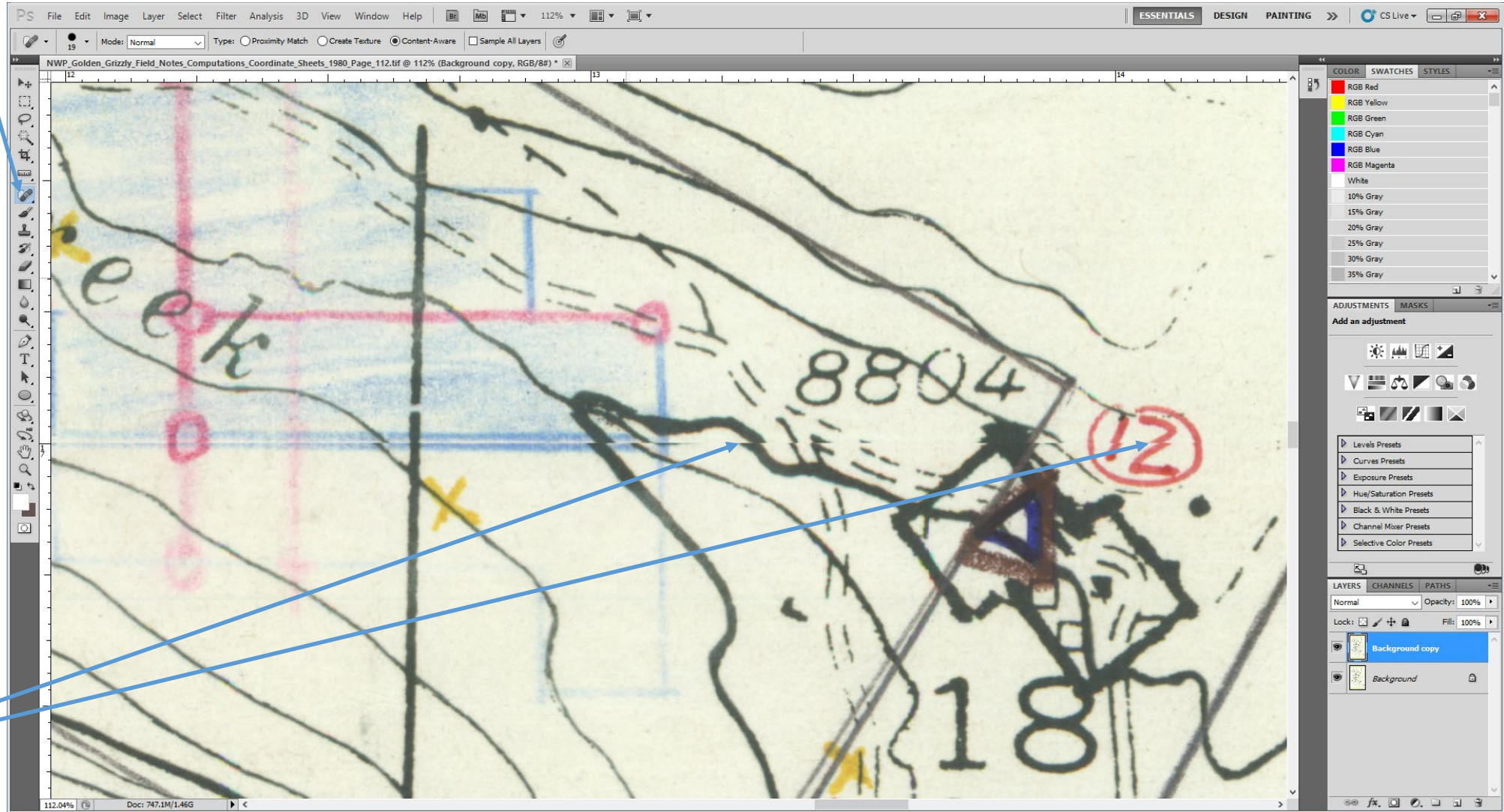


# Spot Healing Brush and Patch Tool Tips

The spot healing brush is similar to the healing brush tool, but it does not require a source target area (⊕), like the healing brush and clone stamp tools. It simply uses a content-aware feature to merge the border of brush strokes with the surrounding area.

The spot healing brush only works well in Photoshop versions CS5 and later.

