

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2012 – 13th Season

Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 11 July 2012 Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DH39	DJ39	DJ40	DR42
Loci	2107	2101	2112 2106 2109	1226 1914
Baskets	3103	3104	3105 3108 3109	3106 3107
Walls 1244, 2108				
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 = 3103
 - i) Starting elevation = 128.810 (remains of staircase); 128.570 (possible floor in NE corner of space)
 - iii) Ending elevation = 128.234 (average of probe); 128.346 (top of corner fixture)
 - iv) Soil is
 - v) Sorted through and cleaned parts of collapsed wall to the west
 - vi) Opened a probe (2 x 1.5 m in northwest corner of room next to wall. Discovered a basalt bowl or grinder in the corner
 - vii) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DH39
 - (3) Description: Fragments of cooking vessels, Beisan jars
 - (4) Indicative wares: ARS (6th-7th AD), lid of a cooking pot without ribs (BYZ), lamp (Hadad type 35, from UMM period), light colored basin from UMM period
 - viii) Item 686
 - (1) Category: Metal
 - (2) Material: Iron?

- (3) Shape: Nail
- (4) State of Preservation: Less than half
- (5) Width: 2.0
- (6) Length: 4.0
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 1.0
- (8) Elevation: 128.37
- (9) From east edge of square: 2.7
- (10) From north edge of square: 4.9
- (11) Description: Head of nail (diameter of 2 cm) and part of shaft. Significantly corroded.

ix) Item 687

- (1) Category: Metal
- (2) Material: Iron?
- (3) Shape: Nail
- (4) State of Preservation: Less than half
- (5) Width: 1.7
- (6) Length: 6.0
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 0.7
- (8) Elevation: 128.3
- (9) From east edge of square: 3.0
- (10) From north edge of square: 5.5
- (11) Description: End of nail? with point. Shaped like a nail, but very flat.

x) Item 688

- (1) Category: Metal
- (2) Material: Iron?
- (3) Shape: Door
- (4) State of Preservation: More than half
- (5) Width: 2.0
- (6) Length: 6.5
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 0.7
- (8) Elevation: 128.3
- (9) From east edge of square: 3.0
- (10) From north edge of square: 5.5
- (11) Description: Flat piece of metal with one rounded end. May have part of a nail driven through at one end.

i) Item 689

- (1) Category: Metal
- (2) Material: Iron?
- (3) Shape: Nail
- (4) State of Preservation: Less than half
- (5) Width: 1.8
- (6) Length: 7.3
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 1.4
- (8) Elevation: 128.27
- (9) From east edge of square: 2.6
- (10) From north edge of square: 4.9
- (11) Description: Body of nail, without clear point or head.

ii) Item 690

- (1) Category: Metal
- (2) Material: Iron?
- (3) Shape: Nail
- (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
- (5) Width: 5.0
- (6) Length: 11.3
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 1.5
- (8) Elevation: 128.25
- (9) From east edge of square: 3.2
- (10) From north edge of square: 5.4
- (11) Description: Almost fully intact, though head is flattened and shaft is bent. Both ends seem to be flattened rather than having one come to a point.

i) Item 691

- (1) Category: Metal
- (2) Material: Iron?
- (3) Shape: Nail
- (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
- (5) Width: 1.0
- (6) Length: 4.3
- (7) Depth/Thickness: 0.5
- (8) Elevation: 128.37
- (9) From east edge of square: 2.2
- (10) From north edge of square: 4.25

(11) Description: Small, thin fragment, possibly with point on one end.

ii) Item 696

(1) Category: Metal

(2) Material: Iron?

(3) Shape: Nail

(4) State of Preservation: Fragment

(5) Width: 2.8

(6) Length: 11.5

(7) Depth/Thickness: 1.9

(8) Elevation: 128.20

(9) From east edge of square: 2.5

(10) From north edge of square: 5

(11) Description: In two pieces. The first piece has a head (with a diameter of 2.75cm), and part of the shaft, the second piece has part of the shaft but no point.

i) Item 697

(1) Category: Metal

(2) Material: Iron?

(3) Shape: Door

(4) State of Preservation: Less than half

(5) Width: 2.5

(6) Length: 5.5

(7) Depth/Thickness: 0.7

(8) Elevation: 128.2

(9) From east edge of square: 2.5

(10) From north edge of square: 4.9

(11) Description: Flat, rectangular piece of metal.

a) Continued work in Square DJ39.

i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building

ii) Basket = 3104

iii) Starting elevation = 129.045 (top of step south of threshold); 128.676 (average of fill)

iii) Ending elevation = 128.746 (stone floor in front of threshold)

iv) Soil is Horizon C.

v) Completed excavation and showed all of basalt pavers, generally rectangular. But no pattern.

