



Hippos (Sussita) 2003 – 4rd Season

Locus Card

Locus No. L531

Archaeological Context

Locus Status: closed

Locus Type: fill

Field Manager: Schuler

Area: Northeast Church:

Opening Date: 21 July

Opening Height: 130.93

Closing Date: 31 July

Closing Height: 130.48 (east end)

Locus Location

General Description of Borders:

A layer of fill under F516 and the stones covering the cist tomb. As the cover stones on the east half of the tomb were broken, this fill mixed with those ruins and the fill of L532.

Loci

Below	Above	North	South	West	East	Identical
F516	L532	F517	L530	Base of chancel screen	apse	

	X coordinate	Y coordinate
North East	518.09	610.09
South West	518.70	607.09

General Description and Soil Analysis

Below the floor in square B2A, the soil was redder in color and more compacted. It appeared to be more developed but not enough was observed to make a detailed examination. The lighter colored C horizon lies on the floor of the church. The lower soil dug more easily.

Excavation Chronology of E

21 July

- in Square B2A
 - Starting elevation = 130.93
 - Ending elevation = 130.53
 - A significant sounding from a metal detector motivated probes in the section of B2 where no floor tiles were located.

- Just north of the east/west axis of the church is a partially collapsed tomb (Square B2A) topped with 5-6 stone slabs. To tomb is collapsed on the east end.
- The covering stones (basalt) are 17cm below the level of F516. They are approx 120 cm long. The widths vary (from west to east):
 - 40 cm
 - 36 cm
 - 40 cm
 - 30 cm broken and collapsed
 - limestone blocks fill the remainder of the tomb
- Between the second and third covering stones (for the west), a lead pipe protrudes. Its funnel opening is 7.5cm. The pipe is about 3.5cm in diameter. It is held above the covering stones by plaster (35x25x6 cm). The top of the lead pipe is approximately 10cm below the level of F516.

22 July

- In Square B2A
 - Starting elevation = 130.54
 - Ending elevation = 130.48
 - Exposed the rest of the top of the collapsed tomb.
 - Sides are of stone blocks. East end is capped by three layers of thin stone slabs.

Pottery and Small Finds

1859 L531	NEC	B2A	130.93	130.53	21-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL	under floor level but not sealed; final reading incomplete
1862 L531	NEC	B2A	130.54	130.48	22-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL	under F516 but not sealed, final reading incomplete

Concluding Remarks

The general area contains fill from L501, L504, L531, and L532. Because of collapse, erosion, vegetation and animal life, precision among these layers, visible elsewhere, is unclear over the cist tomb.