

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

Date: 14 July 08 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	A0/A1/A2	A5 (B5 east)	D5	C2	F0	B0
Loci	L1226 (A1East) L1257 (A2) L1226 (A0A1)	L1226	L1255	L1256	L1228	
Baskets	5469 5471 5472	5467	5468	5470		
Walls	W518, W1221, W1224, W1229, W1235, W1249, W1253, W1267					
Floors	F538, F1258					

- Continued work in A0, A1 and A2
 - Starting elevation = 130.963 (east), 130.462 (west)
 - Ending elevation = 130.207 (A1 west average), 130.878 (A2 average), 130.898 (top of unknown feature)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Continued work on both side of W1267.
 - May be a window in W1235 to the west of the doorjamb (0.55m x 0.70m)
 - Cleaned the exterior of the apse wall.
 - Conserved a section of plaster on the exterior wall.
 - Plaster fragments in the fill are painted: some red, some yellow, some yellow with a black stroke that goes off the edge.
 - Flat fixture (poorly constructed) appears in the room spanning A2 and A3. It sits next to the apse wall. It is 0.87m wide and 1.80m long and is oriented north to south. It is 1.40m from W1235 and 1.70m from the north edge of the door jamb to the north. Function is undetermined.

- Continued work in A5
 - Starting elevation = 130.890 (east, street)
 - Ending elevation = 130.184 (bottom of probe),
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Continued to dig in the “street area” to a level 0.90 m below the street (street is 131.108, probe is 130.18). At this level returns are diminishing. The foundation levels of the walls are clear:
 - W1221 foundation = 131.015
 - W1224 foundation = 131.098
 - W518 foundation = 130.459
 - W1249 foundation = 131.222
 - Top levels of walls are
 - 131.358 (W581 south low), 131.976 (W581 north high)
 - 132.130 (W1224 corner)
 - 131.829 (W1253)
 - Stopped work
 - Continued work in Square D5
 - Starting elevation = 129.172 (probe), 129.909 (threshold)
 - Ending elevation = 129.389 (plaza F1258)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Expanded the probe area in D5 (to 3.2x3.3m) in order to expose more of the rock surface emerging in the probe.
 - The surface is some sort of paving. It is bounded to the north by 0.7m of heavier stores (remnant of a wall?) and to the west by 1.0m of the same.
 - The pavers are mostly limestone, with some basalt.
 - The construction is poor (lesser quality than the limestone temenos) but better quality than an inside floor. This paving (F1256) is 0.46m below the level of the cardo to the west and so antedated it.
 - We will excavate the rest of C5 to W1229 to see if the paving goes that far to the east.
 - Continued work in C2
 - Starting elevation = 130.090
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- Ending elevation = 129.687
- Opened a probe (1 x 2 m) south of the north stylobate and next to the chancel screen base.
- Under the layer of cobbles was heavier fill and within about 45cm we began to encounter limestone bedrock.
- Conservation of floor in C1
 - Uncovered and began cleaning the floor. State of preservation is good, except where moles were active.

Observations

- Daily Drawing

