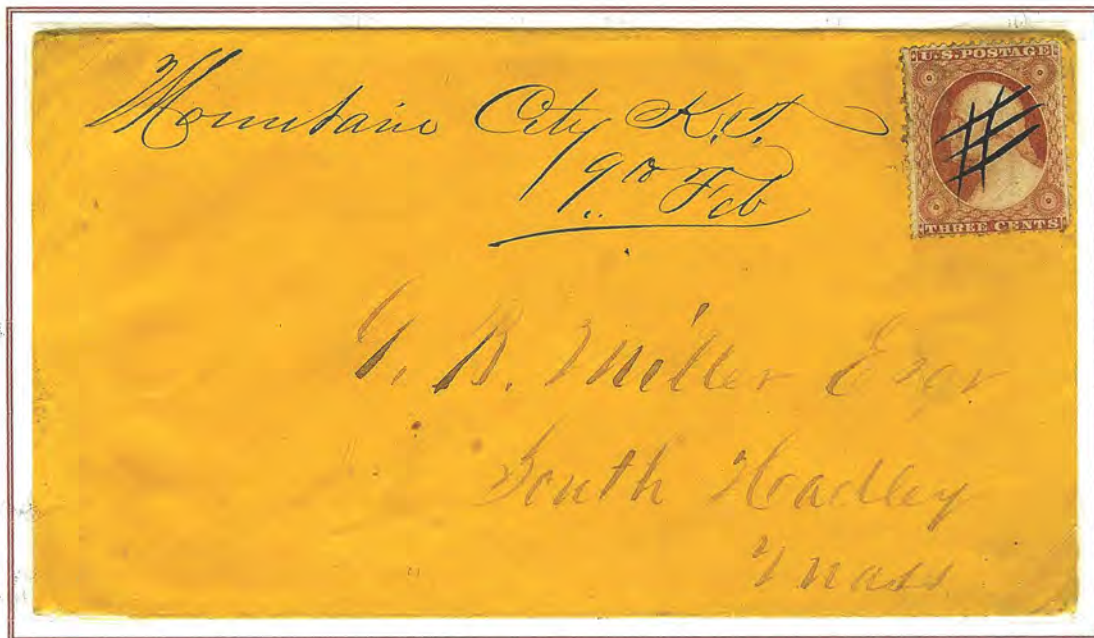


KANSAS TERRITORY ~ 1859

Gold Is Discovered

In early 1860, prospector's had made many rich gold discoveries in Gilpin County. This led to a post offices being established at Mountain City and nearby towns of Missouri City and Nevada. It turned out in a few years time Gilpin county would be known as one of the richest mining areas in the territory. The Mountain City post office opened on January 17, 1860.

The earliest recorded postmark was used on September 10, 1861. The mining and business grew rapidly expanding the business district situated all along the mountain side east to Black Hawk. One important business in the area was the Mountain City Brewery located near Black Hawk. The population was estimated at 800 in 1860, however in two years time 10,000 people were in the area.



Mountain City, K. T. ~ February 9, (1862)

Letter to G. R. Mills South Hadley, Massachusetts with large bold manuscript postmark with 3 cent #11 with pen stroke cancel. The postmark shows K. T. however, the date was after Kansas became a state, and before congress had declared Colorado a new territory.



Mountain City Circa 1860's