



Hippus

**Third Season of Excavations
July 2002**

Arthur Segal
University of Haifa

Jolanta Mlynarczyk
Polish Academy of Sciences

Mariusz Burdajewicz
National Museum, Warsaw

Mark Schuler
Concordia University, St. Paul

Zinman Institute of Archaeology
University of Haifa
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Report on the Third Season of Excavations at Hippos [Sussita]

[Permit No. G – 92/2002]

July 2002

A. General

The third excavation season in Sussita was conducted throughout the entire month of July 2002. It was undertaken by the Zinman Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa in cooperation with the Polish Academy of Sciences. The archaeological expedition was headed by Prof. Arthur Segal, Prof. Jolanta Mlynarczyk of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and Dr. Mariusz Burdajewicz of the National Museum in Warsaw.

We were joined this season by a team from the Theological Department of Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA headed by Prof. Mark Schuler.

The various areas of the excavation site were supervised by research students of the Archaeological Department of Haifa University: Mr. Michael Eisenberg, Ms. Kate Rafael, Ms. Zeruya Panet, and Ms. Vered Raz-Romeo. Prof. Mlynarczyk was accompanied by a group of 11 students from the Department of Archaeology at the University of Warsaw. Other participants in the dig were archaeology students at Haifa University who were joined by volunteers from abroad and also from Kibbutz Ein Gev and other settlements in that area. An additional group participating in the excavation was composed of the pupils of Kiryat Ye'arim Youth Village [Youth Aliya]. The pupils, accompanied by their instructors, were incorporated into all the field activities.

The excavation of the site was conducted as a study excavation, and therefore, in addition to the field work [the working hours were from 0500-1200], supplementary activities were held every afternoon which included the classification of the ceramic finds under the guidance of Prof. Jolanta Mlynarczyk, as well as measurements and sketches of the site under the direction of Mr. Maayan Ralbag who served as the architect of the expedition. A number of lectures were also given and a few tours were conducted. Measurements of the site were carried out by a Total Station type of instrument operated by Mr. Ralbag. In addition to his responsibility for one of the excavation areas, Mr. Michael Eisenberg also served as senior assistant to the head of the expedition.

This season as well, the expedition camp was located at Kibbutz Ein Gev and Mr. Sharon David served as the expedition administrator. And this season again, members of the expedition enjoyed the warm support shown by the kibbutz members towards their excavation work. We note with satisfaction that the kibbutz management under the direction of Mr. David Israel, provided our expedition with a storage room and he even had it renovated so that it suited the needs of the expedition. We would like to regard this storage room as the nucleus of a museum for the Sussita excavations that will surely be established one day. At the end of the excavation season, as was customary in previous seasons, the head of the expedition conducted a comprehensive field tour of the site for many of the members of Kibbutz Ein Gev and residents of the surrounding settlements.

It should be noted here that considerable assistance was extended to the expedition by various groups and institutions. Without this assistance the third season of excavations could not have been carried out. Special thanks is due to the Rector of Haifa University, Prof. Aharon Ben-Zeev, to the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi, and to

the Dean of Research, Prof. Moshe Zeidner who have generously granted us additional assistance.

Assistance was also given, as in former seasons, by the National Parks Authority. Besides this, they also put at our disposal the services of Mr. Kimi Maman, a senior conservator, who accompanied the expedition during the entire course of the excavation season, and who even prepared, together with Mr. Michael Eisenberg, a program for the preservation of the site. Particular appreciation is extended to Dr. Zvika Zuk, the archaeologist of the National Parks Authority, who also accompanied our excavations from first to last. Finally, we wish to thank the Haifa Society for Israel Studies for its generous contribution.

B. Excavation Areas [Figs. 1, 2]

In addition to the excavation areas covered during previous seasons, three new areas were excavated. Altogether five areas were excavated during this season:

1. The Hellenistic Compound

This excavation area includes mainly the area known from previous excavations as the 'northern complex' and the other areas which were excavated within it and immediately adjacent to it.

2. The North-West Church

The excavation area includes the industrial complex [wine and oil presses] that extends parallel to the southern wall of the church.

3. North-East Church

Excavation was begun in this season. The church is at a distance of 50 metres to the East of the North-West church.

4. Public Building with Seating Arrangement [Assembly Hall]

Excavation of this structure was begun for the first time this summer. The building was erected to the north-west of the eastern gate of the city at a distance of 60 metres.

5. Eastern Gate

The main activity in this area was the clearing of the debris that had piled up over the gate since the building of an army post at the beginning of the 1950s by the IDF.

B. 1. The Hellenistic Compound [Area supervised by Ms. Kate Rafael]* [Figs. 3-5, 13-18, 22]

Before describing the process of excavation for this broad area, it should be noted that during the two previous seasons this area was called the 'northern complex'. At the end of the third season it became clear that the main building component in this area was actually a Hellenistic compound bounded on the south by a massive wall of which 40 metres have already been exposed, and to the west of it another section of 15 metres was exposed. Although the excavation of this large Hellenistic compound is only just beginning, it is already clear that we have here an extensive sanctuary which continued to function in its original capacity even during the Roman period. It seems that the very location of the north-west church was not chosen at random but was intentional. In other words, the church was erected on the area of an ancient sanctuary. Several areas were excavated in the Hellenistic compound, and the following descriptions are of these areas:

* Because of the size and complexity of this area, Ms. Rafael was assisted by Ms. Zeruya Panet and Ms. Vered Raz-Romeo.

The Southern and Western Walls of the Compound [Figs. 3, 5, 13-16]

It is reasonable to assume that the Hellenistic compound in the centre of Sussita was bounded by four walls of which 40 metres of the southern wall and 15 metres of the western wall have so far been exposed.

Adjacent to the south-western corner of the compound there are remnants of later structures. The western section of the southern wall had already been exposed in previous seasons and during this season we exposed nearly 30 additional metres of the southern wall [W 156]. This impressive wall is noteworthy for its excellent construction, with its layers arranged with great care in a uniform pattern of headers and stretchers. The ashlar have dressed margins which, although not very precise, give the impression of order and unity. The crudely dressed bosses are also irregular in appearance. There is a notable difference between the southern face of the wall that was exposed to passers by, in contrast to the northern face [the inner one] which was constructed in a completely different manner, without dressed margins and with crude dressing. Of the southern wall there remain four layers based upon two foundation layers. Although these foundation layers are also arranged in a header-stretcher pattern, their ashlar do not have dressed margins. Above the fourth layer, the topmost one, along the length of the wall, there is a layer of smooth limestone arranged as stretchers only. The height of this layer is slightly higher than those of the four layers beneath it. The surprising thing about the southern wall is the layer above the limestone one described above. The layer is composed of ashlar arranged in a unique and unusual manner by having their narrow side facing outward. It is also made of limestone in contrast to the four base layers of the Hellenistic wall built of basalt. This upper layer has survived only in part, and in spite of its bad state of preservation, there is visible evidence that it was very carefully built of well-dressed ashlar. In certain sections, especially

in the eastern one, column drums in secondary use were inserted in place of ashlar to fill the gaps. The most eastern section of the southern wall seems to have suffered much destruction, and attempts were made to renovate it with square ashlar. This section of the wall was exposed only in part during the last days of the excavation season, and its nature has not yet been clarified. In the summer of 2003, we shall continue the exposure of the southern wall on both its south side and its north side. As noted above, only 15 metres of the western wall [W 157] of the Hellenistic compound have been exposed. Its state of preservation is worse than that of the southern wall, and in fact only two layers of it have remained, disarranged by later construction in which secondary use was made of architectural remains such as column drums and capitals. A paved area [F 406] belonging to the Byzantine street abuts the western wall.

Parallel to, and near the end of the western section of the southern wall, certain structural remains were exposed [L 448] that were built very carelessly of ashlar and rough stones. It is safe to assume that we have here a later burial structure. In spite of the fact that no human bones were found there, the shape of the structure, its character and the findings that included remnants of tiles, testify to the presence of a number of graves. After completing the exposure of the southern wall, those later structures were removed and the Hellenistic wall was then exposed in its entirety.

Area Extending North of the Southern Wall of the Compound [Figs. 3, 4, 17-19]

This area is bounded on the south by a wall [W 171] and on the west by another wall [W 412], while its borders on the north and east are those of the excavation that has so far been exposed. To the north of this area we exposed a level surface paved with flagstones [F 423]. The continuation

of this paved area was exposed to the south of the north-west church, and only a few metres of unexcavated area now separates the two paved sections. Next season we intend to connect these two sections and thus expose the entire paved area. It is reasonable to assume that the paved area also extends eastward and northward. In the southern section of the paved area, adjacent and parallel to the wall W 171, there extends a stylobate which is slightly raised above the paved surface [F 442]. A similar stylobate [F 453] extends in the north-south direction parallel to the western wall [W 412]. Although a few stones are missing, it is visibly clear that both stylobates meet at right angles and form a corner. The two stylobates form the southern and western boundaries of the paved area. Placed upon the southern one is the limestone base which is not in situ. A similar base was found a short distance away inserted for secondary use in the western wall [W 412]. Both architectural fragments belong to a large group of limestone architectural remains scattered profusely over the Hellenistic compound area, most of them incorporated for secondary use in walls constructed at a later period. These fragments apparently belong to a Hellenistic temple which was erected at the same time as the walls of the compound. We have not yet been able to expose structural sections belonging to that temple, but a number of architectural fragments, mainly limestone column drums, bases and capitals that are scattered over the Hellenistic compound, testify to the fact that a peripteral temple once stood there.

Area Extending Parallel to and North of the Southern Wall of the Hellenistic Compound [W 156] [Figs. 3, 4]

The area extending to the north of the southern wall [W 156] is characterized by the remnants of walls beginning with the latest period of the site [the Umayyad period] and ending in remnants from the earliest

periods so far revealed at the site. On the surface, before the start of the excavation, one could see the remains of walls such as W 171 that has an east-west orientation. Alongside this wall and adjacent to it, two stone basins were found *in situ* as well as other architectural fragments. During the third season of excavations our efforts were concentrated on a trial excavation in the square that extends between wall W 171 and wall W 156.

The Trial Pit – In this area we wished to investigate several things, our main aim being to examine the southern wall of the Hellenistic compound and to reach its foundation trench. Going deeper down into the pit, several layers were exposed which allowed for the dating of the various levels of habitation at the site. Excavation exposed a Roman level of habitation dated according to numismatic and ceramic finds to the second century CE. This Roman level was exposed at three loci: L 407, L 415, L 420. Two limestone column drums were discovered on this level, and in the northern cross-section a terracotta pipe was found. Under the remains of the floor and floor substructure [F 417, F 418] an intact terracotta oil lamp was found together with fragments of other oil lamps and broken marble slabs. For reasons of safety, the excavation in the pit was halted. We intend to complete the examination after installing suitable safety measures in the next season, the summer of 2003.

The North-South Street Extending West of and Parallel to the Western Wall of the Hellenistic Compound
[Figs. 2, 3, 19-21, 23, 24]

This street once connected the *decumanus maximus*, the main street of Sussita, and the north-west church. The southern section of this street was demolished, apparently at the end of the classical era while its continuation to the north has survived in its entirety. The street is paved with basalt flagstones of various sizes. In spite of the fact that these flagstones were carefully placed, it is visibly clear that in contrast to the forum pavement, for example, a secondary use was made here of these flagstones. This conclusion can be arrived at on the basis of the following data: **a.** Several sections of the pavement have an irregular orientation; **b.** The pavement flagstones are of irregular sizes. This indicates that the pavement flagstones were taken from other sites. It may be that some of the flagstones were brought from the forum itself. The surface of the street has a gradual but constant incline from south to north until it reaches the gate through which one passed from the street into the western section of the atrium in the north-west church. The width of the street is 3.20 metres, but since excavations on the west side of the street have not yet been finally completed, it is possible that in certain sections it extends beyond the line which presently seems to be its western edge. To the east, the street is bounded by the western wall of the Hellenistic compound, and it is clearly visible that the pavement of the street covers the layers of the Hellenistic wall. On the surface of the street various architectural fragments were found such as two limestone column shafts, Ionic capitals also made of limestone, and two sections of cornices made of basalt. The street led, as was said earlier, to the gate that was once set into the western section of the

southern wall [W 445] of the atrium of the north-west church.

Although this wall is in a bad state of preservation, there remains an intact basalt threshold with two hinge openings that allow for an exact reconstruction of the way the gate could be closed with two wooden doors. Extending to the north of the threshold is the pavement of the atrium of the north-west church.

