

# TWO MEDIEVAL TILES FOUND AT BARTON FIELDS FARM, BARTON BLOUNT

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Some time after the excavations of the Medieval village of Barton Blount by Mr. Guy Beresford (c. 1975), I was asked by the farmer at Barton Fields Farm whether I would investigate two low mounds in one of his fields. This I did, only to find I was dealing with two piles of Medieval debris amongst which were numerous fragments of pottery, including half a tile impressed with a design of a griffin-like heraldic beast and a fox or squirrel.

As I went on digging, many more pieces of unglazed terracotta tiles appeared, with more fragments of the griffin tile which completed the design when put together (Fig. 1).

Another tile had a design of a fleur-de-lys and two oak leaves with a dotted band (Fig. 2). They were floor tiles of unglazed terracotta, each measuring six inches square. They had come from the village of Barton Blount as wasters and had been dumped by the cartload outside the village. There appeared to be only two designs represented.

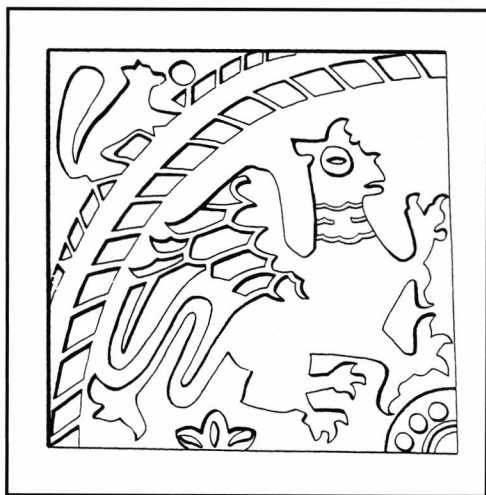


Fig. 1: The griffin tile. Not to scale.

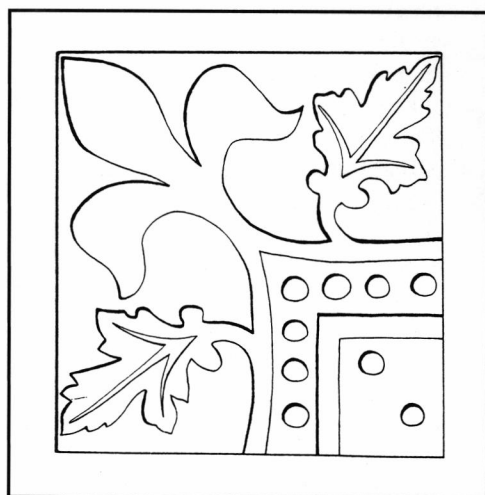


Fig. 2: The fleur-de-lys tile. Not to scale.