Dimensions of the bricks

Here the photographs with approximate dimensions of commonly used hand made clay bricks are given. These clay bricks have been fired in the kiln, thus red colour. The nominal sizes of the bricks are also given. As can be seen, the recession in the upper broader side can be of different shapes. It is called ‘frog’ in the technical jargon and is meant to hold the plaster while the bricks are laid for construction of walls and structures.

The depth of recession is approx. 0.5 inch. Various shapes are used at different brick kilns.

Each side of this ‘frog’ is 2.75 inches.
Description of the present mini-extruder

This extruder is operated by a crew of 6-7 persons. 2-3 to bring mud, one to tend the wire cutter, and 2-4 to shift the bricks from cutter on pallets to the open yard for drying. The speed of extruder can be controlled though gears of the tractor engine. At maximum speed it can make 2000-5000 bricks per hour (to be confirmed).
Indentations to make longitudinal groves (alternate to ‘frog’ on the bricks)

Extruder die (4.5 inch X 3 inch) through which the mud cake passes and later on it is cut into bricks. This die can be changed to make different sizes of bricks.

These nails try to make the surface of the brick rough to make them as similar as possible to the hand made bricks.

Chain to transmit power to conveyor belt of mud
Shaft of power transmission from engine to extruder shown in detail. Approx. 2 inch in diameter.

4 wire cutters 9 inches apart

Handle for manually operating wire cutters to cut mud cake into 4 bricks in each stroke.

The cutting table is 4ft X 4 ft size.
Extruder screw as visible from the top of hopper

Mud mixer