

Dor End of Season 2010 Areas D4: Supervisor's Report

Preliminary Information / Credits

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Locus Bank: L10D4-600 – L10D4-678

Basket Bank: 10D4-6001 – 10D4-6999

Image Bank (D/V): HSB: 10D4-6601 – 10D4-6622; TL (Recorder): 10D4-6001 – 10D4-6026; TL (Sq Sup.) 10D4-6801; SM: 10D4-6101- 6114; PTT: 10D4-6501- 6520; KLV: 10D4-6701-6740

Image Bank (P): HSB: 10D4-9601- 9628; TL: —; SM: 10D4-9001- 9029; PTT: 10D4-9501- 9524; KLV: 10D4-9701-9711

Updated Locus Cards: W04D1-050*; W04D1-067*; W04D1-068*; W04D1-169*; W05D4-060; W07D4-040*; W07D4-061*; W08D4-340*; W08D4-363 (referred to as "the crypt" in previous EOS reports); L09D4-584 ("column feature"); L09D4-571; L09D4-585; L09D4-577; L08D4-385.

**These walls were removed during the course of the 2010 season, see their full description in the end of the document.*

Report Written By: Sarah Culpepper Stroup; Jessica Nitschke

General Introduction

This End of Season Report focuses on the 2010 excavation season of Area D4, which is situated on the southern margin of the tell. As past excavations in this area have shown, the southern margin of the tell was devoted, in the Roman and Hellenistic periods, to various forms of industrial activity, and involved several sub-stages of construction and expansion, as is typically the case with tell constructions.

Area D4 is, as a whole, implicated in a far larger architectural complex indicative of non-dwelling activity. At the Roman strata, this complex included features such as waterproof basins, drains, pipes; several tabuns, and a possible millstone area, all of which point to local, and likely industrial or trade-related, economic activity. At the Hellenistic strata, we see both the predecessors of many of the later Roman walls (which themselves reused many of the former) and yet a marked difference in the overarching scale of the buildings. On the whole, the Hellenistic buildings of this area were constructed on approximately the same rough N-S axis, but on a rather grander scale. Whereas the Roman period construction on the tell consisted of walls built of field-stones

and reused ashlar and architectural fragments, the Hellenistic period construction in this area consists of massive header-stretcher and “compartment” walls. The only possibly Persian-period constructions, at present, appear to consist of a field-stone wall.

Overview

The 2010 excavation by the UW team continued on approximately the same scale and extent as from 2007-2009, with a total of ten (slightly increased from nine, in 2010) squares excavated in full or in part: AN/15 (NW quadrant of such); AN/16 (W half of such); AN/17 (W half of such); AO/15 (N half of such); AO/16; AO/17; AP/15 (N half of such); AP/16; AP/17; and AP/18.

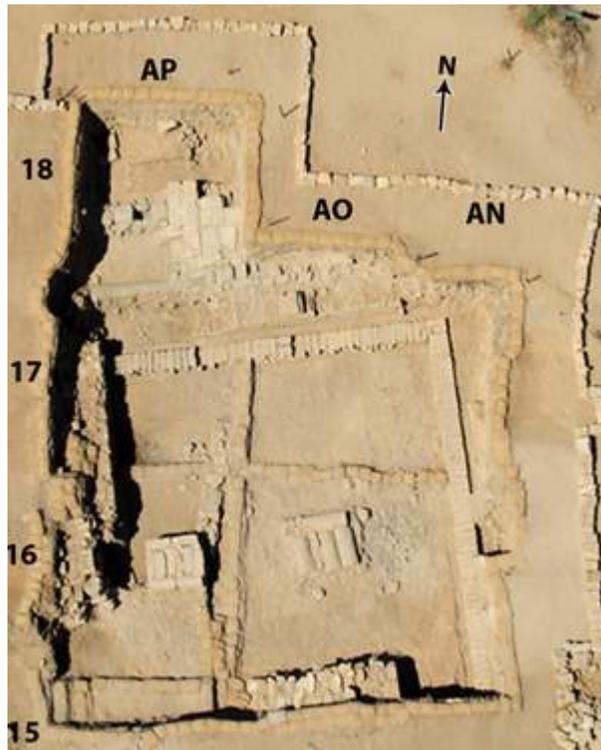


Figure 1. Area D4, aerial photo (end of season).

The most significant difference in the extent of the excavations this year is our decision to return to AP/15, from which we took a hiatus in the 2009 season, due to the exceedingly disturbed nature of this square (AP/15; cf. 2009 EoS Report). The relations of this area to those immediately around it—AO/15-16 to the east, and AP/16 to the north—and especially the relations between this square and W04D1-169 and especially, W08D4-363, however, necessitated a return to this square in order to properly determine our phasing of D4.

