

Locus No. L501

# Archaeological Context

Locus Status: open						
Locus Type: destruction fill						
Field Manager: Schuler	Area: Northeast Church:					
Opening Date: 6 July 03	Opening Height: 133.5					
Closing Date:	Closing Height: 130.6					

## **Locus Location**

General Description of Borders:

Destruction fill inside the walls of the *domus*.

Loci						
Below	Above	North	South	West	East	Identical
	all	W521	W510	W511	W502	
					W509	
					W520	

	X coordinate	Y coordinate
North East	513.39	610.77
South West	522.82	595.62

## **General Description and Soil Analysis**

The dominant soil profile in this area is as follows:

A horizon - 0 to 15 cm; dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, very dark brown (10YR 2/2) moist; weak fine granular structure; friable; 10 percent pebbles, 15 percent cobbles, 30 percent stones; clear wavy boundary. (Range in thickness 5 to 20 cm) B horizon - 15 to 55 cm; 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. (Range in thickness 25 to 65 cm)

## Chronology of Excavation

6 July

- In Square B1
  - Starting elevation = 133.5 (at highest point)
  - Ending elevation = 131.89
  - Removed destruction debris from inside of church walls. The exact line of the walls on the NE corner is unclear
  - Several doorjambs were in the debris. There were also wedged pieces worked in several sides (evidence of arches).
- In Square C3
  - Starting elevation = 132.0
  - Ending elevation = 131.48
  - A doorway (L519) on the south wall just west of the chancel screen was partially uncovered. The doorway has been stopped (secondary remodeling of church?). The original doorway was closed from outside the church, suggesting that there is a room to the south.

### 7 July

- In Square B1
  - Starting elevation = 131.89
  - Ending elevation = 131.59
  - Removed destruction debris from inside of church walls. The exact line of the walls (W520 and W521) in the NE corner seems to be coming into focus, as an east to west line of stones in the anticipated location of W521 is appearing
  - Again, several doorjambs were in the debris. There were wedged pieces worked in several sides (evidence of arches), a small marble cornice, and a few loose tesserae.
  - The blocks in B1 fell in parallel to the southwest, on a somewhat similar line to the fall of the pillars in the cathedral. The church does not display the heavy destruction of the cathedral or the NWC. Perhaps it was already in disrepair in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. The earthquake then would have done additional damage to the NEC.
- In Square C3
  - Starting elevation = 131.48
  - $\circ$  Ending elevation = 131.32
  - Removed debris from within the church. Clear pieces of W510 may be appearing. A carefully worked limestone cornice (042) stands on end in the debris next to the wall. Perhaps at a higher level the wall had a decorative cornice.

- In Square B1
  - Starting elevation = 131.58
  - Ending elevation = 131.28
  - W520 is mostly collapsed at this level. There is an ashlar in the corner.

- W521 appeared clearly at the corner. The wall was cleared at this level to the west.
- A new column base appeared in situ parallel to the first base in the south aisle.
- In Square C3
  - Starting elevation = 131.31
  - Ending elevation = 131.21
  - The blocked doorway on the south wall (0.92 m wide; 3.38 m from the SE corner) is framed to the west by basalt door jambs, some of which have collapsed.
  - To the west of the doorway, the wall was cleared at this elevation to the end of the square. Only a few stones are finely worked. The upper sections of the wall are constructed of stone of disparate sizes.

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9 July
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- In Square C3
  - Starting elevation = 131.21
  - Ending elevation = 130.85 (low) to 131.15 (high)
  - A nicely plastered door jamb was unearthed (AI049)
  - Part of a chancel screen post (2 sections joined) is visible, but as yet has not been removed.
  - The visible wall is of relatively poor quality, except for the door jambs.
- 10 July
  - in Square C3
    - Starting elevation = 130.85 (low) 131.15 (high)
    - Ending elevation = 130.85 (low) 131.05 (high)
    - Typical destruction ruins were removed from more of C3
    - Along the south wall (W510) beginning 47 cm west of the south door (L519) is a series of carefully worked stones lining the wall (Bench? Shelf?). They vary from 38 to 44 cm wide and continue to the west beyond the edge of the square. Five stone have been revealed of varying lengths (60, 40, 100 cm)
    - At the southwest corner of the square, there is some plaster on the wall that shows a curve out to cover the bench/shelf. In two other locations on the bench/shelf, small amounts of plaster adhere to the surface. The exact function of the platform/bench may be clarified as the rest of the square is uncovered.

- In Square B2
  - Starting elevation = 131.38
  - $\circ$  Ending elevation = 131.23
  - o L504 by elevation although the soil is more indicative of L501
  - Removed some of the destruction debris. Soil is dark and humus
- In Square C3
  - Starting elevation = 130.83 to 131.05
  - Ending elevation = 130.63 (stylobite = 130.71)

- Excavated to the base level of the columns
- Revealed a stylobate of stones between the columns.

