

 **RAND McNALLY**

**Completely Revised  
and Accurate**

# **Classroom Atlas**

**1995 Edition**





# Classroom Atlas

**Ninth Edition**

## Contents

**World Information Table** \_\_\_\_\_ inside front and  
back cover

### Using the Atlas

Five Themes of Geography/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Using Map Symbols \_\_\_\_\_ 2-3

### Geographic Features and Maps

**World • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 4-5

**World • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 6-7

**World • Polar Map/Antarctica** \_\_\_\_\_ 8-9

**World • Special Purpose Maps** \_\_\_\_\_ 10-11

Climates of the World \_\_\_\_\_ 12-13

Economic Activities of the World \_\_\_\_\_ 14-15

Population of the World \_\_\_\_\_ 16-17

**North America • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 18

**North America • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 19

### North America • Special Purpose Maps

Natural Vegetation/ \_\_\_\_\_

Rainfall and Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ 20

Density of Population/ \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-Political \_\_\_\_\_ 21

**North America • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 22-23

**North America • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 24-25

**United States • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 26-27

**United States • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 28-29

**United States • Highways** \_\_\_\_\_ 30-31

**Western United States • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 32-33

**North Central United States • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 34-35

**Southern United States • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 36-37

**Northeastern United States • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 38

### United States Geographical

and Population Facts \_\_\_\_\_ 39

**Canada • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 40-41

**Canada • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 42-43

**Middle America • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 44-45

**South America • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 46

**South America • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 47

### South America • Special Purpose Maps

Natural Vegetation/ \_\_\_\_\_

Rainfall and Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ 48

Density of Population/ \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-Political \_\_\_\_\_ 49

**South America • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 50-51

**South America • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 52-53

**Europe • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 54-55

**Europe • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 56-57

### Europe • Special Purpose Maps

Natural Vegetation/ \_\_\_\_\_

Rainfall and Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ 58

Density of Population/ \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-Political \_\_\_\_\_ 59

**Europe • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 60-61

**Europe • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 62-63

**Asia • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 64-65

**Asia • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 66-67

**Asia • Post-Soviet Eurasia** \_\_\_\_\_ 67

### Asia • Special Purpose Maps

Natural Vegetation/ \_\_\_\_\_

Rainfall and Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ 68

Density of Population/ \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-Political \_\_\_\_\_ 69

**Asia • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 70-71

**Asia • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 72-73

### Middle East • Introduction/

Political \_\_\_\_\_ 74-75

**Africa • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 76

**Africa • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 77

### Africa • Special Purpose Maps

Natural Vegetation/ \_\_\_\_\_

Rainfall and Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ 78

Density of Population/ \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-Political \_\_\_\_\_ 79

**Africa • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 80-81

**Africa • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 82-83

**The Pacific Rim • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 84-85

**Australia and New Zealand • Introduction** \_\_\_\_\_ 86

**Australia and New Zealand • Environments** \_\_\_\_\_ 87

### Australia and New Zealand • Special

Purpose Maps \_\_\_\_\_

Natural Vegetation/Density of Population \_\_\_\_\_ 88

Land Use/Annual Rainfall \_\_\_\_\_ 89

**Australia and New Zealand • Merged Relief** \_\_\_\_\_ 90-91

**Australia and New Zealand • Political** \_\_\_\_\_ 92-93

**Antarctica** \_\_\_\_\_ 94

**Index** \_\_\_\_\_ 95-100

### World Facts and Comparisons

**Tables** \_\_\_\_\_ outside back cover

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# Using the Atlas

## Introduction

*Classroom Atlas* can become your guide to the world. You can use it in many ways—to find places in the news, to plan a trip, or just to find out interesting information from maps. To discover the world through the atlas, you can organize your study around the five themes of geography. These themes were developed by professional geographers in the American Association of Geography and the National Council for Geographic Education.

## Five Themes of Geography

These five themes can help you understand geography and use *Classroom Atlas*.



### Location

Location is the “where” of geography. You may want to know where Chicago is or how you might get to London, England. Follow these steps to find Chicago, Illinois.

1. Find the place-name index in the back of the atlas. You will see that Chicago, IL, is on page 96. The letter-number set B9 is a guide to finding Chicago on the map. Turn to page 29 in the atlas.
2. Find the letters A through F on the sides of the map and the numbers 1 through 13 on the top and bottom of the map.
3. To locate Chicago, place one index finger on B and one index finger on 9. Move your index fingers across the map until they meet. Your fingers should meet at Chicago.

Location can be very specific, called *absolute location*. To find absolute location you need to use latitude and longitude coordinates. The absolute location of Chicago is 42° north latitude and 88° west longitude.

Location can also be relative, called *relative location*. For example, where is Chicago located in relation to London, England? Where is your community in relation to London? Where is your school in relation to the city park?



### Place

All places on earth have features that give them meaning and character. Both Chicago and London are important cities, but they are not the same. For example, Chicago is next to Lake Michigan and has the Sears Tower. London is located on the Thames River and has Big Ben. Your community is a very special place. What can you think of that is special about it?



### Human/Environment Interaction

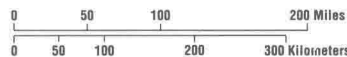
Human beings interact with and change their environment. In Chicago, people have built a nice park, called Grant Park, along Lake Michigan. In London, you can see many bridges that cross the Thames River. What are some things in your own community that show how humans have interacted with the environment?



### Movement

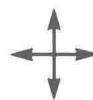
The transfer of people, products, and ideas is important to understanding geography. For example, there are regular plane flights between Chicago and London that move people and goods between these two cities. People carry ideas with them wherever they go.

When you plan a trip, you need to know how far apart places are. You can use this atlas to find distances. On each map in this atlas you will find a scale line that looks about like this.



The scale line shows you how to measure distances in miles or kilometers.

On a trip it is also useful to know in which direction you may be traveling. The maps in this atlas have compass roses that look like this.



A compass rose identifies cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west). Keep in mind that there are also intermediate directions such as southeast or northwest. If you travel to London from your community, how far away is it and in what direction will you travel?



### Regions

A region is any area that shares common characteristics. You are familiar with political characteristics that identify a region such as a country, province, or city. Other regions can be identified by climate, religion, or language. Chicago and London are two English-speaking cities. Chicago is part of the United States; London is part of England. What types of regions are associated with your community?

