A GAZETTEER OF BRICK AND TILE WORKS IN HAMPSHIRE

By W. C. F. White

Each of the industries that the Southampton Industrial Archaeology Group has surveyed in the past have been industries in decline and the brickworks survey is no exception. In the late nineteenth century there were probably 100 to 150 works in the county producing bricks, roofing tiles, floor tiles, drain pipes and many other items made from clay. Many were small, supplying a local need, but larger works, like Blanchard's at Bishop's Waltham, were active in the export market. Distribution of the finished bricks was a problem for the makers, as the road system was unsuitable for heavy loads and, apart from the horse and cart, no road vehicles were available.

The brick is one of the best walling materials. Brickwork has strength, durability, it is weather resistant when pointed, has good fire resistance, insulates heat and sound, looks good and is moderate in cost with no maintenance. A county which lacks a good local building stone uses more brickwork in its buildings, sometimes in conjunction with other materials, for example for quoins or corners in a building using flints for the main walling.

Raw Materials

The most striking feature of Hampshire's geology is the chalk mass which forms the rim of the Hampshire Basin. In the north it is the broad plateau of Salisbury Plain from which the chalk downland runs off to the east and west. On the chalk were deposited clays and brickearths and it is these on which the brickworks were built. For example London Clay is recorded at Aldershot as 325 ft. thick, at Gosport 327 ft. thick, and at Southampton Common 304 ft. Reading, Bagshot and Bracklesham Beds are also found in Hampshire.

Reading Beds

These are the lowest of the Tertiary seams and rest on the upper chalk. Brickworks at Fareham and Gosport were sited on these beds.

London Clay

The London Clay is of marine origin, very fossiliferous and can be used for bricks and pottery. The brickworks in the Fordingbridge and Bishop's Waltham areas were based on this formation.

Bracklesham Beds

These consist of clay and sand with some lignite and derive their name from Bracklesham, near Chichester. They contain material suitable for brickmaking and works at Chandlers Ford, Sholing, Bitterne, Netley, Totton and Chilworth used them.

Headon Beds

These are mostly under the New Forest and were exploited by works at Beaulieu, Exbury, Lymington and Brockenhurst.

Brickearth

This sandy, weathered clay deposit, as its name suggests, is used for making bricks. Of a rich ochrous colour, it is composed of extremely fine particles and is homogeneous and very tenacious. It is normally three to four feet deep and Southampton, Portsmouth and Gosport and Hayling Island all contain examples of bricks made from this material.

Manufacture

In the St. Mary Street area of Southampton all the houses were built with bricks made from the materials excavated for their foundations and burnt in clamps on the site. This was not uncommon and workers' houses at Portsmouth and Gosport were built in the same way. On a grander scale the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley was built with bricks made from clay extracted for its foundations. At Portsmouth, Hilsea Gasworks was first laid out between 1902 and 1905; almost all the 'clamp' bricks required – over five million of them – were produced from the subsoil of the estate. The clay was first passed through a pair of 3 ft. diameter rollers, then cut up in three pug mills. After tempering, the bricks were hand made.

The technique of making bricks always follows the same principles but with minor variations corresponding to local conditions. The clay must be 'won' from the pit, conditioned to the right constituency, moulded into a brick shape, dried, fired in a kiln, and the bricks selected and distributed. The time taken can vary from seven days to three weeks or, in the case of 'clamp' bricks, several months.

Clay extraction is now done by machine, but in the past was dug out by hand, loaded into 'tubs' or 'hoppers' and pushed or pulled to the mixer or 'pug' mill. It may be taken from different places to get a good mix and one brickworks took its clay from different levels in the winter and summer, possibly to facilitate the removal of the clay in inclement conditions.

Small tramways were frequently used for transporting the clay. However, Bursledon uses an overhead cable system. The clay is cleaned and ground before going into the 'pug' mill where water and fuel may be added. When it is mixed to the required constituency, the clay passes either to brickmaker tables or to the brick making machine. The machine extrudes the clay in a continuous length, which is cut into brick sizes by wires before removal to the press, where it is pressed solid and indented with a frog with the brickmaker's name. The hollow in a brick is call a 'frog' but to the hand brickmaker, his wood block in the bottom of his mould is called a 'mouse'. It is folklore in the trade that small boys would put 'frogs' and 'mice' in the brick mould to leave an impression when the brick was turned out. The brick mould is much larger than the finished brick as the brick shrinks when it is burnt in the kiln.

