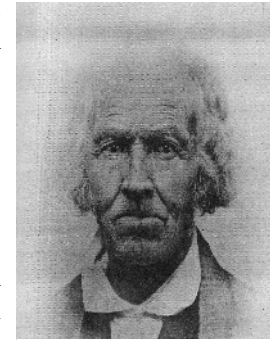


## MAJOR WILLIAM HAROLD HUNT 1884-1976

William Harold Hunt was the great, great grandson of the Loyalist Daniel Scott. At the time of the American Revolution Daniel Scott owned 193 acres of land and household goods valued at 304 sterling at Rupert, Vermont. The compensation by the British for his losses was only 86 sterling. He chose to settle at St. Armand in Quebec disregarding Haldimand's wishes for those who had fought under Col. Jessup and in Butler's Rangers, to settle in Canada West (now Ontario). It is doubtful that he ever did get a land grant although he applied three times.

Eventually his son Lemuel settled at Sweetsburg, Quebec where Daniel, his wife Lois (Burritt) Hurd, their son Lemuel Scott and his wife Keziah and her mother Mary Martin, are buried in the Scottsmore Cemetery. Lemuel Scott fought in the War of 1812-14 and was taken prisoner. It was through their daughter Chastina Scott that the Loyalist lineage descends.



Lemuel Scott

Rev. Francis Hunt had emigrated from Ireland with his parents and settled in Fitzroy Harbour, Ontario in 1832. His first charge as an ordained Methodist minister was based at \*Philipsburg in St. Armand's Parish in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. There he met and married Daniel Scott's granddaughter (Lemuel's daughter) Chastina Scott, who was then the church organist. As the couple moved eastward in the Townships of Quebec there were children born every two or so years until Rev. Francis Hunt was superannuated at Lennoxville.



Chastina Scott

As he conducted a daily worship service in his home, including family and servants, a great impression was made on his grandson, William Harold, son of William Francis Hunt. William Francis married Catherine Maria Ives of Huntingville, Quebec and managed his father's farm near Lennoxville. He eventually took a position with a life assurance company that necessitated moving his family to Manitoba in 1901. He died in Winnipeg in 1906 of typhoid fever, leaving his wife and four children. Harold was the eldest.

Harold Hunt was born near Lennoxville in the Eastern Townships of Quebec on November 24, 1884. He was educated at the Lennoxville Academy and both Wesley College and the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. He entered the newly formed Faculty of Engineering as a student in 1908 and financed his further education by working on the Hudson's Bay Railway survey party, staying out of classes one winter to help finance his studies. (See Manitoba Historical Society's History 2001/02 Spring and Fall Issues). He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1913 with a degree in Civil Engineering and that same year married Pearl Taylor of Richmond, Quebec.

He was employed as an engineer by the City of Moose Jaw SK helping with the design and installation of that city's waterworks. After working on several projects in Saskatchewan he was appointed District Engineer for the Good Roads Board of Manitoba, to locate and supervise the construction of the eastern section of first Trans Canada Highway from Whitemouth to the Ontario boundary. During this period he and his family lived in the Town of Selkirk where he

served as Chairman and President of the Town of Selkirk Board of Trade, returning to Winnipeg in 1926. This project was completed and the No.1 Highway officially opened July 1, 1932 - an enormous task carried out during the Great Depression. D. L. Campbell the Premier of Manitoba at that time was later quoted as saying of the highway construction "Never has so much been done by so few, with so little money, as was accomplished by the Good Roads Board and Land Reclamation Branches of the Manitoba Government."

When World War II broke out Harold signed up for active service with the rank of Captain as a member of his reserve unit, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. In 1940 he transferred to the Royal Canadian Engineers with promotion to the rank of Major. He led the first party of engineers to prepare for the building of the camp at Chilliwack, British Columbia. In 1945 Harold Hunt returned to civilian life and his position as District Engineer in District No.1, which included all survey, construction and maintenance work for highways and market roads east of Red River, and from the United States boundary northward as far as road work was carried out.



Visitors' Centre Plaque on  
Trans Canada Highway -  
Manitoba side of ON/MB  
Boundary



Maj. W.H. Hunt

In 1950, six months after his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday he was appointed Supervisory Engineer by the Federal Government for the construction of the Trans Canada Highway through Saskatchewan with headquarters in Regina. This project was completed in March 1954. From May 1955 until November 1957, Harold took over the task of engineer in charge of the layout and construction of Falcon Beach Development in the Whiteshell Provincial Park for Dept. of Mines and Natural Resources of Province of Manitoba. From June 1958 until August 1959 he worked as a consultant on the installation of a water supply for the Clear Lake Golf Course in Manitoba.

