


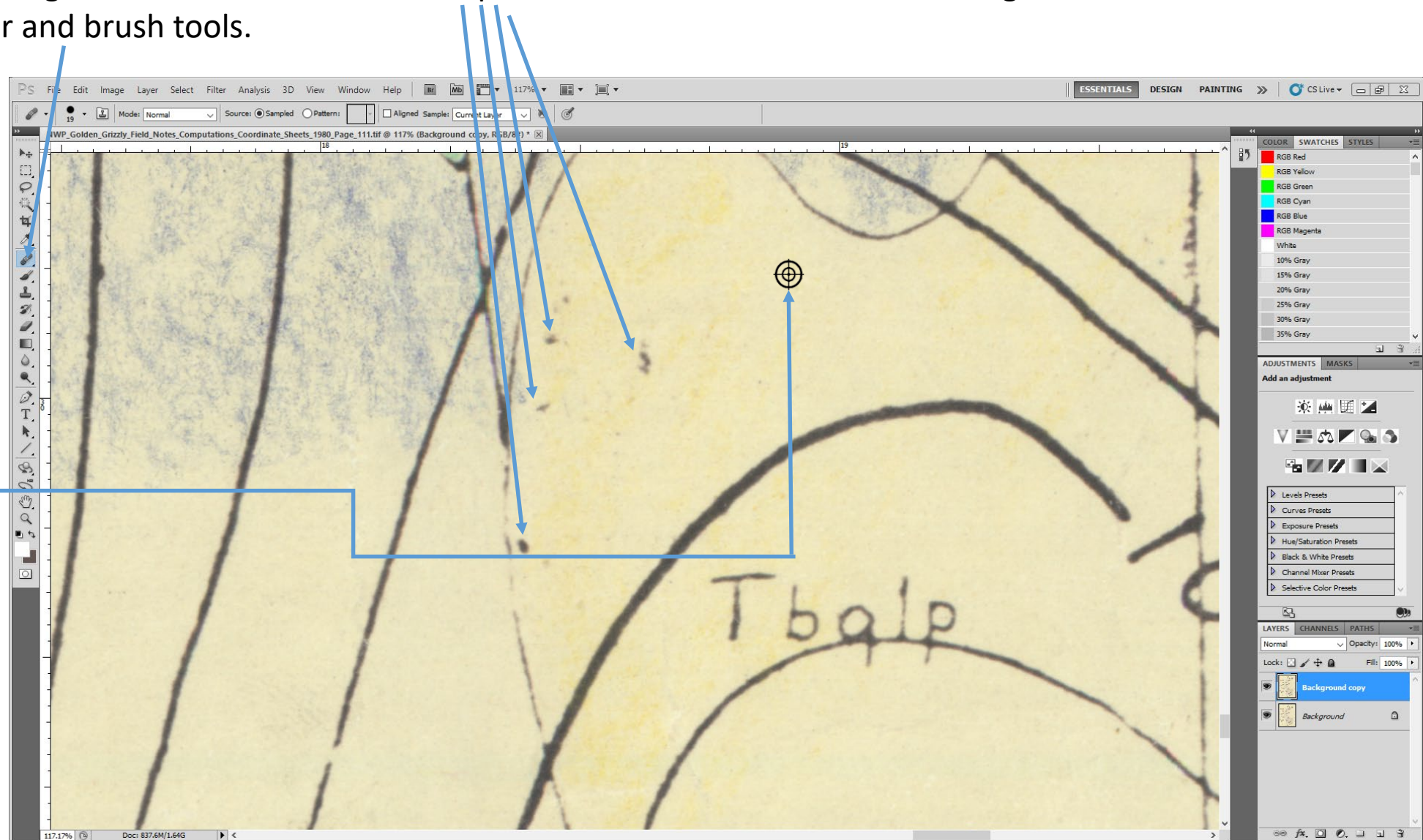
# Healing Brush Tool Tips

First, we will use the healing brush tool to remove some spots from a colored area. The healing brush tool is located between the eyedropper and brush tools.

The healing brush tool functions similar to the clone stamp and pattern stamp tools.

First, hold “alt” and click (alt-click) on a clean source target area.