In the hand making process, the mould is sanded, a piece of clay worked to approximately the shape of the mould and then thrown into it in such a way that all the corners are filled. It is then gently tapped and placed upside down on a pallet for removal to

the drying area. A standard 'green' brick weighs approximately 8 lb. and, before burning, 1½ lb. of water used in the mix has to be dried out, otherwise the water would boil and the brick would shatter. If the bricks are to be naturally dried, they are stacked in lines out in the open and covered with 'hacks' to protect them from rain but allowing drying winds to play on them. This process takes several months, but by using heated drying sheds, it can be speeded up to seven days.

Drying sheds may contain many chambers and often utilise the waste heat from the kilns, using a warm air heater to supplement the heat. When the bricks are dry enough, they are transferred to the kiln, originally by barrows, but now, in most works, a fork-lift truck can carry the 'green' bricks in packs of up to 250.

Most of the kilns in Hampshire are of the Scotch or Hoffman types, although one of our brickmakers still burns his bricks in a 'clamp'. A clamp is a pyramid type of erection, consisting of one large stack of 'green' bricks with a cover of burnt bricks to keep the heat in. The bottom courses are honeycombed in patterns and the spaces between the bricks filled with 'live' ash to burn the bricks. The clamp is ignited from one end and the fire gradually burns through the stack. When the white smoke appears first from the top of the stack 'White feathers up George' was a phrase used by one of the brickmakers, meaning the ash had caught fire and the starting fire should be damped down to get it drawn through the 'clamp'. When the bricks are burnt they are allowed to cool and then loaded straight on to the lorries.

The basic colour of the brick is determined by the clay used in its making and the multi-coloured effect by the burning process in the kiln. This is why one brick can have a black header or end (3 in. x 4½ in.) and a red stretcher or side (9 in. x 3 in.).

A Scotch kiln is a four-sided rectangular structure of brick walls with a removable roof and a large entrance at one end. The floor has a system of parallel walls with spaces between each wall to allow the fire and heat to get to the 'green' bricks stacked above and it is stoked with wood or coal from a fire hole at the back of the kiln and below the line of 'green' bricks.

A Hoffman kiln is much larger, built of brick with steel supports and banded with iron straps. It contains a series of chambers and, by means of baffles, the fire can be introduced to each in turn. There is a sequence with one chamber burning bricks, one cooling down, and the next being emptied of its bricks. In the opposite direction the chamber will be warming up, using heat from its neighbour. Larger works, such as Burseldon, may have more than one Hoffman kiln.

In times past, bricks were burnt with wood, or charcoal, but when these became scarce coal was used. Now many works have oil-fired kilns. After the bricks are burnt they are left to cool in the kiln with the help of fans transferring the heat to the drying sheds. The bricks are then 'drawn' from the kiln, sorted and stacked ready to be loaded on to lorries for removal to their destination.

Historical Background

The first brickmakers in the county were the Romans, who used the local clay to make their roof tiles, bricks and hollow tiles for their central heating systems. Roman bricks resemble thick floor tiles, 18 in. long and 2½ in. thick. They may be seen in

surviving Roman buildings and were frequently re-used when the buildings were abandoned.

The art of brickmaking then seems to have lapsed until the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Documents and archaeological excavations reveal that small Dutch medieval bricks were being imported into Southampton and in contemporary documents these are described as 'white wall tiles of Flanders'. They were small bricks being $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. long and $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide. Examples have been found built into the roof of a vault near St. Michael's Church and in debris of buildings excavated in West Gate Street, Southampton.

The art of making bricks was revived in England by political or religious refugees fleeing from Europe, arriving first in East Anglia and then moving to other parts of the country, including Hampshire. There is fifteenth century brickwork in the gateway at Basing and at 'Place House', Titchfield, an example of sixteenth century brickwork. (Mr. Draper of Fareham has found evidence of brickmaking on this site.)

The size of bricks altered during the years and a pre-metric brick is said to measure 9 in. x $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 3 in., although in practice it is $\frac{3}{8}$ in. smaller than these measurements, to allow for the bed of mortar. So an odd brick may be 7, 9 or 10 inches long, be 4, $4\frac{1}{2}$ or $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide and vary in thickness from 2, $2\frac{1}{4}$ and 3 inches thick. As many of these bricks were used in panels in timber frame buildings, their size was irrelevant.

Prices of bricks varied and the rate on the Common in Southampton in 1623 was 9s. 6d. per 1,000. By 1704 it had increased to 10s. 0d. As a comparison hand-made bricks are now about £40 and Flettons about £24 per 1,000. Bricks were used to raise revenue for the government and a tax was imposed from 1784 to 1850; in the year 1835 it was 5s. 10d. per thousand.

