

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2004 – 5th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 3 Oct Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	B2A		C2	E0	D0
Loci	L551	L543	F544	L548	L547
Baskets	1951	1955	1952	1953	1954
Walls	W511, W521, W541, W553				
Floors	F544, F545				

- Continued work in Square B2A
 - Starting elevation = 130.36
 - Ending elevation = 129.53 (next to sarcophagus box in cist tomb)
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - List of architectural items
 - Continued to excavate the area immediately north of the cist tomb
 - Revealed a Byzantine ionic capital with plaster on it as the foundation for the north corner of the apse. The reuse of this distinctively Byzantine form suggests borrowing from a previous church structure.
 - Hard plaster/concrete made excavation difficult. There was no other discernable socket as in the westerly section of the small excavation area. Stopped further excavation
 - Began some work inside the cist tomb chamber on the north side of the sarcophagus box
 - Recovered a glass fragment identical in form to the glass earlier recovered inside the sarcophagus box.
- Continued work in Square C2
 - Starting elevation = 130.59
 - Ending elevation = 130.59
 - List of architectural items -- none
 - Continued conservation work on F544
- Continued work in Square E0
 - Starting elevation = 130.63
 - Ending elevation = 130.59

- Soil is Horizon C
 - Cleared to the north end of the atrium at which there is a threshold for a northerly gate (95cm wide). There is an L-shaped notch in the threshold for a locking bar.
 - The atrium stylobate ends approximately 1.1 m from the northerly wall, seemingly not allowing space for a portico between the north wall of the atrium and the stylobate. The stylobate possibly pre-existed the church construction.
 - A cover for a floor reliquary (with an inscribed bowl and hole) is in secondary use as part of the flagstone paving. It has the exact dimension of the missing cover for the reliquary locus in the north section of the cancel.
 - While sweeping the northerly section of the atrium, several nail fragments were retrieved from the lacunae in the flagstone floor next to the exterior west wall (W511) of the *domus* (in square E1).
 - A stone bench in one of the lacunae suggests that benches filled all of the lacunae along the west wall (W511), even as benches are a feature of the exterior west wall of the NWC.
 - Continued work in Square D0
 - Starting elevation = 130.69
 - Ending elevation = 130.60
 - Soil is Horizon is B/C
 - Removed heavy rubble along with earth. Came to a level that might be an earth or plaster floor.
 - The west and north walls of the *domus* do not form a corner. Rather W511 continues to the north and makes a corner at W541. The massive W541 was the exterior wall of the church.
 - The later and angular W541 was removed. W541 and the floating W513 may have created a pen around the ruins at time well after the earthquake, as W541 is added to the ruins of W540 and W513 sits roughly half a meter of earth above the atrium stylobate. The line of W513 was likely determined by protruding shafts of the column bases. A Turkish pipe was recovered from fill at the level of these walls.
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- A threshold was uncovered in the west wall (W511) between the northwest corner of the domus and the north wall (W540). This large doorway (1.46 m) gave access to the rooms of the north annex as well as providing the expected third entrance to the church from the west. For congregants could make a sharp right turn into the church through a now sealed doorway just to the east of the wellhead of the cistern. A raised north-south ridge in the floor of the north aisle plus distinctly different mosaic floors in the sections created by the ridge suggest this entrance route. The route would also provide easy access to the cistern.

Observations

The identification of W540 as the true north wall of the church plus the additional gate to the north point to the positioning of the NEC to accommodate a number of pre-existing features: the chamber of the cist tomb, the stylobate and columns of the atrium, and perhaps the cistern.

