</sup>

They had the following children:

- i. **Laforrest Leroy (1895-1981) (see Hall)**
- ii. Lillian J. (1883-)
- iii. Leonora Estelle (1885-)
- iv. Lizzie Martin (1890-)
- v. Laura May (1891-)
- vi. Lowie Pauline (1893-)

Generation: G1 Grandfather

Person Numbers: 8/9

**7. Henry ROSS** (*William Henry<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 9 December 1862 in New Castle, Rockingham co., NH.<sup>[11]</sup> and was adopted by the Campbells when William fostered out his children. Henry was caretaker for Wentworth-By-The-Sea for many years.<sup>[2]</sup>

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## Sources

1. "William Henry Ross Death Record," 1907, Amesbury, Essex co., MA, 1907, Amesbury, 68, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Vital Records.
2. Ella Hall Recollections given to Walter Hall in 1942. Subsequently transcribed by Heather Hall and Kristin Hall.
3. "1850 Federal Census," ROCK New Castle, NH, Federal Archives, Waltham, MA.
4. "1860 Federal Census," ROCK New Castle, NH, Federal Archives, Waltham, MA.
5. "Hall Family Record," Deaths Page, Kristin Hall, Written Records in Family Bibles, Paper.
6. "William Henry Ross Obituary," Unknown Newspaper clipping kept in family files.
7. 1886 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 14, Page 75.
8. 1888 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 15, Page 78.
9. "William Henry Ross & Melvina Wheeler Marriage Record," 1898.
10. "New Castle, Rockingham co., NH Vital Records."
11. "Hall Family Record," Memoranda Page, Kristin Hall, Written Records in Family Bibles.
12. "Hall Family Record," Births Page, Kristin Hall, Written Family Records from Family Bibles.
13. Family Notes Transcription. Notes originally in Walter K. Hall's, Barbara M. Hall's or Heather Hall's hand.
14. 1901 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 22, Page 121.
15. "Hall Family Record," Marriages Page, Kristin Hall, Written Records in Family Bibles, Paper.
16. "Ordway R. Hall Death Record," 21 February 1917, Boston, Suffolk co., MA, 1917, 1, 173, 2249, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Vital Records.
17. 1895 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 19, Page 158.
18. 1897 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 19, Page 158.
19. 1894 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 18, Page 142.
20. 1903 Portsmouth, NH City Directory. Number 23, Pages 125-126.

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### HALL

Laforrest Leroy (1895 - 1981)  
Laura May (1891 - )  
Leonora Estelle (1885 - )  
Lillian J. (1883 - )  
Lizzie Martin (1890 - )  
Lowie Pauline (1893 - )  
Ordway Rider (1858 - 1917)

son of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
daughter of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
daughter of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
daughter of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
daughter of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
daughter of Ella Ross (6) & Ordway Rider Hall  
husband of Ella Ross (6)

### HILLIARD

Sarah (ca1823 - <1853)

first wife of William Henry Ross (2)

### PIERCE

Polly  
Sarah "Mary" Elizabeth (?1830 - 1863)

wife of John Ross (1)  
second wife of William Henry Ross (2)

### ROBERTS

Henry

husband of Eva/Evy Ross (5)

### ROSS

Charles W. (1852 - 1916)  
Ella (1860 - 1943)  
Eva (1858 - )  
Henry (1862 - )  
John O.  
Kenneth  
Sarah J. (ca1855 - 1863)  
[Unknown Daughter] ( - 1942)  
Captain William Henry (1825 - 1907)

(3), only son of William Henry Ross (2) & Sarah Hilliard  
(6), third daughter of William Henry Ross (2) & Mary Pierce  
(5), second daughter of William Henry Ross (2) & Mary Pierce  
(7), fourth son of William Henry Ross (2) & Mary Pierce  
(1), father of William Henry Ross (2)  
son of Charles W. Ross (3)  
(4), first daughter of William Henry Ross (2) & Mary Pierce  
daughter of Charles W. Ross (3)  
(2) son of John<sup>1</sup> and Polly Pierce

### surname not known

Mary "Mame"  
[not known]

third wife of William Henry Ross (2)  
wife of Charles W. Ross (3)

### WHEELER

Melvina (1836 - )

fourth wife of William Henry Ross (2)