

Hippus (Sussita) Excavations 2008 – 9th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 7 July 08 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	A0	A1	A2	B5	D5	E8	F1	B0
Loci	L1226	L1219	L1219	L503	L1205	L1243	L1248 L1228 L1247	
Baskets	5433	None collected	5434	5435	5436	5437	5438 5439 5440	
Walls	W554, W575, W581, W583, W585, W1231, W1234, W1239, W1246, W1249, W1250, W1251, W1252, W1267							
Floors	F580							

- Continued work in Square A0
 - Starting elevation = 130.020 (east of wall), 130.215 (north of church)
 - Ending elevation = 129.935 level of mosaic floor between W583 and W575
 - Soil is Horizon C
 - Restricted work to the area north of the church between W575 and W583.
 - Stopped excavating at a level where numerous tesserae appeared in the fill, including at least one larger cluster.
 - A small patch of mosaic floor is still intact next to W575. Loose tesserae were collected.
- Began work in A1
 - Starting elevation = 132.350
 - Ending elevation = 131.659 (east), 131.792 (west)
 - Soil is Horizon A
 - Removed surface fill from the square and from the top of the apse wall.
 - Stones on a line with W1267 are beginning to emerge. A basalt stone partially embedded in the exterior apse marks the west side of the wall. It seems as if the apse were built to encompass the wall. We wonder then if the spaces to

the east were occupied. Also, exit from the east door of the skeuophylakion would only allow one to go north (unless a doorway appears in A1).

- Continued work in A2
 - Starting elevation = 131.589
 - Ending elevation = 131.589
 - Soil is Horizon A
 - Removed W1234. Cleared square of horizon A soil.
 - Continued work in B5
 - Starting elevation = 131.682
 - Ending elevation = 131.338
 - Soil is Horizon A/B
 - W1249, identified yesterday, is built next to (about 4cm) W581 that continues (??) to the south and marks the westerly boundary of the street.
 - W1234 is of poor quality and hard to identify at the current level. There seems to be a narrow alley between W554 and W1234.
 - Continued work in Square D5
 - Starting elevation = 130.326
 - Ending elevation = 129.935 (lower), 130.161 (upper) [floor in D4 is 130.118]
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Clarified the corner of W1231 and W585 as well as the east face of W585
 - Proceeding to a lower level in D5 only.
 - Continued work in Square E8
 - Starting elevation = 128.757
 - Ending elevation = 128.764 (pavers of decumanus)
 - Soil is Horizon B/C
 - Cleared surface of the fill to the west and to the south.
 - Identified an east/west wall (W1252) 1.85m south of the south face of the staircase. It is preserved to a height substantially higher than W1251.
 - A nail (Item # 264) was recovered on the surface of the paved plaza/street.
 - Repaired W1250 and reset the corner with W1239.
 - The decumanus is 3.85m wide.
 - Continued work in Square F1
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- Starting elevation = 130.019 (east level of trench), 130.016 (cobbles next to wall)
- Ending elevation = 129.140 (trench)
- Soil is Horizon D (below floor)
- In probe came to a level of cobbles about 50 cm below the top of the floor. Level of cobbles is 129.517. Removed cobble level. A nail (Item # 271) was found in the bone bag.
- Below the cobbles, the soil was softer and contained heavy destruction fill. A coin (#265) was retrieved from the sifted fill.
- Worked in F0 north of W553. The exterior line of W1246 was identified. And inside corner suggests that the wall turns east. The exterior corner is beyond where we can excavate. We will seek an exterior corner to the east with the wall upon which the stylobate sits. Elevation of W1246 in F0 is 129.673.
- Followed the exterior of W1246 to the south. About a meter south of the trench, the wall seems to disappear. Some evidence that there is a doorway here.
- Conservation of floor in B0
 - Repair and cleaning continue.

Observations
