



**A, C, D, & J. LITHIA SPRING
off Thirteenth Street, Steamboat Springs**

The mineral springs of Steamboat Springs were the newly-settled town's first tourist attraction, and the Lithia Spring, one of fifteen named springs in the area, was used by the Ute Indians as a sacred place for rejuvenation and to commune with the Great Spirit. The Lithia Spring, originally called the Milk Spring by early settlers, is located adjacent to Howelsen Hill (See above) in one of the oldest neighborhoods in Steamboat Springs. The milky waters, with a flow of more than 1,500 gallons per hour, have a high content of high quality lithium, used to this day for medicinal purposes. The spring has been explored by divers, but no depth has ever been established. In the 1930s, to attract visitors H. W. Gossard constructed stone columns at the entrance to the park-like area and a small structure to house an attendant to answer visitors' questions. He also bottled the waters as a product called 'Miraquelle', which he distributed in his Model T pick-up truck. The spring is considered to be one of two of its kind in the world.