You almost never use one of these five themes alone. For example, if you travel (**movement**) from Chicago to London (**places**), you are going from one **location** to another.

### Using Map Symbols

There are three kinds of maps in this atlas: Merged Relief, Political, and Special Purpose maps. The maps use color as a symbol to show important geographic features of places.

**Merged Relief Maps** use color to show two things. The colors show elevation, or how high the land is compared to sea level. The blending of the colors also shows the shape of the land.

**Political Maps** use color to identify different countries or states.

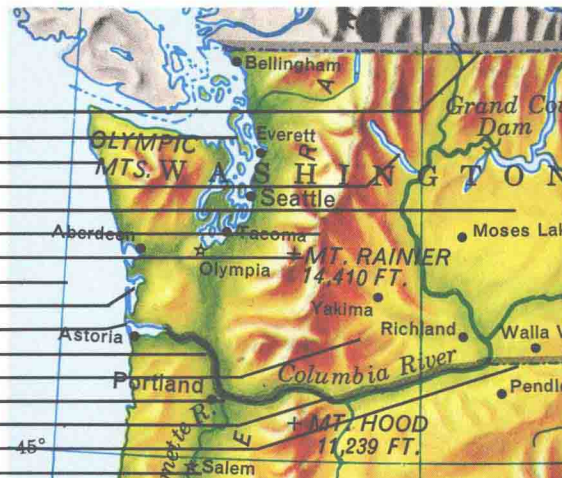
**Special Purpose Maps** use color to show an important feature of a place, such as climate, population, or economic activity.

The maps use other kinds of symbols, too. Some of the maps use dots or stars to show cities or capitals. Some have line symbols for rivers or boundaries. These maps have legends, or keys, to explain the symbols.

Use the keys in Figures 1 and 2 to learn about map symbols and to answer these questions:

### Merged Relief Map Symbols (Key)

International boundary	—
Island	—
Coastline	—
Lake	—
Plateau	—
Mountain range	—
Mountain peak	—
Ocean	—
Bay	—
River mouth	—
Valley	—
Hills	—
City	—
River	—
State boundary	—
State capital	—



This drawing shows how a merged relief map uses color symbols. Green stands for lower land. The colors blend and turn to yellow, brown, and red as the land gets higher. The numbers tell the elevations each color represents.

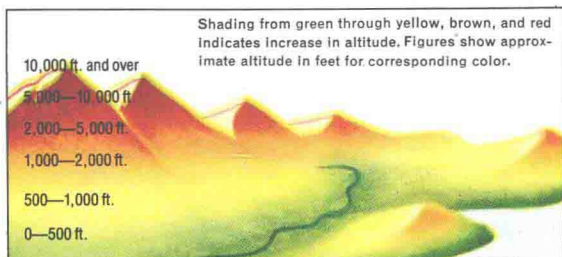


Figure 1

### Political Map Symbols (Key)

#### Type styles used to name features

ASIA	Continent
DENMARK	Country, State, or Province
BÉARN	Region, Province, or Historical Region
PANTELLERIA (ITALY)	Country of which unit is a dependency in parentheses
SRI LANKA (CEYLON)	Former or alternate name
Rome (Roma)	Local or alternate city name
MESA VERDE	National Park
DESERT	Major terrain feature
MT. MORIAH	Individual mountain
STROMBOLI	Island or coastal feature
NUNIVAK	Water feature
Ocean	
Lake	

#### Cultural features

##### Political Boundaries

—	International
—	Secondary (state, province, etc.)

##### Populated Places

•	Cities, Towns, and Villages
⊗	Capital of major political unit
☆	Capital of secondary political unit

##### Miscellaneous

—	National Park
—	Railroad
—	Dam

Figure 2

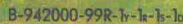
1. What is the color symbol for land below 500 feet?
2. About how high is the land at Richland, Washington? Is it higher or lower than the land at Mount Rainier?
3. What symbol shows a capital city?
4. What is the name of the capital of Washington?
5. What color line indicates a railroad?

Turn to the Special Purpose Map on pages 14-15. What do the colors stand for on this map? Find other Special Purpose Maps in the Table of Contents. Look to see what colors stand for on these maps and what other symbols are used to tell you about the world.



## A World of Land and Water

The word list below defines some of these forms of land and water\*. As you learn about each kind of land and water, look for maps that show those parts of Earth.



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**lake** — A body of water, usually fresh water, that is surrounded by land.

**mountain** — Land that rises very high, much higher than the land at its base. Mountains are much higher than hills.

**mountain range** — A row of mountains that are joined together. A mountain range makes a giant natural wall.

**oasis** — A place in a desert where people can get water. Water in an oasis comes from underground springs or from irrigation.

**peninsula** — A land area with a narrow link to a larger land area. It is almost surrounded by water.

**plain** — A large, flat land area.

**plateau** — A large land area that is high and generally very flat.

**river** — A large, moving body of fresh water that starts at a source in higher land. It drains the water from an area called its basin. The river moves from higher to lower land, and it carries the water to its mouth, where it ends. That mouth is at a lake, ocean, sea, or at another river.

