

# MAP READING

Locating an unknown point  
on a map by Resection



# RESECTION

Determine the position of an unknown point by sighting on at least two, but preferably three, known positions.

Determine the azimuths from the unknown point to these positions.

Plot the back azimuths from the known positions to locate your unknown position by their intersection.

# BACK AZIMUTH

RULE #1: IF THE AZIMUTH IS MORE THAN 180 DEGREES,  
THEN SUBTRACT 180 DEGREES.

EXAMPLE:	AZIMUTH	215 DEGREES
		<u>-180 DEGREES</u>
	BACK AZIMUTH	35 DEGREES

RULE #2: IF THE AZIMUTH IS 180 DEGREES OR LESS,  
THEN ADD 180 DEGREES.

EXAMPLE:	AZIMUTH	180 DEGREES
		<u>+180 DEGREES</u>
	BACK AZIMUTH	360 DEGREES

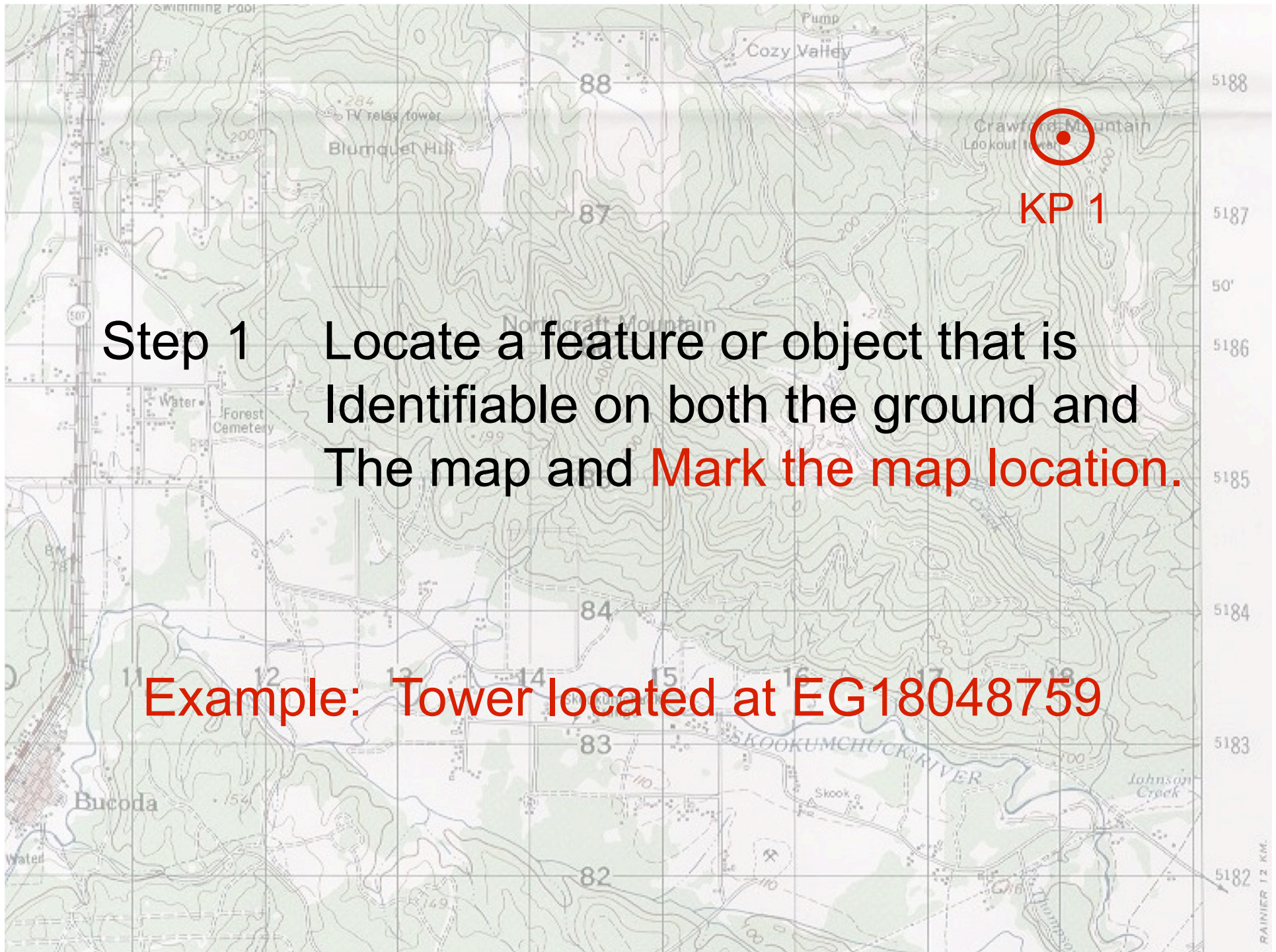
**STEP 1. LOCATE A FEATURE OR OBJECT THAT IS IDENTIFIABLE ON BOTH THE GROUND AND THE MAP AND MARK THE MAP LOCATION.**



