John Martin's house, Omapere

report to
The Department of Conservation,
Whangarei Area Office

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Date: 13 July 2009
Reference: 2009/22

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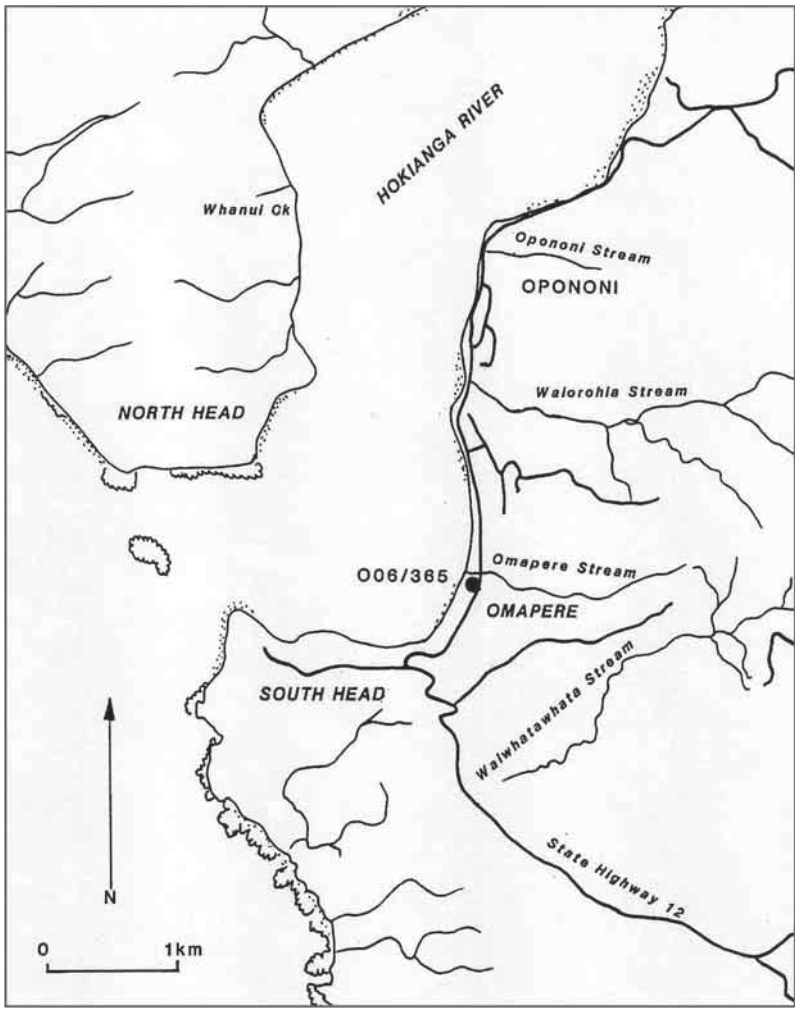
John Martin's house site, recorded as O06/365 in the New Zealand Archaeological association site file, is located in Omapere, Hokianga (Figure 1). In 1991 the property on which the house was located was sold and scheduled for redevelopment. Archaeological investigation of the site was carried out under the direction of archaeological staff from the Department of Conservation, Northland Conservancy, from 26 August to 7 September 1991. This work was carried out under authority 1991/20 issued by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust under the Historic Places Act 1975.

A large assemblage of artefacts and faunal material was recovered and the site is potentially significant as few European archaeological sites with contexts dating to before 1840 have been investigated. A preliminary report was written (Slocombe 1991) but no full excavation report was completed. A preliminary analysis of the material and archaeology was included as part of a student thesis (Grouden 1992). More detailed analyses of the faunal material have been conducted (Smith 1995; Tanner 1997; Watson 2000). The rest of the material culture assemblage was not fully analysed and remained in storage in the DOC Whangarei Area Office for 15 years. Unfortunately it was not catalogued at the time and only part of the assemblage appears to have been retained. This report is based largely on the above sources and an analysis of the remaining material culture assemblage.



1. Location of site O06/365 (adapted from Grouden 1992: Figure 15).

Historical background

John Martin first arrived in the Hokianga as first mate of the brig *Governor Macquarie*, Captain John Kent, in 1827 (Lee 1987: 45). Relations between local Maori and Europeans at the time were still in their infancy and the potential volatility is illustrated by an incident involving the *Governor Macquarie*. The ship had been anchored for some time off Omapere and on one occassion a seemingly friendly bunch of Maori crowded onto the deck. However Kent and Martin were cautious enough to set up two cannons on the poop deck loaded

with grapeshot. When their intention to take the ship was made clear by the commencement of a haka, a daughter of Te Waenga, Kiriora (or Kate as she was later known), who had formed a relationship with Martin, shouted a stern warning that they would all be killed if they did not desist. Fortunately her warning was heeded, thus narrowly averting bloodshed (Lee 1987: 45). Martin later settled with Kate at his property in Omapere and had three children by her although in his will he rather ungraciously referred to his "three illegitimate children (by my late housekeeper Kate)" (Lee 1987: 46).

At this period European influence in the Hokianga was still minimal. The first Europeans who made a record of their visit to the area were missionaries Thomas Kendall and John King in 1819 (Lee 1987: 33). From this time onwards the Hokianga was visited on occasion by ships seeking timber and provisions from local Maori. Regular trade however did not commence until the late 1820s (Lee 1987: 49).

After the incident aboard the *Governor Macquarie* Martin appears to have stayed in the Hokianga as he is recorded as operating as pilot and signalman at the Hokianga Heads in 1828 (Slocombe 1991: 4). In 1832 he purchased what he believed to be 45 acres at Omapere, which on survey turned out to be just 10, and settled there with his Maori wife Kate (Lee 1987: 61). In 1838 he formalised his position as pilot, purchasing 53 acres at South Head, Araiteuru, and erected a flagstaff on it "which I use for hoisting Signals to Shipping to direct them in taking the Bar" (Lee 1987: 61). The exact state of Martin's property status between 1827 and 1832 is not recorded, but given the lack of competition from other European settlers in the lower Hokianga and his relationship with a local Maori women it seems likely that he was already living on the property in Omapere, which he bought in 1832. At some time around this date a house was erected on the site built from timbers which are said to have come from various shipwrecks (Irvine 1965: 39). An image of John Martin's property at Omapere dated to around the 1850s shows a well established small farm with a large enclosed yard and two discrete groups of buildings, the building on the right of the picture probably depicts the original cottage (Figure 2).