**sea** — A large body of salt water nearly or partly surrounded by land. A sea is much smaller than an ocean.

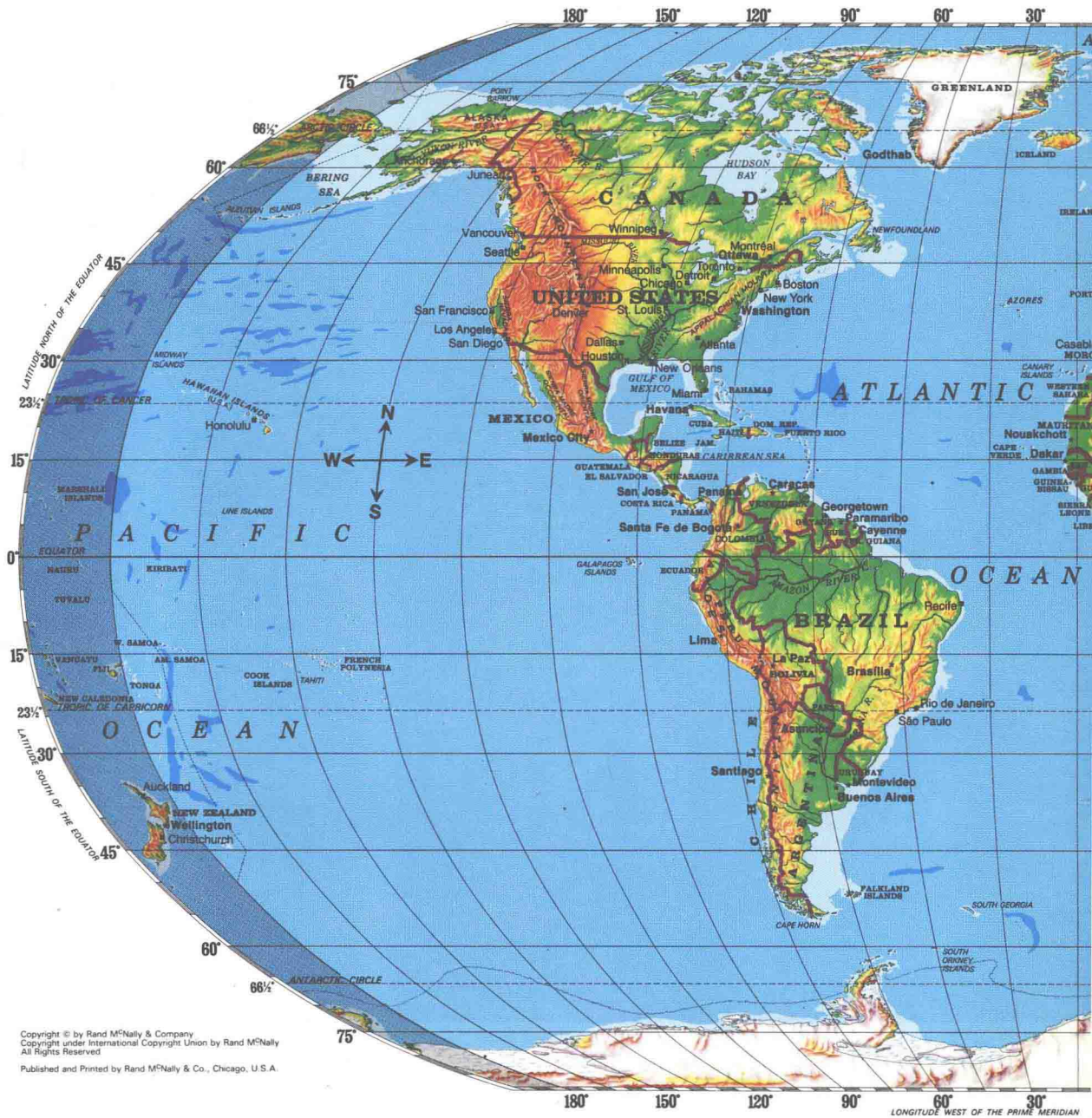
**sound** — A long and wide body of water. A sound connects two larger bodies of water or separates an island from a larger body of land. A sound is a large strait.

**strait** — A passageway of water that connects two large bodies of water.

**tributary** — A stream or small river that flows into another river or stream.

**valley** — The lower land between hills or mountains.





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#### EXPLANATION OF COLORS

	Land above 13,120 feet
	3,280 to 13,120 feet
	1,640 to 3,280 feet
	656 to 1,640 feet
	Sea Level to 656 feet
	Land below Sea Level
	Sea Level to 656 feet deep
	656 to 19,680 feet deep
	Over 19,680 feet deep







## CITIES

- ★ National Capitals
- Other Cities

## WATER FEATURES

-  Lakes  
 Canals  
 Ice Cap

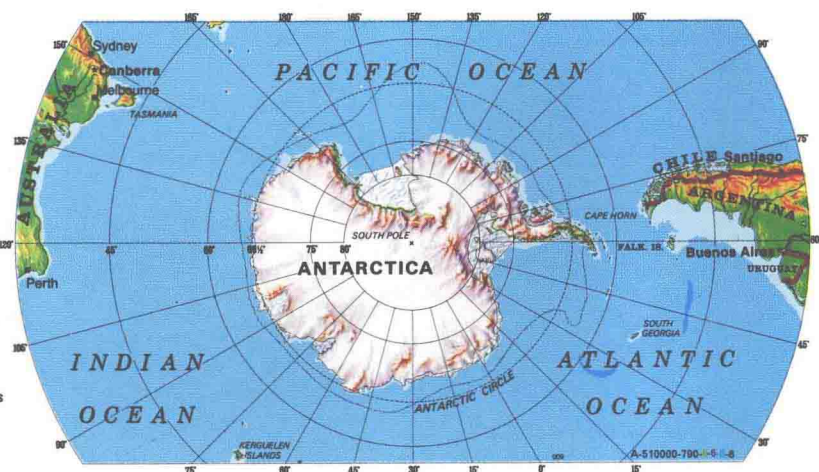
## OTHER FEATURES

- International Boundaries  
- - - Disputed or Indefinite Boundaries

SCALE 1:123,000,000



One inch represents 1,940 miles



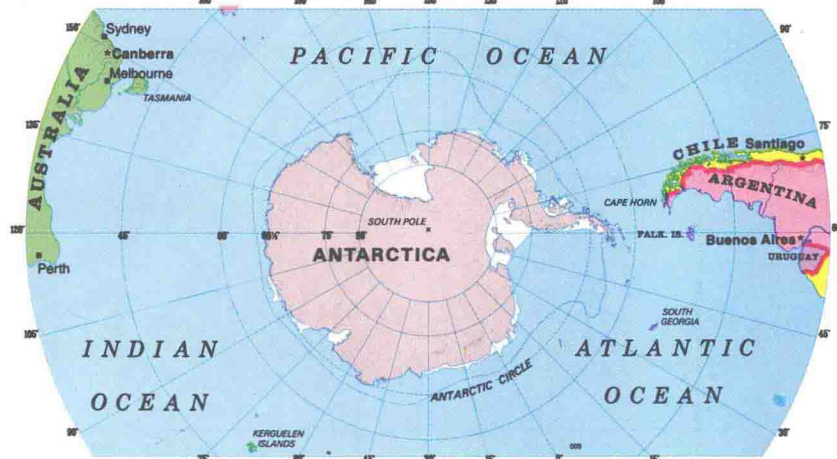
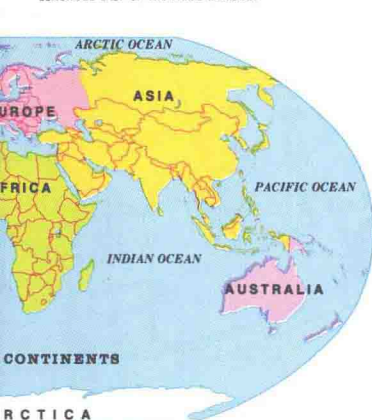