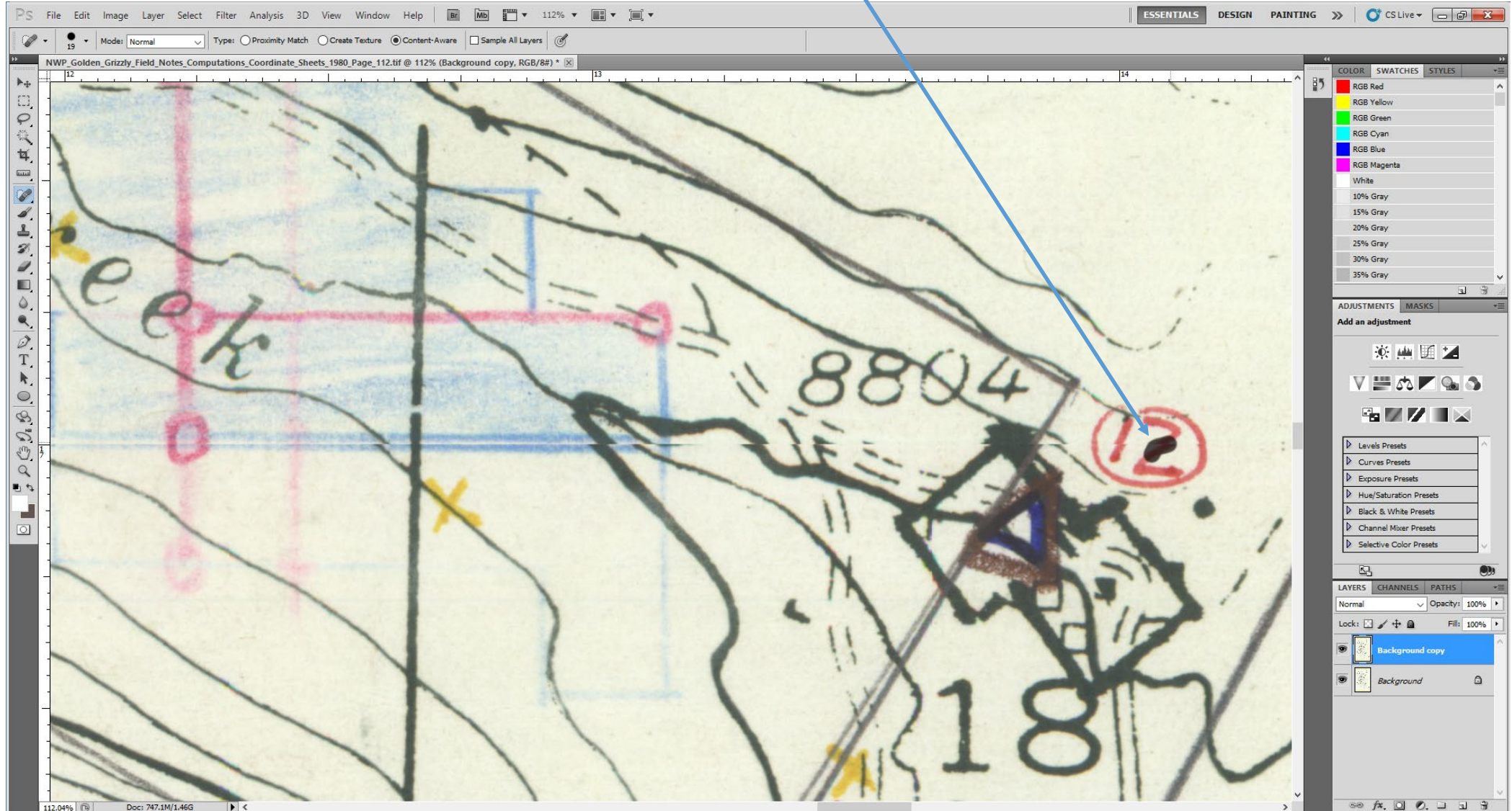
When this map was scanned, the scanner chopped a line across the image, resulting in areas like this.





When you paint over one of these areas with the spot healing brush, a dark patch will appear to show where you have painted.

