

Descendants of Joseph PEARCE / PIERCE
of Anson Co, NC and Henderson Co, TN

Joseph PEARCE OR PIERCE was born about 1794 in Anson Co, NC. Joseph and his family migrated to Henderson Co, TN sometime before the birth of son Joel in May of 1836. Among the many from Anson Co who moved to Henderson Co with Joseph were brother-in-law Joseph Smith and his family. Joseph died between 1838 and 1840 in Henderson Co, TN. Son Amon would recount later that they used the same wagon that the family had used on their migration to take Joseph's body to the cemetery.

Anson Co, NC Deed - Oct 7, 1818 Moses Pearce (Anson Co) to his son Joseph Pearce (same); for good will gave 150 ac on Beaverdam Swamp; border: begins at spanish oak; part of grant Dec 17, 1769 to William "Hally" (signed) Moses Pearce's mark "X" (witness) J Bentley & Daniel Taylor; wit. oath Jan 1818 by Daniel Taylor; book S p 60

1820 Anson Co, NC (Steagall)

Joseph Pearce and Moses live on adjoining properties deeded to them by their father.

4 males to 10
1 male 16 - 26
1 female 16 - 26

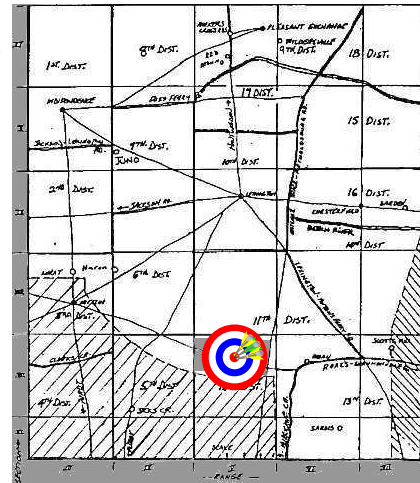
1830 Anson Co, NC

Joseph "Pearso"

2 males 5-10
4 males 10-15
1 male 30-40
2 females to 5
1 female 30-40

1 slave 10 - 15

*Henderson Co, TN 1836.
Area the Pierce family lived.
Shaded area in bottom left became
Chester Co in 1879. Shaded area
on the right became Decatur Co.*



History of Henderson County, Auburn Powers, 1930 - Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, IN

"Reagan is a small village eleven miles southeast of Lexington. Perhaps a Mr Pierce was the first settler in the Reagan vicinity, which was in its early days know as Barren Springs. However, John M. Taylor, a congressman from Lexington, named it Reagan in honor of Senator Reagan from Texas. Congressman Taylor helped to establish a post office at the place and so named it in 1881."

Joseph PEARCE OR PIERCE and Elizabeth SMITH were married in Anson Co, NC. **Elizabeth SMITH** (daughter of Joseph SMITH) was born on July 22, 1798 in Anson Co, NC. She died between 1865 and 1870 in Henderson Co, TN. She was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN in an unmarked grave.

1840 Henderson Co, TN census beside Hiram Pierce and Joseph Smith:

Elizabeth Pierce

2 males to 5 (Joel and Henry Clay)
2 males 5 - 10 (Amon and ?)
1 male 10 - 15 (Andrew)
1 male 15 - 20 (William)
2 females 15 - 20 (same females from 1830 Anson Co, NC)
1 female 40 - 50

1850 Henderson Co, TN census, District 12 (next to Joseph Smith, age 56, born NC):

Elizabeth Pearce, 50, NC
Aman, 15, NC
Joel, 13, TN
Henry Clay, 11, TN

1860 Henderson Co, TN census - District 12 next door to son Joel and one household from Elizabeth* (Madison's widow)

Elizabeth Pearce, 62, NC
Amon, 27, NC
Henry, 23, TN

Descendants of Joseph PEARCE / PIERCE
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FEDERAL DIRECT LAND TAX (HENDERSON COUNTY): 1865

ELIZABETH PEARCE, 310, 1530

ANDREW PEARCE, 50, 204

Joseph PEARCE OR PIERCE and Elizabeth SMITH had the following children:

I. **Hiram PIERCE OR PEARCE** was born between 1810 and 1817 in Anson Co, NC. He died between 1870 and 1880 in Henderson Co, TN.

