Great American Trials

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Apart from being terrific theater, great trials can shape history, Professor Linder notes. They can change attitudes and reinforce ideals. And they can provide a remarkably clear window for observing societies, both past and present. A harbinger of the American Revolution, the Boston Massacre trials (and the reaction to the verdict) reflected the heated partisanship of the times. Central to this story is the young attorney John Adams, who paid a price for his decision to represent the accused British soldiers and their captain.
Famous Trials first appeared on the Web in 1995, making this site older than about 99.97% of all websites. In 2016, the site seemed to be showing its age. So Famous Trials 2.0 (thanks to my great support team) debuted in 2017 with a cleaner look, additional video and audio clips, and new features that should improve navigation around the site. You will not find every trial deserving of being called famous on this site.