

Johann Carl Heinrich MARTIN
later used legal name
Charles Henry MARTIN
but known as
Henry MARTIN
(Weblink Charles Henry Martin)

Johann Carl Heinrich MARTIN

B about 1832-33 Hamburg Germany

D 04 August 1917 "Mount Hamburg" Atawhai, Nelson New Zealand

Never married

The history of Charles Henry MARTIN

Johann Carl Heinrich MARTIN was born about 1832-1833 in Hamburg Germany. His mother was Johanna Catherine Elisabeth MARTIN formerly LIS AHL and she was 19 years old when she married Johann's father. His father was either Carl or Henry (Heinrich) MARTIN occupation clerk. I do not know when or where Johann's father died but in Hamburg about 1841 Johann's mother married George Heinrich Conrad MANSS EN.

Johann Carl Heinrich MARTIN was his birth name but he when living in New Zealand he used the name Charles Henry MARTIN and sometimes used the surname of his stepfather MANSS EN but he was sometimes referred to as Henry MARTIN. As he later named his property in Nelson "Mount Hamburg" I believe that he was born in Hamburg Germany.

When Johann was 10 years old he accompanied his mother, stepfather and half sister Caroline to New Zealand on the ship "St Pauli". Most of his early years in Nelson and Upper Moutere are described in other parts of the publication but here are some of my feelings on those first years for Johann in Nelson. I will now call Johann, Charles as this was the name found on most registers concerning him in New Zealand.

Charles I am sure could read and write but probable took lessons with Rev Heine and Rev Riemenschneider aboard the ship on its voyage to Nelson. Charles wrote of his experiences as a child and extracts are found in the chapter on Upper Moutere.

Charles was aged 14 years when his half-brother Charles was born and aged 17 years when his half-sister Mary was born, both in Nelson Township. When the family abandoned Upper Moutere and settled in Nelson Township, I am sure Charles began working to help his stepfather support their growing family.

The family moved to Suburban North and on 23rd November 1858 Charles age 25 years purchased part of section 20 from his stepfather George MANSS EN. Charles paid £40 sterling for 10 acres of land. There was a 12 feet wide right of way through the property and George had the right to cross this grass paddock from time to time (quote "doing no unnecessary or avoidable damage or injury"). This right of way was released on 20th September 1864 and another right-of-way substituted. The green gravel quarry was on the land and Charles lived in a small cottage in front of the quarry.

A passage in "Early Tide to Wakapauaka" by P V and N L WASTNEY reads:

C.H. Martin opened the Gravel Pit and sold road gravel for many years. He was a well-read man who spoke English fluently, but with a strong German accent. His mud cottage standing on the hillside near the pit was a familiar sight in the early part of this century, and it was the delight of school children to call on their way home for a drink of cold water from Mr Martin's pump over an old well. He left the Martin Prizes, as well as a piece of public reserve. He seems to have retained the name of "Ellendale" for the property (originally Robert Tod's).

The book also tells of C.H. Martin holding the contract for Suburban North mail in 1873 and he was paid £51 for the contract in 1877.

That Charles was a well educated is evident in the articles he wrote to the local newspapers his involvement in local affairs and his most generous donations to many organisations. Charles was a member of the Early Artillery Company in Suburban North and reached the rank of sergeant.

In the Nelson Provincial Government registers I found indications that C.H. MARTIN wrote to the secretary on 21st May 1872 relating to purchasing the section adjoining the cemetery. Unfortunately the letter cannot be found so the outcome is unknown.

In the publication section on the MANSSEN family in the services there is a photo of C.H. MARTIN in uniform. This may be a band uniform, or uniform of the Early Suburban North Artillery Company.

This photograph appeared in the publication "Early Tide to Wakapuaka by N Wastney and the caption reads "C.H.MARTIN OF ELLENDALE. Taken in 1872. The uniform may have been the Suburban North Volunteers." I located a copy of the photograph at the Nelson Provincial Museum in Stoke Nelson under reference Brown 12939/2 December 1875 Mr C.H. Martin along with 2 other photographs of Charles in regular clothes reference Brown 12638/2 and 12630/2 also dated December 1875. In 1875 Charles would have been age 43.

We believe Charles Henry MARTIN was a member of the local lodge, Court Pride of Foresters.

Henry MARTIN (C.H.) held five shares with the Permanent Building Society of Nelson. Reference Vol. 6M No 7316 (pages 382-384) Nos. 2955, 2956, 2957, 2058 and 2959.