1840 Henderson Co, TN census, next to Elizabeth Pierce

2 males to 5 (John and William)

1 male 20-30

1 female 5 - 10 (Jemima)

1 female 20 - 30

1850 Henderson Co, TN census, District 11

Hiram Pearce, 32, NC

Phoebe, 31, NC

Mima, 16, TN

John, 12, TN

William, 10, TN

Aaron, 9, TN

Jane, 6, TN

Joseph, 2, TN

Phoebe or Pheby WRIGHT (daughter of James ? WRIGHT) was born between 1808 and 1818 in NC. Hiram PIERCE OR PEARCE and Phoebe or Pheby WRIGHT had the following children:

A. **Jemima (Mima) PIERCE** was born in 1833 in TN. She was a spinstress. Madison Pearce's widow Elizabeth is listed as a spinstress in one census and a weaver in the 1880 census.

B. **John PIERCE/ PEARCE** was born on May 8, 1837 in TN. He died in 1914. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN.

C. **William PIERCE/ PEARCE** was born in 1839 in TN.

D. **Aaron PIERCE/ PEARCE** was born in 1840 in TN.

E. **Easter ? Jane / Esther PIERCE/ PEARCE** was born in 1843 in TN.

F. **Joseph PIERCE/ PEARCE** was born in 1847 in TN.

G. **Phebe / Pheby Ann PIERCE / PEARCE** was born between 1852 and 1854 in TN. She died in 1924. She was buried in Barren Springs, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN.

H. **Sarah PIERCE / PEARCE** was born in 1854 in TN.

II. Unknown male **PIERCE / PEARCE** was born between 1810 and 1820 in Anson Co, NC. He died after 1830.

III. **John Madison "Matt" PEARCE OR PIERCE** was born in 1816 in Anson Co, NC. He died between 1850 and 1860.

1850 District 13, Henderson Co, TN census:

Maddison Pearce, 34, Farmer NC

Elizabeth, 31, TN

Margaret, 6, TN

Elvira, 3, TN



Aaron Pierce

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Frankey, 2, TN
William C, 3 months, TN

Elizabeth was born in 1819 in TN. She died after 1880. She was a spinstress. From the 1860 census on Elizabeth always lives near her mother-in-law Elizabeth Pierce. While I was entering info on John Culpepper Smith's kids - and JC is a neighbor and first cousin to Joel, Amon and widow Elizabeth Pearce - I noticed that his daughter Mary Salina was also a weaver. Wonder if Elizabeth didn't employ these girls in her little business?

Henderson Co, TN 1860 census: District 12

Elizabeth Pearce, 30, TN
MJ Pearce, 17, TN
Lavinia Pearce, 15, TN
Frances Pearce, 12, TN
William Pearce, 10, TN

1880 - there is a Joel (nephew) living with her. I believe he might be Joel's son Joseph D. who is also listed with father Joel. Can't find any other Joel. Could this be the son of one of the brothers that are unidentified?

John Madison "Matt" PEARCE OR PIERCE and Elizabeth had the following children:

A. **Margaret Jane PIERCE** was born in 1844 in TN.

B. **Elvira / Lavinia PIERCE** was born in 1846 in TN.

C. **Frances "Frankey" PIERCE** was born in 1848 in TN.



William Carrol Pierce

D. **William Carrol PIERCE** was born on January 25, 1850 in Henderson Co, TN. He died on October 18, 1903 in Henderson Co, TN. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN. He died of a fever.

IV. **James PIERCE** was born in 1820 in Anson Co ?, NC. He died after 1870. Possible son of Joseph and Elizabeth Smith Pierce.

Re: Pierce-Henderson Co., Tn

Posted by: Carla Pierce Thorpe Date: June 21, 2001 at 11:08:19

In Reply to: Pierce-Henderson Co., Tn by Sandy Walker of 7893

Two sides of my father's family came through Henderson Co. in the 1830'(Attaway and Gilbreath)They both settled in Wood and Hopkins Co TX. My Pierce lines show up at the same time but I seam to have a brick wall. I have James Pierce b in NCin1820 and he married Louisa b1822 in Tenn. He arrives in TX in 1842 I think.

(from usgenweb, Wood Co, TX site)

Surnames: ATTAWAY, GILBREATH, PIERCE

Researcher: Carla Thorpe

Email: dmthorpe@aol.com

Date posted: Wednesday, May 15, 2002

James PIERCE b 1820 NC is in Wood Co in 1860. His children Mary and Ben married George Washington and Frances GILBREATH. His other daughter Martha married Charles ATTAWAY (7/10/1879). His wife Louisa is a widow in the 1880 census.

