

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

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Early works in historical cartography use maps as historical documents which present the extent of geographical knowledge of study areas. When available, historical maps appear to be one of the best sources of geographical knowledge, especially if the maps are based on original survey work. To be useful to historical cartographers, maps do not always need to be highly or uniformly accurate to yield valuable insights into past environments, as suggested by DeBoer and Carr (1969). Historical maps must be evaluated for their usefulness to be utilized as source documents of historical cartographic research.

This study attempts to use an approach for detailed cartographic element identification and analysis in historical cartographic research. Traditionally, analytical methods used in the discipline of historical cartography employ three descriptive methods for analysis; the study of outlines of map design, toponymy<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Toponymy is the comparative analysis of placename nomenclature on early maps.