He was an accomplished horseman and rode regularly into his eighties. He bred dogs and horses; homesteaded at both Star Lake and Manigotagan in Manitoba, where he planted gardens and fruit trees. He studied French well into his senior years. He was skilled and at home in the woods, a superb canoeist, an excellent marksman with both pistol and rifle and an amateur prospector.

He was very proud of his Loyalist ancestry. He spent many years researching family history, drawing together his four contributing lines culminating in the publishing of Birthrights: A Genealogical Record of Canadian Branches of Hunt, Scott, Ives and Farwell Families in 1958.

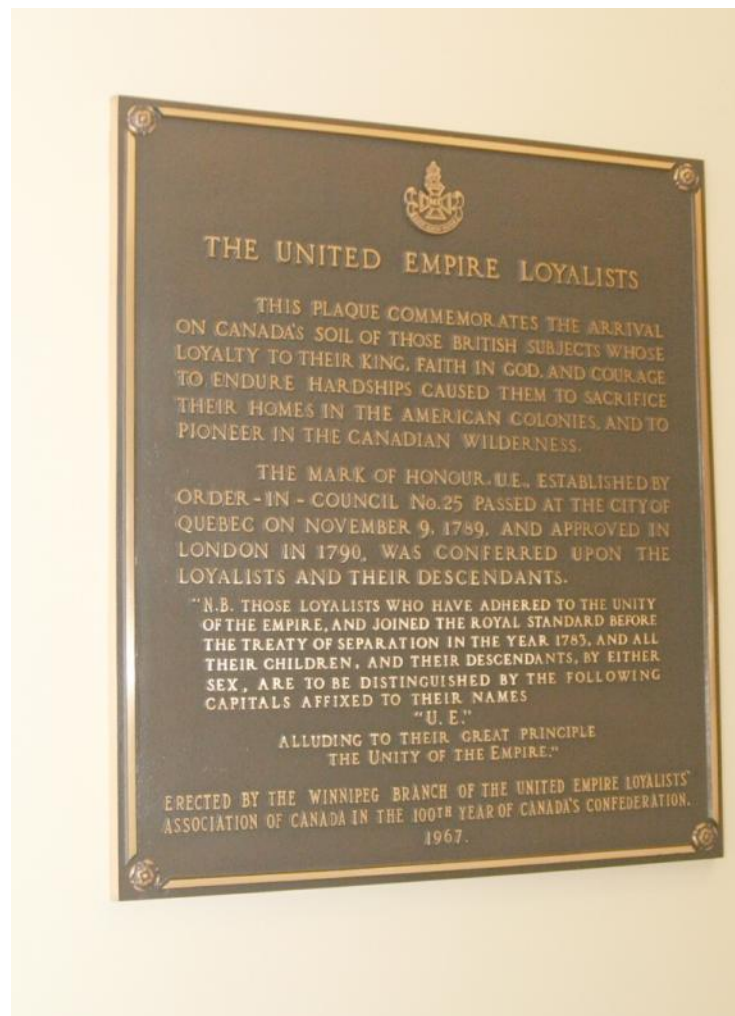
Major Hunt took an active part, holding several offices such as Branch president, treasurer, genealogist and historian in the Winnipeg Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada from the time of its formation in 1932 until his death in 1976. He also researched his wife's four family lines. These works stand as remarkably accurate with all of the information located long before the advent of the computer and the internet. He died in 1976 leaving his wife and four children – two sons, two daughters and fourteen grandchildren. He was buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

He was a member of Riverview United Church, the Manitoba Association of Professional Engineers, the Manitoba Historical Society, The Manitoba Archaeological Society, The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, The Royal Canadian Legion, the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba, and a Life Member of both the Engineering Institute of Canada and the Prince Rupert Masonic Lodge No.1. His extensive collection of archives is housed in the Special Collections of the Archives in the Elizabeth Dafoe Library at the University of Manitoba.

Hunt Lake in the Whiteshell Provincial Park was named after him.

\* Now Philipsburg United Church (where Chastina Scott was organist in 1832)

Sources: Margaret A. Carter UE , Manitoba Branch UELAC  
from her father's book Birthrights: A Genealogical Record of Canadian Branches of Hunt, Scott, Ives and Farwell Families 1958 - W.H. Hunt  
Second Edition 1978 including Scott Supplement



For Canada's Centennial, the Winnipeg (now Manitoba) Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada was instrumental in having a Loyalist plaque unveiled in the Provincial Legislative Building on 29 May 1968