1860 Wood Co, TX census - Pct 9:

James Pierce, 40, NC, Blacksmith
Lousia, 38, TN
Ann, 4, TX
Benn, 3, TX
Mary, 3, TX

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Martha, 7/12, TX

1880 Wood Co, TX census - Pct 3:
Louiza Pearc, 57, TN, PA, NC
Ann, 24, TX, NC, TN
Ben, 22, TX, NC, TN

James PIERCE and Louisa were married. **Louisa** was born about 1822 in Tennessee. James PIERCE and Louisa had the following children:

A. **Ann PIERCE** was born in 1856 in Texas.

B. **Benjamin PIERCE** was born on December 5, 1857 in Quitman, Wood Co, Texas. He died on December 5, 1914 in Comanche, Oklahoma.

C. **Mary PIERCE** was born on December 10, 1857 in Texas. She died on July 17, 1915 in Wood Co, Texas. She was buried in Rock Hill Cemetery, Wood Co, TX.

D. **Martha PIERCE** was born in December 1859 in Wood Co, Texas.

1880 - Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory census:

Charles Ataway, 39, farmer, TX, ?, ?
Martha, 39, TX, NC, TN
Harrison, 16, TX
Walter, 13, TX
Hosea ?, 10, Indian Territory
Ola, 7, same
? daughter, 6, same
Willia, 4, same
Thomas J Coleman, 43 - boarder

V. **William T (Billy) PIERCE** was born in 1822 in Anson Co, NC. He died about 1865 in Near Harrison, Boone Co, AR (Then Madison Co). In 1860 he was a shoemaker and a farmer in Madison Co, AR. He was buried in Madison Co, AR.

1850 in Tulip, Dallas Co, AR

1860 Census, Madison Co, AR (Kings River Precinct) census:

Page 7 household #784 David Page JR
Page 13 household #828 William Hurt
Page 14 household #829 Thomas J. Hunt
Page 14 household #830 William Pearce



William "Billy" Pierce

William Hurt age 46, wife Charlotta age 43, A.J. age 15, Sarah age 13, Martha age 11, Charles S. age 9, Lavina age 7, John W age 2

William Pearce age 38, Laura age 20, Ambrose K. age 13, Elizabeth J. age 12, Amanda age 8, William T. age 6, Joshua age 4
(Bill's wife Laura age 20 is dau of William Hurt and the Thomas J. "Hunt" age 18 is her brother)

Julia A. daughter of William Pearce and Laura A. Hunt wasn't born until Sep 1860 - 1 month after the census was taken. Julia married Albert W. Page son of David Page Jr in household #784 above.

1880 Dallas Co, AR census - Amanda says that both of her parents were born in AR. Sister Elizabeth says that both parents born in TN. Both are wrong!

William "Billy" Pierce was bushwhacked and killed by baldnobbers during the Civil War around Harrison, Boone Co, AR. Family tales that have been handed down in the various branches of the family have helped piece together the story of his death. Some of the most accurate probably come from the granddaughters of Laura Hurt Pierce Jones who would entertain them with her stories.

Before the Civil War, Amon Pierce had traveled from Henderson Co, TN to Billy's home in Madison Co, AR. He did his best to convince Billy and Laura to move to TN where it was safer. Amon stayed almost a year but was unsuccessful. Laura may not have wanted to leave her family who were near neighbors.

Billy was out working in his field when the robbers overtook him. Laura and the children fled into the house. Laura sat on a chest and she put the little Julia on a sorghum bucket. Laura apparently recognized one of the robbers as a relative. When she was told to get off the chest so that the robbers could see what was in there to steal, she "talked ugly to them." My guess is that she told them to go to hell! One of the band aimed his gun at her and proceeded to fire. The related robber knocked the barrel of the gun and the shot missed Laura. The robbers took off.

Laura and the children fled Madison Co and went by train back to Dallas Co, AR to live with her brother "Abe" Absolum Hurt. Amon Pierce may not have known that the children survived. In 1868, Billy's daughter Amanda married John Nutt. John's father, Benjamin Franklin Nutt, had been hung during the Civil War by the Grey Coats (a kind of home guard) in Dallas Co, AR. They had shared the same tragedy.