- vi) Two basalt bowls were in the southeast corner of the room next to the west wall.
Between was a small crude grinder, pestal with a handle. All three were sitting on the floor.
- vii) Askew in the fill was the top of a grinding mill.
- viii) Ceramic analysis
 - (1) Mainly dating from 6th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DJ 39
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery; some beisan jars and casserole fragments
 - (4) Indicative wares: Casserole (Magness form 1)
- ix) Item 692
 - (1) Category: Ground stone
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Grinding
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 42.0
 - (6) Length: 60.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 38.0
 - (8) Elevation: 128.6
 - (9) From east edge of square: 4.5
 - (10) From north edge of square: 1.8
 - (11) Description: Grinding wheel, shaped like an hour glass with a hole all the way through the center. There are two rectangular notches on the sides across from each other (19 x 24 cm, 8 cm deep). These are hollowed out, with holes through each side for a pole.
- i) Item 693
 - (1) Category: Ground stone
 - (2) Material: Basalt
 - (3) Shape: Bowl
 - (4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete
 - (5) Width: 63.0
 - (6) Length: 49.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 8.0
 - (8) Elevation: 128.6
 - (9) From east edge of square: 4.8
 - (10) From north edge of square: 3

(11) Description: Found sitting on floor and against wall. One side is cracked, with a medium sized hole in the bottom.

i) Item 694

(1) Category: Ground stone

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Grinding

(4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

(5) Width: 34.5

(6) Length: 38.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 10.0

(8) Elevation: 128.6

(9) From east edge of square: 4.3

(10) From north edge of square: 2.8

(11) Description: Small grinding bowl. Base is fairly solid, with about a 10 cm depression in the top. Near the top one side has a small handle. Directly across on the other side is a break in the rim where a handle presumably once was. Found on floor against wall.

i) Item 695

(1) Category: Ground stone

(2) Material: Basalt

(3) Shape: Bowl

(4) State of Preservation: Nearly complete

(5) Width: 65.0

(6) Length: 62.0

(7) Depth/Thickness: 53.0

(8) Elevation: 128.6

(9) From east edge of square: 4.4

(10) From north edge of square: 2.0

(11) Description: Large bowl, approximately 7 cm thick and 53 cm deep. Edges taper toward the base. Found on floor against wall.

a) Continued work in Square DJ40

i) Goal = identify the structure and function of Beta Building

ii) Basket = 3105, 3108 (probe), 3109 (probe)