### 16 July

- In Square D3
  - Starting elevation = 131.93
  - Ending elevation = 131.13
  - Removed assorted destruction fill

### 17 July

- In Square D3
  - Starting elevation = 131.13
  - $\circ$  Ending elevation = 130.95
  - Removed destruction fill.
  - o Identified a clear interior corner (sw) between W510 and W511.

### 20 July

- In Square D3
  - Starting elevation = 130.95
  - Ending elevation = 130.90
  - Revealed an intact threshold (one step down from the outside).
     An iron nail was wedged in the threshold.

### 21 July

- In Square D3
  - Starting elevation = 131.23
  - Ending elevation = 130.90
  - Did a soil profile of the balk between C3 and D3 and then removed it.

### 27 July

- In Square D1
  - Starting elevation = 131.59
  - Ending elevation = 130.86
  - Both W511 and W521 are of poor quality on the inside
  - In the NW corner is a cistern head (65x60cm; elevation 103.2). It has a round opening of 30cm and a carved place for a 42cm round lid (missing). A plumb line showed a depth of 3m. The cistern top is partially collapsed in the corner.
  - Also revealed was a 41cm bench (as in the south aisle). It ends 2.24m from the west wall. (The bench on the south ends 4.2m from the west wall.)
  - There is a column base (CN4) on the east end of the square. It does not align directly with a column in the south run.

- in Square D1
  - Starting elevation = 130.86
  - Ending elevation = 130.63

- in Square C1 to the south of W521
  - Starting elevation = 131.13
  - Ending elevation = 130.68 (in places)
  - Opened the south side of C1 in an attempt to expose the complete stylobate and run of column bases before the end of the season.
  - Exposed part of the stylobate east of CN4 along with the top of CN3. The column bases do not display the uniformity of the four in the south aisle. In the north aisle there are five bases. The gaps from east to west (measured on the center) are: 1.8, 1.8, 3.55, and 1.76. CN5 is 1.65 from the west wall. It seems as if a column base is missing between CN3 and CN4.

## **Pottery and Small Finds**

1825 L501	NEC B	1 133.532	131.892	06-Ju1-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $
1826 L501	NEC C	3 132.032	131.482	06-Ju+03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \Box_{Z} \blacksquare_{P} \blacksquare_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L} \xrightarrow{3.4 \text{ cm piece of unpainted white}}$ $\Box_{B} \Box_{V} \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S} \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ} \xrightarrow{\text{plaster non-fibrous}}$ $\blacksquare_{NP} \Box_{CU} \Box_{MS} \Box_{C} \blacksquare_{A} \Box_{IN} \Box_{BL}$
1827 L501	NEC B	1 131.892	131.592	07-Ju+03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box FL \Box W \textcircled{DBS} \Box Z \textcircled{DP} \textcircled{DPL} \Box I \Box L 1827A - Byzantine jer$ $\Box B \Box V \Box BR \Box LT \Box S \Box SI \Box LP \Box HZ$ $\fbox{P} \Box CU \fbox{DMS} \Box C \textcircled{D}A \Box IN \Box BL$
1828 L501	NEC C	3 131.482	131.312	07-Ju+03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \textcircled{D}BS \Box_{Z} \textcircled{D}P \Box_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L} 1828A - window frame$ $\Box_{B} \textcircled{D}V \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S} \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ}$ $\textcircled{D}NP \Box_{CU} \textcircled{D}MS \Box_{C} \textcircled{D}A \Box_{IN} \Box_{BL}$
1829 L501	NEC B	1 131.592	131.282	08-Ju1-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$ \begin{matrix} F_L & \bigcup W \\ B_R & \boxtimes Z \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} W \\ P \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} W \\ P \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} P \\ P \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ P \\ I \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ P \\ I \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \begin{matrix} I \\ R \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \end{matrix} \qquad \qquad$
1830 L501	NEC C	3 131.312	131.212	06-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \Box_{Z} \blacksquare_{P} \Box_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L} {}_{1830A - Late Roman C Form 10}$ $\Box_{B} \blacksquare_{V} \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S} \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ} {}^{Rim Plate}$ $\blacksquare_{NP} \Box_{CU} \blacksquare_{MS} \Box_{C} \Box_{A} \Box_{IN} \Box_{BL}$
1832 L501	NEC C	3 131.212	130.852	09-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$ \begin{array}{c} \Box_{FL} \ \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \ \Box_{Z} \ \blacksquare_{P} \ \blacksquare_{PL} \ \Box_{I} \ \Box_{L} \\ \Box_{B} \ \Box_{V} \ \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \ \Box_{S} \ \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \ \Box_{HZ} \\ \blacksquare_{NP} \ \Box_{CU} \ \blacksquare_{MS} \ \Box_{C} \ \blacksquare_{A} \ \Box_{IN} \ \Box_{BL} \end{array} $
1832 L501	NEC C			09-Jul-03 Schuler 10-Jul-03 Schuler		$\Box_B \ \Box_V \ \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_S \ \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ}$
		3 131.152	130.852		destruction fill	$ \begin{array}{c} B \\ B \\ B \\ B \\ B \\ B \\ C \\ C \\ C \\ C \\$
1834 L501	NEC C	3 131.152 2 131.382	130.852	10-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill destruction fill	$\begin{bmatrix} B & V & B \\ B & LT & S & SI \\ D & P & CU & MS \\ \hline & NP & CU & MS \\ \hline & C & MS \\$
1834 L501 1837 L501	NEC C	3 131.152 2 131.382 3 131.932	130.852 131.132 131.132	10-Jul-03 Schuler 13-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill destruction fill destruction fill	$ \begin{array}{c} B \\ C \\ C$

