

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

Date: ___ 21 July ___ Area: ___ NEC ___ Manager: ___ Schuler ___

Squares	B0	B/C0	B4	E3	
Loci	L579	L564	L566	L567	
Baskets	2013	2015	2012	2014	
Walls					
Floors					

- Continued work in Square B0
 - Starting elevation = 131.16
 - Ending elevation = 130.49 (mosaic floor; rest of square is higher)
 - Soil is Horizon C
- Continued work in Square B/C0
 - Starting elevation = 130.48 (stone floor F576)
 - Ending elevation = 130.48 (stone floor F576)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - While cleaning fill out of the bench feature, an oil lamp was recovered at floor level in the SE corner.
 - Piece of frieze and capital are to be removed next week
- Continued work in Square B4
 - Starting elevation = 131.19-130.88
 - Ending elevation = 131.19-130.88
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - Completed clearing and sweeping the floor (many lacunae needing repair)
 - Preserved most of the plaster around the cistern head.
 - Work to recover the exterior lines of the walls revealed another wall (W581) attached to the corner and going south on the line of W512. There may be a second wall (not labeled yet) parallel to W554 less than a half a meter south.
- Continued work in Square E3
 - Starting elevation = 130.69
 - Ending elevation = 130.25

- Soil is Horizon B
 - Removed the mud floor (F568) between W574 and W562. No floor is discernable below this floor to a level of 130.25. Both W574 and W562 float above this level. The foundation for the stylobate seems to end with the south door jamb. It does not go all the way to the column base at the south end of E3 (to be checked by raised from floor pieces on the other side).
 - Cistern A (north aisle of church)
 - Bell-shaped and similar to cistern B.
 - Plastered walls, but only one discernable layer
 - Much dirt (1m pile) is the center of the cistern
 - Rather straight side with a flat surface indicating fullness
 - A discernable channel for water flow on the south side of the cistern.
 - South profile:
 - 3.02 x 0.48
 - 2.94 x 0.46
 - 2.91 x 0.74
 - 2.86 x 0.81
 - 2.70 x 0.96
 - 2.32 x 1.44
 - 2.26 x 1.44
 - 1.60 x 1.51
 - 1.20 x 1.59
 - North profile
 - 2.93 x 1.12
 - 2.72 x 1.21
 - 2.56 x 1.34
 - 2.45 x 1.85
 - 2.32 x 2.0
 - 2.10 x 2.4 (est)
 - 1.70 x 2.40 (est)
 - 1.40 x 2.40 (est)
 - 1.20 x 2.10 (est)
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- Cistern B (North Lateral chamber)
 - At least two layers of plaster
 - Neck is 0.92m e/w and 1.16m n/s and 1.45m high
 - Squared corners in west and north
 - Central dirt pile is about 80cm
 - Floor is flat making cistern bell-shaped
 - A little over 3 m deep; east/west is about 3.9, north/south is about 5m
 - A small hole for water entrance is the SE corner?
 - Only one layer of plaster at lower level
 - Recovered a large animal tooth and a rim of a 2-3 CE Roman bowl
 - Drew plan and profile
 - Estimate of volume is 15.8m^3 . The cistern could hold 4175 gallons or about 15800 liters.
- Cistern C (street)
 - Ladder did not reach to the bottom, so visual inspection only
 - No other paths for water besides the one in the street
 - Tall and narrow; 5.2m
 - Bottom is somewhat kidney shaped to the north, suggesting that the feature below F572 is a sealed entrance to the cistern
 - The cistern seems to have a flat bottom with little fill. The cistern was closed in antiquity (before domestic use of the space west of the cardo).
- Conservation of nave
 - Crossed have been identified while cleaning a patch of floor in front of the entrance to the chancel. Stabilization and partial restoration are in process.

Observations

Daily Drawing

