

EST. 1588

HANDMADE

CLAY ROOF TILES

SINCE 1588







OUR HISTORY

1588

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

One of the oldest, most established industries in Burgess Hill, Keymer Brick & Tile Company evolved from the former Ditchling Potteries, a collection of various works including Dunstalls Farm owned by John Billinghurst, John Palmer and John Pomfrey - a renowned brick maker in Keymer in 1588.

When the Ditchling Common site was sold, having exhausted its supply of clay, production was moved to Nye Road over a period of 80 years between 1860 and 1940. The factory and clay pit are still situated here and cover an area of approximately 50 acres.

In the late 1800s, it's reported that the works were the largest in the South and employed over 300 people. At the turn of the century, it was famous for the manufacture of red terracotta ware - winning awards in London in 1862 and Philadelphia in 1876. This bespoke product was used throughout the British Isles and, largely due to its early success, was re-introduced by the modern-day Keymer in the 1990s.

1800-1900'S

AN EVOLVING CRAFT

Back in the 1800s, the site had many tall brick chimneys, which belched smoke from time to time and have since been demolished in line with the 'Clean Air Act.' Coal was used for the drying and firing of products, and was regularly delivered to the site. Finished products were also dispatched by rail via Keymer's own siding, adjacent to the Lewes-Eastbourne train line. Since the closure of the railway sidings, during Dr Beeching's time, Keymer now uses Natural Gas to dry and fire tiles.

In the early days, a considerable number of Keymer employees also lived in cottages on site. Further cottages were built in Cants Lane - which have now been demolished - that housed brick making tables on the ground floor with living quarters upstairs. These were commonly known as birdcages.

1900-2000'S A NEW ERA

Since 1969, the Company has been subject to take-overs including the 'Cavenham' empire when Sir James Goldsmith was Chairman. Keymer is now owned by a Trust set up by Neil Wates (deceased), who acquired the business in 1980. Due to dramatic fluctuations in the demand for bricks during the early 1970s, a decision was made to stop brick manufacturing and concentrate on the production of handmade clay roofing tiles.

In 1978, architects and planners were concentrating more on the conservation and preservation of all types of buildings; this attitude gave new life to the company and resulted in the increased production of

From 1939 to 1945, the tile manufacturing works were completely closed down. Buildings and kilns were used by the Admiralty for storage purposes and played a major part in the 'D-Day' landings. Then, in 1946, a considerable investment was made to introduce new clay preparation machinery whilst ensuring that traditional methods were maintained.

roofing tiles and fittings. In 1981, the very latest micro-processor controlled kilns were installed to reduce fuel consumption and provide better working conditions whilst still retaining the traditional production methods. Recession in the construction industry during the 1990s led to a decline in the home market and a reduction in the production of tiles.

Keymer, the premium handmade roof tile brand, is now owned by Wienerberger, the leading supplier of wall, roof and landscaping innovations. Renowned as one of the world's oldest operational roofing manufacturers, oldest operational roofing manufacturers, Keymer made its fourth move in its 400 year history and was re-launched from its new home at Wienerberger's factory in Ewhurst, Surrey in 2015. Situated in the plain tile heartland and 20 minutes from the original site, Keymer's handmade clay tiles will continue to be produced using the orange clays of the South Weald and the same traditional equipment and processes at its new home. The company has invested heavily to ensure the handmade manufacturing process is retained, meaning that all Keymer products will boast the quality and performance they have become famous for.

TODAY

IN SAFE HANDS

Keymer still uses Wealden clay native to the area and many of the traditional craft skills have been passed down from maker to maker through the generations.

Demand and production for Keymer's handmade clay roof tiles have shown a steady increase in recent years. Now dispatched throughout the British Isles, used on roofs from cottages to castles, supermarkets to town centres, Keymer also export to the Continent, America and lately even Russia and Japan.

Keymer continue to invest in up-to-date techniques to strengthen commitment to fuel efficiency and a safe working environment - and, at the same time, to manufacture the finest genuine handmade

DISCOVER KEYMER

The Keymer range has been born over many generations, defined by time and mastered by hand.