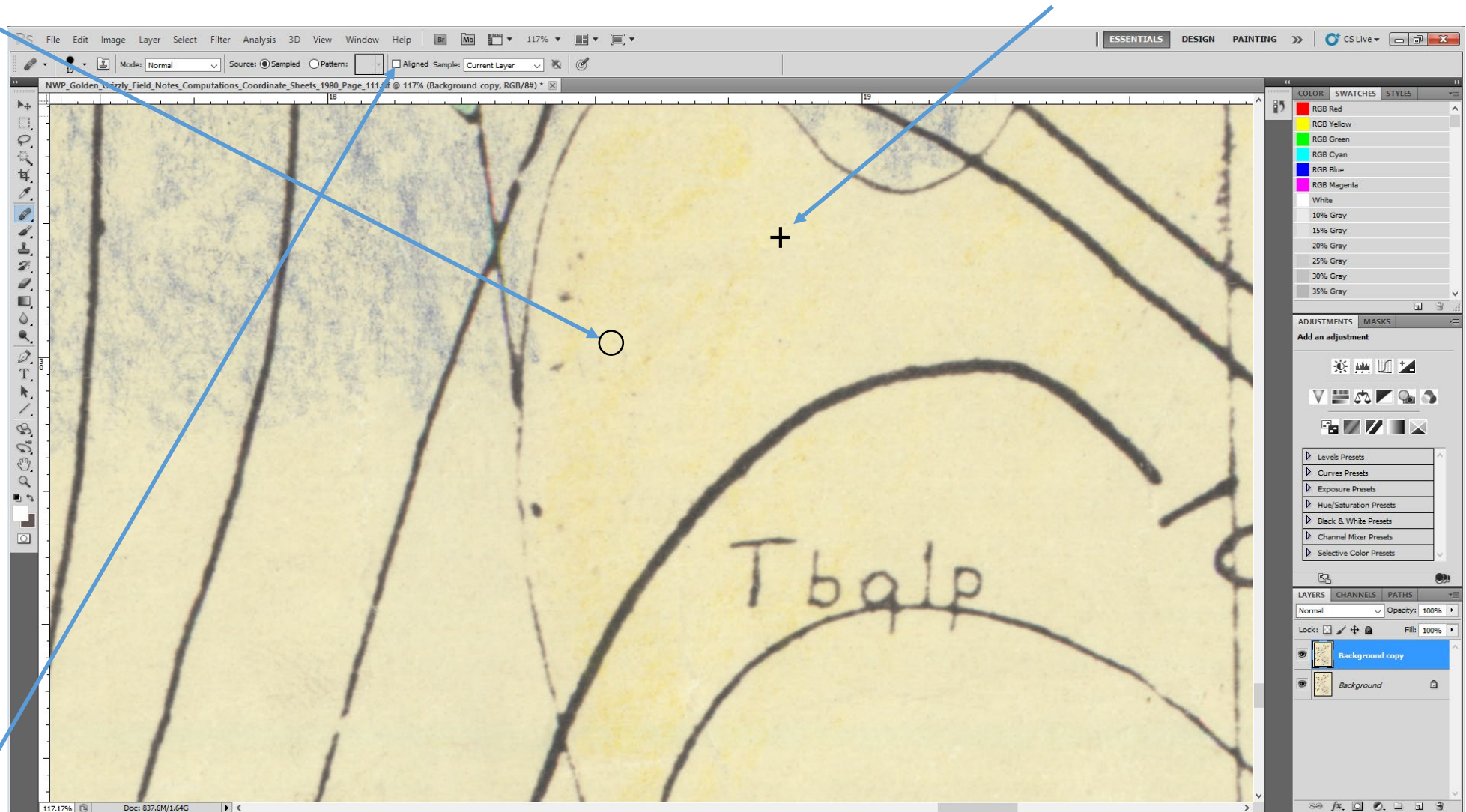
The mouse cursor will turn into this symbol  when “alt” is held down.



Next, brush over the first spot by clicking and holding while brushing. The brush stroke may look a bit odd until you let go of the mouse button. A moving cross symbol + will appear to show the source target area while you are brushing.

So far, so good. The spot is removed and the clean colored background remains, similar to the clone stamp tool.

Since the source target area is relatively small, you would normally have to alt-click to re-designate the source target area before moving on to the next spot. Avoid this by deselecting the “Aligned” check box.