**EXAMPLE: TOWER LOCATED AT  
EG18048759**



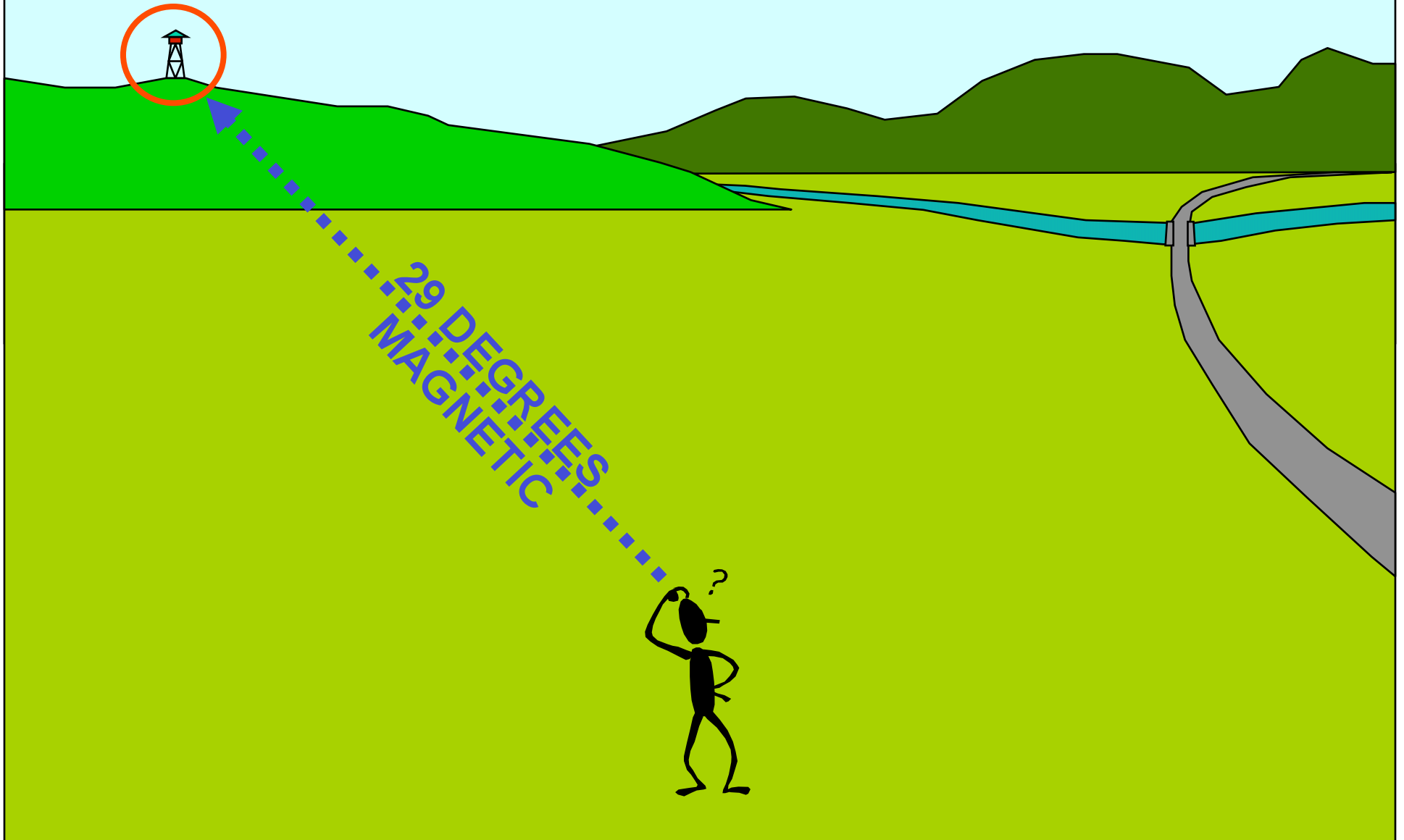




**Step 1** Locate a feature or object that is identifiable on both the ground and The map and **Mark the map location.**

**Example: Tower located at EG18048759**

STEP 2. MEASURE THE MAGNETIC AZIMUTH TO THE KNOWN POSITION AND CONVERT THE MAGNETIC AZIMUTH TO A GRID AZIMUTH.