Brickwork in Hampshire

A very good example of seventeenth century brickwork in the north of the county is 'Bramshill House' built by Lord Zouch and now used by the police as a training college.

The growth of railways in Hampshire provided much work for the brick industry. Stations, occupation bridges, tunnels and viaducts were built of brick and there are references to local brickworks providing the materials. Engineering bricks had been developed in the north of England, and were used in tunnels and retaining walls where greater strength was needed. The works of Mr. Church at Durley in 1901 supplied bricks to the Meon Valley Railway. At Fareham, the building of two viaducts gave considerable impetus to the trade. A mile of tunnel used approximately 14 million bricks, a bridge over a road 300,000, and at one time the railways were probably using a third of the total bricks being produced in the country.

The works at Fareham supplied bricks for the forts being built around Portsmouth and Gosport and also the docks at Portsmouth and Southampton. The Victorian era provided much work for the industry with workers' housing being erected in long terraces, factories for the expanding industries, churches using banded brickwork for decoration, large hotels for the railway companies and prestige offices for banks and insurance companies, and the building of theatres.

The two world wars reduced production when men were drafted to the forces and

there was a lack of any building except for the needs of war. (For example, the Rolling Mills at Weston Lane, Southampton.) In the days of blackout in the second world war, some small works closed because the lighted kilns provided a bombing risk and covers were not adequate.

The Industry in 1971

After 1945, various alternative types of building were tried and received encouragement in official circles. Different materials were used, including steel, concrete and glass. In private housing cedar wood panels were fitted but, taking into account the cost of maintenance, many builders and architects have returned to alternate coloured bricks for panels in large areas of brickwork.

There is a traditional surplus and shortage in the industry every year because of the winter weather when the bricklayer cannot lay many bricks because of frost, snow or rain. The works stockpile the bricks, but if the winter is fairly mild, summer may bring a shortage. The economy of the country is another factor as most bricks are used in the building of homes both private and council, and construction depends on the availability of funds.

There are now only six brickworks in the county, and it is expected that Bursledon Brickworks will close with the building of the South Coast Motorway. Most of the bricks used in Hampshire come from the Bedford area, where firms such as the London Brick Company produce up to 20 million bricks weekly in comparison to a small unit making 30 to 40 thousand handmade bricks. It is ironic that with so many Hampshire brickwords closed, the demand for bricks has never been greater and people still prefer their houses to be built with a brick exterior.

Outstanding Examples of Brickwork in Hampshire

1. Shawford Viaduct, near Winchester. This viaduct was built in red brick for the Didcot, Newbury and Southampton Railway, completed in 1891 and is now disused. It is 2,014 ft. long, 40 ft. high and carried a single track. It has 23 arches. Due to road works in this area it seems that it will be demolished.

2. Privett Tunnel on the Meon Valley Railway. The longest tunnel in the county, being 1,058 yds. long and built in 1902.

3. Woolston and Netley stations, built for the Southampton to Netley Railway, and Swaythling for the London South Western Railway, are good examples of brick stations.

4. There are many public houses in the county built of brick and 'The Old Farm House' in Mount Pleasant Road, Southampton, is a good example of a brick and timber frame building. It was built in 1611 and letters and the date 1611 are patterned into the wall using the black headers of the bricks. Also in the side of the building there remain some original herring bone inserts in the timber framing.

5. Gaumont, Southampton. A large cinema built as a Moss Empire in 1928 for live shows as well as films. It has a stone front but the main walls consist of thick brickwork.

6. Fort Widley on Portsdown Hill. This fort, finished in 1868, is one of the forts in the line on Portsdown hills above Portsmouth. They were built for the defence of Portsmouth from the land side and were called 'the best self-contained castles to be built in England'. Large amounts of brickwork were used in the fortifications and in the large 'dry' moats. The high walls were flint faced but the corners, parapets and other defensive buildings were built of red bricks from Fareham.

7. R.N. Stores, Weston Shore, Southampton. This large building, previously called 'The Rolling Mills', is included because it must be the largest brick-built building in the county, running parallel with Weston Shore and enclosed with a very long brick wall.

8. Most of the churches built in the county are of stone but in the Victorian era architects started to use brick for interior decoration as at Lyndhurst, St. Mark's, Woolston, and Christchurch, Freemantle. These local churches are good examples of the work of William White, using arches and bands of different coloured bricks for visual effect. A later example is the R.C. Church of St. Boniface in Shirley.

