Medieval Floor-tiles in the Church of St. Peter in the East, Oxford

By A. B. EMDEN

THIS description of medieval floor-tiles found in the church of St. Peter in the East, Oxford, falls into two parts. The first is in the nature of a report on the tiles found in the course of the excavations carried out in the nave and the Lady chapel, under the direction of Mr. David Sturdy, during the summer of 1968, prior to the adaptation of the church as a library for St. Edmund Hall. The second comprises an account of the tiles that came to light in the eastern half of the church in the early summer of 1969 when the constructional work of adaptation was in progress.

I

As a result of the excavations carried out in the summer of 1968 over 400 fragments of medieval patterned paving-tiles were recovered. These fragments varied considerably in size : regrettably, only two nearly whole tiles and three half-tiles were brought to light. From an examination of these finds it has been possible to identify tiles bearing at least twenty-six different patterns.[1]

These tile-fragments were found for the most part in the nave of the church, at various depths and widely dispersed, in ground that had been greatly disturbed by successive burials. There was no vestige of an original pavement discovered. It is evident from their condition that many of these fragments were parts of broken tiles that had never been incorporated in the pavement. These presumed rejects had evidently been due to fractures from excessive over-firing or to breakages in cartage or on the site.

The fragments may be divided into two groups : (i) inlaid tiles, stubbed with so-called keying-holes on their undersides, and (ii) printed tiles with their undersides unkeyed. Twenty-one different patterns of the former are represented and only five or possibly six of the latter. Decipherment has been greatly aided by consulting the comprehensive illustrations in two indispensable studies of the patterned tiles of the middle Thames valley and the Chilterns :

[1] For help in the somewhat laborious process of sorting out the tile-fragments and identifying them I am very grateful to Mr. Alexander Temple and Mr. David Ganz.

Loyd Haberly's *Medieval English Paving Tiles*, published in 1937, which furnishes an inventory covering a radius of fifteen miles round Oxford, and Christopher Hohler's article, ' Medieval Paving Tiles in Buckinghamshire ', contributed to *Records of Bucks.*, XIV (1942).

A careful scrutiny of the fragments of the inlaid tiles points to the conclusion that they are all closely related in workmanship. The consistency of the clay, their size and thickness, the shape of the keying-holes, the depth of the white clay forming the inlaid patterns, the surface colouring and the quality of the glaze are sufficiently similar in all to warrant the supposition that the tiles used for the original paving of the church were produced at approximately the same date and were the product of the same group of tilers.

The quality of the workmanship exhibited by the fragments varies from adequate to inferior. This is said in no disparagement of the pavement as laid down, as there is no means now of judging how high a standard the tilers observed in their selection of tiles for inclusion in the job.

FIG. 9
Cross-sections of typical keying holes.

As an important clue to identity of manufacture the so-called keying-holes merit special attention. They appear to have been impressed on the undersides of the tiles by a rounded metal implement, about as thick as a pencil, pointed at one end and flattish at the other. The holes were made by either end of the implement and vary considerably in depth (FIG. 9). They also vary in the angle at which the implement was inserted. In some cases where a slanting jab has been applied a marked ridge is observable on the further side of the hole and an oval shape is imparted to the opening. In a few cases the keying-holes are almost triangular, but as cross-sections of such holes indicate, they were not necessarily made by a triangular instrument. In one fragment the under-surface of the tile has been peppered with a large number of closely spaced superficial jabs, very possibly the contribution made by a youngster watching the tilers at the kiln. But usually, it would seem, about sixteen to twenty keying-holes sufficed for a tile (FIG. 10).

Examination of cross sections of the fragments conveys the impression that the clay all came from a similar source and was made up with an equivalent

