



## Instructions

### Episode One - Challenge 2 (of 2)

To play the Spectres of Benton County Clue Hunt and Mystery Game 'unconnected' so to speak, this is the place for you.

Each Challenge includes a series of PDF pages you print, that form the basis of the challenge's game. While the puzzles & quizzes will be slightly different from the connected versions of this game, the story, clues and mystery are the same.

In this Challenge are several documents that you will retrieve from the site of the second location, the Benton County Courthouse.

Alternatively, if you cannot go out on the trail to explore this Challenge, we have provided all of the materials here.

If you need a hint, you can visit the private

[Facebook Group](#)

(<https://www.conundrumhouse.com/fb-spectres>) to

exchange notes with other players. You can also

join the [Slack Channel](#)

(<https://www.conundrumhouse.com/slack-spectres>)

for the same kind of sharing and support.

On Saturday or Sunday, Episode Two will be released. If you are signed up to receive the game eMails, look for one on this weekend with the link to the Game Page giving you access to the new leg of the story, and its attendant challenges.

# Find the Location

## *On the Ground*

### **In Google Maps (or your favorite map app)**

Put in the following coordinates: 44.565302, -123.262055, and either print out the directions, or use the app on your phone to help you reach your next location.

When you arrive, you are looking for a Historical Marker. On this marker, there is information regarding an auspicious individual.

Who is the marker commending?

Next, look for a flyer box, and take out a flyer.

The document contains a number of details which tells more about the mystery you are helping to unravel. It will also come in handy for future reference. ;)

**If you are playing this Challenge on  
location/in situ,  
STOP READING NOW!**

Because similar materials that are in the subsequent pages here, are available and ready to retrieve onsite where you are, or will be shortly.

***Playing @ Home or offsite? Continue reading...***

## ***Play @ Home (or away from the physical locations)***

If you are playing the game at home, or you live in another part of the world, complete or decipher the following puzzles to unlock more of the story.

### **1909 Police Report**

A jigsaw! Cut out the pieces and put them together to be able to read the nefarious happenings that took place in March of 1909.

### **Newspaper articles from 1909**

These are but a handful of the many stories told about the incident the Police Report addresses. The story was covered all over the state all the way up to Portland! As with Geroge Way, there is another spectre attempting to communicate something to us.

If you want hints, please visit the Episode One game page here:

<https://spectres.conundrumhouse.com/week-one-bridging-the-divide/>

### **Confessions**

Inspired by true events, but not entirely adhering to “Just the Facts Ma’am”, two of our safecrackin' characters give up the goods to avoid running afoul the Courthouse Ghoul.

