“The Scaled Dragon” tile was made at the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works and designed by Henry Chapman Mercer circa 1900s based on an English medieval tile. This tile is in the MPTW collection and is projected to have been produced at the tile works circa 1920s-30s.
“Dragon Tile,” 6 x 6 inches, designed and hand-made by William de Morgan, England, circa 1900s.
Horned “Dragon,” 4 x 4 inch tile, 2012 by Tile Restoration Center, Seattle, WA. Replication of an original Claycraft tile, circa 1920s. Tile Heritage Collection.
JULY 2012

Year of the Dragon

These dragon tiles are from the Ming Dynasty, circa 15-16th century, Shanxi Province, China. They once decorated the roof ridge of a small temple building. Collection of the British Museum, London, England.
These Chinese roof tiles with a dragon motif were acquired by Henry Chapman Mercer in 1915 directly from China (sent to him by three American missionaries living in China). Installed at Fonthill, Mercer’s home in Doylestown, PA at approximately the same date. The tiles are at least 19th century, but Mercer suspected they may have been much older.
Dragon roof ridge finial handcrafted by artist Shaun Cudmore of Ridge Dragon in Hastings, England. Cudmore’s artistry preserves the old English tradition of adding decorative ridge elements to buildings - said to ward off unwanted ‘vibrations.’