Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2003 – 4th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: __28 July 2003__ Area: ___<u>NEC_____</u> Manager: <u>__Schuler</u>_____

Squares	D1		C0	B2A		
Loci	L501	L542	L536	L532		
Baskets	PC1875	PC1878	PC1876	PC1877		
Walls	W511, W521, W539					
Floors	F539					

- Continued work in Square D1
 - Starting elevation = 130.86
 - Ending elevation = 130.49
 - L501 is Horizon B; L542 is Horizon C. B horizon grayish brown (10YR 5/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) moist; very weak, coarse subangular blocky structure; 10 percent pebbles, 15 percent cobbles, 35 percent stones; irregular boundary. C horizon light gray (10YR 7/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, grayish brown (10YR 5/2) moist; massive; firm, hard in places near the floor; 10 percent pebbles, 10 percent cobbles, 20 percent stones; assumed to be calcareous (by color).
 - List of AI items
 - 071 lintel stone? (L501)

Basket 1875	Area NEC	Locus L501		Square D1		Opening elevation 130.86	
Closing Eleva	tion	Weight	D	ate	Manager	Loci Type	
130.63		0.59	2	8-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	
Yes Ceram	ic	Yes	Plaster	N	o Human Bone	s	
Yes Ceram	ic non-potte	ry Yes	Architectural Ite	m N	o Iron		
Yes Tesser			Lamp	N	o Lead		
Yes Glass		No	Inscription	N	o Inscription		
Remarks							
final reading ind	complete						
FW Bowl/Plate	Base FW	Bowl/Plate	Rim FW Bowl/I	Plate Handl	le FW Bowl/P	late Body Shard	
0		1		0		0	
FW Juglet Bas	e FW Jug	l et Rim F	W Juglet Handle	FW Jug	glet Body Shard	CCW Pot Base	
CCW Pot Rim	CCW Pot H	andle CC	W Body Shard	CCW Casse	orole Base CCM	/ Casserole Rim	
1	0		16			0	
CCW Casserole Handle CCW Bowl Base CCW Bowl Rim CCW Bowl Handle CCW Lid Base							
2		0	0		0	0	
CCW Lid Rim 0	CCW Lid H	landle OC	W Jar Base O	CW Jar Rim 0	OCW Jar Hand	lle OCW Jar Body Shard 10	
OCW Other Ba	se OCWC	other Rim	DCW Other Hand	le OCW	Other Body Sha 0	rd Lamp Base 0	

Lamp Rim Lamp Handle Lamp Body Shard 0 0 Ō Analysis 1 bone fragment 2 roof tiles 1 pc glass tesserae: 1cm -- 3 white 1.5cm -- 5 white 2cm -- 4 white, 1 black Basket Area Locus

1878	NEC L542	2	D1		130.63
Closing Elevation 130.49	n Weigh 2.37	t	Date 28-Jul-03	<i>Manager</i> Schuler	Loci Type destruction fill
Yes Ceramic Yes Ceramic		No <i>Plaster</i> No <i>Architectu</i>		No Human Bones No Iron	;
Yes Tessera No Glass		No Lamp No Inscription		No Lead No Inscription	
Remarks final reading inco					
FW Bowl/Plate E		0	0	dle FW Bowl/Pla	0
FW Juglet Base 0	0	0		uglet Body Shard 0	0
1	5	34		serole Base CCW	1
0		0	0	W Bowl Handle 0	0
0	0	0	5	0	e OCW Jar Body Shard 23
OCW Other Base 0	e OCW Other Ri 0	im OCW Other	Handle OCW	/ Other Body Shar 0	d Lamp Base 0
Lamp Rim La 0	mp Handle Lam 0	n p Body Shard 0			
Analysis 5 roof tiles					
1 bone					
tesseræ: 1 cm block with	16 white				

Square

Opening elevation

- 2cm -- 10 white
 - o Began to expose mosaic floor and stylobate.
 - A raised ridge of stones (3-4cm wide) runs parallel to the west wall (2.16m to the east). It runs from the west edge of the stylobate toward the bench, turning to the east and connecting with the front of the bench.
 - To the east of this ridge is white mosaic (average 1.5cm²). The raised ridge is 5-7cm above the mosaic. This mosaic is identical to the repair mosaic in the south aisle. As the raised ridge clearly connects the mosaic to the bench, we

therefore identify the mosaic repairs and benches in both aisles as common secondary features (possibly also in common with F516 in the chancel).