European settlement in the lower reaches of the Hokianga remained sparse through to the 1840s and at the Heads Martin is described as "an independent institution in his own right" (Lee 1987: 163). Despite the social and geographical isolation, Martin and Kate raised a family of three children and their descendants continued to occupy the property up to its sale in 1991. Around 1841 when Martin and Kate's eldest daughter, Mary, married John Rowe, another cottage is said to

2. John Martin's farm at Omapere, c. 1850s (from Lee 1987).

have been built on the property (Grouden 1992: 57). John Martin died in 1863 and was buried in the cemetery at Mangungu Mission Station. His son George took over as signalman and harbour master in the 1880s (Slocombe 1991: 4).

Archaeological investigation

Until just prior to the investigation the site had consisted of three main building: a house, a smaller cottage and a hut referred to as the "dairy." A garage was also located towards the road, but is not likely to have had any historical significance. These buildings had recently been removed at the time of excavation. There appears to be some confusion over which of the two main buildings was the original cottage built around 1832, with one scenario being that it had been on the site of the house and had become incorporated into this structure with additions added over the years, or that the smaller cottage by the dairy could have been the first dwelling. In any case the original construction of both the house and cottage probably date prior to 1850. A proposed sequence of construction for the house is outlined in Figure 4.

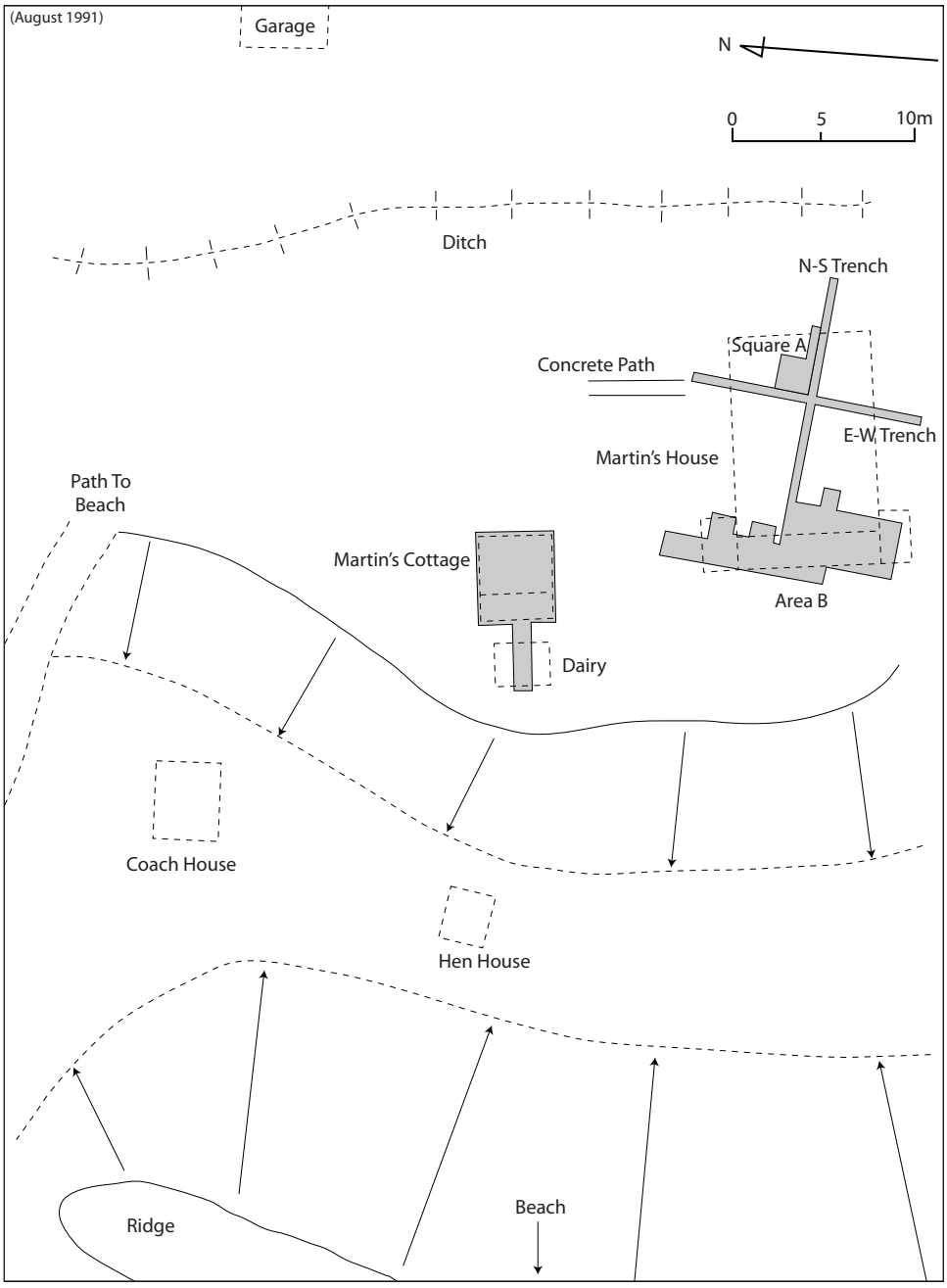
The archaeological investigation took place over a two week period from 26 August to 7 September 1991 and was focused on the areas lately occupied by the historic buildings. Three areas were selected for excavation: Martin's House, Martin's Cottage, and Square A (Figure 3). The research objectives were:

a) to obtain as much information as possible about the site before it was totally destroyed;
b) to establish whether an earlier occupation of the site had occurred;
c) to recover subsurface artefacts associated with the Martin family (Slocombe 1991: 3).

Martin's House

Initially, to determine the stratigraphy of the site and the areas of greatest archaeological potential, two intersecting trenches were dug across the site of Martin's House (one on a north–south axis, the other east–west). Generally the deposit was found to be shallow and a larger area was opened up beneath what had been the verandah and front two rooms of the house. This area, labelled Area B, was gridded up into one metre squares and excavated as a single layer. The upper 10 cm of soil were found to be very mixed, containing patches of pebbles and sand, with artefacts throughout. For underfloor deposits such as this Smith (1995) has proposed three main ways in which the assemblage may have formed: a) *in situ* material from occupation of the site prior to house construction; b) *redeposited* material incorporated into ground levelling or foundation works during house construction; c) and *accumulated* material which gathers under the building while it is standing. Given the mixed nature of the deposit from both the house and cottage site, it would seem that a combination of all three processes may be responsible for the formation of the deposits.