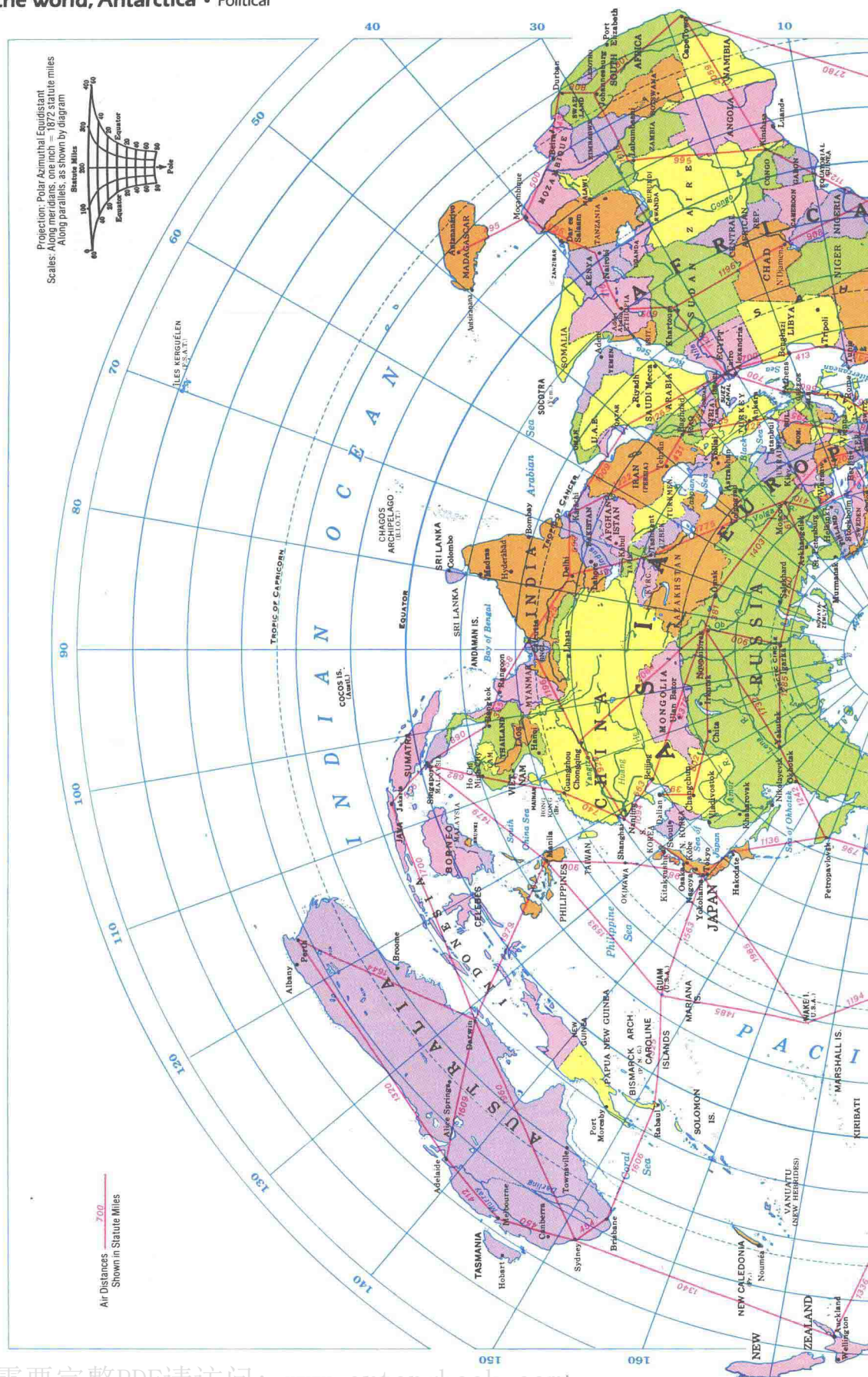




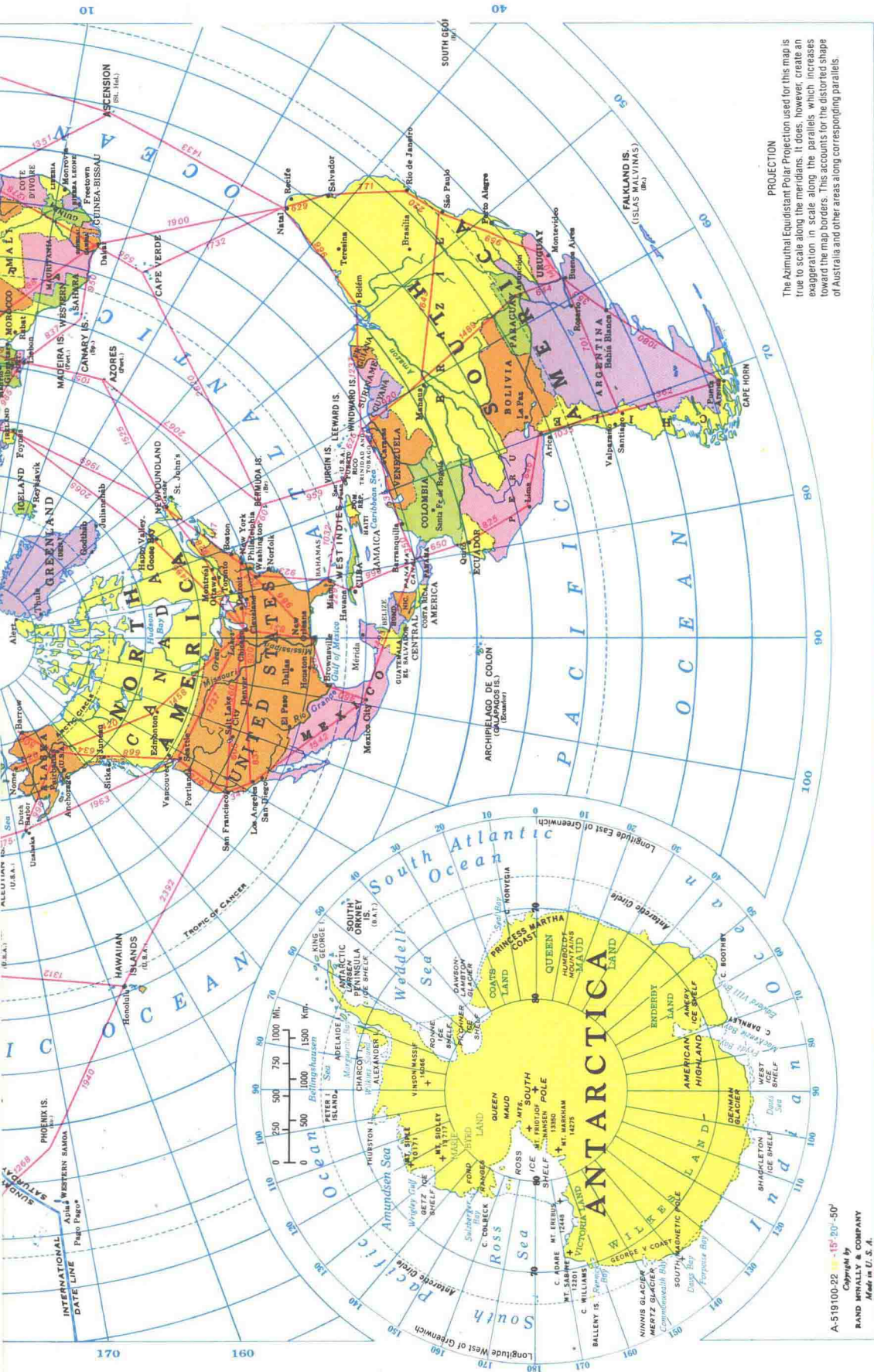
