

CHAPTER V CONCLUSIONS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a discussion of the conclusions that can be reached based on the results of the map analysis. This chapter also provides a restatement of the research problem and a summary of the findings.

RESTATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

The research problem involved the assessment of historical maps as source documents providing geographical information. This study has attempted to integrate the presentations of temporal sequence and physical comparison of early maps and charts as historical documents. The problem in historical cartography exists in determining the reliability of the Herrman map as an example of a geographic source document. This study follows the traditional comparative analytical methods introduced in the 1960's combined with the best-fit method. The results of evaluating the reliability and accuracy of maps as source documents in geographic research have been demonstrated by results which are less subjective than traditional comparative methods.

In past historical analysis, charts and maps have been frequently overlooked as a graphic source of historic