The character of the product is inherent within every Keymer tile which ages beautifully and naturally over time.

From the period Peg Tile, to the standard handmade brown Goxhill Range, you are guaranteed to find a colour or texture bespoke to your project.

KEYMER

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KEYMER TILE RANGE AT A GLANCE











Our artisan approach has ensured Keymer is history in the making





PEG TILES

KEYMER

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Keymer Peg Tiles

County Peg - Weathered

Our County Peg Tiles are innovative in design. They are created for renovation use, with three nail holes and one nib, to make fitting easier and less disruptive. These tiles are the ideal choice for the refurbishment of older Peg tiled buildings or for use on oast houses.

Kent Peg - Antique

Our Kent Peg Tiles are Britain's best Peg Tiles, handmade by craftsmen using the company's rich Wealden Clay. They are better and more cost effective than using second hand tiles which can quickly deteriorate once stripped off and re-used. Nom Colo Miniı Gaug Cove Weig Weig Weig Weig Aver Aver

PEG TILE - TECHNICAL INFORMATION

	County Single Nib	Kent Nibless
inal size	250x150mm	250x150mm
urs available	Weathered	Antique
mum pitch	40°	40°
je	95mm	95mm
erage	70/sq.m	70/sq.m
ht at max. gauge	79kg/sq.m	79kg/sq.m
ht per 1,000	1,130kg	1,130kg
ht per 1,000 eaves	822kg	822kg
ht per 1,000 gables	1,650kg	1,650kg
age quantity per pallet	830 tiles	830 tiles
age weight per pallet	938kg	938kg

*FOR VERTICAL TILE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.KEYMER.CO.UK



TRADITIONAL

 $\mathsf{K}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{Y}\mathsf{M}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{R}_{{}_{\mathsf{EST. 1588}}}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{R}$



Keymer Traditional Tiles

Traditional to look at, but innovative in design, Keymer Traditional tiles are created for renovation use. These tiles are the ideal choice for the refurbishment of older Peg tiled roofs and elevations or for use on oast houses.

TRADITIONAL TILE -**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

Nominal size

- Colours available
- Minimum pitch
- Gauge
- Coverage
- Weight at max. gauge
- Weight per 1,000
- Weight per 1,000 eaves
- Weight per 1,000 gables
- Average quantity per pallet
- Average weight per pallet

Traditional Tiles

265x165mm

- Wealden Red Antique Elizabethan
- 40°
- 100mm
- 60/sq.m
- 76kg/sq.m
- 1,270kg
- 969kg
- 1,880kg
- 830 tiles
- 1,054kg





Keymer Shire Tiles

A genuine handmade British made clay tile that offers a serious alternative to the traditional style of clay roof tiles. Produced in three colours, every tile weathers naturally to look better and improve with every passing year.

Nor Cole Gau Cov Wei We Qua We

Rec

SHIRE



SHIRE TILE - TECHNICAL INFORMATION

	Sh
minal size ours available	265: Dov Heri Prio
ıge	100
verage	60/
ight at max. gauge	66/:
ight per 1,000	1,100
antity per pallet	860
ight per pallet	990
commended minimum pitch	40°

ire

x165mm

wns Red itage ry

- mm
- /sq.m
- ˈsq.m
- 0kg
- kg



GOXHILL





Keymer Goxhill Tiles

The Keymer Goxhill range of tiles is one of the finest and most distinctive roof coverings available. This handmade plain tile gives a rich textured roofscape that will become more and more attractive with age.

GOXHILL TILE - TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Nominal size Colours available

Minimum roof pit Headlap (minimur Gauge coverage Weight at max. ga Weight per 1,000 Weight per tile Quantity per pallet

ch*	
n)	
uge	

Roof

265x165mm

Autumn Brown Dark Red Dark Chestnut

40°

65mm

100mm

79kg/sq.m

1.2 tonnes

1.25kg

530

Vertical

265x165mm

Autumn Brown Dark Red Dark Chestnut

75°

38mm

114mm

79kg/sq.m

1.2 tonnes

1.25kg

530



GOXHILL FITTINGS $\mathsf{K}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{Y}\mathsf{M}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{R}$







FITTINGS

KEYMER EST. 1588

Keymer Fittings

Keymer manufacture the largest range of handmade clay fittings you'll find. The true skill of the Keymer master tile maker is well displayed, from the valley to the ridge. Using Keymer's own Wealden clay, these fittings are not only the natural choice in conservation areas but also add character and value to any new building too.