The architectural structure of Area D4 is such that, in years past, EoS reports have considered the excavation in terms of northern and southern “units” each divisible into subunits or (apparent) “rooms” (cf. 2009 EoS Report, with aerial shots of the “rooms” visible at the end of that season). Although this method of consideration of the Area

continued into early this past season, continued excavation of D4—excavation which has included the removal of most of the later, Roman-period walls by which these “rooms” had been delineated—has recommended a switch from our earlier “room” terminology to a more standard “grid square” terminology (i.e., AP/16, etc.). Cross-reference, where it has seemed useful (but hopefully without overdoing it), is included here.

As in 2009, excavation in AN-AO/15-17 focused on the removal of the remaining structures associated with the Roman period complex of phases 1a to 2b (see the list of the removed walls and their descriptions in the end of the document):

Approximately on a N-S axis: W04D1-050, W07D4-061, constructed on top of its southern extent, and W04D1-067.

Approximately on a E-W axis: more or less parallel walls W04D1-068, W04D1-169, and W07D4-100 running west of W04D1-050, and, W07D4-040 dovetailing with *one* large ashlar extending, to the east, from wall W04D1-050.

Stratigraphic and Phasing Summaries of AN-AP/15-17



Figure 2. Area D4 looking south (p10D4-9648).

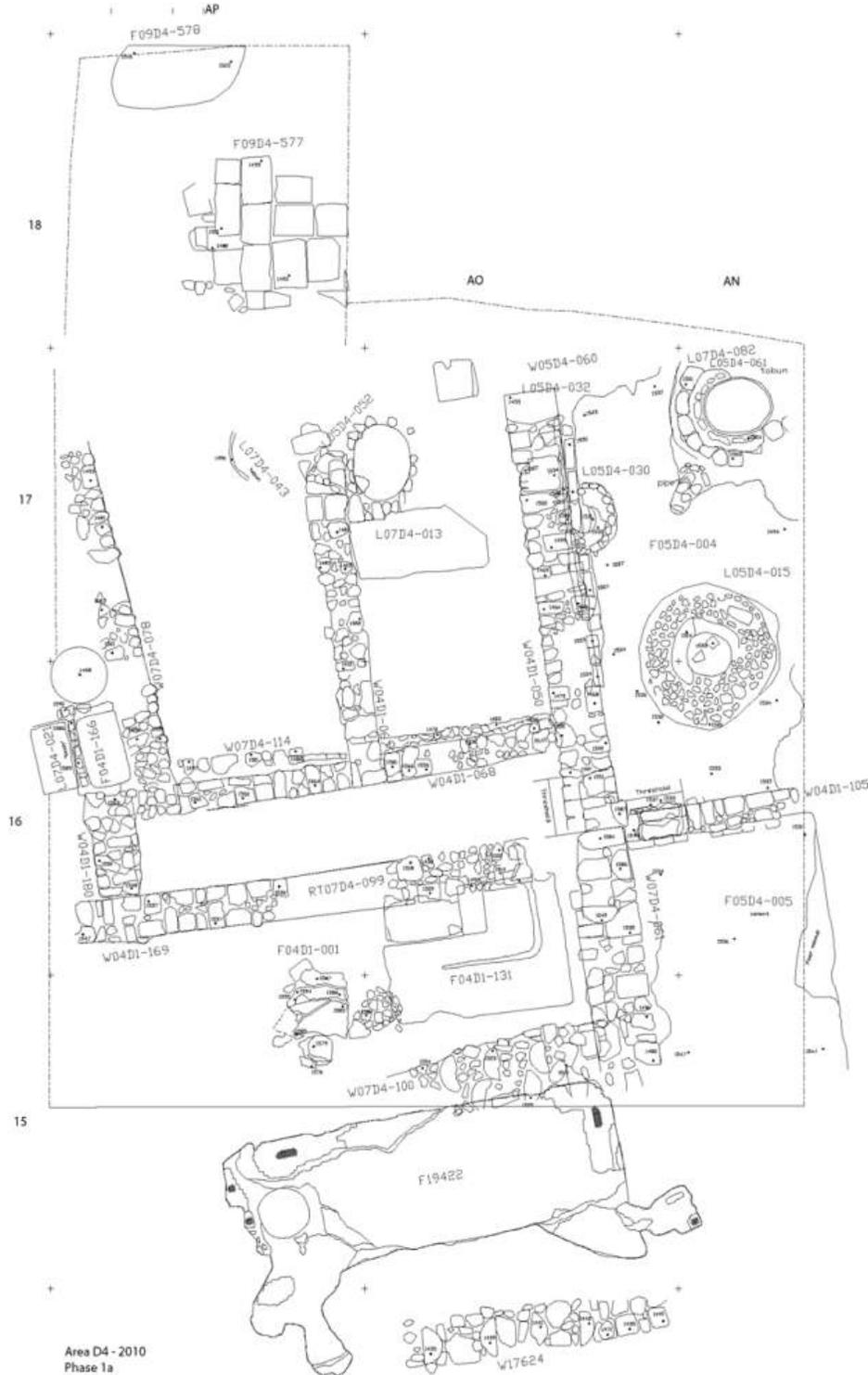
In course of the removal of remaining Roman-period (phase 1 through phase 2) structures we focused on clarifying the ways in which these structures related to the earlier structures below.