Beneath the underfloor deposit was a thin layer of black sand with a hard compacted surface. From the information available this layer does not seem to have been present in Square A. At this level the remains of the house foundation piles and posts were clear along with possible pre-European features. The most obvious features indicative of Maori occupation are a row of stakeholes and two earth ovens filled with charcoal rich soil and oven stones. Several other features presented as possible pits or depressions, although little time was available to investigate these further. Whether these features pre-date the Martin occupation or are contemporaneous was not clear at the time of excavation. It was noted however, that the stake

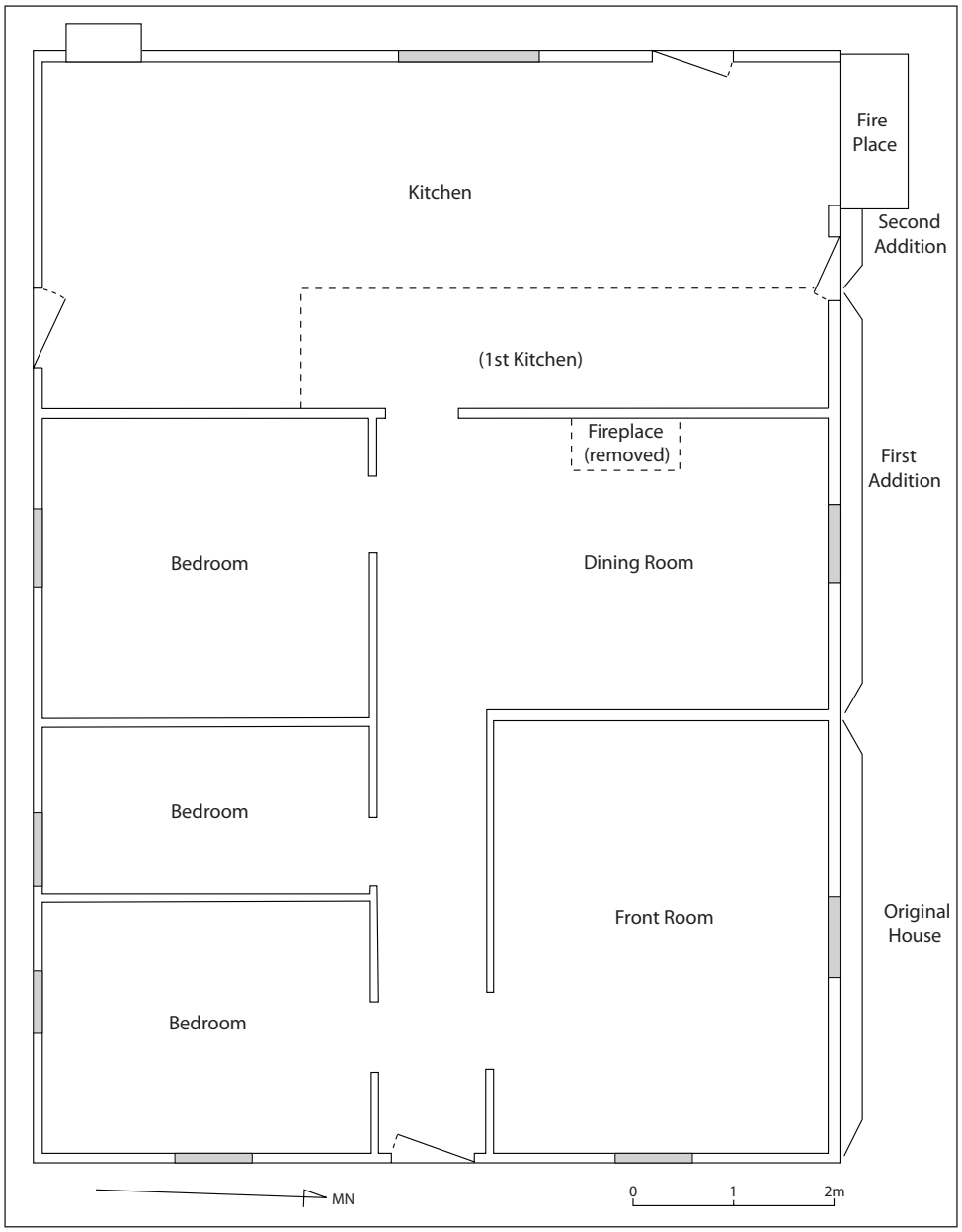


3. Site plan, showing the location of buildings and the three excavated areas (adapted from Slocombe 1991).

holes were found beneath a pebbly, brownish, gritty sand which lay over much of the excavated area and so probably pre-date the house (Grouden 1992: 71).

Square A was a 2 x 2 m unit excavated under what had supposedly been one of the oldest parts of the house. This unit was excavated by stratigraphic layer with the identification of seven layers (Figure 6). Grouden (1992: Figure 29) provides a description of the various layers:

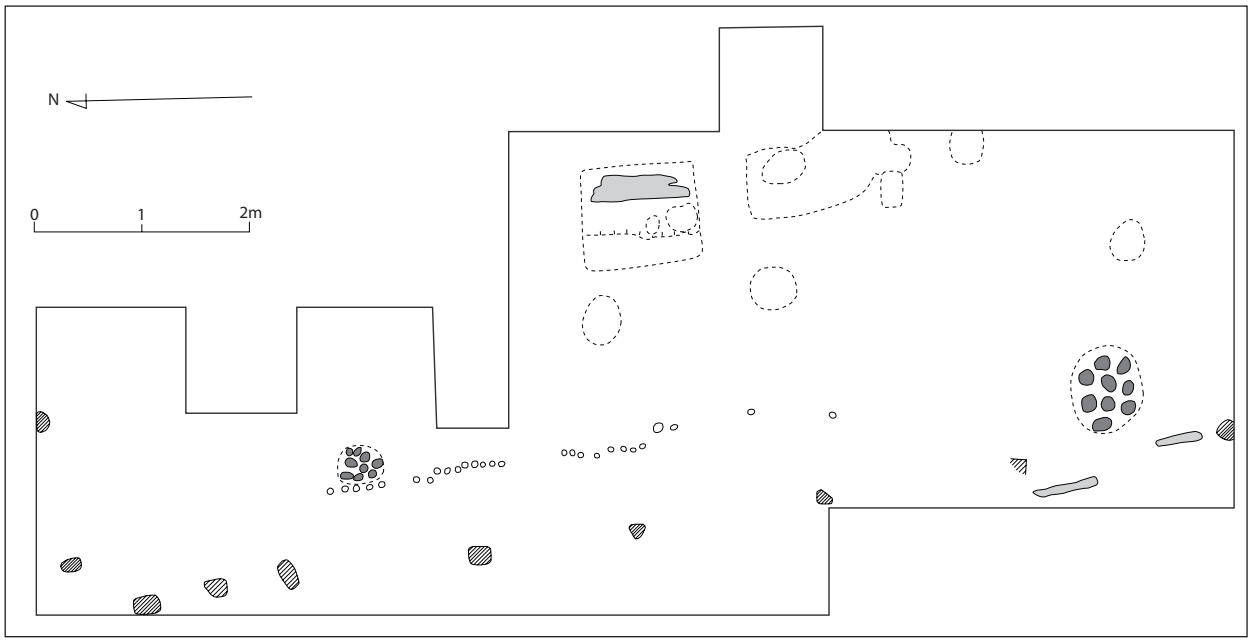
1) compacted sandy brown soil with shell, charcoal and ash inclusions
2) stoney layer
3) brown, silty, sandy soil with shell concentrated at base
4) orange, gravelly, sandy soil
5) clay



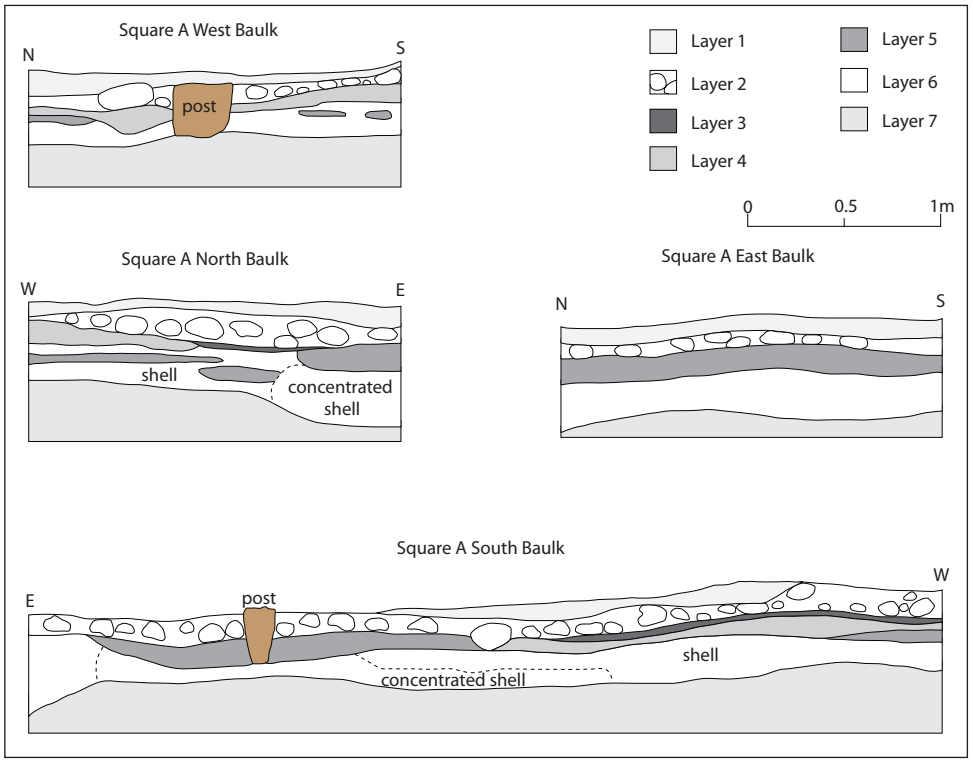
4. Plan of Martin's House showing possible stages of construction (from Grouden 1992: 56, after Spring-Rice 1991).

6) a) brown/black, sandy soil with charcoal and shell inclusions
   b) black, sandy soil with charcoal inclusions and concentrated shell
7) yellow/grey natural clay.

European period material was found throughout all seven layers but the two layers of greatest interest are Layer 2 which relates to the construction of the house and Layer 6. Layer 2 was comprised of a dense layer of water worn boulders and stones and was interpreted as possibly having been laid to "create a stable ground surface of some kind, perhaps for drainage purposes" (Grouden 1992: 69). This function would most likely be associated with a construction phase of the house. Layer 6 contained the greatest number of artefacts and appears to represent occupation prior to house construction. The material from Layer 6 can therefore be considered as an *in situ* deposit. While there are few securely datable items from Layer 6 an Alexander Coghill clay pipe, fragments of Willow pattern vessels and



5. Plan of Area B (Martin's House) showing layout of house posts/piles and possible pre-European features (adapted from Grouden 1992: Figure 31).



6. Square A profiles (from Grouden 1992: Figure 28).

an industrial slip decorated mug all have the potential to date to the earliest period of European occupation documented for this site. That the material dates prior to the house is indicated by the fact that the post in the west baulk cuts through Layer 6 and in the south baulk the base of another post appears to stop short of Layer 6, clearly showing that the postholes for these posts have been cut through from a higher layer (possibly Layer 2).

Layer	Ceramics (MNV)	Glass (grams)	Stone artefacts	Clay pipes (grams)	Bone (grams)	Buttons (MNI)
L1		47.5			55.2	
L2	2	48.5			71.4	1
L3	2	6		7.8	63.4	1
L4	2			2.1	37.5	1
L5		3		15.1	51	
L6a	11	160	2	51	1370	1
L6b	3	1	1	8.5	63.9	1
Total	20	266	3	84.5	1712	5

Table 1. Distribution of artefacts and faunal material by Layer, Square A (from Grouden 1992: Figure 30).