B.5. The Eastern City Gate [EGT] [area supervised by Mr. Michael Eisenberg] [Figs. 1, 12, 55-58]

General

During the third season of excavation, it was decided to clean and expose the remains of the eastern gate of the city at the east end of the *decumanus maximus*. Sussita had two main gates, one at the east end of the *decumanus maximus* and one at the west end. The western gate faced the Kinneret [Sea of Galilee] and must have been used by those who wished to reach the cultivated area of the city and its harbor which was situated south of Kibbutz Ein Gev of today, while the eastern gate was used by those going towards Golan Heights and Gadara. The western gate has not yet been excavated. The eastern gate has suffered serious damage caused by fortifications erected by the IDF at the beginning of the 1950s when Sussita served as a military stronghold on its eastern front.

Early surveyors such as G. Schumacher, who visited Sussita during the 19th century, were deeply impressed with the massive structure of the gate and the excellent quality of its construction, and even sketched its plan in general outline. At the beginning of the 1950s, before the IDF fortifications were made, a trial excavation was carried out by E. Anati, and a plan of the gate was drawn up by H. Yacobi.

This plan served us as a basis for our renewed work at the site. A comparison between the plan of the gate drawn up in the 1952 and its condition today has confirmed, to our sorrow, the degree of destruction caused to the gate as a result of the IDF fortifications. In addition, during the past few decades, after the IDF had vacated Sussita at the end of the Six Day War, the gate suffered further damage because of landslides and wild growth that took root in the area of the gate. During the third excavation season we decided, in preparation for the renewed excavation of the gate, to clear away the debris and wild growth from the gate area, to clean it thoroughly and to try and map out once again the various components of the gate as compared with the original plan outlined in the 1952. In the course of the clearing and cleaning activity we were able to expose a short section of the city wall and part of the round tower which was incorporated into the gate structure, mainly on its external side. Also revealed were the remnants of two jambs of the gate that had one passageway. Of the square tower that protected the gate on its eastern side, a few layers remain. Because of the close proximity of the square tower to a minefield that had not yet been cleared, only a small area near the gate passageway was cleaned. In the area to the west of the passageway, in the direction of the *decumanus maximus*, we cleared debris and were able to expose a section of the original pavement to west of the gate. While clearing this area we exposed a section of a stone pipe *in situ* which belonged to the aqueduct of Sussita. This aqueduct was previously surveyed by an expedition led by Z. Meshel, T. Tsuk, Y. Peleg, and H. Fahlbusch*.

* Z. Meshel, T. Tsuk, H. Fahlbusch, Y. Peleg, *The Water Supply of Susita*, Tel-Aviv 1998.

Plan of the Gate

The eastern gate of Sussita was incorporated into the city wall and is situated at the east end of a cliff overlooking the saddle that links the mountain of Sussita to the south-western slopes of the Golan Heights. The gate has one passageway, with two towers on either side that protrude eastward from the wall. To the south-east of the passageway there stood a round tower with the external diameter of 8 m. This tower was built on the steep slope which descends eastward. The preservation of the tower and the section of the city wall adjacent to it is not uniform, and this makes it difficult to reconstruct its exact plan. The unique aspect of the eastern gate of Sussita is firstly the lack of symmetry with regard to the placement of the two towers in relation to the gate itself, and the totally different plan of these towers. An examination of the topographical data of the gate area shows clearly that this lack of symmetry resulted from topographical constraints. The round tower, which is incorporated into the wall of the city, created a killing field opposite the gate itself facing towards the saddle and also towards the slope to the south of it, the slope along which the city wall runs. The square tower, on the other hand, which is placed at the edge of the cliff with a deep chasm gaping below, does not create any real killing field except for the narrow space near the gate passageway.

Building Methods and Materials

The city wall of Sussita and the gate itself is built of local basalt rock. The construction quality of the gate is significantly superior to that of the wall. The relatively good preservation of the round tower allows for the assessment of the building method and decoration of the gate. The round

tower was built on a fairly steep slope and this creates some difficulty in grounding its foundation layers. The builders of the gate were forced to embed the foundation layers at different levels of the slope descending from west to east. The round tower is of plain hewn stone construction, with relatively small sized ashlar. Except for the lower three layers of the round tower, which will be described below, the tower was uniformly built of alternating layers of headers and stretchers. The first layer of the round tower was set directly upon the rock surface that was made even for this purpose. The second layer was built of ashlar headers with their narrow side facing outward. Placed upon this layer was a third one of semi-circular section, with its upper part decorated with a simple stepped profile. A component of this kind at the base of the tower is clearly seen in the "Tiberias Gate" to the west of Gadara where two towers similar in construction and decoration to the round tower in Sussita can be found. The width of the gate passageway was 3.20 m. According to the factual evidence we now have, it is reasonable to assume that the gate was barrel-vaulted similar to the gate structures of like characteristics found in Tiberias, Gadara and Gerasa. It is worth noting the excellent building quality of the gate structure. The basalt ashlar in the round tower, for example, are smoothly dressed, without margins, while the walls of the gate are built of ashlar with finely dressed margins.

The square tower, which was far less preserved than the round tower, has recognizable signs of later construction. This should be noted because the entire gate structure is built without any use of binding materials. At this early stage of the excavation of the eastern gate of the Sussita, we do not have sufficient data to arrive at exact chronological conclusions, but on the basis of building methods, building materials, and the various kinds of stone dressing, it seems that the gate was erected at the end of the 1st century CE. Repairs made at later stages show that it was in use for a long

period of time. Typological similarities regarding building methods and stone dressing between the round tower and the comparable ones in the gates of Tiberias, Gadara and Gerasa, strengthen our assumption as to the date of erection for this gate. The continued excavation of the gate will be carried out during the next season in the summer of 2003.

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EXPLORATION OF THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH COMPLEX [AREAS NWC AND OPB] IN 2002

[Area Supervised by Prof. Jolanta Mlynarczyk and Dr. Mariusz Burdajewicz]

I. The following parts of the North-West Church [NWC] were excavated in 2002:

1. Nave of the basilica with the chancel part [*bema*] and apsis with synthronon [Loc. 202, 205, 206 and 219]
2. Southern aisle of the basilica [Loc. 204] with the southern chancel area [Loc. 223] and the southern „sacristy” [Loc. 208]
3. Entrance to the atrium leading from the south [cf. Loc. 446 of the Hellenistic Compound in the report by A. Segal].

II. *Loci* excavated in the area designated as Oil Press Building [OPB] abutting the southern wing of the NWC:

1. Room with niches [Loc. 274]
2. Room of the oil press [Loc. 270] with two successive floors
3. Southern and eastern sides of the podium of Basalt Roman Building [*Loci* 281, 286, 287]
4. Collecting pool of the winery [*Loci* 282-284]

I.1. [Figs. 6, 7]

The nave of the NWC has entirely been cleaned of the earthquake debris consisting of basalt blocks, while the column drums and Ionic capitals remained *in situ* [Fig. 25]. Of the mosaic floor of the nave, with its rich quadriplaited guilloche [Fig. 26] similar to Avi-Yonah pattern B12¹ framing the network of rosettes and buds [Avi-Yonah pattern H7], only few patches remain; these were left unexplored to be cleaned in 2003.

¹ Cf. M. Avi-Yonah, Mosaic Pavements in Palestine, *QDAP* II-III [1933], 138-141.

The chancel area or *bema* [Loc. 205], which projects up to the middle of the fifth intercolumniation [counting from the west] was no less destroyed than the western part of the nave. Not a single piece of the chancel screen and/or posts was found; only the chancel's limestone base was in place [Fig. 27]. The number of post-holes and slots in it indicates that on each side of the entrance from the west there were two screens alternating with three posts. In the sixth intercolumniation the chancel is separated from the aisles by limestone parapets. On the southern side [between columns 32 and 33] this partition, 1.10 m high, has two layers of slabs set on a base; their southern face preserves remains of thick white plaster [Fig. 28]. On the north, between columns 27 and 28, the chancel base supports one row of vertical slabs only.

In several places of Loc. 205 the mosaic floor was destroyed together with its lime mortar bed, exposing the substructure of small stones. Neither the placement of the altar inside the *bema* nor that of the pulpit [*ambo*] could have been established. Except for scattered pieces of entablature mouldings of white marble with dentils, ovolo and astragal frieze, most probably of secondary use in the church, the only sculptured decoration found in *Loci* 202 and 205 were Ionic capitals of columns as well as a cornice fragment, all of basalt. Fragments of terracotta rooftiles were rather few.

In the main apsis the southern half of the *synthronon* [Loc. 206] has been cleaned with four rows of seats built of limestone and revetted with white plaster. The west end of the *synthronon* was entirely destroyed by the wall collapse during the earthquake [Fig. 27, Fig 29]. Below the concentric benches there is a semicircular platform [1.10 m in diameter] built of limestone blocks [Loc. 219].

I.2. [Figs. 6-8]

The church's southern aisle [Loc. 204], the western part of which was explored in 2001, yielded further evidence to the violent earthquake: the hall was tightly filled with parallel rows of limestone blocks from the collapsed southern wall [W 241] [Fig. 30]. From under this wall there come many rooftiles, imprints of *imbrices* in lime mortar, and pieces of monochrome mosaic from the upper storey. A series of very large limestone blocks [cornice parts reused from an earlier building], constituting the second[?] course of W. 241, are still overhanging the floor. From under one of them, the upper half of a jar was retrieved, clearly a part of the assemblage discovered in 2001 along the western section of W 241 [cf. Pottery report for 2001, fig. 4, and Pottery report in the present volume].

The mosaic floor of the southern aisle continues the pattern described in the Report for 2001. The frame of simple guilloche [Avi-Yonah pattern B2] runs all the way around the large carpet of scale motives [Avi-Yonah pattern J3] each with a rose bud inside [„scales and sprigs” pattern]. The intercolumniations contain rectangular mosaic „carpets” the patterns of which differ from each other. The first intercolumniation from the west has a „diagonal” pattern [cf. Report for 2001]. In the second intercolumniation, the decorative panel, largely destroyed, seems to be divided into six [?] octagons, two of which are preserved: one contains a square filled with diagonals, another with a representation of a fruit [apple? pomegranate?]. The third intercolumnar panel is a rectangle containing a rhombus inscribed with interlacing lines. The fourth intercolumniation virtually repeats the pattern of the first one, while the decoration of the fifth intercolumniation, ill-legible due to a thick deposit of lime mortar, appears to contain a combination of rhombi and crosslets.

Finally, the ornament along the southern side of the chancel is a frieze of simple geometrical figures composed of crosslets and tiny triangles.

The floor of this aisle contains also two mosaic inscriptions in Greek [see Appendix by A. Lajtar]. They sound rather similar, commemorating donations made by individuals, doubtlessly members of the local community. An one-line inscription in a *tabula ansata* extending across the aisle at the height of the fifth intercolumniation, and facing west, commemorates an offering made by Petros [Fig. 31]. Another inscription, also written in one line and mentioning a woman by the name of Hedora [or Heliadora?], is even more interesting for its location: it was placed at the inner edge of the aisle, in front of the third intercolumniation, but facing the nave, not the aisle [Fig. 32].

At the height of the sixth column [no. 33], the aisle is closed by a marble balustrade of a lateral chancel [Fig. 33]. It consists of two screens and four posts fixed to their base by pieces of lead. The base is built of marble blocks in secondary use from a monumental building of a Roman date [2nd century CE?], to judge by the remains of relief decoration on the eastern faces of two long blocks. Of these, the southern one still preserves a deeply drilled ornament of acanthus scrolls with flowers [Fig. 34]. The southern chancel screen was found standing *in situ* between two posts. Its western face has a „Maltese” cross with grooved arms inside a simple ring and a bound wreath composed of a triple row of laurel leaves [Fig. 8]. The screen’s eastern face bears a similar cross [its arms, however, left ungrooved] surmounting the tripartite Golgotha mound;² the surface at the left-hand side is not finished, with traces of chiseling .

² Faithful parallel is a chancel screen from Tabgha, cf. B. Bagatti. *L’archeologia cristiana in Palestina*, Sansoni – Firenze 1962, 121, fig. 16:5. A similar representation, flanked by gazelles, appears on a chancel screen from the 6th century church of St. Lazarus in Nahariya, cf. C. Dauphin and G. Edelstein, *The Byzantine Church in Nahariya*, in Y. Tsafir [ed.], *Ancient Churches Revealed*, Jerusalem 1993, 51.

The northern chancel screen was found broken into several pieces by stones fallen from the southern wall [Fig. 28]. The western face of the screen has a representation of a „Maltese” cross in a bound wreath: a decoration that differs from that of the other screen only in that the cross arms are not grooved and the wreath lacks a ring inside [cf. Fig. 8]. The screen’s back was left undecorated.

