

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 18 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DI39	DJ40		
Loci	2107 1238	2101		
Baskets	3124 3125	3126		
Walls 1386, 1945, 2007, 2103				
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 = 3124, 3125
 - iii) Starting elevation = 129.646 (north of W1945); 128.261 (south probe)
 - iv) Ending elevation = 129.366 (north of W1945); 127.776 (south probe cobbles); 128.107 (top of stylobate in W1945); 128.06 (stylobate in alpha)
 - v) South probe
 - (1) Lowered south section to level of cobbles, identified as the base for the stylobate.
 - (2) The stylobate is clearly visible in W2007, but has been robbed out to the north
 - (3) There is no evidence of the stylobate in situ in in south wall of Building Beta, although at least two stones were used in the wall
 - (4) Building beta was built after removal of the stylobate for the purpose of getting building stones for building Beta.
 - (5) Continued to lower the area north of w1945?
 - (6) Removed rubble next to repair of W1386 and dismantling of W2103
 - vi) Ceramic analysis (basket 3124)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI39 (from the probe)
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery that consists of jars and cooking vessel bodyshards

(4) Indicative wares: Casserole (Magness, form 1, from late 4-early 8 AD); Beisan jars from UMM period

(5) Residual: KFH 3B cooking pot (early 2-late 4th AD)

vii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3125)

(1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th

(2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI39

(3) Description: Very small amount of pottery that consists of Beisan jar bodyshards

(4) Indicative wares: Buff colour UMM jar rim (parallel to Hamat Gader, Ben-Arieh, 1997, plate XIII \ 7; 7th-8AD)

viii) Item 714

(1) Category: Ground stone

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Grinding Bowl

(4) State of Preservation: More than half

(5) Width: 8.0

(6) Length: 17.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 4.5

(8) Elevation: 128.3

(9) From east edge of square: 2.7

(10) From north edge of square: 5.7

(11) Description: Portion of a cylinder with an indent in the top center. Stone has a diameter of 17 cm, indentation has a radius of 4.5 cm.

a) Continued work in Square DJ40.

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

ii) Basket = 3126

iii) Starting elevation = 128.731

iv) Ending elevation = 128.652 (paver); 128.9056 (top of old column); 128.834 (bench)

v) Soil is Horizon C

vi) Opened the north half of the square

vii) Cleared the floor of the courtyard in the southern half of the square.

viii) Column or base in situ next to west wall. Preexists floor?

ix) May be a bench/shelf next to the north wall, about 15 – 20 cm tall.

- x) Several limestone blocks lay on floor next to older column. May have been used to raise the level of the floor to the top of the column. Column did not likely function in last phase of building. Perhaps it was part of earlier building.
- xi) Broke the surface of DJ40 North
- xii) Item 715
 - (1) Category: Ground stone
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Grinding Bowl
 - (4) State of Preservation: Less than half
 - (5) Width: 18.5
 - (6) Length: 35.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 12.0
 - (8) Elevation: 128.90
 - (9) From east edge of square: 4.2
 - (10) From north edge of square: 2.65
 - (11) Description: 2/5 of a rather flat grinding wheel. The sides of the bowl rise only 3.5 cm. One foot on the bottom of the bowl is intact.