Material Culture

The material culture was initially analysed by Grouden (1992) and has been partly re-analysed for the purposes of this report. Unfortunately, during the intervening 15 years, only the ceramics and clay tobacco pipe assemblages appear to have been retained in full. An unknown quantity of glassware, metal and miscellaneous items have been either misplaced or discarded and so were not available for analysis. Compounding this problem was the lack of a standardised system of bag labelling employed during the excavation, with bags from the three areas being variously labelled 'Martin's House', 'Martin's Cottage', 'Mary's House', 'Mary's Cottage', or abbreviated 'MC' and 'MH.' Both of the two main areas appear to have been labelled using the same alpha-numeric system and where there is overlap between the two it was not always possible to determine which area material had come from. Material from Square A is more securely provenanced as bags from this area were labelled with layer designations.

For the purposes of this report, largely due to the provenance issues, the material classes have been treated as coming from a single assemblage. Where material is of particular note and/or securely datable and the provenance is known, this is noted in the text. The methodology for the data obtained from the preliminary analysis by Grouden was not made explicit and so it has not been possible to use this information to resolve the provenance issues. Information on material covered by the preliminary analysis, but which was not available to be studied, is included in Appendix A.

Ceramics

From the present study a total of 409 ceramic sherds, representing a minimum number of 108 vessels, were analysed and recorded. All data for artefactual material was entered into a Microsoft Office Excel spreadsheet and information on form, material, function, decoration, dimensions and any marks or datable attributes recorded, along with the relevant provenance information on area, unit and layer. Only unidentified transfer printed patterns were photographed as identified patterns are already illustrated elsewhere, such as in the NZ Historical Ceramics Database (www.bickler.co.nz/china/index.php). A selection of ceramic photographs are included in Appendix B.

From Tables 2 and 6 it can be seen that the assemblage overall is dominated by white-bodied earthenware (whiteware). The majority of this is composed of tableware with plates making up 30.5% (MNV = 33) of the entire assemblage, followed

Fabric	NISP	MNV	% MNV
Whiteware	367	86	80
Red-bodied	6	1	1
Buff-bodied	8	2	1.5
Bone china	18	12	11
Porcelain	1	1	1
Stoneware	9	6	5.5
Total	409	108	100

Table 2. Martin's House site ceramic assemblage summary (all contexts).

by cups (15%, MNV = 16) and saucers (16%, MNV = 17). The next most common fabric is 'bone china', a term here used for what has been referred to in the past as semi-vitreous ware. The bone china vessels are all teaware forms and include a saucer and a side plate from the house site decorated with sprigging. Ceramics with this type of decoration have been found in some of the earliest European contexts in New Zealand, but continued to be produced late into the 19th century. Overall 63% of the ceramics assemblage are decorated by transfer printing, the majority of which are blue transfer prints (Table 3). This is typical of the type of ceramic assemblages recovered from mid–late 19th century sites in New Zealand.

Colour	MNV
Black	4
Blue	37
Brown	5
Flow Blue	2
Green	8
Grey	5
Purple	7
Total	68

Table 3. Martin's House transfer printed ceramics by colour (all contexts).

Relatively few ceramic patterns were identified (Table 8) and of these few potentially date back as far as the 1830s. The earliest marker among the transfer prints is probably Willow, which has been in continuous production since the first decade of the 19th century. At least two plates are represented in Square A, with fragments of one coming from Layer 6, so Willow was clearly part of the material culture of the initial occupation of the site. Other patterns such as Albion, Gem and Rhine date more from the middle of the 19th century and Asiatic Pheasants and Rouen more towards the late 19th century. No manufacturing marks were present but patterns such as Bouquet, Dulcamara and Rouen, are known to have been produced by Pinder, Bourne and Co, in operation from 1862–1882 (Godden 1991: 495). The one Holloway's ointment pot has part of the address 244 Strand, London, dating it to 1842–1867.

The rest of the ceramic assemblage presents a similar picture, with relatively few early items and material dating mainly from the mid 19th century through

to the 20th. It is of interest from a site with such an early context that there was no Shell Edge decorated ceramics recovered. Shell Edge is generally regarded as an early marker and is commonly found in early 19th century contexts in New Zealand. From the Bay of Islands Shell Edge ceramics have been previously recovered from the Rewa's Pa and Blomfield House sites, Russell, and William William's House site, Paihia, all from pre-1850 contexts (personal observation).

Even from Square A, which potentially represents the earliest post-contact occupation on the site, there are no particularly early items nor any obvious late ones. The dating of this area is important, given the scenario that Layer 6 and 7 represent the earliest period of Martin's occupancy. In comparison, the small ceramic assemblage from the site of New Zealand's first Government House, Okiato, which was occupied between 1840 and 1842, could be securely dated from identified patterns and backmarks. Early transfer printed patterns from Okiato datable to the 1830s included Pomona, Palestine, Corinthian, Willow, Italian and Scroll (Harris 2009). Apart from Willow none of these patterns are represented in the Martin's house assemblage. One potentially early item from Square A, Layer 7, is a mug decorated with white annular lines of slip over a yellow coloured body. This style of industrial slip decoration was popular in the 1830s and becomes less so towards the middle of the 19th century. Some of the transfer printed ware is more likely to have been produced during the 1840s or 1850s. One item of interest is a fragment of a green transfer printed child's mug from Layer 7 with part of a saying or verse around the rim '... was a Vase in ...' Martin would presumably have had children living in his household from the late 1820s as his daughter is recorded as being just fourteen when she married in 1841 (Grouden 1992: 57).

Clay pipes

A total of 163 clay tobacco pipe fragments were recorded representing a minimum number of 64 pipes. Most of these would appear to have come from the house site and Square A with just 12 fragments potentially coming from the cottage site and a further 8 having no provenance information. In Square A the majority of the clay pipes were from Layer 6, with the only other fragments coming from Layer 5. The only marked fragment from Square A, Layer 6, was a stem fragment impressed A.[C]OGHILL//GLASG[O]W. Alexander Coghill was in business from 1826–1904 (Oswald 1975: 205). This pipe however is likely to date from the first half of the 19th century.

From the house site proper five marked stems were recovered with variations of the impressed marking McDOUGALL//GLASGOW. These pipes are from the firm of Duncan McDougall and Co, in operation from 1846–1968 (Oswald 1975: 205). Two other pipe stems impressed DAVIDSON//GLASGOW, which do not have any provenance information, are from the firm of Thomas Davidson and Co, in operation from 1863–1910 (Oswald 1975: 205). All of these pipes would have been produced prior to 1891, as after this date companies exporting pipes marked their wares with the country of origin in compliance with the McKinley Tariff Act (Walker 1983).

