

Alice's Drive



Alice Ramsey

Republishing Veil, Duster, and Tire Iron

Annotation and "Chasing Alice" by

Gregory M. Franzwa

In 1909, Alice Ramsey, a 22-year-old mother from Hackensack, N.J., became the first woman to drive an automobile from coast to coast. Leaving 1930 Broadway in Manhattan on June 9, she arrived in San Francisco on August 7. More than fifty years later she wrote a charming book about it, and our reprint is annotated with 108 notes. Appended to this is "Chasing Alice", describing her exact route in 1909 relative to today's roadways. We've added the story of the restoration of an identical 1909 Maxwell DA, which will replicate Alice's trip on the centennial of her adventure, 2009. With 264 pages, and more than 100 historic photos, maps, and a comprehensive index.

"By being the first woman to drive a car across the United States in 1909, Alice Ramsey proved without doubt that America's burgeoning love affair with the new-fangled horseless carriage and the open road applied equally to both sexes. *Alice's Drive* puts us in the front seat of her brand new Maxwell DA to join in her grand and historic adventure."

—Dayton Duncan, author of *Horatio's Drive: America's First Road Trip; Out West: A Journey through Lewis and Clark's America*, and several other books about American history.

"Thanks to The Patrice Press, we now have Alice Ramsey's hard-to-find book in beautiful form, with extras spilling out of the rumble seat. With maps, then-and-now photos and postcards, and marvelous contemporary newspaper articles, it makes me want to follow her tire tracks all over again, from sea to shining sea!"

—David Haward Bain, author of *Empire Express* and *The Old Iron Road*.

"Like millions of American women before her and since, Alice Ramsey did something brave, adventurous, and now largely forgotten. This fine book brings her back to life, gives us context for her journey, and reminds us that women have taken to the road with every bit as much gusto as men."

—Drake Hokanson, writer and photographer, is the author of *Lincoln Highway: Main Street across America* and other books.



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