TRADITIONAL ORNAMENTS

KEYMER



Keymer Ornamental Tiles

Since handmade clay tiles first went into production, their makers recognised that special design could set a roof or clad wall apart from the rest - enhancing the building in looks as well as worth.

To ensure compatibility with all Keymer products, the range of Ornamental tiles can be made to order in all the materials for renovation work - looking better standard colours. and lasting longer.

TRADITIONAL HANDMADE CLAY TILE - TECHNICAL INFORMATION

	Club	Arrow	Point	Bull Nose
Nominal size Coverage Weight per 1 000	265x165mm 53/sq.m	265x165mm 53/sq.m	265x165mm 53/sq.m	265x165mm 53/sq.m
Weight per 1,000 Average Weight per pallet Average quantity per pallet	943kg 830 tiles	943kg 830 tiles	943kg 830 tiles	943kg 830 tiles
	•	•	••	•



Keymer can also make Ornamental tiles to individual specification - whether for matching or to realise an original concept.

All of these products have the same renowned Keymer weathering properties. They soon blend in with existing



FINIALS







Our expertise means that anything can be made in clay to suit the needs of any project, whether to match an authentic piece or fulfil a new specification. Each item is individually made by hand using Wealden clay from Keymer's own sources.



HERITAGE **SERVICE**

KEYMER HERITAGE SERVICE IS A SPECIALIST CONSERVATION AND **RESTORATION SERVICE THAT CREATES BESPOKE HANDMADE ROOF TILES** AND FITTINGS



There is a growing demand for highly trained craftsmen who understand the wide range of skills and methods used in conservation projects. Companies such as Keymer play a valuable part in the programme, allowing students to see the techniques being used in a real working environment...

Part of the charm of our build heritage stems from the wide diversity of roof coverings adorning our historic buildings..



From cottages and barns to stately homes, many of our older buildings offer a profusion of detail that, today, would be deemed an architectural luxury.

Over the centuries, the use of roofing material has varied from place to place, with a diversity determined by local geography and material availability.

One of the most enduring and appealing of these materials was natural clay; which became desirable for its mellow appearance and weathering properties. Its popularity as a roof covering was enhanced by its unique ability to be pressed into a multitude of shapes and designs.

This enabled past designers to create an endless landscape of decorative roofs through the inclusion of ornate finials, ridges and hips. Builders in the 17–19th centuries in particular placed great emphasis on appearance and detail and strove to add character to their work.

Family homes that would be passed down through generations were often constructed to include bespoke features that reflected the occupants' tastes or even personal wealth. Individuality within a style in keeping with the overall local vernacular was of paramount importance.



WELL COURT

KEYMER SPECIFICATION GUIDE

The Keymer specification guide is a piece of roofing history, its drawings and explanations have become as much a part of the heritage of handcrafted roofing as has the brand in the hearts of those that touch, use and feel its products.

This guide is intended to act as a walkthrough for the many uses of clay plain tiles and the versatility of the products, all of the practices are still viable today, but many have become lost to the market apart from the few skilled roofers still working today.

Keymer wishes to thank David Baker Architects for their invaluable and extensive expertise in preparing the following drawings and details.

