ELMS FARM TILE FABRICS

A This is a group of fabrics rather than a single fabric, and covers the material which is likely to be local, but which does not have any very noticeable distinguishing features when examined macroscopically, such as sandiness.

Usually well fired and hard.

Colour variable, red to brownish orange, sometimes grev or with a grev core.

Sparse to medium sand.

Sometimes has sparse iron-rich flecks.

B Colour tends to be reddish.

Common sand.

Rough fracture.

C Fine textured, well-fired.

Sparse sand.

Sparse to fairly sparse small fragments of calcareous material (chalk)

D Fine textured

Inclusions almost absent to the naked eye

Smooth fracture

E Distinctive fabric, usually brown or pale

Large blobs of paler clay

Sparse sand, occasional pebbles

F Brown fabric with slightly soapy feel

Fairly common sand

Occasional blobs of paler clay

Occasional iron-rich inclusions up to 3mm diam.

Occasional very sparse small chalk flecks

G Off-white

Sparse sand

Sparse small voids

Fine sanding on the back

H Pale pink, pale buff surface

Inclusions as G, and possibly the same fabric

J Typically orange core, creamy orange surface, but may be all one colour

Sparse sand

Common iron rich inclusions up to 7mm diam.

Sparse voids

K Buff or other pale colour - possibly an underfired version of E

Fairly sparse paler clay inclusions

Sparse iron rich flecks

Sparse sand