30
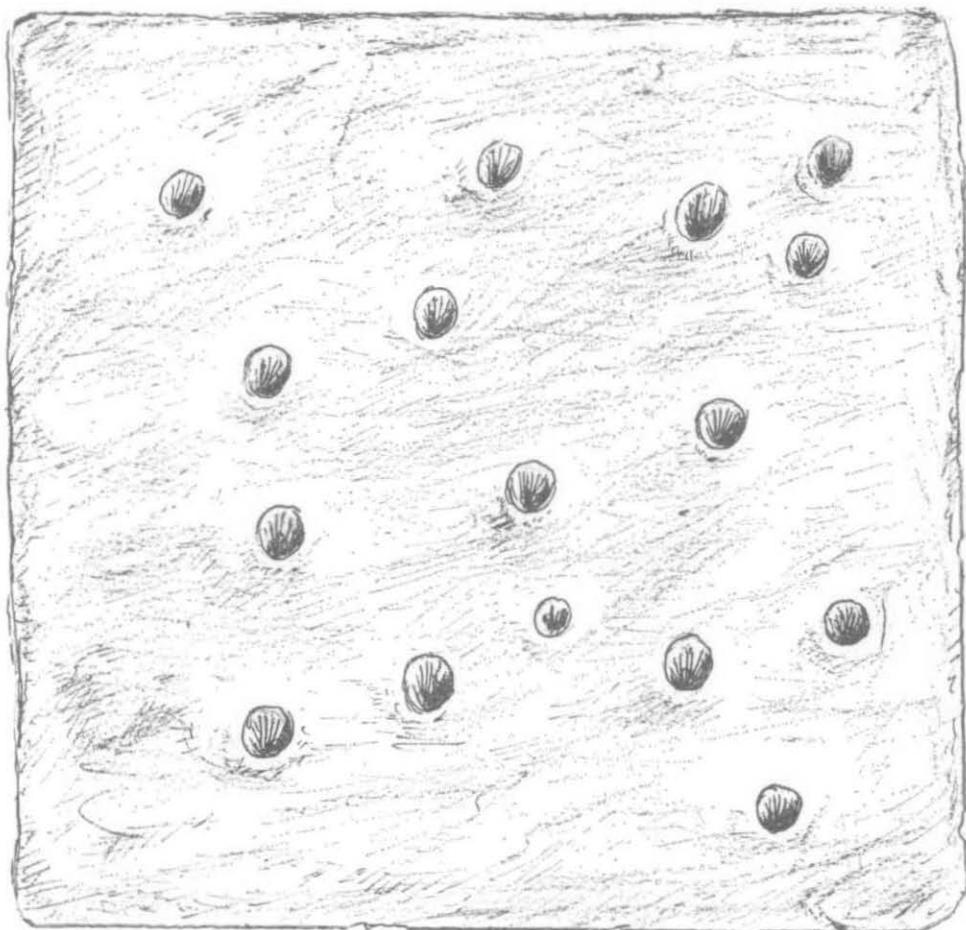
FIG. 10
Typical underside of an inlaid tile showing keying-holes.
Dimensions $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ in.

mixture of fine sand. The puddling of the clay appears to have been carried out in rough and ready fashion, and the firing of the tiles was apparently very unequal in its results. For the most part the pattern moulds seem to have been impressed to a satisfactory depth so as to admit of adequate inlay of white clay. None of the fragments shows any variation in the form of its pattern that might suggest that some of the tiles were replacements made at a subsequent date.

In the inventory of patterns which accompanies this article it will be seen

31

in what other places tiles bearing similar patterns have been used. But similarity of pattern does not necessarily indicate identity of manufacture. Convincing evidence for identity of manufacture is furnished by the form of keying-holes, but obviously where tiles are still embedded in the floor of a church this test cannot be applied. Even so, inspection of similarly patterned tiles from other sites in the Oxford region, now preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, and of the tiles from Rewley Abbey (the former Cistercian house on the western outskirts of Oxford), in the British Museum collections, clearly indicates that the tiles in St. Peter's in the East were the product of local tilers who were active during the first three decades of the 14th century.

In the case of St. Peter's in the East this dating is confirmed by the discovery of a small pocket of unworn tile fragments bearing two different designs (nos. 1 and 2 in the ensuing inventory) on the south side of the nave in conjunction with three coins, a farthing of Edward I, probably *c.* 1280, a silver penny of Edward III, and a base silver sterling of Jean d'Avesnes, count of Hainault (1280–1304).

