

# *The* **PROFESSIONAL** *CAR*



**WEST WING  
WHEELS**

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# The Professional Car

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**COVER PHOTO AND CENTERSTRETCH** – 1939 Packard Twelve parade phaeton owned by the Toyota Automobile Museum in Nagakute City, Japan. This imposing Packard convertible limousine was among the very last classic V-12s to roll off the assembly line in Packard's Detroit plant in August 1939. Introduced in 1932 as East Grand Boulevard's response to rival Cadillac's Olympian V-16s and V-12s, the Packard Twelve, cloaked in bespoke coachwork by some of the nation's leading accustom-body builders, marked the apogee of Packard prestige and luxury-car leadership in the final years of the glorious custom-body era. Contributing editor Tom McPherson traces this little-known exquisite car's history in his story of the Roosevelt White House's limousines. The stunning color photos were provided by the world-class Toyota Automobile Museum, for which we're extremely grateful.

**BACK COVER** – One of two Fleetwood-bodied 1938 Cadillac V-16 "Security Cars" also built for the Roosevelt White House and documented in lavish detail in Tom's "Presidential Preferences" story.

**EDITOR'S NOTE** – This is the third issue of The Professional Car devoted to cars used by U.S. Presidents. TPC #131 featured the new Cadillac Presidential limo that made its public debut at Barack Obama's inauguration in 2009, and was also used at President Donald Trump's recent inaugural. Issue #151 featured the "Cars of Camelot," the cars of the Kennedy White House, including the ill-fated 1961 H&E-built Continental in which Kennedy was assassinated. It is with similar pride we present "West Wing Wheels" – Tom McPherson's second such tribute to White House cars, with three separate stories on Presidential transportation and a wealth of highly detailed, never-before-published information and photos of these regal cars. Coming up: a history of sedan-delivery funeral-car and ambulance conversions, and the sub-industry they created.

– Walt McCall