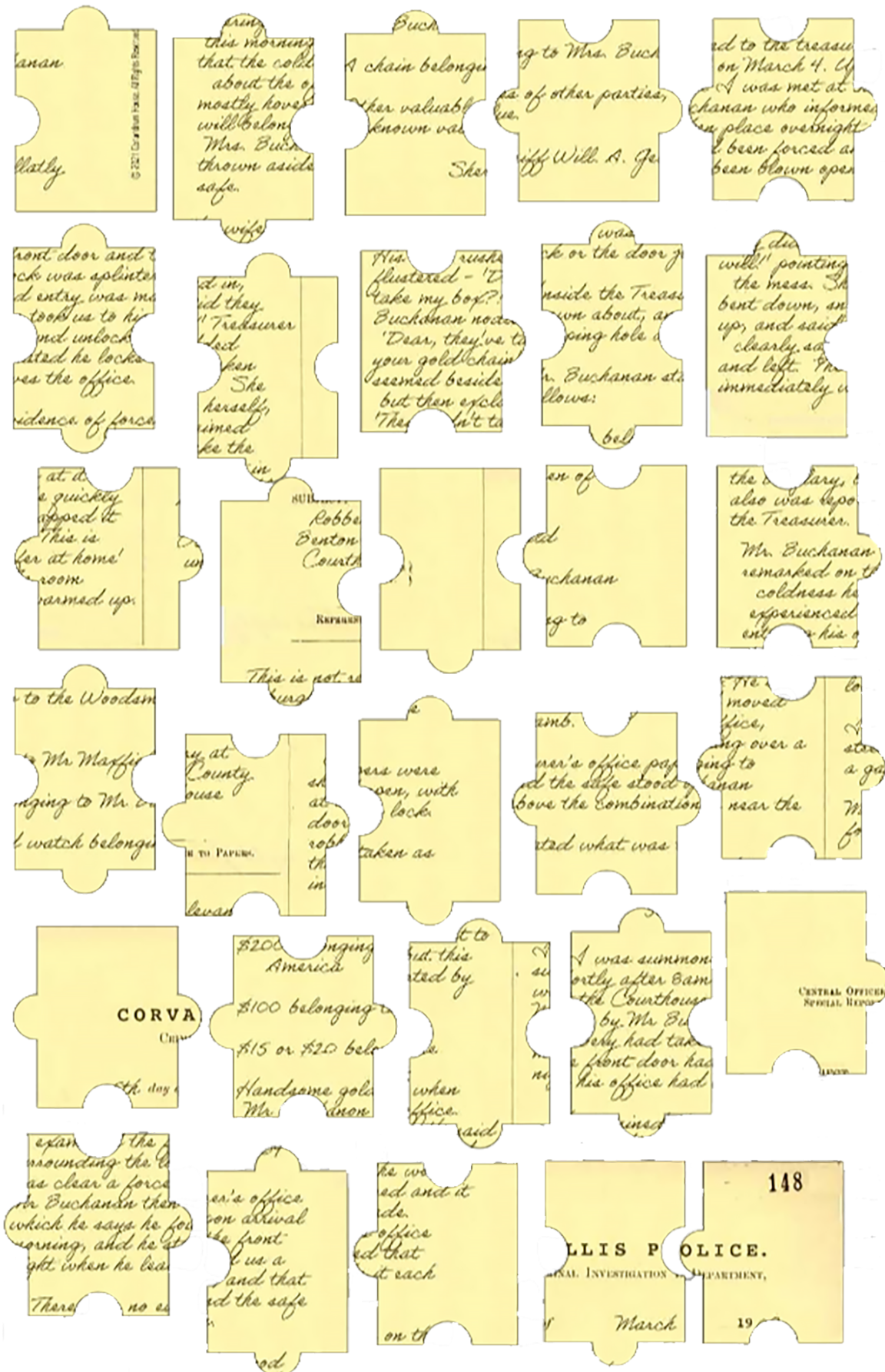
One confession demands that you reflect on it.

The other, strip what you can from it.

### **The Acrostic**

There are 16 clues in the quiz whose answers may be derived from the pieces of evidence you uncover in both locations in Episode One. The answers range from a single word to multiple word answers. There is an indication at the end of the clue if there are 2 or more words in the correct response.

When you have all the correct answers you will discover a secret message about the adventure and the thrust of Episode Two of the investigative hunt.



# 1909 Police Report



# BOLD ROBBERY AT COURT HOUSE

Thieves Loot County  
Treasurer's Office.

THE SAFE WAS BLOWN OPEN

Several Hundred Dollars and  
Valuable Jewelry Secured  
by the Burglars.

Burglars broke into the Benton County court house Wednesday night, forced an entrance to the treasurer's office, blew open the vault and got away with several hundred dollars and some valuable jewelry which Treasurer Buchanan had left overnight in the safe.

The robbery, which occurred some time after midnight, was a bold one and the thieves were evidently old hands at the business. They effected an entrance into the court house by breaking the lock on the front door and used a skeleton key to open the vault to the treasurer's office. The vault was forced by drilling a hole above the combination lock and then blown open with dynamite, the explosion having been

heard by parties living in the vicinity between one and two o'clock, but no special significance was then attached to the noise.

After gaining an entrance to the vault the robbers overhauled its entire contents, scattering the papers and other effects in every direction in their search for money. They succeeded in getting away with about \$200, belonging to the Woodmen of the World; \$100, which a Mr. Maxwell had left there for safekeeping; some other valuables that various parties had left for the same purpose; some \$15 or \$20 belonging to Mr. Buchanan, and a handsome gold watch and

chain of his wife's. None of the county funds were in the vault nor were there any negotiable papers kept there, so that the loss will fall on private individuals, Mr. Buchanan being the heaviest loser, as he may be required to reimburse the Woodmen.