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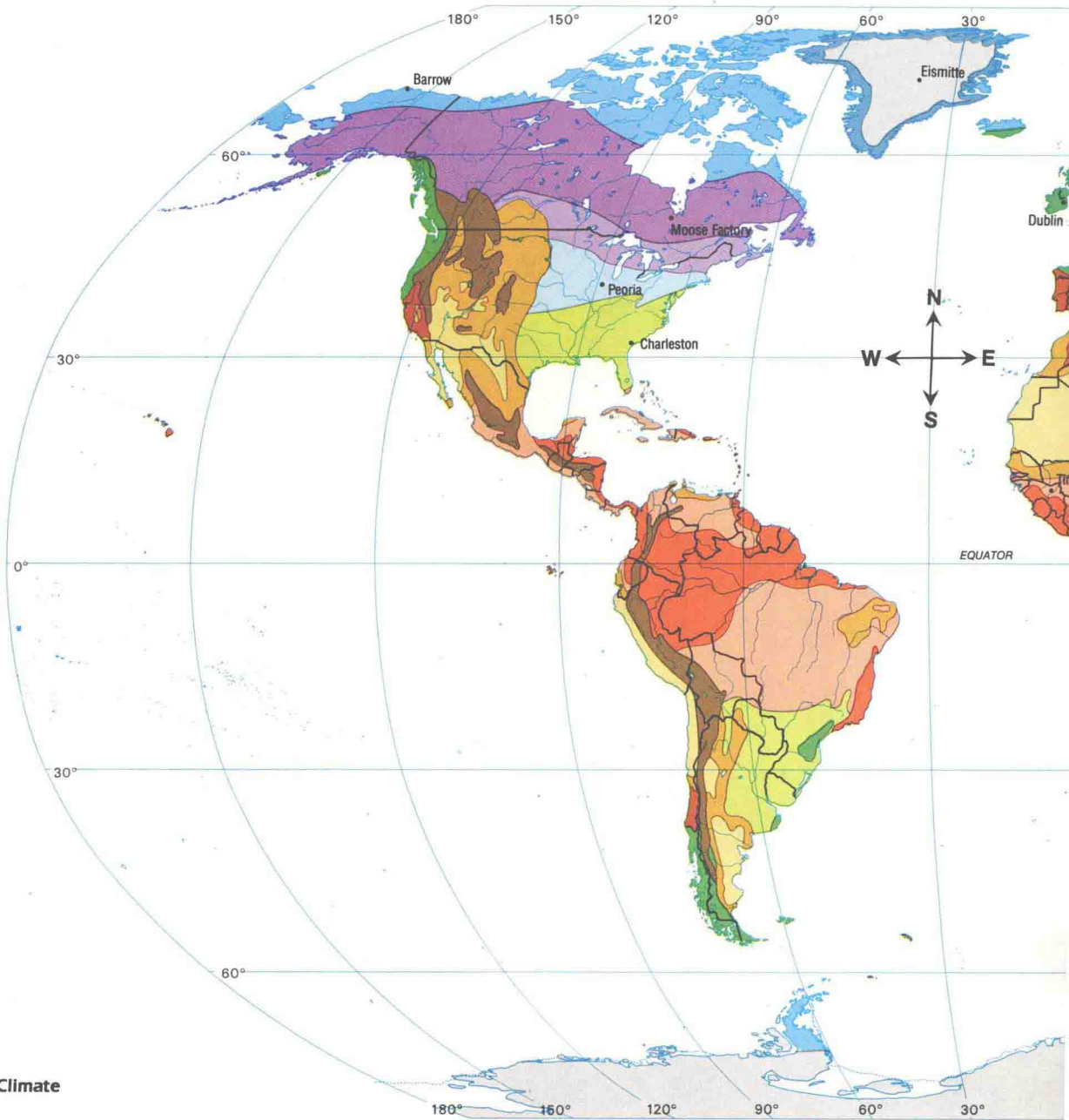




