

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 23 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DH40south	DI40 North	DH39 North	DH40 South
Loci	L1238	L1238	L2113	L2113
Baskets	3132	3133	3134	3135
Walls 1244, 1285, 1945, 2108, 2114				
Floors				

1) West Zone

a) Continued work in Squares DH40 south (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 = 3132
- iii) Starting elevation = 130.173 (high); 129.447 (low); 130.473 (top of W2114)
- iv) Ending elevation = 129.276
- v) Soil is B/C
- vi) Leveled high spot in northwest corner of room.
- vii) Began to remove rest of fill from room.
- viii) Some difficulty identifying the insides of W2108 and W1285
- ix) Saved a basalt door jamb for reconstruction
- x) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DH40 (above the W.2114)
 - (3) Description: Few unindictive bodyshards
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan fragment

b) Continued work in Square DI40 north.

- i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building
- ii) Basket = 3133
- iii) Starting elevation = 129.948
- iv) Ending elevation = 129.976 (high to west of W1285); 129.606 (low to east of W1285)
- v) Soil is Horizon B

- vi) Expanded the north line of the square half a meter into DI41 in order to provide access to the interior corner of W1244 and W1285. The corner seems to be identified.
- vii) Recovered a limestone section of an arch. The arch was 54.5 cm deep and its curvature suggested the arch spanned 83 cm.
- viii) As it is not possible to complete work on the northeast room this season, worked shifted to squaring balks and leveling areas on either side of W1285.
- ix) Ceramic analysis (3133a)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DI40 (above the floor)
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery that consists of Beisan jars and cooking vessel unindicative bodyshards
- x) Ceramic analysis (3133b)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DI40 (top of the interior walls, North)
 - (3) Description: Some unindicative bodyshards of Beisan jars and cooking vessels, AMP (?) fragment
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan jar
- xi) Item 722
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Limestone
 - (3) Shape: Arch
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 40.0
 - (6) Length: 54.5
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 22.5
 - (8) Elevation: 130.0
 - (9) From east edge of square: .3
 - (10) From north edge of square: 2.7
 - (11) Description: Found slightly above southern wall level in square. Width of the arc itself is 24.5cm, height is 1.5cm. Appears to have been part of an arch with a diameter of 82 cm and a height of 41 cm.
- i) Item 723
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Arch

- (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
- (5) Width: 16.0
- (6) Length: 28.0
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 9.5
- (8) Elevation: 129.99
- (9) From east edge of square: .6
- (10) From north edge of square: .65
- (11) Description: Smaller, flat on both sides piece of basalt with a somewhat consistent curve along both sides.

i) Item 724

- (1) Category: Architecture
- (2) Material: Basalt
- (3) Shape: Acanthus Leaf
- (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
- (5) Width: 10.5
- (6) Length: 21.7
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 9.0
- (8) Elevation: 129.93
- (9) From east edge of square: 1.3
- (10) From north edge of square: .3
- (11) Description: Long narrow pieces of carved acanthus leaf. Seems to have one smaller complete leaf on the right side and the right half of a longer leaf on the left. Right side and bottom don't seem broken, while left side is clearly broken off.

a) DH39 North

- 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 = 3134
- iii) Starting elevation = 129.366 (north of W1945);
- iv) Ending elevation = 129.27
- v) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Dig of a southern part of a sq. DH39
 - (3) Description: Few unindictive bodyshards of jars
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan jar fragments
- vi) Item 725

- (1) Category: Architecture
- (2) Material: Basalt
- (3) Shape: Pedestal
- (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
- (5) Width: 49.0
- (6) Length: 58.0
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 22.0
- (8) Elevation: 129.93
- (9) From east edge of square: 3.8
- (10) From north edge of square: 3.1
- (11) Description: Pedestal with square base and series of 5 circular bevels. Found next to a column base and on top of two drums. thought to have a thicker square base, but found to be resting squarely on an inverted column base.

a) DH40 South

- 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 = 3135
- iii) Starting elevation = 130.173 (high); 129.447 (low); 130.473 (top of W2114
- iv) Ending elevation =
- v) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DH40 (under the W.2114)
 - (3) Description: Big Beisan bodyshard and thick base fragment (maybe of a heating instalation)
- vi) Item 726
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Column Base
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 35.0
 - (6) Length: 79.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 30.0
 - (8) Elevation: 129.95
 - (9) From east edge of square: 4.5
 - (10) From north edge of square: 2.6

(11) Description: Nearly straight column base but for a triple beveled ring near the bottom. Found next to pedestal on its side.

