

FRIENDS OF READING ABBEY

AUTUMN LECTURE

Saturday 26 October 2024 2.30 pm
Abbey Baptist Church, Abbey Square, Reading RG1 3BE

Tiles for the Abbey:

A Medieval tiliary and occupation at 40-68 Silver Street. Reading

David Sánchez

Thames Valley Archaeological Services



This lecture describes the results of an open area excavation undertaken in two stages on the western side of Silver Street which revealed several phases of activity. The first occupation of the site consisted of a Medieval tiliary comprising two tile kilns and a well, dated between the 12th and 14th centuries. That the tiliary was supplying tiles to the Abbey is demonstrated by designs on wasters from the kilns matching designs on tiles recorded in-situ in the floor of the Abbey cloister in excavations of the 1960s.

Abandonment of the tiliary was followed by a phase of intensive domestic occupation of the site in the late Medieval period.

David Sánchez arrived in England in 2015 after 9 years working in archaeological projects in Spain, Portugal and Ireland, and with a background in Ancient History and Archaeology from a History degree in the University of Salamanca and a Postgraduate degree in Prehistory and Archaeology in the University of Madrid. David is Projects Coordinator for Thames Valley Archaeological Services. He has produced a number of publications in Spain, Portugal and England, including the results of excavations at Silver Street, Reading.



Abbey Baptist Church is behind Reading Central Library, in the Abbey Precinct. It will be open from 2.00pm. Free entry, with a voluntary retiring collection.