

Annie Moore

1877–1923



Annie Moore was an immigrant. She was the first immigrant to pass through Ellis Island in New York Harbor. She came from County Cork, Ireland in 1902. She came to America on a steamship called the *Nevada*. She was only 14 years old at the time. She had gone with her two younger brothers, Phillip and Anthony. Her parents were already in America. Their names were Matthew and Julia. They had been there since 1888. They lived in Manhattan at 32 Monroe Street. They had gone there to make money. They also went for religion. They were in the Catholic Church. They wanted to get money. They wanted to bring their children to America.

When Annie first arrived at Ellis Island, she cut the whole line. She went in first. She was happy to be in America. She wanted to see her parents. She was anxious. She was given a gift. It was a ten dollar gold coin. She never spent the money. She kept it. She wanted to remember the moment. It was also her fifteenth birthday.

Annie Moore never left New York City. She married a German immigrant. His name was Joseph Augustus Schayer. He worked in Manhattan. He worked at a fish market. They had eleven children. Five survived. Three of them had children. The family moved around a lot. Annie Moore died on December 6, 1924. She died of heart failure. She was only 47 years old. She was buried in Calvary Cemetery in Queens. She was put in an unmarked grave. This was by accident. The grave was finally found in September 2006. She was then put in a marked grave.

Annie Moore had been honored. There are two statues of her. One is at Ellis Island Immigration Museum. The other is in Cobh, a port in Ireland. There is another award. It is from the Irish American Cultural Institute. They have an Annie Moore Award. It is given “to an individual who has made significant contributions to the Irish and/or Irish American community and legacy.” She has been honored by being the first immigrant to come to America.

Name _____

Date _____

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Discussion Questions:

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2. Where did Annie Moore come from?
3. What was Annie Moore given when she first stepped through Ellis Island?
4. Who did Annie Moore marry?
5. What did Annie Moore die of?

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