Guy

People of London Town, Maryland

Guy was an enslaved “mulatto” owned by John Gassaway, a property owner near London Town. On Wednesday, June 6, 1750, Gassaway posted a runaway advertisement in the Maryland Gazette for Guy stating that he had run away on May 31 near the South River Ferry, which was located in London Town. Guy was described as "about 5 feet and a half high, lofty and well-set, and has a down Look." John Gassaway offered a twenty shillings reward "besides what the Law allows, if taken ten Miles from home." Another runaway advertisement appears for Guy in the Maryland Gazette on June 13, 1750.

He was probably recaptured shortly thereafter, as he ran away again in 1754. This time, Gassaway gave a little more description to Guy, stating that he is “aged about 40 Years.” Notably, Guy “had Irons [metal shackles of some sort] on him when he went away, but is supposed to have got them off.”

However, Guy does not appear in John Gassaway's inventory when he died in 1762. If he was recaptured, Guy may have been sold away as punishment, or to divest Gassaway of a particularly rebellious enslaved man.

---

1 As the research into colonial London Town’s inhabitants is an ongoing process, the caveat is offered that additional information may be found at any time and that a correction of information might also occur at any time.
2 “Run away,” Maryland Gazette, June 6, 1750.
4 “Ran away,” Maryland Gazette, August 29, 1754, page 3.
5 PREROGATIVE COURT (Inventories) John Gassaway, 1762, Liber 80, folio 475, MSA 5534-81, MdHR 1187.