Baldnobbers - " While the Civil War found neighbors and families fighting on both sides of the war throughout the United States, nowhere was this more apparent then in the area located along the Missouri-Arkansas border in the region now known as Taney County. (Taney is just north of Boone Co, AR in MO) Here, bushwhackers and outlaws roamed the countryside, robbing and killing in the name of the Union and the Confederacy. The result was that by the end of the war, no more than 50 people lived in Taney County, the courthouse was burned out and a debt had been incurred that took over 70 years to pay off. On top of that government for the most part had ceased to exist with anarchy reigning over the county. Taney County was to remain like this for most of the next two decades. However, in the late 1870's and early 1880's a new group of settlers began to immigrate to Taney County. The homestead act of 1862 promised free land and by 1885 there were over 6700 new citizens. These new citizens brought with them an expectation of law and order and as a result they often came into conflict with the natives who were used to turning their heads the other way when it came to criminal activity. In the twenty years after the Civil War over 40 recorded murders took place in Taney County with not one single conviction taking place. Taney was considered a haven for the outlaws and lawbreakers of the Ozarks and like the new settlers they also flocked to the area." Today the area is Branson, MO where people go to be entertained!

William T (Billy) PIERCE and Anna MCFARLAND were married about 1845 in Tennessee. **Anna MCFARLAND** (possibly the daughter of Calvin MCFARLAND and Clarinda "Clairy") was born in 1823/24 in TN. She died between 1856 and 1860. William T (Billy) PIERCE and Anna MCFARLAND had the following children:

A. **Ambrose Kendrick PIERCE** was born on May 30, 1846 in TN. He died during the Civil War.

B. **Elizabeth Jane PIERCE** was born on January 31, 1849 in TN or AR. She died on November 6, 1892 in AR. She was buried in Lindsey Cemetery, Poyen, AR. 1880 Dallas Co Census - living next to her sister Amanda Pierce Nutt's brother-in-law Jacob and Bethenia Brumley Nutt.

C. **Amanda Mahala (Mandy) PIERCE** was born on December 7, 1851 in AR. She died on July 22, 1928 in Dallas Co, Arkansas. She was buried in Old Bucksport, Dallas Co, AR.



*Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover
preparing to serve Sunday dinner*

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D. **William Toll M (Bill) PIERCE Jr** was born between June 1, 1854 or 1855 in Fenton ("Fenter") Plantation, Grant Co, AR. He died on April 20, 1889 in Arkansas. He was buried in Old Bucksnot/Stoney Point Cemetery, Dallas Co, AR.

1880 Grant Co, AR census:

William Pierce
Malinda
Tolly
Acie H



William T M Pierce



*William Samuel Pierce and Oliver Asa Pierce
with Julia Pierce Page's daughters*

E. **Joshua Newton PIERCE** was born on August 18, 1856 in AR. He died on November 12, 1912 in AR. He was buried in Lindsey Cemetery, Poyen, Grant Co, AR. Settled in Poyen, Grant Co, AR



*William Samuel "Will" Pierce
son of Joshua Newton Pierce.*

Laura A HURT (daughter of William "Billy" HURT and Sharlotta or Charlotte HUMPHREY) was born on December 4, 1840 in Tipton Co, TN. She died on January 28, 1919. She was buried in Pryor Cemetery, Clarksville, Arkansas. Laura had 9 children with second husband Jasper. 6 children were living in 1900.

1860 Kings River Madison Co, AR census.



Laura Hurt Pierce Jones



*William and Sharlotta Hurt on
their wedding day. Sharlotta
was a full-blooded Cherokee.*

WilliamT (Billy) PIERCE and Laura A HURT had the following children:

F. **Julia Ann PIERCE** was born in September 1862 in AR. Julia was born at Loy, AR about 5 miles out of Kingston. In 1880 she lived in Spadra, Johnson Co, AR

VI. **Andrew J "Andy" PIERCE / PEARCE** was born in 1825 in Anson Co, NC. He died after 1860. 1860 Henderson Co, TN census - age 35

VII. Unknown female **PIERCE / PEARCE** was born between 1825 and 1830 in Anson Co, NC.

VIII. Unknown female **PIERCE / PEARCE** was born about 1829 in Anson Co, NC.

IX. Unknown male **PIERCE / PEARCE** was born in 1830 in Anson Co, NC.

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X. **Amon McMillon / McMillan PIERCE** was born on March 10, 1832 in Anson Co, NC. He died on July 12, 1922 in Hooks, Bowie Co, TX. He was buried on the Pierce Farm, Bowie Co, TX. He served in the military during the Civil War in the 27th Reg. Tenn. Vol. Was a POW, exchanged and enlisted in the 10th. Reg. TN Cavalry.