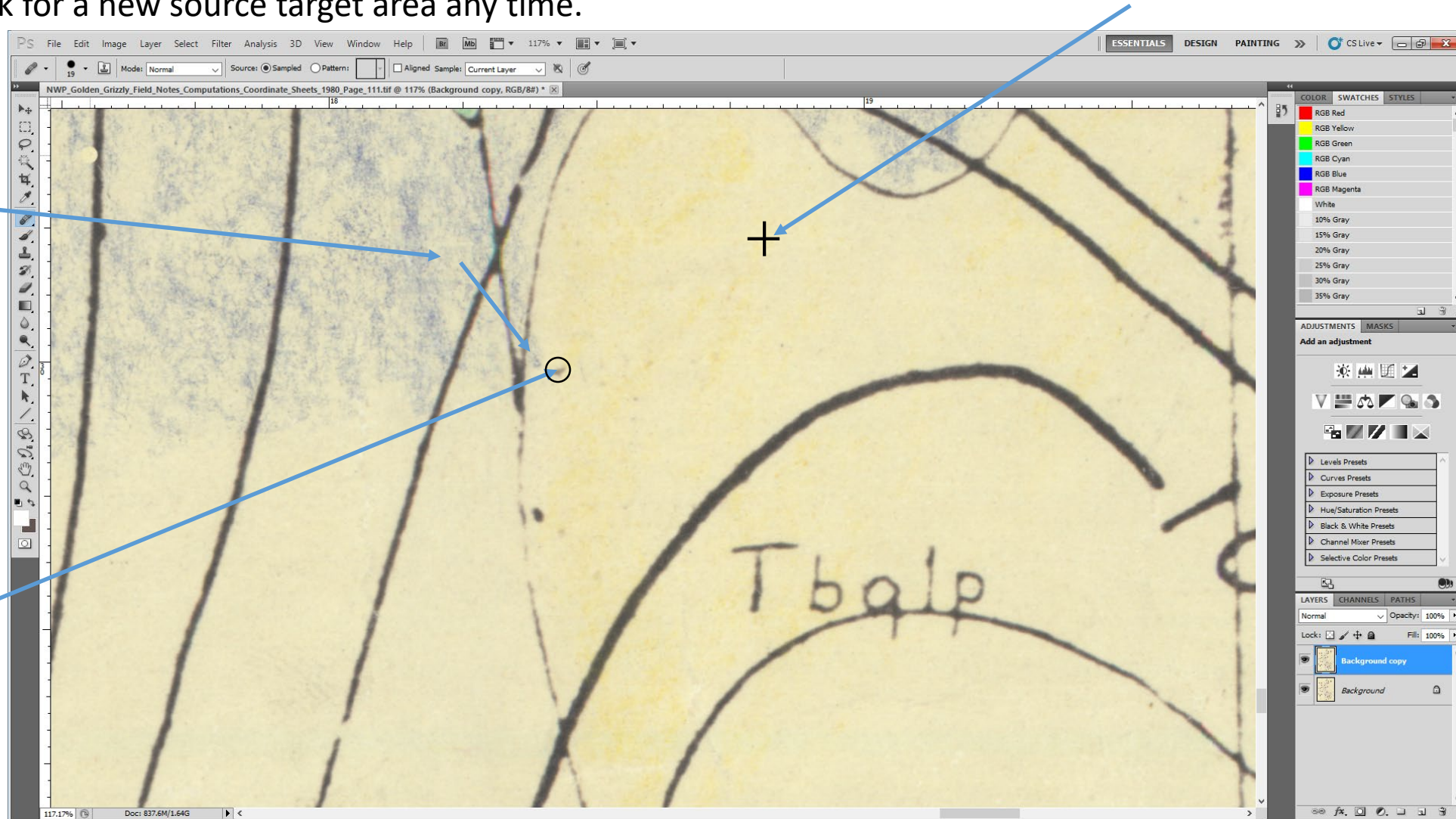




When the “Aligned” check box is deselected, the source target area moves back to the original location after every brush stroke (this works on the clone stamp as well). Now you can move on to cover the other spots without having to alt-click the source target area every time. Every time the mouse button is released, the source target moves back to the original spot. You can still alt-click for a new source target area any time.

Notice how some of the original hand-drawn color in the neighboring section has crossed the lines into the our work area.

