

Hippus (Sussita) Excavations 2005 – 6th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: ____ 19 July__ Area: ____ NEC____ Manager: Schuler

Squares	BO	B/C0	B3	B4	E3
Loci	L565	L564	L519	L566	L563
Baskets	2004	2001	2005	2002	2003
Walls	W509, W512, W520, W540, W554, W560, W575				
Floors	F570				

- Continued work in Square B0
 - Starting elevation = 131.68
 - Ending elevation = 131.68
 - Soil is Horizon A
 - Continues to remove destruction fill and search for interior of W575.
 - As the wall line is unclear (likely due to collapse), a small trench was dug to identify parts of the exterior line of W575. W575 doubles the thickness of W520 as W512 doubles the thickness of W509.

- Continued work in Square B/C0
 - Starting elevation = 130.72
 - Ending elevation = 130.60
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Greater depth of excavation shows that both doorways in W540 to the north and W560 to the east were crudely blocked.
 - A small fragment of mosaic (2x2cm approx) was found in the NE corner of the room at 130.51. A similar fragment was covered by the bench. The Middle North chamber was at one time paved with mosaic. We would then suggest the same for the North Lateral chamber. Subsequent domestic usage destroyed the mosaic in both rooms and replaced it with a mud/plaster floor. A large number of similar tesserae have been recovered from the fill.

- Continued work in Square B3
 - Starting elevation = 131.93
 - Ending elevation = 130.06

- Soil is Horizon A/B
- Removed the blocked doorway in W510 to ease access to the South Vaulted chamber.
- Retrieved a small, wedge-shaped stone used in the construction of a vault or dome from the material blocking the door. A chunk of plaster was still adhering to the piece.
- Continued work in Square B4
 - Starting elevation = 131.09-130.88 (floor)
 - Ending elevation = 131.19-130.88 (floor)
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - Cleared 2/3 of the floor (F570).
 - The bench continues along W554 between the two bases for the arch
- Continued work in Square E3
 - Starting elevation = 131.27
 - Ending elevation = 131.12
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Cleared destruction fill.

Observations

- Discovery of the wedge piece in the material blocking the door in W510 may suggest that part of the roof of the church or the South Lateral chamber had collapsed prior to the blocking of the door. Did the blockage occur after the church went out of use? After 748/9? Was the church decommissioned because of destruction in an earthquake (or other context such as the Sausanid invasion of 613?).
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Daily Drawing

