

analysis by introducing the identification of similar source maps and their genetic kin by using forensic identification procedures. However, these authors have not adequately answered the call for more analytical studies as presented in professional meetings as early as the 1970's. What is lacking in these studies is a more rigid mathematical analysis. This study employs a best-fit statistical analysis of an original source of Smith's geographical information and incorporates it into the methodology to show the reliability of the charted information. This methodology and analysis are applied to the Augustine Herrman map in this study of the mapping of the Chesapeake Bay region.

John Smith's maps of the Virginia colony were the only This study will evaluate the Augustine Herrman map of 1673 (Figure 1) as the mother map or prototype map of the early Maryland colonial region. Its influences as the originator of geographical information of the region negates the historical value of later maps of the seventeenth century as primary source data. In summary, the goal of this study is to examine the accuracy and the reliability of the Herrman map as a historical source document portraying the geography of the Chesapeake Bay region in 1673. The cartographic information depicted on the map will be related to contemporary charts of the area. The result will be a better understanding of the