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# Climates of the World



## Types of Climate

### TROPICAL

- Hot and rainy all year
- Hot, with rainy and dry seasons

### DRY

- Desert, with some rain
- Desert

### TEMPERATE

(Mild and rainy winter)

- Hot and dry summer
- Warm and humid summer
- Mild and rainy summer

### TEMPERATE

(Cold and snowy winter)

- Long, warm, humid summer
- Short, warm, humid summer
- Very short, cool, humid summer

### POLAR

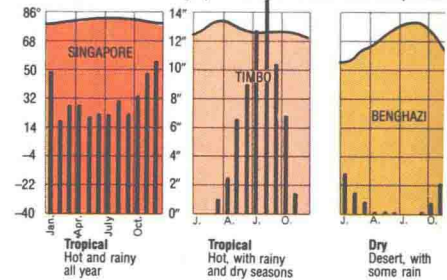
- Tundra (very cold and dry)
- Ice cap

### HIGHLAND

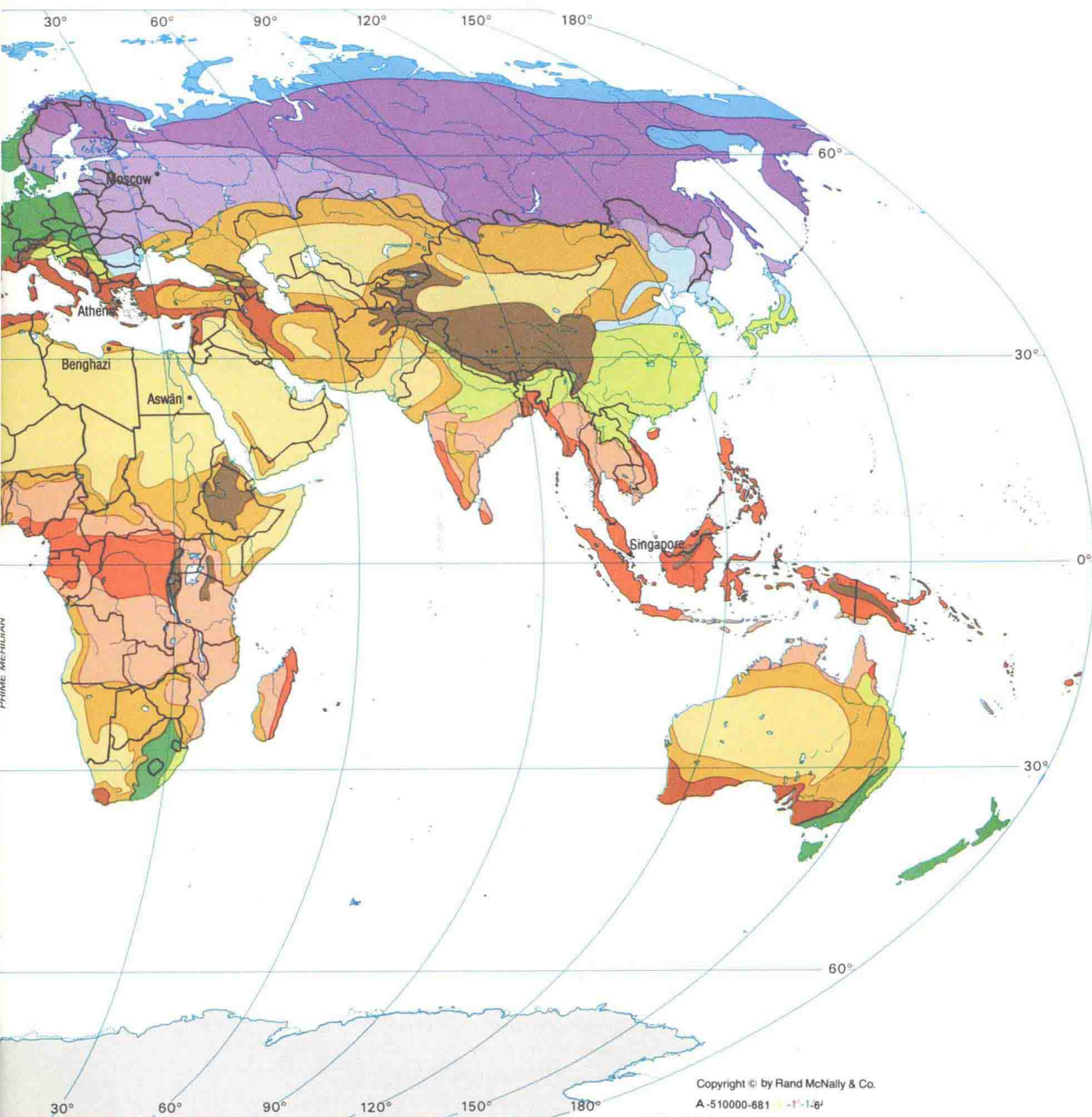
- Varies with height and latitude

## Examples of Types of Climate

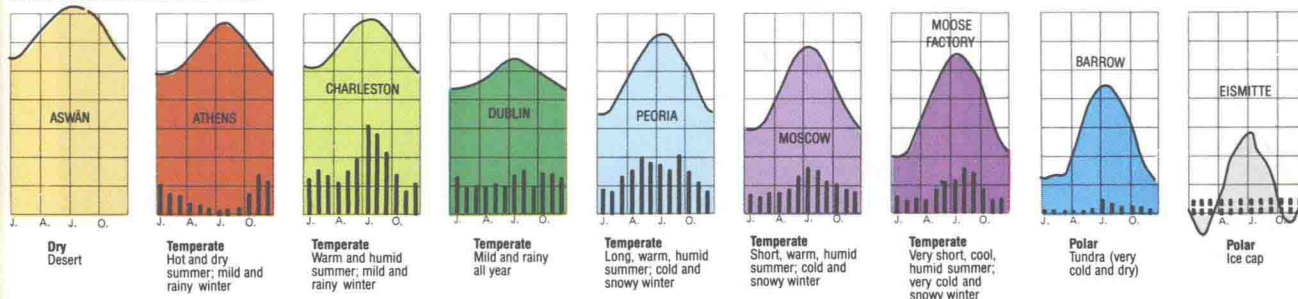
The curved lines on the graphs below show fahrenheit temperature