1860 - Henderson Co, TN living with his mother

1880 - Henderson Co, TN

Moved to Bowie Co, TX some time between 1881 and 1884.



Amon Pierce

The Amon Pierce Family

Freddie Pierce Steelman who took her notes from the Pierce Bible, tombstones, and her father Robert Lee Pierce composed the following. (There are several things that are not supported by documentation, but Robert Lee was elderly at the time and he was discussing people, some of who had died 120 years before. Amon's parents were actually Joseph and Elizabeth Smith Pierce/Pearce. They had come to Henderson Co, TN before 1836 and Joseph died before 1840. Census data shows that they had more children including 2 daughters. – MAM)

“Harm PIERCE and Mandy SMITH were married in Anson County, North Carolina in the early 1800's. They had six sons born there in North Carolina: Henry, Bill, Joel, John Madison "Matt", Andy, and Amon McMillon. The only birthday known was Amon's. He was born in 1832.

In 1838, when Amon was six years old, Harm and Mandy PIERCE decided to move to Henderson County, Tennessee. Mandy and the children traveled in a cart pulled by a spotted horse and Harm followed in a covered wagon containing the household goods. This was a trip across the Appalachian Mountains and more than 500 miles in length. Seven years later Harm PIERCE died and his body was taken in that same cart to the cemetery at Center Point. Harm PIERCE died in 1845.

In 1861 when the Civil War started, one of the older boys, Bill PIERCE had already moved to Arkansas. Amon and one of his friends went down to visit and begged Bill and his family to move back to Tennessee where they thought it was safer. Sometime during the war, Bill was killed. He was killed by bushwhackers who came to his house one night and called him to the door. So Bill PIERCE was killed at his home in Arkansas.

In Tennessee Amon and his brother Henry joined the Confederate Army. They were together part of the four years that they served. During this time, their mother died. She was buried in the Barn Springs Cemetery at Reagen, Tennessee. (Barren Springs - no marker found. MAM)

Amon fought in Shilo Battle two days on the Tennessee River under General Albert S. Johnson, a Texas General. General Johnson was killed in the battle. A General BEAUGARD took command and the men did not like him very much and did not fight well under his leadership. At one point Amon was captured by the Union Army and taken to Chicago, Illinois where he was treated well. After eight months in prison, he was exchanged for Union soldiers and returned to the southern side. This time he was in the Calvary under General Joe WHEELER who was only twenty-four old. Amon liked him and spoke of him often. (Son Robert Lee named one of his sons Joe Wheeler Pierce. MAM)

The winters were so cold that one time Amon's feet began to freeze. His toe nails turned black and remained that way the rest of his life. One time he stole some hand-knitted socks off the clothes line where a woman had washed them. He gave one pair to his brother, Henry, and another pair to his friend who had no socks under his boots.

When the Civil War was over, Amon was thirty-six. In 1866, he married Sara Jan LARUE, the daughter of W. C. LARUE. They started their family there in Tennessee. They had six children in Tennessee: Billy, Elizabeth "Lizzy", Jim Henry, Jasper, Hubert and Robert.

In 1882 when Robert was only eleven months, they decided to move to Texas where the land was better for farming. They boarded a train in Henderson, Tennessee bound for Bonham, Texas in Fannin County. They spent the night in Texarkana on the depot floor. They were advised that one person should stay awake at all times for fear of robbers.

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While they lived in Fannin County, they had three more children: Ida, Walter Ray and Glenmoore. In 1886 three of their children died. She did not give the cause. Jim Henry died at age twenty-one; Walter Ray was seven years old; and they lost baby Glenmoore at age eight months. These three sons were buried in the Old Caney Cemetery near Bonham.

In 1898 they decided to buy a 100-acre farm in Bowie Country. The land was bought from T. J. WHALEY in the Whaley Community for three dollars an acre. Mrs. PIERCE and the daughter came by train. Lizzy had gotten married to Henry WALDRUM. Amon PIERCE and the boys came by covered wagon. The weather was very cold and they had sleet and snow on the way.

