

CLAY, BARNARD BLACKBIRD

SiO ₂	59.7%
Al ₂ O ₃	10.87
Fe ₂ O ₃	14.65
TiO ₂	0.67
CaO	0.27
Na ₂ O	0.12
K ₂ O	2.04
MgO	0.75
MnO	3.40
L.O.I.	7.48

Geographical Source:

From crude clay stockpiled in the woods of Western Pennsylvania.

Geological Source:

Characterized as a glacial boulder clay. Glacial action produced a very fine clay mixed with sand, rocks and gravel.

Characteristics:

Barnard clay exhibits an extreme lack of plasticity and a high level of colorant impurities, and for this reason is used primarily as a colorant for clay bodies and glazes.



Barnard clay contains 3.4% manganese dioxide which is highly toxic. Manganese is particularly dangerous in a claybody where there is close contact between the hands of the potter and clays of the claybody.