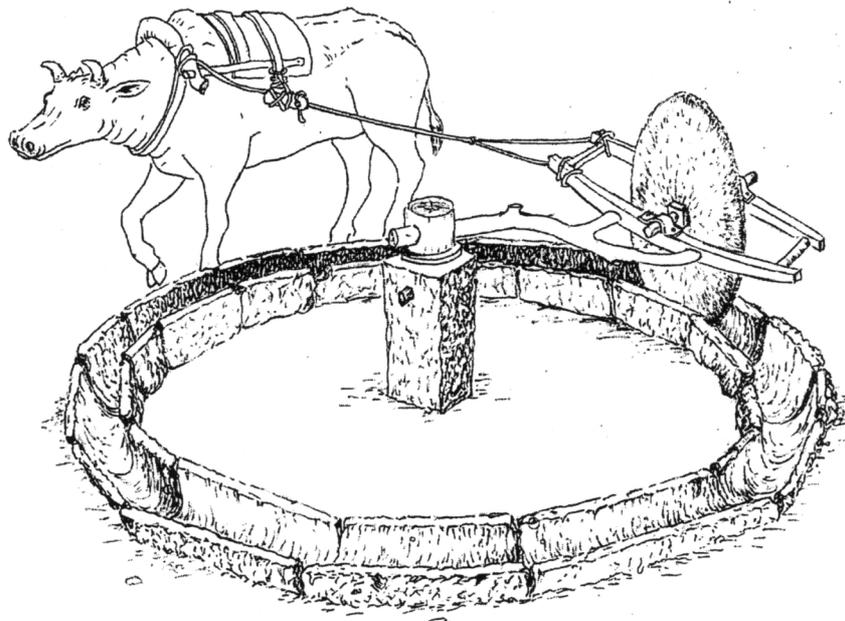


Pottery Kiln at Wun Yiu (artist's imagination)





Experimental Shaft Kiln, Beddingham, East Sussex, used as a continuous mixed feed lime kiln in 1931-32.



Along the access tunnel



Circular steel plates on top of the barrel vaults

Continuous, or sometimes called *Tunnel*. These are long structures in which only the central portion is directly heated. From the cool entrance, ware is slowly transported through the kiln, and its temperature is increased steadily as it approaches the central, hottest part of the kiln. From there, its transportation continues and the temperature is reduced until it exits the kiln at near room temperature. A continuous kiln is the most energy efficient because heat given off during cooling is recycled to pre-heat the incoming ware.

A specialty type of kiln, common in tableware and tile manufacture, is the *Roller-hearth Kiln*, in which ware placed on bats is carried through the kiln on rollers.

Kiln technology is very old. The development of the kiln from a simple earthen trench filled with pots and fuel, [pit firing](#), to modern methods happened in stages. One improvement was to build a firing chamber around pots with baffles and a stoking hole, this allowed heat to be conserved and used more efficiently. The use of a chimney stack improves the air flow or *draw* of the kiln, thus burning the fuel more completely. Early examples of kilns found in [Britain](#) include those made for the making of roof-tiles during the [Roman](#) occupation. These kilns were built up the side of a slope, such that a fire could be lit at the bottom and the heat would rise up into the kiln.

- **Anagama kiln** - the [Asian anagama kiln](#) has been used since medieval times and is considered the oldest style of production kiln, brought to [Japan](#) from [China](#) via [Korea](#) in the 5th century. This kiln usually consists of one long firing chamber, pierced with smaller stacking ports on one side, with a firebox at one end and a flue at the other. Firing time can vary from one day to several weeks. Traditional anagama kilns are also built on a slope to allow for a better draft.
- **Noborigama kiln** - the Noborigama is an evolution from Anagama design as a multi-chamber kiln, usually built on a slope, where wood is stacked from the front firebox at first, then only through the side-stoking holes with the benefit of having air heated up to 600 C degrees from the front firebox, enabling more efficient firings. (source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kiln>)