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MAGNETIC AZIMUTH: 29 DEGREES

EASTERLY G-M ANGLE: +21 DEGREES

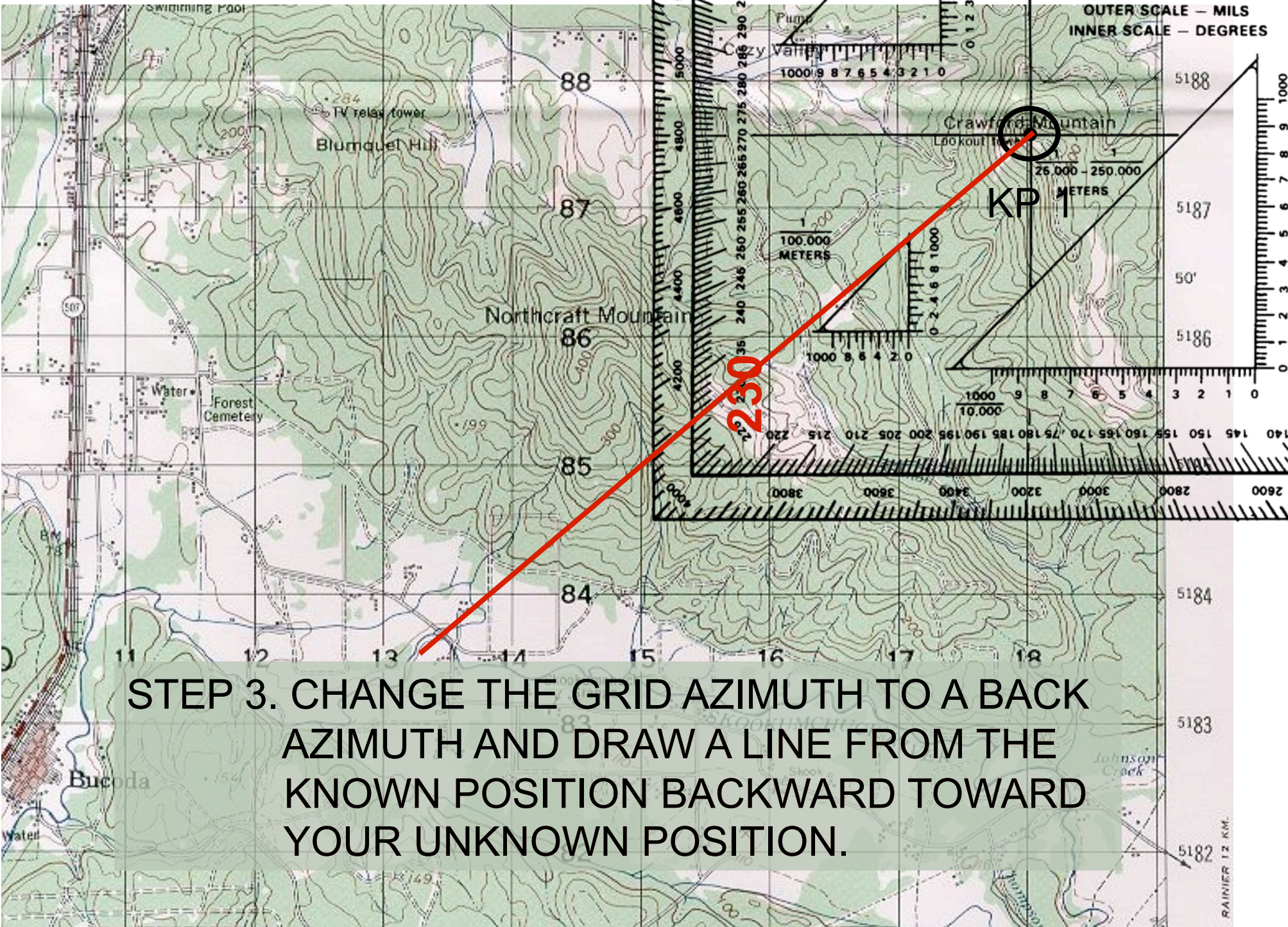
GRID AZIMUTH: 50 DEGREES

STEP 3. CHANGE THE GRID AZIMUTH TO A BACK AZIMUTH AND DRAW A LINE FROM THE KNOWN POSITION BACKWARD TOWARD YOUR UNKNOWN POSITION.