The outer chancel posts, their height [0.92 m] hardly exceeding that of the screens [0.90 m], are reused small pillars with vertical flutings on one face and stylized acanthus capitals; they could originally belong to some earlier balustrade. On the contrary, the inner monolithic posts were considerably higher and of a different form. Their upper parts, from slightly above the level of the screens top, were shaped as colonnettes with moulded bases and „Corinthian” capitals. Together with a horizontal bar [of wood?] which they used to support, they were forming a sort of gate, its total height amounting to 2 m [0.18 m for the chancel base and 1.82 m for the inner post-colonnettes] above the level of the mosaic floor [Fig. 8]. The broken colonnettes were found in the debris while still bearing small votive crosses made of lead alloy[?] affixed to their shafts with bronze pegs: three crosses [and holes to mount the fourth one] on the southern colonnette [Fig. 35], two crosses [plus holes for the third one] on the northern colonnette. The passage in between the inner posts is *ca.* 0.63 m wide; from their eastern faces there protrude iron rings fixed to lead pegs and destined to hold a low wooden door: two rings for hinges in the southern post, and one for a hook in the northern post.

A small gap between the joint of the two chancel parts [the nave and the southern aisle] and the easternmost column [no. 33] was filled with rubble and plastered over.

Behind the chancel [Loc. 223], the mosaic floor continues eastwards with the same pattern as in Loc. 204. However, only a small section of the mosaic floor, right behind the chancel screen, could be explored during this season in Loc. 223. At *ca.* 0.20 to 0.40 m above this floor, large portions of monochrome mosaic fallen from the upper storey were found. Some of them were laying upside down [Fig. 36], displaying the section of the gallery floor. Its total thickness amounting to 8.7 – 9 cm, it was composed of three layers. The mosaic cubes [1.4 cm thick/high] are embedded in a layer of fine white plaster 3.5 cm thick; the latter rests upon a thick layer [3.5 to 3.8 cm] of lime mortar. Mixed in this mortar base are chips of coloured stones [refuse of mosaic tesserae], pebbles and burnt pieces of reeds up to 4 cm of length and 0.5 cm of diametre.

As a matter of fact, innumerable pieces of this monochrome mosaic floor occurring throughout the northern and southern aisles alike, are the only testimony to the existence of the galleries above the aisles. Nowhere in the debris any banister pillars and/or panels were found, not to speak about column parts that could possibly belong to the upper floor. The only explanation is that the construction of side galleries was entirely of timber, as was the case with the St. Lazarus' church at Nahariya.³

It has not been clarified yet what was the nature of partition between the main chancel area [Loc. 205] and its southern extension [Loc. 223]; it cannot be excluded that, unlike the northern extension, there was a kind of low balustrade between column no. 33 and the western end of the apsis wall.

³ Cf. Dauphin and Edelstein, *op. cit.*, 49.

The eastern limit of Loc. 223 is marked by an engaged pier built against W 241, with a spring of arch of the entryway to Loc. 208 [Fig. 37]. The pier is crowned by a basalt corbel re-used from an earlier building. Two more basalt blocks moulded with *cavetto*, dentils and ovolo were found in the debris, their sculptured decoration thickly covered by red plaster [Fig. 38]. Unlike in the corresponding northern part of the church [Loci 218 and 207], the direct communication between the southern chancel [Loc. 223] and the southern sacristy [Loc. 208] was apparently maintained till the end of the NWC's use. The nature of this passage, however, will be known only after the cleaning of the two rooms is resumed.

In the southern sacristy [Loc. 208], the eastern wall [W 238] has been reached. Its construction is the same as already noted in the northern corresponding sacristy [Loc. 207, probably the *skeuophylakion* of the church]: three layers of large limestone blocks are preserved, set over three[?] courses [of which two have been cleared] of dressed basalt stones. Although the outer face of the main apsis [W 221] has largely been destroyed, a slightly trapezoid outline of the room is easily noted, a parallel to that of the northern sacristy during the first phase of the NWC. Moreover, there has been no indication of existence of a southern apse. However, such unsymmetrical arrangement during the second architectural phase of the church, with only one lateral [northern] apse, would be quite a rare solution.⁴

In the northern wall near the north-eastern corner of Loc. 208 there is a rectangular niche constructed of limestone and roofed with basalt

⁴ Other examples, although not strictly parallel to our NWC, are St. Stephen's church in Umm er-Rasas [Jordan] and Church III in Khan Khalde [Lebanon], both dated to the 7th century, and a church at Beit Gimal, cf. S. Margalit, *The Bi-apsidal Churches*, LA 40 [1990], 325-329, n. 13, and 332-334, figs. 6 and 12. The closest parallel there remains the church at Khirbet el-Beyudat [north of Jericho], cf. H. Hizmi, *The Byzantine Church at Khirbet el-Beyudat in the Lower Jordan Valley*, in Y. Tsafirir [ed.], *Ancient Churches Revealed*, Jerusalem 1993, 156.

beams. The niche, which corresponds to a similar niche in the southern wall of Loc. 207, is 0.90 m high, 0.75 m wide, 0.70 m deep, and keeps remains of white plaster revetment. To judge by several fragments of small iron hooks found in the debris right below the niche, it probably had a wooden door and/or shelves to serve as a closet. Along W 238 many fragments of broken wall plaster were found with polychrome decoration, in which one can notice yellow and red panels divided by vertical black bands [Fig. 39]. Similar decoration has been preserved on two contiguous sides of a basalt block found in debris of Loc. 223, no doubt coming from an engaged pier supporting an arch. The exploration of the southern sacristy had to be stopped at some 40 cm above the floor to be resumed in the next season.

Chronological conclusions

Despite the lack of coin finds during this season, the stylistical features of the mosaics alone allow to fairly precisely establish the date of the execution of the floors which corresponds to the second architectural phase of the church. The most important *comparanda* are provided by the mosaic of the „cathedral” baptistery of Hippos which is epigraphically dated to 591 CE⁵ as well as by that of the baptistery at Kursi with its inscription of 585 CE.⁶ In both places the mosaic border is closely similar to that of the northern aisle of the NWC while the central „carpets” multiply the motif of the southern aisle of the NWC. The patterns in the north „sacristy” of the Kursi church are the same as in the nave of the NWC,⁷ and the *diakonikon* floor at Kursi⁸ resembles the northern apsis of the NWC. There is little doubt that the mosaic pavements of the second

⁵ C. Epstein and V. Tzaferis, Baptistery at Sussita-Hippos, *Atiqot* XX [1991], 92-93, figs. 3-5.

⁶ V. Tzaferis, *The Excavations at Kursi-Gergesa*, Jerusalem 1983 [*Atiqot* XVI], 28-29, pls. XI:3 and XII:4.

⁷ *ibidem*, pl. XI:6.

⁸ *ibidem*, pls. XI:5 and XII:1 and 3.

phase of the NWC were laid in the same period of time as the pavements of Kursi and the baptistery of Sussita, presumably in the eighties of the 6th century. Another noteworthy parallel, although lacking exact date, to the „carpets” of both aisles of the NWC and to the south aisle’s border are mosaic floors of a small church at Khirbet Samra [kibbutz Ha’On] only few kilometres to the south of Sussita.⁹ The two commemorative inscriptions in the southern aisle of the NWC strongly suggest that the church was rebuilt and repaved at the expense of the local Christian community.

The final arrangement of the church is marked by the extension of the chancel area into the eastern parts of the aisles [Fig. 40]. The installation of the screens and posts with their base inserted into the mosaic floor proves that it postdates the execution of the mosaics, as already observed in the northern aisle [cf. Report for 2001]. In other words, this modification, certainly a result of liturgical requirements, cannot be earlier than the beginning[?] of the 7th century which is in agreement with chronology accepted for such enlarging of chancels, specifically in Jordan [e.g. churches at Pella and Gerasa] and the Negev.¹⁰ The sparse decoration and rather low workmanship level of the chancel screens and posts [the eastern face of one screen in the southern aisle left unfinished, that of another - unadorned] are eloquent proofs of economic weakness of the local community during that period. The T-shaped outline of the chancel area in the NWC is best paralleled by churches in the Negev [e.g. North and South churches at Oboda, North and South churches an Shivta].¹¹ Surprisingly enough, the chancels of

⁹ V. Tzaferis, An Early Christian Church at Khirbet Samra, *Studies in the Archaeology and History of Ancient Israel in Honour of Moshe Dothan*, Haifa 1993, 237 [fig. 9], 244-245.

¹⁰ N. Duval, L’architecture chrétienne et les pratiques liturgiques en Jordanie en rapport avec la Palestine. recherches nouvelles, in K. Painter [ed.], *Churches Built in Ancient Times. Recent Studies in Early Christian Archaeology*, London 1994, 167 and figs. 5-6.

¹¹ *ibidem*, figs. 5-6.

both the „cathedral” of Sussita and the church in Kursi are limited to the nave.

Finally, the pottery from destruction deposits, including two complete terracotta lamps of an Umayyad-period type [for one of them, see Pottery report 2001, Fig. 8:1; for another see the current pottery report] suggest the abandonment of the church in the 1st half of the 8th century, shortly before the final destruction in the earthquake of 749 CE.¹²

II.1.

In the OPB area, a north-east part of a room has been exposed [Loc. 274] located to the east of the winery’s treading floor [Loc. 271] and of the oil press room [Loc. 270]. Loc. 274 is limited by W 275 and W 288 which are built of dressed basalt stones and belong to a building antedating the installation of the oil/wine press [Fig. 41].

The locus was filled with dense debris consisting of big blocks of *nari* limestone as well as some basalt ones, and virtually devoid of any potsherds. At *ca.* 0.80 m below the extant top of W 275 the „butresses” on its eastern side are linked together by a wall so that niches are formed [two of them uncovered, 1.50 m long, 0.70 m wide]. The floor of the southern niche has a layer of thin ochre-coloured clay. The exploration of Loc. 274 was temporarily stopped at *ca.* 0.55 m below that level where a strip of ochre-coloured soil occurred along the wall; the dense limestone debris, however, continues downward. The excavation will be resumed in 2003 with the aim to find the floor.

The northern limit of Loc. 274 is W 288, *ca.* 90 cm thick, which apparently meets W 275 under the treading floor of the wine press, marking the north-western corner of an earlier room. W 288 has remains

¹² The latest dated find from the North-western Church is a coin minted in Tiberias at *ca.* 737-746, found on the floor of the northern aisle, cf. A. Berman, in Numismatic report for 2001.

of white plaster both on its northern face and inside a rectangular recess on its southern side, 1.50 m long like niches on the eastern side of W 275, but only 0.40 m wide.¹³ The wall [W 278] which is the eastern limit of the winery's treading floor [Loc. 271] crosses W 288 from above without continuing southward beyond the corner of the treading floor.

II.2.

In Loc. 270, which is the room with oil pressing table explored in 2001, the cleaning was resumed of the southern and western borders of the square. Two successive floors have been noted in this area. The upper one [F 279], only *ca.* 0.30 m below the present ground level, is made of earth tamped with bits of lime mortar and limestone chips; it is slightly sloping eastward. The lower floor [F 280], found *ca.* 0.40 to 0.20 m below the upper one, is a pavement of basalt slabs, some of them irregular in shape. These floors apparently correspond to two phases of use of the same oil press installation: a pressing bed of basalt and collecting vat carved of limestone into the shape of a footed chalice [Fig. 42]. On the contrary, a limestone column shaft lying upon the upper, earthen floor, and perhaps used for crushing olives can be connected with the second phase only. However, even the lower floor [F 280] is secondary in relation to W 275; actually, it forms a sort of a pathway on the axis North-South, just 2.50 m wide, separated from the western face of W 275 by 0.75 m of unpaved space. A Corinthian capital of a huge limestone half-column, badly weathered but apparently corresponding to Type I of Hellenistic Alexandrian capitals,¹⁴ was probably re-used as a part of the oil press installations.

¹³ For similar constructions with niches inside, see buildings accompanying the basilical complex at Qanawât, G. Amer, *Les constructions au nord-est de l'ensemble basilical de Qanawât, Syria* LIX [1982], pls. 1 and 5

¹⁴ J. McKenzie, *The Architecture of Petra*, Oxford 1990, 190, diagram 14:a.

II.3.

A stretch of unpaved space *ca.* 0.50 m wide, filled with soil free of stone debris, divides F 280 from the eastern side of the podium of a Basalt Roman Building [Loc. 281] [Fig. 43]. The podium's east wall, across the top of which the southern wall of the winery [W 276] has been constructed, consists of a row of moulded blocks [*cyma recta* mouldings] set on a low protruding platform built of ashlar. At its southern extremity, this layer of mouldings abut onto an *anta* which ends in a slender engaged column [Fig. 44].

The front of the podium [Loc. 286] is facing south and consists of two long steps with a single block in the easternmost part apparently remaining of the third, uppermost step. The steps were comprised in between two *antae* of which the western remains to be found, but it is clear that the distance between them is more than the stretch 8.5 m long uncovered till now.