1857 L501	NEC	D3	131.23	130.9	21-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \ \Box_{W} \ \Box_{BS} \ \Box_{Z} \ \blacksquare_{P} \ \Box_{PL} \ \Box_{I} \ \Box_{L}  \text{final reading incomplete}$ $\Box_{B} \ \Box_{V} \ \Box_{BR} \ \Box_{LT} \ \Box_{S} \ \Box_{SI} \ \Box_{LP} \ \Box_{HZ}$ $\blacksquare_{NP} \ \Box_{CU} \ \blacksquare_{MS} \ \Box_{C} \ \blacksquare_{A} \ \Box_{IN} \ \Box_{BL}$
1871 L501	NEC	D1	131.59	130.86	27-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \Box_{Z} \blacksquare_{P} \Box_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L} \text{ final reading incomplete}$ $\Box_{B} \blacksquare_{V} \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S} \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ}$ $\blacksquare_{NP} \Box_{CU} \blacksquare_{MS} \Box_{C} \blacksquare_{A} \Box_{IN} \Box_{BL}$
1875 L501	NEC	D1	130.86	130.63	28-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$ \begin{array}{c} \Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \Box_{Z} & \blacksquare_{P} & \blacksquare_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L}  \text{final reading incomplete} \\ \\ \Box_{B} & \blacksquare_{V} \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S}  \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ} \\ \\ \blacksquare_{NP} \Box_{CU} & \blacksquare_{MS} \Box_{C} & \blacksquare_{A}  \Box_{IN}  \Box_{BL} \end{array} $
1883 L501	NEC	C1	131.13	130.68	29-Jul-03 Schuler	destruction fill	$\Box_{FL} \Box_{W} \Box_{BS} \Box_{Z} \blacksquare_{P} \Box_{PL} \Box_{I} \Box_{L} \text{ final reading incomplete}$ $\Box_{B} \Box_{V} \Box_{BR} \Box_{LT} \Box_{S} \Box_{SI} \Box_{LP} \Box_{HZ}$ $\Box_{NP} \Box_{CU} \blacksquare_{MS} \Box_{C} \blacksquare_{A} \Box_{IN} \Box_{BL}$

## **Items Architectural**

6 July

- From Square B1
  - 029 limestone doorjamb 46x46x19; two drillings on the back side (earlier attempt/mistake?)
  - o 030 keystone for an arch
  - o 031 limestone doorjamb with boring for pivot
  - o 032 basalt door jamb
- From Square C3:
  - o 028 rectangular piece (36x65) with notched corner

7 July

- o From Square B1
  - 034 limestone doorjamb
  - 035 small marble cornice fragment with two incisings (part of an altar or chancel screen?)
  - o 038 limestone doorjamb with one boring for a pivot
  - o 039 limestone doorjamb
  - o 040 limestone doorjamb
  - o 041 limestone doorjamb
  - o 042 limestone cornice 68x21x42
- From Square C3
  - o 033 doorjamb with two square borings limestone
  - o 036 large concave cornice
  - o 037 doorjamb

### 8 July

- o From Square B1
  - o 043 limestone doorjamb
  - 044 limestone doorjamb plaster adheres to side opposite of jamb
  - o 045 limestone doorjamb
  - o 046 1<sup>st</sup> column of north aisle (CN1)
  - o 047 doorjamb with boring for pivot

- From Square C3
  - o 048 limestone doorjamb
  - 049 limestone doorjamb heavily plastered even in the jamb

- $\circ$  050 basalt doorjamb with some plaster inside the jamb
- o 051 limestone doorjamb
- o 052 limestone doorjamb with two borings
- o 055 limestone doorjamb with protrusion

### 10 July

- o From Square C3
  - o 057 doorjamb

#### 13 July

- From Square C3
  - 060A/B chancel screen post in two section with broken top hemisphere. Laying against CS2, angled downward to the north.

#### 17 July

- From Square D3
  - Large basalt doorjamb (from west entrance to south aisle)
  - o Basalt ionic capital resting on stylobate

#### 21 July

- From Square D3 (balk)
  - o 068 Limestone doorjamb

#### 27 July

- o From Square D1
  - o 069 limestone doorjamb
  - o 070 round cylinder 18 cm in diameter

### 28 July

- From Square D1
  - o 071 lintel stone

#### 29 July

- o From Square C1
  - In the rubble between CN3 and CN4 is a column drum 76cm tall and a capital of similar design to the one in the south aisle between CS4 and W511.

### oncluding RemarksC

Portions of the nave and north aisle remain to be excavated.