

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 2 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

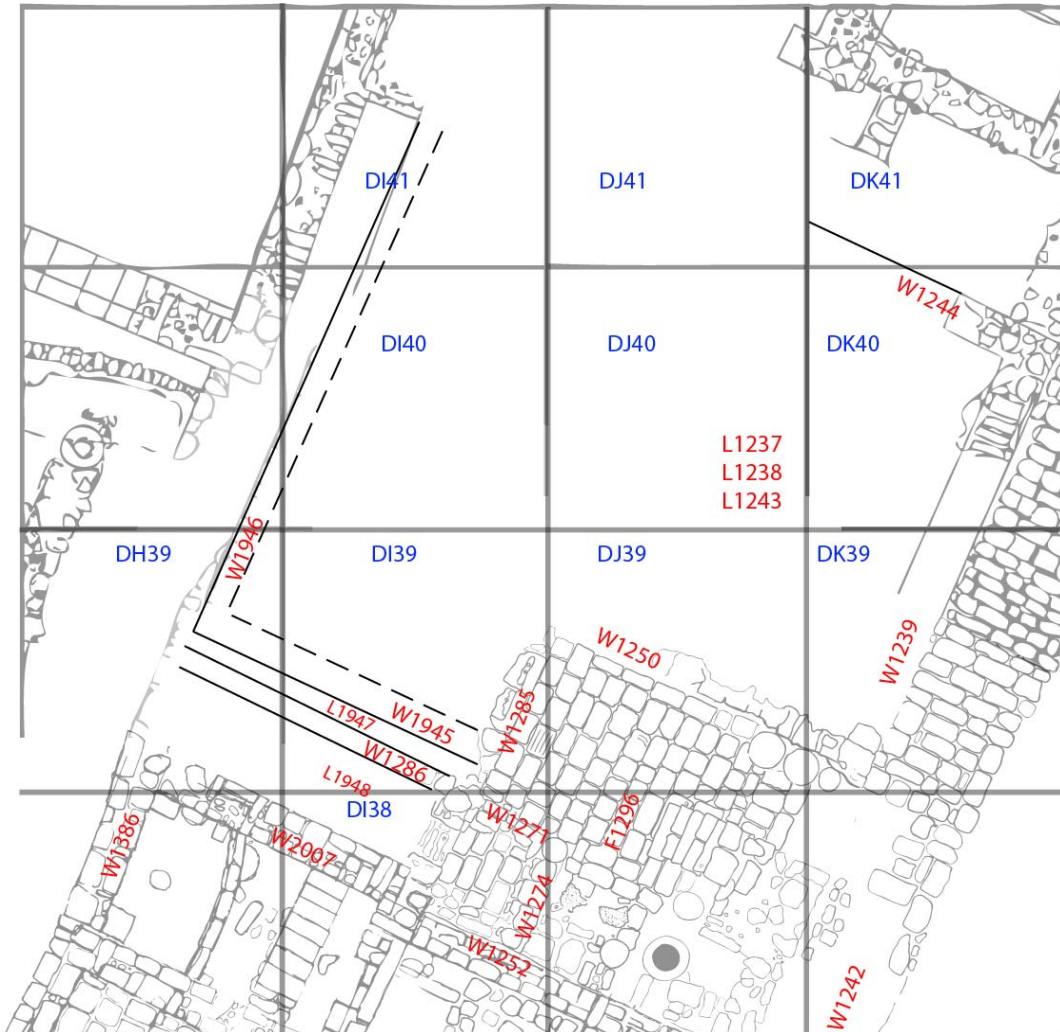
Squares	DH39	DI39	DJ40	DR41
Loci	L1237	L1237	L1238	L1226
Baskets	2470	2471	2472	2473
Walls 1244, 1261, 1286, 1298, 1945, 2007				
Floors				

