

A SELECT LIST OF BOOKS ON THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF BRICKS, BRICKMAKING AND BRICK BUILDING IN BRITAIN

Prepared jointly by the Brick Development Association and the British Brick Society

The following list is not exhaustive, but includes books that give authoritative and interesting accounts of their subjects. Textbooks on building technology and bricklayers' craft training are not included. The books are in no particular order. Not all are currently in print, but they might be available through public library services.

To purchase second-hand copies and out-of-print titles try www.abebooks.co.uk

Several titles are published privately and are only available from the sources noted.

1. A Rudimentary Treatise on the Manufacture of Brick and Tiles

Author: Edward Dobson **Date:** 1850 **Revised:** Several times to 12th Edition 1911 with additions by Alfred B Searle

Facsimile reprint of the 12th Edition 1912, reprinted in USA , is available in the UK . Search on

www.amazon.co.uk/books/ for " Bricks and Tiles Dobson and Searle "

Read 7th edition online free: <http://www.archive.org/stream/rudimentarytreat00dobsrich#page/72/mode/2up>

Content: The original 224 pages in 2 volumes contain many engravings of tools, machinery and kilns used in brick making in mid-19th century England. A valuable account of traditional and early industrialized brick making.

2. Brick Building in Britain

Author: R W Brunskill **Date:** 1990 **Revised:** Revised edition 1997 - Paperback b/w illustrations.

Price: £16.99 **Publisher:** Victor Gollancz in association with Peter Crawley

Format: Paperback, 245 x 188mm, 208 pages: 180 illustrations. ISBN 0 575 06535 4

Content: A very extensive and good account of brickmaking and brick building in Britain from the fourteenth to the late twentieth century - very readable and well illustrated.

Secondhand copies generally available on www.abebooks.co.uk (c. £10 incl p&p)

3. Bricks to Build a House

Author: John Woodforde **Date:** 1976 **Revised:** Not revised

Secondhand copies generally available on www.abebooks.co.uk (£5 - £10 incl p&p)

Publisher: Routledge and Kegan Paul, London.

Format: 206 pages: 112 illustrations in colour and b/w

Content: Specially recommended for the general reader - a history of brickmaking and the development of the industry in Britain to modern times. Discusses applications of brick to the building of various periods in British history and is well illustrated with engravings and photographs.

4. A Survey of Scottish Brick Marks

Author: Douglas, Hume, Moir and Oglethorpe **Date:** 1985 **Revised:** - (out of print)

Price and postage: can obtain photocopy on application **Phone:** 0131 6621456

Address: The Secretary, The Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Scotland, John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh. EH8 9NX

Publisher: The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

Format: A4 paperback, 60 pages, 8 b/w photos and 3 maps

Content: Lists manufacturers and brick marks recorded during a university survey project. A valuable guide to the Scottish brick manufacturing industry

5. Brick, Tile and Fireclay Industries in Scotland

Author: Graham Douglas and Miles Oglethorpe **Date:** 1993 **Revised:** -

Price and postage: £5.00 includes p&p

Phone: 0131 6621 456, fax 0131 662 1477 or 0131 662 1499

Address: The Secretary, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh. EH8 9NX

Publisher: The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

Format: A4 paperback, 96 pages, 39 illustrations, 39 plates. ISBN 0 74800697 4

Content: Presents results of the 1970s Scottish Industrial Archaeology Survey of factories engaged in the manufacture of heavy ceramics. Contains introductory sections on brick, tile, fireclay and sanitary ware industries. These are followed by an account of different types of kilns, a gazetteer of sites, a glossary of terms relating to the industries, information on some of the larger companies and a section of photographs, many of which show the works in operation.

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6. Brick in Essex

Author: Pat Ryan **Date:** November 1996 **Revised:** -

Price and postage: £15.00 + £4.00 **Phone:** 01245 222237

Address: Pat Ryan, 60 Maldon Road, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 4QL

Publisher: Middleton Press, Easebourne Lane, Midhurst, GU29 9AZ

Format: 152 pages, 49 coloured and 9 black and white drawings and illustrations, 8 maps, appendices, notes, comprehensive bibliography, fully indexed. ISBN 09529039 0 3

Content: Twenty-five years of research into archaeological, architectural and documentary sources has resulted in a comprehensive study of the history of brickmaking and building with brick in Essex. Many questions connected with the early use of brick in England are discussed from the apparent dearth of Roman tile-kilns to the business and family links of 15th century builders. A user-friendly system for describing bricks and also a brick typology for south-eastern England are introduced.

