

COPE DISTRICT was organized May 27, 1869. It is situated on the Owyhee River, about twelve miles from the State line. Plenty of wood and water are found in the immediate vicinity, and in Duck Valley, twelve miles away are some fine agricultural lands. The character of the formation and veins here is similar to that of Reese River District, in Lander

County. The ores also contain considerable horn silver near the surface. The Excelsior and El Dorado were among the principal mines. The former was put on the stock board at San Francisco, at 100,000 shares, and was quoted in 1873 at \$2.90. A shaft was sunk to a depth of about 600 feet on this mine and another on the Argenta reached a depth of 240 feet. Mountain City grew up in consequence of this discovery, and at one time was one of the most prosperous mining towns in the State. In 1871-72 it contained about 1,000 people, some of the buildings were of cut stone and two were built of brick. The frame buildings have nearly all been moved away. There is one, out of twelve hotels, that still continues business, also one store. The closing down of the Excelsior in the fall of 1873 caused the decline of the town.

History of Nevada
Thompson + West (1881)

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