1. West Zone

- a. Continued work in Squares DH39 (with the NE corner of DH38 and the west edge of DG39)
 - 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 = 2470
 - iii. Starting elevation = 130.3413333 (average south of W1945); 130.4803333 (top of W1945); 130.401 (average north of W1945)
 - iv. Ending elevation = 129.841 (Average level south of W1286); 130.264 (Top of W1286); 129.876 (Average between W1495 and W1286); 130.081 (Top of W1495 [low section]); 130.291 (Top of Alpha Building lintel stone); 130.006 (Top of potential lintel stone)
 - v. Soil is disturbed by tractor and excavation traffic
 - vi. Identified the full extent of W1945 to the corner with W1946. Exposed the south side of the top of the wall. The wall is 3.84 m north of the north face of W2007
 - vii. W1286 roughly parallels W1945. The wall is some thirty cm closer to W1945 at the west end of the wall. But W1286 only seems to be one stone in thickness. It may be a later floating wall.
 - viii. Leveled area south of W1945.
 - ix. New loci identified at the end of the day
 1. L1947 between W1945 and W1286
 2. L1948 between W1298 and W2007
 - x. Ceramic analysis
 1. Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 2. Stratigraphic context: Upper layer (first basket under the surface)

3. Description: Cooking vessels, AMP and jars fragments, two black lids of a casserole (late BYZ \ UMM)
 4. Indicative wares: Storage jars (3-5th cent), Abassi glazed cooking pot (9-10th cent), AMP (Peacock and Willams, class 54, 7-8th cent.)
 5. Intrusive: Abassi glazed cooking pot (9-10th cent)
- b. Continued work in Square DI39.
- i. Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building
 - ii. Basket = 2471
 - iii. Starting elevation = 130.140
 - iv. Ending elevation = 129.771 (average next to pile of rocks)
 - v. Soil is horizon 1 (dark, nearly black)
 - vi. Very heavy destruction fill
 - vii. Possible structure in NE corner, although exposure of stones by the end of the day made such an hypothesis unlikely.
 - viii. Very few finds
 - ix. Ceramic Analysis
 1. Mainly dating from 7th to 8th
 2. Stratigraphic context: Sq. DI39, Topsoil
 3. Description: Number of small body shards fragments, Beisan jars with white and light brown paste
 4. Indicative wares: Fragment of a cooking UMM pot
- c. Continued work in Square DJ40
- i. Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building
 - ii. Basket = 2472
 - iii. Starting elevation = 130.780 (north of W1244); 130.822 (south of W1244)
 - iv. Ending elevation = 130.464 (average of high section on west of square); 130.229 (trench north of W1244)
 - v. Soil is destruction fill surface.
 - vi. Followed exterior of W1244 through the corner of DJ41. Wall is solid in its lower courses.
 - vii. Rest of square seems to be destruction fill. No discernible structures.
 - viii. Ceramic analysis
 1. Mainly dating from 5th to 7th
 2. Stratigraphic context: Sq. DJ40 (corner). Can be mixed with the material from the previous dig

3. Description: Small amount of pottery; Beisan jars body shards fragments, LRC base BYZ bowl, tile piece.
4. Indicative wares: Cooking pot from the 7th cent. (Beith Shean, fig.11.15\1-12)



2. East Zone

a. Continued work in Square DR41.

- i. Goal = Excavate and identify the function of the eastern room of the peristyle house
- ii. Basket = 2473
- iii. Starting elevation = 131.929
- iv. Ending elevation = 131.478 (trench south of W1261); 131.660 (average within square)
- v. Soil is top soil
- vi. Re-measured ending elevation to correct error

- vii. Exposed south side of W1261 toward the end of the square
- viii. Continued to level square and to seek west side of W1298
- ix. Toward the end of the day, two parallel limestone blocks set on their narrow sides in the fill began to appear. These might be pillars of a window wall.
- x. Ceramic analysis
 - 1. Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - 2. Stratigraphic context: Sq.DR41(upper layer)
 - 3. Description: Storage jars body shards fragments, LRC,ARC,CRS bowls
 - 4. Indicative wares: Beisan jars, basin made of black material with triangular stamed decoration (8th cent.; Beith Shean, fig.11.12); LRC and CRS dated to the 6th cent.