7. Brickmaking in Sussex

Author: M Beswick **Date:** Aug 1993 **Revised:** Second Edition (revised) 2001

Price and postage: £14.95 Post free

Address: Mrs M Beswick, 'Halcyon', Punnetts Town, Heathfield, East Sussex. TN21 9DR

Publisher: Middleton Press, Easebourne Lane, Midhurst, West Sussex. GU29 9AZ

Format: 242 pages, perfect bound between soft covers. 46 illustrations, including maps, drawings and photographs. ISBN 1 873793 197

Content: In two parts. Part I traces the development of brickmaking in Sussex - the raw materials available; kiln design and operation; the subsidiary products of brickyards such as pottery, terracotta and mathematical tiles; economic factors influencing industry; brickmakers' lives and brickmaking families. Part II is a gazetteer of over 850 brickyard sites with locations, approximate dates and names of the operators, where known.

8. Bricks and Brickmaking

Author: The Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings **Date:** 1978

Revised: Reprinted 1992 (Sponsored by Baggeridge Brick Limited)

Price and postage: £1.95 plus £0.50 p&p **Phone:** 01527 831886 Fax: 01527 876 934

Address: The Avoncroft Museum of Building, Stoke Heath, Bromsgrove, Worcester B60 4JR

Contents: A4 paperback, 20 pages, 17 illustrations

Content: An introductory booklet on the handmaking process and a note on modern methods.

Also contains a summary of the geological background and history of building in brick.

9. Bricks and Brickmaking

Author: Martin Hammond **Date:** 1981 **Revised:** June 2001

Price and postage: £2.95 inclusive p&p **Phone:** 01844 344301

Address: Shire Publications Ltd, Cromwell House, Church Street, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire HP27 9AA

Publisher: Shire Publications Ltd **Format:** Paperback, 210 x 148mm, 32 pages: 46 illustrations

Content: A well illustrated source of information on hand and machine methods of brick manufacture. Deals with the various facets of brickmaking - geology and winning of the clays; forming the bricks; kiln designs, and the of the various types of bricks made.

10. The Clay That Burns

Author: Richard Hillier **Date:** 1981 **Revised:** Not revised

Price and postage: £3.50 inclusive **Phone:** 08705 258258 Fax: 01234 762041

Address: Hanson Brick Limited, Stewartby, Bedford. MK43 9LZ

Publisher: London Brick Company (Now part of Hanson Brick Ltd)

Contents: 100 pages - numerous illustrations and maps

Content: A history of the fletton brick industry from the time of the discovery of clay and the pioneers of its development as the largest sector of the United Kingdom brick manufacturing industry. Well illustrated with photographs from manufacturers' archives

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11. Bucks Bricks: The Story of Bletchley and Calvert Brickworks

Author: Robert Cook **Date:** 1997 **Revised:** -

Price and postage: £15.95 plus £1.00 p&p **Phone:** -

Address: Quotes Ltd, The Book Barn, Whittlebury, NN12 8XS

Publisher: Quotes Limited

Format: Hardback, 180 pictures many photographs and drawings. ISBN 0 86023 532 7

Content: The story of Bletchley and Calvert brickworks and the close-knit communities associated with these London Brick Company fletton producing works.

12. Butterley Brick: 200 years In The Making

Author: Roy Christian **Date:** 1990 **Revised:** Not revised

Price and postage: £10.00 inclusive **Phone:** 08705 258258 Fax: 01234 762041

Address: Hanson Brick Limited, Stewartby, Bedford. MK43 9LZ

Publisher: Butterley Brick Limited (Now part of Hanson Brick Limited)

Format: 256 pages: numerous photographs.

Content: A history of Butterley Brick

13. Dig It, Burn It, Sell It

Author: Michael Cassell **Date:** 1990 **Revised:** not revised

Cost and postage: £15.95 + £1.75 p&p **Phone:** 020 845 89343

Address: Pencorp Books Limited, Beagle House, 80 Hill Top, London NW11 6EE

Publisher: Pencorp Books

Format: 189 pages maps Black and white and coloured Photographs

Content: The history of Ibstock Brick Limited from 1825 - 1990.

14. George Bargebrick Esq

Author: Richard-Hugh Perks **Date:** 1981 **Revised:** -

Price and postage: £2.99 + £0.26 **Phone:** 01634 310011 Fax 01634 378501

Address: Meresborough Books, 17 Station Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 7RS

Publisher: Meresborough Books

Format: 64 pages: 80 illustrations black and white photographs and line drawings

Content: The story of the barge, brick and cement empire of Smeed Dene of Sittingbourne, Kent and its colourful founder George Smeed. Many early photographs of brickmaking, brickmakers and sailing barges.

15. Stock Bricks of the Swale

Author: Sydney James Twist **Date:** 1984 **Revised:** Reprinted 3rd impression

Price and postage: £1.95 plus £1.00 extra **Phone:** 01795 534542

Address: The Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre, 13 Preston Street, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8NS

Publisher: The Sittingbourne Society

Format: 20 pages: Illustrated cover

Content: A personal account of the growth of stock brick making in the Faversham and Sittingbourne areas of Kent. Observations on working conditions in local brickfields.