All the PIERCE children grew up and settled here in Bowie County. Mrs. Sara Jane LARUE PIERCE died in 1910 and was buried on the farm at Whaley. Amon PIERCE lived to be ninety-two years of age, died in 1922. Even in his older days he liked to go barefooted, and he still had his black toenails from frozen feet in the Civil War. He often walked in the yard saying "This sure is quare, quare times." Ida KYLES PIERCE died in 1950 and Jasper "Jap" who lived in Redwater died in 1954. Lizzy PIERCE WALDRUM died in 1959. Hubert PIERCE moved to California and lived a long life. Robert Lee PIERCE remained at the home place in Whaley the rest of his life; died in 1979. Robert Lee was married to Dovie Mae YOUNG."

Sarah Jane LARUE (daughter of William Calvin LARUE and Marena OWENS) was born in 1848 in Enville, Henderson Co, TN. She died on September 21, 1910 in New Boston, Bowie Co, TX. She was buried on the Pierce Farm, Bowie Co, TX.

1900 Bowie Co, TX census - had 12 children, 6 are living.

Amon McMillon / McMillan PIERCE and Sarah Jane LARUE had the following children:

A. William Calvin "Billy" PIERCE was born on November 15, 1866 in TN. He died on December 7, 1921. He was buried in Pulaski Cemetery, Bowie Co, TX. 1910 Bowie Co, TX census - next to brother Hubert C.

B. Morena Elizabeth "Lizzy" PIERCE was born in 1869 in TN. She died in July 1959. She was buried in Pulaski Cemetery Near New Boston, TX.

C. James Henry PIERCE was born on June 6, 1871 in Enville, Henderson Co, TN. He died on September 4, 1890 in Bonham, Fannin Co, TX. He was buried in Pulaski Cemetery, Bowie Co, TX. May be buried in Caney Cemetery near Bonham, TX per Freddie Steelman

D. J M PIERCE was born about 1873 in Henderson Co, TN. She died in August 1874 in Henderson Co, TN.

E. Jasper Newton "Jap" PIERCE was born on September 23, 1875 in TN. He died on September 26, 1954. He was buried in Red Lick Cemetery, Bowie Co, TX. 1900 Bowie Co, TX census - same page as A (father), brother HC lives with him. Indexed as JW, but I believe that it is JN.

According to cemetery records / tombstone?, he fought in the Spanish American War.

F. Hubert Carroll / Carol PIERCE was born in 1879 in TN. He died on May 22, 1973 in Sonoma Co, CA. He was buried in Shilo Cemetery, Sonoma Co, CA. Living with JN in 1900 Bowie Co, TX census

1910 Bowie Co, TX census - lives next to brother William C.

G. Robert Lee PIERCE was born on December 27, 1881 in TN. He died on April 26, 1970 in Bowie Co, TX. He was buried in Pulaski Cemetery, Bowie Co, TX.



Robert Lee, unidentified friend and father Amon Pierce

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H. **Ida Belle PIERCE** was born in January 1884 in TX. She died on August 26, 1950. Living with her father in 1910, Bowie Co, TX.

I. **Walter Ray PIERCE** was born on March 20, 1886 in Bowie Co, TX. He died on April 27, 1893 in TX. He was buried in Caney Cemetery Near Bonham, TX.

J. **Reginald Glenmore PIERCE** was born in 1888 in TX. He died on February 9, 1890 in TX. He was buried in Caney Cemetery Near Bonham, TX.

XI. **Joel PIERCE** was born on May 7, 1836 in TN. He died on July 22, 1926. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN.

1860 Henderson Co, TN - District 12 –
next door to mother Elizabeth
Joel Pearce, 25, TN
Elvira, 24 TN
R. A., 1, female, TN



*Joel Pierce's home in
Henderson Co, TN
built circa 1868*

Pierce, Joel
PENSION #: S13702
UNIT: 21st (Wilson's) Cav
Pension was rejected. Seems that Joel was AWOL for the last muster!

Elvira BENSON was born on August 9, 1836 in MS. She died on April 12, 1916. She was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN. Tombstone says "Wife of Joel." Joel PIERCE and Elvira BENSON had the following children:

A. **Rebecca A "Becky" PIERCE** was born in 1858 in TN. She died before 1926.

B. **Millard Filmore (MF) PIERCE** was born in 1860 in TN. Lived in Henderson Co, TN in 1926 per Joel's letter to Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover.

