

Sample renewal report. This is only an example. Not all reports need to be formatted in this way, but can be used as a visual guide of the expectations required for your renewal report. The family group record and research log are attached.

**Elizabeth Armstrong
Research Report 29 February 2020**

Research Objective

The purpose of this research session was to identify the parents for Elizabeth Armstrong. Elizabeth was born in Ireland about 1880, lived in the Bronx Borough of New York City, and died sometime after 1930. She was the mother of three known children: Mary Armstrong, Robert Armstrong, and John Armstrong. All three children were born in New York between 1900 and 1910.

Background Information

At the start of the research not much was known about Elizabeth Armstrong. What was known is all pretty sketchy, namely her birth in Ireland, and residence in the Bronx. The information already stated in the objective was the extent of the background knowledge. The names of her three known children and residence became the clues needed for identifying Elizabeth in genealogical records. The name of her spouse and the father to her children was an unknown. As the research progressed, an Irish immigrant's story emerged.

Methodology and Analysis

U.S. Census Records

Looking at what was known about Elizabeth and knowing that she lived in Bronx, New York, it was determined that the U.S. census records were the best place to begin. Before moving forward with solving the research objective, more information is needed for this family such as time of immigration, approximate birth years of the children, Elizabeth's marital status (widowed or divorced), name of spouse, and hopefully a closer estimation for Elizabeth's birth year. All of this information can be found within the census records.

Elizabeth was found in the 1930 U.S. census record. She is living in the Bronx Borough of New York City with three children. The following table shows the information found.¹

Name	Age	Birthplace	Birth place of parents	Immigration information	Additional information
Elizabeth Armstrong	50	Ireland	Ireland	1897 Naturalized	Marital status is married. She was twenty years old at

¹ 1930 U.S. Census, Bronx, New York, population schedule, Bronx Borough, New York City, p. 11B, line 90, house no. 2407, dwelling 39, family 236, Elizabeth Armstrong household; digital image, *Ancestry*, ([ancestry.com/search](https://www.ancestry.com/search): accessed 7 April 2011), Elizabeth Armstrong. (Document 1)

					the time of first marriage. Occupation none.
Mary Armstrong	28	New York City	Ireland		Occupation is telephone operator.
Robert Armstrong	26	New York City	Ireland		Occupation is mechanic.
John Armstrong	23	New York City	Ireland		Occupation is chauffer.

Much is learned from this record, but it also creates more questions. The record states that Elizabeth came to the United States as a young woman about 1897 and sometime after became a naturalized citizen. It also appears that she is not working but is probably supported by her children. It is interesting that the record shows that she is married, but there is no spouse with her and the children. Like Elizabeth, the birthplace for the children's father is also Ireland. Did Elizabeth and her spouse immigrate to the United States as a married couple?

The 1920 U.S. census provides additional information including another child. The following table shows the information found with this record.²

Name	Age	Birthplace	Birthplace of parents	Immigration information	Additional information.
Elizabeth Armstrong	39	Ireland	Ireland	1899 In the column asking year naturalized it states husband.	Occupation is cleaner in department store.
Anna Armstrong	18	New York	Ireland		Occupation is operator in department store.
Mary Armstrong	16	New York	Ireland		Occupation is operator for telephone company.
Robert Armstrong	15	New York	Ireland		Occupation is errand boy for engineering company.
John Armstrong	13	New York	Ireland		No occupation.

² 1920 U.S. Census, New York, New York, population schedule, Manhattan Borough Assembly District 12, p. 1B, line 97, house 313, dwelling 6, family 27, Elizabeth Armstrong; digital image, *Ancestry.com*, (ancestry.com/search : accessed 7 April 2011), Elizabeth Armstrong. (Document 2)

The new information found with this record is Anna, another daughter to Elizabeth. There is also a difference in the immigration year. The 1930 census stated that Elizabeth came to the United States in 1897, but this record states that she came in 1899. The marital status for Elizabeth is recorded as widowed which is also different from the 1930 census. In the columns for immigration information for Elizabeth, the census taker wrote the word “husband.” The naturalization laws before 1922 allowed women to become naturalized through their husbands.³ It is highly probable that this was the case for Elizabeth. At the time of this census, the family is residing in Manhattan.