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Little And Large Bonnet Hip Tiles

Standard Valley

Laced Valley

Eaves Detail With Open Soffit And **Rafter Foot**

Eaves Detail With Closed Soffit An **Rafter Foot**

Eaves Detail With Sprocketed **Rafter Foot**

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Double undercloak course of standard or nibless tiles with 165mm edge showing and face side downwards

'Tile-on-end' undercloak course fixed to bargeboard





3B **3C 3**D

3E

3A



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L	EAD F(
B	ACK G
1	Eaves tile course
2	Treated timber fillet with lead-for over (*gutter gently worked to for
3	British Lead Mills Code 5 lead form nominally flat, having a relatively for this detail is 1,500. For longer a should be used
4	Board/Sheet gutter former for lea
5	Code 5 lead flashing to masonry c
6	Where abutment is to solid mason a through-wall D.P.C. to reduce da through wall. Where abutment is t tray and weepholes
7	Treated timber bearer supporting

O R M E D U T T E R

ormed gutter bossed* orm)

rmed gutter. The gutter here is y short length. Maximum length r abutments a stepped lead gutter

ead-formed gutter

course

onry, consider installing damp penetration down s to cavity wall, install cavity

ng gutter former





LEAD FORMED FRONT APRON

British Lead	d Mills Code 5 lead form
Apron is fit courses as	ted under side abutme shown
Where abut through-wa	tment is to solid masor all D.P.C. to reduce dan
Where abut for similar r	tment is to cavity wall, 'easons
Rafter	
Tile battens	s and underlay

7 If the width of the abutment is not a tile module, cut gable tiles to achieve half tile coursing

ned front apron

nt flashings and extends under tile

nry, consider installing np penetration down through wall

install cavity tray and weepholes,





STEPPED FLASHINGS

To Side Masonry Abutments Full width tile (165mm) – cut adjoining tiles as necessary to achieve half-tile coursing 2 Tile-and-a-half to alternating courses 3 British Lead Mills Code 3-4 lead soakers to each abutment tile 4 Stepped Code 4 or 5 lead flashings fitted over soakers and fixed to masonry joints with lead wedges. Note lower extremity of stepped flashing is brought over and around front abutment flashing 5 Where abutment is to solid masonry wall, consider installing through - wall D.P.C. to reduce damp penetration down through wall 6 Where abutment is to cavity brickwork, install cavity tray and weepholes for similar reasons 7 Edge tiles are laid down over open welted lead secret valley lining. Upper edge tiles to be pointed 8 25 x 25 treated counter batten 9 Treated bearer / sheet valley former





L	EAD SA
Ab	utment Ridge Flashing - Ir
1	Top tile
2	Purpose made valley tile
3	See Ridges on pages 1 -2 or batten/f
4	British Lead Mills Code 5 formed lead Saddle can be bossed or have welded
5	Ridge sits on lead saddle. Rear of ride roof abutment and pointed to tiles
Ab	utment Saddle Flashing -
1	Top tile
2	British Lead Mills Code 5 formed lead Flashing is wedged min 25mm into m
3	Ridge sits on lead saddle and is point
4	See detail: Page 13 for C3 side abutm
5	See detail: Page 11 for 3B for front lea

DDLES

ntersection Of Roof/Ridge

felt details

d saddle to abutment junction ed gusset for steeper roof pitches

lge is trimmed to angle of adjoining

Masonry Abutment

d combined saddle/flashing. masonry joints with lead wedges

ited to masonry abutment

nent flashing details

ad formed abutment





LEAD-LINED VALLEY

17	Cut plain tiles to form valley o
2	Cut gable (tile-and-a-half) tile half tile coursing
3	Ply valley board and timber fi at valley channel
4	British Lead Mills Code 5 lead
5	Roofing felt to be dressed ove
6	Mortar bedding on plain tile s

channel

es may be required to maintain

llets each side to support tiles

valley lining

er fillet into 25mm gap

lips





40-50° GRANNY BONNET-HIPS

	Granny bonnet
2	For lower roof pitches (ie 40-45°) it is r along the hip rafter to tip the bonnet u mortar bedding
3	Treated S.W. bearers support batten er are used
4	Bonnet tile trimmed as 'undercloak' an visual impact of mortar bedding to bot
5	Use gable tiles and out tiles as needed to main slopes
6	600mm wide strip of roofing felt laid o
7	Jockeying of bonnets

