Robert Ross was the Connecticut Forest & Park Association Forester from 1929 to 1935. He began a successful youth work program in 1930 that became the model for the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps.) You will appreciate his “footprint” when you hike the Robert Ross Trail. Parking for this loop trail is in front of the gate for Greenwoods Road at its junction with East River Road. This is located on the right 0.8 miles north of the junction of rt.181 and West River Road (41° 55' 21.74" N 72° 59' 43.75" W).

Hike up Greenwoods Road, turning left at 0.2 miles to a parking lot behind the Nature Museum. Look for the trail sign to the start of the Robert Ross Trail, marked by a blue blaze (B). The Agnes Bowen Trail, marked by a blue blaze with an orange dot (B/O), also starts there. Ascend this double blazed trail to the junction at 0.4, then turn left to follow the B trail up the hill. At 1.1 you reach the end of King Road but you continue through the forest on B. At 1.6, make a quick right, then a quick left turn to stay on the B, as you cross the B/O trail. Just before a sharp left 180° hairpin turn at 2.0, the B trail takes a 90° right turn to merge with the Jessie Gerard Trail (blue with yellow dot blazes, B/Y). Follow this double blazed trail over a bridge (2.1) and straight past the junction with the blue & red dot trail (B/R). At 2.3 continue straight on the B/Y as the B turns right at the sign for Warner Road. Continue on the B/Y, passing the Grand Vista (above photo) at 2.4 & Chaugham Lookout (photo op 2). Turn right at the junction with Greenwoods Road at 3.1. Follow this road past the junction with Beaver Brook Rd (4.4) & return to your car at 6.1.

Robert Ross Sampler:
- 6.1 miles
- 2,000 vertical feet
- 3.1 hours

Mileage summary:
- Ascend to back of Nature Museum at 0.2
- Ascend B & merge with B/Y at 2.0
- Follow B/Y, turn right at Greenwoods Rd 3.1
- Descend on this road to your car at 6.1