While Charles held the position as Overseer to the Roads Board in Suburban North, he wrote two letters in 1876 to the secretary concerning the completion of the Happy Valley footbridge. I have copies of these two letters.

C.H. Martin Suburban North rec. 7/1/76

*Suburban North
Jan 6th 1876*

To The Provincial Secretary Nelson

Sir

The Happy Valley foot bridge being completed the chairman of the Sub. North Road Board had been requested to inspect the work and to certify to its completion in accordance with your reply to the decisions from the Inhabitants of Happy Valley.

I am sorry to say that the Chairman declined to have anything to do with the matter (no doubt you have already received a notice from him to that effect) As some months may elapse before the difference of opinion which exists is discussed and as the list for material and labour has already been owing a considerable time and for which I am responsible I would earnestly beg of the Hon Executive if it is possible to do so to request the Provincial Engineer to pass the work on behalf of the Government.
I remain
Your ob. Sevt.
C.H.Martin

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington Nelson Provincial Register NP 7 1876/39)

MARTIN C.H. Wakapuaka *Rec. 9/2/76*
enclosing certificate of completion of Happy Valley foot bridge

Wakapuaka Feb. 9th 1876

To the Provincial Secretary Nelson

Sir

Seeing there is no likelihood of the chairman of the Subs. North Road Board inspecting the Happy Valley foot bridge. I think my position as Overseer to the Roads Board entitles me to send the government the certificate of its completion, which I have enclosed.
Yours Ob. Sevt.
C H Martin
Overseer

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington Nelson Provincial Register NP 7 1876/208)

In the Suburban North Committee of Education meeting register of 1856 to 1877 these details on Charles Henry MARTIN were found. On the meeting of 9th June 1876 C.H. MARTIN became a member of the school committee. He was authorised to get a load of gravel for the Happy Valley School, which Charles gave free of charge to the school from his gravel pit. The records continue to show that Charles regularly attended the meetings and often took the chair. Whenever he offered to do anything it was done promptly. He also never charged for any gravel from his pit and was always offering his services.

On 08 June 1877 he resolved, "It is desirable that the children of any government school be taught singing". This would led us to believe that Charles had a great interest in music and this was later confirmed in the bequest he made to the Nelson Music Society upon his death.

The 1894-95 Wise's Directory, Nelson, Westland and Marlborough list our ancestors living at Wakapuaka - Charles H MARTIN, Miss MANSSEN and William PAGE Bricklayer.
(Reference National Library of NZ 1894-95 Wise's Directory, Nelson, Westland and Marlborough)

On all the early Electoral Rolls he was recorded as Charles Henry MARTIN, a farmer living in Suburban North, Nelson.

City of Nelson Electoral Rolls

- 1893 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North part section 20 Farmer
- 1894 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North part section 20 Farmer

- 1896 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North part section 20 Freehold Farmer
- 1899 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North part section 20 Farmer

Nelson Supplementary Electoral Roll

- 1902 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North Farmer

(Reference National Library NZ Electoral Rolls on various microfiche)

Charles sold part of section 20 to his nephew Charles Page on 27 June 1904

No 7720 transfer of part of section 20 Correct for the purpose of the Land Transfer Act situated on the District of Suburban North

Mr H Martin – Vendor

Mr C Page – Purchaser

Particulars entered in the Register-Book Vol 1c Folio 333 the 27th day of June 1904 at 10 o'clock Am

Signed by the District Land Registrar

Memorandum of Transfer

I Henry Martin of Suburban North Farmer being registered as the proprietor of an estate in fee simple subject however, to such encumbrances, liens, and interests as are notified by memorandum under written or indorsed hereon, in that price of land situated in the District of Suburban North containing two acres one rood and twenty eight perches be the same a little more or less being part of Section 20 (Original Section VII) and being part of the Section comprised and described in Certificate of Title Vol. 1 & Fo. 333 and more particularly described in the plan produced herewith in consideration of the sum of One Hundred pounds paid to me by Charles Page of Suburban North Farmer the receipt of which sum I hereby acknowledge, do hereby transfer to the said Charles Page all my state and interest in the said piece of land.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this Seventeenth day of June 1904

Signed Henry Martin

Signed on the day above by the said Henry Martin in the presence of (JONES) Law Clerk Nelson

(Reference Land and Survey department Nelson information C/T 26/166 now held at Archives NZ Christchurch Office)

Nelson Electoral Roll

- 1905 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North Farmer

(Reference National Library NZ Electoral Rolls on various microfiche)

On 04 April 1908 Charles Henry MARTIN made out a Will details are recorded towards the end of the document. Charles made an amendment on 06 February 1913 to his will by replacing two of his Trustees.

