General Background:

Before the National Weather Service, the Signal Service reported the weather from various stations around the country. The highest signal service station was on Pikes Peak from 1873 – 1888. The mission of the men stationed atop Pikes Peak was to report the weather, and gather enough information to predict weather patterns. Initially, weather reports were made via telegraphic summaries sent to Washington, D.C. from the various observation sites around the nation, then distributed out to the public via railroad stations and news media outlets. The Pikes Peak mountain observation site was connected to the city of Colorado Springs down below by telegraph line #99. Harsh winds and heavy snow fall often downed the line, at times the poles themselves.

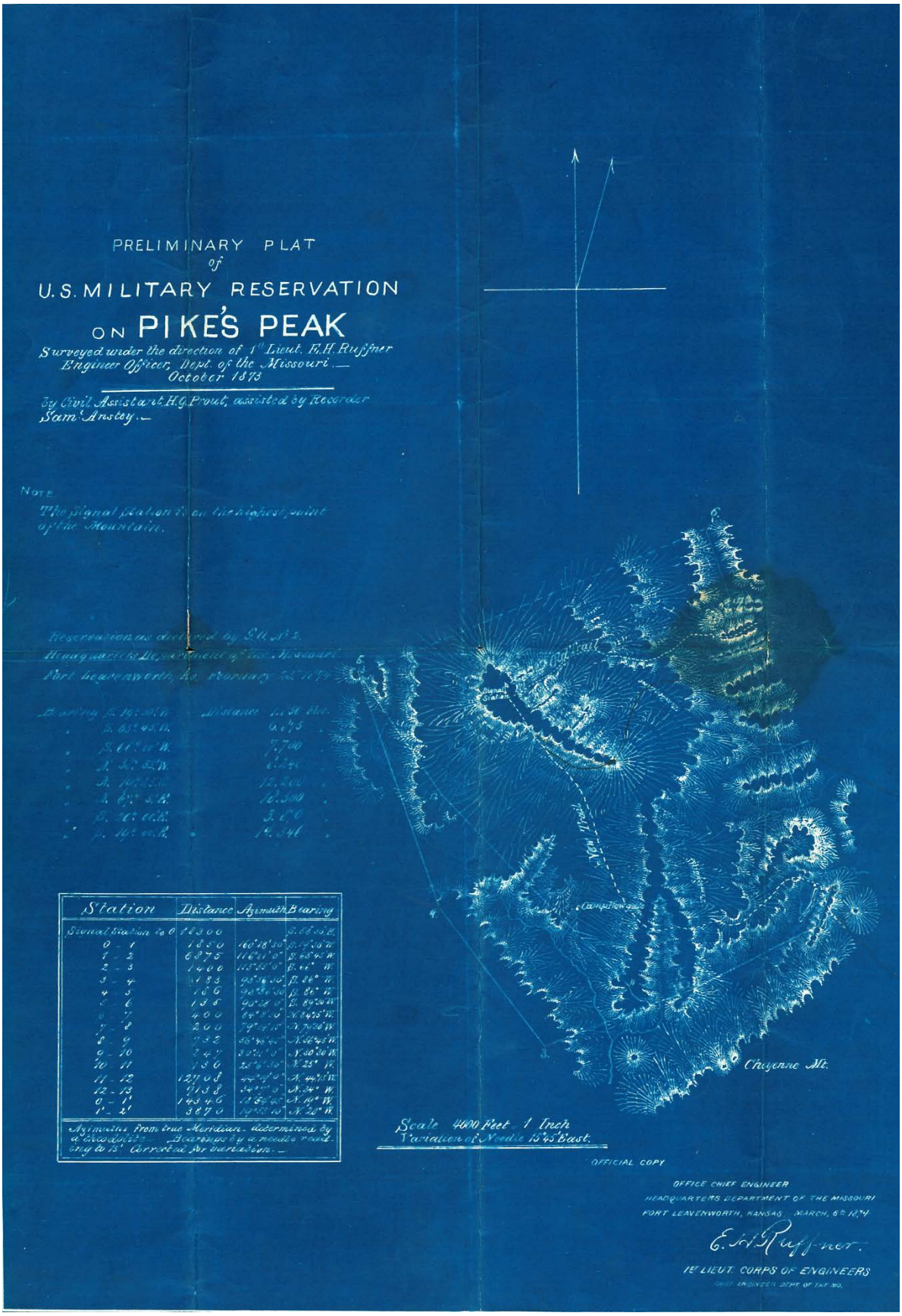
Information on the Maps:

- *Preliminary Plat of U.S. Military Reservation on Pike's Peak* October 1873
- *Mountain Trails of the Pikes Peak Region*1927

Questions to Consider:

1. What do the maps tell you about the place and time they were created?
2. What is the purpose of each map?
3. How are they different? How are they the same?
4. Why were the maps produced?
5. Look at *Mountain Trails of the Pikes Peak Region.* Why some streets on a grid system and others are not?

Preliminary Plat of U.S. Military Reservation on Pike's Peak October 1873. Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum



*Mountain Trails of the Pikes Peak Region*1927.
Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum