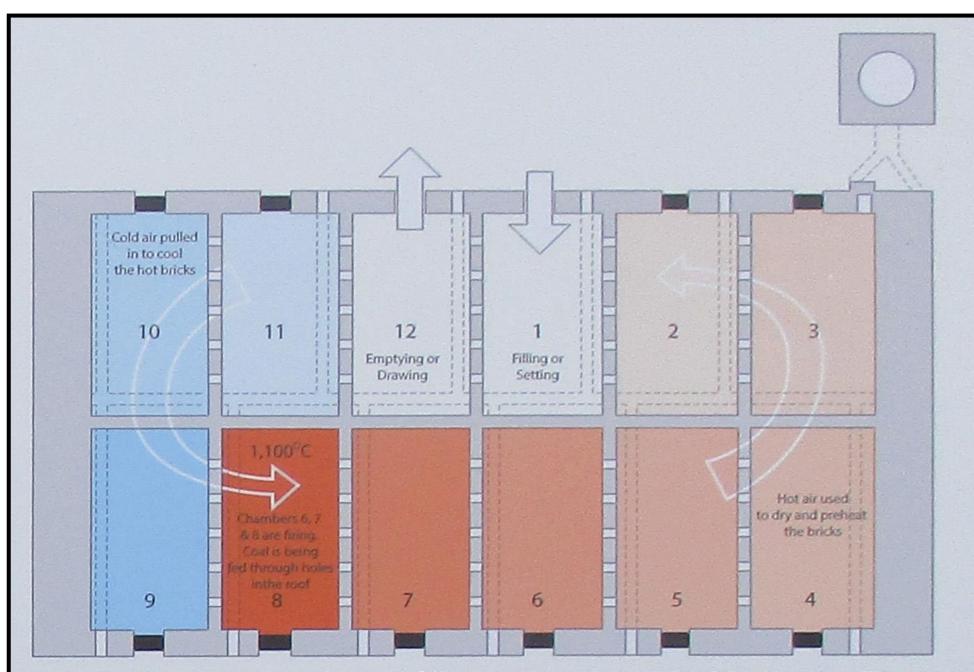
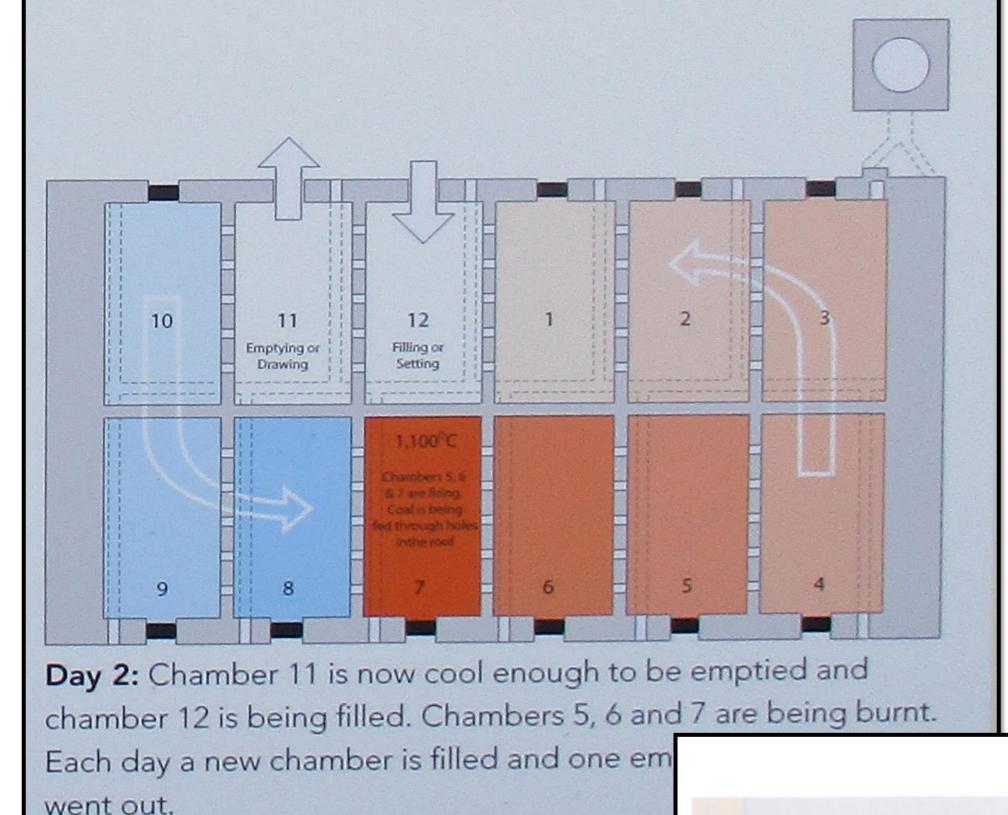
4. Burning the bricks in a kiln

More modern, efficient kilns integrates the drying and burning of bricks into a single process. For example, the multiple chambers of the Staffordshire or Hoffman kiln are used to progressively heat and then cool the bricks, as explained below.



Day 1: Chamber 1 is being filled with around 26,000 bricks. The door is then closed with a mix of bricks and clay. Chamber 12 is being emptied. The bricks are ready to go to market....but very hot to handle still. Chambers 6, 7 and 8 are being burnt.



This type of kiln uses the waste heat from the bricks being kilned to dry the new bricks and gradually increase their temperature prior to firing.

The drying and kilning processes are combined, and the bricks are not handled between them.

Courtesy Bursledon Brickworks Museum Trust.

This picture showsthe Hoffman kiln atRowlandsCastleBrickworks in 1969.