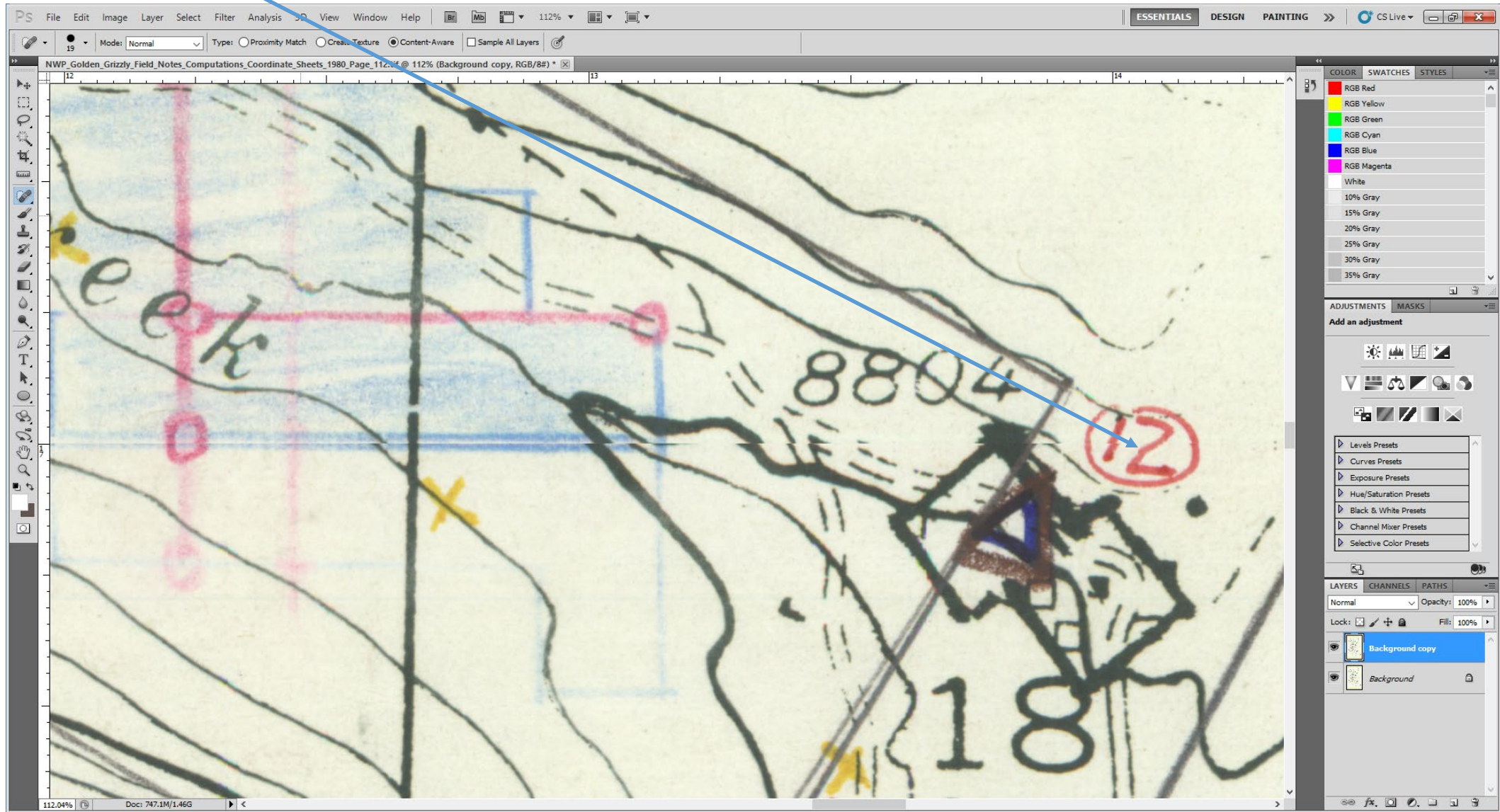
As soon as you let go of the mouse button, Photoshop will “heal” the painted area using its content aware feature.





