

# Ada Patterson

Ada Patterson was born on July 5, 1867 in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania. In 1877, her family moved to Franklin, Nebraska where she attended Franklin Academy and became a teacher. In 1891, she moved to Utah and became a reporter for the *Salt Lake City Herald*, eventually becoming the editor of the paper's society page. In 1893, she moved to California to report for the *San Francisco Call*. In 1896, she became a reporter for the *St. Louis Republic*. In 1897, she became the first woman journalist to witness an execution. Later that year, she moved to New York City to work for the *New York Journal*, renamed the *New York American*, where she was a feature writer for over twenty years. During the course of her work as a reporter, Patterson reported on many issues that were generally thought to be unsuitable for female reporters and tackled many women's issues, like inequality in female employment, women's working conditions, and women's education. She died in 1939 in Sarasota, Florida. She never married.



## Primary Source

Franklin County Historical Society

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[http://nsea.org.alpha.pickeringcreative.com/sites/default/files/content\\_images/Resources/NebraskaPr  
ofiles.pdf#page=114](http://nsea.org.alpha.pickeringcreative.com/sites/default/files/content_images/Resources/NebraskaPr<br/>ofiles.pdf#page=114)