From: <http://www.tnyesterday.com/books/sardis/sar-bla.htm>

BLACKS IN SARDIS

For several years in Sardis we had some good black people, worthy citizens of this town.

The first blacks, of course, came as slaves. Some of these are buried in the McBride Cemetery near here. They were owned by Jess McBride.

Harrison Kaiser was among the early settlers. His two daughters and a brother lived here for many years. I want to relate an interesting story told to us by Frank Pierce who is living in Lexington now. He was born in Sardis and lived here a long time. Shortly after the turn of this century, many black people came through Sardis. Some had to do it stealthily because of various reasons. Most of the time they were not law breakers but were maligned simply because of their color. When they got to Sardis they all came to Mr. Kaiser's. Frank's father, M. F. Pierce, was the town policeman and he knew Mr. Kaiser as an honest, God fearing man. So they had a code worked out. When a man came that Kaiser wanted to help, he would go to Pierce's window and knock a certain number of times. Pierce knew this was his signal to get up, get dressed and help them because he trusted Mr. Kaiser.

SARDIS FROM ITS BEGINNING TO 1910

It seemed by 1860 that people were just pouring into the community and there was a population of one-hundred and sixty. Progress continued and a mail route was established in 1875 from Henderson to Saltillo through Sardis. The first mail carriers were Ozier and Goodwin. It came only once each week. Prior to this, news had only been received by word of mouth so this was a big step forward. One of the most exciting days of the week was the day the mail came. I. W. Hassell was the first postmaster and the first to operate a hotel in Sardis. Later, R. L. Cochran and M. F. Pierce had hotels here. Something unique about the Cochran House was the fire escape. A rope was tied to the bed post in each room, to provide a way to escape from an upper story, by way of the window in case of fire.

SCHOOLS

Sardis was incorporated in 1905 for the first time. It was Incorporated to pay for the first brick school building. Mr. Billy Holland was the first mayor. The corporation lasted until about 1923. M. F. Pierce was the first town marshal, who used a log cabin calaboose (jail) with one door and no windows. It stood where Randy Brown's house now stands.

The people of Sardis then, as they have continued to be, were educationally minded. The building completed in 1882 or 1883 was the first Sardis Normal College building. The school, in addition to the elementary grades, offered a preparatory course or a teacher's course, academic and scientific courses which allowed students to earn degrees that qualified them to enter a higher educational institution. The school continued to grow but the building burned down in 1895. The people were saddened and discouraged. Some even wondered if they would ever have such a school again. But when summer came the people called a meeting to decide on what they should do in regard to providing educational and cultural opportunities for their children. After some discussion, they agreed that the people of the town would build another school building. They began to raise funds, committees were appointed, and work on the building soon began. A much larger and nicer building was erected on the same location. After a few years, the people realized a need for a still larger building. The town had increased in population, more homes had been built, the reputation of the college work spread to other counties and more students were coming to Sardis from these counties. By 1904 the town had raised funds and completed the old two story brick building near where the present school building stands. Then they sold the frame one built in 1895 to Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Pierce who ran a hotel for some time in it.

Sardis Items in Lexington Republican, February 23, 1906

M. F. Pierce has converted the old college building into a hotel and is now occupying it. If you want something good to eat, call on them.

C. Martha D PIERCE was born in 1862 in TN. Lived in MO in 1926 per Joel's letter to Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover in 1926.

D. Joseph D PIERCE was born in 1866 in TN. He died before 1926.

E. Chrischaness L / Chrischaney ? PIERCE was born in 1868 in TN. She died before 1926.

F. Lucy PIERCE was born on April 12, 1869 in Henderson Co, TN. She died on January 2, 1943. She was buried in Barren Springs, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN. Lived in Henderson Co, TN in 1926 per Joel's letter to Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover in 1926.

G. John T PIERCE was born on January 12, 1872 in TN. He died on May 30, 1922. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN.

H. Mary E PIERCE was born in 1874 in TN. She died before 1926.

I. Moses N PIERCE was born on November 20, 1876 in TN. He died on September 17, 1902. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN.

J. Clint A PIERCE was born on July 17, 1878 in TN. He died on August 15, 1963. He was buried in Barren Springs Cemetery, Reagan, Henderson Co, TN. Lived in Henderson Co, TN in 1926 per Joel's letter to Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover.