Glassware

A significant component of the original artefact assemblage would appear to have consisted of glassware, but all of this material has either been discarded or misplaced and so was not available for analysis. Grouden calculated a minimum number of 81 items of glassware from Martin's House and 33 from Martin's Cottage (Appendix A, Table 9 and Table 10). Both areas contained similar proportions of bottle types with alcohol making up around 30% in each area. Overall

the glass assemblage gives the impression of that from a modest domestic household. For example among the total of eight glass drinking vessels recorded only one is a stemmed glass, which may have been used for drinking wine or spirits. No glass tableware, in the form of bowls or dishes, or other decorative glass items were recorded from either area.

From the very limited information available the glassware would appear to include items dating from the earliest part of Martin's occupancy right through to the 20th century. The black beer bottles with pontil formed bases and case gins with pig-snout style tops all have the potential to date from the 1830s to the mid 19th century. However, of the brand names or maker's marks recorded by Grouden (Grouden 1992: 61) most items seem to date to the mid–late 19th century.

Lea and Perrins is a famous brand of Worchestershire sauce and this product was not imported into New Zealand until the 1850s. A bottle or container with the name 'R & W Hellaby Ltd (Auckland)' cannot have been produced until 1900 when R. and W. Hellaby became a limited liability company (http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/DNZB/ alt_essayBody.asp?essayID=2H27). The name H. Olson, Auckland, is most often found on tomato sauce bottles and Olson was operating from Auckland by at least 1871 (*Daily Southern Cross* 4 February 1871). A pharmaceutical bottle bearing the name 'S. S. Bannister, Octagon Drug Hall, Dunedin' also dates from the late 19th century. Bannister was advertising from this address from 1883 (*New Zealand Tablet* 19 October 1883) and had removed to High Street premises by 1888 (*New Zealand Tablet* 13 April 1888). Peter Dawson Ltd, Glasgow, is the name of a whisky distillery and the fact that it had become a limited liability company dates this item to the late 19th century or early 20th century. Jackson Brothers, Knottingly, is the name of a glass manufacturing company who operated from 1894 (Toulouse 1971: 275). One further datable item, which escaped being thrown out, was a glass salad oil bottle stopper from Martin's House embossed GEORGE/WHYBROW, dating 1845–1910.

Clothing hardware

A total of 34 buttons were recorded with 15 made of metal, nine shell, four ceramic, two bone and four plastic. Buttons are not particulary useful for dating although it should be noted that the ceramic examples from the house site are of the type known as Prosser buttons, produced from 1840 onwards. Interestingly, two of the metal buttons from Square A were brass buttons with a separate attached shank. While these type of buttons continued to be produced, from the middle of the 19th century one-piece mass produced brass buttons are much more common. The majority of the other brass buttons from the house and cottage sites were of this type. Bone and shell buttons were initially hand-made but by the middle of the 19th century were being mass produced by machine. None of the bone or shell buttons show attributes of hand manufacture. The four plastic buttons were all recovered from the house site and date from the 1930s onwards.

Relatively little was found in the way of footwear with just a few fragments of shoe or boot leather recovered from the house site. The most complete item was a shoe or boot sole 240 x 75 mm from unit I10. Fragments of a heel measuring 50 x 50 mm, heavily studded around the outside with copper alloy nails, were found in the north–south trench.

Coins

Among the other items collected were nine coins, most dating to the second half of the 19th century. From the house site an 1863 and an 1881 penny were found in unit B13, an 1876 penny in C12, an 1879 sixpence in A11, an 1886 halfpenny in

I10, and a French 1925 25 centime piece from E10. One penny was recovered from Square A, but the date could not be read. From the cottage site the only coins were a New Zealand 1962 penny from B1 and a worn sixpence from E3 with a 'young head' style bust of Queen Victoria dating 1838–mid 19th century. Both coins were found in the 5–15 cm layer, indicating that material in the area had undergone some mixing.

Miscellaneous artefacts

The miscellaneous material retained appears to have consisted of items deemed not worthy of cataloguing during the preliminary analysis. The majority of this material was made up of various pieces of scrap wood, modern plastics, bottle tops, nails and miscellaneous pieces of metal, none of which is particularly informative. The larger proportion of this rubbish dates from the 20th century. This type of material most likely accumulated during later building alterations to the house and cottage. Identified metal artefacts from the earlier analysis by Grouden are tabled in Appendix A (Tables 11 and 12).

Maori artefacts

Several artefacts were recovered which reflect Maori occupation of the site. The contexts from which they were found suggests a Maori influence on the site both prior to and during the period of John Martin's occupancy. Possible pre-contact artefacts are three small flakes of chert and one flake of obsidian from Square A, Layers 6 and 7. Also from Layer 6 was a cut piece of paua shell 58 x 25 mm which may be a blank for a fishing lure. One complete lure made from paua shell measuring 72 x 17 mm, was found just below the surface in unit D14 from the house site. The lure is carefully shaped and is notched on both ends for the attachment of a

7. Maori artefacts: a, greenstone chisel; b, paua shell lure; c, section of paua shell rim from which a blank has been cut from; d, a broken or unfinished paua shell lure; e, a piece of modified bone with cut marks.

line. That these artefacts were being manufactured on site is indicated by a section of paua shell rim from which a blank has been cut, found in unit D19. A small greenstone chisel, with maximum dimensions of 21 x 8 x 5 mm, was found in the top 2 cm of Feature 11. One other artefact showing Maori influence is a piece of modified bone from Square A, Layer 4.

While some of these artefacts may have been redeposited from earlier contexts, the fact that they were found among European material suggests that they represent an early contact occupation or may in fact be contemporary with the household of John Martin. Martin was married to a local Maori woman and the lack of other European settlers in the Omapere area means that a great deal of business is likely to have been conducted with local Maori. His wife Kiriora (Kate) clearly held on to some traditional ways of life as an account of a social gathering at the Martin household in 1851 describes Mrs Martin as squatting down with "a lot of other native men and women" wrapped up in a blanket "in true Maori fashion" (Grouden 1992: 60).