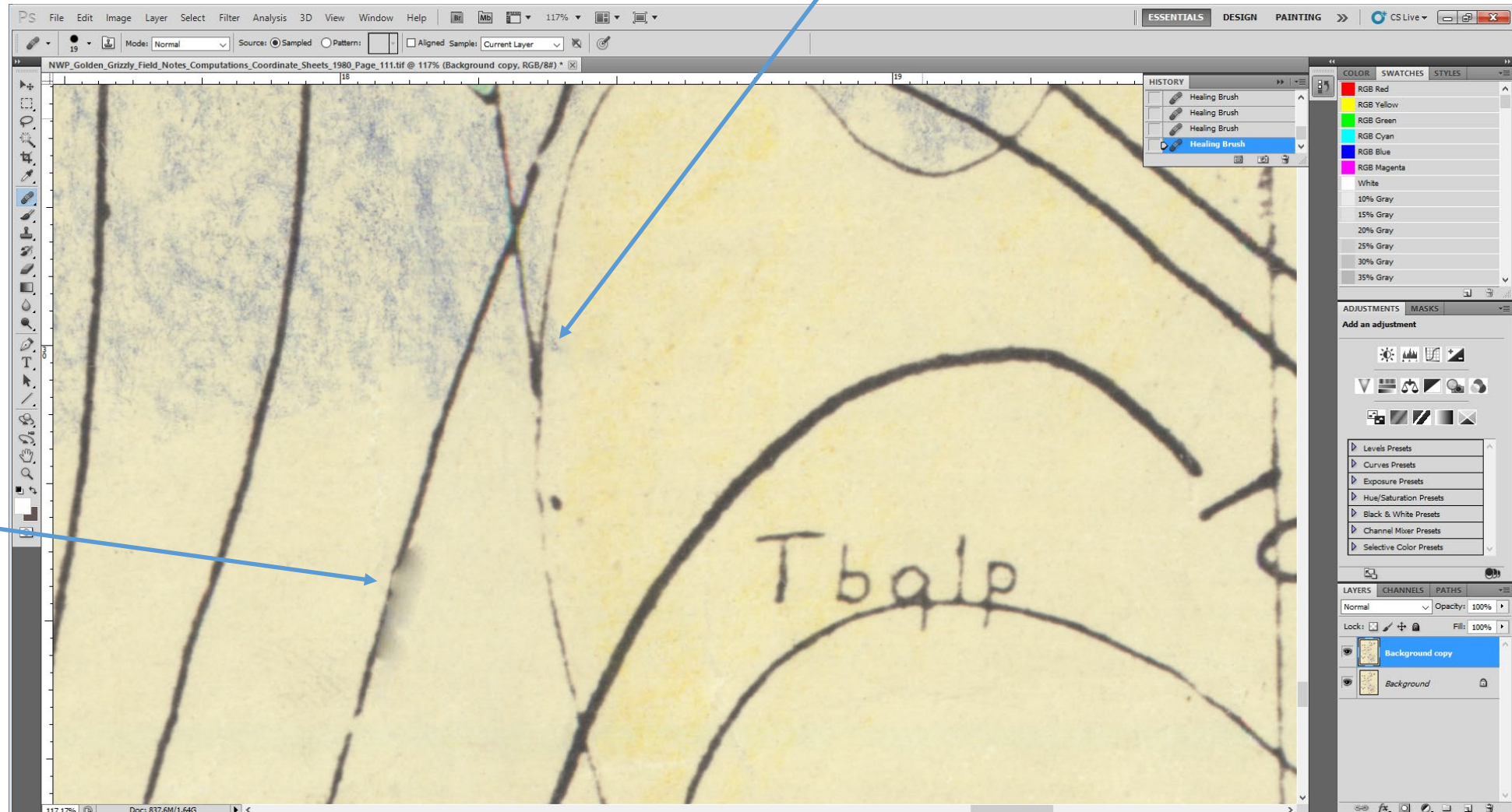
The advantage of the healing brush tool over the clone stamp tool becomes apparent when you brush over this spot.



Even if you are using a large brush size and brush over the blended color area while removing the spot, the content-aware border around the healing brush strokes keeps the original hand-drawn colors in place. The clone stamp tool would have removed the original color and replaced it with the source target area only.