In front of the steps there is a pavement [F 287] of carefully laid rectangular basalt slabs [Fig 45]; within the limits of the sector under excavation, three rows of the slabs were discovered following an east-west axis. Actually, this is the continuation of F 423 as recorded in the N.NMP area on the south-west. *Ca.* 3.40 m to the west from the eastern *anta*, a rectangular socle of masonry, just 0.18 m high [Loc. 290], raises from the pavement at a distance of 0.45 m only from the southern side of the podium. The E-W extent of the socle is 2.40 m, while the N-S one has not been known yet.

The identity of the building [designated as Basalt Roman Building] once standing on the podium as well as the function of the „socle” remain to be clarified during further research. Doubtlessly, this was an important public building destined to occupy a dominant position: either a temple or

a portico accompanying a temple. The local stratigraphy implies its construction before the time of the installation of the winery and the oil press, but it is obvious that it also preceded the construction of the North-western Church, and probably the Niches Building [represented by walls W 275 and W 288].

The pavement F 287 in front of the podium is covered by a fill of sandy soil, virtually free of stone debris, *ca.* 0.55 m thick, above which there is a tamped earth floor [F 279] connected with the oil press installations. At this depth, only 0.30-0.40 m below the present ground level, a fragment of an industrial installation of ill-defined function was found upon the southern part of the podium [Fig. 44]. It is a sort of elongated platform rather than floor, just *ca.* 0.70 m wide, built of limestone rubble mixed with lime mortar [Loc. 285]. It runs parallel to the southern face of W 276, from which it is divided by a narrow open channel [for water?] and does not extend beyond the eastern limits of the Basalt Roman Building podium. A limestone basin, standing at the south-eastern corner of the podium, apparently was used in the oil or/and wine industry. Four blocks of limestone cornice were also found lying in a line along the southern edge of the podium.

II.4.

To the north of Loc. 285 and of W 276, installations of the winery have been examined [Fig. 46]. The low western wall of the treading floor Loc. 270, built of irregular basalt stones [W 277], has almost completely been destroyed exposing at its bottom a row of three limestone blocks, each 1.20-1.30 m long, perhaps a wall of an earlier building. Adjacent from the west and abutting the southern wall of the church there is a very large collecting pool for the must [Loc. 282]. Its length matches that of the treading floor [*ca.* 4.50 m]; the width is not known yet; the depth from

rim to bottom is *ca.* 1.40 m. The rim of the pool is situated 1.00 m below the level of the treading floor and forms a sort of shelf wide from *ca.* 0.55 m [on the north] to 0.30 m [on the east]. At the level of this shelf, near the southern end of W 277, there sits a small intermediary vat [Loc. 283], semicircular in outline [W. 0.50 m], provided with plastered side walls but open at the front. It served to receive juice from the grapes trampled by foot on the treading floor to which it was connected by an open drain made of an inverted *imbrex*. Adjacent to the northern side of the vat there is a carefully constructed outlet of a vaulted channel leading from below the centre of the treading floor where the pressing apparatus used to be installed. From this outlet, a plastered gutter sloping across the large pool's rim was directing the juice into the pool.

The inside of the pool as well as the „shelf” of its rim were revetted with hydraulic mortar containing small pebbles and applied to a layer of body sherds of dark grey jars [the „Beisan” type], its total thickness amounting to 3.5 cm. One can note several level marks left by the wine must on the walls [Fig. 47]. From the direction of Loc. 285 in the south, six steps [their width not determined yet] lead to the bottom of the pool [Fig. 48]. Two uppermost steps [Loc. 284] raise above the level of the pool's rim. All the steps are revetted with the hydraulic mortar as is a threshold block of the entry inserted in W 276.

The debris filling Loc. 282 consisted of five layers of big limestone blocks apparently collapsed from the south wall of the NWC [W 243] and virtually devoid of finds. In spite of the lack of dating evidence from closed contexts, it seems that the earthquake responsible for this destruction was the one of 749 CE, the same that destroyed the church.

Jolanta Mlynarczyk

Mariusz Burdajewicz

ASSEMBLY HALL [ASE] [area supervised by Mr. Michael Giera]

Apart from the NWC and OPB sectors explored in the centre of Sussita, a limited excavation was conducted at a structure marked by us as ASE [„Assembly Hall”]. It is situated in the eastern part of the town, between the „decumanus” and the north-eastern edge of the hill. The remains of this building rectangular in outline and following the axis East-West were disturbed by the defensive activity of the IDF prior to 1967, while digging a military trench right to the north. Thus, the north side of the ancient building was damaged, and its eastern short side was entirely destroyed by heavy machinery, probably while pulling debris out of the building. Nevertheless, it is clear that the building used to serve as an assembly place, as proven by masonry benches along its three preserved sides: western, northern and southern.

Cleaning was undertaken inside the building, at its western short end. The western wall, 0.63 m wide, is built both of dressed and unhewn basalt stones. Along its eastern face which is 6 m. long, there runs a masonry bench *ca.* 0.73 m wide and 0.70 m high, built in the same technique as the outer wall but with the addition of limestone [Fig. 49]. Two re-used flagstones forming steps facilitated the access to the bench at a point close to the south-western corner of the hall [Fig. 50]. The lower flagstone corresponds to the level of the floor of which the only remains is a layer of earth mixed with lime mortar and perhaps some small flagstones abutting the base of the bench.

It seems that the ruined north-western corner of the hall could have been the place of an entrance to the building as suggested by the presence

of blocks clearly belonging to a doorway, found in the debris, and by an abrupt break in the exterior line of the western wall.

The exploration of this small area yielded considerable amount of commonware pottery, mostly jars and deep basins of Late Roman and Byzantine date [see the Pottery Report]. Noteworthy are broken pieces of an elegant mosaic floor in white and black, as well as of painted plaster [red bands against white background]; these finds attest to the care with which this public building was embellished. The lack of sealed deposits, however, still prevents us from dating the ASE building with any precision.

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**Northeast Church [area supervised by Prof. Mark Schuler]
[Figs. 1, 11, 51-54]**

Approximately fifty meters to the east of the Northwest Church is the collapse of a building. Surface indications of an eastward apse and several column drums protruding from the debris have led previous surveyors to identify the site as a small church. In 2002 a limited survey excavation attempted to ascertain the dimensions of this Northeast Church. The following discussion summarizes excavations in the apse [L 504], the exterior to the southeast corner [L 503], the exterior to the southwest corner [L 505], the eastern end of the south aisle [L 506] and a burial at the eastern end of the south aisle [L 507, L 508].

The apse

The apse wall [W 502] is intact to seven courses above the *synthronon* [1.57 m] with some declination of the north side. It is approximately 4.5 m wide and 3 m deep. Basalt stones with a rectangular, stipple face comprise the lower courses. Destruction fill suggests that upper courses were of limestone. The half dome was surfaced on its interior with plaster. Pigmented plaster fragments [red, yellow, and orange] suggest a fresco covered the dome.

A *synthronon* [depth of 1 meter, height of 30 cm] surrounds the apse. At the center of the apse, the *synthronon* protrudes to 1.54 m and may have had additional height. The *synthronon* and transitions between the floor [F 516] and the apse wall [W 502] were covered with plaster.

The current floor is *opus sectile* in local stone with a few marble fragments in secondary use. The south end of the chancel north of the row of columns displays a pattern. 20x20 cm stones are set in a row. Each stone is rotated 45 degrees so that its corner is at the top and the stones contact each other at the corners, resulting in a row of diamonds.

Subsequent rows of 20x20 cm stones align with the bottom points of the previous row. Gaps between the stones are filled with smaller square stones that have not been rotated. Triangular stones fill the remaining gaps. The resultant pattern is cruciform [on an angle].

Northern sections of the apse west of W 502 remain to be excavated to floor level. Architectural fragments of cornices, pilasters, doorjambs, and a partial altar screen post were recovered from the fill.

The southeast corner

Shallow trenches exterior to the southeast corner [L 503] revealed two factors of note. The apse wall is exterior to the building—as is true of only a minority of Byzantine churches excavated in Israel. Of greater possible significance is a second wall [W 512] that runs parallel and directly next to the wall of the east end of the south aisle [W 509], effectively doubling its thickness [2.3 m]. W 512 seems to continue to the south. Its exact function is to be determined.

The southwest corner

The exterior southwest corner [L 505] was identified and cleared to a depth of 1 m from the surface. 1 m of the south wall [W 510] was revealed to the east and 4.5 m of the west wall [W 511] was uncovered to the north. An entrance to the southern aisle begins 2.6 m from the southwest corner, suggesting that the church has three entrances from the west. Architectural fragments [lintel stone, doorjambs, and pilasters] were in the fill.

2.5 m to the west of W 511 is another wall [W 513] running parallel. Its function and relationship are to be determined.

The eastern end of the south aisle

Four meters of the eastern end of the south aisle [L 506] were cleared to floor level. The interior southeast corner is 3.95 m from the southern corner of the apse. The aisle is set off from the nave by a run of four columns [52 cm in diameter], separated by 2.5 to 2.75 m on center. A single drum protrudes from the surface in each case. The aisle is about 13 m east to west and 2.75 m from column to south wall. The floor is of similar *opus sectile* style in local stone with some marble pieces in secondary use. The construction quality is poor. The entire floor is east of and level with the top of the channel for the chancel screen, which seemingly transects nave and aisle on the same north-to-south line [only partially excavated].

Two short, perpendicular walls are constructed on top of this floor. One wall [W 515] runs from the first column to the east wall. The other [W 514] runs from the same column to the south wall, skewing somewhat to the west over the top of the channel for the altar screen. W 515 has a small doorway toward its east end. The design of what remains plus doorjambs recovered from the fill above suggests that the door was not used for regular access. These secondary walls and the room itself seem to serve a protective purpose for what is inside.

The burial

Inside the room created by W 514 and W 515 is a rectangular surface. It is 16.5 cm above the floor and 57 cm from the south wall [W 510]. The surface is a single basalt stone that had been plastered. It is 76 cm wide [N to S] and 227 cm long [E to W]. The sides of the raised surface are marble slabs 3 cm thick. On the north side is an incised cross. The lower member of the cross is not visible. W 514 is skewed to the west because of the size of this stone.

On the top of the plastered stone is a small basin and hole. Its center is 36 cm from the south edge and 53 cm from the west. The shallow basin is 9 cm in diameter with a 1 cm rim and a 1 cm hole. There are some indications in the damaged plaster top that the plaster extended the shallow basin 3 cm around. The hole was probed with a wire to the depth of 9 cm.

A 58x48 cm section of the floor [F 517] next to the cross was opened [L 507]. After a plaster subsurface, the fill was dirt and stones to a depth of 22 cm. At that level there was hard plaster. Thirty-six single tesserae were recovered [red, white, and black]. Also found was one 2x6 block of tesserae [4 black and 2 red]. Although the area of excavation is quite small, the plaster layer is identified as an earlier floor [F 516]. It is at approximately the same level as the floor for the south aisle, the elevation of which is surmised from the elevation of the channel for the chancel screen.

A small hole [20x30 cm] was opened in this floor for another 14 cm [L 508], to the bottom of the marble piece with the incised cross. The marble piece is 62 cm wide and 52 cm high. It is incised with a Byzantine cross of a style that would come to be called "Teutonic" in the Middle Ages. The cross is 23x17 cm. Below the left arm is a capital Greek alpha [5 cm high and 4 cm wide]. Below the right arm is a lower case omega [3 cm high and 6 cm wide]. The cross is 7.5 cm from the top of the marble piece. Only the top three arms of the cross are visible from F 517. The cross and the alpha and omega would be visible from F 516.

Excavation continued in the small hole to a depth of 77 cm from the top of the raised surface. A smooth and finely worked vertical surface of limestone or marble [chipped white] was revealed behind and below the marble inscription. Although only a small section is exposed, it seems

that an intact sarcophagus is buried in the south aisle of the church to the east of the chancel screen.

The above evidence indicates at least two stages in the history of the church. During stage one, the earlier floor [F 516] and the sarcophagus were put in place. During stage two, the top floor [F 517] and the walls around the sarcophagus [W 514 and W 515] were added. A key question is the sequence between the earlier floor and the sarcophagus. The earlier floor may have been cut to insert the sarcophagus. In breaking through F 517, there was a difference in plaster hardness to about 15 cm from the sarcophagus along a parallel line [a repair after a cut?]. However, that difference could be a construction technique. Although the fill below F 517 was contaminated due to the close quarters of the probe, the fill revealed only a few tesserae.