The burglars succeeded in making good their escape without leaving any clue, though Sheriff Gellatly is making every effort to trace them. The only clue seems to be that the launch belonging to the Occidental mill was stolen during the same night and it is supposed that the robbers took the boat and made their way down the river in it.

## Benton County Republican

CORVALLIS, OREGON

MARCH 11, 1909

Local News.

G. O. Bassett's boat, that is supposed to have been taken by the burglars who robbed the county treasurer's vault, was found adrift near Albany.

## PAWN TICKETS FURNISH CLEW

Men Who Robbed Corvallis  
Courthouse Captured in  
This City.

Why a burglar, an experienced cracksmen even will often leave a piece of evidence so incriminating as a pawn ticket in the building he has robbed will always remain a mystery to police detectives. Over and over again have criminals been caught through their own carelessness in leaving pawn tickets behind them.

The latest to land behind bars on this account are the two men arrested in Portland Saturday evening by Detectives Hyde and Reed. They were charged with being the men who cracked the safe in the office of the county treasurer of Benton county at Corvallis, March 4, when \$400 and the treasurer's gold watch were stolen. The robbery of a store at Peoria, eight miles from Corvallis, when \$1000 worth of goods was secured, is also laid at their door.

D. Wells, city marshal of Corvallis, found the pawn tickets in the Benton county courthouse, and got into communication with the Portland police. The tickets had been issued by a broker in this city, who remembered the appearance of the men. It was soon learned that they had left the city, but they returned a few days ago.

Detective Hyde was given a tip that the men passed the corner of Third and Taylor every day. Therefore Hyde camped at this corner all day Saturday. It was after 8 o'clock when the two men walked by, but Hyde recognized them from the description and the arrest followed. At the police station they gave the names of George Davis and Frank Clayton. Clayton refused to give any name whatever at first, but when that name was found in his note book he acknowledged it. Wells took them to Corvallis early yesterday morning, and they will be arraigned before the Benton county authorities today.

Detective Hyde today recovered the county treasurer's gold watch, but a quantity of the loot taken from the Peoria store has not yet been found.

## ROBBERS PLEAD GUILTY

Court House Thieves Get Five  
Years in State Pen.

After having run down George Davis and Frank Clayton and secured a greater portion of the goods stolen from the Berry store at Peoria and part of the plunder taken from the court house here, Chief of Police Wells had the satisfaction of inducing his prisoners to confess to both robberies and they were sentenced last Friday by Judge Hamilton to five years each in the state penitentiary, Sheriff Gellatly and the Chief taking them to Salem Saturday.

This was quick and satisfactory work and all the credit for the capture of both thieves and booty, the securing of the plea of guilty and the great saving of expense to the county all belong to Chief Wells.

Chief Wells took a boy to the reformatory Saturday and while in Salem called on Clayton and Davis, the safe-crackers sent up from here. They were in good shape and as ready as ever to give the Portland detective department the horse-laugh.

There is a number embedded in this page that will give you access to the next leg of the game.

Can you figure out what that number is?

Spectres of Benton  
County Past

Join the Game at [Spectres.ConundrumHouse.com](http://Spectres.ConundrumHouse.com)

