

Signers of the Declaration of Independence



Source: *The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776* by John Trumbull (Yale University Art Gallery)

On July 4, 1776, delegates to the Second Continental Congress, representing the thirteen colonies, voted to approve the Declaration of Independence, with New York abstaining. Of the fifty-six signers, four were from South Carolina: Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton, and Edward Rutledge.

Two of the signers were founding members of St. Michael's Church - Thomas Heyward, Jr. (left-center, seated) and Thomas Lynch, Jr. (extreme left, third man in the small row).

The above painting *The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776* by John Trumbull exists in two versions. The first is smaller in size and is part of the Yale University Art Gallery, while the second is the monumental version currently on display in the Capitol Rotunda. It can be found on the back of the seldom-used \$2 bill, and has graced American postage stamps. A little known fact, Thomas Lynch, Jr.'s image was cropped out of the \$2 bill.

