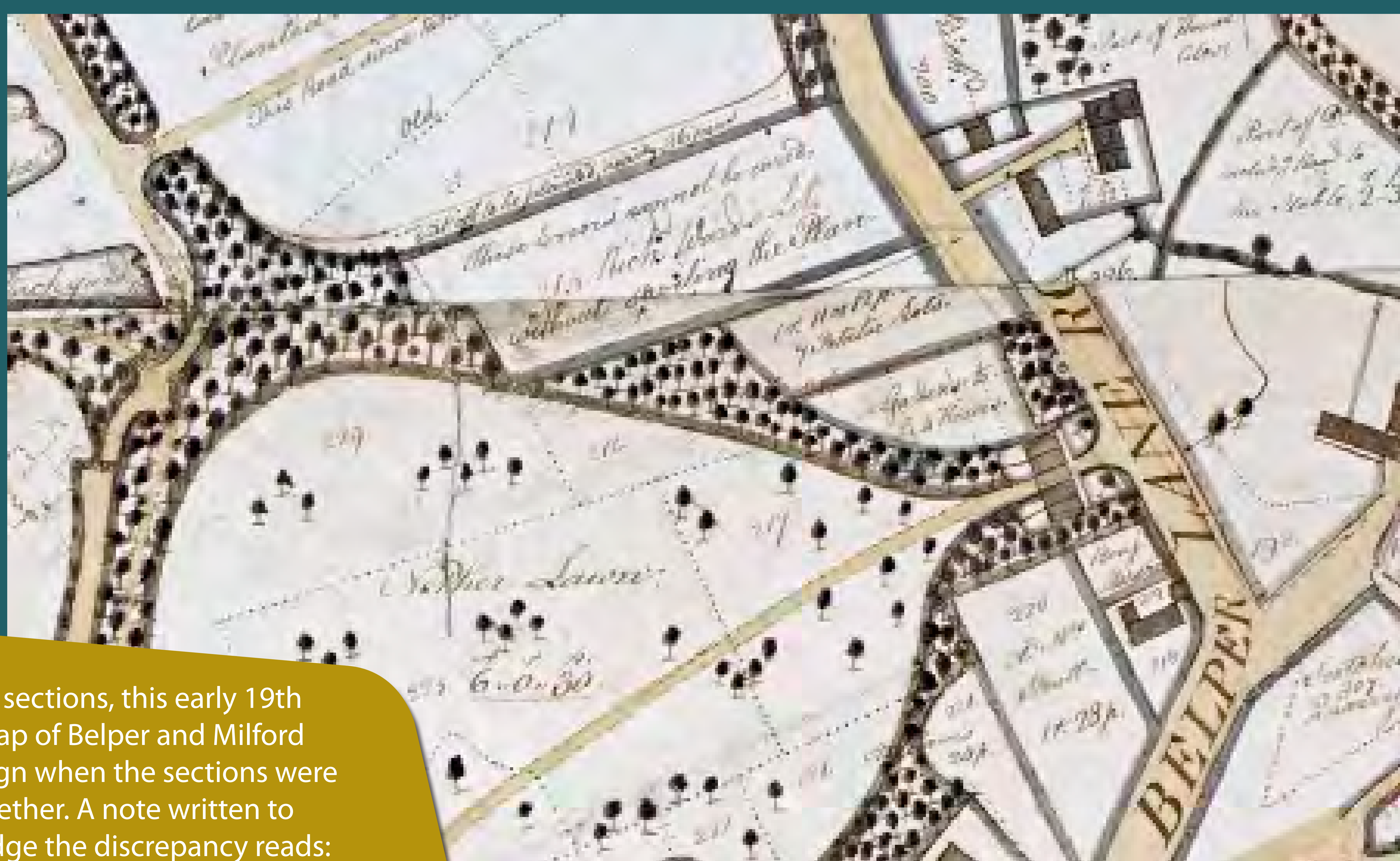
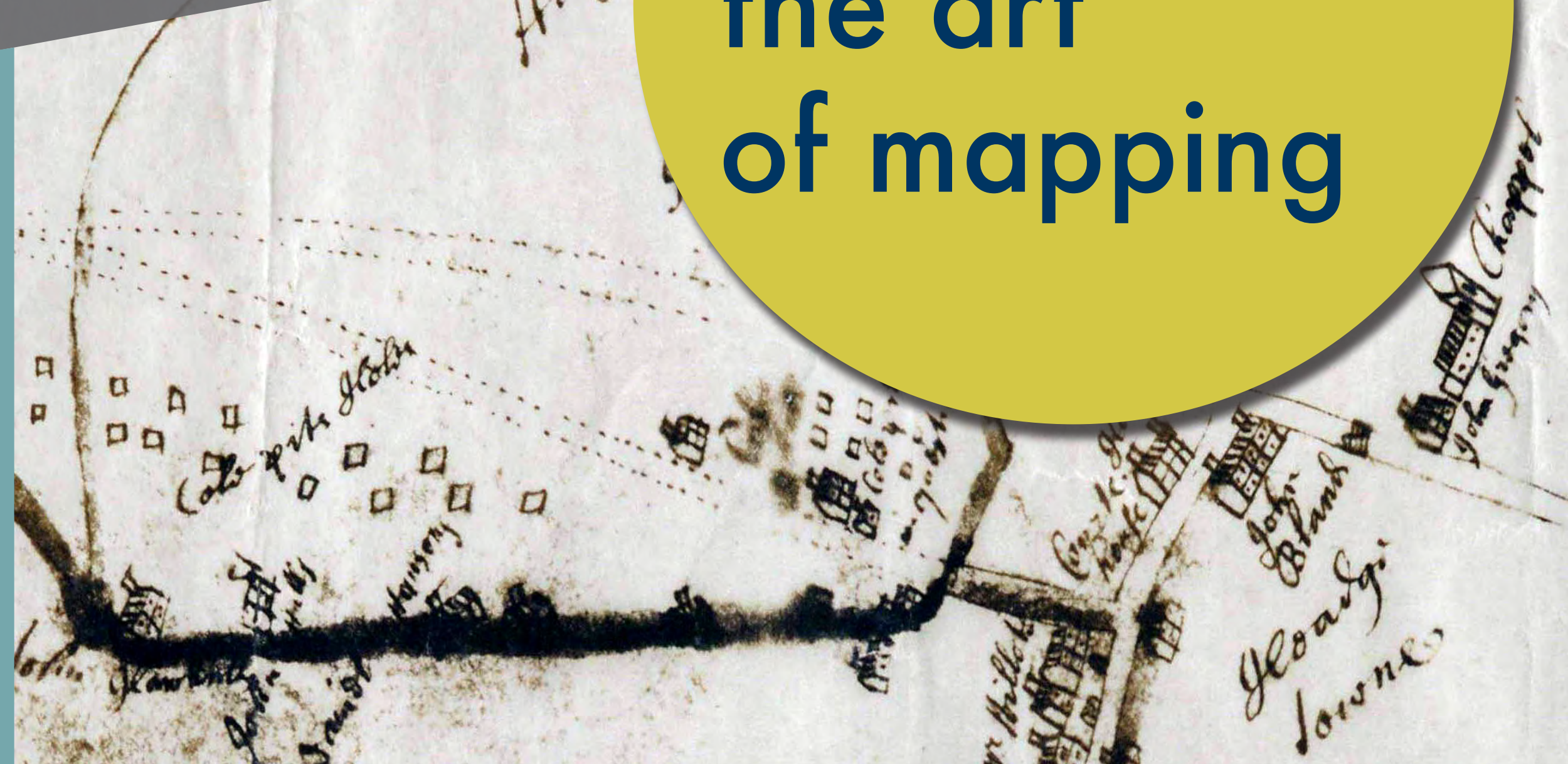


CHARTED TERRITORY

Perfecting the art of mapping

In the days before satellites and computers, accurately surveying land for a map was a difficult process, requiring patience, legwork and a great deal of skill. Mistakes were sometimes made, as the surveyors themselves acknowledged.



Created in sections, this early 19th century map of Belper and Milford did not align when the sections were pulled together. A note written to acknowledge the discrepancy reads: "These Errors cannot be cured, without spoiling the Plan."



Similarly, a 1792 estate map of Milford, created when the riverbanks were inaccessible, points out an error in the alignment of the River Derwent: "This part of the River was drawn by guess, before the Land on either side was bought or measured, and is all this wrong."



In the 20th century the Ordnance Survey aimed to produce maps which were completely accurate. This involved detailed survey work: these photographs from the late 1940s and early 1950s show men using a hand-held arrow to indicate precise points, with a grid reference in the image.



Charted Territory is a Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Partnership project, funded by the Great Place Scheme and delivered by Derbyshire Record Office.