

## Margaret Hurst Grambs

Margaretta M Hurst was born January 1826 in Bavaria, Germany. She appears in the records at her marriage to Frederick Grambs in 1857 in Marysville, Yuba, California.<sup>1</sup> In 1860, they are still living in Marysville City 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. Frederick is listed as a music professor. There are three young persons living with them, one of whom is her niece Laura Frudenthal.<sup>2</sup>

Frederick died in 1865 in Montana, having been there only a few weeks; he was from Virginia City, Nevada. He was a “celebrated musician of California” and local musicians played the “Dead March” at the head of the funeral procession.<sup>3</sup>

We next find Margaret in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah, where she built the Cosmopolitan restaurant on the southwest corner of Main and Centre Streets. She employed Chinese cooks and “Mormon girl waiters”. The restaurant burned to the ground on 30 May 1879 with most of the rest of the town. It was immediately rebuilt on a larger scale<sup>4</sup> and continued serving the “best hash” in Utah<sup>5</sup> until 1894.<sup>6</sup>

On the 1880 census, Margaret is listed as a widow keeping house in Silver Reef. Her nephew Henry Frudenthal, a servant and two waitresses are living with her. Her nephew Herman Frudenthal is also living in town. In 1894, Margaret abandoned the restaurant and her two Chinese cooks carried the equipment and utensils to Delamar, Nevada<sup>7</sup>, a gold mining town where her nephew Edward F Frudenthal was involved.

The restaurant building was dismantled, leaving crude stone foundations. Margaret moved to Salt Lake City and ran a small boarding house on south First West Street.<sup>8</sup> She is listed in the Salt Lake City Directory for the years 1896 and 1898-1902.<sup>9</sup> On the 1900 census, she is a widow with five boarders, living on 1<sup>st</sup> West in Salt Lake City Ward 2. This census indicates that she is not a naturalized citizen.<sup>10</sup> In 1903 she was living at 922 Euclid Avenue West in Salt Lake City.<sup>11</sup>

Margaret’s nephews, Edward F and Henry Frudenthal, came up from Nevada during her final illness. She died 16 July 1903 at Holy Cross Hospital in Salt Lake City. Her funeral service was held at St Mary’s Cathedral and she was buried in the Calvary Cemetery.<sup>12</sup> Her obituary named her a most generous and charitable woman, stating that no one ever left her door hungry.

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<sup>1</sup> Western States Marriage Record Index, 1809-2011, Vol 1, p. 75; the record notes “there is some confusion as to the year of marriage”.

<sup>2</sup> United States Census, 1860.

<sup>3</sup> *The Montana Post*, 5 August 1865, p. 3.

<sup>4</sup> *Expedition Magazine*, Vol 30, Issue 2, July 1988.

<sup>5</sup> *Silver Reef Business Directory*, 1886.

<sup>6</sup> *Expedition Magazine*, Vol 30, Issue 2, July 1988.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> US City Directories 1822-1995.

<sup>10</sup> United States Census, 1900.

<sup>11</sup> US City Directories 1822-1995.

<sup>12</sup> *Salt Lake Herald*, 17 July 1903, p. 8.

The Cosmopolitan Restaurant was later reconstructed on the original site to appear as it did in the late 1800s. It served European cuisine until it was closed in 2010.<sup>13</sup> The building is currently owned by Washington County and is often used for community events.



Obituary (image from *Intermountain Catholic*, 25 July 1903)

<sup>13</sup> Dammeron Valley Landowners Association, Leeds; Silver Reef Utah.



Obituary (image from *Salt Lake Tribune*, 17 July 1903, p. 12)

**GRAMBS' HOTEL,**  
Main street, opposite Lacour, Pioche, Nevada.

Mrs. Grambs • • • • Proprietress

**H**AVING REPAPERED, REFURNISHED and PAINTED this popular establishment throughout, it is now opened for the accommodation of the public.

**Double and Single Rooms.**  
Superior accommodations for travelers and day boarders.

my 26-12

(Image from *Pioche Daily Record*, 22 September 1872)



Cosmopolitan Restaurant (image from *WCHSUtah.org*)



Mrs Margaret Grambs, in the Cosmopolitan restaurant  
(image from *Expedition Magazine*, Vol 30, Issue 2, July 1988.)



Rebuilt Cosmopolitan Restaurant as it appeared in 2014  
(image from *St George News*, 31 August 2014)