The second stage [F 516, W 514, W 515] shows much poorer construction [*opus sectile* in local stone, half the inscription is hidden, W607 is skewed from the line of the chancel screen channel, misalignment covered over by plaster]. The expected top for the sarcophagus is missing. Perhaps there was an attempt to repair or hide the sarcophagus after damage or desecration was done [Sasanids in 614 CE?]. Seemly, those who did the second stage of construction no longer knew the significance of the alpha and omega on the inscription.¹⁵

If future excavation proves the above proposal, this burial in the Northeast Church at Hippos is significant. Most Byzantine churches and monasteries with burials are “located outside, or on the fringes of the inhabited area of the city . . . close to or in the midst of cemeteries.”¹⁶

¹⁵ Some inscriptions in the Negev show such ignorance. The alpha and omega are reversed below the arms of the cross. Arthur Segal, *Architectural Decoration in Byzantine Shivta, Negev Desert, Israel* [BAR International Series 420, Oxford 1988], 154.

¹⁶ Haim Goldfus, “Tombs and Burials in Churches and Monasteries of Byzantine Palestine [324-628 A.D.],” unpublished doctoral dissertation at Princeton University [January 1997], 238.

The Northeast Church is in the city center. The burial is even more unusual, if Haim Goldfus' research is confirmed: Proportionally, the total number of tombs – especially inside the space of the prayer hall, in the Galilee and the Northern Coasts sites, as well as in the site of other regions – is by far lower than in most sites of the Negev region.¹⁷

There is one possible parallel for the burial. At the basilical church at Dor, built in the first half of the fourth century, is the tomb of two venerated bodies in the south aisle at the eastern end. Interestingly, the second of five slabs covering the tomb has a hole that enables an earthenware pipe [70 mm thick] to carry oil into the grave. C. Dauphin calls the tomb a tomb-reliquary.¹⁸

Summary of the first season

On the assumption of symmetrical construction, the survey of the Northeast Church in 2002 reveals an almost square church [interior dimensions of the apse and two aisles are 12.5 x 13 m] with a single exterior apse. The aisles are separated from the nave by two rows of four columns each. There were three entrances from the west. An altar screen crossed the nave and two aisles just to the west of the first column. A sarcophagus of a venerated person or persons is buried at the east end of the south aisle. The church may have been built to house the burial [a *martyrion*?]. At a second stage of construction/repair, an *opus sectile* floor of local stone was laid behind the line of the chancel screen and protective walls were erected around the tomb.

¹⁷ Ibid., 249.

¹⁸ C. Dauphin, "Sur la route du Pèlerinage en Terre Sainte: La Basilique de Dor," *Archaeologia* 180-181 [juillet-août 1983], 74.

Ceramics and small finds

Ceramics and glass recovered from the destruction layers are from a narrow band of time [5th to 8th CE], are very consistent, with prevailing types from 6th to 8th CE [Byzantine and Umayyad]. Of note is a fragment from an African Red Slip Ware plate impressed with a cross and the left profile of a woman [Pottery Report, Fig.1, 11].

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Jolanta Mlynarczyk

Pottery Report, Sussita 2002

Abbreviations:

ARS: African Red Slip ware

CRS: Cypriote Red Slip [Late Roman D] ware

ESA: Eastern Sigillata A ware

LRC: Late Roman C [Phocaeen] ware

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I. Topsoil contexts

As in the previous seasons, surface contexts in the central sectors of ancient Sussita [N.NMP, NWC and OPB] yielded examples of pottery ranging in date from 2nd century BCE to the Umayyad period. A single late piece of semi-glazed bowl with a lug handle [**Fig. 1:8**] comes from the OPB area where more examples of this form and ware were found in the past [cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 2:4-5]. Among fine wares pertaining to the end of the Byzantine rule [late 6th-early 7th century] there are fragments of ARS ware form 104C [**Fig. 1:4**] and LRC form 10A [**Fig. 1:6**], as well as of CRS form 9C dated between 580/600 and the end of the 7th century [not illustrated; cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 3:11]. The pottery repertoire of Sussita is also further expanded by residual fragments of much earlier date such as Black Gloss bowl [**Fig. 1:1**] with carinated body and flaring rim, and jar rim [**Fig. 1:4**], both of the 2nd century BCE. Rim of plate in local [?] commonware [**Fig. 1:2**] appears to be a copy of ESA form 28 dated between 10/1 BCE and 15/30 CE [Hayes 1985, pl. IV:12]. Another rim represents a class of commonware bowls known also

from Pella and Gadara [**Fig. 1:5**]; clearly inspired by form 3 of LRC ware, they should be dated to the Byzantine [and Umayyad?] period.

II. Earthquake deposits in the churches [NEC, NWC]

A newly opened area, the so-called North-eastern Church [NEC], yielded ceramic repertoire closely similar to that already known from the debris and destruction deposits of NWC [cf. SusReport 2001]. An outstanding find from the NEC is a fragment of ARS bowl form 104A [**Fig. 1:11**]; the form details and associated stamps [female head and cross] help to fairly accurately place the bowl in 550-575 CE or slightly later. The selection of pottery finds illustrated in this report includes fragments of CRS forms 2 and 9B dated to the 6th and 7th century respectively [**Fig. 1:9-10**], as well as examples of commonware vessels, among them a rim of grey-ware basin [**Fig. 2:1**], wheel-made unlike most vessels of this type. A complete Umayyad-period lamp [NEC 02.024] is of the same fabric and from the same mould as lamp **Fig. 9:2** found in the NWC. Fragments of another lamp [**Fig. 9:1**] pertain to the same period.

Sealed destruction deposits of the NWC yielded few pottery. Typical for the context are fragments of cooking ware lids [**Fig. 2:4-5**] and the upper half of a jar [**Fig. 2:3**], its lower part still buried under collapsed W 241 in the south aisle, it clearly belongs to the small assemblage found against the same wall in the previous season [cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 4]. A complete lamp found in front of the southern aisle's chancel screen [**Fig. 9:2**] is closely matched by a lamp from the NEC; another such lamp was discovered under the collapsed chancel screen of the north aisle of the NWC in 2001 [SusReport 2001, fig. 8:1]. These parallel finds appear to be a proof of local lamp production at Sussita in the Umayyad period.

Destruction fills at the entrance to the south portico of the atrium of NWC contained an interesting assemblage of household vessels such as fragmentary jars, „craters”, cooking pots and lids [Fig. 3]. Most of them doubtlessly pertain to the final period of use of the atrium and the north-south street. A rim fragment of a fine-ware bowl [Fig. 3:1] seems to be an unique example of Egyptian Red Slip ware of the late 6th to 7th century [cf. M. Rodziewicz, *La céramique romaine tardive d’Alexandrie*, Varsovie 1976, 54, group O].

III. Earthquake debris between the Forum and the NWC

Earthquake debris explored in sectors N.NMP and OPB, which cover the area of a vast industrial complex with oil- and wine-pressing installations, contained numerous sherds of the Byzantine and Umayyad-period pottery, not to mention some residual material of the 4th and 5th century. The latest examples of fine wares in these contexts are fragments of CRS form 9C [Fig. 4: 4-5] dated to between 580/600 and the end of 7th century, as well as a rim of LRC form 10B[?] [Fig. 4:6] of a late 6th or early 7th century date. The chronology of commonware pottery is definitely less known; we can only suppose that some of the types were still in use during the Umayyad period. Apart from closed vessels [jars, cooking pots and juglets], a variety of bowl forms should be noted [Fig. 4:9-13].

IV. Pottery dating the latest floor found to the south of NWC

In the OPB area, a small group of pottery fragments was found under an earthen floor of the industrial complex. The latest fine-ware potsherd in this group which supplies a *terminus post quem* date for the floor in question is a rim of bowl LRC form 3F [Fig. 5:2]. Attributed to the second quarter of 6th century CE, this form is accompanied by sherds

of household vessels of apparently similar chronology. The same stratum in the adjacent N.NMP sector contains CRS form 2 and LRC form 3H [Fig. 5:6-7 respectively], with a commonware bowl matching the latter [Fig. 5:8], indicating for the final arrangement of the area a date after the first quarter of 6th century [and probably later].

V. Stratification in N.NMP area

Va. In the N.NMP, an extension of area NMP-N explored in 2001, an important stratigraphical sequence of contexts has been noted. Below the above-mentioned late Byzantine stratum [Fig. 5:6-9], *Loci* 407 and 415 were exceptionally rich in commonware pottery [for its selection, see Fig. 5:10-20 and Fig. 6:1-9] which should be interpreted either as material accumulated during a long use of the Roman floor [F 417/F 418] or as contents of a levelling layer. These *loci* yielded a great quantity of cooking ware vessels, mostly the Galilean bowls and cooking pots the abundance of which could not be accidental. Indeed, it is suggestive of massive food preparation which, given the absence of any remains of domestic architecture of that period, should possibly be connected to ritual banqueting.

The repertoire of cooking ware vessels, mostly Kefar Hananya products with a few presumably local counterparts is rather narrow. The group of Kefar Hananya bowls comprises all the variants of form 1, specifically 1A [Fig. 6:3-4, and about 10 others], 1B [fig. 6:5 and other three], 1C [Fig. 6:7-8 and other four], 1D [Fig. 6:6 and another one], and 1E [Fig. 6:9], the last being the latest one, dated to between mid-3rd and earlier 5th century CE. A greatly prevailing cooking pot type is Kefar Hananya form 4C [Fig. 5:19-20] represented by fragments of no less than 16 pots, dated to between early 2nd and mid-4th century. Of interest is also the presence of two whole lamps [La 02.01-02] and fragments of six

others, all representing the same Syrian type [**Fig. 9:5**] of 2nd into 3rd centuries CE [cf. Hadad 2002, 16-20, type 7]. Made in worn moulds, they are doubtlessly products of a local/regional workshop.

Vb. Also the material found directly on the floor level [F 417/F418] consists nearly exclusively of commonware vessels. Actually, it does not seem to substantially differ in date from that of *Loci* 407 and 415. A cooking pot rim of Adan-Bayewitz form C4B [**Fig. 6:15**], if not intrusive, establishes the final date for this deposit at the mid-4th century [or even later]. At Capernaum, however, the *floruit* period of cooking pots with this particular rim profile falls in *ca.* 300-450 CE. [cf. Cafarnao II, cooking pots C2, fig 10:1-4]. An interesting feature of this context is the presence of fragments of several juglets, presumably of one basic form [**Fig. 6:10-12**].

Vc. Pottery **Fig. 7:1-5** comes from Loc. 420 which is the first context found directly under the floor level [F 417 or F 418]. It contains fragments of domestic vessels of early Roman date, the latest of which is bowl of Kefar Hananya form 1B [**Fig. 7:4**] pointing to the construction date of the floor not earlier than in the 1st/2nd century CE.

Vd. Material excavated in Loc. 421 [directly under Loc. 420] belongs to an earlier stratum with deposits of Early Roman and Late Hellenistic date. So far, this is the earliest stratified pottery assemblage of Hippos. It is characterized by a fairly high ratio of fine wares, mainly ESA such as **Fig. 7:7-11** and **Fig. 8:1-2**, plus many unillustrated fragments including those of plates form 3 [1645.4] and form 6 [1651.8] of 2nd/1st century BCE. Other fine ware categories are represented by Colour-Coated dishes, bowls and lids [**Fig. 7:6** and **Fig. 8:1** and **3-4**] of Late Hellenistic date, and by grey-ware mould-made small vessels of unknown function [**Fig. 7:12-13**]. The repertoire of table and personal vessels not illustrated in this report includes fragments of olpe and

oinochoe [both in Colour-Coated ware], as well as of spindle-shaped unguentarium and juglet [both in plain ware]. One should also mention the rims of two cast-glass bowls [1645.1-2].

Two rather rare commonware forms are present in this assemblage. One of them is fragmentary crater [Fig. 7:16] made of the same pale-coloured fabric as three storage jar rims [Fig. 8:10-12], and another is an imported frying pan of the Italian *orlo bifido* type [Fig. 7:17], presumably of late 2nd century BCE.

The cooking ware material does not include any Kefar Hananya pottery. Cooking pot rims showing four different forms are of one basic fabric, at each times fired „metallic” hard, dark grey at break and dark reddish brown at surface. Doubtlessly, they should be identified as the local/regional products. Among the globular cooking pots, the best represented form [cf. Fig. 7:18 and Fig. 8:8] clearly originates in the „neckless triangular rim cook pot” present at Tel Anafa in 300-250 BCE [Anafa, pl. 20, PW 182-183], and corresponds to Diez Fernandez T 10.4 dated to the 1st century BCE. Another form with Early Hellenistic roots is „neckless” cooking pot Fig. 8:9 [cf. Anafa, PW 186]. Rim fragment Fig. 7:19 is dated by its Kefar Hananya counterparts to between mid-1st century BCE and mid-2nd century CE [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 124-125, form 4A]. However, the chronology of accompanying fine wares is definitely in favour for dating our fragment to the early part of the 1st century BCE. Even more puzzling in this context is the presence of two rims of carinated pots [Fig. 8:6-7] traditionally attributed to the Roman period [cf. Abila, fig. 71]. This inconsistency between the dating of imported fine wares and that of local/regional cooking wares found in the same context will be the subject of further study.