- At the edge of the balk, some of the mosaic forms the beginnings of a curved or circular pattern.
- Other sections of white (repair) mosaic are visible next to the west wall (W511) and south of the cistern head.
- The cistern head sits on one flat stone that extends 16cm to the south and two flat stones extending 82cm to the east
- There is no door to the north aisle of the church
- Exposed a column base of distinctly different style. It is a base only (no column)
- Opened Square C0 outside of W521
 - \circ Starting elevation = 131.68
 - \circ Ending elevation = 131.13
 - o Soil is Horizon B

Basket 1876	Area NEC	Locus L536		Square C0	11	Opening elevation 131.68
Closing Elevation 131.13		Veight .79	Da	Jul-03	<i>Manager</i> Schuler	Loci Type destruction fill
	-		-			
Yes Ceramic			Plaster		 Human Bones 	
Yes Ceramic	non-pottery		Architectural Iten		o <i>Iron</i>	
No Tessera			Lamp		o Lead	
No Glass		No	Inscription	IN	o Inscription	
Remarks						
final reading inco						
FW Bowl/Plate E	Base FW E	Bowl/Plate	Rim FW Bowl/P	ate Hand	le FW Bowl/Pla	ate Body Shard
0		0		0		0
FW Juglet Base	FW Jugle	et Rim F 0	W Juglet Handle 0	FW Ju	glet Body Shard 0	CCW Pot Base 0
CCW Pot Rim	CCW Pot Ha	ndle CC	N Body Shard C	CW Casse	erole Base CCW	Casserole Rim
CCW Cassarala	Handlo CC		se CCW Bowl R	im CCM	, Powl Handlo	CCW/ Lid Base
0	nanule CC	0	0		0	0
CCW Lid Rim 0	CCW Lid Ha	ndle OC	W Jar Base OC 0	W Jar Rin 0	OCW Jar Handl	e OCW Jar Body Shard 3
OCW Other Bas	e OCW Ot	her Rim (1	DCW Other Handle	e OCW	Other Body Shar	d Lamp Base
Lamp Rim La	amp Handle	l amn Bo	dv Shard		Ŭ	5
0	0		0			
Analysis	U		•			
3 roof tiles						
51001 1165						

• Opened a trench about a meter wide and a half meter deep following the exterior line of W521 in square C1.

- Cleared to a corner 7.7m east of the NW corner of the church. There W539 runs to the north. The trench was continued to the north.
- Two column bases were identified in the trench: an easterly one of 37cm diameter and a westerly one of 46cm diameter.
- The center of the westerly one is 63cm from W521 and 2.0m from W539. The center of the easterly one is 65cm from W521 and 40cm from W539
- A doorway in W539 begins 1.56m north of the corner of W539 and W521.
 The doorway would close from the east. This doorway and the blocked doorway (closing from the north) at the east end of W521 perhaps indicate the presence of a side room or rooms (prothesis or pastophory). The room would require another exit.
- To the north of W521 is a complex of possibly two or more rooms.
- Continued work in Square B2A
 - \circ Starting elevation = 130.2
 - Ending elevation = 129.96
 - The soil is redder in color and more compacted than other horizons. It digs easily.

