

larger group of genealogical relationships. [Harley, 1968] This relationship of unique or common cartographic elements can only be derived from a study employing the comparative examination of the evolutionary sequence of these traits in a map as either a prototype or a mature version. This is important in historical cartography, because only through detailed technical evaluation will mutual traits and innovations in geographical knowledge be determined. The techniques involve detailed examination of similar cartographic elements and unique elements that provide evidence to each map's (or map elements) origin. The full impact of this mother map of the Chesapeake Bay region depends on the degree of the map's influence and the spatial distribution of its geographical information among the European nations of this period. This distribution is graphically represented by the construction of a diffusion diagram. The diffusion diagram illustrates both the temporal and spatial significance of the Herrman map's influence on mapping of the Maryland region.

The application of the suggested methodology combined with the traditional aspects of historical cartographic research of maps broadens the field beyond the subjective analysis of visual comparison methodologies of prior