

**WILLIAMS, FREDERICK WARREN**

Born in Holly, Orleans County, New York, October 3, 1833

Son of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (never married),

his father was born in Vermont and his mother in New Hampshire.

Left home at age of 17 and crossed the plains to California arriving in San Francisco early in 1850; was for a time in Nevada before he came to Arizona in 1861; listed, U. S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, occupation - Bar Keeper; U. S. Census, 1880, at Prescott, occupation - Miner and Farmer; his name appears in Disturnell's Arizona Gazetteer, 1861, as agent for the Southern Pacific Mail and Stage Line and his brother, Alden P., as proprietor of the Williams House on Gurlay Street; joined the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society at Tucson, January 17, 1910, occupation - Mining; the Prescott Courier said of him at the time of his death:

He was an Arizona pioneer of the days of 1861. He came to Arizona from California, and has mostly followed mining during his residence in Arizona, having considerable holdings in Maricopa district. He built in Prescott a hotel which for years was known as the Williams House, which is now the Congress Hotel. He also put up a business house on the north side of the plaza which was for years run as the Securo Saloon.

He took part in the building of Arizona's first gubernatorial mansion in west Prescott, and the part he took was building the chimney, so it is stated. He was honorable, generous and manly at all times, a man typical of the frontier days of the west, days when the attempt to reach heaven by legislative enactments had not become a fad and when men had an idea that human beings could stand alone without being so surrounded with props that blood stagnation becomes a logical result.

But a few of his old comrades are left with us, while many a manly kindred soul will welcome him to the other shore. We commend him to the kindly consideration of the holder of the keys and the keeper of the gate, for he is one of those whose good qualities far outweigh the others, and that is all that can be said of the best of humanity.

The following is taken from an obituary in the Prescott Journal-Miner:

Before coming to Arizona he was member of the famous expedition that explored the Sierra Nevada range in California in the early '50s and his recital of that event in hardships and peril was mentioned only a short time ago to personal friends. His venturesome nature is what brought him into this wilderness over half a century ago.

He entered Arizona from California during the latter part of 1861, and followed mining. His party became interested first on Lynx Creek, then on Big Bug Creek, and later in Hassayampa District, where the organization disbanded. In the latter region and near Senator, the deceased made one of the first locations of a quartz mine in this region, naming it the Storm Cloud, which title endures to this day, though under another ownership.

From that day to this he retained interests in his favorite field, maintaining annual assessment work faithfully as the years rolled by. He was a strong believer in the mineral future of the country, and when engaged in business for many years in this city generous sums were outlayed to develop his holdings. Characteristic of the pioneer Fred Williams was kindly disposed and generous with his purse, and of that fine fellowship in making friends and not having a known enemy.

Died at Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, March 11, 1919, aged 85; buried,

Mountain View Cemetery, Prescott; his estate consisted of lots in Prescott valued at \$5,500.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Histrenall, W. C. - Arizona Business Directory and Gazetteer, S.F. 1881, p.165.  
 Hinton, R.J. - Handbook to Arizona, S.F. 1877, appendix, p.50 (Sasarec Saloon).  
 Arizona Pioneers Historical Association - membership book.  
 Probate Court of Yavapai County - Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Arizona Vital Statistics - File No. 501.  
 The Prescott Courier - July 7, 1891, p.4, col. March 15, 1919, P.8, C.2, (obituary)  
 The Journal-Miner, Prescott, March 12, 1919, p.2, c.3 (obituary).

*Deputy Register of Yavapai County*