

Explanations for the 8th Annual Nevada Day Treasure Hunt:

Clue One

Abraham Lincoln sought truth and justice
By proclamation, the slaves were set free
If you follow our clues for finding the treasure
You won't be defeated like General Lee

("Nevada Day Salutes President Lincoln" is the theme of this year's Nevada Day celebration. This clue opens the hunt by honoring that theme.)

Clue Two

Search the area
Once known as Millard
And finding the treasure
Won't be that hard

(Before Nevada became a state, it was divided into territorial counties. The area known as Millard spanned most or all of the counties where the treasure is traditionally hidden.)

Clue Three

Solving through research
Is so crystal clear
Refer to Clue 2
From another year

(This clue references the word "crystal" to steer hunters to the second clue from 2007 when the treasure was hidden in Galena Park. The clue from that year reveals that the hiding place is in a county that has previously hosted the medallion. It, therefore, narrows the field to Carson, Douglas, Lyon, Storey, and Washoe counties – eliminating Mineral and Churchill.)

Clue Four

"And every man a miner"
Is what he said
Many miles away this one
Mined sandstone instead

(This clue refers to Abraham Lincoln's 1860 "Discoveries and Inventions" speech in which he called "every man a miner" because each of us digs out his own destiny on this Earth. Across the country, another Abraham – Abraham Curry – was using sandstone from a quarry he established to construct buildings in Carson City. The treasure is hidden somewhere in Carson City, which Curry founded in 1858.)

Clue Five

One title, four chapters
But not really a book
Thirteen forty-nine
Reveal where to look

(Title 13 of the Carson City Municipal Code governs the Parks Department and contains four chapters of code. There are 49 parks and open spaces shown on the department's online map. The treasure will be found in one of those 49 places.)

Clue Six

The cartographer draws
A blue line that roams
Beneath shady trees
And past scenic homes

(Blue lines on maps signify rivers, streams, canals and other waterways. The treasure is hidden near a waterway that flows beneath mature trees and past the natural habitat of various kinds of wildlife.)

Clue Seven

A distant whistle sound
Sand and sage on the ground
Near where I am standing
The treasure will be found

(This clue refers to the recently restored V&T Railway, which runs from Virginia City to a temporary depot in northeast Carson City. If you're standing at the location of the treasure when the train is approaching or leaving the temporary depot, you can hear the whistle in the distance.)

Clue Eight

Father Ambrose
Built his dream
From his secret rest
Survey the scene

(Nicholas Ambrose was the founding father of Empire City, a milling town that once thrived where Empire Ranch Golf Course is now located. His final resting place is Empire Cemetery, situated on a small hill overlooking Riverview Park and the surrounding area. "Secret" refers to the fact that the cemetery is difficult to find since the only entrance is through an adjacent concrete manufacturing plant.)

Clue Nine

Bypass this one
Link two parts
You're getting near
Review your chartz

(This clue refers to four significant ranches in Carson City. The bypass currently under construction runs through the old Lompa Ranch on Fifth Street. Turning from Fifth Street onto Carson River Road leads the hunter to Buzzy's Ranch, which is open space linking 86 acres of the former Andersen property and 397 acres of the former Jarrard property. "Chartz" refers to Alfred Chartz who was the first known owner of the red house at Silver Saddle Ranch, preserved as an example of a Carson City working ranch. The treasure is hidden somewhere in the vicinity of these ranches.)

Clue Ten

Three amigos
Doubled most
Two live nearby
And one's a ghost

(This clue refers to the Mexican Dam, the Mexican Ditch, and the Mexican Mill. In the 1860s, the dam fed the ditch, which meandered north and powered the mill. When all three were in place and operating, the mill crushed double the amount of ore than almost any other mill in the territory. The mill no longer stands, but the dam and ditch still exist and are near the medallion's hiding place.)

Clue Eleven

We'll try to make this easy
We hope it's not complex
Find where Vegas, Elko, Carson
And Reno intersect

(The Korean War Memorial at the east end of Fifth Street pays tribute to 34 Nevadans who died in this war. Flanking the monument are four boulders marked Reno, Las Vegas, Elko and Carson. They represent the four hills in the Nevada Complex battle of 1953.)

Clue Twelve

Bricks and mortar
Headstones of a ranch
Serve as the gateway
Now choose the branch

(This clue speaks specifically of the two remaining vestiges of the Pierini Ranch at the entrance to Riverview Park – a brick milk house and a brick oven. Inside the park, the hunter needs to choose the correct trail in order to find the treasure.)