

Hippus (Sussita) Excavations 2003 – 4th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 27 July 2003 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	B2A	B2B	D1	
Loci	L532	L530	L501	L536
Baskets	PC1873	PC1874	PC1871	PC1872
Walls	W511, W521			
Floors	F516, F517			

- Continued work in Square B2A
 - Starting elevation = 130.48
 - Ending elevation = 130.2
 - Pockets of an older buried soil were observed below the floor in square B2A. This soil was redder in color and more compacted. It appeared to be more developed but not enough was observed to make a detailed examination. The lighter colored C horizon lies on the floor of the church. The lower soil dug more easily in areas where the tomb and the reliquaria were located.

Basket 1873	Area NEC	Locus L532	Square B2A	Opening elevation 130.48
Closing Elevation 130.2		Weight 2.25	Date 27-Jul-03	Manager Schuler
Yes Ceramic		Yes Plaster	No Human Bones	Loci Type destruction fill
Yes Ceramic non-pottery		No Architectural Item	No Iron	
Yes Tessera		No Lamp	No Lead	
Yes Glass		No Inscription	No Inscription	
Remarks final reading incomplete				
FW Bowl/Plate Base	FW Bowl/Plate Rim	FW Bowl/Plate Handle	FW Bowl/Plate Body Shard	
1	1	0	0	
FW Juglet Base	FW Juglet Rim	FW Juglet Handle	FW Juglet Body Shard	CCW Pot Base
0	0	0	0	0
CCW Pot Rim	CCW Pot Handle	CCW Body Shard	CCW Casserole Base	CCW Casserole Rim
1	0	51	0	0
CCW Casserole Handle	CCW Bowl Base	CCW Bowl Rim	CCW Bowl Handle	CCW Lid Base
0	0	0	0	0
CCW Lid Rim	CCW Lid Handle	OCW Jar Base	OCW Jar Rim	OCW Jar Handle
0	0	0	0	0
OCW Other Base	OCW Other Rim	OCW Other Handle	OCW Other Body Shard	Lamp Base
0	0	0	0	32
Lamp Rim	Lamp Handle	Lamp Body Shard		
0	0	0		
Analysis Plaster fragments with several bright colors (red, orange, yellow, and dark red)				
4 roof tiles				
bone				

12 glass fragments

2 pieces of marble

tesserae:

1cm -- 71 white, 17 black, 7 yellow, 4 red

1.5cm-- 1 red, 1 white

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- Excavated to 42cm below the covering stones.
 - Soil was rather loose; there were some larger stones toward the east end (collapse).
 - Within the soil were scattered bones, tesserae, and pottery chips.
 - Lead pipe exposed to a length of 55cm
 - While it is possible that this area is a robbed out tomb, the depth of the pipe argues against such an interpretation.
 - The bone collection from L532 has been sent for analysis.
 - Continued work in Square B2B
 - Starting elevation = 130.73
 - Ending elevation = 130.48
 - For soil, see B2A
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Basket 1874	Area NEC	Locus L530	Square B2B	Opening elevation 130.73	
Closing Elevation 130.48	Weight 0.47	Date 27-Jul-03	Manager Schuler	Loci Type sealed under floor	
Yes Ceramic	No Plaster	No Human Bones			
No Ceramic non-pottery	No Architectural Item	No Iron			
No Tessera	No Lamp	No Lead			
No Glass	No Inscription	No Inscription			
Remarks					
partially sealed; final reading incomplete					
FW Bowl/Plate Base	FW Bowl/Plate Rim	FW Bowl/Plate Handle	FW Bowl/Plate Body Shard		
1	0	0	0		
FW Juglet Base	FW Juglet Rim	FW Juglet Handle	FW Juglet Body Shard	CCW Pot Base	
0	0	0	0	0	
CCW Pot Rim	CCW Pot Handle	CCW Body Shard	CCW Casserole Base	CCW Casserole Rim	
0	0	21	0	0	
CCW Casserole Handle	CCW Bowl Base	CCW Bowl Rim	CCW Bowl Handle	CCW Lid Base	
0	0	0	0	0	
CCW Lid Rim	CCW Lid Handle	OCW Jar Base	OCW Jar Rim	OCW Jar Handle	OCW Jar Body Shard
0	0	0	2	0	13
OCW Other Base	OCW Other Rim	OCW Other Handle	OCW Other Body Shard	Lamp Base	
0	0	0	0	0	
Lamp Rim	Lamp Handle	Lamp Body Shard			
0	0	0			

Analysis

1 bone fragment

1 piece of plaster with pottery shard imbedded in it

BBBBB

tesserae:
1cm -- 1 white

- Exposed a third reliquary locus directly south of the one identified previously. The top of its marble walls is approximately the same elevation as the plaster base for F517.
- While the plaster base of F517 was seemly cut for the insertion of the north tomb and the two reliquaries on the south side of the central axis, this third reliquary locus was plastered full. Did it preexist F517 or was it part of F517 and was later plastered full when the north tomb and associated reliquaries were inserted?
- Opened Square D1
 - Starting elevation = 131.59
 - Ending elevation = 130.86 (inside) 131.03 (outside)
 - Inside of W521 is L501; outside of W521 is L536
 - L536 is mostly Horizon A – dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, very dark brown (10YR 2/2) moist; weak fine granular structure; friable; 10 percent pebbles, 15 percent cobbles, 30 percent stones; clear wavy boundary. At 10-15 cm, it changes to Horizon B-- grayish brown (10YR 5/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) moist; very weak, coarse subangular blocky structure; 10 percent pebbles, 15 percent cobbles, 35 percent stones; irregular boundary.
 - L501 in D1 is Horizon B
 - List of architectural items from L501
 - 069 limestone doorjamb
 - 070 round cylinder 18 cm in diameter .