s recommended to fix a double batten t up, and so reduce the thickness of

ends when doubled hip battens

and tile 'tongue' to reduce ottom bonnet

ed to achieve half-tile coursing

d over general roofing underlay





'LITTLE AND LARGE' BONNET HIP TILES

1	'Large' tile	ANT	X
2	'Little' tile		
3	Depending on pitch, cut tiles ma fit and half-tile coursing	y be i	red
4	Timber bearer to batten ends		
5	Counter batten to give tilt and go	ood f	ixi
6	600mm wide strip of underlay, la	id ov	/er

equired to ensure good

xing for bonnet nails

er general underlay





STANDARD VALLEY

- Standard valley tile, suitable for the meeting of equal pitch slopes of 40-50°. For pitches of 50-60°, use the Keymer 60° valley. For pitches outside these ranges, consult Keymer who will make special valley tiles
- 2 Depending on pitch, adjacent plain tiles may require cutting to form neat junction, and to keep half tile coursing
- 3 Continuous 600mm wide strip of underlay, under general underlay, and overlapped by the general underlay by at least 150mm







Tile-and-a-half ' tile turned through 90° in alternate courses 2 Adjacent plain tiles may require cutting to fit and course

- 3 Eaves tile course continues straight, but the next course (the first course of full size tiles) tilts up at the valley to start the 'lacing'
- Ply valley board and timber fillets each side to support tile-and-a-half-tile 4
- 5 Continuous 600mm wide underlay strip, under general underlay

LACED VALLEY





EAVES DETAIL WITH OPEN SOFFIT AND STRAIGHT RAFTER FOOT

Eaves tile (190mm long)
Standard tile (265mm long)
First batten set out to ensure that rain
Underlay extends into gutter and pond underlay support tray
Timber tilting fillet
Ply sheet and supporting noggins to m
Mesh to keep out insects, birds etc
Flashing to neaten and weatherproof t
If the eaves overhang is large, conside lining - looking up at underlay is not at does not trap the underlay or obstruct
This detail shows a fascia – it can be or exposed (but remember to use rafter b not fascia brackets)

nwater discharges to centre of gutter

nding is avoided by the use of a

maintain ventilation path

the top course of tile hanging

er using a dark stained timber under attractive – but make sure that it :t the vent path

omitted and the rafter feet brackets to support the gutter,





EAVES DETAIL WITH CLOSED SOFFIT AND STRAIGHT RAFTER FOOT

1	Eaves tile (190mm long)
2	Standard tile (265mm long)
3	First batten set out to ensure that rain
4	Underlay extends into gutter and is alw
5	Keymer 'in-line' eaves vent accessory s continuous vent. The need for insect m so on is avoided
6	Keymer 'in-line' eaves vent accessory path venting the roof space
7	Battens set out to give minimum head a maximum batten spacing of 100mm

inwater discharges to centre of gutter

lways sloping to avoid ponding

y supports the underlay and gives mesh etc, cutting of soffit board and

y keeps insulation from obstructing air

ndlap of 65mm. In practice, this means n





EAVES DETAIL WITH SPROCKETED RAFTER FOOT

1	Eaves tile (190mm long)
2	Standard tile (265mm long)
3	First batten set out to ensure that rain
4	These battens should be set out to mi sprocket and rafter. This gives a much
5	Underlay
6	Tilting fillet
7	Sprocket nailed to side of rafter foot
8	Ply sheet to maintain vent path*
9	Counter-batten to produce air path

*Don't forget the insect mesh

inwater discharges to centre of gutter

hiss the change in angle between h gentler 'bell cast' shape to the roof





D	ORMEF
V	VINDOV
Frc	om Diagrams 7A - 7B
1	Top bonnets cut to fit and to course
2	Standard bonnet
3	Top tile (210mm long)
4	Standard tile (265mm long)
5	Eaves tile (190mm long)
6	Standard valley
7	Tile-and-a-half tile
8	Half Round ridge tile. Tile slip end f
9	Top batten turned through 90° to b
10	Tilting fillet
11	Batten bearer may be needed, dep cheek structure

