

The North America in Early Maps

Abstract

The objective of this thesis is to analyze selected map works of European cartographers showing the territory of North America in the period from 16. to 19. century. Using the cartometric and semiotic methods the map attributes are analyzed focusing the detection and description of the cartographic projection. Next, within the analysis of the topographic content the map symbols and the language of the map are discussed and interesting geographical mistakes of the authors are noticed. On the basis of the partial analyzes the progression of the continent depiction is documented with emphasis on the progression of map symbols and on the change of the shape of the continent in the given period.

Key words: North America, cartometry, semiotics, European cartography, discovery, detectproj

