

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2011 – 12th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 10 July 11 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	XX99	XX0	E9	E10	F10	F10
Loci	1924	1219	1927	1927	1928	1894
Baskets	none	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410
Walls	1226, 1297, 1298, 1892, 1913, 1922					
Floors	1229 (?), 2009					

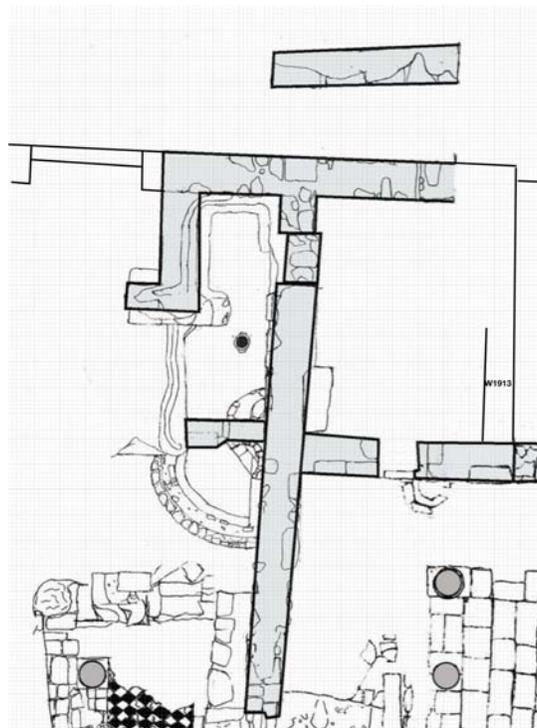
1) Northeast Zone

a) Continued work in Square XX99.

- i) Goal = Clarify more of Cardo 4 to the north and a possible entrance into the garden to the west.
- ii) Basket = none
- iii) Starting elevation = 130.84
- iv) Ending elevation = 129.84 (average), 130.08 (lower step), 130.35 (upper step)
- v) Soil is Horizon B
- vi) Used tractor to lower area east of the doorway. Also created a lowered platform 1 m east of the square. The pit is quite unstable.
- vii) Discovered what may be a catch basin next to W1298
- viii) W1297 does continue to the north through the square. There may be a corner at the north end of the square. A large section of its west face had fallen away. The fragile nature of the east face required removal of an equal section after photography
- ix) There is a step in the street at the north edge of the catch basin, with at least one addition step to the south.
- x) There seems to be a mud/plaster layer below the lower step. This layer is at the elevation of 129.84, but the layer is still 70 cm above the level of the step next to the fountain (129.13).

b) Continued work in Square XXO.

- i) Goal = Clarify more of Cardo 4 to the south and identify corner of northerly room on the east side of the peristyle courtyard.
- ii) Basket = 2406 (Beisan jars and some gritty cooking ware, 450 CE – 600 CE)
- iii) Starting elevation = 131.67 (average of street), 132.32 (average west of W1298)
- iv) Ending elevation = 131.22 (average north of W1913), 131.37 (average south of W1913)
- v) Soil is Horizon A
- vi) Lowered the SW corner of the square to the level of the remaining material in YY0.
- vii) Exposed the top of W1913 to its intersection with W1298 (elevation 131.75)
- viii) With walls identified on each side, future work will commence in XX/YY0 with a new locus for the room. The room is tentatively designated as the “Northeast Hall of the Peristyle House.”
- ix) Removed some of the destruction fill north of W1922
- x) Lowered the first meter of the road next to the excavation area.



2) Southwest Zone

- a) Continued work in Square E9/10.

- i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Building Complex Alpha
 - ii) Basket = 2407 (Little pottery; Beisan jars fragments, 400 CE – 600 CE)
 - iii) Basket = 2408 (Mainly fragments of Beisan jars, Indicative Wares LRC (Hayes, form 3), Residual EROM; 1 MROM jar, 450 CE - 600 CE)
 - iv) Starting elevation = 129.31
 - v) Ending elevation = 128.85
 - vi) Soil is horizon B/C with gravel
 - vii) Seem to have reached the base of the window wall.
 - viii) Removed one section of a column drum from the fill (#527, Diameter: 36 cm, Height: 17 cm)
 - ix) Identified a layer of mud/plaster at 128.85 that we are calling F1929. It is still some 80 cm above the level of the stone floor (F2009) in G10.
- b) Continued work in Square F10.
- i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Building Complex Alpha
 - ii) Basket = 2409 (Beisan jars & some cooking ware, 400 CE – 600 CE)
 - iii) Basket = F2410 (Mixed material, periods from HEL to BYZ, 200 BC – 600 CE)
 - iv) Starting elevation = 129.02
 - v) Ending elevation = 129.36 (high), 129.13 (low), 128.91 (west of W1923)
 - vi) Soil is Horizon B
 - vii) Continued to lower the area between W1923 and W1926
 - viii) Opened the area west of W1926.
 - ix) Identified a second niche in W1892, from which we recovered a hand pestle in the NW corner of the niche.
 - x) Identified the southern door jamb in W1926 and the top of the remainder of the wall to W1888.
 - xi) Recovered a hand pestle in G10 while working on the western edge of F10, discovered in the NW corner of a niche, diameter: 8 cm, height: 6 cm