VI. Pottery from the ASE area.

The assemblage of pottery discovered during the exploration of the west end of the ASE building in the eastern part of Hippos is a very homogeneous one. It consists nearly exclusively of commonware vessels, mainly jar fragments [Fig. 8:15-17] dated rather broadly to 6th-7th centuries CE. No closer can we date casserole fragment [Fig. 8:14] of a regional type which began in mid-4th century CE [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 156-159, Competing Form C3A] to be still used in the Umayyad period [Capernaum I, 69-71]. This domestic pottery is accompanied by only one example of fine ware, that of LRC form 3F datable to *ca.* mid-6th century.

FIGURES

Fig. 1. Select pottery from upper layers [1-8] and from the debris of NEC [9-12]

1. Fragment of bowl [1614.14]; fabric reddish grey [5 YR 5/2] with black glossy slip mottled reddish brown. Cf. PCC type 151.3 C; first half of 2nd century BCE.
2. Rim fragment of plate [1214.10]; orange fabric [2.5 YR 5/4] with grey core and tiny white grits; 1st century CE.
3. Rim fragment of dish [1603.8]; CRS form 2 [Hayes 1972, 374-375, fig. 80:1-2], *ca.* mid-5th century CE.
4. Base fragment of dish/bowl [1601.4]; ARS form 104C [Hayes 1972, 166, fig. 30:23]; *ca.* 550-625 CE.
5. Rim fragment of bowl [1668.18]; fabric brick-red [5 YR 5/6] with some fine dark grits. Cf. J. Mlynarczyk, Pottery report, in A. Segal, *Report on the Susita Urban Survey*, University of Haifa 1999, fig. 2:12-14; Susita pl. I:13; Pella I, pl. 43:1304; from Gadara: W. Karasneh in *ADAJ* 39 [1995], 33 [top]; a similar fragment from the same site [*ibidem*,

34] has horizontal handles suggesting its use as a cooking bowl. Probably late 5th and 6th century CE.

6. Rim fragment of dish/bowl [1601.3]; LRC form 10A [Hayes 1972, 343-346], dated to late 6th and early 7th century CE.

7. Rim fragment of jar [1668.3]; fabric fired pinkish white [5 YR 8/1-8/2], rather porous. Cf. PPC, type 11.2; second half? of 2nd century BCE.

8. Fragment of bowl [1214.11]; fabric light red [2.5 YR 6/6] with red [grog?] particles; surface fired between pink-orange [5 YR 7/4 – 6/4] and pale orange [7.5 YR 7/6 – 7/4]; runs of dark green glaze inside, mottled brown near bottom. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 2:4-5; 6th [to 7th ?] century CE.

9. Fragment of lower part of bowl [1814.021]; CRS form 2 [Hayes 1972, fig. 80:10], late 5th to earlier 6th century CE.

10. Rim fragment of bowl [1813.011]; CRS form 9B [Hayes 1972, 381-382, fig. 81:7], *ca.* 580/600 to end of 7th century CE.

11. Large fragment of lower part of dish [NEC 02.013]; ARS form 104 A [?] with poorly impressed decoration of which there remain female head [Hayes 1972, stamp 249A, fig. 52e] and cross [*ibidem*, stamp 335, fig. 57g]; *ca.* 550-575 CE [or slightly later].

12. Fragment of lid [1809.014]; fabric very thick and gritty, dark brick-red with sand particles; surface light brick-red inside, dark brown outside.

Fig. 2. Select pottery from NEC [1-2] and from destruction deposits of NWC [3-6]

1. Fragmentary rim of basin [1806.022]; hard and clean ash-grey fabric [7.5 YR 6/0], wet-smoothed dark grey surface [7.5 YR 4/0] with grooved decoration. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 2:1; 7th into 8th century.

2. Fragment of rim with handle of crater [1801.001]; gritty brown fabric [7.5 YR 6/4] with many voids; surface fired light reddish brown [5 YR 6/4] inside, coated with thin pale pink slip [7.5 YR 7/4] outside, with occasional lime eruptions.
3. Upper half of jar P 02.05 [1050.10], fabric very hard light red [2.5 YR 6/6], surface fired dark brown [5 YR 4/3 „reddish brown”]; cf. Capernaum I, fig. 60:2; similar: Kursi, fig. 7:1.
4. Fragment of lid [1051.15]; fabric very dark reddish brown. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 3:8; Capernaum I, fig. 52:35; Kursi, fig. 6:13-16 [parallels from Pella and Bet Shean]; Khirbat Karak, pl. 54:17.
5. Fragment of cooking bowl [1051.14]; reddish brown fabric with voids and whitish grits, brown surface. Cf. J. Mlynarczyk, Pottery report, in A. Segal, J. Mlynarczyk, M. Burdajewicz, *Hippos [Sussita], First Season of Excavations*, University of Haifa 2000, fig. 2:3 [Cafarnao II, type C7; Adan-Bayewitz 1993, competing form C3A]: mid-4th to 5th century [and later].
6. Fragmentary rim of jar [1044.3] with grooved decoration; gritty pink fabric with some sand, surface pinkish beige. Comparable to „Umayyad Brown Ware” ceramics from Abila, cf. Abila, 89, fig. 37.

Fig. 3. Select pottery from fills at the entrance to the south portico of the atrium of NWC

1. Fragment of dish [1691.18]; rather gritty brick-red fabric, slightly micaceous at surface, pale pink slip worn off the rim; Egyptian Red Slip A [?] type 3 [Hayes 1972, 391, fig. 85f], dated to late 6th and 7th century; cf. M. Rodziewicz, *La céramique romaine tardive d’Alexandrie*, Varsovie 1976, pl. 29: O 40-41.

2. Fragment of rim and handle of cooking pot [1691.13]; fabric very gritty dark brick-red with large lime eruptions; thin beige slip.
3. Rim and shoulder of cooking pot [1691.12]; fabric gritty brick-red with occasional fine white grits, surface dull orange-brown mottled dark grey.
4. Fragment of lid [1691.14]; fabric gritty dark brick-red; surface fired red-brown inside, and dark brown-grey outside. See above, Fig. 2: 4.
5. Fragment of cooking bowl [1691.15]; fabric very gritty dark brick-red; outer surface very dark grey. Cf. Khirbat Karak, pl. 54:13.
6. Rim fragment of jar [1691.9]; fabric orange-red with some red particles [grog?] and fine sand; surface greyish brown. For profile, cf. Capernaum I, fig. 60:49, Byzantine stratum.
7. Shoulder fragment of jar [1670.1]; light red fabric with fine white grits, pink surface [7.5 YR 8/4]. Cf. Abila, fig. 37 [„Umayyad Brown Ware” ceramics].
8. Rim fragment of crater [1691.1]; fabric gritty brown [5 YR 6/4], surface light reddish brown [near 5 YR 7/4].
9. Rim fragment of crater [1691.11]; fabric gritty grey-brown [5 YR 4/2]; surface orange [7.5 YR 7/4] to light beige [10 YR 8/3] with lime eruptions. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 4:2 [parallels from Kursi and Capernaum], Byzantine/Umayyad.
10. Fragment of crater [1700.1]; form and ware as previous. Closely similar to SusReport 2001, fig. 4:2.

Fig. 4. Select pottery from earthquake debris between the Forum and the NWC

1. Rim fragment of plate [1648.12]; ARS form 67 [Hayes 1972, 114, fig. 19] of *ca.* 360-470 CE, or perhaps form 60 [*ibidem*, 100, fig. 15 no. 3] dated to the second half of 4th century CE.

2. Base fragment of dish [1658.19]; LRC form 2A [Hayes 1972, 327-329, fig. 66:2, n. 2], between *ca.* 370 and mid-5th century CE.
3. Base fragment of dish [1659.7]; LRC form 1A [Hayes 1972, 325-327, fig. 65:1, n. 3], late 4th – early 5th century CE.
4. Rim fragment of dish [1622.2]; CRS form 9C [cf. Report 2001, fig. 3:11], *ca.* 580/600 to end of 7th century CE.
5. Rim fragment of dish [1669.2]; CRS form 9C [Hayes 1972, 380, fig. 82:9, n.13], date as above.
6. Rim fragment of dish/bowl [1659.8]; LRC form 10B [?] [Hayes 1972, 343-346, fig. 71:7], late 6th – early 7th century CE.
7. Rim of goblet[?] [1608.9]; fabric thin-walled, metallic-hard brick-red [5 YR 5/8] with tiny grits [dark and white], surface reddish brown [5 YR 5/3].
8. Rim of goblet [?] [1648.11]; fabric thin-walled, light pink [7.5 YR 8/4], surface orange-pink mottled light reddish brown.
9. Rim of bowl/lid [1608.2]; fabric metallic-hard reddish brown [5 YR 5/6], slightly darker at surface. Cf. Kefar Hananya form 2 [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 110, no. 1], dated to between early 4th and earlier 5th century CE.; SusReport 2001, fig. 3:7.
10. Rim of cooking ware bowl [1653.21]; fabric metallic-hard reddish brown [5 YR 5/6]; cf. Susita, pl. I:2; related to Kefar Hananya form 1E[?] or Golan form G1[?] [Adan-Bayewitz 1993], dated from mid-3rd to 5th century CE.
11. Rim of bowl/lid[?] [1608.7]; fabric gritty brick-red [2.5 YR 4/6] with white grits. Cf. Susita, pl. I:4; Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 175, no. 2: Form G1E, date as previous.
12. Rim of bowl [1221.3]; fabric gritty beige [10 YR 7/3], light brown surface [10 YR 6/4].
13. Rim of bowl [1652.9]; fabric pale pinkish brown, commonware.

- 14.** Rim of cooking pot [1658.9]; fabric gritty dark red-brown [7.5 YR 5/4 to 5/6]. Cf. Susita, pl. III:9-10; Khirbat Karak, pl. 53:39; Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 159-162: competing form C4A dated to between mid-4th and earlier 5th century CE.
- 15.** Rim of cooking pot [1653.3]; fabric brick-red [5 YR 5/6] with „pitted” surface of the same colour. Form and dating as previous.
- 16.** Rim of basin [1653.2]; coarse yellowish pink fabric. Cf. Khirbet Karak, pl. 58:6.
- 17.** Rim of jar [1659.2]; fabric yellowish red, surface fired greyish brown. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 2:8; Abila, fig. 50:B [„Byzantine”].
- 18.** Rim of jar [1659.1]; fabric as the previous one. Cf. Cafarnao II, fig. 9 [jars C1]; Abila, fig. 52 [„Byzantine”].
- 19.** Rim of jar [1653.7]; brownish red fabric, very hard, with black surface. cf. Abila, fig. 49 [„Byzantine”]; Susita, pl. IV:4; SusReport 2001, fig. 5:2.

Fig. 5. Select pottery from Byzantine contexts in OPB [1-5] and N.NMP [6-9] sectors, as well as from Roman/Late Roman *Loci* 407 and 415 [10-20]

- 1.** Rim fragment of dish [1215.4]; LRC form 1A [Hayes 1972, 325-327, fig. 65:1, n. 2], late 4th – early 5th century CE.
- 2.** Rim of dish [1218.4]; LRC form 3F [Hayes 1972], second quarter of 6th century CE.
- 3.** Rim fragment of bowl/lid [1218.9]; fabric brick-red [5 YR 5/8] with occasional black grits, surface red [between 2.5 YR 6/8 and 5/8]; cf. Golan form G1E [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 175, no. 2], dated between mid-3rd and earlier 5th century CE.

4. Rim fragment of casserole [1211.1]; fabric gritty brown [5 YR 4/6] with reddish brown surface [5 YR 5/3]. Cf. Susita, pl. III:11; Khirbet Karak, pl. 53:25; Capernaum I, 70, fig. 52:20-21; Cafarnao II, 48, type C5, fig. 11:3 [„Late Roman and Byzantine”].
5. Rim fragment of jar [1211.5]; fine pink fabric [5 YR 7/6], hard baked with beige surface [10 YR 8/3].
6. Rim fragment of dish [1671.3]; probably CRS ware form 2 [Hayes 1972], late 5th – early 6th century CE.
7. Rim fragment of dish/bowl [1692.6]; LRC form 3H [Hayes 1972, 338, fig. 68:28], first third of 6th century.
8. Rim fragment of bowl [1692.7]; fabric metallic-hard, dark grey at break [7.5 YR 4/6 strong brown]; surface bright red with lime eruptions. For the type, see above, Fig. 1:5.
9. Rim fragment of jar [1671.2]; fabric metallic-hard, thoroughly dark grey; cf. Cafarnao II, class B, fig. 8:4.
10. Rim of jar [1633.2]; fabric very hard baked to dark purple grey; cf. Abila, fig. 43:A-B [in different ware, attributed there to the Umayyad period].
11. Rim of jar [1612.1]; sandy beige-coloured fabric with light red core. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.10, dated to *ca.* 200-325 CE.
12. Rim fragment of juglet [1612.5]; fabric pink [5 YR 7/4], surface nearly white [10 YR 8/2]. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 6.3[?], dated to *ca.* 250-350 CE.
13. Rim fragment of juglet [1612.6]; fabric brick-red with fine black grits, surface reddish brown. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 6.2[?], dated to *ca.* 200-300 CE; see, however, also Anafa, PW 130 [Galilean ointment pot] of 1st century CE.
14. Rim fragment of jug [1613.6] and non-joining part of ribbed body; fabric brownish red.