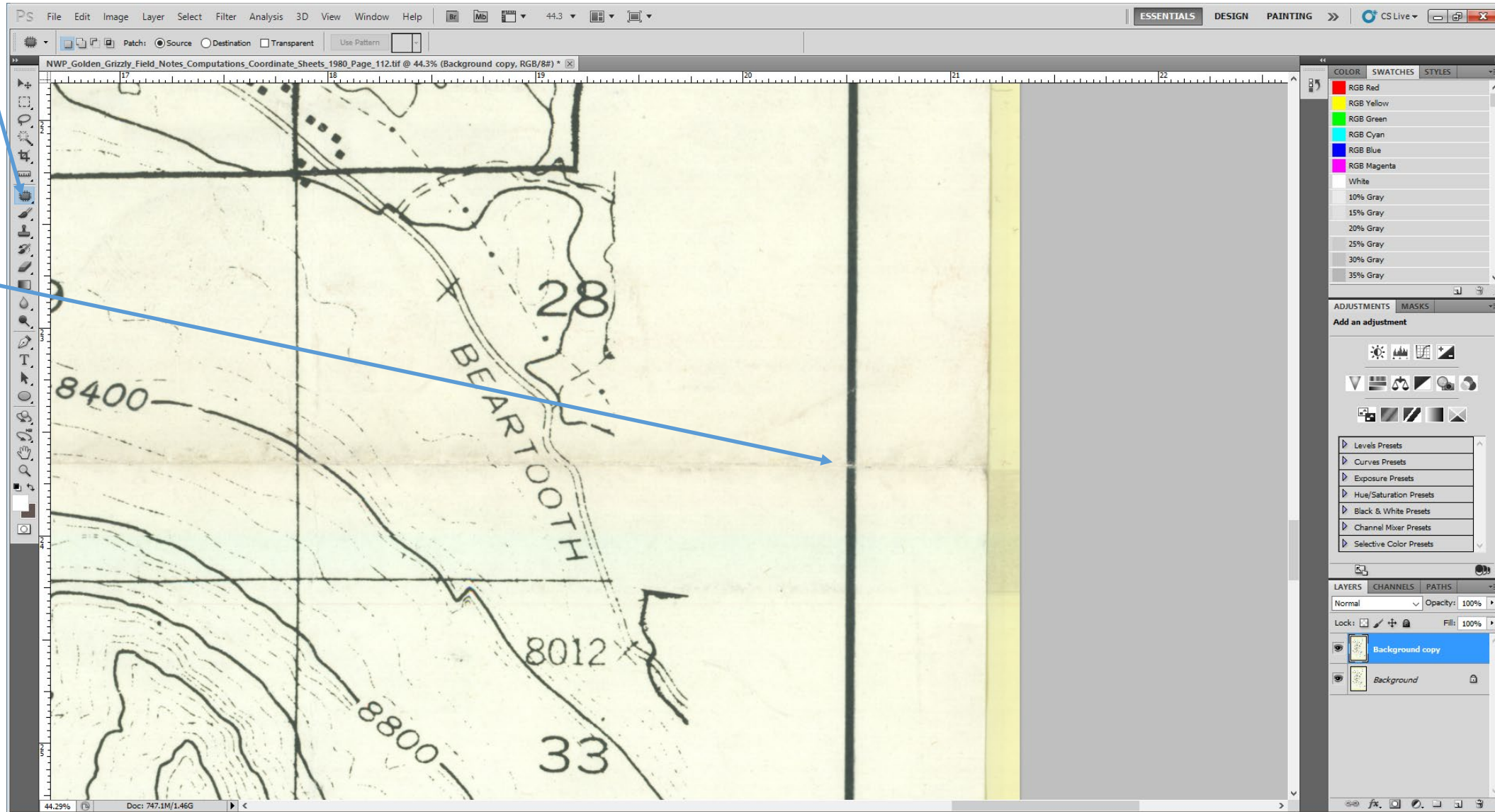
The spot healing brush “healed” the scanner line without zooming in and matching the lines and colors with the clone stamp.

The spot healing brush works well for small areas like this example, but for larger areas, use the patch tool. It is located under the same tool box as the spot healing brush.



The patch tool also uses a content aware feature, but unlike the spot healing brush, it applies the content aware feature across the entire working area.

The fold line on the map is a good area for using the patch tool.

