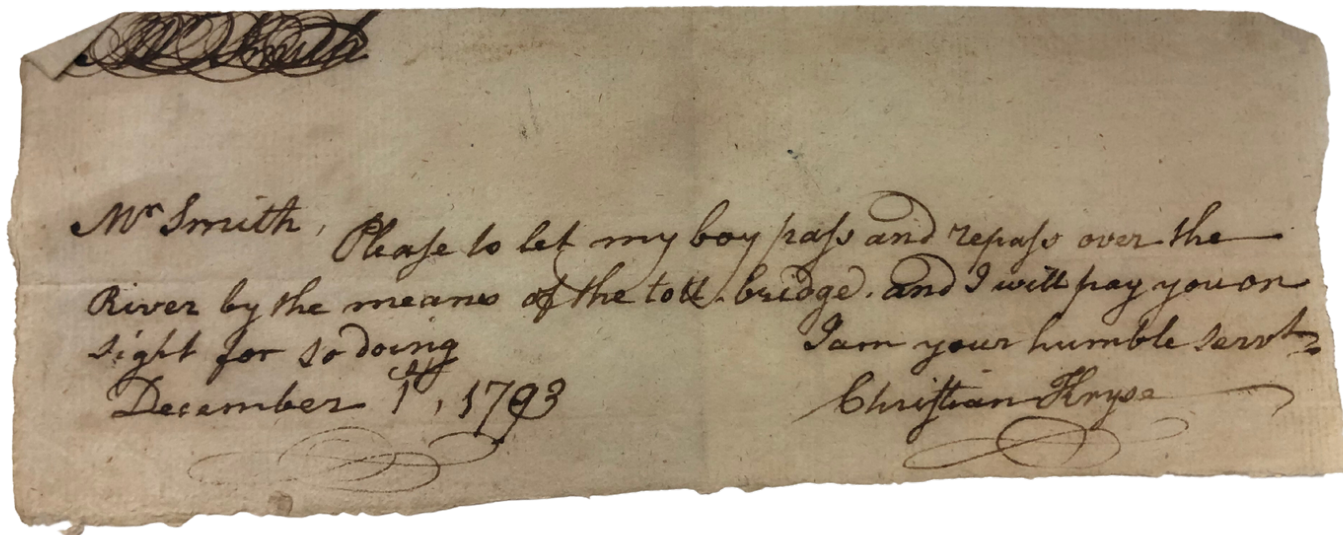


COLLECTIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

Mayo Bridge Pass, 1793



ERA

Late 18th century, Building America

THEMES

Federal Richmond, Urban Slavery, Industrialization

CITATION INFORMATION

Pass for the Mayo Bridge, December 1, 1793, Christian Kryse, The Valentine.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. Why was this pass used and provided to the person working the toll on the Mayo Bridge?
2. What do you think the pass carrier's duties were when they entered the city?

CONTEXT

The Mayo Bridge, built in 1780, was the first bridge that allowed the villages on the southside of the James to access Richmond. This rudimentary toll bridge was operated by James Mayo and was prone to breaking and being washed away. This pass is part of the Valentine's Mayo Bridge papers and provides insight into the system of urban slavery post Revolutionary War. While the boy in the note is not named, he could have been an enslaved person crossing the river with permission from his enslaver. See the transcription below.

Mr. Smith,

Please do let my boy pass and repass over the river by the means of
the toll bridge, and I will pay you on sight for so doing

From your humble servant, Christian Kryse

December 1, 1793

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Mr Smith, Please to let my boy pass and re-pass over the
River by the means of the toll. Bridge. And I will pay you one
light for so doing
December 1st, 1793
I am your humble serv^t
Christian Kryse

Transcription:

Mr. Smith,

Please do let my boy pass and re-pass over the river by the means of the toll bridge; and I will pay you on sight for so doing

From your humble servant, Christian Kryse

December 1, 1793

Pass for the Mayo Bridge, December 1, 1793, Christian Kryse, The Valentine.