

Theme 1

Ceramics in Wrecks and Underwater Discoveries

IBERIAN CERAMICS FROM SPANISH FLEETS: THE ANGRA B AND ANGRA D SHIPWRECKS (16TH-17TH CENTURIES)

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The existing knowledge on the Iberian expansion in 16th and 17th centuries indicates that the city of Angra (Azores islands) played a key role as a port of call for fleets that circulated in the Atlantic. The data available on ships attending this port suggests the use of different types, adapted to the ocean environment and to the tasks of the various routes that began to connect the continents. The artefacts analysis from the shipwrecks that occur in this area can reveal information about the site formations processes, social, economic and operation of the vessel. In this presentation we intend to approach ceramics found in two shipwrecks in Angra Bay: Angra B and Angra D, belonging to the Spanish fleets that crossed the Atlantic between the 16th and 17th centuries. The assemblage shows the key role of Seville as a main pottery production centre for the Spanish maritime activities.