

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 22 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DI40south	DJ40 North		
Loci	L1238	L1238		
Baskets	3129	3131		
Walls 1285, 2114				
Floors				

1) West Zone

- a) Continued work in Squares DI40 south (with the NE corner of DI38 and the west edge of DH39)
 - i) Goal = identify the south end of the Beta Building and the function of the space intervening between it and the Alpha Building to the south
 - ii) Basket = 3129
 - iii) Starting elevation = 130.154
 - iv) Ending elevation = 130.173 (high); 129.447 (low); 130.473 (top of W2114)
 - v) 5.62 m from the SW exterior corner is a seam in the west wall. The seam aligns with the north side of a new east to west wall (W2114) that is perpendicular to the courtyard just north of the blocked doorway.
 - vi) W2114 has a north-facing doorway 87 cm from its east end, 95 cm wide, that is blocked
 - vii) A coin and a square weight were recovered from the fill.
 - viii) We are trenching north of W2114. Our goal is to excavate all the area south of the wall.
 - ix) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 1st to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DI40 (under the tractor level work, South)
 - (3) Description: Mixed material from the late ROM-UMM: ESA, Beisan jars, AMP fragments
 - x) Item 717
 - (1) Category: Coin
 - (2) Material: Metal
 - (3) Shape: Coin
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

- (5) Width: 2.5
- (6) Length: --
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 0.1
- (8) Elevation: 129.95
- (9) From east edge of square: 1.4
- (10) From north edge of square: 3.05
- (11) Description: Possible M coin, found slightly below top of wall, north of new wall in DI40.

xi) Item 718

- (1) Category: Architecture
- (2) Material: Basalt
- (3) Shape: Capital Detail
- (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
- (5) Width: 9.5
- (6) Length: 16.3
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 7.8
- (8) Elevation: 129.90
- (9) From east edge of square: 1.5
- (10) From north edge of square: 4
- (11) Description: Nearly complete acanthus leaf, possibly broken off from a capital.
Found just south of wall in DI40.

xii) Item 720

- (1) Category: Architecture
- (2) Material: Marble
- (3) Shape: Edge
- (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
- (5) Width: 9.0
- (6) Length: 14.0
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 3.8
- (8) Elevation: 129.37
- (9) From east edge of square: .8
- (10) From north edge of square: 5.8
- (11) Description: Piece of marble edging. Approximately 7.5 cm of flat surface before beveling outward, then inward over 5 cm.

i) Item 721

- (1) Category: Metal
 - (2) Material: Iron?
 - (3) Shape: Square
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 2.4
 - (6) Length: 2.3
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 0.6
 - (8) Elevation: 129.45
 - (9) From east edge of square: 1.7
 - (10) From north edge of square: 5.1
 - (11) Description: Very square, metal item. Possibly a coin or a game piece.
- b) Continued work in Square DJ40 north.
- i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building
 - ii) Basket = 3131
 - iii) Starting elevation = 130.194
 - iv) Ending elevation = 129.948
 - v) Soil is Horizon B
 - vi) Removed heavy fill from half square.
 - vii) Concentrated on area east of the line of W1285
 - viii) Recovered a section of an arch from the fill (limestone). Based on the curvature, the arch was 80cm wide and probably was used in place of a lintel over a doorway. The arch's exterior curve was round suggesting that the wall continued above it.
 - ix) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DJ40 (above the interior walls, North)
 - (3) Description: Bodyshards of jars and cooking vessels
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan jar fragments from the 6-7th AD, casserole (Magness, form 1, BYZ\ UMM) and UMM cooking pot and BYZ\ UMM casserole.
 - i) Item 719
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Limestone
 - (3) Shape: Arch
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: --
 - (6) Length: 37.5

- (7) Depth/Thickness: 25.0
- (8) Elevation: 129.30
- (9) From east edge of square: 3
- (10) From north edge of square: 2.2
- (11) Description: Piece of basalt arch. Projecting the radius, it seems to have been part of an arch with diameter of 80 cm and a height of 40 cm. Radius may be inconsistent, however, as it appears the piece may have been the start of the arch, starting flat for a few cm and then beginning to curve.

ii) Item 716

- (1) Category: Ground stone
- (2) Material: Stone
- (3) Shape: Sphere
- (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
- (5) Width: --
- (6) Length: ---
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 2.0
- (8) Elevation: 128.65
- (9) From east edge of square: 1.7
- (10) From north edge of square: 1.5
- (11) Description: Small, spherical, worked ball, found on floor of DJ39 on surveying day,