Phasing notes for AN-AP / 15-17 follow; only features re-phased this season are included for phases 1 and 2.

Phase 1a-c:

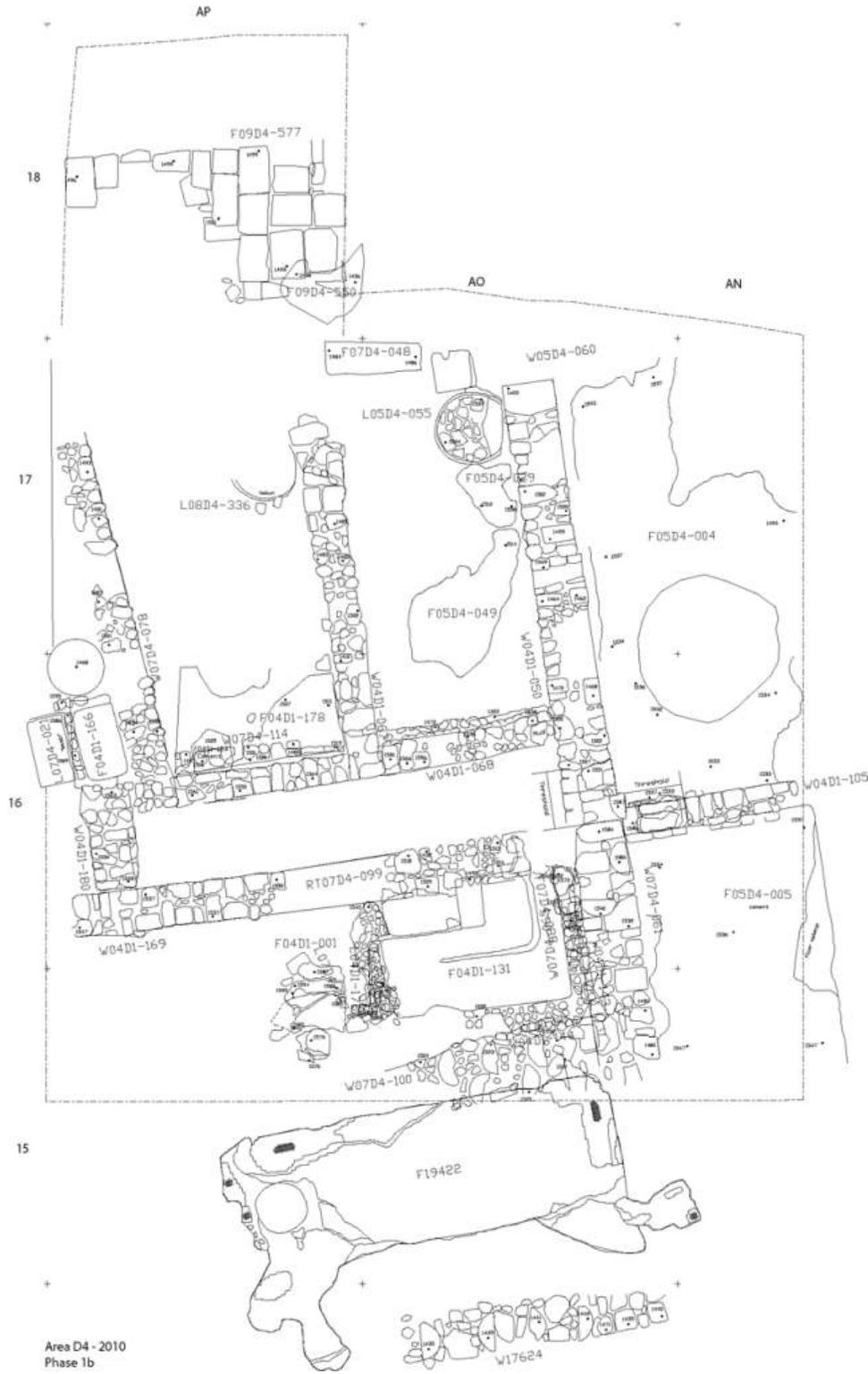
No major changes to the previous stratigraphy scheme (see 2008 preliminary report) were made this season. Yet, we provide here an updated version of Phase 1a-c separation plans.