15. Base fragment of juglet [1613.5]; fabric reddish yellow [7.5 YR 6/6] with many fine white grits, surface paler pink [7.5 YR 7/4].
16. Bottom fragment of juglet [1613.7]; fairly dense fabric, thoroughly white [10 YR 8/2]. Cf. Abila, fig. 56D [„Byzantine juglets”]; Diez Fernandez 1983, T 8.3[?] dated to *ca.* 75-300 CE.
17. Rim of casserole [1613.26]; fabric fired dark grey, surface dark reddish brown. Golan form G3B [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 176], early 2nd to latter 4th century CE; also closely similar: Abila, fig. 71C [Roman].
18. Rim of cooking pot [1613.27]; dark grey fabric, slightly gritty at surface. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 10.10, dated to *ca.* 70 BCE – 70 CE.
19. Fragment of cooking pot [1621.14]; Kefar Hananya form 4C, early 2nd to mid-4th century CE.; cf. Khirbat Karak, pl. 53:32-33.
20. Fragment of cooking pot [1613.25]; Kefar Hananya form 4C.

Fig. 6. Pottery from *Loci* 407 and 415 continued [1-9] and from the level of Roman floor [10-20]

1. Fragment of cooking ware bowl/lid [1613.23]; fabric brown-red with thin brown core and reddish brown surface. Golan form G1E [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 175], mid-3rd to earlier 5th century.
2. Fragment of cooking bowl [1613.24]; fabric brown-red with lime eruptions to reddish brown surface.
3. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.16]; Kefar Hananya form 1A [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 88-91], latter 1st to latter 3rd century CE.
4. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.19]; Kefar Hananya? form 1A, overfired to very dark brown, date as above.
5. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.18]; Kefar Hananya form 1B[?] [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 91-97], 1st/2nd century to mid-4th century CE.
6. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.20]; Kefar Hananya form 1D [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 100-103], mid-3rd to latter 4th century CE.

7. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.11]; very hard and dense, with greyish core where thick; Kefar Hananya form 1C[?] [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 98-100] or Golan form G 1C[?]; mid-3rd to latter 4th century CE.
8. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1633.1]; Kefar Hananya form 1C, dated as above.
9. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1613.13]; Kefar Hananya form 1E [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 103-109] dated between mid-3rd and earlier 5th century CE.
10. Juglet missing neck, rim and handle [P 02.01: 1634.20]; fabric fine beige [10 YR 7/3] with tiny circular voids[?]; surface grey-beige [10 YR 7/2]. Probably similar to „Roman cooking ware juglet” from Anafa, PW 441, dated to *ca.* 75-20 BCE, and to fragmentary juglet from Roman cemetery at Mani [Irbid], cf. H. Ta’ani, in *ADAJ* 39, 1995, 15.
11. Base of juglet [1634.7]; pink fabric with „sandwich” firing [7.5 YR 7/4 inside, 5 YR 7/6 outside]; cf. Abila, fig. 56 D.
12. Base of juglet [1635.2] similar to the previous one; fabric pale beige [5 YR 8/2], surface darker beige [5 YR 7/3]; cf. Abila, fig. 56 A; Diez Fernandez 1983, T 8.3[?] dated to *ca.* 75-300 CE; see also above, Fig. 5:16.
13. Fragment of rim and handle of juglet [1634.6]; whitish fabric [10 YR 8/2]; Diez Fernandez 1983, T 8.3 dated to *ca.* 75-300 CE.
14. Rim fragment of cooking pot [1634.10], very hard fabric, grey at break, light reddish brown at surface. Judaeen cooking pot type[?], cf. PCC type 72.2 [0-70 CE]; Anafa, 93-94, PW 227 [early 1st century CE].
15. Rim fragment of cooking pot [1634.9]; extremely hard fabric fired very dark grey, vitrified inside rim. Competing form C4B [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 162-164], latter 4th to latter 6th century; cf. Cafarnao II, fig. 10:1-4, with *floruit* in the Late Roman period [ca. 300-450].

16. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1634.12]; Kefar Hananya form 1A [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 88-91], latter 1st to latter 3rd century CE.
17. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1634.13]; Kefar Hananya form 1B [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 91-97], 1st/2nd to mid-4th century CE.
18. Rim of jar [1634.5]; fabric beige-pink with whitish surface [10 YR 8/2].
19. Rim of jar [1634.3]; pink gritty fabric with pale beige surface [10 YR 8/3]; cf. Abila fig. 50:C [„Byzantine”].
20. Rim of jar [1634.4]; sandy pink fabric with white and brown grits, pink surface [7.5 YR 8/4]; see above, Fig. 5:11.

Fig. 7. Select pottery found right below the level of F 418 [1-5] and in Early Roman layer of Loc. 421 [6-20]

1. Rim fragment of cooking pot [1640.11]; „metallic” hard fabric, dark grey at break, dark reddish brown at surface. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T.10.4 dated to 1st century BCE; see also SusReport 2001, fig. 7:14.
2. Rim fragment of deep casserole [1640.9]; fabric brownish red [between 2.5 YR 5/4 and 5/6] with medium-grey core where thick; smooth surface with occasional lime eruptions. Probably Golan form G3A [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 176], mid-1st century BCE to mid-2nd century CE.
3. Rim fragment of bowl/lid? [1640.10]; „metallic” hard fabric, dark grey at break, dark reddish brown at surface. Cf. perhaps Anafa, 120, PW 333-336 [„Galilean bevelled lip cooking ware lid”], dated to 1st century CE.
4. Fragment of cooking ware bowl [1640.13]; Kefar Hananya form 1B, 1st/2nd century to mid-4th century CE.
5. Rim fragment of jar [1640.1]; fabric sandy beige [7.5 YR 7/4 to 8/4] with lots of fine lime grits and voids. Cf. Abila, fig. 77C [„Hellenistic White ware”]; PCC type 11.2, dated to 175-100 BCE.

- 6.** Rim fragment of plate [dish?] with everted/drooping rim [1644.15]; fine beige fabric [10 YR 7/3] with some voids; matt reddish brown slip mottled brown on rim exterior, slightly worn. Cf. PCC type 153.1; first half[?] of the 2nd century BCE.
- 7.** Base fragment of fish plate [1644.8]; ESA form 1 dated to before 100 BCE [Hayes 1985, pl. I:1].
- 8.** Base fragment of bowl/cup [1644.11]; ESA form 22A[?], large version, end of 2nd to end of 1st century BCE [Hayes 1985, pl. III:11].
- 9.** Rim and body fragment of bowl/cup [1644.12]; ESA form 22A, first half of 1st century BCE? [Hayes 1985, pl. III:10].
- 10.** Rim fragment of small plate? [1645.6]; ESA form 2A[?], second half of the 2nd century BCE [Hayes 1985, pl. I:3].
- 11.** Rim and body fragment of plate [1644.13]; ESA form 12; 40 BCE to 10 CE [Hayes 1985, pl. II:10]
- 12.** Fragment of upper part of small mould-made vessel [1644.17]; ash-grey dense fabric with fine white and tiny grey grits; outer surface darker grey and slightly glossy.
- 13.** Rim fragment of small mould-made vessel [1645.3]; fabric as the previous one.
- 14.** Rim fragment of jar [1644.2]; pale red fabric with many voids, white and grey grits, light red surface [2.5 YR 6/6]. Cf. PCC type 11.3:B-C [from Beth-Zur, dated 175-165 BC]; 2nd century BCE.
- 15.** Rim fragment of jar [1646.2]; fabric light red [near 2.5 YR 6/6] with voids and abundant fine white grits; pinkish beige slip [7.5 YR 7/4]. Cf. PCC type 11.2:C [from Beth-Zur and Shechem]; 2nd century BCE.
- 16.** Fragment of rim and body of crater with root of horizontal handle [1646.1]; slightly sandy pink fabric [7.5 YR 7/4], beige surface with large lime eruptions. Form close to PCC type 45.1:A [without handles, from Qumran, 50-31 BCE].

17. Rim fragment of frying pan [1644.16]; fabric gritty brick-red with many voids, some glistening particles and lime eruptions; surface pinkish brown, partly blackened by fire. Cf. Anafa, PW 279-281 [„Italian *orlo bifido* pan”], present there by 125 BCE.

18. Rim fragment of cooking pot [1646.4]; fabric metallic hard with dark grey core and dark reddish brown surface. Cf. Fig. 7:1 above. *Ca.* mid-1st century BCE [or earlier?].

19. Rim fragment of cooking pot [1644.19]; smooth fabric, dark reddish brown with thin dark grey core. Golan form G4A [Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 177], *ca.* mid-1st? century BCE.

20. Fragment of rim with handle of cooking pot [1646.3]; fabric very hard, light brown [5 YR 5/4] with abundant fine white grits [occasionally large]; surface deep reddish brown, wet-smoothed. Derivative of Anafa, PW 184 [neckless plain rim cook pot] of 3rd century BCE.

Fig. 8. Select pottery from Late Hellenistic deposit in Loc. 421 [1-2] and from debris of the ASE area [13-18]

1. Non-joining parts of echinus bowl [1651.3]; fabric brown [near 7.5 YR 6/4], very sandy [prevalence of white grits] with grey core. Cf. PCC type 151.1, probably 2nd century BCE.

2. Bowl/cup [P 02.04: 1651.1]; ESA form 21? [second half of 2nd century BCE] or 22A? [late 2nd BCE to late 1st BCE], cf Hayes 1985, pl. III: 9 and 11.

3. Rim fragment of relief bowl [1651.4]; fabric yellowish pink, red slip with brownish shade. Rhodian? For profile, see PCC type 158 D [Samaria, context of 75-55 BCE].

4. Rim fragment of Colour-Coated lid[?] [1652.3]; fairly dense beige fabric [7.5 YR 8/2] with lime eruptions and faint traces of brown slip. Cf. PCC type 62 [lid with vertical sides dated to 50 BCE – 68 CE].

5. Rim fragment of saucer/lid [1651.6]; fabric brick-red [2.5 YR 6/6] with many circular voids and occasional large white grits. Form similar to Anafa, pl. 19, PW 174-175 [different fabric] present there from the late 1st century BCE on.
6. Rim fragment of open cooking pot [1652.7], metallic-hard grey fabric with dark reddish brown surface. Related: Diez Fernandez T 14.2, occurring at *ca.* 25-250 CE; Cafarnao II, A 16; Abila, fig. 71:B [„Roman cooking pans”].
7. Rim fragment of open cooking pot [1652.6], fabric and form as previous, slightly different profile. Cf. Abila, fig. 71:A [„Roman cooking pans”], related to Anafa, pl. 33, PW 287-290 [ledge rim pan] where it first appears at the late 1st century BCE.
8. Rim fragment of neckless cooking pot [1652.5]; fabric reddish brown [5YR 5/4] with grey core and dark brownish red surface. Cf. above, Fig.7: 1 and 18.
9. Fragment of rim with handle of cooking pot [1652.4]; fabric with grey core and dark brownish red surface. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 7:13; S. Loffreda, *Ceramica del tempo di Gesù*, Gerusalemme 2000, 77-78, fig. 164 *ca.* 63 BCE – 70 CE.
10. Rim fragment of jar [1651.2]; sandy pink fabric [7.5 YR 7/4], beige surface with lime eruptions and red-brown grits [grog?]. Diez Fernandez 1983, Type 1.5 [no. 61], *ca.* 63 BCE to 75 CE].
11. Rim fragment of jar [1651.7]; fabric very sandy [white grits prevailing], light brown [7.5 YR 5/4] with beige surface. Cf. PCC type 11.2, dated 175-100 BCE; Anafa pl. 58, PW 484, present there by *ca.* 125 BCE.
12. Rim fragment of jar [1652.2]; fabric sandy, pink at break [7.5 YR 7/4], beige surface with lime eruptions and brown to red-brown grits [grog?]. Cf. PCC type 11.3 [dated 200-29 BCE].