Another possible clue as to dating is provided by the coincidence that four of the patterns used in the nave of St. Peter's in the East are similar to those on tiles to be seen on the floor of the chapel of Broughton Castle, by Banbury, which is reputed to have been built about 1306. The discovery of a few tile fragments in the excavations made at the western end of the nave outside the line of the footings of the west wall of the 12th-century church and beneath the floor at the entrance to the church on the south side invites the conclusion that the paving of the church with tiles was carried out after the extension of the nave about 1330. But the great disturbance of the ground due to the building of vaults at the west end and elsewhere in the nave might account for the transference of these tile fragments outside the limits of their original position and probably denies us a firm basis for this conclusion. On historical grounds, however, it would seem most likely that the tiling of the nave was contemporary with its extension.

The long drawn out feud between the University and the Friars lasting from 1306 to 1320 resulted in the University ceasing to have recourse for many of its official sermons to the churches of the Dominicans and the Franciscans. It seems probable, therefore, that it was on this account that St. Peter's in the East was selected to provide alternative accommodation for the University's Lenten sermons. To serve this purpose the nave of the church needed to be lengthened and access to the interior stair cases leading from the nave to the crypt to be cut off. On the completion of these alterations the existing mortar flooring would have been inadequate and a more durable and decorative form of pavement deemed desirable.

Except for fixed seating for the Chancellor and Proctors and, probably for the doctors, the nave would have offered a large unencumbered space for a standing congregation. With tiles displaying at least a score of different designs the tilers should have been able to produce a handsomely variegated pavement.

In the course of the excavations two tile fragments depicting the coat of arms of the great family of Clare were found (no. 16). The presence of armorial tiles in medieval churches is insecure evidence for assuming a connection with the family whose arms are depicted, as it is well known that such tiles were used quite promiscuously. Indeed, tiles of this particular design have been found as far north as Leicester Abbey. But it is perhaps worth noting that the conspicuous pluralist, Bogo de Clare, younger son of Richard, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, was rector of St. Peter's in the East from about 1261 until his death in 1294. On the other hand, the coat of arms displayed on these tiles, since no tinctures are indicated, could equally well have served to signify the arms of Walter of Merton, bishop of Rochester, whose college was granted the advowson of the church by Henry III in 1266. The finding of a few plain blackish-green border-tiles suggests that some at least of the patterned tiles were arranged, as was customary, in panels with border-tiles to frame them.

It is surprising that only five fragments of printed tiles, constituting three different patterns, were found in the nave (nos. 22, 24, 25). The large-scale manufacture of patterned tiles by the simple and speedy method of imprinting white clay slip on a red clay base was specially characteristic of the tile factory at Penn, Buckinghamshire, which flourished from about 1330 for the space of about fifty years, and was followed by the general employment of this method of production by tilers in the following century.[2] As St. Peter's in the East was one of the more important parish churches of Oxford and one to which the whole University had resort during the season of Lent, it might be expected that the original tile pavement in the nave would have been in need of repair before it was eventually ruined by the intrusion of more and more grave stones. Probably printed tiles were only employed to decorate the floor space in front of one or more of the side altars.

According to Anthony Wood[3] the insertion of memorial brasses fastened to flat stones or marble in the floor of the church can be traced back at least to the time of Henry IV (1399–1413). By the 17th century there cannot have been much of the tile pavement left intact, if, indeed, it had not already been replaced by stone-paving. In the church's incomplete series of churchwardens'

[2] See Christopher Hohler's article on Buckinghamshire tiles, pp. 5–8 ; E. S. Eames, *Medieval Tiles*, Brit. Mus., 16–21.

[3] Anthony Wood, *City of Oxford* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.), iii, 176.

accounts, beginning in 1444, there is no mention of tiles but only of paving. In the account of 1482-83 a payment of 2s. 4d. to Henry Hume ' pro pavyng ' is entered. In those of 1526-27 there is an item : ' To workmen for pavynge of the chyrche ' lumped together with divers other items of expenditure.

As there was no specific mention made of tiles in either of these entries the payments may be presumed to have been in respect of paving in stone.

II

The excavations conducted by Mr. David Sturdy were confined to the western half of the church. Nine months later, with the advent of Messrs. Benfield and Loxley Ltd., building contractors for the conversion of the church into a library, the floors of the eastern half were broached. It was not to be expected that evidence of medieval tiling would be discovered in the chancel owing to the proximity of the Victorian tiled pavement to the crown of the vaulting of the crypt below. Some portion, however, of this pavement had to be removed in order to make room for laying a selection of grave stones removed from the nave. In the course of this operation one whole patterned tile similar in design (no. 5) to fragments already found in the nave was discovered.

