



Hippos (Sussita) 2015 – 16th Season
Daily Log and Drawing

Date: 30 July. Area: NIP Manager: Schuler

Squares	DQ41	DP40	DP41		
Loci			2136 2139		
Baskets			3408 3409		
Walls	W1270 W1261 W2132				
Floors	F2141				

- 1) Continued work in DQ41
 - a) Goal = ascertain form and function of space
 - b) Basket = none
 - c) Starting elevation = 130.35 (floor), rest 130.65
 - d) Ending elevation = 130.46 (plaster floor)
 - e) Soil = exposing floor (F2141) of which some plaster remains
- 2) Continued work in DP40
 - a) Goal = ascertain form and function of space
 - b) Basket = none
 - c) Starting elevation = 131.23 (high), 130.71 (average), 130.94 (threshold in W1270)
 - d) Ending elevation = 130.63 (stone sub-flooring)

e) Soil = exposing floor; no pottery in last several cm

3) Continued work in DP41

a) Goal = ascertain form and function of space

b) Basket = 3408, 3409

c) Starting elevation = 130.60, 130.45 (average), 130.49 (threshold in W1261)

d) Ending elevation = 130.46 (plaster floor near west wall (W1270))

e) Soil = Horizon B

f) Comments

i) Removed most of remaining destruction fill (except lifting platform) and began to expose the floor (F2141) across all three squares. The floor was a mud/plaster combination on top of flat stones or cobbles. Some of the plaster floor remains against the western wall (W1270). In other places, only the flat stones below (see next to the south bench).

ii) A heavy cluster of pottery shards was recovered from the southeast corner of DP41, including a large Byzantine funnel (restorable; larger than the Umayyad funnels found south of the NW church in the wine vat area in previous seasons). A field reading suggested that most of the pottery was late Byz storage jars

iii) An anta of a grinding mill was found inside the north door to the room.

iv) A partial stylus was retrieved next to the south shelf

(1) Material: worked bone or ivory?

(2) Shape: tooth pick like with a worked/sharpened end

(3) State of preservation: broken

(4) 1/3 cm on wide end , 1/4 cm on narrow end

(5) 4.5 cm. length

(6) Discovered 1.9 m from east edge of DP-40 and 2.9 m from north edge of DP-40

(7) Elevation: 190 cm

v) An intact ceramic unguentarium (6th century?) was retrieved next to the floor just to the right (east) of the north doorway (Item 800).

(1) Material: ceramic/terracotta

(2) Shape: narrow base and neck larger middle section; no handles

(3) State of preservation: complete

(4) 3 cm width, at mouth

(5) 2 cm width at base

- (6) 5 cm wide at widest part, approx middle
 - (7) 20 cm. length
 - (8) Discovered 3.3 m from East edge of DQ-41 and 2 cm from north edge of DQ-41; 28 cm east of threshold of doorway of W1261; 8 cm from W1261; center of unguentarium was 1.7 m west of window wall W2132.
- vi) Having identified W2132 as a window wall, we believe that the flat surface surviving of W1270 suggests it may also have been a window wall. So we are excavating a large space (dimensions 4.97 x 8.38 m) with a window wall to the east and west with a doorway on the north and west. Storage pottery is prominent. But we have no idea yet how such a large space was roofed.