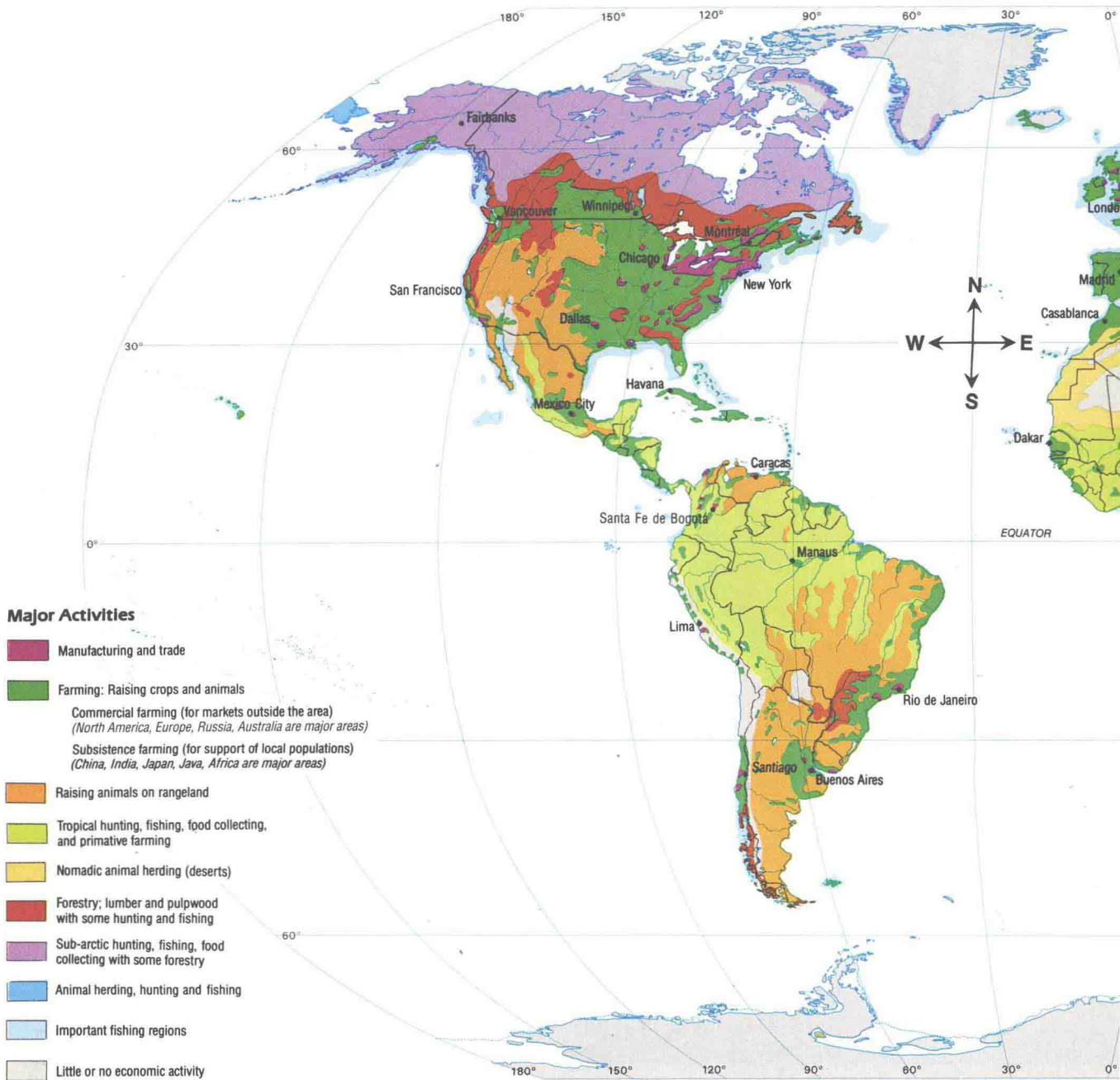


The vertical bars show rainfall in inches.