The lifting of the floor-boards in the adjacent vestry revealed a much worn stone-flagged pavement in the outer edges of which in two places used patterned tiles (nos. 21 and 25) had been inserted where the stone-flagging left small spaces unfilled. Tile fragments were also found with the stone rubble under the steps leading to the chancel. Among them were several fragments of tiles similar to the one already mentioned as having been picked up in the chancel.

A more notable discovery was made well below the vestry floor when a cavity was accidentally detected behind the rough stone casing of the spiral stairs on the north side of the crypt. This cavity exposed the exterior of a blocked north window in the crypt (PL. IV). At the bottom of the cavity there lay some loose rubble, some fragments of tiles and some broken pieces of pottery. When this had been removed there appeared a small section of the mortar base of a tiled floor with three of the original tiles still in position. These tiles are mottled and dark bottle green in colour, and incised so that they could be sub-divided to form smaller squares or triangular sections. They have a high gloss, are rather uneven on their surface, and have the appearance of being over-fired. They are deeply pitted on their under-sides with keying-holes similar in shape to many of the other keyed tiles found in the church. Among the rubble there were the fragments of two other similar tiles.

After the removal of some of the stone-paving in the vestry, further excava-

34

tion revealed the remains of a flight of steps beside the blocked window which led down to the level of this remnant of a tiled floor, and it appeared that these steps had helped to create the cavity when in the 16th century a considerable filling-in operation took place to form a foundation for the floor of a new vestry at a higher level. The distance between the two floors was 3 ft. 2 in.

The apparition of this lower floor called for explanation. Thanks to the archaeological zeal of the architect in charge of the alterations in the church,[4] the cutting of a trench in the direction of the north wall of the vestry was undertaken. This revealed a wall immediately under the north wall and, against it, a row of five tiles still in position (PL. V), with others in close proximity. These tiles consisted of plain green tiles, similar to those already described, and of patterned tiles, numbered 8 in the inventory of tiles appended to this article. These vestiges of a former tiled pavement below the stone-paving of the existing vestry must belong to an earlier vestry the floor of which would appear to have been tiled at about the same time as the rest of the church. The existence of an earlier vestry had hitherto been unsuspected.

After the contractors had finished cutting trenches for the heating installation, two senior members of St. Edmund Hall, Mr. Jeffrey Hackney, Fellow and Librarian, and Mr. Edward Wilson, Lecturer, took the opportunity of extending the exploration of the original vestry floor against the north wall of the crypt, east of the flight of steps, so as to reveal the outer face of the eastern of the two blocked crypt windows. Below the sill of the window they brought to light a line of tiles corresponding with those found on the western side of the steps, bottle-green tiles and patterned intermixed. Remains of additional tiles were recovered from the soil removed in the course of laying bare this strip of the original pavement. Apparently, in paving the vestry floor the tiles were laid at random, irrespective of their patterns ; perhaps they were residue left over after the paving of the chancel and nave had been completed.

The total number of patterned tiles found in the eastern part of the church amounts to ten whole tiles, three half-tiles, and forty-eight fragments, representing in all eighteen different designs.

Although fewer in number than those found in the course of the more extensive excavations in the nave and Lady chapel, the subsequent finds of tiles made in the eastern part of the church while building operations were in progress seem to warrant the conclusion that the original tiling of the chancel and vestry was contemporaneous with that of the western part of the church and that very little subsequent tiling was undertaken by way of addition or replacement during the medieval period.

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INVENTORY OF DECORATED TILES

References and Abbreviations :

Loyd Haberly, *Medieval English Paving Tiles*, Oxford (1937) (LH).

Christopher Hohler, ' Medieval Paving Tiles in Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks*, XIV (1942), 1–49, 99–132 (CH).

Norma R. Whitcomb, *The Medieval Floor-tiles of Leicestershire*, Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society (1956) (NRW).

June Swann, ' Medieval Paving-tiles in Northampton Museum ', *Journal of Northamptonshire Natural History Society and Field Club*, XXXII (1952), 124–34 (JS).