The healing brush tool is not perfect for everything that the clone tool is used for. Especially when used near high contrast areas, like near a very dark line, the healing brush's content-aware nature can leave smudges.

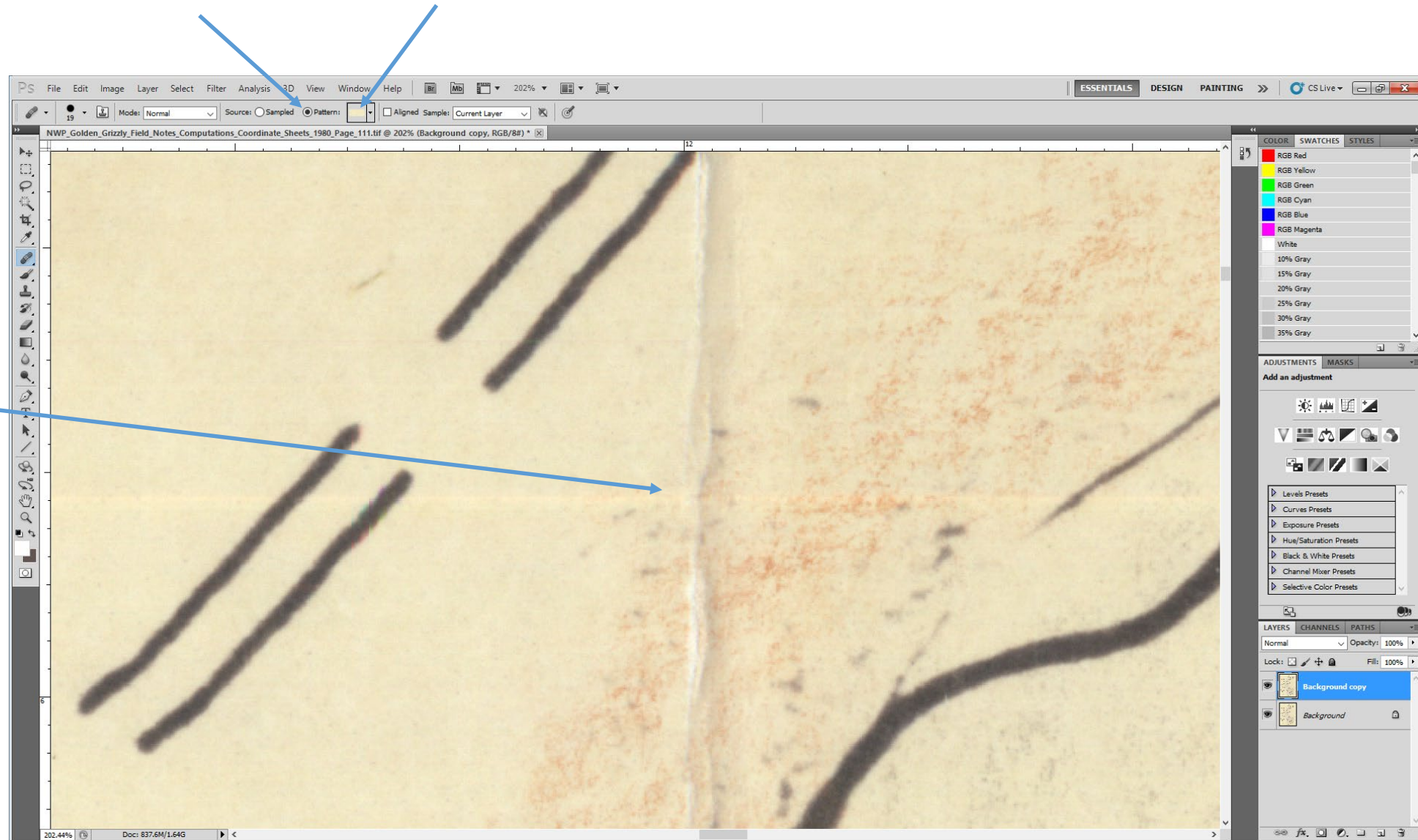
The best way to learn the healing brush tool is to experiment when you find a difficult section in which the clone stamp tool is not working well.