## Economic Activities of the World



Joe Sitko

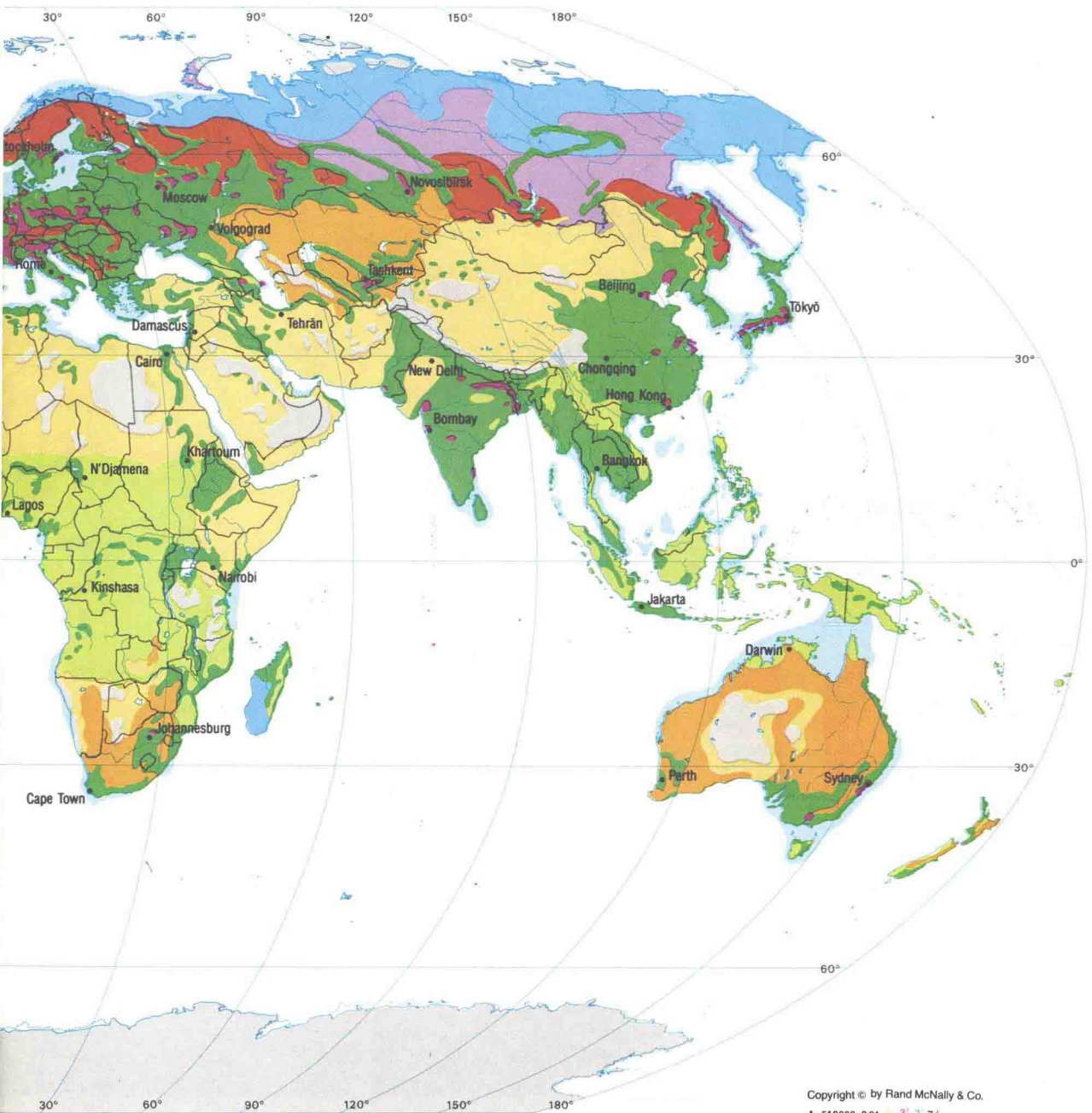


Jerry McElroy



Jerry McElroy





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Charles Steinberg



Michael Lichter

*Photographs left to right:*

Banking in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Inspecting computer parts in Sunnyvale, California

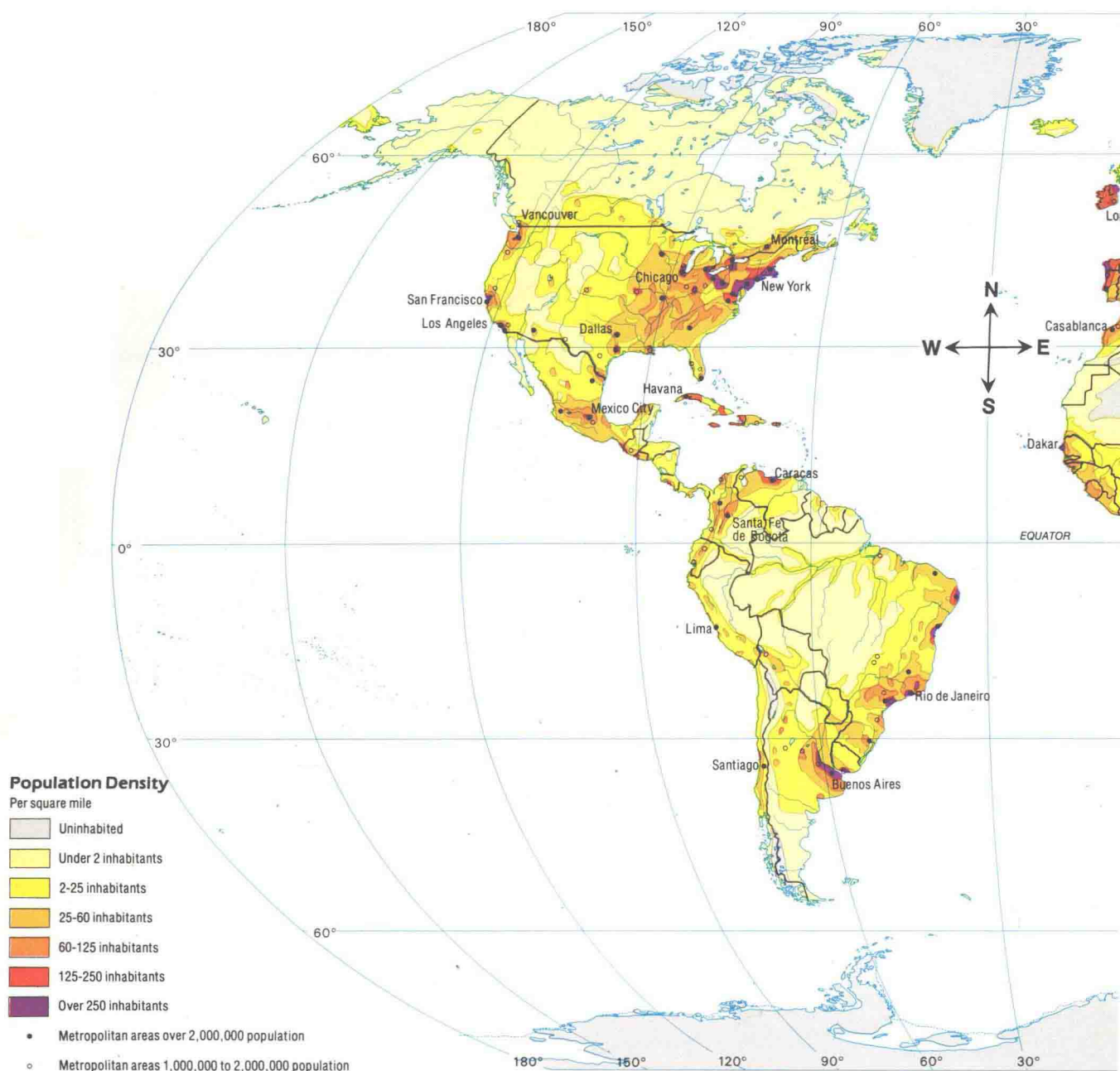
Logging in the Pacific Northwest (USA)

Planting rice in Indonesia

Container barge shipping on Nile River in Egypt



## Population of the World



*Left: School children in Prague, Czech (Europe)*

*Right: Family at a market in Nebaj, Guatemala (Middle America)*



Michael Lichter



Gerry Greenberg