First, the pattern of each tile is described : then follow the number of tiles and fragments of tiles found (' W ' signifying the western half of the church ; ' E ' the eastern half) ; the size of a complete tile ; references to their previous illustration ; and, lastly, a note of other places where tiles of similar design were used. The order depends on the number of fragments found. The tile-fragments numbered 23, 24 and 25 have not been illustrated as the patterns detectable on them are not sufficiently distinct to warrant their inclusion.

I. INLAID TILES WITH KEYING HOLES

1. Four quatrefoils with centres pierced, in frames.

   (W) 78 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. l, where the petals of each quatrefoil are pierced.

   Oxon: St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; Oseney Abbey (LH).

   Northants: Preston Deanery ; variant at Whittlebury (JS).

2. Intersecting ellipses within a convex frame.

   (W) 64 fragments ; (E) 3 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. xxvi.

   Whitcomb, p. 33, no. 14.

   Oxon: Dorchester Abbey ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; Oseney Abbey ; Rewley Abbey ; Brightwell Bladwin ; Crowell ; Woodperry (LH) ; Old Blackfriars, Oxford.

   Leics: Leicester Abbey (NRW).

3. Four fleurs de lis joined at the base so as to frame a small cross.

   (W) 63 fragments ; (E) 2 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. liv (where illustration is wrongly numbered ' lv ').

   Hohler, p. 104, W42.

   Whitcomb, p. 32, no. 12.

   Oxon: St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; Northmoor ; variants from Sandford, Bicester, Dorchester Abbey, Pyrton and Eynsham Abbey (LH) ; G.P.O. site, St. Aldate's, Oxford.

   Bucks: Notley Abbey (LH, CH).

   Northants: Grey Friars, Northampton ; St. Augustine's, Northampton ; St. Andrew's, Northampton (JS).

   Leics: Leicester Abbey (NRW).
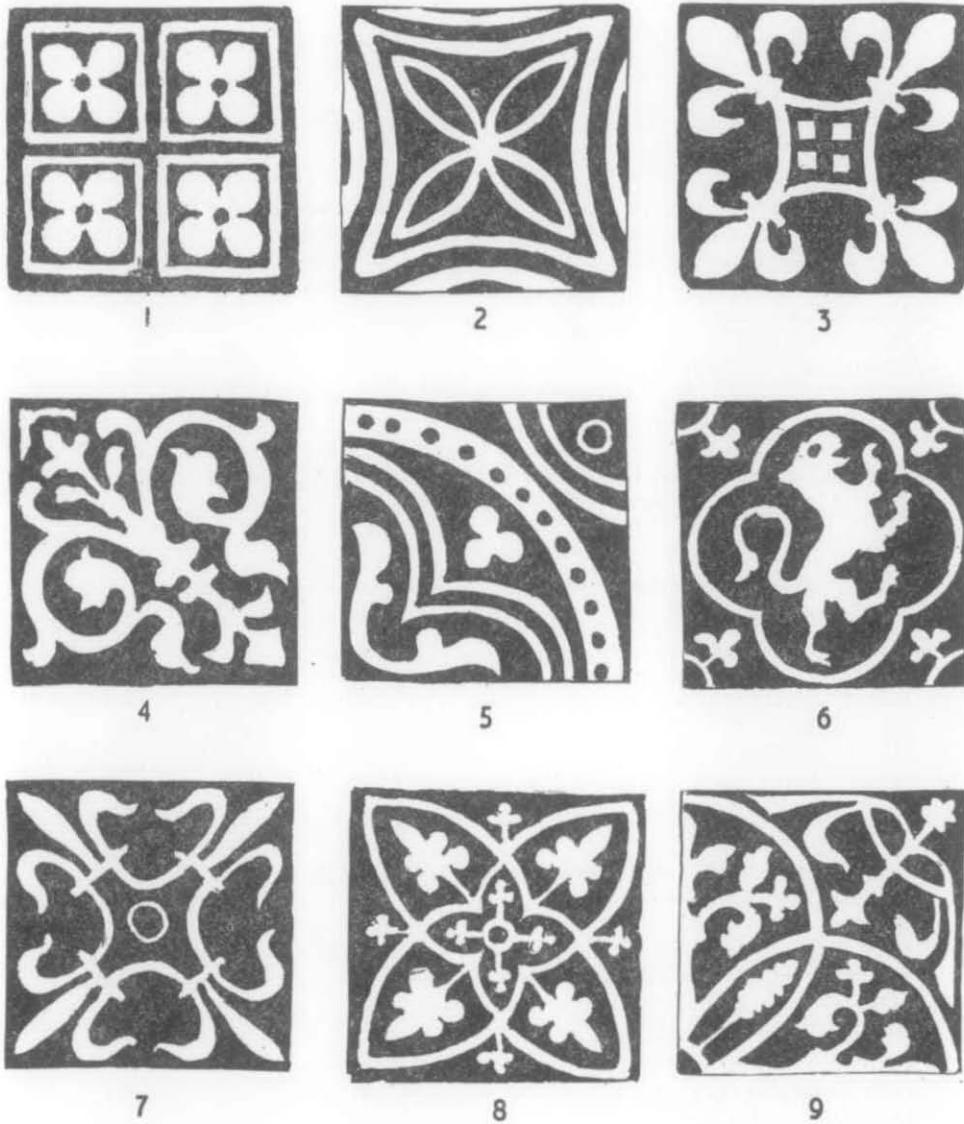
FIG. 11
Inlaid tiles : scales various, about $\frac{1}{4}$: dimensions of tiles are given in the text.