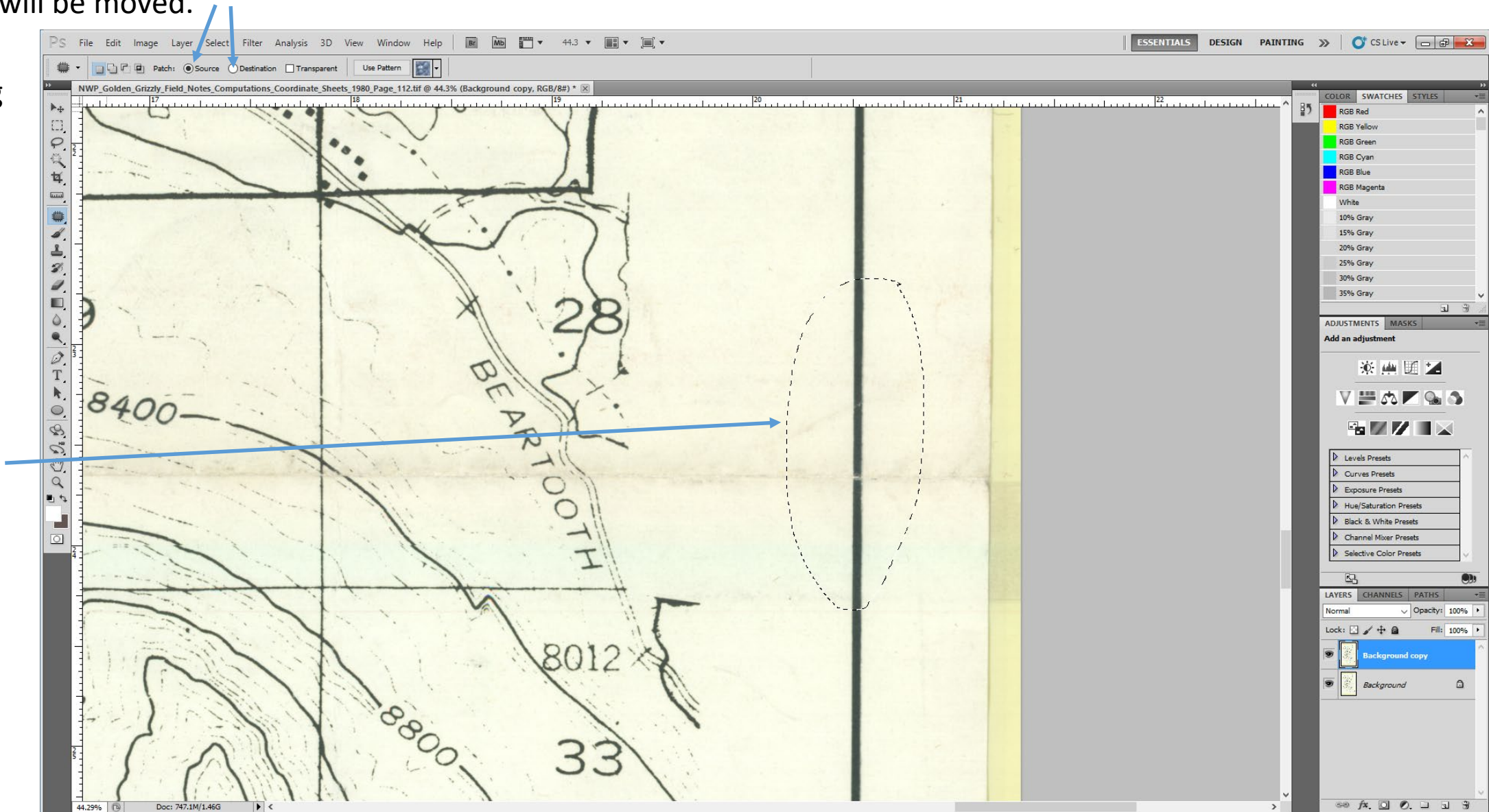




When using the patch tool, two options are available for patching: source and destination. With source selected, the border should be drawn around the area that needs to be cleaned. With destination selected, the border will be drawn around the clean area that will be moved.