Phase 1a



Area D4 - 2010
Phase 1a

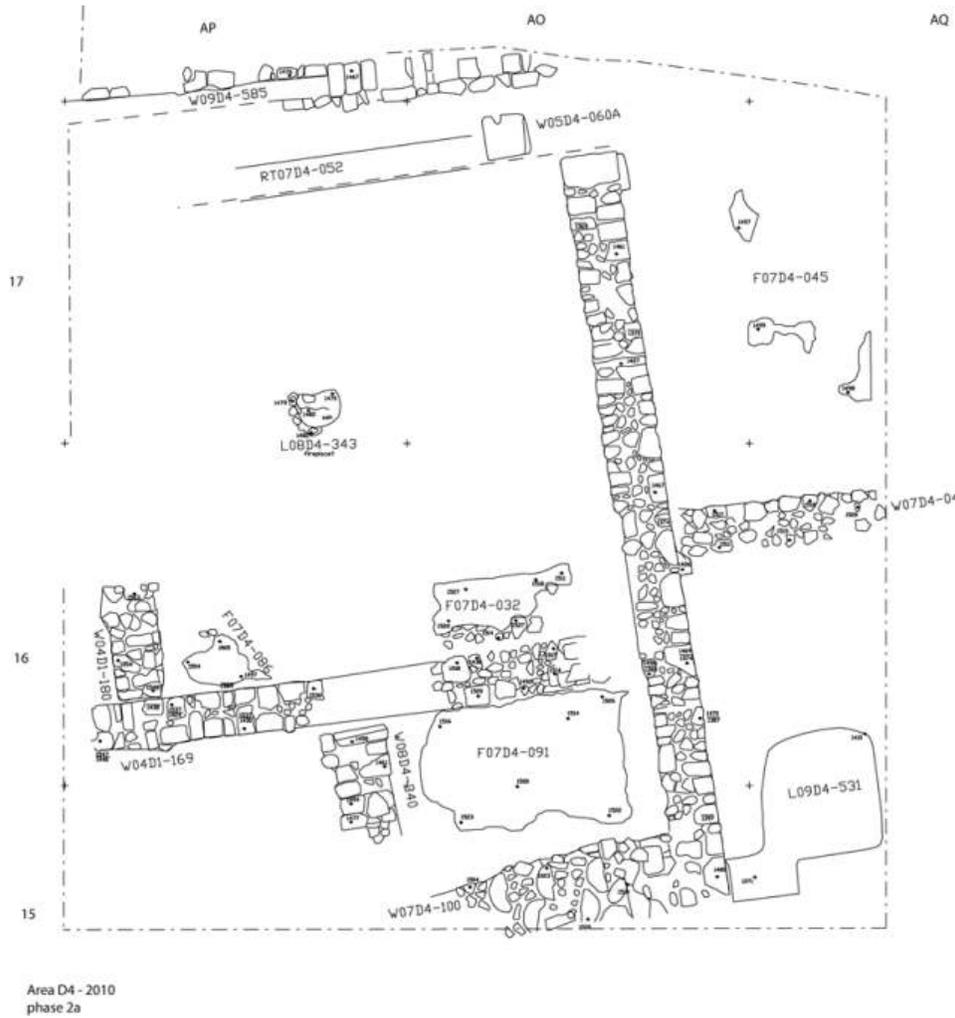
Phase 1b



Area D4 - 2010
Phase 1b

During removal of W04D1-067, dovetailing with W04D1-068, we discovered that it contained two fragments of plaster-coated fluted columns, 09D4-5752 and 10D4-6827.

Phase 2a:



While removing W07D4-180 we found out that it appears to dovetail with W04D1-169 (Fig. 3). This means that instead of our earlier suggestion that W07D4-180 is a later (phase 1) addition, it was built simultaneously with W04D1-169 and was in use already in phase 2.



Figure 3. Relation between W04D1-180 and W04D1-169 (p10D4-9613)

W04D1-050 (see above) in its northern part made a corner with the wide compartment wall W05D4-060B. After removal of W04D1-050, we can be sure, that it was abutting (built against) W05D4-060B, from a much higher level than the latter. It's also clear that the wall was standing on the column-built pillar L09D4-584, a feature regarded to belong to phase 3. Summarizing both these facts we suggest that wall W04D1-050 was built in phase 2, and not in phase 3 as we thought before.

