

OLD MAP STUDIO · RESTORATION PASSPORT



THE SHEET

Cartographer	Anonymous engraver, Rome; published by Nicolaus van Aelst
Credits	Anonymous printmaker (Rome); publisher and dedicator Nicolaus van Aelst
Imprint	Rome : Nicolaus van Aelst, 1593 (with privilege of the Senate of Rome; dedicated by Van Aelst to Ferdinand of Bavaria) (Rijksmuseum record)
Year	1593
Technique	Engraving (Rijksmuseum record), uncoloured (black and white impression)
Source	Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, object RP-P-2011-59 https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/collection/RP-P-2011-59 · Original: public domain, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. Restoration (c) Old Map Studio.
Notes	A cross-section of the celestial spheres after pre-Copernican cosmology: the elements, the planetary spheres, the fixed stars and constellations, the crystalline heaven, the choirs of angels, the saints, the Virgin and the Trinity in the empyrean. At lower left a map of the northern Mediterranean and a cartouche with Saint John on Patmos; scenes of the Apocalypse run up from the lower right towards the Trinity. Ornamental border around the whole. Dedication to Ferdinand of Bavaria signed Nicolaus van Aelst, Rome 1593 (read from the sheet). Rijksmuseum purchase 2011 with support of the F.G. Waller-Fonds.

WHAT WAS DONE

- Paper levelled and toned to the studio standard: level 234.05, warmth 31.0.
- 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 0.95× — the lines are darker, not thicker.
- Owner marks: Small specks of dirt were lifted from the paper; the sheet is shown within its engraved ornamental border. No printed line was retouched and no part of the engraving was redrawn.

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 5 of 255 · ink area 0.95× the source
Nothing is burnt out at either end	0.00% of the sheet clipped to white · 0.10% crushed to black
The paper is even across the whole sheet	level 234 · unevenness 3.00, where 4 is the limit
The paper is warm — neither bleached nor tinted	R–B 31, inside the 24–40 band of the studio standard (paper tone D)

Paper texture is kept, not smoothed away	0.94 of the grain the archive scan itself had
Lines are sharper than the scan, with no halo	1.04× 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

453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-full-300dpi.jpg	27.1 MB
453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-trim-300dpi.jpg	27.0 MB
formats/453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-3x2-300dpi.jpg	39.6 MB
formats/453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-4x3-300dpi.jpg	36.7 MB
formats/453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-5x4-300dpi.jpg	34.5 MB
formats/453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-iso-300dpi.jpg	38.2 MB
453-hemelkaart-met-dwarsdoorsnede-van-de-hemelsferen-1593-passport.pdf	this document

Six print files and this passport, 203 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: 34.7 × 45.8 cm. At 240 dpi: 43.4 × 57.2 cm. At 200 dpi, still sharp on matte paper at arm's length: 52.1 × 68.7 cm.

APPENDIX: THE FULL ACCEPTANCE RECORD

ink core density, 0-255	5.0	2-22
black point (full resolution)	1.0	2-14
white point	238.0	237-244
clipped highlights, %	0.0	0
crushed shadows, %	0.1	0
paper level	234.05	227-237
paper evenness across the sheet	3.0	0-4
paper warmth R-B	31.0	24-40
residual stains, %	0.0	0-0.2
residual specks, %	0.0	0-0.5
paper texture kept vs source	0.94	0.60-1.00
edge sharpness vs source	1.04	>= 1.00
halo around lines	0.0	0-2
ink area vs source	0.95	0.90-1.12
absolute edge sharpness	603.88	>= 20

Restoration © Old Map Studio, 2026-09-25. The original map is in the public domain. This passport records what was measured, not what was hoped for.