



Hippos (Sussita) 2003 – 4rd Season

Locus Card

Locus No. L524

Archaeological Context

Locus Status: closed

Locus Type: destruction fill above floor

Field Manager: Schuler Area: Northeast Church

Opening Date: 14 July Opening Height: 130.90

Closing Date: 24 July Closing Height: 130.68

Locus Location

General Description of Borders:

South aisle west of base for chancel screen

Loci

Below	Above	North	South	West	East	Identical
L501	F526	Nave	W510	W511	Base of chancel screen	

	X coordinate	Y coordinate
North East	522.17	605.79
South West	522.94	595.60

General Description and Soil Analysis

The soil is Horizon C – light gray (10YR 7/2) dry, very stony sandy loam, grayish brown (10YR 5/2) moist; massive; firm, hard in places near the floor; 10 percent pebbles, 10 percent cobbles, 20 percent stones; assumed to be calcareous (by color).

Chronology of Excavation

14 July

- in Square C3
 - Starting elevation = 130.68
 - Ending elevation = 130.63
 - Carefully removed last centimeters of soil to reveal pebble base of previous mosaic floor. Part of the floor completed. It is possible that a dirt floor served in the later years of the church.

- Small sections of mosaic appear along the east end of the shelf and along the north edge. Some fragments appear under the south doorway. Two other fragments occur, one slightly north of the bench and one near CS2. Mosaic tiles are 1 cm square in white, with some reds and blacks.
- The shelf sits on top of the mosaic.
- The pattern is identical to the first phase of the NWC and in the baptistery (late sixth century).

15 July

- In Square C3
 - Starting elevation = 130.63
 - Ending elevation = 130.63
 - Removed final layer of dirt from pebble base of mosaic floor.
 - Bench construction carefully cleaned, revealing more edges of the mosaic.

16 July

- In Square C3
 - Starting elevation = 130.63
 - Ending elevation = 130.63
 - Finished final cleaning and sweeping of C3

20 July

- In Square D3
 - Starting elevation = 130.90
 - Ending elevation = 130.76
 - Removed about 15 cm of soil and destruction debris.
 - The stylobate seems to end at CS4.
 - Uncovered a basalt cross that would have been at the peak of the roof. It lies on mosaic floor yet to be revealed. The vertical arms of the cross span 40cm, the horizontal arms span 37cm. The cross is 23-30cm thick. It is of teutonic style with the ends of the arms 17-18cm wide. The cross has a base 22x22x56cm. The 56cm dimension extends back from the cross. The cross and base are carved from one stone. The extended base rises 8cm to meet the back of the cross. Plaster is visible on both sides of the base.

21 July

- In Square D3
 - Starting elevation = 130.90
 - Ending elevation = 130.78
 - The bench against W510 in C3 ends at a length of 4.01m
 - The stylobate continues between CS3 and CS4 although the quality of the construction is cruder. Some stones are reused building stones and run east to west. The stylobate disappears west of CS4.

22 July

- In Square D3
 - Starting elevation = 130.78

- Ending elevation = 130.73
- Cleaned W510 and W511
- Began to expose fragments of mosaic floor
- A border patten identical to the NW church continues west from under the bench next to W510. It then turns north 1.13m west of the bench
- A 80x50cm segment of tesserae laid in a circular pattern is visible (parts of 4 circles)

23 July

- In Square D3
 - Starting elevation = 130.78
 - Ending elevation = 130.68
 - Continued to slowly remove dirt from mosaic floor F526
 - Floor is fragmentary
 - Some mosaic is visible north of the stylobate (recovered for next year).
 - CS4 seems to be sitting on stones and not on a clearly defined stylobate. The stylobate has shown poorer construction just east of CS4 and does not continue west of it.

24 July

- in Square D3
 - Starting elevation = 130.78
 - Ending elevation = 130.68
 - Finished clearing F526
 - Original mosaic floor made of small tesserae (average about 1cm square or smaller). There is a white band of 4-7 tesserae next to W510, a back band of two tesserae, and white band of three tesserae and then a guilloche woven section.
 - The black border turns to the north 3.17m from W511.
 - White repair mosaic (average tesserae size is 1.5x1.5cm) is visible in the SW corner and along the stylobate at CS2 and CS4. Repair mosaic can also be seen under the fallen capital and the cross, suggesting that the repaired floor still existed when the church came down.

ndsPottery and Small Fi

1838 L524	NEC	C3	130.832	130.632	13-Jul-03	Schuler	plaster layer	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L to pebble layer of floor <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL
1841 L524	NEC	C3	130.682	130.932	14-Jul-03	Schuler	mosaic floor	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L pebble base for floor <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ 1841A – Base late Roman C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL 1841B – Late Roman C. Plate rim 1841C -- Casserole lid (cp 1842A)
1843 L524	NEC	C3	130.632	130.632	15-Jul-03	Schuler	mosaic floor	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L pebble base and some fragments <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ of floor <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL
1846 L524	NEC	C3	130.632	130.632	16-Jul-03	Schuler	mosaic floor	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L final cleaning of pebble base <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL

1855 L524	NEC	D3	130.88	130.76	20-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> PL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L final reading incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL
1856 L524	NEC	D3	130.9	130.78	21-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L final reading incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL
1861 L524	NEC	D3	130.78	130.73	22-Jul-03	Schuler	destruction fill	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L final reading incomplete <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL
1864 L524	NEC	D3	130.78	130.68	23-Jul-03	Schuler	mosaic floor	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L mostly pebble base, although <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ some segments of mosaic <input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL remain; final reading incomplete
1868 L524	NEC	D3	130.78	130.68	24-Jul-03	Schuler	mosaic floor	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> L some sections of floor missing; <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ final reading incomplete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL

Architectural Items

20 July

- From Square D3
 - 066 stone cross (from peak of building?)
 - 067 small piece of cornice

Concluding Remarks

Locus shows two phases to the aisle: the original with the guilloche mosaic and a second with the bench and repair of the mosaic with larger white tesserae.