4. Foliate sprays springing from an elaborate centre stem set diagonally, with two arms of a small cross in top left-hand corner.

   (W) 41 fragments ; (E) 3 fragments. $5\frac{3}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. xvii.

   Hohler, p. 102, W29.

   Oxon: Brightwell Baldwin ; Goring Priory ; G.P.O. site, St. Aldate's, Oxford (LH, CH).

   Bucks : Hanslope (CH.)

5. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring a floriated cross framed in a double quatrefoil surrounded by a studded circle containing a small trefoil in each spandrel, and, alternating with it, a small double circle enclosing four annulets.

   (W) 30 fragments ; (E) 4 whole tiles and 10 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. xxv.

   Hohler, p. 103, W39.

   Whitcomb, p. 31, no. 6.

   Oxon: Bloxham ; Brightwell Baldwin ; Broughton Castle chapel ; Dorchester Abbey ; Eynsham Abbey ; Goring Priory ; North Moreton ; Northmoor ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; St. Martin's, Oxford ; Beaumont Palace site, Oxford ; Hertford College site ; Pyrton ; Rewley Abbey ; Woodperry (LH) ; Old Blackfriars, Oxford ; St. Andrew's, Headington.

   Bucks: Hanslope (CH) : Notley Abbey (LH, CH).

   Gloucs: St. Peter's Abbey, Gloucester (Gloucester Cath.) (CH).

   Northants: Catesby Priory : Canons Ashby ; Harrington (JS).

   Leics: Leicester Abbey (NRW).

   Somt: Keynsham Abbey (CH).

   Wilts: Amesbury Abbey : Great Bedwyn ; East Grafton ; Stanley Abbey (CH).

   Worcs: Evesham Abbey (CH).

   Wales: Blackfriars, Cardiff (CH).

6. Lion rampant facing right, framed in a quatrefoil with small trefoils at outer corners.

   (W) 24 fragments ; (E) 7 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. xliv.

   Hohler, p. 100, W6.

   Oxon: Dorchester Abbey ; Eynsham Abbey ; Great Haseley ; Northmoor ; St. Frideswide's Priory, Oxford (Oxford Cath.) ; Woodperry (LH, CH).

   Berks: North Moreton (LH).

   Bucks: Hanslope (CH).

7. Four fleurs de lis joined at the base so as to frame an annulet.

   (W) 22 fragments ; (E) 1 fragment (possibly variation). $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

   Haberly, no. lvi.

   Hohler, p. 101, W16.

   Oxon: Northmoor ; North Stoke ; Eynsham Abbey ; Oseney Abbey ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; Godstow Abbey ; Goring Priory (LH, CH) ; Old Blackfriars, Oxford.
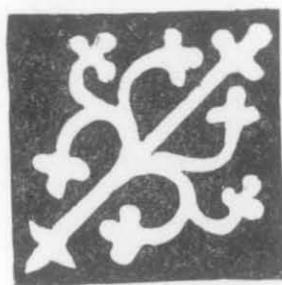
FIG. 12
Inlaid tiles : scales various, about ¼ : dimensions are given in the text.

