

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

South Carolina documents pertaining to William Kershaw SCS1
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from Legislative Records in the South Carolina Department of Archives and History and found online at

<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/ViewImage.aspx?imageNumber=S165015178300381000a.jpg&recordId=249725>]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina.

The Memorial of William Kershaw Most Humbly Sheweth

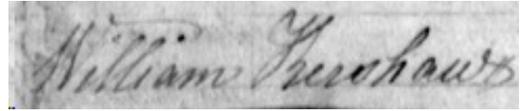
That your Memorialist when the British Troops first Landed in South Carolina in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty was possessed of a Considerable property in Charles Town and Camden, Amongst which was a Store Built on a Lease to James Cooke from William Greenwood which was purchased by your memorialist and on the appearance of the British Troops he was Compelled to take it down by Authority of this State, and being obliged to go and do duty at Fort Moultrie Ten Weeks before the Surrender of that post [on 7 May 1780] and leave his property in Charle Town [Charleston] without any one to take Charge of it. and on Surrender of that post was made prisoner and paroled to Camden where he remained on his parole until General Gates was unfortunately Repulsed near that place [Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] when he was taken and close confined in Irons in the Provost for a considerable time and on his releasement Paroled to Charles Town without any Support only on a few old Friends Most part in his own Situation, his property being intirely destroyed by the Enemy or otherwise without any Benefit to himself so necessity only Compelled him to take Protection from the common Enemy to prevent him being sent on Board the prison Ship which was threatened him in a few days, therefore he Embraced the opportunity of taking protection and settling in Charles Town having intirely lost his Capital, Found it most Convenient to take a three years Lease longer and on the Ground on Greenwoods Wharf and Built Stores to carry on the Factorage Business which Said Store Cost him upwards of Seven Hundred Guineas and was to be removed by your Memorialist at the Expiration of the said Lease as his property.

That your Memorialist having obtained a pasport from General Marrison [sic: Francis Marion] to bring into George Town [Georgetown] a Vessel and Cargo did as soon as Convenient Buy and load a Schooner in Charles Town for George Town and had the misfortune to have her taken after being over George Town Barr by one Captain Thompson of the Brigantine Chace from Salam [*Chase* from Salem ?] and was afterwards retaken by two British Frigates and sent into Charles Town where she was Condemned and Sold by a Court of admiralty, this loss alone was not less than twenty five Hundred Guineas to your Memorialest He then having left Town and joined his former American friends. He at the time he left Town did leave h[page torn] in Hands of James Cooke as Security for him, he having been Security for your Memorialest for a small sum and assumption to Captain John Morris, and in his Absance Mess'rs Graham and Burt Seized and sold the aforesaid Stores for much under their real value for a Debt which your Memorialest had contracted with Mess'rs Graham and Burt before he left Town although Mr. William Burt is at this time justly Indebted to your Memorialest upwards of Twenty Six Thousand Pounds Currency before the Surrender of Charles Town.

The Stores being Built upon Confiscated Lands are at present taken out of his possession and Rented by the Commissioners, which has left your Memorialest without any support or means to pay his just Debts which he Sincerely wishes to do.

You Memorialest therefore most Humbly prays that you will take his Case into consideration and grant him possession of his Stores, he paying the Ground Rent unto the State or grant him permission to take his Stores down and remove them as he cannot but think them his property as much as any thing that he has and your memorialest as in duty Bound will ever pray.

Charles Town
6 January 1783

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "William Yurchow". The ink is dark and the background is light, possibly a piece of paper or parchment.