Faunal analysis

The faunal material from the site of John Martin's House has been thoroughly analysed by several workers. Some preliminary work was done by Grouden as part of her thesis (Grouden 1992: 62–65) but more in-depth analysis was undertaken by Smith of the faunal assemblage from Martin's House and Square A (Smith 1995) and the remainder from Martin's Cottage by Tanner (Tanner 1997). A brief analysis of the faunal assemblage as a whole was also carried out by Watson (Watson 2000). The results of these reports are summarised here.

From the two main reports (Smith 1995 and Tanner 1997) a total of 1064 bones, bone fragments and teeth were analysed, with the largest assemblage coming from the area of Martin's House (442 NISP), then Martin's Cottage (391) and Square A (200). A further 31 bones or fragments did not have any provenance information. The majority of the assemblage represents food remains and is dominated by mammals (Table 4). The most common species are cow (*Bos taurus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*), and sheep (*Ovies aries*) (Table 5). A number of other species are present but apart from the fish and some of the birds, the degree to which they represent food remains is not certain.

By area pigs are the most common from Martin's House and Square A and cow and sheep from Martin's Cottage. Butchery marks are present on bones from all three species and clearly represent food remains. Cattle bones showed the most evidence of element reduction with the most common butchery method being sawing, pig bones had been largely chopped and sheep bones were chopped and sawn (Watson 2000). A minimum number of 22 cattle meat cuts were represented, of which ribs were the most common; the hand and the trotters were the most common pig meat cuts; and forequarters were the most common portion of sheep represented (ibid).

In terms of spatial distribution from Martin's Cottage there was no obvious difference between the faunal material collected from the two stratigraphic layers (upper 5 cm and 5–15 cm), suggesting that "two stratigraphic units may have arbitrarily divided a single occupation deposit" (Tanner 1997: 17). This conforms with the picture derived from the artefact analyses. The material from the area of the 'dairy' presented a somewhat different picture, with all bone coming from the top 5 cm suggesting that deposition occurred later in the occupation sequence (*ibid*). A similar situation can be proposed for the area of Martin's House, which was excavated as a single layer.

More meaningful information can be derived from the Square A assemblage, as this area was excavated stratigraphically and seven layers identified. From the

Species	NISP	MNE	MNBC	MNI
cow (*Bos taurus*)	173	100	22	4
cow/pig	52			
pig (*Sus scrofa)*	230	180	78	17
pig/sheep	192			
sheep (*Ovies aries)*	76	57	33	9
cat (*Felis felis)*	56	29		6
Dog (*Canis familiaris)*	1	1		1
ferret?	4	4		
rabbit?	1	1		1
Rat (*Rattus* sp.)	31	30		7
large mammal sp.		2		
small mammal sp.		3		
mammal sp.	64			
subtotal	821	402	133	46
bird sp.	21			
chicken (*Gallus gallus)*	13	13		4
duck?	1	1		1
morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae)*	1	1		1
NZ pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaseelandiae)*	1	1		1
penguin	4	4		2
Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus)*	1	1		1
piopio (*Turnagra capensis)*	2	2		2
turkey	5	5		2
subtotal	49	28		14
fish sp.	92			
Snapper (*Pagrus auratus)*	19	18		5
subtotal	111	18		5
total	1045	448	133	65

Table 4. Quantified faunal remains from all contexts, site O06/365 (adapted from Watson 2000).

	Martin's Cottage			Martin's House			Square A		
Species	NISP	MNE	MNI	NISP	MNE	MNI	NISP	MNE	MNI
cow	111	61	2	37	25	1	22	14	1
pig	40	33	4	127	106	9	59	41	4
sheep	49	37	5	24	18	3	2	2	1
total	200	131	11	188	149	13	83	57	6

Table 5. Proportions of the three main mammal species by area (from Watson 2000).

profile drawings of Square A (Figure 6) Smith interpreted that Layer 6 possibly predates house construction "because it is clearly below the base of the post in the south baulk and is cut through by that in the west baulk" (Smith 1995). Most of the faunal and other material was concentrated in Layer 6 with 63% (by weight) of glass and clay pipe fragments, 68% (by number) of ceramics, buttons and stone artefacts, and 84% (by weight) of bone coming from this layer (Grouden 1992: Figure 30). The faunal remains from Layer 6 were dominated by pig and cattle, along with some fish, sheep, dog and chicken bones (Smith 1995). This sample from

Layer 6 probably gives the best indication of the diet and meat available during the early period of John Martin's occupation.

Discussion

From the archaeology the general layout and main sequence of building events on John Martin's property at Omapere have been established. While the exact date that the first cottage was built is not known, it is likely to have been shortly after Martin purchased the property in 1832, although his occupation in the area seems to stem back to his arrival in the Hokianga in 1827. The excavation of earth ovens, stake holes and possible pits, seemingly sealed or at least cut into a hard, blackened, compact layer of sandy soil beneath the European cultural deposit under the house, clearly suggests possible pre-contact or early post-contact Maori occupation prior to construction of the house. The deposit from Layer 6a and 6b in area Square A containing European material and some Maori style artefacts also suggests an early post-contact occupation on the site prior to the original house being built. Whether this relates to John Martin or a group of Maori immediately prior to his occupation is not known. The construction date of the smaller cottage building is not known but the archaeology and artefact assemblage collected from underneath it suggests a date not much after that of the main house.

The artefact assemblage, while containing some potentially early items, is more typical of what one would expect from mid – late 19th century European sites. Even from Square A which has an in situ occupation deposit containing European items, there are no particularly early markers present. Overall the number of ceramic and glassware items recovered is quite low, when considering that the site was occupied continuously at least from 1832. This may reflect on the isolation of the site and the ability to acquire material goods at the market, or it may indicate a relatively low social status and modest standard of living for John Martin's household and his descendants. A combination of both of these factors is the most likely scenario.

There is also the issue of to what degree the European and Maori cultures represented by the household are reflected in the material culture and archaeology. The wider topic of Grouden's thesis was looking at cultural contact between Maori and early European settlers in the Hokianga and she surmised that "while aspects of European material culture such as food goods and household items were adopted for everyday use by Hokianga Maori families, there was not a complete abandonment of 'traditional' material culture" (Grouden 1992: 73). From the site of Martin's house the continuity of Maori traditions is shown in the material culture by the paua shell lures and greenstone chisel, all of which were found in clearly post-contact contexts. From a painting of John Martin's farm in the 1850s and other documentary sources it appears that much of the other aspects of the property and household, including the layout of the yard and the construction of the buildings closely followed the European model.

