

employing mathematical methods of analytical comparison combined with the traditional concept for studying source maps. The trends seem to be shifting to an empirical analysis using statistical evaluations in determining the accuracies of maps used as historical documents. Technological advancements in the mathematical and computer sciences have played a new role in the comparative cartographic technique. Harley and Woodward remind the cartographers of the 'computer age' of their traditional historical cartographic backgrounds; "Nor does the digital age ... render [the] classic interpretive skills redundant." Furthermore, Harley and Woodward [1989, p.11] state, "A first major role for the history of cartography lies in its traditional emphasis on the critical evaluation of maps as historical documents (Harley 1968).... In recent decades cartographers have substantially upgraded their quantitative and computing skills, but the systematic study of 'map as record' has received far less attention. Yet, ironically, much of the work in this area, including the exploration or new techniques for testing the planimetric and topographical accuracy of maps, has been undertaken by historians of cartography (Blakemore and Harley 1980), whose proficiency in map evaluation is of general applicability." [Harley and Woodward, 1989, p.11] degree of accuracy is used to establish it's correctness and to justify the map's use as