9. The University, Southampton. A good example of academic buildings built over a period of years using local bricks, culminating with the Nuffield Theatre by Sir Basil Spence.

10. The Post Office in High Street, Southampton, is a fine example of the use of terra-cotta in a public building and has been sympathetically restored after bomb damage. The Prudential building in Above Bar, by Waterhouse, which is a smaller version of the London Office, is another fine example of Blanchard's terra-cotta being used in a building.

Gazetteer of Sites of Clay Based Industries with Notes on Condition in 1971

Each entry begins with a place name, followed by a street name where applicable. This is followed by the number of the appropriate 1 in. O.S. Sheet, the Grid Reference, and initials of the contributor. Finally, comes the name of the works if known and notes on its history and the present condition of the site.

The six surviving brickworks are placed at the beginning of the list. It must be stressed that only identifiable sites are included, but there is bound to be some variation between the judgements of individual contributors in deciding which sites are identifiable.

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A Works in Use

1. BURSLEDON, Swanwick Lane 180 SU501099 MFT

Bursledon Works. A brickworks producing red, wire cut bricks, this works was founded in 1897 by Mr. Ashby but is now owned by the Redland Brick Company.

The clay is now brought to the works from the pits a mile away by an overhead cable. It was also brought by barge from workings on the other side of the River Hamble. There are four coal-fired Hoffman kilns and production methods have changed little since the introduction of a new extrusion plant in 1935.

Annual production is about 18 million bricks with a capacity of 20 million. The works stand alongside the Southampton to Fareham railway, and a private siding was installed, but now the bricks are distributed by lorry.

2. SELBORNE 169 SU 767342 EAC

Selborne Works. This brickworks produces red and multi-coloured facing bricks, sand faced wire cuts and briquettes for making fire-places.

The clay is dug from a pit and some is stored in a large blister hanger. This ensures supply when the weather is bad and the excavator is unable to work. There is a single line cable-worked incline leading up from the pit. Power is supplied by a Ruston and Hornsby oil engine. Bricks are machine made. Sheds for artificial drying are provided. Bricks are produced in one coal-fired Hoffman kiln at the rate of 40 to 50 thousand per week. The labour force numbers 20–25, including boys, and most of the bricks are sold within 70 miles of the works. The works became commercial in 1933 after being an estate brickworks for about 50 years.

3. MONK SHERBORNE 168 SU 593576 EAC

Ramsdell Works. A brickworks making red and multi-coloured facing bricks with two downdraught rectangular pattern kilns and producing 900,000 bricks annually.

Distribution area up to 50 miles and to London. Local housing and house at works made from Ramsdell bricks. The works has been in operation for 80 years and has a labour force of nine men.

4. MICHELMERSH 168 SU 343258 BS

This works still produces hand-made bricks.

The clay comes from an outcrop of London Clay and Reading Beds although the surrounding terrain is mainly chalk. The clay is brought from the pit by a Crawler tractor to the feeder and then on to the pug mill. Here breeze is added by hand before being mixed and passed on to the brickmakers' benches. The makers are paid by results and the brick industry was one of the first to use this method of payment.

The green bricks are set on pallets and transferred to the drying sheds which utilise the excess heat from the kilns. They are left for a week before being set in a kiln for burning. The pair of kilns are dome-shaped, circular down draught kilns, hold between 35 and 38 thousand bricks and are 20 feet in diameter. They are oil-fired and reach a temperature of 1,050 degrees Centigrade and it is this heat which produces the yellow, brown, deep red, purple and blue colours for which Michelmersh bricks are known.

BRICK AND TILE WORKS IN HAMPSHIRE 1971

WORKING BRICKWORKS △

SITES OF BRICKWORKS ○

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MILES

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CHALK

CHALK

CHALK

NEW FOREST

ISLE OF WIGHT

BASINGSTOKE

ALTON

PETERSFIELD

ROMSEY

BISHOPS WALTHAM

SOUTHAMPTON

FORDINGBRIDGE

FAREHAM

WIN

△1 △2 △3 △4 △5 △6

○7 ○8 ○9 ○10 ○11 ○12 ○13 ○14 ○15 ○16 ○17 ○18 ○19 ○20 ○21 ○22 ○23 ○24 ○25 ○26 ○27 ○28 ○29 ○30 ○31 ○32 ○33 ○35 ○36 ○37 ○38 ○39 ○40 ○41

The kilns were originally coal-fired but changed to oil in 1965. The firing takes about 30 hours and the bricks are drawn for distribution by the firm's lorries after cooling down for seven days. The bricks have been used in a number of Romsey buildings and also outside the county. Romsey Abbey Hall, the town's Court House, the Nuffield Theatre, the Administration block at Southampton University and Salisbury's new shopping precinct are local examples.

