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The manufacture of Sarreguemines was founded in 1790 however the region has been producing ceramics since the 16th century. In 1799, Paul Utzschneider became the director of the company, which started its ascension. From then on the factory developed and diversified its production with fine china, ceramics and majolica decorative tiles. The company became famous for its Majolica work and made Sarreguemines into one of the most important centers for ceramics in Europe.
In the world of decorative arts, the artistic orientation of Sarreguemines always followed the most avant-guard styles and fashions. The Orientalist trends were strong during the Romanticist years from 1830 to 1840; the Japanese atmosphere was widely represented between 1860 and 1900. From 1880, with the fashion of sea resorts the company developed a large array of marine related themes.

- photo 1 : Plate, Sarreguemines Museum, second half of the 19th century.
- photo 2 : Table center-piece called *Mermaid*, c.1880, Sarreguemines Museum.