R V S

se, and to lift end ridge tile

filling

build out top course

pending on width of dormer





DORMER WINDOWS

Continued From Page 34

12	Lead soakers, 150mm upstand a and projecting 10mm past lead
13	Lead dressing over top tile
14	Lead saddle under ridge and ca
15	This area will receive rainwater gutter. A lead apron would be s
16	Solid mortar bedding to ridge t
17	Half-tile slips nailed to post, to and to reduce visual mass of me and take care to keep the tile e
18	Mortar pointing to weatherproc Again, keep the tile edges clear
19	Underlay is fixed in pieces and s recommendations for each part

and 150mm under each tile, ing edge of each tile

rried 150mm up slope

from both the valley and the ensible

ile joints

stop battens, give key for mortar, ortar. Set the mortar back a little, edges clean

of edge of tile – hung cheeks. n

strips in accordance with the ticular junction





TILE HANGING

See Key Detail 8A And 8B On Pages 39 - 42





CORNERS IN TILE HANGING. VERTICAL TILE HANGING. GENERAL VIEW OF TILE HANGING. **BASE OF TILE HANGING** 90° external angle (left hand) **2** 90° external angle (right hand) **3** Cut tile-and-a-half tile to achieve half-tile coursing 4 Standard plain tile

- 5 Eaves tile (190 long)
- 6 Nibless tiles
- 7 Battens set out to give minimum headlap of 38mm. In practice this gives a maximum batten spacing for vertical tile hanging of 114mm. The formula is: tile length-lap = gauge 2
- **8** Vertical counter battens
- 9 Underlay
- **10** Mortar tilting fillet
- **11** Timber tilting fillet
- **12** Keymer also produces 135° internal and external angles in handed sets





RIDGE AND VERGE JUNCTIONS.

VERTICAL TILE HANGING

1	Half round ridge tile with tile slip filling
2	Top tile (see Ridges 1 for further guidance)
3	Eaves tile (see 6A, B and C for guidance)
4	Special tile cut on site from tile-and-a-half tile, and fixed with mortar, lead clips and/or nailed through site-drilled nail holes
5	Special tile cut on site from standard plain tile and fixed as noted in 4 above
6	Nibless or standard plain tiles with short side showing as undercloak
7	With all roof pitches when Winchester cutting, it will be necessary to fix an additional tiling batten running parallel to the line of the roof pitch, in order to secure the last tile





BONDING. TILES IN WALLS

Why Use Tiles In Walls?

Weather resistance – use to resist the passage of moisture Non brick shapes - use to form arches, brackets and small module shapes Colour/texture contrast - use to break up large areas, introduce texture variations, run string courses bands and patterns

Which Tiles To Use

Plain - the Keymer plain tile is suitable in many situations, but the nib must be taken into account (or used to advantage!) Nibless - this solves any problems you may have with nibs Ridges - these are useful as copings Other tiles - your ingenuity is the only limitation!

Cutting

How? - disc cutter (neatest and less wasteful), skutch or nibbler Avoid! Showing cut edges in face-work. They're ragged and lighter

Mortar

MIX - 1 cement : 1 lime : 1 fine aggregate or 1 cement : 3 fine aggregate DON'T use soft building sand JOINT - don't point - nominally recess the joint to keep the edges clean, but don't create ledges - bag or stipple on completion to remove cement laitance and to expose a little aggregate

Danger! Aesthetic Health Warning

In the words of Nathaniel Lloyd, "the adaptability of the unit frequently produced appalling results." Use tiles in walls sparingly and thoughtfully - and avoid fussiness





TILES IN WALLS. COPINGS

Keymer plain and Nibless tiles are more weatherproof and frost resistant than bricks. They also form a stronger bond with Mortar than other DPC materials and are therefore ideal for DPC's and Copings in freestanding walls, parapets and chimneys. They are not suitable for closing cavities in place of a cavity tray.





ΝΟΤΕS

NOTES

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Wall Solutions	Wall Solutions	Roof Solutions	Landscaping Solutions

For further information please contact the Keymer sales office on:



01444 232 931 info@keymer.co.uk