The brickworks is about 100 years old, and is now owned by Mr. Norman Hill.

5. HAYLING ISLAND 181 SU 718032 WCFW

Pycroft's Works. This is a small family business producing bricks by the clamp method in the summer months. It was started by Mr. Pycroft's father in 1934 and the family have a history of brickmaking in Fareham and district. The bricks are multi-coloured facings with a strong blue/brown/yellow colouring. They are made from brickearth brought to the site by lorries from the many house foundations being excavated on the island. Originally the brickearth seam was three to four feet thick over the site but this has been completely worked out and the shallow pit filled with town refuse. The area was then grassed and Mr. Pycroft now has beef stock breeding on the land.

There is a short length of near-standard gauge rail track which carries a traverser bearing a small hopper wagon of two-foot gauge. Temporary two-foot gauge tracks lead from the traverser track to dumps of incoming raw material as delivered by road, the breeze and brickearth being mixed as they are hand-loaded into the narrow gauge hopper. The hopper wagon is placed on the traverser which is brought to the foot of an incline. The wagon is then pulled to the top by a winch, powered by an electric motor. The brickearth is tipped into a hopper which feeds into a brickmaking machine, belt driven from the same motor as the winch. Mrs. Pycroft operates this machine assisted by her two sons. The bricks are stacked on special barrows and taken out to the field to dry naturally during the summer. They are covered by hacks to prevent the rain washing them apart.

When sufficient bricks are dried, a clamp is made and the bricks are burnt. Between 60 and 90 thousand are made yearly, mainly for Mr. Pycroft's own use as a builder. Most of them are used on Hayling Island, though Mr. Pycroft built 30 houses at Bedhampton, and before the war the works supplied bricks to Swaythling Housing Society in Southampton. Mr. Pycroft also makes a few briquettes for decorative fire places, using the same materials. He intends that his sons will carry on the business. The works is almost a museum of brickmaking, not only because of the methods employed but also because the equipment has come from other brickworks which have closed down. Unesco have recently contacted Mr. Pycroft with a view to utilising his unique skills, which are relevant to the production of building materials in under-developed countries.

6. HALE 179 SU 179199 HHFP & CB

Hale Brickworks was built in 1936 by the Weymouth Brick and Tile Company as a subsidiary of Charles Mitchell, Downton.

It has a 60 ft. high chimney and there are four Scotch kilns, two oil-fired and two coal-fired. There were steam-powered mixers, but these are no longer used having

been replaced by electric mixers. The clay comes from a pit 1½ miles away. The works produces red bricks and makes special shapes on request. In the past, some bricks were made from sand and cement. These were not burned but steam pressed in special containers which, with the trolleys and track, stand idle on the site. The works was planned for a site nearer Downton but permission was refused so they were constructed on the present site, just within Hampshire.

B. Sites of Works Out of Use

7. COXFORD, near Southampton 180 SU 394150 BS
Probably bricks made here but now a housing estate. Pub called 'The Brickmakers Arms' on opposite side of road.

8. ALDERMOOR, near Southampton 180 SU 401156 BS
Site as for Coxford but by the uneven nature of the land in the surrounding area, there were most likely other small workings.

9. ROMSEY, Sounding Arch 180 SU 330199 WFW
Embley Brickworks. Only a pit remains, partly brick-lined, for water supply. Made red bricks with *Embley* printed in frogs. Local distribution and bricks probably used on Embley Park Estate.

10. WEST WELLOW, Palmers Bridge 180 SU 292187 WFW
Rockingham Clayworks stamped in frogs of bricks.
Brickworks made red and buff bricks. Two small stores left on site, now a farm.

11. WEST WELLOW, Fighting Cocks Farm 180 SU 306183 WFW
This brickworks was worked by a family of four or five with an output of 24,000 bricks per week. The clay was dug from around the bungalow which now stands about 4 ft. above the surrounding ground levels. There is a small pug mill standing near the kiln, now covered in vegetation. The mill was driven by an oil engine. Clay was dug in the winter for summer production of bricks. Delivery was by horse and cart to Totton, Eling and adjacent areas. No bricks are produced here now, and the owner, Mr. Dibden, who inherited it from his father, uses the site for a smallholding and a coal business.

12. EAST TYTHERLEY POTTERY WORKS 168 SU 290300 WFW
Little trace of this works which probably produced flower pots and garden objects.