Another interesting discovery regarding this wall was made after removal of W07D4-040, which exposed the eastern face of W04D1-050. These walls were dovetailing, via one ashlar extending from the eastern face of W04D1-050 (Fig. 4).



Figure 4. W04D1-050 dovetailing with W07D4-040 (p10D4-9006).

As for the wall W05D4-060, we don't know which stage of the wall was in use in phase 2: the wide one of phase 3 or the thin one of phase 1. Our guess is that it was W05D4-060A, which went all the way down to the preserved top of the stage B of the wall. This assumption is based only on the fact that the trench, from which the stones of the upper courses of W05D4-060 were robbed (L07D4-052), is not wide enough for this compartment wall. It would perfectly fit, though, to the narrow, one-ashlar width of the late stage of the wall.

Floors assigned to phase 2a at this point are:

F07D4-086

F07D4-032

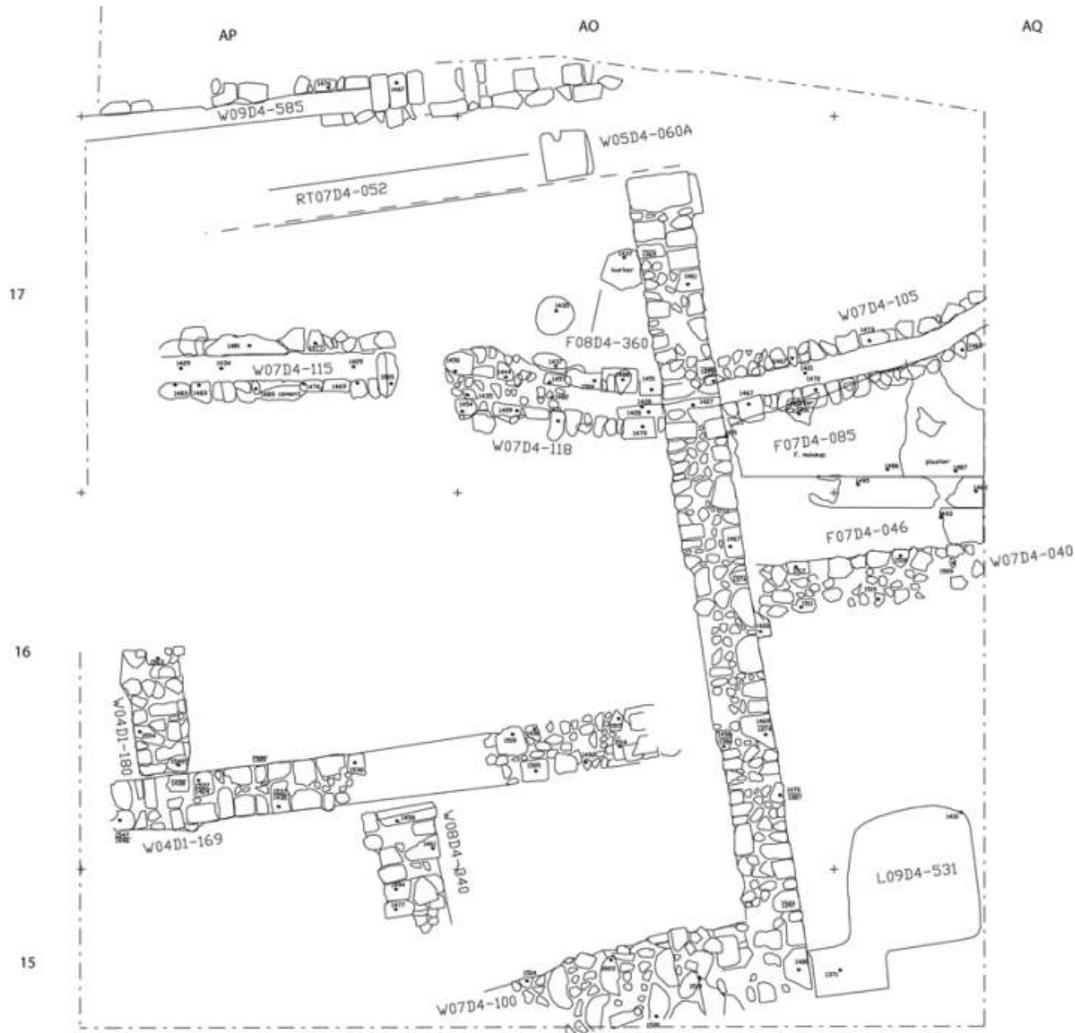
F07D4-091

F07D4-045

F09D4-531

Floor F08D4-385 (=F08D4-324) previously thought to reach the lower part of W04D1-169 and thus to belong to this phase, appears to go under the wall, and thus is earlier than the wall.

