

THE SPECIAL KILNS OF TERRA SIGILLATA WORKSHOPS IN GALIA DURING ROMAN PERIOD

ABSTRACT

Terra Sigillata is a kind of slip which contains very fine clay particles and high percent iron compounds and some alkalines. Due to this ingredient the slip change its colour during firing period between red and black, depending to the atmosphere of the kiln.

In Antic Greek period, earlier then Roman times, firing results of this type of slip was black colour like on black and red figures vases. Because in wood kilns the atmosphere is mostly reductive and thus black colour of slip obtains easily. But keeping the atmosphere of a wood kiln as oxidant is almost not possible for all firing period.

In Roman time, the Gaul potters have improved their kiln and acquired to fire Terra Sigillata slip wares with smooth and homogenous red colour. This type of wood kiln has had a tubuler system, heating the firing chamber and creating an oxidant atmosphere without smoke.

Thus they have practised huge amount of table wares with the standard of sizes and surface quality for different garrisons of Roman army.

Sevim Çizer