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**[ Mount Desert Island -- Proof Sheet -- George Davidson Copy ]**

**Stock#:** 101360  
**Map Maker:** U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey /  
Davidson  
**Date:** 1882 circa  
**Place:** Washington, D.C.  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 25 x 38.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 2,400.00



**Description:**

***Unrecorded Mount Desert Island Proof Sheet***

Detailed chart of a large portion of Mount Desert Island, which appears almost certainly to be George Davidson's copy of a proof sheet showing the progress of the mapping and surveying of the region in the early 1880s.

Bearing the stamp at the lower right corner of the US Coast & Geodetic Survey and de-accessioned in 1964 by the University of California Map Collection, the map was almost certainly part of the collection of the famed American mapmaker George Davidson (see biographical data below), one of the most important



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mapmakers and scientific minds of the 19th Century, who gave his map collection to the University of California in the early part of the 20th Century.

The proof nature of the chart would seem to be borne out by the meticulous grid lines drawn onto the map, the 3 orientation lines shown on the soundings at the bottom right part of the chart, and the large open rectangle at the bottom right, seemingly left for the insertion of text. Similarly, the top right and left sections of the map sheet clearly appear unfinished, perhaps in conjunction with work being done by J.E. Hilgard in 1883, although we have not been able to identify the map.

We surmise that the map was intended as the eastern sheet of a 2-sheet map.

At the time the chart was created, Davidson working for the United States Coast Survey, and was then in charge of the main triangulation and astronomical work on the west coast (1876-1886). During this time, his geodesy work was widely regarded as unsurpassed within the US Coast Survey.

**Rarity**

The chart is apparently unrecorded.

***Provenance:*** Warren Heckrotte, sold by PBA Galleries in 2023.

**Detailed Condition:**

Segmented and laid on linen. Includes accession and deaccession marks from the University of California.