13. FUNTLEY, near Fareham 180 SU 562083 WCFW
Large pit and signs of private siding from railway are the only remains of this works. It was uncharacteristic of the area, producing 'Funtley Blues', mainly used for paving.

14. FUNTLEY, near Fareham 180 SU 565077 WCFW
Little visible evidence of the important Fareham brick industry remains, but

broken ground indicates the position of the works at the south end of Funtley village. This produced 'Fareham Reds' of the type used for building the forts on Portsdown Hill and St. Thomas's Hospital in London.

15. PETERSFIELD, The Causeway 181 SU 739223 EAC

Causeway Brickworks. This brickworks produced red bricks and tiles. The pit was on the opposite side of the road but can hardly be seen because of the undergrowth. There are two Scotch kilns but these have been converted to a barn. There are also two drying sheds. Local housing contains examples of this firm's bricks.

16. BORDON, Frith End 169 SU 803402 EAC

This brickworks, owned by the Nyewood Brick Company, closed in 1951. It produced hand-made bricks, wire cuts and pressed bricks. Of the one Hoffman kiln, all that remains is the metal pillars and it is used as a timber shed. The foundations of two Scotch kilns are now covered with wooden office buildings. There are also drying sheds and an office built with samples of the firm's bricks. The pit was worked at two levels, 40 ft. during the summer and 20 ft. in the winter.

17. ALDERSHOT, Boxalls Lane 169 SU 867495 EAC

Hampshire Brick Company. The clay pit is partly filled and flooded and is the only evidence of a brickworks on this site.

18. NEWNHAM 169 SU 703535 EAC

Daneshill Brick Company. Works site now occupied by Ready Mix Concrete. The two Scotch kilns have been adapted as part of the concrete mixing plant; an isolated brick chimney is still standing. There are also drying sheds and cottages; one is used as an office and three as dwellings. This works had a private siding from the railway and the gate is still *in situ.*

19. CHINEHAM, near Basingstoke 169 SU 651541 DHB

Daneshill Brick Company. A brickworks producing red bricks and tiles which closed down about 1946. It produced annually 700,000 bricks and made specially molded bricks for chimneys.

The site now occupied by a factory, 'Brady and Co.'. There were 22 cottages built at Little Basing for employees and the office building at the works has been listed as a building of historical interest. There are signs of a railway private siding.

20. BITTERNE, Southampton 180 SU 460125 MFT

Sheepwash Brickworks. A brickworks owned by Dyer and Sons of 1 Bevois Hill, Southampton, in 1910. No remains on site – entirely built over. However, the office of Dyers remains as a single-storey, purpose-built building at Bevois Hill and is now used by Robinson's Removal Contractors.

21. SHOLING, Southampton, Butts Road 180 SU 463117 MFT

This works produced red bricks and the ruins of two kilns are on site. One still contained the bricks from the last firing which were soft red bricks. The clay source is

very overgrown and the site derelict. In the remains of one building stands a brick-making machine, Berry's Patent, size no. 6

22. BASSETT, Southampton, Burgess Road 180 SU 415152 MFT
The remains of a clay pit as a sunken area at the back of the Bassett Hotel, near the Schooner Inn. Documentary evidence records the position of the kiln.

23. MIDANBURY, Southampton 180 SU 444147 MFT
T. Clark and Son. This works is an example of a builder producing bricks by the clamp method for his own use.
The area was used for making red bricks from 1930 until 1970 when production ceased. The site is now being built upon and a small area used to store the builder's materials. There are clamps still standing and a few drying hacks. Mr. Clark has built extensively in Bitterne Park, where examples of his bricks may be seen.

24. WEST END, near Southampton 180 SU 468149 MFT
A small works that produced red bricks. The pit is still to be seen but all signs of the works have gone. The site is now used for making concrete products but the stacks of red bricks remaining could be original products.

25. SWANMORE 180 SU 575168 MFT
No remains of works but several large pits indicating considerable production in the past. Housing estate and waste land cover site.

26. BROCKENHURST 180 SU 316036 RHAH
Victoria Brick and Tile Works. No remains of works but signs of pits. Manager's bungalow remains and has been converted to a house called Victoria Tilery Cottage. Associated with construction of Southampton and Dorchester Railway.

27. BEAULIEU, Baileys Hard 180 SU 393013 RHAH
Main building, drying shed and kiln remain. Also some derelict machines and clay pit. Ceased work in 1934. Owned by Beaulieu estate. Made bricks, pipes and tiles. Barges brought in coal and took away bricks.