A. B. EMDEN

8. A trifoliate cross framed within an intersection of pointed quatrefoils decorated with small trefoils and trifoliate sprigs.
(W) 21 fragments ; (E) 1 whole tile, 5 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. i.
Hohler, p. 100, W13.
Oxon: Brightwell Baldwin ; Dorchester Abbey ; Eynsham Abbey ; Goring Priory ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; Thame (LH, CH).
Bucks: Chetwode Priory (CH).

9. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring a large quatrefoil with its framework intersected so as to enclose four triune foliate sprays, containing a cross with stamen-like arms radiating from a central annulet ; alternating with a smaller circle entwined with four conjoint fleurs de lis.
(W) 18 fragments ; (E) 2 whole tiles, 1 half tile, 2 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. xxii.
Hohler, p. 102, W31.
Oxon: Broughton Castle chapel ; Dorchester Abbey ; Oseney Abbey ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) (LH, CH).
Bucks: Notley Abbey (CH).
Gloucs: St. Peter's Abbey, Gloucester (Gloucester Cath.) (CH).

10. An eagle displayed, set diagonally between two five-pointed stars within a frame.
(W) 9 fragments ; (E) 4 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. lxvi.
Hohler, p. 100, W8.
Oxon: Eynsham Abbey ; Goring Priory ; St. Martin's, Oxford ; Rewley Abbey ; Pyrton ; Streatley (LH, CH) ; St. Andrew's, Headington.

11. Part of a four-tile pattern of two concentric studded circles framing four trefoils attached crosswise to a central annulet, the inner circle having twelve trefoils radiating from its outer rim and the outer circle having four stalked trefoils, each filling an outer corner.
(W) 8 fragments. $4\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. ccix, where classed with printed and unkeyed tiles.
Hohler, p. 103, W37.
Oxon: Charlton on Otmoor ; Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford (LH, CH).
Bucks: Notley Abbey (LH, CH).
Northants: Catesby Priory (CH).

12. Trifoliate spray with main stem set diagonally.
(W) 7 fragments ; (E) 4 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. xx.
Oxon: Dorchester Abbey (LH).

13. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring a rose window with sixteen lights and sixteen spandrels, with trifoliate treatment of the outer rim at each corner.
(W) 7 fragments. $5\frac{5}{8} \times 5\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
Haberly, no. xii.
Oxon: Eynsham Abbey ; Oseney Abbey (LH) ; Old Blackfriars, Oxford.

14. Part of a four-tile pattern of formal foliage springing from a central stem set diagonally within a sixteen-cusped frame.
    (W) 5 fragments ; (E) 4 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xxvii.
    Hohler, p. 102, W30.
    Oxon: St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; St. Martin's, Oxford (LH, CH).
    Bucks: Notley Abbey (CH).
15. Cruciform fret attached to four studded quadrants.
    (W) 2 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{7}{8}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xxviii, where illustration wrongly numbered ' xviii '.
    Oxon: Godstow Abbey ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) (LH, CH).
    Hohler, p. 101, W19.
    Bucks: Ludgershall ; Notley Abbey (CH).
    Northants: Canons Ashby (CH).
16. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring the arms of Clare set diagonally between a sun and a crescent, framed by an indented circle intersecting a plain circle containing a foliate spray set cross-wise.
    (W) 2 fragments. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xv.
    Whitcomb, p. 30, no. 2.
    Oxon: Dorchester Abbey (LH).
    Berks: North Moreton (LH).
    Leics: Leicester Abbey (NRW).
17. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring eight flambeaux radiating from the centre, framed by an elaborate octofoil, with mantling filling each outer corner.
    (W) 2 fragments ; (E) 1 fragment. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xxxix.
    Hohler, p. 102, W32.
    Oxon: Great Milton ; Godstow Abbey ; Oseney Abbey ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) ; a Cornmarket site, Oxford (LH, CH).
    Bucks: Notley Abbey (CH).
18. Part of a sixteen-tile pattern figuring a central rose within a circle surrounded by eight-circles each containing a lobed leaf, surrounded by a diamond-studded circle contained within an outer quadrilateral frame with decorated spandrels, alternating with four cusped quadrilateral panels, each containing a cross formed of four fleurs de lis joined at the base.
    (W) 1 fragment. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xxiii.
    Hohler, p. 103, W35.
    Berks: Bradfield ; Reading Abbey (CH).
    Bucks: Notley Abbey (LH, CH) ; Chetwode Priory (CH).
19. Part of a four-tiled pattern figuring a griffin facing right intersecting a quadrant having its inner edge cogged.
    (E) 1 half-tile. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
    Haberly, no. xxxvi.
    Hohler, p. 101, W23.
   *Oxon:* Oseney Abbey ; Littlemore ch.
    Bucks: Notley Abbey.

