In 1572 the Lisbon Potters’ Regulation divides the craft officials between redware, green glazed, white glazed and roof tile officials (louça vermelha, louça verde vidrada, louça branca vidrada and telheiros). This is one of the first documents in Lisbon mentioning the production of lead glazed wares. Based on archaeological evidence the production and widespread consumption of Lisbon lead glaze may have started during the second half of the 15th century. The 1572 document, possibly not the first to be made but the one which survived, can in fact give us important information about craft organization and the importance of lead glaze production. All the objects produced in Lisbon had a red micaceous fabric varying from light red (2.5 YR 2/4 MSCC) to dark brown (SYR 5/4 MSCC) in colour. The sherds present a homogenous fabric with small-medium quartz, lime and micaceous inclusions. The pots were all wheel thrown showing rilling marks on the interior surfaces. This document is also very specific concerning what type of objects the potters had to do in order to pass the exam: alguidares grandes e pequenas (large and small flared bowls), frigideiras (frying pans) and tijellas de fogo (cooking bowls), but also panelhas de mea arroba cada hua (large boiling pans) panelhas mais pequenas e de toda a sorte (smaller boiling pans) almotelhas grandes e pequenas (large and small bottles), tachos (cooking pots) enfusas de toda a sorte (all types of jars) pratos de toda a sorte (all types of plates) canos para teixedos de cinco palmos (pipes to be used in roofs), malegas grandes que chamam vermelha (large bowls), escudelas de feição de porcelana (bowls shaped as porcelain) and hú servidor (a pot which could have many functions including being used as a chamber pot). All of these forms and even others were found in Carnide.

The purpose of this paper was to discuss the production and consumption of lead glazed ceramics in Carnide domestic environments in Early Modern Age. The majority of the finds has the surface covered with green glaze, although bowls and plates are most of the times covered with yellow. Glazed wares are a constant presence in all post medieval archaeological contexts since at least late 15th century. However the amounts of their presence are quite variable. Not many excavations have a full account of all the ceramics found on site, however the ones who have it demonstrate that lead glazes are never the majority of ceramics, a role which is occupied by unglazed redwares. When analysing numbers we should also have in mind that each site corresponds to a specific social and economic background and not all of them can be interpreted the same way. Wealthy sites consume high quality products and the number of glazed wares, based in the available evidence seems to be higher in wealthier contexts, possibly indicating that these were more expensive than non-glazed objects. Unfortunately it is not easy to understand the value of objects in early modern Lisbon and except for a few documents there are no references to these daily wares. Nevertheless a major conclusion has to be drawn and lead glazed ceramics, although in different amounts, were present in poor and rich homes.