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1951**

Locus: 551
 Opening elevation: 130.36
 Weight: 0.03kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: B2
 Closing elevation: 130.29
 Date: 3-Oct-04
 Loci type: sealed context

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Sample | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic non-Pottery | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulla | <input type="checkbox"/> Copper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tesserae | <input type="checkbox"/> Basalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithic | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaster/Fresco | <input type="checkbox"/> Coil/organic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Item | <input type="checkbox"/> Inscription | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Flint | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked Bone | |

Remarks:

Glass:

Animal bones:

Roof tiles:

Tesserae:

Clusters:

Other:

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base									
Rim									
Handle									
Body Shard	0		1				2		

Remarks:

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1952**

Locus: F544
 Opening elevation: 130.59
 Weight: 0.90kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: C2
 Closing elevation: 130.59
 Date: 3-Oct-04
 Loci type: Floor

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|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Sample | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic non-Pottery | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulla | <input type="checkbox"/> Copper |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tesserae | <input type="checkbox"/> Basalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithic | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaster/Fresco | <input type="checkbox"/> Coil/organic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Item | <input type="checkbox"/> Inscription | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Flint | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked Bone | |

Remarks:

Glass:

Animal bones: Roof tiles:

Tesserae: 197 white, 77 black, 30 red, 9 pink, 7 yellow, 3 brown, 1 grey

Clusters: 3 of 2 white, 2 of 3 white, 1 of 2 black

Other:

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base									
Rim									
Handle									
Body Shard								1	

Remarks:

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1953**

Locus: 548
 Opening elevation: 130.63
 Weight: 1.41kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E0
 Closing elevation: 130.59
 Date: 3-Oct-04
 Loci type: Destruction Fill

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|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Sample | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic non-Pottery | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulla | <input type="checkbox"/> Copper |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tesserae | <input type="checkbox"/> Basalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaster/Fresco | <input type="checkbox"/> Coil/organic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Item | <input type="checkbox"/> Inscription | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Flint | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked Bone | |

Remarks:

Glass: hollow green plate rim 5% of 11.5cm, second unmeasurable rim; fragments; 1 think brown, 3 blue-green, 3 thin blue-green, 2 very thin blue-green

Animal bones: 5 Roof tiles: 2

Tesserae: 5 white, 3 light brown, 3 black, 2 pink

Clusters:

Other: 1 nail head, 1 nail point

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base			1						
Rim	2		1						
Handle			1				1		
Body Shard	2		50				29		

Remarks:

fineware plate rim 7.5% of 10cm

fineware bowl rim (cannot measure)

pot rim 7.5% of 4.5cm

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1954**

Locus: 547
 Opening elevation: 130.69
 Weight: 1.53kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: D0
 Closing elevation: 130.60
 Date: 3-Oct-04
 Loci type: Destruction Fill

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|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Sample | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic non-Pottery | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulla | <input type="checkbox"/> Copper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tesserae | <input type="checkbox"/> Basalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithic | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaster/Fresco | <input type="checkbox"/> Coil/organic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Item | <input type="checkbox"/> Inscription | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Flint | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked Bone | |

Remarks:

Glass: 2 blue-green fragments
 Animal bones: 15 (2 are jaws) Roof tiles: 3
 Tesserae: 3 white, 1 light brown, 1 red
 Clusters:
 Other:

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base	1								
Rim			1				2		
Handle			2	1			3		
Body Shard	0		26				18		

Remarks:

pot rim 7.5% of 5cm
 jar rim 10% of 4.5cm
 jar rim 6.5% of 7.5cm

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1955**

Locus: 543
 Opening elevation: 128.88-83
 Weight: 0.84kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: B2
 Closing elevation: 129.53
 Date: 3-Oct-04
 Loci type: sealed context

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|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Sample | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Bones |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic non-Pottery | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulla | <input type="checkbox"/> Copper |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tesserae | <input type="checkbox"/> Basalt | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iron |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plaster/Fresco | <input type="checkbox"/> Coil/organic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architectural Item | <input type="checkbox"/> Inscription | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Flint | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked Bone | |

Remarks:

Glass: blue-gree ribbed fragment (as inside sarcophagus), 3 small greenish fragments

Animal bones: 16? Roof tiles: 3

Tesserae: 6 white, 1 grey, 1 grey/green, 1 green glass

Clusters:

Other: unidentified metal object

Plaster:

10 pieces of white, 14 with yellow paint, 26 with red, 1 with orange, 1 white with distinct yellow stripe, 2 white with distinct red stripe, 3 with red and yellow, 5 lumps

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base			1						
Rim	1								
Handle			1					1	
Body Shard	0		16				14		

Remarks:

plate rim 7.5% of 17cm

Daily Drawing