<i>Basket</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Locus</i>	<i>Square</i>	<i>Opening elevation</i>
1871	NEC	L501	D1	131.59
<i>Closing Elevation</i>		<i>Weight</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Manager</i>
130.86		2.42	27-Jul-03	Schuler
Yes <i>Ceramic</i>		No <i>Plaster</i>	No <i>Human Bones</i>	
Yes <i>Ceramic non-pottery</i>		Yes <i>Architectural Item</i>	No <i>Iron</i>	
Yes <i>Tessera</i>		No <i>Lamp</i>	No <i>Lead</i>	
Yes <i>Glass</i>		No <i>Inscription</i>	No <i>Inscription</i>	
<i>Remarks</i>				
final reading incomplete				
<i>FW Bowl/Plate Base</i>	<i>FW Bowl/Plate Rim</i>	<i>FW Bowl/Plate Handle</i>	<i>FW Bowl/Plate Body Shard</i>	
0	0	0	0	

BBBBB

FW Juglet Base *FW Juglet Rim* *FW Juglet Handle* *FW Juglet Body Shard* *CCW Pot Base*
 0 0 0 0 0
CCW Pot Rim *CCW Pot Handle* *CCW Body Shard* *CCW Casserole Base* *CCW Casserole Rim*
 1 5 45 0 0
CCW Casserole Handle *CCW Bowl Base* *CCW Bowl Rim* *CCW Bowl Handle* *CCW Lid Base*
 0 1 0 0 0
CCW Lid Rim *CCW Lid Handle* *OCW Jar Base* *OCW Jar Rim* *OCW Jar Handle* *OCW Jar Body Shard*
 0 0 0 0 2 10
OCW Other Base *OCW Other Rim* *OCW Other Handle* *OCW Other Body Shard* *Lamp Base*
 0 0 0 0 0
Lamp Rim *Lamp Handle* *Lamp Body Shard*
 0 0 0

Analysis

bone

4 four tiles

piece of basalt grinding stone

tesserae:

1 cm -- 3 white

1.5 cm -- 5 white

2 cm -- 1 white

Basket	Area	Locus	Square	Opening elevation
1872	NEC	L536	D1	131.59
Closing Elevation	Weight	Date	Manager	Loci Type
131.03	0.89	27-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill
Yes Ceramic	No Plaster	No Human Bones		
Yes Ceramic non-pottery	No Architectural Item	No Iron		
Yes Tessera	No Lamp	No Lead		
No Glass	No Inscription	No Inscription		

Remarks

final reading incomplete

FW Bowl/Plate Base *FW Bowl/Plate Rim* *FW Bowl/Plate Handle* *FW Bowl/Plate Body Shard*
 0 0 0 0
FW Juglet Base *FW Juglet Rim* *FW Juglet Handle* *FW Juglet Body Shard* *CCW Pot Base*
 1 1 0 0 0
CCW Pot Rim *CCW Pot Handle* *CCW Body Shard* *CCW Casserole Base* *CCW Casserole Rim*
 0 1 9 0 1
CCW Casserole Handle *CCW Bowl Base* *CCW Bowl Rim* *CCW Bowl Handle* *CCW Lid Base*
 0 0 2 0 0
CCW Lid Rim *CCW Lid Handle* *OCW Jar Base* *OCW Jar Rim* *OCW Jar Handle* *OCW Jar Body Shard*
 0 0 0 0 1 3
OCW Other Base *OCW Other Rim* *OCW Other Handle* *OCW Other Body Shard* *Lamp Base*
 0 0 0 0 0
Lamp Rim *Lamp Handle* *Lamp Body Shard*
 0 0 0

Analysis

1 roof tile

tesserae:

2 cm -- 3 white

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- Both W511 and W521 are of poor quality on the inside. Exterior of W521 is somewhat more substantive. A trench about .75m wide and .5m deep exposed a portion of the exterior of W521 in square D1.

- In the NW corner is a cistern head (65x60cm; elevation 103.2). It has a round opening of 30cm and a carved place for a 42cm round lid (missing). A plumb line showed a depth of 3m. The cistern top is partially collapsed in the corner.
- Also revealed was a 41cm bench (as in the south aisle). It ends 2.24m from the west wall. (The bench on the south ends 4.2m from the west wall.)
- There is a column base (CN4) on the east end of the square. It does not align directly with a column in the south run.

Observations

Daily Drawing 27 July

