

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 16 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DI39	DJ40		
Loci	2107 1238	2138		
Baskets	3116 3117 3119	3118		
Walls 1945, 2108				
Floors				

1) West Zone

a) Continued work in Squares DI39 (with the NE corner of DI38 and the west edge of DH39)

- i) Goal = identify the south end of the Beta Building and the function of the space intervening between it and the Alpha Building to the south
- ii) Basket = 3116, 3117, 3119
- iii) Starting elevation = 130.004
- iv) Ending elevation = 129.709 (average north of W1945); 127.722 (low of probe L2107)
- v) Probe to soil change – reddish
- vi) Decision to expand probe to the south to seek stylobate
- vii) Lowered area north of W1945.
- viii) Column shaft in SW corner.
- ix) Interior of walls to be defined.
- x) Ceramic analysis (basket 3116)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI39 (from the probe)
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery that consists of unindicative body shards
 - (4) Indicative wares: Casserole fragment from late BYZ/UMM period (Beith Shean, Bar Natan 2011, fig. 11.17\ 10)
- xi) Ceramic analysis (basket 3117)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI39

(3) Description: Very small amount of pottery that consists of jars and cooking vessel body shards

(4) Indicative wares: Beisan jar (grey material, bands of white slip)

xii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3119)

(1) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI39 (from the probe)

(2) Description: Bodyshards of jars and cooking vessels (casseroles from late BYZ\UMM)

(3) Indicative wares: "High-neck" jar (parallel to Hamat Gader, Ben-Arieh, 1997, plate XI \ 1-6; 7th-9 AD)

xiii) Item 702

(1) Category: Ground stone

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Grinding

(4) State of Preservation: Fragment

(5) Width: 15.5

(6) Length: 19.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 5.0

(8) Elevation: 129.95

(9) From east edge of square: 4.4

(10) From north edge of square: .4

(11) Description: A piece of grinding stone, with one potential edge intact and 3 broken sides.

xiv) Item 703

(1) Category: Architecture

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Capital

(4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

(5) Width: 46.0

(6) Length: 34.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 44.0

(8) Elevation: 129.9

(9) From east edge of square: 4.8

(10) From north edge of square: .6

(11) Description: Semi-ionic Byzantine Capital with a double conic on opposite sides (double ring in center) and a double triangle/spherical accent on the remaining sides. Diameter of base is approximately 33 cm.

i) Item 705

(1) Category: Architecture

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Pilaster Base

(4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

(5) Width: 36.0

(6) Length: 60.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 50.0

(8) Elevation: 128.55

(9) From east edge of square: 3

(10) From north edge of square: 6

(11) Description: Roman pilaster base with corner and multiple levels of beveling. Appears to have been reused as a door jamb during a later period.

i) Item 708

(1) Category: Architecture

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Column Drum

(4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

(5) Width: 31.0

(6) Length: 90.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 30.0

(8) Elevation: 129.6

(9) From east edge of square: 5.2

(10) From north edge of square: .9

(11) Description: Long column drum. Tapers very slightly from a diameter of 31 cm to a diameter of 30 cm.

a) Continued work in Square DJ40.

i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building

ii) Basket = 3118

iii) Starting elevation = 129.809

iv) Ending elevation = 129.357 (average south of W2108); 129.719 (top of W2108)

v) Soil is Horizon B

- vi) Identified W2108 through square
- vii) Top course is shifted to the south about 15 cm
- viii) W1285 may extend north to W2108
- ix) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DJ40
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery that consists of jars and cooking vessel body shards
 - (4) Indicative wares: UMM cooking pot from the dark grey material
- x) Item
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Column Base
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 48.0
 - (6) Length: 40.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 38.0
 - (8) Elevation: 129.5
 - (9) From east edge of square: 1.7
 - (10) From north edge of square: 1.8
 - (11) Description: Simple column with square base which tapers to a round drum of diameter 38 cm.
- xi) Item 709
 - (1) Category: Ground stone
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Grinding
 - (4) State of Preservation: Less than half
 - (5) Width: 12.5
 - (6) Length: 26.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 13.0
 - (8) Elevation: 129.5
 - (9) From east edge of square: 3.3
 - (10) From north edge of square: 2.3
 - (11) Description: Roughly a quarter of a grinding wheel.