16. Good and Proper Materials: The Fabric of London Since the Great Fire

Author: A Cox, F Kelsall, M Stratton, D Yeomans, J Sutherland, I Grant, C Brooking.

Date: 1989 **Revised:** -

Price and postage: £10 (£8.00 + £2 p&p) **Phone:** 0207 3889889 Contact Roger Cline

Address: Honorary Secretary, The London Topographic Society, Flat 13, 13 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 0SH

Publisher: The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England in Association with The London Topographical Society (Publication No 140)

Format: Papers give at a conference organised by the Survey of London at the Society of Antiquaries on 21 Oct 1988

Content: Contains: Foreword, Notes on Contributors, Introduction, Bricks to Build a Capital, Stucco - Shining through the Smog, Structural carpentry in London building, the Introduction of Iron Into Traditional Building, Mechanisation and Standardisation, The Brooking Collection

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17. Construction History. The Journal of the Construction History Society

Author: Alan Cox **Date:** 1997 **Revised:** -

Cost and postage: £5.00 flat fee includes p&p **Phone:** 01344 630700

Address: The Chartered Institute of Building, Englemere, Kingsride. Ascot.SL5 7TB

Format: 9-page article

Content: Volume 13 1997 - A Vital Component: Stock Bricks in Georgian London: pages 57-66

18. Essex - 'Full of Profitable Things'

Author: Essays presented as a tribute to Col Sir J Ruggles-Brise **Date:** 25th Sept 1996 **Revised:** -

Cost and postage: £14.50 plus £4.50 p&p **Phone:** 0208 520 5249

Address: Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress, Lowe Hill House, Stratford S Mary, Colchester. CO7 6JX

Publisher: Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress

Format: Casebound, 234mm x156mm, c.450 pages, Illustrations and maps ISBN 0 904920 36 4

Content: One article 'Brickmaking in Essex' is by British Brick Society Member. Adrian Corder-Birch, Chairman of Halstead and District Local History Society.

19. The Story of Brick

Author: British Brick Society **Date:** 1976 **Revised:** Reprinted 2001 (Not revised)

Cost and postage: £1.50 including p&p

Address: John Tibbles, Publications Officer, British Brick Society, Barff House, 5 Ash Grove, Sigglesthorne, Hull, East Yorkshire. HU11 5QE

Contents: A4 reprint of eleven articles and 22 illustrations.

Content: This is an illustrated history of brick and its geological setting from Proto-Neolithic Jericho to the present day - Pt I: Geology: Romans-Tudors. Pt II: Geology: Elizabeth I - II. Pt III: Pise-Adobe-Brick. Pt IV: Greece Roman Britain. Pt V: European Beginnings. Pt VI: Mediaeval England to 1400. Pt VII: England 1400-1480. Pt VIII: 1480-1660 in East Anglia. Pt IX: Bricks for the masses 1630-1730. Pt X: Handicraft to Factory. Pt XI: Observing & recording.

20. Practical Architecture

Author: C W Pasley **Date:** 1826 **Reprinted:** Facimile reprint 2001

Price and Postage: £30. 00 in UK +£4.50 overseas

Address: Donhead Publishing Ltd, Lower Coombe, Donhead St Mary, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 9LY

Format: Hardback, 223 x145mm, 288 pages, numerous engravings ISBN 1 873394 47 0

Content: Despite the broad scope suggested by its title this book is almost exclusively about brick masonry construction. Written for students at the Royal Engineers' School in Chatham it provides a course in building construction applicable to ordinary buildings such as barracks, hospitals and storehouses. It deals with robust construction including large arches and vaulting, but not the more decorative details that characterize late nineteenth century elaboration. Nevertheless it is of great interest for those interested in nineteenth and early twentieth century building.

21. Ziegeleimuseen (Brickworks museums)

Author: Christine Doege **Date:** 2000 **Revised:** -

Publisher: Ziegel-Information GmbH, Bonn

Cost and postage: £6 including p&p

Available in UK from: Buckland Books, Holly tree House, 18 Woodlands Road, Littlehampton, Sussex, N17 5PP

Format: Paperback, 210 x 148mm, 66 pages, many illustrations and maps. ISBN 3 9807595 0 4

Content: Twenty-five museum sites described in this attractive book. Seventeen are in Germany, two in Holland and one each in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Hungary and Switzerland. In addition eight pages list other museums, working historic kilns, public collections and private collectors in the countries listed above plus Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Sweden and Australia!

The text is in German, but site plans, drawings and photographs make the addresses, access and contact details relatively easy to understand even for those with no skills in that language.

BOOKLIST REVISED DECEMBER 2009

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