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INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains a discussion of methods used in cartogenetic-identification of map elements to establish the mother map and to evaluate the degree and pattern of distortion. Image distortion is inevitable when cartographers transform the spherical earth's surface into a flat map. The impact of this projection distortion would theoretically be minimized by centering and aligning each projection on the area of interest to the researcher. This has been generally impractical until computer technology has made it possible to choose, center, and align projections at will.

METHODS OF ANALYSIS

The historical method relies heavily on source detection, evaluation, and analysis of findings in determining solutions or conclusions to the research problem. (Haring and Lounsbury, 1983) This thesis follows these general guide lines of the historical method with a specific detailed technique used in this carto-genetic study. As described in Chapter I of this thesis, carto-genetic methodology and comparative techniques add to the historical geographic field by analyzing the quality of historical map information. In this chapter, the data set