<b>GRID AZIMUTH:</b>	<b>50 DEGREES</b>
<b>ADD:</b>	<b><u>+180 DEGREES</u></b>
<b>GRID BACK AZIMUTH:</b>	<b>230 DEGREES</b>



OUTER SCALE - MILS  
INNER SCALE - DEGREES



STEP 3. CHANGE THE GRID AZIMUTH TO A BACK AZIMUTH AND DRAW A LINE FROM THE KNOWN POSITION BACKWARD TOWARD YOUR UNKNOWN POSITION.

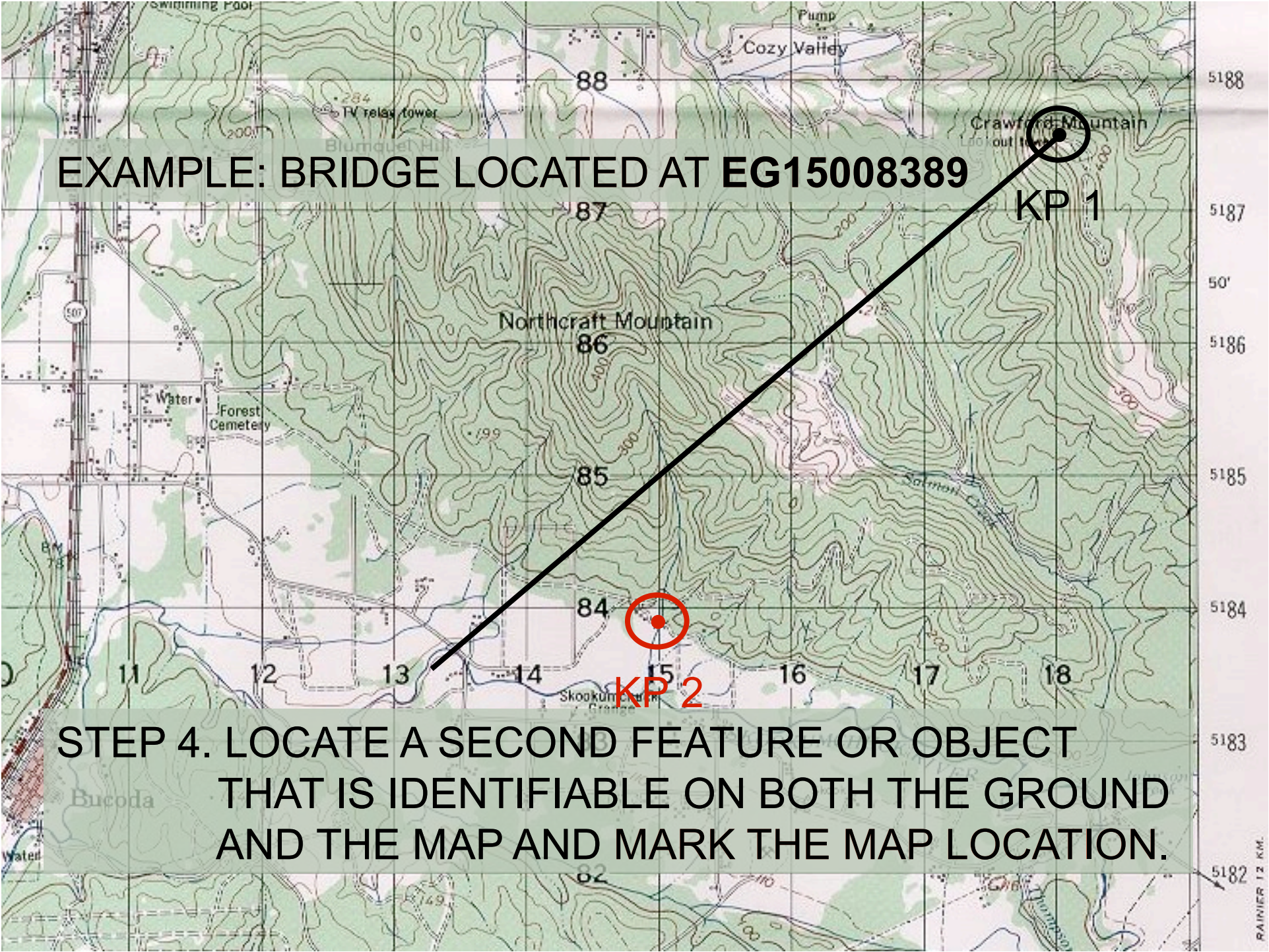


**STEP 4. LOCATE A SECOND FEATURE OR OBJECT THAT IS IDENTIFIABLE ON BOTH THE GROUND AND THE MAP AND MARK THE MAP LOCATION.**



