

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

Date: 4 Oct Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	B2A	C1	C2	D0	
Loci	L543	F538	F544	L547	F549
Baskets	1958	1959	1957	1956	1960
Walls	W511, W521, W541				
Floors	F538, F544, F549				

- Continued work in Square B2A
 - Starting elevation = 129.53 (next to sarcophagus box in cist tomb)
 - Ending elevation = 129.17 (floor of chamber of cist tomb)
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - Some spots of darker soil below sarcophagus box (decomposed coffin?)
 - List of architectural items -- none
 - Excavated between the north side of the sarcophagus box and the north wall of the chamber. Reached a smooth limestone floor at a depth of 1.42m below the top of the chamber. The narrow section of the floor visible between the box and the chamber seems to be one stone (limestone slab?)
 - The sarcophagus box in the cist tomb sits askew on stones 27-33 cm above the floor of the chamber
 - Recovered 15 complete or fragments of nails from beneath the sarcophagus box. In some spots the soil was distinctly darker (suggesting decomposition of wood). Also retrieved one vertebrae that might be human (sent for identification). Perhaps the sarcophagus sits atop the remains of an earlier coffin.
 - The sequential burials in the sarcophagus, even the placement of the sarcophagus into the chamber, are later than the construction of the chamber of cist tomb.
 - The chamber of the cist tomb is constructed of four courses of ashlar. The bottom course is 37cm high. The blocks from west to east are 38cm, 34cm, 56cm, 38cm, 49cm. The second course is 35cm high. The blocks from west

to east are 28cm, 55cm, 50cm, 49cm, 34cm. The third course is 40cm high. The blocks from west to east are 40cm, 68cm, 37cm, 71cm. The top course is 21cm high. The blocks from west to east are 58cm, 74cm, 26cm, 57cm.

- The interior opening of the chamber is 0.97m (width, north-south), 2.17m (length, east-west), 1.42m deep. A comparative chart shows similarity to other burial chambers on the site:

	Width	Length	Depth
NEC	0.97	2.17	1.42
NWC south	1.03	2.09	1.2
Gate north	1.03	2.13	1.21
Gate south	0.99	2.03	1.35

- External dimensions of the sarcophagus box are 0.60m wide, 2.02m long, 0.53m deep. Sidewall thickness is 11cm; end thickness is 13cm. Internal depth is 34cm at west (head) and 38cm at east (foot). The curve of the west end of the sarcophagus begins 30cm from the top.
- Continued work in Square C2
 - Starting elevation = 130.59
 - Ending elevation = 130.59
 - List of architectural items -- none
 - Continued conservation work on F544
- Resumed work in Square C1
 - Starting elevation = 130.55 (mosaic)
 - Ending elevation = 130.50 (pebble base)
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - List of architectural items -- none
 - Finished conservation of the edges of the mosaic and began cleaning.
 - Revealed some guilloche, five-square patterns, repair, and four crosses next to the base for the chancel screen, roughly centered.
- Continued work in Square D0
 - Starting elevation = 130.60
 - Ending elevation = 130.41

- Soil is Horizon C
- List of architectural items
 - Stairs next to W521
 - A curved receptacle of sorts in the southwest corner of the room, likely draining into the cistern.
- Finished the removal of W541
- Came to a floor level (130.48). It is a hard plaster floor. Removed about 8cm in southern half of the square, but was still in the midst of hard material and had not come to any base for the floor.
- A large stone sloped down from W511 and the receptacle toward the cistern (part of its covering?)
- Ended work at this point for the year.

Observations

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1956**

Locus: 547
 Opening elevation: 130.60
 Weight: 2.24kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: D0
 Closing elevation: 130.41
 Date: 4-Oct-04
 Loci type: Destruction Fill

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <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 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: 1 hollow rim 6% of 9.5cm, 7 blue green fragments of various thicknesses
 Animal bones: 29 Roof tiles: 6
 Tesserae: 5 white, 1 yellow
 Clusters:
 Other:
 Plaster: 2 pieces with yellow, 1 with red

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base	4		2					1	
Rim	2		3					1	
Handle			3						
Body Shard	2		59				37		

Remarks:

2 fineware bases (fit together)
 fineware plate rim 6% of 10cm
 fineware plate rim with incised stripe 7.5% of 12.5cm
 pot rim 5% of 7.5cm
 black pot handle/rim
 brown pot handle/rim 8% of 6cm
 bowl rim 6.5% of 21cm

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1957**

Locus: F544
 Opening elevation: 130.59
 Weight: 0.7kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: C2
 Closing elevation: same
 Date: 4-Oct-04
 Loci type: Floor

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <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: 123 white, 6 red, 9 pink, 2 yellow, 30 black, 3 brown, 1 grey

Clusters: 3 of 2 white, 1 of 2 black and 3 dark brown and 3 medium brown

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						
Handle									
Body Shard	1		3				4		

Remarks:

pot rim 7.5% of 4.5cm

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1958**

Locus: 543
 Opening elevation: 129.53
 Weight: 1.05kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: B2
 Closing elevation: 129.17 (floor of chamber of cist tomb)
 Date: 4-Oct-04
 Loci type: sealed context

- Ceramic
- Ceramic non-Pottery
- Tesserae
- Glass
- Plaster/Fresco
- Architectural Item
- Coin
- Lamp

- Soil Sample
- Bulla
- Basalt
- Lithic
- Coil/organic
- Inscription
- Flint
- Worked Bone

- Human Bones
- Copper
- Silver
- Iron
- Bronze
- Lead

Remarks:

Glass: blue rim 10% of 4cm, 7 blue-green fragments

Animal bones: 40 (may be human!) Roof tiles: 3

Tesserae: 4 white, 1 black

Clusters:

Other: 5 complete nails, 12 nail pieces (from coffin?)

Plaster: 14 white wall, 8 with red, 4 with yellow, 2 white with red stripe, 3 white with yellow stripe, 1 with 2 shades of red, 2 with red and yellow, 3 lumps

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									
			39				11		

Remarks:

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1959**

Locus: F538
 Opening elevation: 130.55
 Weight: 0.19kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: C1
 Closing elevation: 130.55
 Date: 4-Oct-05
 Loci type: Floor

- Ceramic
- Ceramic non-Pottery
- Tesserae
- Glass
- Plaster/Fresco
- Architectural Item
- Coin
- Lamp

- Soil Sample
- Bulla
- Basalt
- Lithic
- Coil/organic
- Inscription
- Flint
- Worked Bone

- Human Bones
- Copper
- Silver
- Iron
- Bronze
- Lead

Remarks:

Glass:

Animal bones:

Roof tiles:

Tesserae: 37 white, 4 brown, 8 dark brown, 18 black

Clusters: 1 of 2 white, 1 of 4 white

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									

Remarks:

Basket Field Card**Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1960**

Locus: F549
 Opening elevation: 130.48
 Weight: 0.30kg
 Manager: Schuler

Square: D0
 Closing elevation: 130.41
 Date: 4-Oct-04
 Loci type: Floor

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <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 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: 6 blue-green fragments

Animal bones: 2 Roof tiles: 2

Tesserae: 4 white

Clusters:

Other:

Plaster: 18 with red, 1 with yellow, 2 white pieces with red stripe, 1 piece with red and black stripes

Basket Analysis

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base									
Rim									
Handle							1		
Body Shard	1		13				7		

Remarks:

Daily Drawing