The 1910 census was searched with the desire to discover the name of Elizabeth’s husband. This record did not disappoint.⁴

Name	Age	Birthplace	Birthplace of Parents	Immigration Information	Additional Information
Robert D. Armstrong	37	Ireland	Ireland	1899 Naturalized	It is the first marriage for both Robert and Elizabeth. They have been married for eleven years. Robert is a machinist for an electrical company.
Elizabeth Armstrong	31	Ireland	Ireland	1899	Elizabeth has had four children with four still living.
Annie L. Armstrong	9	New York	Ireland		
Mary E. Armstrong	7	New York	Ireland		
Robert D. J. Armstrong	6	New York	Ireland		
John E. Armstrong	4	New York	Ireland		

Not only did this record provide the name of Elizabeth’s husband, but it also states that they have been married for about eleven years. This information will help in locating a marriage record for

³ John J. Newman, *American Naturalization Records 1790-1990: What They Are and How to Use Them* (Bountiful, Utah: Heritage Quest, 1998).

⁴ 1910 U.S. census, New York, New York, population schedule, Manhattan Ward 21, p. 12B, line 59, house no. 326, dwelling 37, family 249, Elizabeth Armstrong in Robert D. Armstrong household, Elizabeth Armstrong; digital image, *Ancestry.com*, ([ancestry.com/search](https://www.ancestry.com/search) : accessed 29 February 2020), Elizabeth Armstrong. (Document 3)

them. At this point in the research it is unknown as to place of marriage. They could have been married in either Ireland or New York.

Birth Records for the Children

In an attempt to discover Elizabeth's maiden name, the birth records for the children were desired hoping they would reveal this information. The discovery of her maiden name will be important in locating further records for her including her marriage record and a birth record. Manhattan, New York began keeping birth records in 1880.⁵ Beginning with the oldest child, Anna, a few New York City Births databases were searched. The search parameters were the father's name, Robert Armstrong, the mother's name, Elizabeth, and the years 1900-1910. The middle initials found for the children in the 1910 census were helpful in identifying the correct records. All four records for the four known children were found in the "New York, New York City Births" database and all were born in Manhattan. Anna Lincola Armstrong was born 12 February 1901.⁶ Mary Eleanor Armstrong was born 18 June 1902.⁷ Robert Dyer Joseph Armstrong was born 29 March 1904.⁸ John Edward Armstrong was born 6 August 1906.⁹ All four records provide the maiden name for Elizabeth as Keenan. Mary Eleanor's record shows her mother's first name as Lizzie which is helpful to know that at times Elizabeth used a shortened version of her name. The database was also studied to determine if there were any unknown children born to Robert and Elizabeth. None were found.

Marriage Record

At this point in the research, the name of Elizabeth's parents has not been discovered. Later marriage records in New York will often provide the names of parents for the bride and groom. With the information found on the 1910 census that states that Robert and Elizabeth have been married for eleven years, it is possible to narrow down the approximate year of marriage, 1899 or 1900. As stated before, this couple could have been married in Ireland, or New York. Because the children were all born in Manhattan, and the family was living there in the 1910 census, Manhattan became the first place searched.

The "New York Marriages, 1686-1980" database was searched with no results. Next, the New York City Marriage Index found on the Italian Genealogy Group website was searched and a record was found for Robert Armstrong and Elizabeth Keenan. The index stated that they were married on 24 September 1900 with an ID number of 161356.¹⁰ With this information, the record was located in the Family History Library films. The parent's names were indeed part of the record. Robert's parent's names are Hugh Armstrong and Isabella Dyer. Elizabeth's

⁵ FamilySearch Research Wiki, "Manhattan, New York Genealogy," *FamilySearch Research Wiki*; database, *FamilySearch* (familysearch.org : accessed 29 February 2020).

⁶ New York, New York City Births, 1846-1909;" database with limited access to images, *FamilySearch* (familysearch.org : accessed 29 February 2020), Anna Lincola Armstrong. (Document 4)

⁷ *Ibid.*, Mary Eleanor Armstrong. (Document 5)

⁸ *Ibid.*, Robert Dyer Joseph Armstrong. (Document 6)

⁹ *Ibid.*, John Edward Armstrong. (Document 7)

¹⁰ "NYC Grooms Record Index;" database, *Italian Genealogy Group* (<https://italiam.org/searchdatabases-2/?=nycgroom> : accessed 3 March 2020), Robert Armstrong, 1898-1903.

parent's names are Patrick Keenan and Mary Quinn.¹¹ The record further states that Robert was 25 years of age and born in Ireland. Elizabeth was 21 years of age and also born in Ireland. It was the first marriage for both of them. The witnesses for the marriage were James Quinn and Annie Keenan.¹² It is highly probable that these individuals are related to Elizabeth because of the Keenan and Quinn surnames.

