

## **CBM Fabrics from Beckingham, Nottinghamshire (BKSR07)**

### ***Alan Vince***

Selected examples of ceramic building material fabrics from Beckingham, Nottinghamshire, were submitted by Jane Young for description and possible interpretation. In all cases, these comments are based on study at x20 magnification without thin sectioning and are all therefore tentative.

#### **Fabric 1**

Abundant rounded and subangular quartz up to 0.3mm across.

Moderate well-rounded opaque black grains up to 2.0mm across.

Rare rounded acid igneous rock up to 2.0mm

Rare thin lenses of offwhite calcareous clay

Rare thin lenses of rounded and subangular quartz (as in main body).

Interpretation: probably a Trent valley sand in a weathered Mercian mudstone clay

#### **Fabric 3**

Abundant large angular fragments of mudstone of varying colours and textures up to 30mm across

Possibly some rare angular gypsum, up to 10mm.

Lenses of abundant rounded and subangular quartz up to 0.3mm across.

Interpretation: Poorly weathered Mercian mudstone with a Trent valley moulding sand

#### **Fabric 5**

Poorly mixed offwhite and red-firing sandy and red-firing sand-free clays. The offwhite clays appear to be marl.

Moulding sand of abundant rounded and subangular quartz up to 0.3mm across.

Interpretation: Weathered Mercian mudstone with Trent valley sand.

#### **Fabric 6**

as Fabric 5 but higher fired.

#### **Fabric 8**

Abundant large angular fragments of off-white marl up to 15mm across

abundant rounded and subangular quartz up to 0.3mm across.

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<http://www.postex.demon.co.uk/index.html>

A copy of this report is archived online at

<http://www.avac.uklinux.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2008113.pdf>

A mixed groundmass with lenses of offwhite and red-firing, sandy, clay.

Interpretation: Poorly weathered Mercian mudstone with a Trent valley moulding sand

### **General conclusions**

All the fabrics are likely to have been made using Mercian Mudstone, which outcrops extensively on the west side of the Trent, and in each case the quartz sand has the same size range and inclusions as are found in Trent valley sands, on both sides of the river. Most likely, these fabrics come from one or more brickyards in the Beckingham area. The remaining fabrics (not submitted) are all likely to be of Beverley manufacture (J Young pers comm).