

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Howell Hunt R5396

Nancy Hunt

f33NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/21/10: rev'd 9/17/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Wilkes:

On this 3rd day of June, 1852 personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Nancy Hunt, a resident of said County aged 93 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836 entitled "an act granting Pensions to certain widows of revolutionary Soldiers," That she is the widow of Howel Hunt who was a private soldier in the North Carolina Militia during the War of the revolution, That in the early part of they lived in the County of Halifax and in the year 1778, that he removed from said County and settled in Wilkes County on the waters of Hunting Creek, and from this time till the close of the war her husband the aforesaid Howel Hunt served three separate and distinct tours of duty of three months each making in all nine months service in the North Carolina Militia under Captains Cleveland, Herndon [Benjamin Herndon] and Smith belonging to Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] Regiment of Wilkes Militia, besides being often out in the neighborhood defense against the Tories. That during these tours he was at or near the Battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780], once she thinks down into South Carolina, and to Guilford. That from old age and loss of memory she cannot now give the particulars of her said husband services, but does well, and distinctly recollect that he actually served three regular tours of duty as above stated.

She further declares that she was married to the said Howel Hunt on in the County of Halifax in June, 1777 or 1778, that her husband died about the year 1793 and that she has remained a widow ever since his death.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above written before  
S/ W. Day, JP

S/ Nancy Hunt, X her mark

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North Carolina Wilkes County

This day personally appeared before me John J Bryan an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Wilkes, Nancy Hunt and after being duly sworn and solemnly sworn according to law does declare and solemnly swear that she was married to Howell Hunt in the County of Halifax and that in the year 1778 – they moved to the County of Wilkes. Her mother Nancy Gray (her father then being dead) gave her a horse to enable them to move as aforesaid and shortly after her husband Howell Hunt served as a soldier in the revolutionary war 3 distinct

tours making 9 months in all, that within the time of service in the revolutionary war the Tories came to her house she being alone did in defiance of her admonitions take by force the aforesaid horse and kept him at least 4 months – (the horse was taken when her husband was in the service of his Country) when the horse was returned he was so much abused that he died the next day. The horse was worth \$100.

Sworn to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Decr. 1852

S/ J. J. Bryan, JP

S/ Nancy Hunt, X her mark

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States

The undersigned declares to your Honorable bodys that she is the widow of Howel Hunt who was a soldier of the Revolutionary War and served nine months in defense of our common cause for the liberty of our Country and my claims for a pension under the existing laws having been so long overlooked or neglected, that fears are understood that the proof required cannot now be had to enable me to recover a pension to which I am justly entitled owing partly to the death of those who served with him and the want of proper care of the list of the soldiers who served in the revolutionary war – This being hir [sic] situation, she most sincerely prays your Honorable bodys to have hir by a resolution of your Honorable bodys placed on the pension list of the United States provided the proofs accompanying this Memorial is insufficient.

Your memorialist respectfully calls your particular attention to the loss of hir horse as set forth in an affidavit herewith appended – that if she cannot be allowed a pension that your Honorable bodys will make provision to compensate hir for said horse. She further declares to your Honorable Bodys that she endured and suffered many other small losses by the Torys during the service of hir husband, that to keep a part of hir house furniture she was obliged to bury it in the ground, that her husband was allowed once or twice during his nine months to visit hir on furlough for 2 or 3 days and that she did cook and give him to carry to the Army nearly all the provisions she had and she further declares to your Honorable Bodys, that all the crop made one season which he was in the service of his Country was made by hir with a hoe, the Torys having as before stated taken hir horse.

The undersigned submits hir case to your Honorable body declaring that she is without means to subsist on and but for the clemency of hir friends would have to suffer or be placed on the list of paupers of the County something she prays your Honorable bodys to avoid by taking favorable view of hir case.

S/ Nancy Hunt, X hir mark

January 5, 1853

[p 3 and 33—affidavit separated in the file]

North Carolina Wilkes County

This day appeared before me Abner Carmichael and after being solemnly sworn does say on his solemn oath that 8 or 10 years ago he was at the house of Alexander Gilreath<sup>1</sup> who lives in the County of Wilkes, that incidents of the Revolutionary war his favorite theme – he being a soldier of that war (and pensioned by the United States) on inquiry of him who served in that war from this County named his brother William David Laws<sup>2</sup> Howell Hunt, James Gray<sup>3</sup>, Sterling

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<sup>1</sup> [Alexander Gilreath S8564](#)

<sup>2</sup> [David Laws W5125](#)

<sup>3</sup> [James Gray S6928](#)

Rose<sup>4</sup> & a man by the name of Lewis knowing all named except Hunt and Lewis, inquired of him where Hunt and Lewis lived he said on Hunting Creek & its waters and believes he told him that Howell Hunt went with him to the Battle of Kings Mountain, that being on foot [he] was left by a company on horseback for Kings Mountain

[fn p. 33]

that himself and others met the Army at or near the Catawba River, who served as guards over the British & Tories and believes said Gilreath told him that Howell Hunt was a messmate of his – he further swears that within the last five months he was at the house of Alexander Gilreath and found him entirely destitute of memory his mind a perfect void. Could tell nothing of the old war except that he was in Charleston, made 76 guns flints out of flint rocks in one day.

Sworn to before me this 6th day of January 1853

S/ J. J. Bryan, JP

S/ A. Carmichael

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North Carolina Wilkes County

This day personally appeared before me Leland Martin an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid James Martin a resident Citizen of the County and State aforesaid and states on his solemn oath that he is well acquainted with the children of Howell Hunt and his wife Nancy Hunt – and that they were the parents of six children to wit-- Linsey now about 73 years old William about 70 years old Howell about 68 years old Benjamin about 66 years old Henry about 63 years old, the name of the Six [sic] children he does not remember. That said Howell and Nancy Hunt undoubtedly were lawfully married

S/ James Martin, X his mark

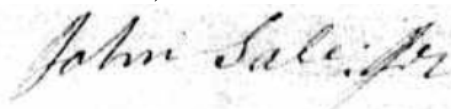
[p 19: testimony that the marriage records of Halifax County North Carolina were unsuccessfully searched for evidence of the marriage of Howell Hunt to his wife Nancy.]

[image 456 from Ancestry.com version of this file]

North Carolina Wilkes County

This day personally appeared before me C. L. Cook one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Wilkes John Sale and after being solemnly sworn does state on his oath that he heard George Gray say many times that he saw two Tories hung by the names of Coyle and Jones in the County of Wilkes near the Yadkin River in the east end of said County that said Tories were taken by a company commanded by Colonel Cleaveland [sic] and that Howell Hunt was one of the soldiers who aided in taking said Tories and executing them, that they were executed on or about the close of the war of independence say 1776 – and that they were hung to a white oak limb and this has been told by the said George Gray to many persons as well the place of execution – said George Gray died in the vicinity of the place of execution as well as his nativity about or on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 1849 – then about Eighty four years old – he further swears that he has no interest in this case. January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1845

S/ John Sale, Jr.



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<sup>4</sup> [Sterling Rose S4132](#)

[p 18: Testimony by Martin Redding and Daniel McBride given in Wilkes County North Carolina in October 1858 that Nancy Hunt died sometime in the summer of the year 1854.]