
Where is Anderson Hunt Buried? – is this a cold case?

Anderson Smith Hunt III

1821–1907

BIRTH MAR 1821 • Monroe County, West Virginia, USA

DEATH ABT. 1907 • Aid Township, Lawrence County, Ohio

Introduction

Anderson Hunt III (abt. 1821 - abt. 1907) of Lawrence County, OH (the author's great grandfather), **is missing**; no date of death, no death location, no burial location.

By my count, over the course of 40 plus years, Anderson Hunt had at least five wives/partners (Julia Willis, Mildred Nance, Louisa Markin, Rachel Justice, Anna Goolsby) and fathered at least sixteen children. He was an early Lawrence County pioneer and settler, having officially purchased property in Aid Township as early as 1849, and probably earlier.

Some think Anderson Hunt died in Columbus, OH and was buried there. In fact, there is a Find a Grave record for an Anderson Hunt, buried in Columbus, OH:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/70816359/anderson-hunt>

However, this memorial is for another person named Anderson Hunt (African American) who lived (B: 1842) and died (likely suicide) in Columbus, OH (D: 1904). The current Find a Grave memorial manager for that record added it in 2011 and appropriated it to look like the black Civil War Veteran buried at Greenlawn Cemetery, Columbus, OH, was Anderson Hunt of Aid Township, Lawrence County.

And, there was yet another African American living in Ohio in the 1860's named Anderson Hunt. He married Martha Cosby in June, 1863 in Meigs, County - two counties north of Lawrence County. This fellow was in the 61st US Colored Infantry and likely died in the Civil War.

So, here's what we officially know about Anderson Hunt's last days. His final marriage was to Anna Goolsby (1844-1927) in March 1890. From that union there is no record of children born. Anna moved from Lawrence County to Tacoma, Washington about 1907 with her daughters and sons in law from a previous marriage (Sylvester Sites); Effie (Sites) and Coleman Brammer and Lulu (Sites) and Otha Williams. Thus, it can be surmised that Anna and family moved because Anderson Hunt had died. Anderson disappeared from the public records after the 1900 census.

I surmise that Anderson Hunt died about 1907 at about age 85 in Aid Township, Lawrence County. He is possibly buried (unmarked grave?) at Lodge Ridge Cemetery or Aid/Marion Cemetery, all in Aid Township. This, because other Hunt family are buried

in these cemeteries. I'm at a loss as to officially document when and where he died and where he was buried.

Details

What's interesting to me is that his last wife, Anna Goolsby, up and left Lawrence County in 1907. Anna moved to Washington St with her daughters and sons in law (Effie and Coleman Brammer / Lulu and Otha Williams) and their combined families.

Here's a list of family members, ages, and timeline:

In the Spring of 1907, the following families seemed to have all left Lawrence County, traveling (via train?) either together or separately, to Tacoma, WA.

Anna E Hunt (nee' Goolsby), wife of Anderson Hunt, age 63
(NOTE: Anderson was 85 in 1907, an age difference of 22 years.)

Effie Jane Sites, daughter of Anna Hunt, age 31

Coleman Green Brammer , husband of Effie, age 32
[NOTE: According to his OBIT, Coleman moved to Tacoma, Washington from Ohio in 1907-1908.]

Children Born in Lawrence County, OH and age in 1907

1. John M Brammer, son, age 11
2. Hazel E Brammer, daughter, age 9
3. Clifford C Brammer, son, age 7
4. Mary C Brammer, daughter, age 5
5. Russell C Brammer, son, age 3
6. Beatrice O Brammer, daughter, age 1 (born 1906)

Children Born in Tacoma, WA after 1907

1. Earl L Brammer, son, born 1911
2. Marvin R, son, born 1913

Lulu S Sites, daughter of Anna Hunt, age 25

Otha L Williams, husband of Lulu, age 30

Children Born in Lawrence County, OH and age in 1907

1. Gladys O Williams, daughter, age 3
2. Clara R Williams, daughter, age 0
 - [Note: Clara, born June, 1907 in Indiana (enroute?) - no birth record found, died in Tacoma, Oct 1910]

Children Born in Tacoma, WA after 1907

1. Arthur D Williams, son, born 1911
2. Robert F Williams, son, born 1920

Additional Facts:

In the 1900 census, Anderson Hunt and wife Anna, were living in Aid Township, likely on the property of his son, George W Hunt (see 1887 property map in this Gallery). Meanwhile (also 1900 census), George W Hunt and wife Jennie, were living in Upper Township.

Further research on the Brammers revealed that three of Coleman Brammer's siblings also moved to Tacoma, WA in the early 1900's: Samuel Henry Brammer, Mary Caroline Brammer, Emma J Brammer.

Based on what we currently know, here are three theories about the death of Anderson Hunt:

1. In about 1906, Anderson died in Aid Township of natural causes. Anna Hunt, with help of family, had him buried in an unmarked grave in an Aid Township cemetery. She did not report his death. (Or, (a) she did report his death and it was not properly recorded. Or, (b) she did report his death and it has not yet been found.) In about 1908, the Brammer and Williams families, now living in Tacoma, WA, talked her into selling out and moving to Tacoma, where she would live with them.
2. In late 1906 or early 1907 Anderson died in Aid Township. He died either of natural causes or due to an incident (accident or otherwise) involving Anna Hunt and the Brammer's and/or Williams families. As a result, he was quickly and secretly buried (possibly on the Hunt property) in an unmarked grave. No report was ever filed about his death. Following this, the Brammer's and Williams families and Anna Hunt all decided that the best course of action was to sell out and move to Tacoma, WA.
3. In early 1907 Anderson and Anna Hunt were convinced by the Brammer's and Williams families that they should sell out and move with them to Tacoma, WA. On the way to Tacoma, Anderson took ill and died. His death was not reported and he was buried locally in an unmarked grave.

What is confusing is that, seemingly no one, either in Lawrence County (local Hunt family) or along the way to Tacoma, inquired about his death or filed a police report. We are left with a family mystery and, circumstantially, **a possible police cold case.**

© John R Baldwin and AllKinConsidered.Blog. Unauthorized use and/or duplication of this material without express and written permission from this site's author and/or owner is strictly prohibited. Excerpts and links may be used, provided that full and clear credit is given to John R Baldwin and AllKinConsidered.Blog with appropriate and specific direction to the original content.