Phase 2b:

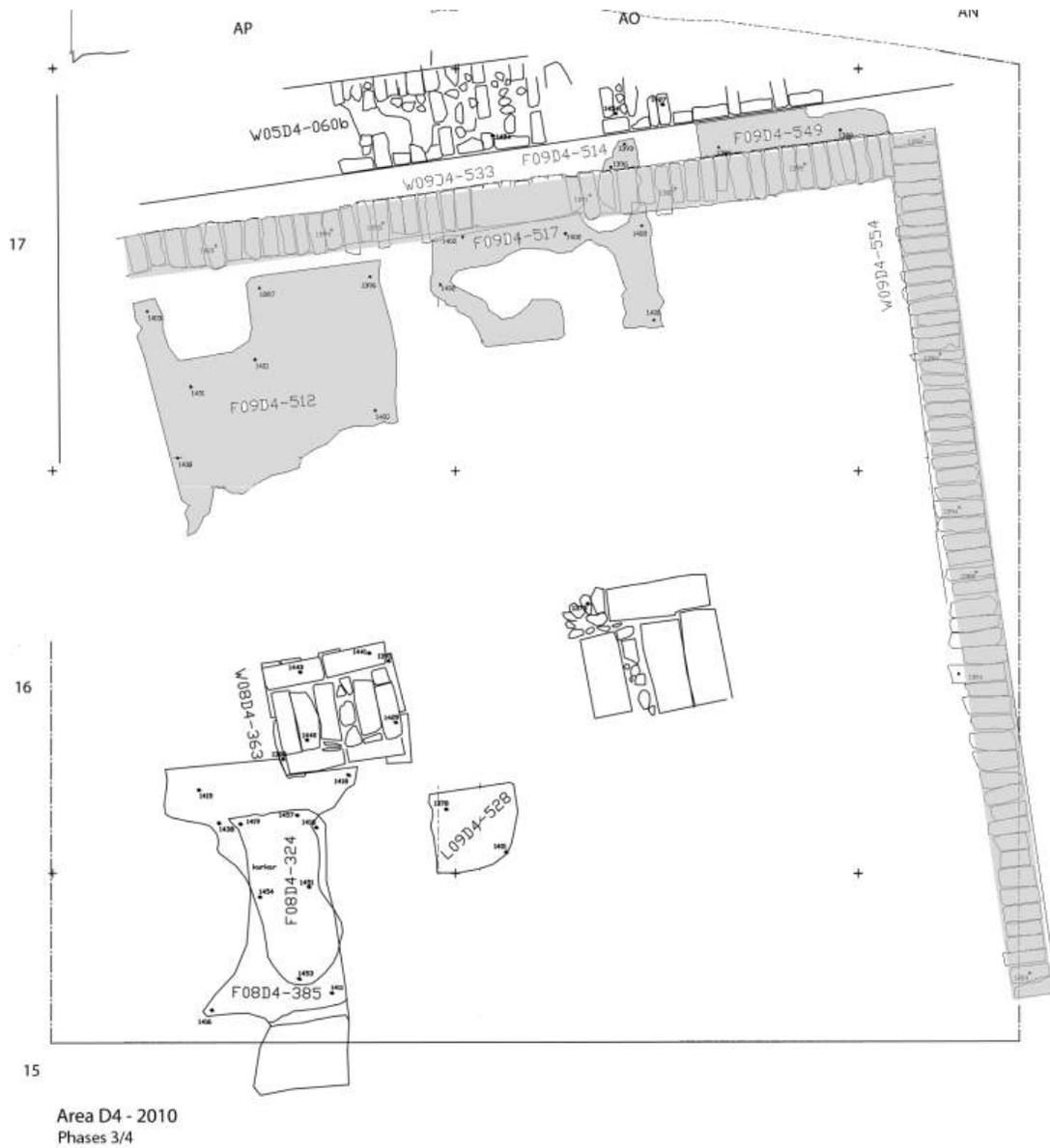


Area D4 - 2010
phase 2b

Apart from removing the installation of W07D4-103 and F07D4-102 no changes were made to the plan of phase 2b in this area.

Here follows the description of two sets of features, which are definitely earlier than phase 2, and later than the only phase 5 wall found so far (see below). The relation between these two building complexes remains uncertain, so we present here three scenario of the stratigraphy of phases 3 and 4.