**EXAMPLE: BRIDGE LOCATED AT  
EG15008389**



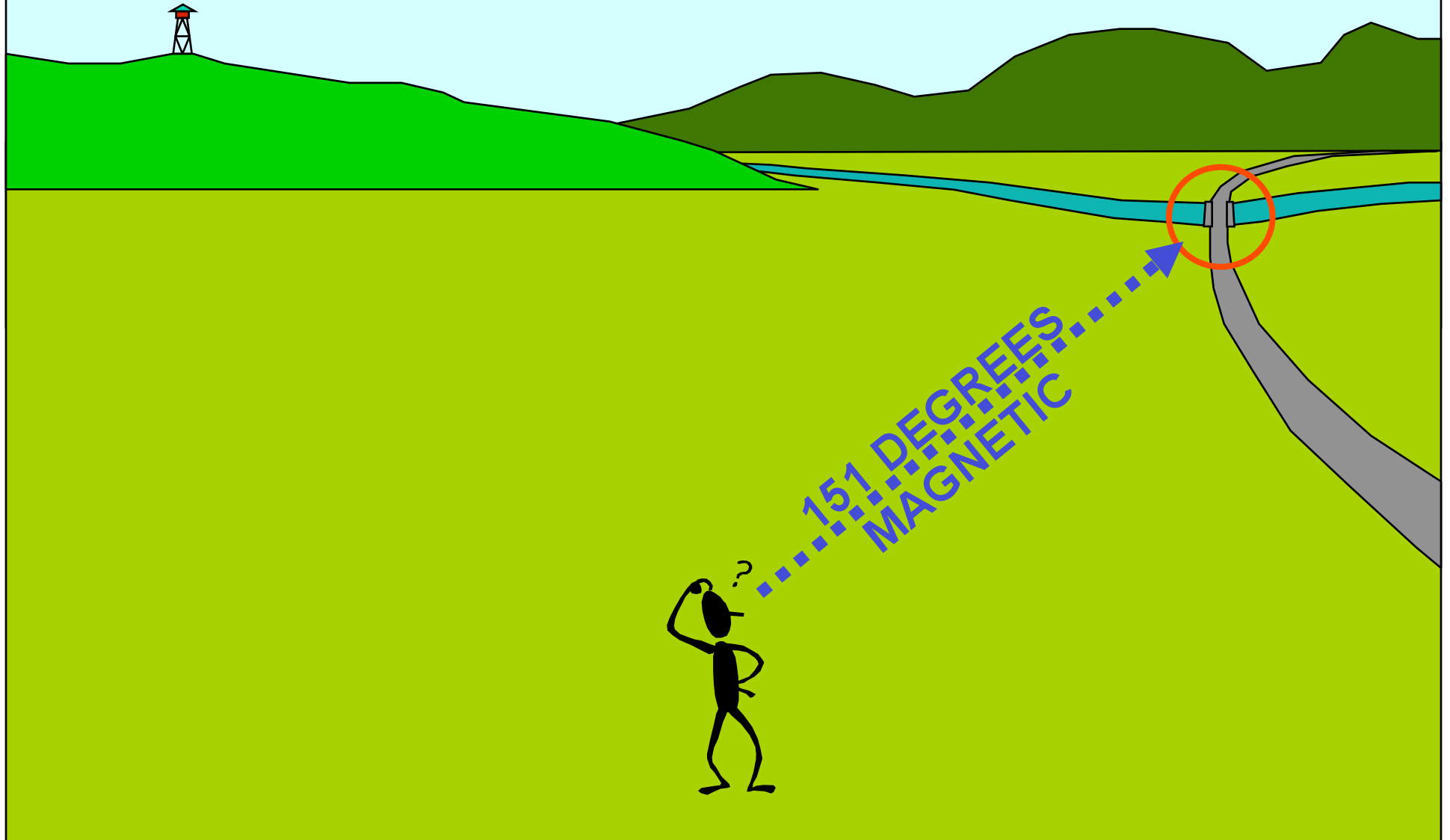


**EXAMPLE: BRIDGE LOCATED AT EG15008389**

**STEP 4. LOCATE A SECOND FEATURE OR OBJECT THAT IS IDENTIFIABLE ON BOTH THE GROUND AND THE MAP AND MARK THE MAP LOCATION.**



STEP 5. MEASURE THE MAGNETIC AZIMUTH TO THE SECOND KNOWN POSITION AND CONVERT THE MAGNETIC AZIMUTH TO A GRID AZIMUTH.



