

# Hippos (Sussita) 2004 –5<sup>th</sup> Season

## Locus Card

Locus no. 548

### Archaeological Context

Locus status: closed

Locus Type: fill

Field Manager: Schuler

Area: Northeast Church

Opening Date: 20 Sept 04

Opening Height: 131.132

Closing Date: 3 Oct 04

Closing Height: 130.62

### Locus Location

General Description of Borders:

Fill above flagstone floor in east portico of atrium

Loci

Below	Above	North	South	West	East	Identical
L505	F545	W553	Gate to street	stylobate	W511	

	Northing	Easting
Northeast	598.45	505.66
Southwest	591.87	523.44

### General Description and Soil Analysis

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).

### Chronology of Excavation

- 20 Sept 04: Continued work in Square E3
  - Starting elevation = 131.132
  - Ending elevation = 130.80

- Soil transitioned from Horizon B to C (switched loci from L505 to L548)
- Continued to remove rubble and fill
- Oil lamp recovered at 131.01
- 21 Sept 04: Continued work in Square E3
  - Starting elevation = 130.80
  - Ending elevation = 130.61
  - Soil is Horizon C
  - Exposed a double-width threshold running east/west at the sw corner of the church. Suspected due to large lintel stone recovered from the rubble above in the previous year. Threshold spans width between W511 and W513.
  - W513 is built above column bases sitting on a stylobate. The bases are of similar size and profile to those in the church. The southern most base is on a line between the SW corner of the church and the threshold, sitting just west of the threshold. The threshold is later than the columns and stylobate. Intercolumnation seems to be 3 times the diameter.
  - A street runs to the south of the threshold. As in the NWC, a street brings participants to the main entrance. Perhaps the street is one of the cardines of the city.
  - Several ashlar for a frame between the first two column bases on the stylobate. Otherwise, W513 seems to float above the column bases.
  - Elevations
    - Flagstone floor (F545) = 130.610
    - Stylobate = 130.627
    - entrance stone = 130.718
    - threshold = 130.844
    - street = 130.793
- 23 Sept 04: Continued work in Square E2

- Starting elevation = 130.95 to 131.25
- Ending elevation = 130.61
- Soil is Horizon C
- Broken lintel stone from main entrance
- Completed most of the area in the square between W511 and W513
- Work in square was interrupted when we began to remove the lintel stone. Upon turning it we discovered a painted plaster section face down on some earth on the floor. With the help of a conservationist, we hope to raise the plaster. There seems to be two layers.
- We continue to recover a large number of pieces cut on angles. Probably used to construct arches/domes
- 27 Sept 04: Continued work in Square E1
  - Starting elevation = 130.904
  - Ending elevation = 130.61
  - Soil is Horizon C
  - Discussion of phasing in atrium
    - Stylobate and column bases seem to precede church, as the stylobate seems to run south of the SW corner of the church
    - Church comes next with the mosaic floor in the atrium. Some of its plaster curves up the side of the exterior wall of the church
    - Flagstone floor overlays the mosaic, so it is later. The floor seems to be contemporaneous with the main threshold and the street to the south, but all were put in after the stylobate and columns as the threshold overlays a column base and abuts the column (not a normal position). A wall (552) running south from the threshold and column overlays the street (is later than the street). W513 comes from much later and floats on top of the column bases. Some framing

between the first two column bases on the stylobate does not float and may come from the time of the threshold installation.

- We need to find the relationship between the mosaic and the stylobate.
- 28 Sept 04: Continued work in Square E0
  - Starting elevation = 130.76
  - Ending elevation = 130.63
  - Soil is Horizon B/C
  - Continued to remove soil and heavy fill.
  - W540 seems to end at the line of W511. Upon closer inspection, W511 seems to extend to the north to W540. W540 is the outer wall of the church structure, explaining why there is no clear cornerstone at the NW corner of the domus in W511.
  - W541 seems to be a much later wall, floating above the ruins like W513.
- 3 Oct 04: 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 loculus 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.