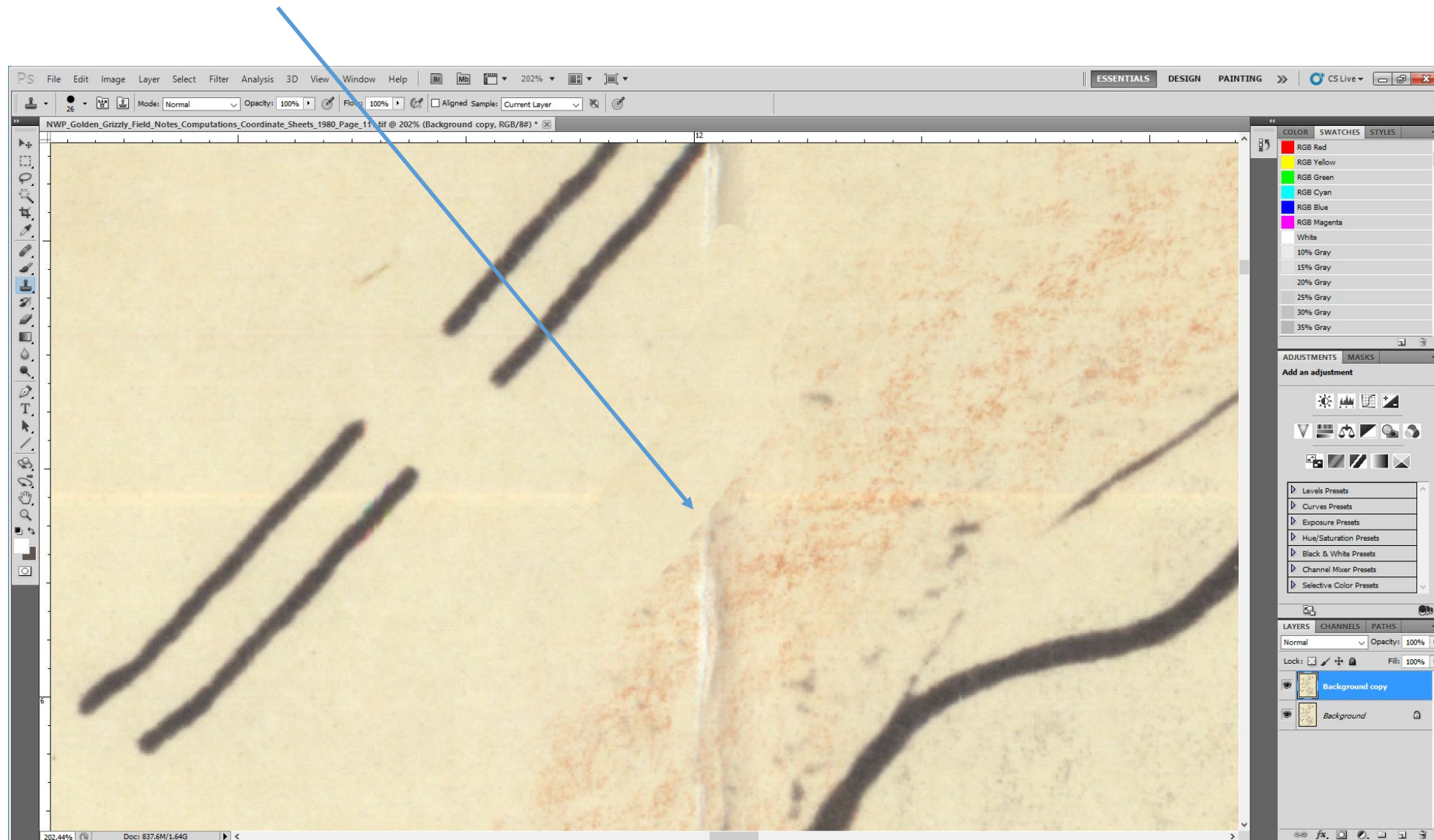


The healing brush also has a pattern setting. This can be useful when you have a background pattern (see pattern stamp tips).

The pattern setting on the healing brush tool can be useful when cleaning up the border near hand-drawn colors and a clean background.



Sometimes the pattern stamp tool can leave a “hard” edge when cleaning the border that doesn’t look right.





The content-aware nature of the healing brush on pattern setting can leave a more “natural” looking transition area when cleaning the border.

Remember to save your work.