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Newspaper Articles

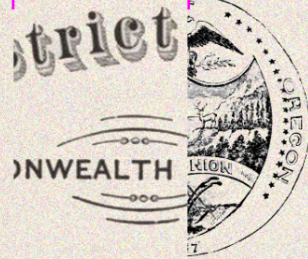




Page 5



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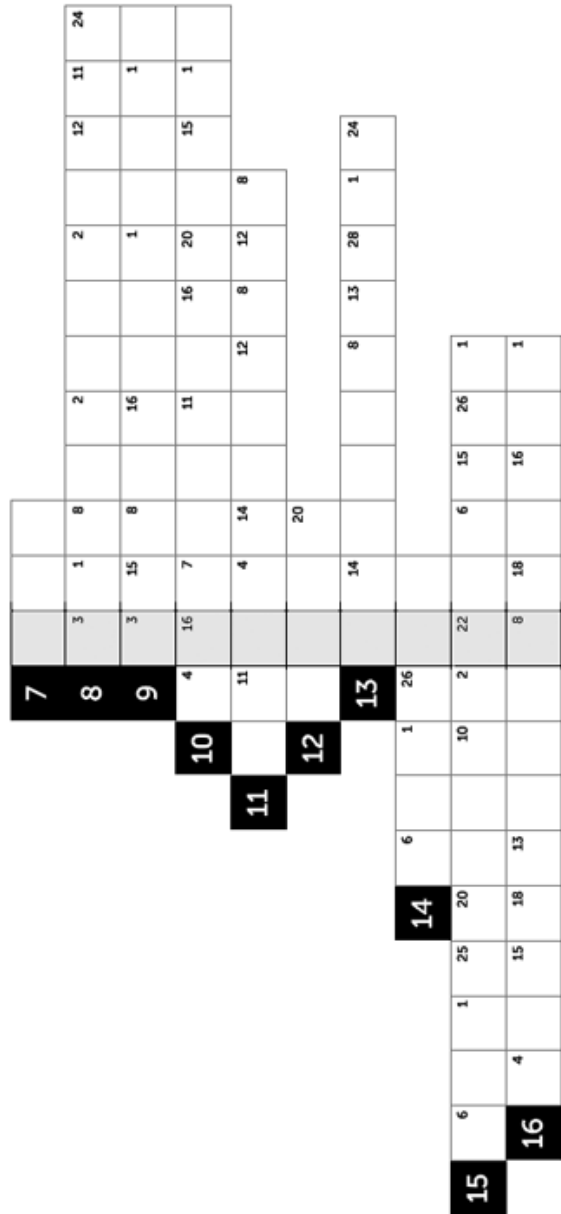
9, 1909

This day :



# Spectres of Benton County Past

This acrostic gathers some  
of the clues collected so far.  
And points at the next  
direction of this adventure.



## QUESTIONS

- 1 The inaugural action the women of Corvallis took to secure the bridge
- 2 The turning force operating the 17 foot long wooden key (2w)
- 3 The section of the bridge that permitted the passing of river traffic (2w)
- 4 The name of the dishwasher stuck on the bridge January 25, 1914 (2w)
- 5 The item of jewelry identified in the police report
- 6 The pins connected these on the Van Buren Bridge
- 7 The initials of the name of the college in 1909
- 8 The sanctuary and relief for Frank and George
- 9 The rare technology used on the truss joints of the Van Buren Bridge (2w)
- 10 Ghost was wearing this on his head (derby syn.) + word for a member of a fighting force (2w)
- 11 Mrs. Treasurer (2w)
- 12 The papers the Treasurer's wife took home and which the ghost was guarding
- 13 The 17 foot device to operate the opening mechanism of the Van Buren Bridge (2w)
- 14 The statue on the court house, goddess of justice in ancient mythology
- 15 Clock Tower Inscription (4w)
- 16 Corvallis citizens were asked for this to be pledged to pay the ransom demands of protesters in the northern part of the county (3w)



## ***Posting to Facebook or Slack***

If you are a member of either the Facebook Group -or- the Slack channel we have a query for you...

This is the incident George Way was referring to in his message. But why would George Way have a vision of a past crime? How did he get embroiled in Spectres of Benton County Past? What was the ghost protecting? Who is he? What opposition is he referring to? Was Mrs Buchanan more worried about a will than her heirloom? Did the burglars really see a ghost or were they waving a tall tale to excuse their bungled robbery? Who promised them fortunes?

We're left with more questions than answers - tune in next episode for more adventure.

Answers to these questions are not needed to move forward in the game, AND, feel free to post your thoughts inspired by them in the private Spectres Facebook Group

<https://www.conundrumhouse.com/fb-spectres>

or the

Spectre Hunters Slack channel

<https://www.conundrumhouse.com/slack-spectres>