

391 SMITH, THOMAS

Printer

Richmond

A journeyman printer who died in Richmond in early 1794.

Smith has left only a scant trace in the record of Virginia's printing trade. The most visible track is in the death notice published in the *Virginia Gazette and Richmond & Manchester Advertiser* of Samuel Pleasants (331) in January 1794. That publication was the only such notice of his passing, suggesting that Smith worked for Pleasants in a newspaper office that was established just the preceding April, and so likely a new face in the state capital. That supposition is supported by his appearance in the 1793 tax census for the city of Richmond, taken in the fall before his death. However, his exceedingly common name makes a fuller identification impossible without more data.

Personal Data

Died: Jan. 19 1794 Richmond, Virginia.

No other personal data yet discovered.

Sources: Hubbard on Richmond; death notice in *Virginia Gazette and Richmond & Manchester Advertiser* (1794).