

The World, on Mercator's Projection

OLD MAP STUDIO · RESTORATION PASSPORT



THE SHEET

Cartographer	David H. Burr (1803-1875)
Credits	David H. Burr (1803-1875), cartographer; John Haven, publisher, Boston
Imprint	Boston: John Haven, 1850
Year	1850
Technique	Lithograph, hand coloured, Original hand colouring (pink borders, blue water) — checked at 1:1 before and after cleaning, untouched
Source	Boston Public Library, Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center, G3201.S12 1850 .B87, ark:/50959/0r96fn950 https://ark.digitalcommonwealth.org/ark:/50959/0r96fn950 · LMEC/BPL no known restrictions

Notes	Relief shown by hachures. Prime meridians of both Washington and Greenwich. Shows the different routes to California with the distance by each, and the routes of earlier navigators; includes historical notes, ship vignettes, distance tables and text on the proposed Pacific Railroad, with insets of the Nicaragua route and of the proposed railroad from St. Louis to San Francisco. Scale approx. 1:74,000,000 at the equator.
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WHAT WAS DONE

- Paper levelled and toned to the studio standard: level 235.61, warmth 32.0.
- Scanner edge removed: top 0, bottom 0, left 0, right 0 px. No mount board: the sheet was scanned on its own.
- The printed line deepened by a monotone tone curve; ink area changed by 0.98× — the lines are darker, not thicker.
- Owner marks: This sheet carries no library stamps and no pencil marks, so nothing was erased. The work was tone and foxing: brown spots were lifted from the paper, including six bands along the old fold lines, and loose specks were cleared from the margins. The fold line itself, a pale band of broken fibres, is left as it is: covering it would mean painting a stripe across the map. The original hand colouring was checked at 1:1 before and after and is untouched. Nothing was retouched over printed lines.
- Hand colour returned from the source scan: the tone curve that deepens the printed line also lifts watercolour washes toward the paper, so hue and saturation were taken from the archive scan and laid back over 7.9% of the sheet — exactly where that scan carries colour. Brightness stays the restored one; the colour is the sheet's own. Nothing was coloured in that the scan does not already carry.

WHAT WAS NOT DONE

- no map content added, removed or redrawn
- no retouching over printed ink
- no change of proportions
- no global filter
- paper neither bleached white nor tinted
- authenticity marks kept: plate mark, deckle edge, honest patina

MEASURED ON RELEASE

The line is deep, not thickened	ink core 4 of 255 · ink area 0.98× the source
Nothing is burnt out at either end	0.00% of the sheet clipped to white · 0.01% crushed to black
The paper is even across the whole sheet	level 236 · unevenness 3.10, where 4 is the limit
The paper is warm — neither bleached nor tinted	R–B 32, inside the 24–40 band of the studio standard (paper tone D)
Paper texture is kept, not smoothed away	0.87 of the grain the archive scan itself had
Lines are sharper than the scan, with no halo	1.29× the source · halo 0.00%
Nothing of the archive is left behind	stains 0.00% · specks 0.00%

Engine revision 8, standard revision 7.1. Every criterion, with its target and the measured value, is listed in the record below.

WHAT IS IN THE ARCHIVE

352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-full-300dpi.jpg	17.0 MB
352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-trim-300dpi.jpg	15.7 MB
formats/352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-3x2-300dpi.jpg	17.0 MB
formats/352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-4x3-300dpi.jpg	15.2 MB
formats/352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-5x4-300dpi.jpg	14.8 MB
formats/352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-iso-300dpi.jpg	16.6 MB
352-the-world-on-mercator-s-projection-1850-passport.pdf	this document

Six print files and this passport, 96 MB in total, delivered as six separate ZIP archives (one print file, the passport and a READ ME in each). Nothing else: the catalogue previews and the 1:1 detail crops shown on the shop page are not padding out this archive — any crop you want is already inside the full-resolution file.

Largest print at 300 dpi: 47.7 × 39.0 cm. At 240 dpi: 59.6 × 48.7 cm. At 200 dpi, still sharp on matte paper at arm's length: 71.5 × 58.4 cm.

APPENDIX: THE FULL ACCEPTANCE RECORD

ink core density, 0-255	4.0	2-22
black point (full resolution)	4.0	2-14
white point	243.0	237-244
clipped highlights, %	0.0	0
crushed shadows, %	0.01	0
paper level	235.61	227-237
paper evenness across the sheet	3.1	0-4
paper warmth R-B	32.0	24-40
residual stains, %	0.0	0-0.2
residual specks, %	0.0	0-0.5
paper texture kept vs source	0.87	0.60-1.00
edge sharpness vs source	1.29	>= 1.00
halo around lines	0.0	0-2
ink area vs source	0.98	0.90-1.12
absolute edge sharpness	623.44	>= 20

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