Pottery production in Sagunto between the late Caliphate and the early taifa period

This synthesis wish to summaries the results of the research undertaken over the last two years on the pottery kilns and on the kiln waste of the production area located in the outskirt of Sagunto (Comunidad Valenciana, Spain) between the late 10th and the early 11th century. Some preliminary results have been presented so far. Even though the archaeometrical analysis of the kilns is still in progress, the ceramic assemblage has been catalogued and studied.

The major points that will be discussed can be summarised as it follows:

1. The relationship between the structure of the kilns and the type of pottery produced
2. The technical features of glazed and unglazed pottery and their relationship with similar production context in al-Andalus dating between the late 10th century and the first half of the 11th century
3. The meaning and role of extra moenia production areas in the region and period taken into account
4. The role of Sagunto in relation to Segorbe after the division of the Caliphate of Cordoba

The ceramic production in Sagunto will be analysed within the cultural and political context it was made in, that is during the transition between the separation of the caliphate of Cordoba and the first taifa period. The final aim of this work is to present the technical features of the ceramics produced in Sagunto, a centre not known so far, putting it into context and discussing possible similarities/differences with production centres like Murcia, Denia, Albarracín and Zargoza.