

Hippus (Sussita) Excavations 2008 – 9th Season Daily Log + Drawing

Date: 10 July 08 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	A1/A2	B5	D5	E6	F0	B0
Loci	L1226	L1205 L1226	L1254 L1255	L1238	L1228	
Baskets	5460	5461 5462	5463 5464	5465	5466	
Walls	W512, W554, W581, W1231, W1234, W1239, W1246, W1253					
Floors	F580					

- Continued work in A1 and A2
 - Starting elevation = 130.975 (west), 131.347 (east)
 - Ending elevation = 130.963 (east), 130.462 (west)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - With deposits from 9 July, almost a meter of the fill in the “street area” was dense with roof tile fragments, so much so that we reconstructed a possible pattern for the tiles.
 - Five pieces of lead (Item # 278) came from the fill
 - At 5.95 of A1, an east to west wall is becoming visible with door jambs the exterior of which are to the north.
- Continued work in B5
 - Starting elevation = 131.228 (east), 130.999 (west)
 - Ending elevation = 130.890 (east, street), 130.869 (west)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Street opposite east is 131.108
 - In the eastern section (A5 street), we reached the gravel level consistent with the street identified in 2007.
 - In B5, we partially cleared the “alley” (50-60cm wide) between W554 and W1253. Significant quantities of pottery were collected from the fill.
 - The southern face of W1253 remains difficult to identify. A grinding stone (Item # 279) and portions of a lamp (Item # 280) came from the fill.

- Clarified three phases of walls
 - 1. W581 abuts W512
 - 2. W1253 abuts W581
 - 3. W1234 and W1239 are laid over W581 and W1253 as part of the later complex on the east side of the street. By this time the street no longer functions as such.
 - Continued work in Square D5
 - Starting elevation = 129.615 (D4 room near wall = 129.652, Street west of D5 = 129.847)
 - Ending elevation = 129.172 (probe), 129.909 (threshold)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Removed the blocked doorway in W1231
 - Opened a trench 1 x 2.5 m next to W1231 abutting the corner with W585.
 - After reaching a heavy layer of stones about 12cm beneath the surface, we expanded the probe to 2 x 2.5m
 - Continued work in Square E6
 - Did some additional clarification of the interior side (west side) of W1239. The wall is precariously tilted to the west, so additional work was stopped. The entire corner needs to be taken down and reconstructed.
 - Continued work in Square F0
 - Starting elevation = 129.640 (top of wall) [128.555 (wall)?]
 - Ending elevation = 128.891 (bedrock)
 - Identified the north face of the east to west wall forming a NW corner with W1246 by digging through the balk on the north side of F0
 - In the westerly probe, bedrock was reached. About two courses of stone sit on the cut bedrock on a layer of shards and small stones.
 - The fanning of the tumble to the northwest suggests a collapse of earlier (and higher) parts of the wall in an earthquake.
 - Just to the east of the exterior corner, a 50 cm protrusion in the wall may indicate a reinforcing buttress.
 - In the easterly probe, the same line of the wall was revealed. It seems to come to a defined end on a line under the easterly half of the stylobate
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(supporting the theory that a north to south wall antedated the stylobate on the bottom course of which the stylobate rests). However the trench was too narrow and surrounding fill too dense to reveal the corner.

- Conservation of floor in B0
 - Repair and cleaning continue.
 - Completed conservation of floor.

Observations

- Daily Drawing