Nelson Electoral Roll

- 1908 Charles Henry MARTIN Suburban North Farmer
- 1911 Nothing for Charles Henry MARTIN or any other NZ Electoral Rolls

(Reference National Library NZ Electoral Rolls on various microfiche)

Charles sold part of section 20 to The Nelson Diocesan Trust on 03 July 1913

No 12346 Transfer of part section 20 situated in District of Suburban North

Mr Henry Martin – vendor

The Nelson Diocesan Trust Board Incorporated – Purchaser

Particulars entered in the Register-book, Vol. 1c folio 333 the 3rd day of July 1913 at 10.50 o'clock am. Signed (JOHNSTON) District Land Registrar

Corrected for the purpose of the Land Transfer Act - Adams & Hartley Solicitors Nelson

Part of Sec. 20 to be called pt of Sec. VIII "Suburban North
Vide memos File 283/335 and plan D 434/157B initialled (WSJ) 25/11/13

Approved by District Land Registrar Nelson
Memorandum of Transfer

I Henry Martin of the District of Suburban North Farmer being registered as the proprietor of an estate in fee simple subject however, to such encumbrances, liens, and interests as are notified by memorandum under-written or indorsed hereon, in that piece of land situated in the District Suburban North containing one rod be the same a little more or less being part of Section 20 on the map of the said district as the said parcel of land is more particularly delineated on a plan deposited in the Land Transfer Office at Nelson as No D434/157B and being part of the land comprised and described in Certificate of Title registered at Nelson in Volume 1 C Folio 333

In consideration of the sum of Fifty pounds paid to me by The Nelson Diocesan Trust Board Incorporated a body of persons associated for religious purpose the receipt of which sum I hereby acknowledge, do hereby transfer to the said The Nelson Diocesan Trust Board Incorporated all my estate and interest in the said piece of land

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this first day of July 1913

Signed Henry Martin

Signed on the day above – named by the said Henry Martin in the presence of:

E Howard GILL – Law Clerk Nelson

(Reference Land and Survey department Nelson information now held at Archives NZ Christchurch Office)

Charles Henry MARTIN (registered John Henry Carl MARTIN) age 84 years Farmer born Hamburg Germany died on the 04 August 1917 at "Mount Hamburg", Atawhai, Nelson. His parents were records as Carl MARTIN occupation Clerk and Johanna Catherine MARTIN (MANSSSEN) formerly LIZAHT. Charles had dwelled in New Zealand for 69 years (about 1848) and never married. Cause of death was senile decay – Syncope as certified by Dr W D S JOHNSTON who saw him last on 04 August 1917. He was buried on 06 August at the Nelson Cemetery (Wakapuaka) by the Anglican minister Rev G E WEEKS. The undertaker was Alfred SHONE of Collingwood Nelson who registered the death on 08 August 1917.

(Reference RGO NZ death registration 1917 folio 2353 item 96 Nelson district)

After his death a headstone was erected by the trustees of Charles's Will. His 1908 Will makes interesting reading. It is a testament to the generous character of our ancestor (Johann Carl Heinrich MARTIN) Charles Henry MARTIN.

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of me CHARLES HENRY MARTIN (sometimes called Henry Martin) of "Mount Hamburg" Suburban North in the Provincial District of Nelson in the Dominion of New Zealand Farmer I HEREBY REVOKE all former Wills and other testamentary dispositions by me at any time heretofore made and declare this alone to be my last Will and Testament I GIVE DEVISE and BEQUEATH All my real and personal estates whatsoever and wheresoever situated unto ROBERT PERCY BAGOT BOND of the City of Nelson Newspaper Proprietor WILLIAM THOMPSON of the said City of Nelson Painters Salesman JOHNCORDER of Wakapuaka in the said Provincial District of Nelson Farmer and ERNEST WILLIAM FROST of Wakapuaka aforesaid Farmer (hereinafter with the survivor and survivors of them referred to as my said Trustees) UPON TRUST as to my real estate (with the exception of that portion thereof known as "The Quarry" hereinafter referred to, to lease the same upon such tenure including Building Lease and at such rental as my said Trustees shall think fit And out of the