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Appendix A: Artefact Tables

Vessel form	Whiteware	Buff-body	Red-body	Bone china	Porcelain	Stoneware	Total
Tableware							85
plate	32			1			33
side plate				1			1
serving vessel	6						6
cup	14			2			16
saucer	10			7			17
bowl	4						4
mug		2					2
child's mug	1						1
jug	4						4
lid				1			1
Kitchen/utilitarian							7
mixing bowl	2						2
dish/bowl	1						1
storage jar	2						2
lid	2						2
Bedroom/bathroom							7
chamberpot	5						5
bowl/jug	1						1
Holloway's Ointment	1						1
Miscellany							9
bottle						2	2
jar						2	2
ink						2	2
pot/dish			1				1
doll					1		1
unidentified	1						1
Total	86	2	1	12	1	6	108

Table 6. Martin's House ceramic assemblage vessel types (all contexts).

Decorative technique	Tableware	Kitchen/utilitarian	Bed/bathroom	Miscellany	Total
Transfer printed	59	2	7		68
Edgebanded	2				2
Gold hairlined	2				2
Sprigged	2				2
Handpainted	8				8
Relief moulded	2			1	3
Slipped/colour Glazed	3			1	4
Printed	1				1
Undecorated	8	4		6	18
Total					108

Table 7. Martin's House ceramic assemblage decortation type by function (all contexts).

Pattern	Context	Vessels	Colour	MNV	Total
Albion	House	serving dish, platter	blue	2	2
Asiatic Pheasants	House	plate	blue	2	4
Asiatic Pheasants	Cottage	plate	blue	1	
Asiatic Pheasants	Unknown	plate	blue	1	
Bouquet	House	plate	black, blue	2	2
Dulcamara	House	saucer	blue	1	1
Fibre	House	cup	grey	1	1
Gem	House	plate	blue	1	1
Holloway's Ointment	House	ointment pot	black	1	1
Rhine	House	platter, saucer	grey, blue	2	3
Rhine	Cottage?	plate	grey	1	
Rouen	House	plate	brown	1	2
Rouen	Cottage?	plate/saucer	brown	1	
Whampoa	House	chamberpot	flow blue	1	1
Willow	Square A	plate	blue	2	11
Willow	House	plate, cup, serving vessel	blue	8	
Willow	Cottage	plate	blue	1	

Table 8. Martin's House ceramic assemblage identified transfer prints (all contexts).

Vessel type	Colour	MNV
Alcohol		
black beer	dark olive green	10
beer	amber	1
case gin	black	8
sarsaparilla	green	1
spirits	green	1
wine/champagne	green	3
subtotal		24
Condiments		
sauce	aqua blue	6
salad oil	aqua green	3
vinegar	aqua green	1
pickles	aqua green	1
marmite	opaque white	1
meat Paste	clear	1
subtotal		12
Pharmaceutical		
medicine	clear/aqua	10
medicine	amber screw top	1
subtotal		11
Miscellaneous		
tumblers	clear	4
bowls	clear	2
wide-mouthed jar	clear	1
perfume?	clear	2
plate	clear	1
marbles	multi-coloured	4
beads	multi-coloured	6
cross pendant	dark green	1
subtotal		21
Unidentified		
bottles	aqua	5
bottles	blue	2
bottles/jars	clear	5
subtotal		12
Total		81

Table 9. Summary of glassware from Martin's House (adapted from Grouden 1992: Appendix 5).

Vessel Type	Colour	MNV
Alcohol		
black beer	dark olive-green	4
beer	amber	5
case gin	dark olive-green	1
subtotal		10
Condiments		
sauce	aqua blue	2
Pharmaceutical		
medicine	clear	3
castor oil	cobalt blue	1
subtotal		4
Miscellaneous		
ink	aqua green	1
Perfume?	clear/manganese glass	2
bowl	clear	1
stemmed glass	clear	1
tumblers	clear	3
spectacle lens	clear	2
jar lids	opaque white	2
subtotal		11
Unidentified		
bottles	aqua/green	5
total		33

Table 10. Summary of glassware from Martin's Cottage (adapted from Grouden 1992: Appendix 6).

Metal Article	MNI
Ferrous	
axe Head	1
file	1
heavy chain (boat?)	1
spade head	1
rectangular tins	2
mattock head	1
drawer handle	1
table knife	1
coal range hot plate	1
Non-ferrous	
teaspoon	1
pot Lid	1
table Fork	1
clothing Fastener	1
silver-plate sovereign case	1
screw cap	1

Table 11. Identified Metal artefacts from Martin's House (adapted from Grouden 1992: Appendix 7)

Metal article	MNI
Ferrous	
knife	1
harpoon head	1
buckle	1
tin-opening keys	2
Non-ferrous	
knife/fork/spoon	1
clock cog	1
ammunition shells	2
embossed buckles	2

Table 12. Identified Metal artefacts from Martin's Cottage (adapted from Grouden 1992: Appendix 7)

8 (opposite). Unidentified ceramic patterns: a, black transfer printed saucer, Square A; b, blue transfer printed cup, Martin's House; c, blue transfer printed plate, Square A; d, blue transfer printed chamberpot, Martin's House; e, blue transfer printed chamberpot, Martin's House; f, blue transfer printed cup/bowl (rim Martin's House, body Square A); g, green transfer printed cup, Martin's House; h, purple transfer printed saucer, Martin's House; i, black transfer printed saucer, Square A (pattern previously recorded from the Scott Farmstead, Mangere, as SH 001 and was marked by manufacturer Cooper and Lockett, dating to the 1860s: CFG Heritage, report in preparation); j, blue transfer printed saucer, Square A (pattern previously recorded from the Bamber House site, Wanganui, as UCOL 135: CFG Heritage report in preparation); k, purple transfer printed plate, Martin's House; l, under-glaze handpainted plate rim in purple, Martin's House; m, brown transfer printed saucer, Martin's House (pattern previously recorded from the Wellington Inner City Bypass project, site AS26, as WICB 117: CFG Heritage report in preparation); n, blue transfer printed plate, Square A; o, green transfer printed plate with under-glaze hand colouring and relief moulded rim, Martin's House or Cottage; p, green transfer printed mixing bowl or chamberpot, Martin's House.


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