Phases 3 & 4:



At this point, we have a series of major architectural features that seem to indicate two phases of architectural construction (Fig. 5). However, for reasons that will be explained below, it is difficult to settle on the precise sequence of these structures at this point. These features include:



Figure 5. Area D4 looking north. Main features of phases 3 and 4 (p10D4-9642).

W05D4-060B (east-west compartment wall)

W08D4-363 (“rectangular pier”)

F08D5-324=F08D4-385

L09D4-584 (“column feature”)

W09D4-533 (north-south header wall)

W09D4-554 (east-west header wall)

W05D4-060B, a wide wall with compartment construction visible at the northern edge of the D4 excavation area was further uncovered this season thanks to a collapse of the northern baulk of AO17. It is identical in construction to the north-south and east-west compartment walls in Areas D1 and D2 (W26249, “Big Auntie” and W26000=W17562, “Big Mother” respectively). Presumably, most of the D4 excavation area was part of the inner space of a large building, formed by these (and perhaps other, as yet uncovered) compartment walls, with (at least) two pier-like features. So far, in D4 from this complex we have only this northern wall (W05D4-060B), two piers (W08D4-363 and L09D4-584), and couple of floors in the southern part of the area.

W08D4-363 is a rectilinear feature comprised of two courses of large ashlar arranged in such a way that at first glimpse evokes the impression of a fragment of a large compartment wall. However, its square dimensions, which are roughly the same as L09D4-584 (column feature, see below) and its alignment with said feature have led us to speculate that this feature is a pier of some sort. At the northern and southern margins, later walls W04D1-068 and W04D1-169 were constructed. One of the ashlar retains a mason’s mark [*sigma*]. Like L09D4-584, this feature has not been completely excavated.

L09D4-584 (the ‘column feature’) is a feature of four reused and somewhat poorly preserved fluted kurkar column shafts —10D4-7897; 10D4-7898; 10D4-7899; 10D4-7900—placed together in order to form a rectilinear structure in line with, and of approximately the same size as, W08D4-363; field stones “fill out” the rectilinear

dimensions (Fig. 6). However, it should be noted that L09D4-584 is at a lower elevation, as preserved, than W08D4-363. Although these are column “fragments,” they appear to have been cut, and not broken, prior to deposition, which appears intentional [i.e., this is neither a ‘collapse’ nor, likely, a ‘dump’]. L09D4-584 has not been fully uncovered.



Figure 6. L09D4-584 (the ‘column feature’) looking east (p10D4-9603)

F08D5-324=F08D4-385 is a kurkar surface in AP/15-16, on which was standing ph. 1-2 wall W04D1-169 (Fig. 7). This makes the floor belonging to phase 3, and defines approximate elevation of phase 3 floors in the southern part of the area: #14.53-14.37. Probably this is another fragment of the floor found in L09D4-528 in AO/16, about 1.5 m east of F08D4-385. F08D4-385 reached W08D4-363, the pier feature.



Figure 7. Kurkar surface F08D5-324=F08D4-385 and W04D1-169 standing on it (p10D4-9607).

The remaining features comprise two walls built in header-only construction, W09D4-533 and W09D4-554 (three courses revealed; in the case of W09D4-533 part of an additional upper course of 5 stones arranged in header-stretcher formation was also

preserved; it was mentioned in previous reports as W09D4-518), that make a corner in AN/17; floors F09D4-512 and F09D4-517 seemed to reach the southern face of W09D4-533, and floors F09D4-549 and F09D4-514 reaching its northern face. W09D4-533 appears to run parallel to W05D4-060b, about 40 cm to the south. W09D4-554, which runs north-south, continues into the baulk and can be seen on the other side, where it continued into D2. Its southern extension was excavated in D2 as W17525.

Phase 3?/4? Discussion

Originally, it was believed that W05D4-060b and the two features, W08D4-363 and L09D4-584 belong to phase 3, and the header walls W09D4-533 and W09D4-554 belong to phase 4, based on the following arguments:

- If the upper stage of the compartment wall W05D4-060 existed in phases 1 and 2, then the lower, wide stage (B) must have been in use in phase 3.
- Secondly, the ‘pier’ features were found right under the phase 2 walls: W04D1-050 was built on a corner of the "column feature", while W04D1-169 and W04D1-068 stood partly on top of W08D4-363.
- As was pointed out by A Karasik last year (see EoS report 2009), the N-S walls W04D1-050 and W04D1-067 (phases 1-2) straddle W09D4-533 (ph. 4?) and abut the lower courses of W05D4-060. Therefore, the compartment wall was in use during phase 2, while the header wall was cancelled at that time, and thus suggested to belong to a phase earlier than W08D4-363, i.e. phase 4.
- The floors that seem to reach W09D4-533 are at a significantly lower elevation than the surviving height of W05D4-060b.

