

an attempt to resolve the mystery, no analytical study of a significant number of charts has been conducted." [Loomer, 1986, p.123] The accuracy question and the analytical approach to examining the accuracy properties of medieval charts presents valuable issues for evaluating source maps as used in historical cartography. Although Loomer used photogrammetric techniques in his study, this research uses comparative analysis of form, control point location, and toponymy to determine map element relationships and distortion properties. A short paper entitled, "The Accuracy Of The First World Map Drawn By Piri Reis," by M. Yerci, (1989) which continues the theme of using comparative analytical methods to determine the accuracies of ancient maps as historical documents is one of the most recent studies published. The Turkish cartographer's map of 1513, "... was compared with a newly compiled atlas map and the differences were evaluated using simple statistical techniques." [Yerci, 1989, p.155] Yerci continues, "Any comments about 'correctness' [accuracy] however, rely on a statistical analysis." Yerci determined the relative distances of the control points of the Piri Reis map and the modern atlas map of the world by registering the two maps on top of each other. Calculating the averages of the distances between the shoreline control points, Yerci