Summary

The objective of this research session was to identify the parents of Elizabeth Armstrong. At the start, not very much was known about Elizabeth, but through the study of U.S. census records it was learned that she had four children, she immigrated to the United States about 1897 or 1899, and her husband's name was Robert D. Armstrong. The birth records for her children provided Elizabeth's maiden name as Keenan which provided evidence for identifying the correct marriage record. The marriage record for Robert Armstrong and Elizabeth Keenan stated the names of her parents as, Patrick Keenan and Mary Quinn.

Future Research

Elizabeth Keenan Armstrong's story is far from finished. The following is a list of possibilities for future research to find more vital information for her and her family.

- Search the 1940 U.S. census record for Elizabeth Armstrong and family. These records are found on the *Ancestry* website. The results of this search will aid in determining a possible death date for her. Did she die before or after 1940?
- The 1930 U.S. census record provided the last known location for Elizabeth as the Bronx Borough of New York City. This could be the place of her death. Search the "Bronx Death Certificates, 1898-1948," films found in the Family History Library Catalog. The index films are US/CAN 1324912 – 1324931. Begin with these. This record could confirm the names of her parents and a more detailed place of birth, townland or county, in Ireland.
- Search the 1900 U.S. census record for Elizabeth Keenan. This record is found on either the *FamilySearch* website or *Ancestry* website. This census provides the birth month and year of an individual and would be helpful in finding a birth record for Elizabeth in Ireland. Who is Elizabeth living with?
- Search the "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881" database found on *FamilySearch Historical Records* for a church baptism record for Elizabeth. This will provide birth place for her and could lead to other family members.
- Explore the various passenger lists found under "Immigration and Travel" on the *Ancestry* website to find a possible record for Elizabeth. This would provide the date she arrived, name of ship, and others she came with. Did her parents immigrate with her?

¹¹ New York Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, "Manhattan (New York City) Marriage Records, 1866-1937; Index to all Boroughs, 1866-1937;" FHL US/CAN microfilm 1,570,438. (Document 8)

¹² Ibid.

- Explore the 1905, 1915, and 1925 New York State Census records to discover further information for the Armstrong family. These records are found on the *FamilySearch* website and *Ancestry* website.

Family Group Record

Husband		
Robert D. Armstrong		
Born	1775	Place Ireland
Christened		Place
Died		Place
Buried		Place
Married	24 Sep 1900	Place Manhattan, New York, New York, United States
Husband's father	Hugh Armstrong	
Husband's mother	Isabella Dyer	

Wife		
Elizabeth Keenan		
Born	1880	Place Ireland
Christened		Place
Died		Place
Buried		Place
Wife's father	Patrick Keenan	
Wife's mother	Mary Quinn	

Children

1	F	Anna Lincola Armstrong	
	Born	21 Feb 1901	Place Manhattan, New York, New York, United States
	Christened		Place
	Died		Place
	Buried		Place
	Spouse		
	Married		Place

2	F	Mary Eleanor Armstrong	
	Born	18 Jun 1902	Place Manhattan, New York, New York, United States
	Christened		Place
	Died		Place
	Buried		Place
	Spouse		
	Married		Place

3	M	Robert Dyer Joseph Armstrong	
	Born	29 Mar 1904	Place Manhattan, New York, New York, United States
	Christened		Place
	Died		Place
	Buried		Place
	Spouse		
	Married		Place

4	M	John Edward Armstrong	
	Born	6 Aug 1906	Place Manhattan, New York, New York, United States
	Christened		Place
	Died		Place
	Buried		Place

