

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 16 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DH39	DI40		
Loci	2107 1238	2138		
Baskets	3116 3117 3119	3118		
Walls 1945, 2108				
Floors				

1) West Zone

- a) Continued work in Squares DH39 (with the NE corner of DH38 and the west edge of DG39)
 - 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.DH39 (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.DH39

(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.DH39 (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 DI40.

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. DI40
 - (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.

