

Hippos (Sussita) Excavations 2006 – 7th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 9 July Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	B2	C/D2	C4	E0	E5	F4	B4
Loci	L590		L595	L567	L548	L563	L596
Baskets	2057		2054	2056	2055	2058	2059
Walls	W511, W553, W586						
Floors	F544, F589, F597						

- Continued work in Square B2
 - Starting elevation = 129.278
 - Ending elevation = 129.189 (floor); 129.310 (remains)
 - Soil is Horizon B.
 - Continued removing final layer of remains.
 - Less lead toward “head” end of chamber.
 - No full bones, collecting only toes, fingers, and teeth
 - Seemingly hollow under portions of the floor
- Continued conservation work in Square C/D2 (Nave)
 - Cleaning of top floor (F589) next to W511 in SW corner. Pattern emerging.
 - Cleaned section of lower floor (F544) in center of nave. Patterns include birds, crab, diamond pattern?
- Continued work in Square C4
 - Starting elevation = 131.163 for the building; 131.174 for the passageway
 - Ending elevation = 130.970 (plaster/mud floor)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - May have picked up wall from Roman building on street.
 - A possible doorframe is at a higher level running north and south.
 - Identified a mud/plaster floor (F597) at 130.97.
 - Suspended work on C4 to open D4 and possibly get clarification of the various walls.
- Continued work in Square E0
 - Starting elevation = 130.490 (north street); 130.543 (northwest corner)

- Ending elevation = 130.493 (north street); 130.283 (northwest corner); 130.634 (stylobate); 131.300 (top of W553)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Finished removing floating wall (W586)
 - Cleared the stylobate.
 - Small break in stylobate before footing for last column base.
 - No paving to the west of the stylobate, continuing the pattern of no atrium.
 - Continued work in Square E5
 - Starting elevation = 130.617 (street)
 - Ending elevation = 130.615 (street north end)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Finished clearing most of the street paving.
 - Continued work in Square F4
 - Starting elevation = 130.854 (north trench); 130.899 (west trench, pot); 131.253 (top W652)
 - Ending elevation = 131.145 (south east section)
 - Soil is Horizon A
 - High volume of pottery collected, along with bones and glass. (Cooking area?)
 - Began work on cistern D in Square B4
 - Starting elevation = 128.989
 - Ending elevation = 128.73 (131.181 reference point)
 - Soil is Horizon B (destruction fill)
 - Removed the cistern head.
 - The cistern is quite small, barely 2 m wide, and just over 2 m deep to the mail fill layer. There are major cracks visible on the east and west sides of the cistern.
 - Significant portions of a cooking pot are visible on the northwest edge.
 - At least two layers of plaster are visible.
 - At 9:45 a gold belt tab was recovered from the top of the fill. It is likely from the same hoard recovered last year. However its shape and patterning are distinctly different. The shape of the obverse is similar to a tulip flower (2.12 x 2.21 cm; Plate 8). The metal is 0.1 cm thick. The bent edges yield a
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thickness of 0.36 cm. The obverse has an outer decorative border interspersed with squares and half moons. Tiny jewels seem to be impressed into the border. Within the border are outlines of two tears with their upper points turned outwards. Inside each tear are stylistic representations of a young plant coming forth from a bulb. On the reverse are two eyehooks protruding 1.1 cm from the metal. A small repair to one of the tear drops is also visible, marked with a cruciform jeweler's stamp. The tab was located .5 m from north and .5 m from west walls of cistern.

- Also recovered a nail and various shards from the fill.

