

History of Fulton County, Illinois, Together With Sketches of its Cities, Villages and Townships, Educational, Religious, Civil, Military, and Political History: Portraits of Prominent Persons and Biographies of Representative Citizens. History of Illinois, Embracing Accounts of the Prehistoric Races, Aborigines, French, English And American Conquests, and A General Review of its Civil, Political and Military History. Digest of State Laws. Illustrated. Peoria: Chas. C. Chapman & Co., 1879

William Kost, miller and stock dealer, is a native of Cumberland Co., Pa., where he was born in 1830; his father, **John Kost**, was by occupation a farmer and blacksmith, who moved to Knox Co., O., in 1832 ; his wife was **Mrs. Elizabeth (Wolf) Kost**. Duringz; the infancy of **William Kost** his father died, leaving to the care of **Mrs. K.** ten children. In a new country with so large a family are well known, she had a hard struggle, but was never discouraged. She labored faithfully and in the declining years of life she lived in affluence. She died near Mt. Vernon, O., at the age of 77. Early in life **William** learned the trade of carpenter, and in 1850 concluded to come west, and accordingly came to this county, where he erected many buildings. In 1856 he was married to **Miss Martha M. Bottenberg**. After a residence of 12 years in Vermont and vicinity he settled at Astoria, where he erected in conjunction with others the Fulton Flouring Mills, which has three run of stone on local trade. Associated with him is **Mr. Nicholas Hipsley**. In 1874 he erected his present handsome residence.

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