

Mary Vesta Young

1889 - 1904

Mary Vesta was a lovely little bond girl born to Chris and Josie Young in 1889 at Gaskill, Colorado, a mining camp on the north fork of the Grand (Colorado) river. She was their first child. She was born prematurely weighing two pounds and not given any hope for survival. With infinite care, good wholesome milk and lots of love she survived. Her parents moved to Grand Lake when she was six weeks old. Her mother walked a snow trail carrying her for 2 miles to the main road where saddle horses awaited them. They rode the remaining approximately 8 miles to the home of Chris's mother, Mary Jane Young Handscomb, at the Fair View Hotel. Mary Vesta started school in 1894.



Mary Vesta was always a frail child and very neat, tidy and well behaved. She helped her mother with the younger children and waited on the tourist trade in their modest hotel on the west side of the Lake.

Just before Mary Vesta's fourteenth birthday, the children were having a snowball battle. Her clothes were soaked and she took a severe cold when turned into pneumonia. A doctor was brought by horseback from Hot Sulphur Springs, but too late to save this lovely girl. She passed away and was the second member of the Young family to be interred in their plot in the graveyard on the hill.