

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND FIRED CLAY

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(The cross-references denoted 'CQ' in this paper relate to *Charter Quay, The Spirit of Change*, Wessex Archaeology 2003)

The ceramic building material (a total of 111.5 kg) includes roof tiles (flat peg tiles, curved tiles, and including samples taken from pitched-tile hearths), floor tiles (some glazed, all plain), and bricks (including samples taken from selected structural elements). Flat roof tiles are most numerous, and include a very small proportion of glazed fragments; one fragment has a paw print. There are, however, no fragments from more elaborate roof furniture such as finials, and the curved tiles present (some of which may be ridge tiles) are all plain and unglazed.

A significant proportion of the ceramic building material (approximately 25% by number of fragments) came from medieval contexts (13th century and later); this consists mainly of flat roof tile with a few floor tiles. The bricks, almost without exception, came from post-medieval contexts. The significance of the roof tiles is to confirm the presence of tiled buildings on the site from an early period, although the documentary evidence indicates that most buildings would have been thatched.

Full fabric analysis has been undertaken on the whole assemblage, with 26 fabric types noted:

Fabric code	Description
Q600	Hard, moderately fine, iron-rich matrix with few inclusions visible

Q601	Hard, sandy, iron-rich fabric
Q602	Iron-poor matrix with moderate quartzite
Q603	Hard, iron-rich fabric; sandier on one side
Q604	Buff, iron-poor fabric with rare angular flint and sparse, very fine sand grains
Q605	Hard, sandy iron-poor fabric with rare quartzite
Q606	Iron-rich fabric with rare, very fine sand, slightly rougher on one side.
Q607	Rough, hard fabric with moderate quartzite
Q608	Iron-poor with moderate quartzite, slightly rougher on one side
Q609	Hard, sandy fabric with no visible inclusions, iron-poor
Q610	Hard, smooth fabric with no visible inclusions, iron-poor
Q611	Hard, smooth fabric with quartz grains on one side
Q612	Iron-rich, very sandy fabric
Q613	Dark red, iron-rich fabric with rare quartz
Q614	Hard, sandy, iron-rich fabric with moderate quartz
Q615	Hard, smooth iron-rich fabric with no visible inclusions
Q616	Hard, sandy, iron-rich fabric with patches of orange clay throughout
Q617	Hard, iron-poor fabric with darker orange patches throughout
Q618	Hard, sandy, iron-rich fabric with moderate fine sand and rare flint
Q619	Iron-rich, hard, sandy fabric with rare quartz
Q620	Iron-poor fabric with rare quartz, with sand grains on one surface
Q621	Iron-poor fabric with very common quartz, sandy grit on one surface
Q622	Hard, iron-rich fabric with moderate quartz, one rough surface
Q623	Hard, iron-rich sandy fabric with no visible inclusions
Q624	Hard, sandy iron-rich fabric with one sandy surface
Q625	Iron-poor, hard fabric with rare quartz

Roof Tiles

Of the 136 contexts from which ceramic building material was recovered, 115 contained peg tiles. The majority of these tiles comprise of irregular, handmade flat roof tiles; a minority contained surviving peg holes. Peg holes are mainly round in shape, with a few square examples. The majority of tiles were in fabric Q600.

Thirteen fragments of curved tile were recovered with three of these being identifiable hipped tiles.

Floor Tiles

A total of 51 fragments of plain floor tile was recovered, of which the majority (42) are glazed. Most fragments are in fabric Q600. Two glazed floor tiles were recovered complete (contexts 867 and 3546). One tile (context 679) carries an animal paw impression on the reverse side.

Bricks

A total of 31 brick fragments was recovered; all handmade. Of these, 14 were whole; fabric types and measurements are summarised in Table CBM1.

Fired Clay

The fired clay derives largely from a single hearth in Plot 2. Other fragments, recovered in small quantities from a number of contexts, are all featureless and abraded, and probably also derive from hearths.

Table CBM1: Brick fragments

Fabric	No. bricks	Measurements
Q614	8	230-40 x 100-115 x 50-60 mm
Q612	2	230 x 110 x 60 mm
Q618	1	215 x 100 x 50 mm
Q600	1	215 x 100 x 60 mm
Q609	1	225 x 110 x 40 mm
Q619	1	225 x 105 x 50 mm