

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

Date: 22 July 08 Area: NEC Manager: Schuler

Squares	A4	A99	C0	A3	C1	A5
Loci	1226	1219	564	1226 Niche		1226
Baskets	5498	5499 empty	2201	2203		2202
Walls	W575, W1235					
Floors	F538, F580					

- Continued work in A99
 - Starting elevation = 131.32
 - Ending elevation = 131.00
 - Soil is Horizon A.
 - Street is not blocked by a wall but by a fixture. On top of the fixture was a line of stones that initially appeared to suggest an apse or part of a tower. The stones were double wide but only 1-2 courses deep.
 - W575 has a doorjamb beginning 2.10m north of the church with an exterior face to the east.
 - Further excavation necessary to clarify function.
- Continued work in A4
 - Starting elevation = 131.561
 - Ending elevation = 131.203
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Moved more destruction fill.
 - Window in W1235 is a niche as in the *diakonikon*, suggesting religious usage. As a consequence, we are seeing all the rooms on the north and east as part of the church complex.
 - Column drum in A4 is 110.5cm tall and is sitting on a base with a greater diameter.
 - 5 cm nail recovered from the fill (Item #296).

- Continued work in A5
 - Starting elevation = 130.184
 - Ending elevation = 129.916
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Reduced level but no bedrock yet.
- Continued work in B/C0
 - Starting elevation = 130.286 (average), 130.455 (collapsed mosaic)
 - Ending elevation = 130.286 (average), 130.455 (collapsed mosaic)
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Cleaned mosaic fragment. Pattern with black border for corner visible on piece (support theory of collapse of second story). Diagonal pattern like in *skeuophylakion* along with pattern of boxes as in north aisle.
 - Covered mosaic with cloth and then earth. Next year we will attempt to lift it.
- Resumed work in C0
 - Starting elevation = 130.37
 - Ending elevation = 129.980
 - Soil is Horizon B
 - Reduced level toward layer of plaster with many loose industrial mosaic tiles.
- Continued work in Square D4
 - Starting elevation = 129.940 (average level)
 - Ending elevation = 129.42 (bottom of oven)
 - Put liner in oven and refilled it.
- Conservation of floor in B0 and C1
 - Cleaning for photography.
 - Noted a second ancient repair in the north aisle at the east end next to the stylobate.
 - Covered both mosaics with sand.

Observations

Daily Drawing



M. Schuler