28. DIBDEN, Claypits Lane 180 SU 406075 RHAH
No buildings except stable (now a dwelling). Iron of a horse-worked pug mill remains at pit. A cottage now called 'Three Horseshoes' was called 'Kiln Cottage'. Works closed in the thirties.

29. TOTTON 180 SU 352122 RHAH
Rushington Brickworks. Building demolished and site cleared. Now used by Rushcrete and Sparrows Crane Hire.

30. SANDLE HEATH, Fordingbridge 179 SU 127148 HHFP and CB
Reads Brickworks. A brickworks with remains of three kilns and scanty remains of other buildings. Apart from a shed used as a private pottery, the works is derelict.
It produced hand-made red bricks, and was closed in 1965.

31. SANDLE HEATH, Fordingbridge 179 SU 123152 HHFP and CB

Billett's Works. A brickworks which produced red bricks.

Remains of three kilns with some kind of timber roof, one drying frame, conveyor and Berry's Patent Brick Machine no. 4. Closed in 1961.

32. ALDERHOLT 179 SU 124125 HHFP and CB

Billett's Works. A brickworks making red bricks with two kilns still standing, two chimneys, mixer and drying shed. Site closed down but bricks from here used in the Ashbourne Hotel, Fordingbridge. (*Note:* This is just outside the county.)

33. COLDEN COMMON 168 SU 482223 CME and JDM

Philips Brickfield. The kiln is standing and is used as a store. The works closed in 1940 after 50 years in business and the site is now used as a caravan site. It is owned by Mrs. Matthews, whose grandfather started the brickmaking business.

34. ALLBROOK 168 SU 455212 CME and JDM

Redland Brick Company. This brickworks started in 1927 as the Eastleigh Brickworks; it changed to the Allbrook Brick Company in 1946. In 1948 it became Eastwoods and in 1967, the Redland Brick Company. It closed in October 1971.

In 1971 the kilns and chimneys were still standing but were demolished in the first months of 1972. This works produced multi-coloured facings which were widely distributed in Hampshire and sent to London. The site is to be developed as a housing estate by Eastleigh Council.

35. COLDEN COMMON 168 SU 485218 CME and JDM

Charles Mitchell's Works. A brickworks producing bricks by the clamp method. The yard remains as the brickmakers have left it. The area where clay was dug by hand and the hopper trucks, with their rails, still remain. One large building remains with the drying floor covered with the drying hacks for use outside stacked on it. Also the barrows for running the bricks. At the other end of the building the brickmakers' benches survive with their sand and moulds. Outside there are small stacks of unused bricks. The works made multi-coloured facings and coping bricks. It was closed in 1957 and was the last brickworks in the county to make hand-made bricks by the clamp method.

36. CHANDLERS FORD 168 SU 431206 CME and JDM

The works site, now covered by an industrial estate, was extremely large and had a private siding which joined the main line at Chandlers Ford Station. The configuration of the site and its name are the only evidence.

37. BISHOP'S WALTHAM 180 SU 552177 WCFW

The Bishop's Waltham Clay Company. Blanchards was probably the most important brickworks in Hampshire and acquired a first-class reputation for its products, not just in the county but in the whole world.

The pit is now worked out but the different colours of the clay strata can be seen. The pit now forms a natural lake. The bottom bed of the Bracklesham and the top of the Reading Beds were used for brick and tiles. The London Clay, generally dark blue in colour, containing iron pyrites or marquisite, was used for making blue bricks which were hard wearing. The clay was also used to produce art pottery of a standard high enough to be presented to Queen Victoria. At one time the works was producing red bricks, blue bricks, roofing tiles, floor tiles, terra-cotta objects, art pottery, copings, channelling and drain pipes.

The story of Blanchard's starts in London when Blanchard's bought out the Misses Coade of Lambeth. They were terra-cotta manufacturers and the site of their works is now occupied by the London County Council offices. They held a Royal Warrant and had appointments to British and foreign governments. One of the most famous products to be made of Coade 'stone' is the Lion at the end of Westminster Bridge which came from the top of the Lion Brewery.

About 1860 there was great unemployment in Bishop's Waltham and Sir Arthur Helps, a local gentleman, opened a brick and tile works to provide work. He did not find it a financial success and looked to Mr. Blanchard for help. Mr. Blanchard was asked to make test borings, take samples and report as to their value. Samples were submitted to the Government who received them favourably, and the Bishop's Waltham Clay Company was formed. The involvement of the Government probably reflects the fact that Sir Arthur was Clerk to the Privy Council and Private Secretary to Queen Victoria. Later, gas, water and railway companies were authorised and from 1863 coal could be received and bricks distributed by rail.