Basket 1877	Area NEC	Locus L532		Square B2A		Opening elevation 130.2
Closing Elevation 129.96		Weight 4.54		Date 28-Jul-03	<i>Manager</i> Schuler	Loci Type destruction fill
Yes Ceramic Yes Ceramic			Plaster Architectural	Itom	No Human Bones No Iron	;
Yes Tessera	non-potter	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Lamp		No Lead	
Yes Glass		No	Inscription		No Inscription	
Remarks final reading inco	mplete					
0		Bowl/Plate	Rim FW Bov	vl/Plate Har	ndle FW Bowl/Pla	ate Body Shard
0		2		0		1
FW Juglet Base	FW Jug	let Rim F	W Juglet Hand 0	lle FW J	luglet Body Shard	CCW Pot Base 0
CCW Pot Rim 0	CCW Pot H 0	andle CC	W Body Shard 78	CCW Cas	serole Base CCW	Casserole Rim 0
CCW Casserole	Handle C	CW Bowl Ba	se CCW Boy 0	vl Rim CC	CW Bowl Handle	CCW Lid Base 0
CCW Lid Rim 0	CCW Lid H 0	andle OC	W Jar Base 0	OCW Jar R 0	im OCW Jar Handl 1	e OCW Jar Body Shard 44
OCW Other Base	e OCWO	ther Rim 0	DCW Other Ha	ndle OCV	V Other Body Shar 0	d Lamp Base 0
Lamp Rim La	mp Handle 0	Lamp Bo	dy Shard 0			
<i>Analysis</i> 7 pieces of glass						

1 piece of marble

.75kg of plaster: reds, yellow, browns, bands; one larger piece with four figners of left hand

tesseræ: 1 cm -- 22 black, 3 yellow, 8 red, 72 white

8 roof tile pieces

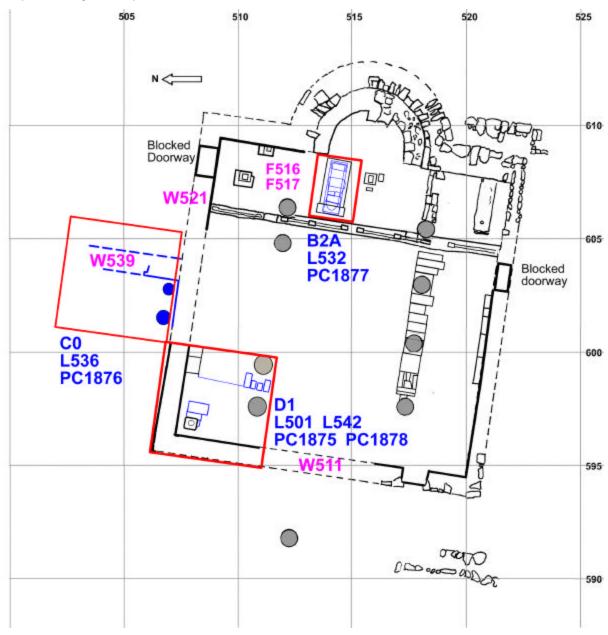
1.5cm -- 3 white

- Excavated about 60cm below the stones covering the north tomb. The soil is soft, mixed with pottery, a few bones, and many pieces of painted plaster.
- The side walls are two runs of nicely laid stones. The top run is 18-27cm deep and the bottom run is 34-44cm deep.
- At elevation 102.33 is a limestone sarcophagus box of identical orientation and construction to the box in the south burial. It however was covered by six stones 4-9cm thick (secondary use; two were marble). Between the second and third stones from the west, two triangular stones and plaster connected the lead pipe to the burial below. The fifth stone from the west (a piece of marble in secondary use) broke during excavation revealing the tomb below.
- One larger piece of painted plaster (in several sections) showed a dark band, yellow background and the four fingers of a left hand (outlined in red) on a parallel line to and below the dark band was recovered just above the stones covering the sarcophagus. Both the stones covering the sarcophagus and the side walls show bits of plaster adhering, so the hand was likely part of a fresco in the area above the sarcophagus but below the original covering stones that were just below floor level.
- The lead pipe is rolled, not melted. It was not meant to guarantee delivery of all the oil to the burial. Its top was hammered into a funnel. The pipe is 72cm long (partly broken at 16 and 35cm from the top). The exterior diameter of the pipe is 2.44cm. The thickness of the lead is .37cm. The funnel end has a diameter of 4.58cm.

Observations

• The tomb covering (reused marble and stone slabs) does not seem to be consistent with the walls that demark the area for the sarcophagus nor with the fine work of the

sarcophagus box. But if the tomb were hastily covered, there would not be time for plastering and the painting of a fresco.



Daily Drawing 28 July