Clint Pierce

Descendants of Joseph PEARCE / PIERCE
of Anson Co, NC and Henderson Co, TN

From - http://www.tnyesterday.com/yesterday_henderson/reagan/reagan.html

*Some of the postmasters have been Adam Powers, Alford Stewart, Bob Stewart, Dorsey Bailey and J. D. White. There have been several mail carriers, Washington Freeman, Albert Grissom, Genie Wood, Jack Roby, W. M. Wilkinson, Bob Stewart, **Clint Pierce**, Neal Hodgin, Orval Milliner and Dorsey Bailey. The post office was moved to Reagan crossing in 1957 and today, J. D. White is the carrier and his daughter, Dianne Ivey is postmistress.*

*Then in 1941 a tornado hit and destroyed the homes of **Clint Pierce**, Curtis McMurray, and the G. W. Beacham home where his daughter, Vina and his son Harrison and Ruby lived. Mr. and Mrs. McMurry and their two sons lost _____ {lines missing}. (Amelia Pierce McMurry was the daughter of Clint Pierce. She, Curtis, and their 2 sons all died. - MAM)*

K. Verdon PIERCE was born after 1878 in Henderson Co, TN. He died after 1926. Lived in OK in 1926 per Joel's letter to Amanda Pierce Nutt Stover.

XII. Henry Clay PIERCE was born on March 11, 1838 in Henderson Co, TN. He died on December 19, 1918 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

1860 - Henderson Co, TN with mother

1910 Wood Co, TX census says that they had 9 children.

Tombstone - name is spelled Peirce

1850 CENSUS: Henderson Co, TN - (14 Nov 1850). Elizabeth Pearce (Mother) aged 50, born in NC, sons: Amon, aged 15 yrs, born in NC; Joel, aged 13 yrs, born in TN; Henry Clay, aged 11 yrs, born in TN.

1880 CENSUS: 21 Jun 1880, Wood Co, TX: Henry C PIERCE is 42 years old, farmer, born in TN, parents born in NC; wife is Amorey, 36 years old, keeping house, born in TN, parents born in NC; children in the household: James 13 years, Joseph 11 years, Marshall 9 years, Henry 8 years, Laura 6 years, Elbert 4 years, Thomas 1 year. All children born in Tennessee.

1900 CENSUS: Wood Co, TX: H C PIERCE is 62 years old, born March of 1838; married 34 years. Born in Tennessee, both father and mother born in North Carolina. He is a farmer, owns his farm and CAN read & write.

Wife Amanda, sons Mars, John, and Columbus living at home, working on the farm. Son Tom & wife Cora are living next door. (Census Transcription lists names as PIERGS).

Henry Clay PIERCE and Amanda E or Amory were married in Texas. **Amanda E or Amory** was born on July 6, 1844 in Tennessee. She died on April 3, 1923 in Wood Co, TX. She was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX. Henry Clay PIERCE and Amanda E or Amory had the following children:

A. James F PIERCE was born on March 2, 1867 in Henderson Co, TN. He died on December 2, 1946 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

B. Joseph Calvestus PIERCE was born on April 2, 1869 in Henderson Co, TN. He died on September 7, 1953 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

C. Mort or Marshall PIERCE was born in August 1871 in Henderson Co, TN.

Descendants of Joseph PEARCE / PIERCE
of Anson Co, NC and Henderson Co, TN

D. **Claborne C Henry PIERCE** was born about 1872 in Henderson Co, TN. He died in 1960 in Winnsboro, Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Cypress Cemetery, Franklin Co, Texas.



Claborne Pierce

E. **Laura E PIERCE** was born in 1875. She died in 1936 in Wood Co, TX. She was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

F. **Elbert PIERCE** was born in 1876 in Henderson Co, TN.

G. **Tom H PIERCE** was born in February 1878/79 in Wood Co, TX or Henderson Co, TN. He died in 1970 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

H. **John H PIERCE OR PEIRCE** was born on September 14, 1884 in Wood Co, TX. In 1910 he was a armer in Wood Co, TX. He died on August 30, 1912 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

I. **Columbus G PIERCE** was born on April 18, 1886 in Wood Co, TX. In 1910 he was a farmer in Wood Co, TX. He died on March 5, 1960 in Wood Co, TX. He was buried in Willard Cemetery, east of Winnsboro, TX.

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