

Elms Farm Post-medieval Brick and Tile

H. Major

Fragments of post-medieval brick and tile were recovered from fifteen contexts on the site. Four of these were machining contexts (11000, and 12251, 12258 and 12263 in area R), and the rest were contexts within cut features. Single pieces of peg-tile came from two undoubtedly Roman contexts (PH 5170, Central building J21, and pit 6151, H68) and must be intrusive, but the remainder of the brick and tile came from post-holes in the 'Saxon' fence line, G18/H64. Seven of the post-holes had small single sherds of tile, one had five sherds of tile, one ten sherds of tile and one had a fairly large piece of brick (19th cent? - to be checked with Pat Ryan). It is possible to write off this material as intrusive, but the ten sherds from 6093 (which weigh 805g) and the brick seem unlikely to be intrusive. It is possible that this material all came from the machined surface of the features, and was really in the lower topsoil, but in that case one might expect other features in the area to have post-medieval brick and tile on their surfaces too, and this is not the case. It therefore seems more likely that the features are post-medieval, with residual Roman and Saxon material. Some of the post-holes had the remains of the post present, which suggests that the fence is not particularly old, since this seems too high in the site sequence for Saxon waterlogged deposits to survive. The fence line follows the line of the Roman temple wall, which suggests that the wall may still have been visible as a landscape feature as late as the post-medieval period, or at the very least, that the line of the wall was still in use as a boundary.

Catalogue of post-medieval brick and tile

Context	Feature	Group	No.	Wt. (g)	Notes
5170	5170	J21	1	174	Peg tile.
6012	6011	H64	1	156	Tile
6067	6068	H64	5	186	Tile, one with a peg hole
6086	6087	H64	1	-	Peg tile. Not kept.
6093	6092	H64	10	805	Tile, two with peg holes, and one with a peg hole which has not been completed.
6152	6151	H68	1	-	Peg tile. Not kept.
7003	7002	G18	1	34	Tile
7010	7008	G18	1	12	Tile
7028	7027	G18	1	342	Brick corner, well finished. C19-20? 64mm thick (2 1/2")
7037	7035	G18	1	-	Tile. Not kept.
7042	7041	G18	1	18	Tile
11000	U/S		2	368	One peg tile, one brick with partial salt glaze.
12251	Machining		1	378	Brick corner, well finished, with a

Context	Feature	Group	No.	Wt. (g)	Notes
					frog. Th. 63mm (2 1/2"). C19?
12258	Machining		3	2326	Brick. Two are very hard fired, one with a partial salt glaze, one with a slaggy glaze. W. 96mm, Th. 61mm (2 1/2 x 4 7/8"). Engineering brick? The other is more crudely made, with possible wear from use as paving. W 105mm, Th. 43-46mm. Possibly earlier post-medieval.
12263	Machining		2	596	19th-20th cent. brick, one with a partial slaggy glaze. Th. 61mm. There was also a piece of concrete (discarded).

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ELMS FARM POST-MEDIEVAL BRICK AND TILE

[Discarded 29/09/05]

<u>Context</u>	<u>Description</u>
5170	Peg tile, one hole, 176g
7010	Fragment, 14g
7003	Fragment, 36g
12258	Brick, modern, part-vitrified surface, 358g
7042	Fragment, 18g
6012	Peg tile, 158g
6067	Peg tile x 5, one with hole, 188g
11000	Brick fragment, 276g; peg tile with two holes, 92g
12263	Bricks, modern part-vitrified surfaces, 595g
12258	Two half-bricks - abraded flooring brick, W100xD45mm, 890g; overfired, W95xD60mm, 1095g
12251	Brick fragment with part of frog, 382g
6093	Peg tile fragments x 10, two with holes, 805g