

The locations of Martins Bank, Lowick, Northumberland

1921 – 1969

Original
location of
Martins
Bank



Final
location of
Martins
Bank

Third Edition 6" OS Map revised 1922 Sheets nVII.SE, nVII.SW, nXI.NW, nXI.NE
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<https://maps.nls.uk/index.html>

The Berwick Advertiser dated 16 December 1921 announced that *a sub-branch of the Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Ltd. has been opened at Lowick on Tuesdays. Mr C. W. L. Stevens, manager of the Berwick Branch, will be in personal attendance at Mr Stephen Mole's grocery shop, near the Post Office.*

A photo of the property is shown below.



Robert Sinton's Collection

In October 1927 Stephen Mole put the shop and house on the market. Mr Renwick, possibly Thomas, bought the property. Moles Cash Stores continued to operate from the premises until Stephen's son, William, went bankrupt in 1937. He had to leave the property in February 1938. No mention of Martins Bank appears in the bankruptcy papers examined to date, so it is possible that the sub-branch had already moved to its new location, in what had once been the Golden Fleece, part of the Corner Shop.

On the right-hand side of the image below, the Victuallers sign can be seen above the doorway at the western end of the building in question. The second image shows the premises after the closure of the Golden Fleece in 1910.



Robert Sinton's Collection



Isaac Gray, probably the man in the photo above, died in 1923.- *Keith Purvis's Collection*

John Mabon set up as a Baker on his own account at the Corner Shop, in 1924. In May 1937 he obtained planning permission to add another floor to the Bakery and Shop. The father of the late Tony Carr carried out the building work. It is not possible to tell whether the Bank was in situ at the time the image below was taken.



J Mabon & Sons - Keith Purvis's Collection

The branch closed in 1942 due to the shortage of staff and reopened after the war on 7 May 1946.



Martins Bank, 1959 Courtesy of Barclays Group Archives, Ref 33.349.

The last reference to the bank being open appears in the Martins Branch Directory called the *Green Book*, printed in the Summer of 1968. It possibly closed when Barclays took over Martins on 15th December 1969. [The take- over date was provided by an ex-employee of Barclays.]

Sources:

Berwick Record Office: LG 1/11 Glendale Rural District Minutes; 1937598/127 Accounts of Moles Cash Stores

National Library of Scotland: Third Edition 6" OS Map revised 1922 Sheets nVII.SE, nVII.SW, nXI.NW, nXI.NE <https://maps.nls.uk/index.html>

1939 Register at Findmypast.co.uk

British Library Newspapers at Findmypast.co.uk: *Berwick Advertiser* 16 December 1921, 6 October 1927; 25 April 1946; *Berwickshire News* 25 September 1923; 10 May 1949

Barclays Group Archives

Martin Bank Archives: <http://www.martinsbank.co.uk/11-59-00%20Lowick.htm>

Photos: Robert Sinton and Keith Purvis

Julie Gibbs, May 2021