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**MAGNETIC AZIMUTH: 151 DEGREES**

**EASTERLY G-M ANGLE: +21 DEGREES**

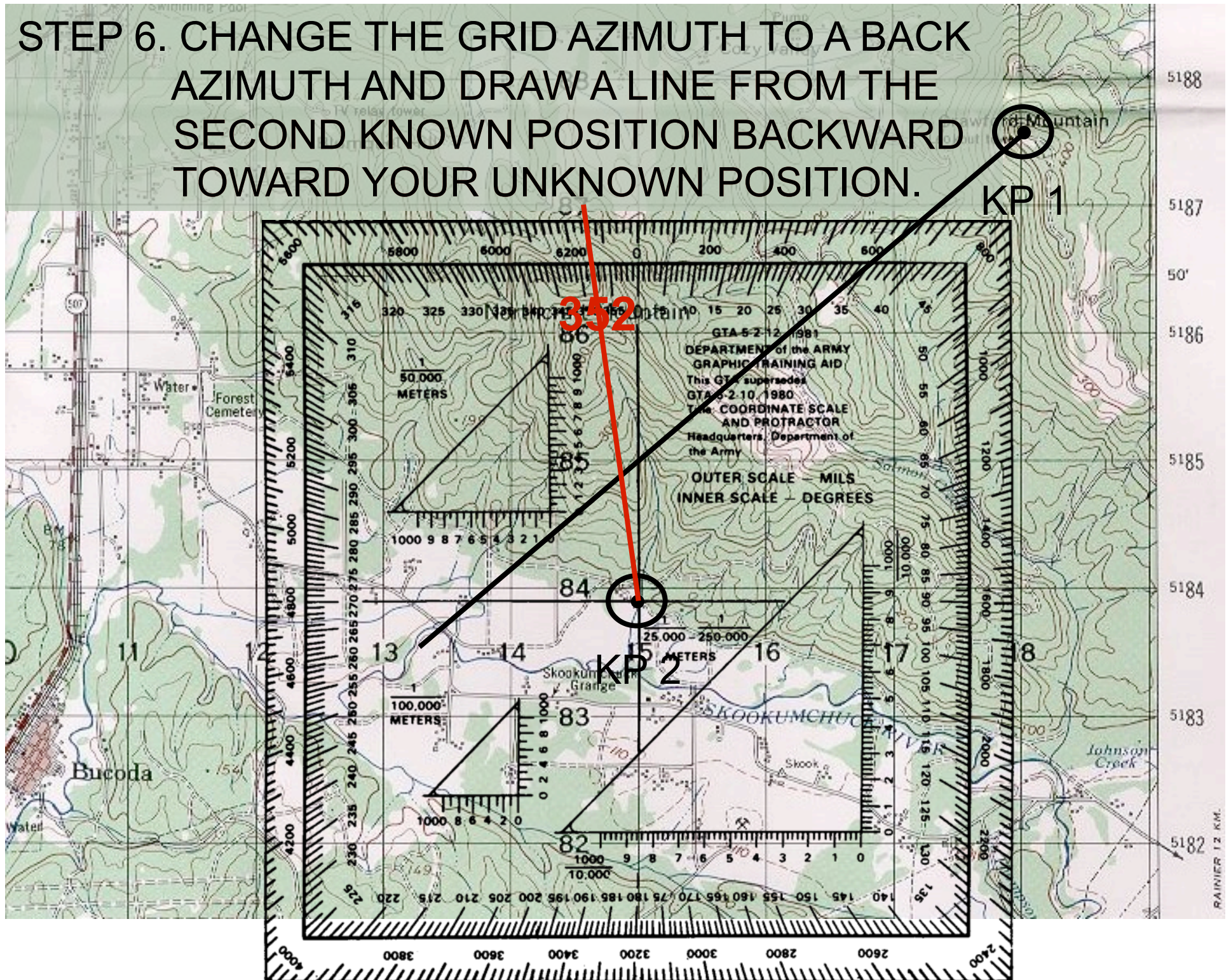
**GRID AZIMUTH: 172 DEGREES**

**STEP 6. CHANGE THE GRID AZIMUTH TO A BACK AZIMUTH AND DRAW A LINE FROM THE SECOND KNOWN POSITION BACKWARD TOWARD YOUR UNKNOWN POSITION.**

<b>GRID AZIMUTH:</b>	<b>172 DEGREES</b>
<b>ADD:</b>	<b><u>+180 DEGREES</u></b>
<b>GRID BACK AZIMUTH:</b>	<b>352 DEGREES</b>

