

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

Date: 20 July 08 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	A0/A1/A2	D4	C5	C1
Loci	1226 (A1E) 1260 (cistern)	L595	L1255	
Baskets	5490 5491	5492	5493	
Walls	W585, W1218, W1229, W1231, W1267			
Floors	F538, F597, F1258, F1264			

- Continued work in A1 and A2
 - Starting elevation = 130.411 (A1 east)
 - Ending elevation = 130.008 (A0 floor by pilaster), 130.334 (A2 floor near entrance)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Continued work on east side of W1267
 - Finished cistern. It is 1.55m deep and 1.2m wide at its widest point. Elevation of bottom of cistern is 128.13.
 - Removed Corinthian capital and two column drums from the fill. One of the drums was limestone, the other marble(?). The latter had notches for lifting.
 - Between the south doorjamb and the first pilaster (ie., in front of the blocked doorway) is a stone platform 1.95x0.50m that is 20cm tall. It sits on a paved surface.
 - 1.5m north of the south edge of the same pilaster is a step (?) that is 23 cm high
 - 80 cm further north is another step/platform that is 26cm higher.
 - 1.84 m from the first step is the beam at the expected location of the next pilaster. It is 47cm higher than the second step.
 - How this all functions is uncertain.
- Continued work in Square C5
 - Starting elevation = 129.502 (top), 129.365 (paving next to W1229)

- Ending elevation = 129.270 (F1264), 129.427 (F1258), 129.777 (top of W1263)
- Soil is Horizon B
- Cleared to a floor level (F1264) that is at a lower level than the floor in D5.
- The two floors are separated by a 70cm wall. There is a 90cm doorway in that wall 1.3m from W1231. The wall stands to a height of just 35 cm.
- Continued work in Square D4
 - Starting elevation = 130.010
 - Ending elevation = 129.940 (average level), 130.024 (plaster floor F597).
 - Soil is horizon C
 - Excavated the room in D4 to the level of the south threshold.
 - A large Umayyad pot was recovered in pieces in the northeast corner of the room.
 - Near the pot was a piece of plaster on W1218 indicated the level of the now decayed plaster floor (130.02). That plaster floor was well above the threshold level of the door in W1231 (129.91). A large stone in front of the threshold may have served as a step.
 - Just west of the threshold in W1231, an oil lamp (Item # 290) was recovered at the excavation level of 129.94.
 - The interior of W585 shows three layers
 - Top 60cm are round stones
 - The next 40cm are larger flat stones.
 - Heavy foundation stones (protruding into the room) are the last 30cm.
 - The street to the west of W585 is about 90cm below the top of the wall.
- Conservation of floor in C1
 - Finished conserving the north aisle mosaic (F538). Ready for drawing and photography.

Observations