Because of financial problems, the Bishop's Waltham Clay Company was liquidated, and in 1871 was acquired by Mr. Blanchard who ran it in addition to his London business until they were combined in 1880 at Bishop's Waltham.

The terra-cotta made at Bishop's Waltham, because of the original ingredients and mixing, and on account of skilful firing, was superior to other terra-cottas in point of hardness, texture, colour and finish. Unlike stone, which was affected by frost, damp and fire, terra-cotta remains sharp and also retains its original colour.

Mr. Blanchard was described as one of the earliest revivers of terra-cotta and as having carried out some of the most extensive work with this material in the country. In the 19th December, 1891, edition of the *Southampton Observer* was a report of a fire deliberately lit in a partially-built structure. The walls and staircase were made of terra-cotta and stood up to the blaze very well, and it was claimed that buildings constructed of terra-cotta would withstand fire and reduce the fire risk and loss of life in large structures.

Buildings containing Blanchard's terra-cotta include Buckingham Palace the Royal Horticultural Society, the Natural History Museum, Charing Cross and Langham Hotels, Wedgwood Institute, Burslem, buildings in Peru and the Grand Hotel, Cairo. Southampton examples include the Prudential Building in Above Bar, the old Post Office and Henderson Chambers, in the High Street.

When Mr. Blanchard, Senior, died, the company was taken over by a son and finally passed to a Southampton firm, Elliott Brothers, who continued to make bricks until 1957 when the last brick was fired.

The Brickmaker's house left standing is worthy of preservation as it contains red and blue bricks and a superb coat of arms made in terra-cotta over the front door, and at the rear a balustrade also in terra-cotta. With Blanchard's products used all over the world, they stand as examples of the very high standard of workmanship executed by the craftsmen who were employed by this firm.

The large clay pit remains filled with water and there is one original building, probably a drying shed. The remainder of the site has been used by small industries and part is used as a training ground by Civil Defence.

At the entrance to the site are new houses and flats, some built in 1959 by the District Council which replaced the houses built by Sir Arthur Helps for the pottery workers who came from Staffordshire when the works was first opened. These were designed to last ten years and better houses were to be built, but due to his financial position, this was not done and instead they lasted until 1959.

38. ROWNHAMS 180 SU 384177 BS

Harris Works. Red bricks produced but last remains demolished about 1970. Probably for local distribution and now site covered by a caravan site. Only evidence is configuration of the ground.

39. ROWNHAMS, LOWER TOOTHILL 180 SU 372181 BS

H. Read and Company. Produced red bricks; closed about 1939. Wall possibly part of a kiln.

The brick wall around Broadlands Estate, Romsey, was built with bricks made at Toothill (recorded on a row of bricks built into the wall.)

40. UP NATELY 169 SU 698522 JAB

Only a filled-in claypit remains to indicate the site of this works. The neighbouring bridge over the Basingstoke Canal is named 'Brick Kiln Bridge'.

41. UP NATELY 169 SU 702523 JAB

Hampshire Brick and Tile Co., formed by Sir Frederick Seager Hunt, Bt., with a capital of £20,000 to open up brick fields on 32 acres at Up Nately in 1897. (He had a major interest in the Basingstoke Canal.) Branch from canal to works, 100 yards long, opened 1898. First delivery of bricks from works, 1899; by the end of 1899, two million bricks carried on company's ten barges. Fifty tons of coal per week supplied by barge from Basingstoke. Bricks used, *inter alia*, in construction of barracks at Aldershot and Frimley. Clay unsuitable and company wound up 1901. Works and site purchased by William Carter. Small scale production of bricks under name of 'Nately Pottery Co.'. until 1908. Site now occupied by house, arches of two kilns and some sheds. Canal branch survives.

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In the preparation of this Gazetteer much help was needed and provided by members of the Southampton University Industrial Archaeological Group. They were supplied with a list of brickworks compiled from Trade Directories and maps, and

with a questionnaire with suggestions of objects to look for in relation to the works. They were asked to fill in forms with the grid references and their observations of the visible remains to be seen on the sites, to photograph anything they thought was interesting and worth recording and to talk to any local people with a knowledge of the industry or the works being visited. The information has been used to compile this gazetteer and, where appropriate, has been copied on to C.B.A. record cards.

The forms will be sent to Southampton University and included in the Cope collection for future reference. A collection of sample bricks has been collected together with a piece of terra-cotta and are now waiting for a permanent home.

And finally my thanks to:

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