

drawn at Venice in 1436, a circular mappamundi of traditional type and a Ptolemaic world map - thus presenting in juxtaposition the old world picture and the new, the geographical lore of the Christian Middle Ages and the lately discovered geography of Ptolemy." [Skelton, 1965 p.43]

More recently, studies that address the temporal sequence and physical comparison of early maps and charts in historical cartography are being contested by newly redefined concepts in the discipline. Cartography is a dynamic science that is constantly developing and re-evaluating earlier concepts. These concepts include an analytical approach to early map comparisons. The mathematics of geometry and statistical analysis aided by the use of computer technology as a tool redefine the traditional concepts. The redefined concepts in comparative cartography include a more detailed use of physical manifestations, strongly stressing that a technical evaluation be added to comparative cartography. [Woodward, 1974] The physical manifestations of maps as source documents in historical research overlap with the analysis in other cartographic research problems. The concepts evaluating the physical manifestations of maps overlap with those in Geographic Information Systems, as a cartographic discipline. Specific map elements and