13. Rim of dish/bowl [2005.8]; LRC form 3F [Hayes 1972, 334-335, fig. 69: 24], *ca.* mid-6th century CE.
14. Rim and handle of casserole [2005.5]; fabric gritty brick-red, surface reddish brown inside, brown-grey outside with lime eruptions. Cf. Susita pl. III:11; Capernaum I, 69-71, fig. 52:32.
15. Rim fragment of jar [2001.3]; fabric gritty brown [5 YR 6/4], surface light reddish brown [near 5 YR 7/4], fairly smooth. Cf. Capernaum I, fig. 60:22-23 [different fabric] from Umayyad stratum.
16. Rim and shoulder of jar [2001.2]; very hard bright orange-red fabric with some red [grog?] grits, sand and some oblong voids; surface dark grey to brown inside, light reddish brown to grey outside. Cf. Abila, fig. 43A [different fabric, Umayyad]; Susita pl. IV:1. See also D. Avshalom-Gorni, A Burial Cave of the Byzantine Period at Bet She'an, *'Atiqot XXXIX* [2000], 54*, fig. 9:12.
17. Rim and shoulder of jar [2001.1]; fabric as the previous one. Cf. Abila, fig. 43B [different fabric, Umayyad]; Capernaum I, fig. 60:22 [Umayyad stratum].
18. Rim of deep basin? [2001.7]; coarse pale reddish brown fabric with brown-grey core. Cf. Report 2001, fig. 3:1 [decorated], and fig. 2:10; probably related to Cafarnao II, fig. 14:14.

Fig. 9. Select terracotta lamps from sectors explored in 2002.

1. Fragment of upper half of mould-made lamp [1811.018]; pink fabric, beige surface. Cafarnao II, 96, type 11; related? to Capernaum I, fig. 70:11; Umayyad period.
2. Complete lamp [La 02.09: 1051.3] made in a worn mould; workshop mark on base: six-spoked wheel; traces of burning; fabric fired pinkish beige [7.5 YR 7/4] at surface. Cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 8:1 [with close parallels from Alexandria, Egypt]; for the type, see Cafarnao II, type L 9;

Capernaum I, Variant D; Hadad 2002, 94-95, type 36, nos. 417-419 [with similar workshop mark]. Umayyad period.

3. Fragment of shoulder of mould-made lamp [La 02.14: 1046.21]. Fabric light reddish brown [2.5 YR 6/4] with some tiny dark grits. For type, cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 8:3; Diez Fernandez type L 8.2 dated between late 1st century and first half of second century CE.

4. Body fragment of mould-made lamp with handle [La 02.13: 1218.12]. Fabric pale beige [10 YR 8/3] with some voids and occasional dark grits; surface beige with pink spots; remains of orange-brown glossy slip. For type, cf. SusReport 2001, fig. 8:6; Diez Fernandez type L 9.3; probably first half of 4th century CE.

5. Complete lamp [La 02.01: 1616.1] made in a worn mould; traces of burning at wick-hole. Fabric fired yellowish pink [7.5 YR 7/4] at surface, with traces of fugitive red coating. Hadad 2002, Bet Shean type 7. Similar lamp pattern: Hayes 1980, 87-88, no. 356, pl. 42: 2nd century CE [„probably rather later”].

6. Fragment of mould-made lamp [La 02.12: 1725.1], slight burning on nozzle. Fabric thoroughly ash-grey, very hard and clean. Cf. J.W. Hayes, *Ancient Lamps in the Royal Ontario Museum*, Toronto 1980, 17, no. 65, pl. 8: late 2nd to 1st century BCE.

TWO MOSAIC INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH IN HIPPOS¹⁹

Two mosaic inscriptions have been found in the south aisle of the church uncovered by the Israeli-Polish archaeological expedition to Hippos in Galilee. The inscription no. 1 [Fig. 32] is located in the intercolumnium between the second and the third column of the colonnade separating the main aisle from the south one. The one-line text is laid between a geometric panel of the intercolumnium and the plait bordering the mosaic in the south aisle to be read from the side of the nave. The inscription is 188 cm long. Height of the letters varies from 7 cm to 4 cm. Letters shifted to mark abbreviations are smaller. With respect to palaeography, the letters represent round epigraphic majuscles. Note that *epsilon* at the beginning of the inscription is a square one.

εκαρποφορισεν ΗΔΩΡΑ εις λογ(ον) του ψηφ(ιου) νο(μισματος)
το (ημισυ)

read εκαρποφορησεν

Heliodora [?] [cf. commentary] offered half of the nomisma for the costs of the mosaic.

The reading of the name of the woman who made the offering makes difficulties. As far as I know the personal name Ηδωρα has not been attested thus far; the formation of the name is unclear and, even, impossible. In view of that I am inclined to think that the mosaicist or the redactor of the inscription has committed a mistake or has recorded the name in an abbreviated version. The most plausible solution is to read

¹⁹ I would like to thank Jolanta Mlynarczyk and Mariusz Burdajewicz for their invitation to publish these inscriptions and for supplying me with all necessary data.

Η(λιο)δώρα, a common name attested also in Christian milieu, e.g. in *ICUR* I 4003; IX 24807 and 25997; *Bull.épigr.* 1973, 482 [from Apamea in Syria].

The abbreviated word ψηφ(), either masculine or neuter [cf. the article του], refers to the mosaic or to the process of laying of a mosaic. The most probable reading is: του ψηφ(ιου) as admitted above. It is suggested by the common use of the neuter το ψηφιον = “mosaic” in mosaic inscriptions from Palestine. Another possibility would be: του ψηφ(οθετηματος), but the word ψηφοθετημα = “the process of laying of a mosaic” is very rare and has not been attested in Palestinian inscriptions thus far.

The reading νο(μισματιου) is also possible. In the Late Antiquity, νομισμα [νομισματιον] was a *terminus technicus* for the Latin *solidus*, a gold-coin in weight of 4 γραμματα [*scripula*] = ca. 4.45 g; cf. K. Maresch, *Nomisma und Nomismatia. Beiträge zur Geldgeschichte Ägyptens im 6. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* [Papyrologica Coloniensia XXI], Opladen 1994, p. 1. In the 6th century half a *solidus* was a considerable sum of money, big enough for living of a single person for half a year.

The inscription no. 2 [Fig. 31] is found in the east part of the south aisle in the right angles to its axis. It is to be read by a person approaching from the west. The one line text is surrounded by a double rectangular frame measuring 209 cm by 20 cm. At the beginning of the inscription, the letters are bigger and more widely spaced than in the closing part. Height of the letters varies from 8 cm to 4 cm. Palaeographically, the letters are identified as round epigraphic majuscles. It should be noted that *omikron* in the abbreviated word νο(μισματος) has assumed the

form of a point. Note also trema above *iota* in the letters' sequence ΚΩΚΑΙ.

εκαρποφορησεν Πετρος ΚΩΚΑΙ νο(μισματος) το (ημισυ) *

Petros offered half of the nomisma [- - -] [for the costs of the mosaic].

There are several possibilities to read the letters' sequence ΚΩΚΑΙ which follows the name of the person who made the offering: 1] It is an abbreviated word κωκαι(), otherwise unattested, referring to this man and giving additional information about him, e.g. his patronymic or ethnic or occupation. 2] It is to be read as κω() και. With this reading the abbreviated word κω[] would designate an object, possibly some kind of church equipment, that Petros offered in addition to half of the *nomisma*. 3] This may be the nomen sacrum κ(υρι)ω followed by και. The meaning would be: "Petros offered to the Lord as much as half of the *nomisma*". The decision which of these three possibilities is the right one is the matter of future research.

The two inscriptions presented above are votive texts commemorating the offering made by two pious members of the Christian community of Hippos who donated half of the *nomisma* each for the costs of a mosaic pavement in one of the local churches. It is possible that Petros offered, in addition to money, also some kind of church equipment [cf. commentary]. Both inscriptions are constructed according to a closely similar pattern with the verb *εκαρποφορησεν* at the beginning, followed by the mention of the name of the person who made the offering and the indication of the amount of money at the end,

recorded in the same abbreviated version. This similarity of the form suggests that both inscriptions [and both donations] were contemporary with each other. The mosaic the laying of which was financed from the donation of Heliadora [?] and Petros was that in the south aisle or in the entire church.

Mosaic pavements of ecclesiastic buildings with inscriptions of votive character are common phenomenon in the Late Antiquity throughout the Eastern Mediterranean including Palestine. However, they rarely mention amount of money offered by the donors as it is the case in the two inscriptions from Hippos. The last element is paralleled by the mosaic inscription from a church in Idyros [Eastern Lycia] which states that five men including archdeacon, monk, lector, wool-worker and major-domo donated 14 *solidi* in total, apparently for the costs of laying of the mosaic [for the publication of the inscription, see S. Sahin, *Epigr. Anatol.* 33, 2001, p. 151 f.; an improved reading in: A. Lajtar, *Epigr. Anatol.* 35, in print]. Amounts of money donated by different benefactors are often indicated in contemporary mosaic inscriptions from the Jewish synagogues in Palestine.



Adam Lajtar

Dept. of Papyrology
Institute of Archaeology
University of Warsaw

<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Bas. No.</i>	<i>Loc. No.</i>	<i>Weight (Gm.)</i>	<i>Diam. (Mm.)</i>	<i>Axis</i>	<i>Obverse</i>	<i>Reverse</i>	<i>Date (CE)</i>	<i>Mint</i>	<i>Bibliography</i>	<i>IAA No.</i>
						Roman Provincial Commodus (177-192)					
4	1612	406	7.40	23X24	↑	Bust of Commodus, Laureate undraped r. (Legend effaced)	Tyche, wearing turreted crown, and long chiton, stg. l. holding horse by bridle, in l. <i>cornucopiae</i> , (Legend effaced)	Year 248 (= 184/5)	Hippos	Spijkerman 1978: P. 176, Nos. 25-26	
						Roman Imperial Valerian I (253-260), Antoninian					
5*	1625	415	4.30	21X23	↑	IMP CP LIC VALERIANVS AVG Bust of Valerian, Radiate and draped r.	RESTITVT ORIENTIS Emperor stg. l., receiving wreath from Orient stg. r., In exergue: A (Effaced)	254-255	Antioch	<i>RIC V (1):</i> P., No. 287	
						Roman Provincial Gallienus (253-268)					
6*	1677	415	8.10	23	↑	IMP CAES LIC GALLIEN [...] Bust of Gallienus Radiate r.	COL ΔAM METRO Tripod (<i>Agonistic table</i>)		Damascus	Cf. Rosenberger 1978 (IV): P. 32, No. 62	
						Roman Imperial Salonina Wife of Gallienus					
7*	1674	415	3.25	22	↓	SALONINA AVG Bust of Salonina, Resting on crescent r.	IVNO REGINA Juno stg. l., holding long scepter, At feet l. bird, above *	259-268	Antioch	Cf. <i>RIC V (1):</i> P.200, No. 92	
						Diocletian (284-305), Antoninian					
8*	1214	285	3.60	23	↓	IMP CC VAL DIOCLETIANVS PF AVG Bust of Diocletian, Radiate and cuirassed r.	IOV ET HERCV CONSER AVGG Jupiter r. with globe and scepter Facing Hercules with Victoria, Club and lion's skin, Between: Γ, in exergue: XXI	285	Antioch	Cf. <i>RIC V (2):</i> P.256, No. 323	
						The House of Constantine Constantius II, (337-361) Second son of Constantine I and Fausta					
9	1718	Surf.	2.10	15	↑	DN CONSTANTIVS PF AVG Bust of Constantius r. Diademed (rosettes)	Within wreath: VOT / XX / MVLT / XXX In exergue: SMANB	341-346	Antioch	<i>LRBC I:</i> P.31, No.1398	

Constans, (337-350)										
Youngest son of Constantine I and Fausta										
10	1713	Surf.	3.80	22	↑	DN CONSTA NS PF AVG Bust of Constans I, Diademed (pearls) holding globe	FEL TEMP REPARATIO Virtus, head turned back l. holding spear in l. hand leading barbarian to r., from hut beneath tree; spear held transversely, In exergue: SMKA	346-350	Cyzicus	<i>LRBC II:</i> P.96, No.2475
The Later Roman Empire issue										
Valentinian III										
(425-455), nummus										
11	1710	Surf.	1.30	11	↑	Bust r.	VICTORIA AVGG Victoria l., Wreath in r. hand dragging captive with l. (Mint missing)	425-455	Roma?	<i>Cf.LRBC II:</i> P.63, No.863
Umayyad										
Anonymous, fals										
12*	1716	Surf.	4.00	15		In field: الله حد الله الصمد Marginal legend: لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له	In field: محمد رسول الله Marginal legend: بسم [الله ضرب هذا الفس] بطبرية	c. AH 116 (=734 CE)	Tabariya	Walker 1956: P. 269, No. 898; <i>SNAT</i> 1993: P. 32, Nos. 341-44

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