### **Architectural Items**

- 20 Sept 04
  - N1920 – nail recovered 30 cm west of W511 and 90 cm north of the exterior line of W510 at elevation 131.03
  - N1922 – nail with bent end recovered 1.12m west of W511 and 2.6m north of the exterior line of W510 at elevation 130.80
- 21 Sept 04
  - 087 – segment of arch (south and west of SW entrance)
  - 088 – lintel of SW door (on dirt in front of SW entrance)
- 23 Sept 04
  - 089 – corbel? (flat with angular cut)
- 27 Sept 04
  - 091 – stone with incised face
  - 092 – stone with incised face
  - 093 – stone with beveled end
  - 094 – door jamb
- 28 Sept 04
  - N1950
  - N1947
  - Grinding stone base (meta)

### **Pottery and Small Finds**

**Basket Field Card****Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1922**

Locus: 548  
 Opening elevation: 131.132  
 Weight: 0.77kg  
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E3  
 Closing elevation: 130.80  
 Date: 20-Sep-04  
 Loci type: Destruction Fill

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <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 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: clear rim 10% of 2.5cm, 4 small frags blue-green

Animal bones: Roof tiles:

Tesserae: 11 white, 1 dark brown

Clusters:

Other: nail 30g bent almost 90 degrees, square shaped, round head

**Basket Analysis**

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base									
Rim			1				1		
Handle			1	1					
Body Shard	1		39				14		

**Remarks:**

pot rim 10% of 5.5cm

jar rim 10% of 4cm

**Basket Field Card****Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1925**

Locus: 548  
 Opening elevation: 130.80  
 Weight: 2.5kg  
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E3  
 Closing elevation: 130.61  
 Date: 21-Sep-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: pale blue rim 10% of 5cm, small rim fragment, 1 blue-green fragment with ribbing, 9 blu/green fragments  
 Animal bones: 23 frags                      Roof tiles: 4 with black middle layers  
 Tesserae: 1 white, 2 yellow, 1 black  
 Clusters:  
 Other: red and yellow painted palster from SW door lintel (3 fragments)

**Basket Analysis**

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base				1					
Rim			2				2		
Handle			4	2			2		
Body Shard	3		111				41		

**Remarks:**

pot rim 5% of 8.5cm  
 arched pot rim 17.5% of 5cm  
 white jar rim 15% of 6 cm  
 red jar rim 10% of 9.5cm

**Basket Field Card****Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1931**

Locus: 548  
 Opening elevation: 130.95  
 Weight: 0.61kg  
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E2  
 Closing elevation: 103.61  
 Date: 23-Sep-04  
 Loci type: Destruction Fill

- |  |                                       |                                      |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <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 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: 1 green frag  
 Animal bones: 3 frags      Roof tiles:  
 Tesserae: 10 white, 3 light brown, 2 brown, 2 black, 1 pink/orange  
 Clusters: 1 of 2 white, 1 of 6 white  
 Other:

**Basket Analysis**

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base									
Rim					1				
Handle									
Body Shard	2		20				22		

**Remarks:**

shelf bowl rim 2.5% of 11.5cm



**Basket Field Card****Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1942**

Locus: 548  
 Opening elevation: 130.78  
 Weight: 3.23kg  
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E1  
 Closing elevation: 130.61  
 Date: 27-Sep-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 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: thick dark green dome 0.5cm radius, blue-green rim 12.5% of 4 cm, 3 blue-green frags., 2 silvered frags

Animal bones: 51 Roof tiles: 8

Tesserae: 31 white, 31 light brown, 1 brown, 1 grey, 7 black, 3 pink, 1 red, 1 yellow

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	2		1		1		1		
Handle			8	1			2		
Body Shard	4		75				39		

**Remarks:**

cypriot etched plate rim 8.5% of 10 cm  
 fineware grooved plate rim 8.5% of 9.5cm  
 pot rim 17.5% of 5cm  
 pot handle/rim 10% of 5.5cm  
 shallow cooking bowl rim 18% of 10 cm  
 jar rim 10% of 4cm

**Basket Field Card****Hippos NEC 2004****Basket # 1947**

Locus: 548  
 Opening elevation: 130.76  
 Weight: 1.2kg  
 Manager: Schuler

Square: E0  
 Closing elevation: 130.63  
 Date: 28-Sep-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 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:

Animal bones: 3                      Roof tiles: 4

Tesserae: 3 white, 1 light brown

Clusters:

Other: nail about 20g

**Basket Analysis**

	Fine Wares		Course Cooking Wares				Other Coarse Wares		Lamps
	Bowl/Plate	Juglet	Pot	Casserole	Bowl	Lid	Jar	Other	
Base	1								
Rim	1	1		2					
Handle									
Body Shard	0		26				24		

**Remarks:**

Hellenistic fineware juglet rim 25% of 3cm

fineware bowl rim 5% of 12cm

casserole handle/rim 2.5% of 14cm

thicker casserole handle/rim (cannot measure)

**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

- |   |                                       |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <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