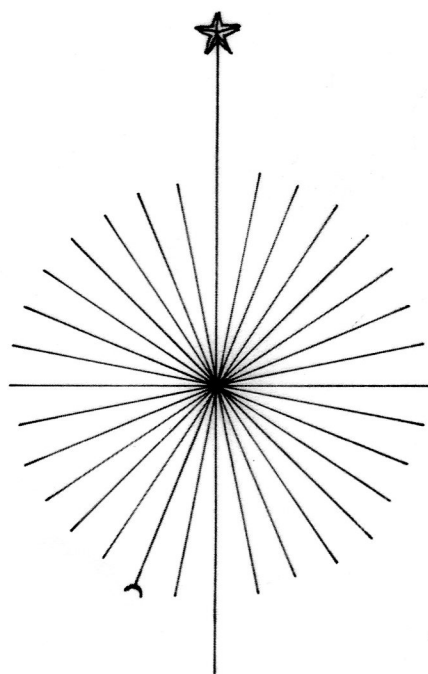
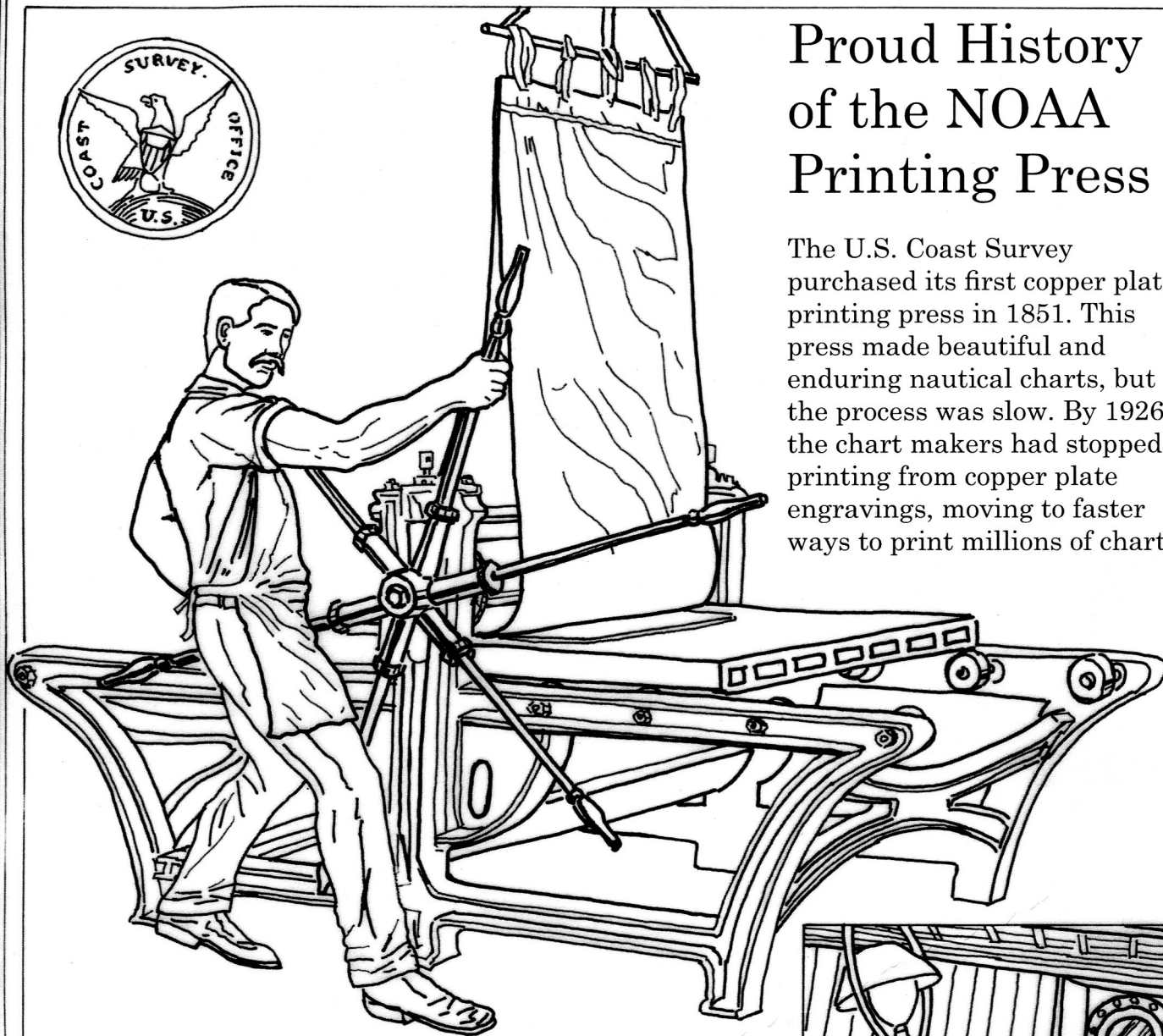


# Proud History of the NOAA Printing Press

The U.S. Coast Survey purchased its first copper plate printing press in 1851. This press made beautiful and enduring nautical charts, but the process was slow. By 1926, the chart makers had stopped printing from copper plate engravings, moving to faster ways to print millions of charts.



For over 175 years, the Coast Survey has provided ships and boats with the charts they need to navigate in U.S. coastal waters. Today, people download 34 million digital charts every year.

[nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov)

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