income thereof to keep the lands and premises in good condition and repair and to retain in their hands such amount as may seem reasonable to my said Trustees to meet contingencies such as fencing etc. that may arise from time to time and to pay the balance of such income to the Nelson Hospital to be expended in such manner as to the Hospital and Charitable Air Board shall seem most conducive to the comfort of the patients for the time being in the said Hospital I DIRECT my said Trustees to let or lease that part of my property known as "The Quarry: containing one acre more or less having a frontage approximately of 3 chains to the Main Road commencing from the Northern corner thereof at the Junction of the Main Road and Todd's Bush Road and thence in a Southerly direction by a depth approximately of 3 1/3 chains either upon the terms of a royalty upon the stone quarried there from or upon such other terms as they may deem desirable and after providing for contingencies to apply the income thereof in providing such annual prizes for the Public Schools of Hill Side, Clifton Terrace and Happy Valley in the said Provincial District of Nelson and also an annual prize for one deserving pupil at the Nelson School of Music such pupil to be nominated therefore by the Teaching Staff for the time being of the said School as to my Trustees shall seem desirable I DESIRE however that the level land adjacent to the road and formed by the quarrying the stone shall be excluded from any such lease as aforesaid and direct that the same shall at all times be open to the general public for a picnic and pleasure resort and also as a camping ground for travellers but not for stock and no traveller or travellers shall occupy the said camping ground for a longer period at any one time than three days The Trustees to see that the camping ground is not used for cattle the only beasts to be allowed there being those necessary for the working of the Quarry WITH POWER to my said Trustees to convey such portion of such level land aforesaid for the purpose of a Public Hall Site as to my Trustees shall seem sufficient AND as to the residue of my said real estate and as to all my personal estate after payment of my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses I GIVE DEVISE and BEQUEAH the same to my said Trustees absolutely as tenants in common and to be equally divided between them share and share alike as a small recompense for their services in connection with this my Will In the event of the death of any of my said Trustees or if any of my said Trustees shall leave the District or if any of the cause mentioned in Section 2 of 'The Trustees Amendment Act 1901' should arise and render the office of Trustee vacant the remaining surviving Trustee or Trustees shall appoint a new Trustee in the same manner directed and with the powers conferred by the said Act PROVIDED ALWAYS that there shall not be less than three Trustees of my said estate AND I hereby appoint my said Trustees to be the Executors of this my Will IN WITNESS whereof I the said Charles Henry Martin have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of April in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and eight (**04 April 1908**) - - C.H.Martin - - SIGNED by the Testator the said Charles Henry Martin as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses – A.C.Maginnity Solicitors.

Nelson - - James Houker, Solicitor Nelson

THIS IS A CODICIL to the last Will and Testament of me Charles Henry Martin of Mount Hamburg Suburban North which Will bears date the fourth day of April 1908. WHEREAS by me said Will I have appointed Robert Percy Bagot Bond of Nelson Newspaper Proprietor William Thompson of Nelson Painters Salesman John Corder of Wakapuaka Farmer and Ernest William Frost of Wakapuaka Farmer to be the Trustees and Executors of my said Will AND WHEREAS I am desirous of revoking the appointment of the said Robert Percy Bagot Bond and John Corder as such Trustees and Executors and of appointing in the stead of the said Robert Percy

Bagot Bond CLAUDE HENRY ALBOROUGH of Suburban North Farmer and in the stead of the said John Corder ANDREW STAGG of Suburban North Farmer NOT I DO THEREFORE REVOKE the appointments of the said Robert Percy Bagot Bond and John Corder as Trustees and Executors of my said Will and do appoint the said Claude Henry Alborough to be a Trustee and Executor in the stead of the said Robert Percy Bagot Bond and the said Andrew Stagg to be Trustee and Executor in the stead of the said John Corder AND I DIRECT THAT my said Will shall be construed just as though I had originally appointed the said Claude Henry Alborough and Andrew Stagg to be Trustees and Executors thereof with the said William Thompson and Ernest William Frost AND in all other respects to do hereby confirm my said Will IN WITNESS whereof I the said Charles Henry Martin have hereunto set my hands this sixth day of February in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirteen **(06 February 1913)**

C.H. Martin – SIGNED by the Testator the said Charles Henry Martin as and for a Codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses - - A.T. Maginnity, Solicitor Nelson James Houliker Solicitor Nelson

Re CHARLES HENRY MARTIN deceased

Application by William Thompson. Ernest Walter Frost, Claude Henry Alborough & Andrew Stagg to be registered as proprietor of Part Sec. 20 Suburban North Particulars entered in the Register Book Vol. 1G Flo. 333 the 24th day of April 1918 at 11.35 o'clock a.m.

