

THE ADRIAN EMPIRE ARTS AND SCIENCES

http://www.adrianempire.org/documents/forms/artsoaldoc.pdf March 2002

DOCUMENTATION SUMMARY SHEET

This sheet should be filled out for each entry. Additional documentation is highly recommended. Each artisan should look at the Judges Guidelines to help determine the appropriate questions to answer for the type of entry.

Title of entry: Money box _____

Date: 3/26/10 _____

Adrian name of artisan: Mistress Nadine _____ Mundane name: Tawnni Crossman _____

Knight's List x Journeyman's List Subdivision: Terre nuve _____

Period/Date: 1300's _____ Country of origin/Style: London England _____

Description of entry: The Earthenware ceramic money box was used as a type of bank in the 1300's to around 1550. When people needed to keep money in something they would make the money box, and when the needed it they would break the money box and take their money. Sometimes people would use a lighter clay so it wasn't as expensive nor harder to break. Some people would make it, and glaze it for decoration.

Materials used (explain period materials used and substitutions used in your entry):

Used a buff colored Cone 6 Stoneware , Glaze used was a green cone 6 glaze and modern kiln. Substitutions are Stoneware for Earthenware clay, a modern glaze, and modern kiln.

Processes/Techniques used (explain period techniques and substitutions used in your entry):

Shaping the clay, hollowing the sphere, making the hole, drying and firing, glazing, then firing again.

References/Sources: Please see Bibliography in documentation _____

Additional Notes (On presentation, history, etc): _____

Primary Source:



Money box

Ceramic money box. It is round, with a slightly pointed top and a flat base. It has a horizontal slot for coins and is glazed a speckly green colour

Date: 1300s

It is unusual to find a pottery moneybox that isn't broken. This is the medieval equivalent of a piggy bank and normally they are found broken around the slot where people have tried to get the money out. Perhaps this one was never used. It was made in the Kingston area.

Accession number: A3855

Place made: Kingston-upon-Thames, London [Kingston-upon-Thames]

Material: ceramic; earthenware with Green Glaze

Location: Museum of London

My Project:

Materials Used for my Project:

I used a buff colored Cone 6 Stoneware that was purchased at a local clay supplier. It is a substitution for earthenware. Earthenware is fired at a much lower temperature and is not as durable as stoneware. However, stoneware was and still is used in Germany from the 15th century for their wares.

In the medieval and renaissance period they would have dug up their clay in local clay deposits near their workshops and kilns. "Clay pits were usually dug quite close to the kiln, on the peasant's croft or common."¹

Glaze used was a green cone 6 glaze that is food safe that was purchased from a local ceramics supplier.

My money box was fired in an electric kiln which is a reasonable substitution since in the medieval and renaissance period they fired their wares in large wood fired kilns. They would fire their wares for about a week and needed large amounts of wood for each firing. I do not have access to a wood fired kiln nor a large amount of wood. It would cost too much money to fire my money box as they did in period.

Picture of a Medieval Kiln.

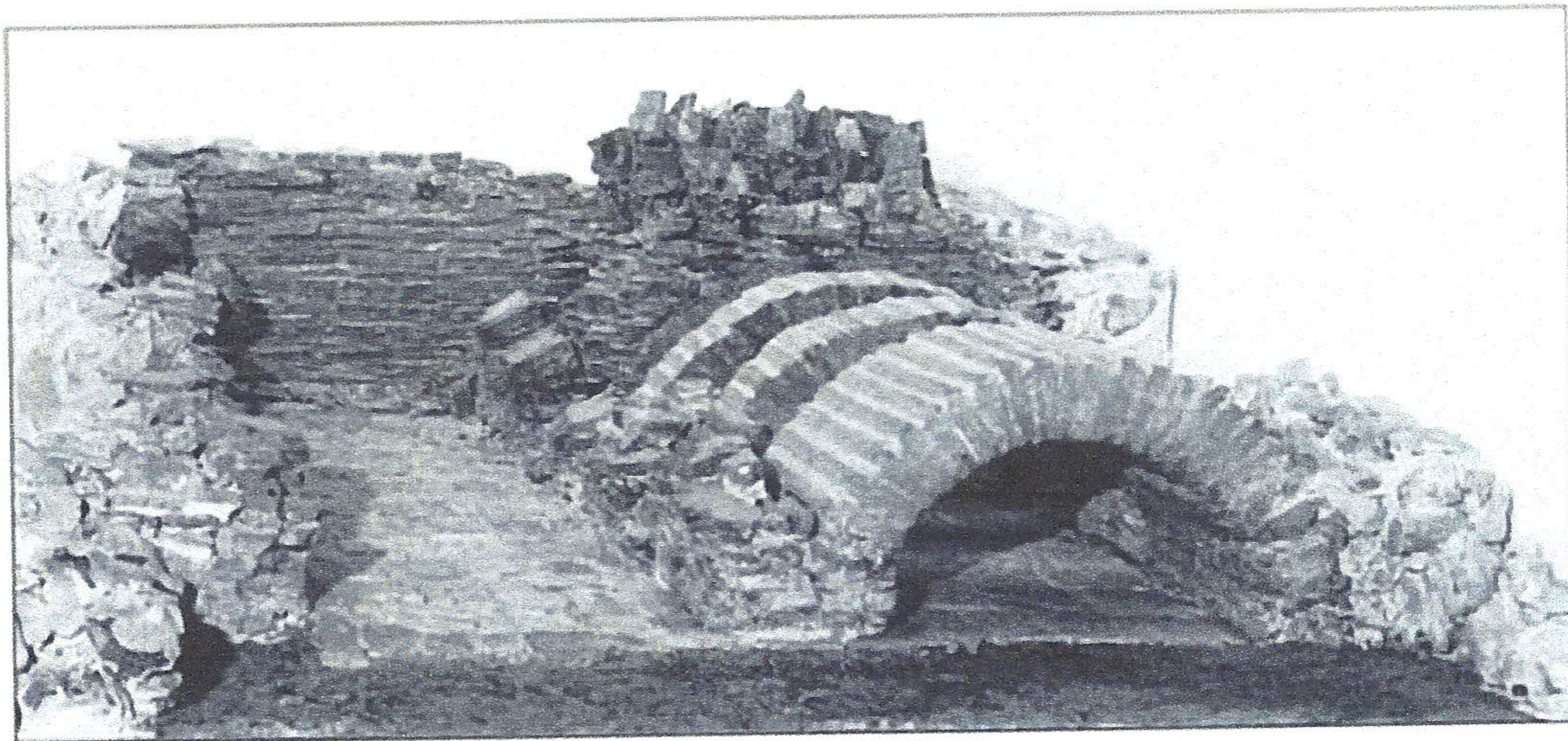


Fig. 87 Tile-kiln excavated at Clarendon Palace (Wilts.) in 1937 and now reconstructed in the British Museum. This was used for firing the King's Chapel pavement in 1210-44.

¹ **English medieval industries: craftsmen, techniques, products**
By John Blair, Nigel Ramsay