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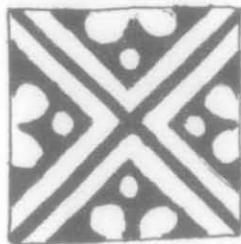
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FIG. 13

Inlaid tiles (19–21) and Printed tiles (22, 26) : scales various, about ¼ : dimensions are given in the text.

20. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring two concentric circles from the inner of which spring nine flowered sprays with four larger sprays at the centre and one in each outer angle.

    (E) 1 fragment. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ in.

    Haberly, no. xxix.

    Hohler, p. 103, W34.

    Oxon: Dorchester Abbey ; Godstow Abbey ; King Edward Street, Oxford.

    Bucks: Notley Abbey.

21. Fleur de lis set diagonally.

    (E) Half a tile. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

    A large circular depression scooped on underside to aid firing and keying. A tile bearing a rather similar pattern but much smaller in size is in Brightwell Baldwin ch. (Haberly, no. xlvii).

II. PRINTED AND UNKEYED TILES

22. A broad cross set diagonally, the arms of which are divided by a stripe of body colour, with a pellet and half a quatrefoil in each quarter.

    (W) 2 fragments ; (E) 4 fragments forming 1 tile. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ in.

23. Part of a four-tile pattern. Fleur de lis in one corner within a quadrant. Rest of pattern worn off.

    (E) 1 whole tile ; badly made with pebbles obtruding from the face of it. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

24. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring a fleur de lis between four double circles or cusped circles containing a quatrefoil each.

    (W) 2 fragments. $4\frac{3}{8} \times 4\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in. One fragment has a comparatively large piece of flint incorporated in it.

    Haberly, no. lxxviii or no. lxxix.

    Oxon: New College ; Merton College Library (LH no. lxxviii) ; Hertford College site ; Godstow Abbey ; Oseney Abbey ; Northmoor ; St. Frideswide's Priory (Oxford Cath.) (LH no. lxxix).

    Berks: North Moreton : West Hendred ; Sutton Courtenay ; Blewbury (LH no. lxxix). This pattern has several variants.

25. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring an annulet in body colour in a convex quadrilateral panel between four broad-banded circles, each containing a cogged or petalled object.

    (W) 1 fragment, comprising about half a tile, composed of gritty clay. The pattern is crudely executed and the tile badly fired.

26. Part of a four-tile pattern figuring three concentric circles from the middle one of which spring twelve quatrefoils and from the innermost eight lesser quatrefoils ; in the outer corners a quadrant sprigged with fleurs de lis.

    (E) 1 fragment. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in.

    Haberly, no. ccliv.

    Berks: South Moreton.

4

A. B. EMDEN

Since this article went to press there has appeared in the last issue of *Oxoniensia* (vol. XXXIII, 24–52) David Hinton's important article on the recent excavations on the site of Bicester Priory. Furthermore the patterns on the tile fragments found during the excavations, 1969–70, on the Grey Friars site in Oxford have been identified by David Ganz, and he has kindly supplied me with a copy of his list.

Following the serial numberings in the St. Peter's in the East inventory, nos. 2, 3, 5–9, 11 and 12 are similar to tile patterns found on the Bicester Priory site ; and nos. 1–8, 10 and 19 to tile patterns found on the Grey Friars site in Oxford.

PLATE IV

ST. PETER IN THE EAST ; Remnant of tile-pavement along south wall of original vestry. A blocked window of the crypt, now re-opened, and part of former steps from the chancel are shown.

Ph: B. J. Harris

ST. PETER IN THE EAST ; Remnant of tile-pavement along north wall of original vestry.

PLATE V