

Summary:

Terra sigillata (samian ware) is a pottery class defined by technological and historical criteria, in use from the Hellenistic age until the beginning of the Medieval Age.

Some of the production wares bare a stamped mark, made during production process in the pottery, which provides qualified data related to chronology and origin.

The assemblage of potter's stamps studied was collected in several archaeological excavations carried out in Praça da Figueira (Lisbon), in 1961-2 and in 1999-2001, which revealed several building phases of the roman imperial period. Its characterization is important for the understanding of this peripheral area of the roman town of *Olisipo*.

Therefore, stratigraphical units revealing potter's stamps were studied, and pottery assemblages were analysed in relation to the chronological definition revealed by the stamps. This study revealed that was under the reign of Tiberius that occurred the first urbanisation of the area, and after, a second phase occurred, of burial use, which begun somewhere in the 60s of the 1st century A.D.

Nevertheless, potter's stamps were studied in an economical history perspective. Although scarce, the sample of Italic productions allowed the hypothesis of a connection of *Olisipo* to the network of “institutional” commerce during the three first decades of the 1st century A.D. The overall commerce evidence was complex and parcelized regarding pottery producers which supplied the town. Production centres, even dominated the supply, had to face competition from different pottery sources of origin, an increased phenomena after 60 A.D. and until middle 2nd century A.D.