Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2010 – 11th Season Daily Log + Drawing

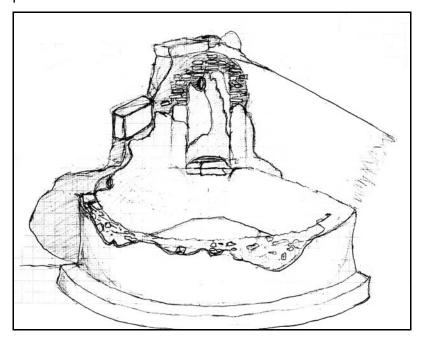
Date: 27 July 10 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler	
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Squares	YY99	ZZ0	ZZ99			
Loci	1296	1276				
	1918					
Baskets	2379	2380				
	2378					
Walls	W1261, W1266, W1288, W1236, W1297, W1298,					
	W1910, W1911					
Floors	F1294, F1909, F1912					

Continued work in YY99

- Goal = remove balk between excavated areas, clarify relationship between colonnaded building and later vat.
- Starting elevation = 129.683 (average north of channel), 129.753 (average south of channel), 129.893 (top of channel), 129.289 (average in pool), 129.289 (average north of pool), 129.783 (top edge of pool wall), 129.153 (western lower ledge of pool)
- Ending elevation = 128.874 (mosaic south), 128.849 (mosaic north), 129.158 (outside step of pool), 128.961 (interior step of pool SW), 128.942 (interior step of pool NW), 129.720 (top edge of pool, east end), 129.826 (level of unexcavated fill), 130.447 (bottom of shallow basin that feeds fountain through pilaster), 129.759 (plaster floor near cistern I)
- Soil is Horizon C
- Removed interlocking stones over the SE corner of the first pool and from the end of the collapsed column (2.55m visible in the fill).
- On a second step up from the opus sectile floor is a floor at the base of the main pool. Its edge in the north is marble. To the south the edge is less certain. But the floor is paved with a decorative mosaic carpet (only a small section of which is visible).

- The pool is more rounded on the north and west sides. The pool wall is topped with small slabs of stone that have been plastered over. While the inside wall of the pool is in good shape. The outer wall has been damaged by destruction fill.
- An external shelf follows the contour of the pool. It is 25cm wide and in topped with flat stones that have been plastered. The exterior shelf is 57cm below the top of the pool.
- There is at least one interior shelf in the pool. It is of similar width and is
 77cm below the top of the pool. We have not yet reached the bottom of the pool.

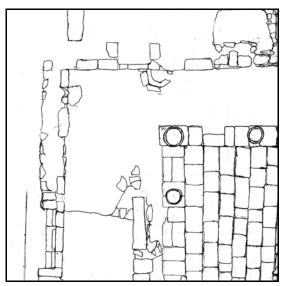


- o While removing large stones with the tractor, we discovered in the north balk another column in L1907. A tipped drum is also visible in the north balk. We are now convinced that W1298 ends with the north wall of the vat and that the corner is a doorway into the pool area.
- The basin in the NE interior corner of W1910 pilaster and W1266 is quite shallow. It channels all its water through the pilaster into the pool through the fountain. Neither the catch basin nor the channel on the vat wall direct water to the cistern.

 Basket 2378 is from Locus 1918. That locus is a fountain with basin at square YY99. In general, the contents are large fragments of Beisan jars, many fragments of pipes with plaster on them, some fragments of AMP, dating from 450 AD until 650 AD.

Continued work in square ZZ0

- Goal = expose north portico of the east peristyle court
- Starting elevation = 130.195
- o Ending elevation = 129.817 (F1293), 130.109 (high average)
- Soil is Horizon C
- The area between north stylobate and W1266 is loosely covered with flat stones and plaster.
- The transition to the steps to ZZ99 is crude with stones set on end. It is assumed that plaster made the look more appealing.
- o From this north portico, access to the east was possible through a doorway.



Continued work in square ZZ99

- o Removed tumble from the process of lowering the road.
- Balk is still unstable.