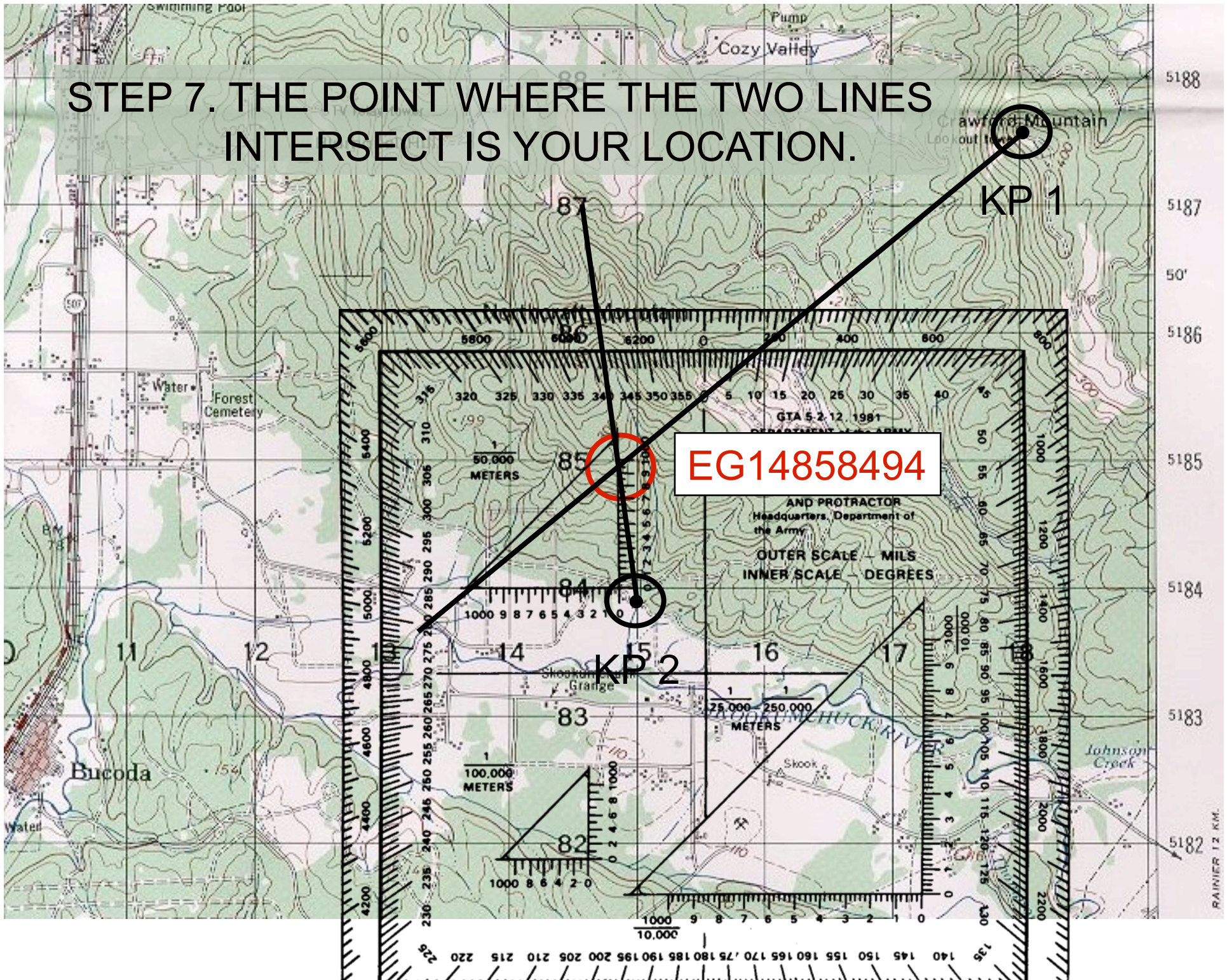


STEP 6. CHANGE THE GRID AZIMUTH TO A BACK AZIMUTH AND DRAW A LINE FROM THE SECOND KNOWN POSITION BACKWARD TOWARD YOUR UNKNOWN POSITION.



