

Sarah Kenny

*People of London Town, Maryland**

At this point, all that is known about Sarah Kenny is that she was a “white [English] maid” about 21 years of age when her master’s, Richard Moore’s, probate inventory was taken in 1733/1734. Though the inventory does not list how much time she had left to serve, because her value was listed at £10, she may have been a relatively new servant from England with 4-5 years service ahead of her.¹ If Richard Moore’s debts did not exceed what people owed him, then based on his will there is a good chance that Sarah stayed with the Moore household with Margaret Moore as her mistress.

As for what Sarah Kenny did during her time with Richard Moore, his probate information gives some clues. Though Moore was described as a merchant, he also had a plantation which is where Sarah probably spent most of her time.² Moore’s inventory has wool cards, spinning wheels, a dough trough, milk pans, and lots of tools useful growing tobacco and other field crops. Because Moore had 34 slaves, it is a good bet that Sarah Kenny was not usually involved with field work. Instead, she probably spent her time in the household doing sewing and clothing repair, cooking, washing, and maybe spinning. Depending on how close the Moore plantation was to London Town, and how much free time she had, Sarah Kenny could easily have come to London Town from time to time either on errands for the Moore household or to socialize with other people.

* 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.

¹ Maryland State Archives (MSA), *Inventories and Accounts*, Liber 21, Folio 12.

² MSA, *Wills*, Liber 21, Folio 254.