Prepared by	Address
Phone ()	
Date prepared 04 Mar 2020	

Research Calendar

Ancestor: Elizabeth Armstrong				
Spelling variations: Lizzie Armstrong				
Objective: Identify the parents for Elizabeth Armstrong. Elizabeth was born in Ireland about 1880, lived in the Bronx Borough of New York City, and died sometime after 1930. She was the mother of three known children Mary Armstrong, Robert Armstrong, and John Armstrong. All three children were born in New York between 1900 and 1910.				
Researcher:				
Locality: Begin in New York City, United States records then progress to Ireland records.				
Date of Search	Repository/ Call Number	Description of Source (author, title, year, indexed, pages)	Objective or Goal/ Comments/Results (Purpose of search, results, and names searched)	Doc. No.
2/29/20	ancestry.com/search	1930 U.S. Census, Bronx, New York, population schedule, Bronx Borough, New York City, p. 11B, line 90, house no. 2407, dwelling 39, family 236, Elizabeth Armstrong household; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> , (ancestry.com/search : accessed 29 February 2020) Elizabeth Armstrong.	Searching for immigration information for Elizabeth and for information on her family. Found in the census record she was born in Ireland along with her parents. She immigrated in 1897 and naturalized sometime after. She has three children Mary age 28, Robert age 26, and John age 23. All the children are single and born in New York City. She is paying \$50.00 in rent. She is listed as married but no husband is enumerated with the family. Elizabeth was 20 years old at the time of her first marriage. She has no occupation.	1
2/29/20	ancestry.com/search	1920 U.S. Census, New York, New York, population schedule, Manhattan Borough Assembly District 12, p. 1B, line 97, house no. 313, dwelling 6, family 27, Elizabeth Armstrong household; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> , (ancestry.com/search : accessed 29 February 2020) Elizabeth Armstrong.	Looking for more information on Elizabeth and family. Found seven Elizabeth Armstrongs in the census. Through the process of elimination with ages and the names and ages of children found the targeted family. Elizabeth is once again listed as head of household. The children are Anna age 18, Mary age 17, Robert age 15, John age 13. Elizabeth is 39 years of age and registered as widowed. Immigration year is 1899 and recorded as naturalized. In the column following for the year of naturalization the word husband is recorded. Her occupation is cleaner of a department store. They are living on East 37 th street.	2
2/29/20	ancestry.com/search	1910 U.S. census, New York, New York, population schedule,	Searching possible name of husband for Elizabeth.	3

		Manhattan Ward 21, p. 12B, line 59, house no. 326, dwelling 37, family 249 family 249, Elizabeth Armstrong in Robert D. Armstrong household; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> , (ancestry.com/search : accessed 29 February 2020), Elizabeth Armstrong.	Found her in Manhattan Ward 21, New York. She is living with husband Robert D age 37(he and his parents are born in Ireland), Annie L age 9, Mary E age 7, Robert D J age 6, and John E age 4. All of the children were born in New York. Year of immigration is 1899. Robert Sr. is naturalized and is working as a machinist at an Electrical Co. Elizabeth and Robert have been married for 11 years. She is 31 years of age. They are living on 38 th street.	
2/29/20	ancestry.com/search	“New York State, Birth Index, 1881-1942;” database with images, <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com/search : accessed 29 February 2020).	Looking for birth records for the Armstrong children. <hr/> Ooops. This website was for the state of New York not the New York City area.	nil
2/29/20	ancestry.com/search	“New York, New York Extracted Birth Index, 1878-1909;” database, <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com/search : accessed 29 February 2020), Anna Armstrong.	Looking for birth records for the Armstrong children to discover maiden name of mother. <hr/> With the commonality of the names of the children there are too many possibilities. They could very well be here.	nil
2/29/20	familysearch.org	“New York, New York City Births, 1846-1909;” database with limited access to images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (familysearch.org : accessed 29 February 2020).	Searching this database for the births of the children to discover the maiden name of Elizabeth. <hr/> Found the records. Because the middle initials for the children were discovered from the 1910 census, they were easier to identify here. This database also provided the names of the parents. All births took place in Manhattan. Anna Lincoln born 12 February 1901 parents Robert Dyer Armstrong and Elizabeth Keenan. Mary Eleanor Armstrong born 18 June 1902 parents Robert Armstrong and Lizzie Keenan Armstrong. Robert Dyer Joseph Armstrong was born 29 March 1904 parents Robert Armstrong and Elizabeth Keenan. John Edward Armstrong 6 August 1906 Robert Armstrong and Elizabeth Keenan Armstrong.	4, 5, 6, 7
3/3/20	familysearch.org	“New York Marriages, 1686-1980,”	Looking for a marriage record for Elizabeth and Robert.	nil