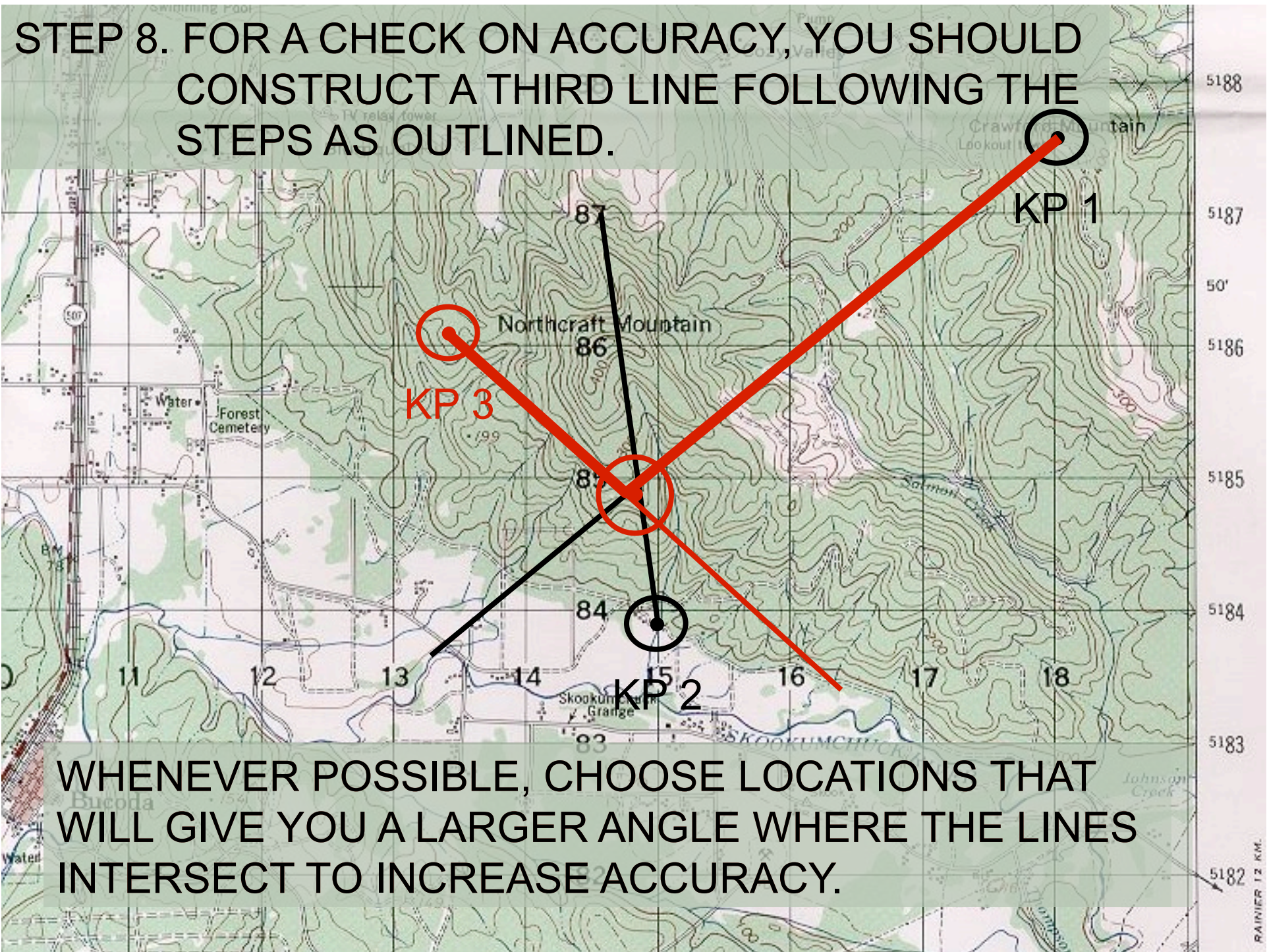


STEP 7. THE POINT WHERE THE TWO LINES INTERSECT IS YOUR LOCATION.





STEP 8. FOR A CHECK ON ACCURACY, YOU SHOULD CONSTRUCT A THIRD LINE FOLLOWING THE STEPS AS OUTLINED.



WHENEVER POSSIBLE, CHOOSE LOCATIONS THAT WILL GIVE YOU A LARGER ANGLE WHERE THE LINES INTERSECT TO INCREASE ACCURACY.



## RESECTION WITHOUT A COMPASS

STEP 1. ORIENT THE MAP TO THE GROUND.

STEP 2. LOCATE AT LEAST TWO KNOWN POSITIONS ON THE GROUND AND MARK THEM ON THE MAP.

STEP 3. LAY A STRAIGHT EDGE (I.E. PROTRACTOR) WITH ONE END AT THE FIRST KNOWN POSITION AS A PIVOT POINT, THEN ROTATE THE STRAIGHT EDGE TOWARD YOURSELF UNTIL YOU SIGHT THE KNOWN POSITION ALONG THE EDGE.

STEP 4. DRAW A LINE ALONG THE STRAIGHT EDGE.

STEP 5. REPEAT PROCEDURES 1 THRU 4 FOR THE NEXT KNOWN POSITION.

STEP 6. THE INTERSECTION OF LINES IS THE LOCATION OF YOUR POSITION.

STEP 7. AGAIN, CHECK FOR ACCURACY, YOU MAY USE A THIRD POSITION.