Virginia, Franklin County, to wit:

I certify that my uncle Shem Cook [two undeciphered words] the Regular Service of the United States as a Captain, but in what Regiment or Commanded by what Colonel is not rememberd but that he was appointed to the command in the year 1776 or 1777 in the Virginia [several undeciphered words] until his death which I am informed took place in the fall of [several illegible words] Georgia when dying without a will and having no lawful descendant, the father John Cook, then living was of course his heir at law. Benjamin Cook my father, was [several undeciphered words] heir at law of John Cook [several undeciphered words] in 1781. [several undeciphered words] the land due for my uncle’s service having never been received it is [several undeciphered words] Benjamin Cook

This is to certify that in 1776 or 1777 Captain Shem Cook marched to Sunbury in Georgia as commander of a Company in the Virginia Continental line [sic: see endnote], but in what regiment or under what Colonel it is not known, but know that he did march about that time to the south and there, after a service until September 1778 he died; and being there myself in December following, I saw his Grave, my brother Archibald Hatchett [Archebald Hatchett VAS1437 ], who commanded a row galley under Commodore Hardy [Capt. John Hardy?] in the revolutionary war, being buried within a few feet of him as Commodore Hardy who lived in that town knows and told me. Given under my hand this 23d of April 1824.

Edward Hatchett [S13310]

NOTE: Shem Cook was a captain in the 2nd Georgia Battalion of Foot, which was recruited largely in Virginia.