Signed by District Land Registrar

In re the estate of GEROGE HENRY MARTIN deceased

We WILLIAM THOMPSON of Nelson Salesman, ERENST WALTER FROST of Wakapuaka Farmer, CLAUDE HENRY ALBOROUGH of Suburban North Farmer and ANDREW STAGG of Suburban North Farmer.

Do severally solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

[1] That we are executors under the will of the above named Charles Henry Martin who died on the fourth day of August 1917

[2] That the said Charles Henry Martin at the time of his decease was registered proprietor of ALL THAT parcel of land containing 7 acres 1 rood 22 perches more or less being part of Section numbered 20 on the plan of the District of Suburban North and being the balance of the land in Certificate of Title Volume 1c folio 333

[4] AND that the said Charles Henry Martin in the said certificate of Title was erroneously called "Henry Martin"

[5] That except as above stated no person than the declarants had any into in the estate or interest now applied to be transmitted

[6] That we verily believe we are entitled as such executors

TO BE CONTINUED

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW ZEALAND NELSON DISTRICT

IN THE ESTATE of CHARLES HENRY MARTIN late of Suburban North in the Provincial District of Nelson in the Dominion of New Zealand Farmer Deceased

TO BE KNOWN TO ALL MEN that on this fifteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and seventeen the last will and testament and codicil thereto of Charles Henry Martin late of Suburban North in the Provincial District of Nelson in the Dominion of New Zealand Farmer deceased who died on or about the fourth day of August 1917 a copy of which is hereinafter written has been exhibited read and proved before His Honour John Henry Hoskings Esquire a Judge of this Honourable

Court and administration of the estate and credits of the deceased has been and is hereby granted to WILLIAM THOMPSON of Nelson Salesman ERNEST WALTER FROST of Wakapuaka Farmer CLAUDE HENRY ALBOROUGH of Suburban North Farmer and NADREW STAGG of Suburban North Farmer the Executors in the said Will and Codicil named being first sworn faithfully to execute the said will and codicil by paying the debts and legacies of the deceased as far as the property will extend and the law binds

GIVEN under the Seal of the Supreme Court of New Zealand at Nelson this fifteenth day of October 1917

Deputy Registrar

Charles requested the trustees of his Will to lease "The Quarry", the income from which was to provide annual prizes for the public schools of Hillside, Clifton Terrace, Happy Valley and for one deserving pupil at the Nelson School of Music. The level land adjacent to the Quarry was to be opened to the general public for a picnic and pleasure resort also as a camping ground for travellers for up to three days. This land was not to be used for cattle unless those necessary for the working of the Quarry. A portion of this level land was to be set aside for a public hall site. The remainder of building and land to be leased and the income used in maintaining the land and premises. The balance of income was to go to the Nelson Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

Upon the death of Charles Henry MARTIN the Trustees looked after his estate. On 06 February 1913 Robert BONAD was replaced by Claude ALBOROUGH of Suburban North and John CORDER was replaced by Andrew STAGG of Suburban North as New Trustees.

When the Clifton Terrace School had a Jubilee an ex-student displayed two books for the years 1925 and 1927 inscribed:

*The C.H. MARTIN Scholarship Prize
For Progress during Year 1925
Awarded to
Erica Jean Barnett
Clifton Terrace School
Name of Teacher Frank Coleman
Name of Chairman Herbert Rayner*

*Note: She received the publication prize *Domby and Son* by Charles Dickens Vol. 1.*

*The C.H. MARTIN Scholarship Prize
For Progress during Year 1927
Awarded to
Erica Barnett
Clifton Terrace School
Name of Teacher Frank Coleman
Name of Chairman Herbert Rayner*

*Note: She received two publication prizes of [1] *Poetical works of Alfred Lord Tennyson* and [2] *Harold The Last of the Saxon Kings* by Edward Bulwer Lytton Lord Lytton*

The land for the camping ground was made into a tennis and croquet lawn where many of Charles's distant relatives played. Many of the BARNES descendants have fond memories of playing on these lawns. The lawns no longer exist. In time all the Trustees of the Will

passed away and the Public Trust Office took over as executor of the Will. The cost of administering the Will became such that the Public Trust Office put a notice in the Nelson paper asking if there were any objections to settling the Will of the late Charles Henry MARTIN. I understand there were no objections and the Will was finalised. A small subdivision is now on the land that Charles Henry MARTIN once owned.
