

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2013 – 14th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 3 July 2013 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DH39 North	DI40 north	DH39 North	
Loci	2115	1243	2117	
Baskets	3146	3147	3148	
Walls 1244, 1285				
Floors 2116				

1. Continued work in the “gathering hall” (Squares DH40 south with the NW corner of DI39 and the east edge of DG39) and DH39 North
 - a. Goal = identify the south end of the Beta Building
 - b. Basket = 3146
 - c. Starting elevation = 128.11 (floor west of basalt capital), 128.39 (top of capital next to north wall), 128.18 (marble panel on floor)
 - d. Ending elevation = 128.13 (NE corner), 128.11 (SW corner), 128.14 (SE corner). 128.42 (step)
 - e. Soil = horizon C (white and chalky)
 - f. Finished clearing the stone floor (F2116), except in the NE corner. Recovered several nail fragments
 - g. Turned over marble panel. Nothing on the reverse except plaster residue. Under the panel were a number of plaster pieces, perhaps balancing the marble panel. Recovered some small pieces of pottery, glass and bone from underneath (L2117)
 - h. Identified two limestone column drums and a spiral fluted marble table leg in the remaining fill in the NW corner. Perhaps the marble panel served as a table in this corner.
 - i. Ceramic analysis
 - i. Mainly dating from 5AD
 - ii. Mainly dating to 8AD
 - iii. Stratigraphic context: South-West room (DG 39), under the L.2113
 - iv. Description: Small amount of pottery, mostly fragments of jars and some cooking vessels

v. Indicative wares: Bet-Shean jar rim (parallel to Bet Shean, Bar-Natan 2011, fig 11.3/5 and 11.2/4)

Item Number	745
Category	Ground stone
Material	basalt
Shape	round
State of	Perfect
Preservation	
Width	6.0
Length	6.0
DepthThickness	5.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	2.11
From North	1.78
To be Drawn	No
Description	small round grinding? stone

Item Number	746
Category	Architecture
Material	basalt
Shape	arch piece
State of	More than half
Preservation	
Width	14.5
Length	15.0
DepthThickness	9.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	1
From North	1.25
To be Drawn	No
Description	fragment of an arch

Item Number	749
Basket Number	3146
Category	Metal
Material	iron
Shape	nail
State of	Perfect
Preservation	
Width	1.0
Length	10.0
DepthThickness	1.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	3.18
From North	0.13
To be Drawn	No
Description	bent, head to bend is 7 cm

Item Number	750
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Basket Number	3146
Category	Ground stone
Material	basalt
Shape	box
State of Preservation	Perfect
Width	14.0
Length	21.0
DepthThickness	10.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	4.06
From North	0.06
To be Drawn	No
Description	rectangular stone with rectangular hole in center, hole is 5x9x5 cm

Item Number	751
Category	Metal
Material	iron
Shape	nail
State of Preservation	Less than half
Width	0.8
Length	5.0
DepthThickness	0.8
Elevation	128.11
From East	2.68
From North	0
To be Drawn	No
Description	nail fragment without head

Item Number	752
Category	Metal
Material	iron rusted
Shape	blade
State of Preservation	Fragment
Width	1.8
Length	6.3
DepthThickness	0.8
Elevation	128.11
From East	3.35
From North	0
To be Drawn	No
Description	possible blade of a small knife, looks like it has a tang

Item Number	753
Category	Architecture
Material	marble
Shape	square
State of Preservation	Perfect

Preservation	
Width	14.5
Length	15.0
DepthThickness	9.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	0.55
From North	1.45
To be Drawn	No
Description	floor tiles possibly cut from a chancel screen

Item Number	754
Category	Architecture
Material	marble
Shape	retangular
State of	Nearly complete
Preservation	
Width	75.0
Length	173.0
DepthThickness	3.3
Elevation	128.14
From East	4.48
From North	2.25
To be Drawn	No
Description	large marble panel (table) broken into ten pieces

Item Number	761
Category	Ground stone
Material	basalt
Shape	ovoid
State of	Perfect
Preservation	
Width	7.5
Length	10.5
DepthThickness	4.0
Elevation	128.11
From East	0.37
From North	0
To be Drawn	No
Description	small hand grinding stone

2. Resumed work in Square DI40 north.
 - a. Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building
 - b. Basket = 3147, 3148
 - c. Starting elevation = 129.97
 - d. Ending elevation = 129.25 (average west), 129.47 (average east)
 - e. Soil is Horizon B

- f. Removed heavy destruction fill from the area. Interior of W1244 and the east side of W1285 are uncertain.
- g. Took out the balk in DJ41/DI41.
- h. Cleared the probe in the corner of W1239 and W1244. Both walls seem to be sitting on a limestone layer (bedrock?)
- i. Ceramic analysis 3147
 - i. Mainly dating from 6AD
 - ii. Mainly dating to 7AD
 - iii. Stratigraphic context: North-East room (DI 40)
 - iv. Description: Mostly non-indicative shards of jars and some cooking vessels
 - v. Indicative wares: Bet Shean jars
- j. Ceramic analysis 3148
 - i. Mainly dating from 6AD
 - ii. Mainly dating to 7AD
 - iii. Stratigraphic context: South-West room (DG 39), under the marble panel
 - iv. Description: Several none-indicative fragments of jars (with two tesserae stones (stone and green glass))
 - v. Indicative wares: Bet Shean jars