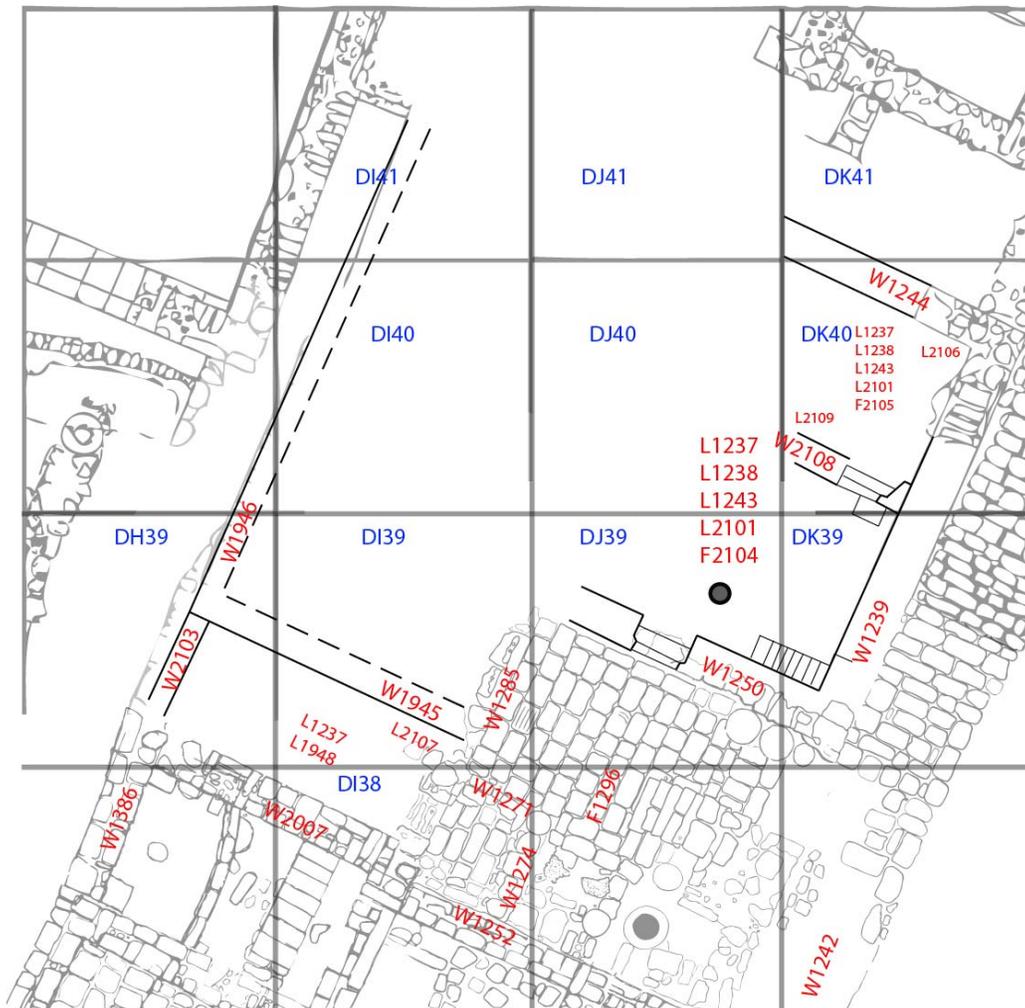
- iii) Starting elevation = 129.231 (top of threshold in W2108); 128.810 (packed earth floor next to W1244 in west part of square); 128.983 (possible stone platform north of threshold)
- iii) Ending elevation = 128.471 (north probe); 128.508 (south probe)
- iv) Soil is dark and moist; many bones and small sherds.
- v) Exposed the mud/plaster floor. Removed stone resting on it or penetrating it.
- vi) Opened two probes in the mud floor (each 1 x 1 m)
- vii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3105)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 5th to 8th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DJ40
 - (3) Description: A lot of body shards mainly of jars and cooking vessels
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan jars; Cooking bowls (Adam Bayovitz, form 1E; mid 3rd-early 5th); Galilean cooking bowl from second half of 5th cent. to UMM period (Ben Arie 1997, plate I / 15-18)
- viii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3108)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 3rd to 7th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DJ40 (probe under the floor)
 - (3) Description: Bodyshards of jars, ARS fragment, two UMM basin rims
 - (4) Indicative wares: Beisan jars (Beit Shean, Bar natan fug. 11.3 \ 16; 7th-8th) ; basins (parallel to Hamat Gader, 7th - 8th AD);
- ix) Ceramic analysis (basket 3109)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 5th to 7th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq.DJ40 (probe under the floor)
 - (3) Description: Shards from the storage jars, cooking vessels, jugs and basins
 - (4) Indicative wares: KFH 1E (mid. 3rd - 5th AD), cooking bowl with ridges on the rim (6th - 7th, parallel to Hippos 2003, fig. 13 \ 9, also Beit Shean, Ben Arie, 1997, fig. I \ 15-17, mid. 5th - UMM period)
- x) Item 698
 - (1) Category: Architecture
 - (2) Material: Marble
 - (3) Shape: Carved Edge
 - (4) State of Preservation: Fragment
 - (5) Width: 8.0
 - (6) Length: 10.0
 - (7) Depth/Thickness: 2.6

(8) Elevation: 128.5

(9) From east edge of square: 2.0

(10) From north edge of square: 2.2

(11) Description: A carved piece of marble edge with one 3.5 cm bevel and one 2 cm bevel



2) East Zone

a) Continued work in Square DR42.

- i) Goal = Excavate and identify the function of the eastern room of the peristyle house
- ii) Basket = 3106, 3107
- iv) Starting elevation = 131.806
- iii) Ending elevation = 131.132 (average)

- iv) Soil is Horizon A
- v) Removed balk
- vi) Began to remove fill north of the lower level of the window wall (basket 3107)
- vii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3106)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 5th to 6th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DR42
 - (3) Description: Mostly body shards of jars, some cooking vessel fragments
 - (4) Indicative wares: CRS (Hayes form 2, pp.373-376, second half 5th - mid.6th AD)
- viii) Ceramic analysis (basket 3107)
 - (1) Mainly dating from 4th to 6th
 - (2) Stratigraphic context: Sq. DR42
 - (3) Description: Small amount of pottery, mostly body shards of jars, some cooking vessel fragments
 - (4) Indicative wares: ARS (Hayes, form 67, 360-470 AD); LRC (Hayes, form 3, 6th AD)