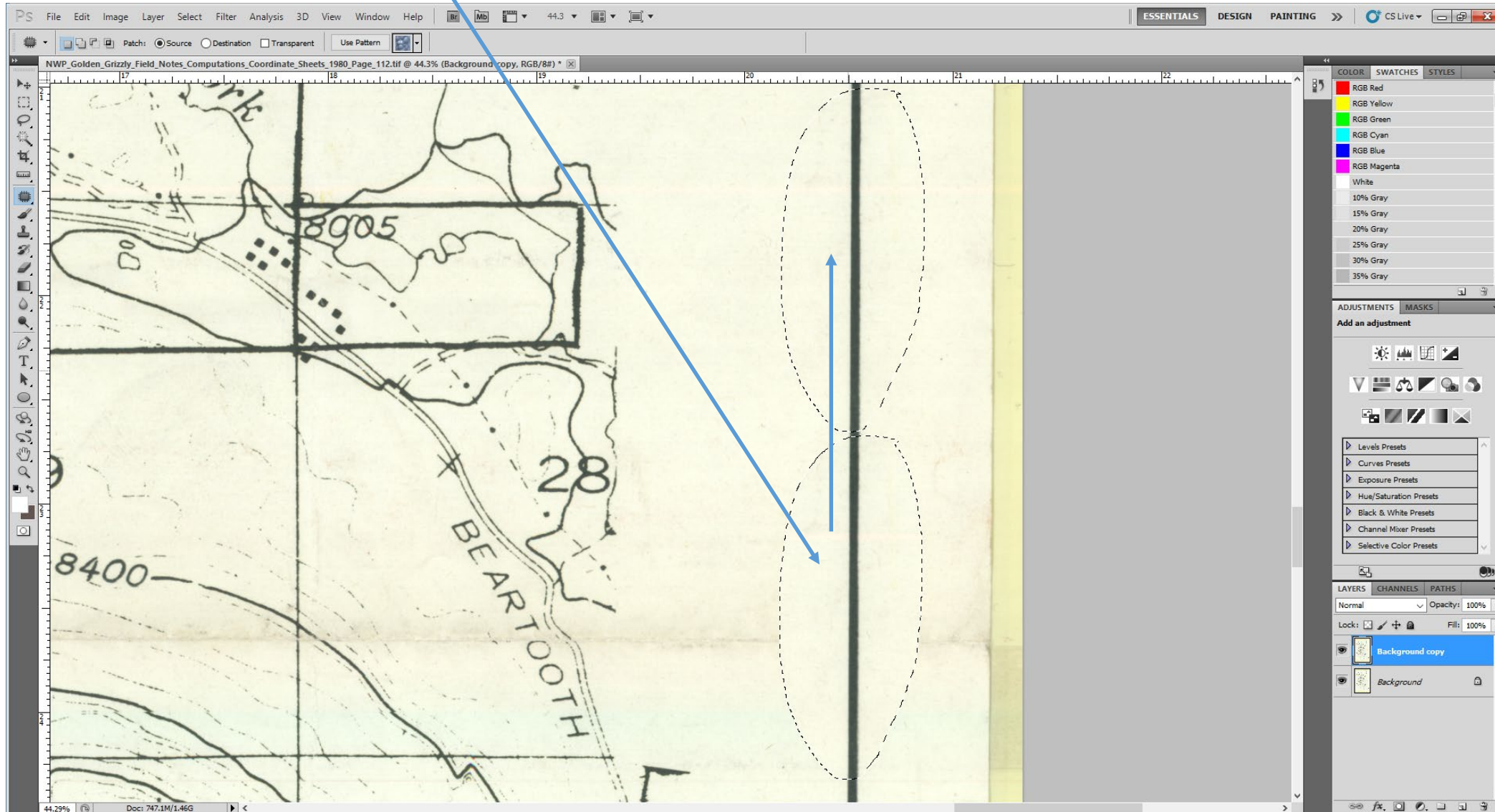
Usually, selecting the source option will be appropriate for map restoration.

With the source option selected, draw a border around the area that needs to be cleaned, then release the mouse button.



Next, click and hold inside the border and drag onto the clean destination area. You will see a preview of the results inside the original border area while you are dragging.

When the preview looks correct, with everything aligned as it should be, release the mouse. It may take a few moments for Photoshop to complete the patch, depending on the size and complexity of the patch.





The original border will still be selected, so deselect by pressing ctrl + D (or Select -> Deselect) to view the final results. It seems similar to what the clone stamp tool would have accomplished, but notice that the content aware feature has left in place the subtle dark-to-light color shift of the map background while still cleaning up the fold line.

Remember to save your work.