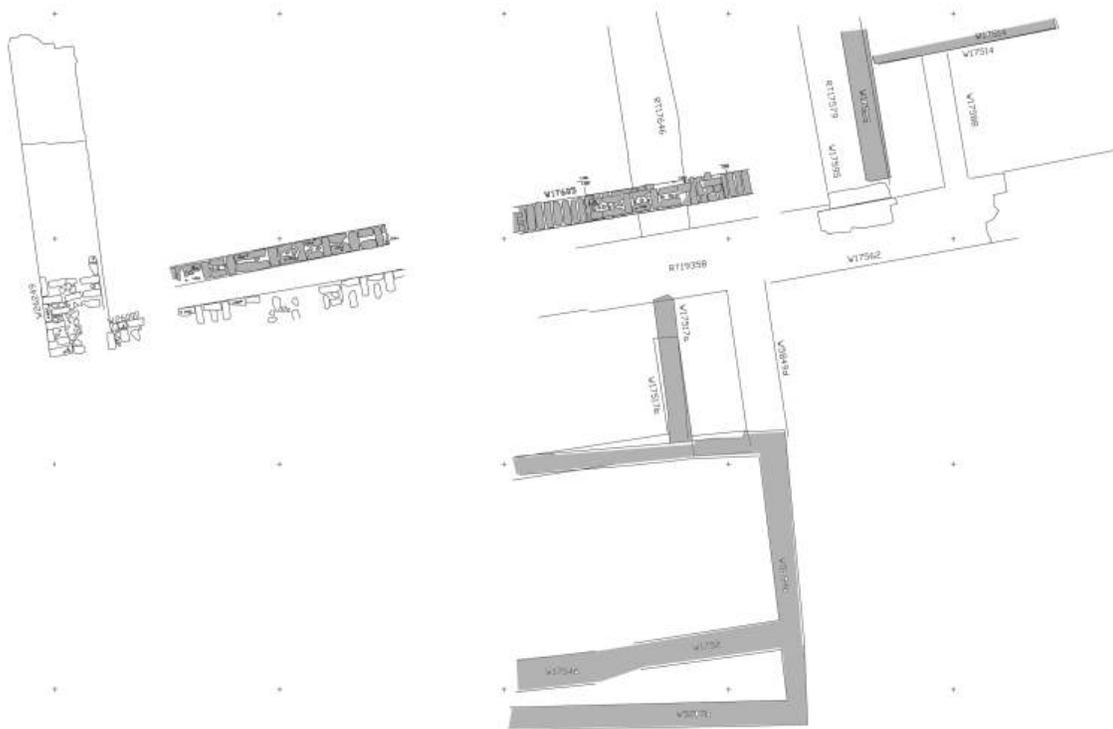


Figure 8. Superposition of compartment walls and header walls in areas D1 and D2

However, the sequence of walls from D2 and D1 seem to contradict this, suggesting that these buildings should be in a reverse stratigraphic sequence (Fig. 8). In Areas D1 and D2 a similar arrangement of a large compartment wall (Big Mother, W26000 (D1) =W17562 (D2)) with a narrow header wall (W17605 in D2) running parallel, about 40 cm to the north, was uncovered. This wall, W17605, makes a corner with header wall W17525 (running north-south), which seems to clearly be the southern extension of W09D4-554. Thus, W17525, W17605=W09D4-554, and W09D4-533 seem to be the southern, eastern and northern walls of a large rectangular structure. The problem lies in the fact that excavation in D2 demonstrated that W17525 and W17605 must be constructionally later to Big Mother (W17562), which appears, based on construction and orientation, be part of the same building as W05D4-060b in D4. So we have two rectilinear buildings, one formed by thick compartment walls, and another, inside this one, formed by thin header walls. In D4, it appears that the building formed by the thin header walls is earlier, whereas in D2, it seems the opposite is true.

How to resolve this? The fact that compartment wall W05D4-060b was reused in D4/2 argues strongly that it was used constructionally in phase 3 as well. This does not, however, mean that it cannot also be earlier than W09D4-533 and W09D4-554; it is possible that W09D4-533 and W09D4-554 were constructed as a modification to the structure created by the wide compartment walls; the builders of the phase 2 structure, then, simply decided to reuse W05D4-060b, but not the thinner header walls. The last (for now) possibility is that the two sets of walls are contemporary, and form a double-wall foundation of a public building of some sort (Fig. 9).

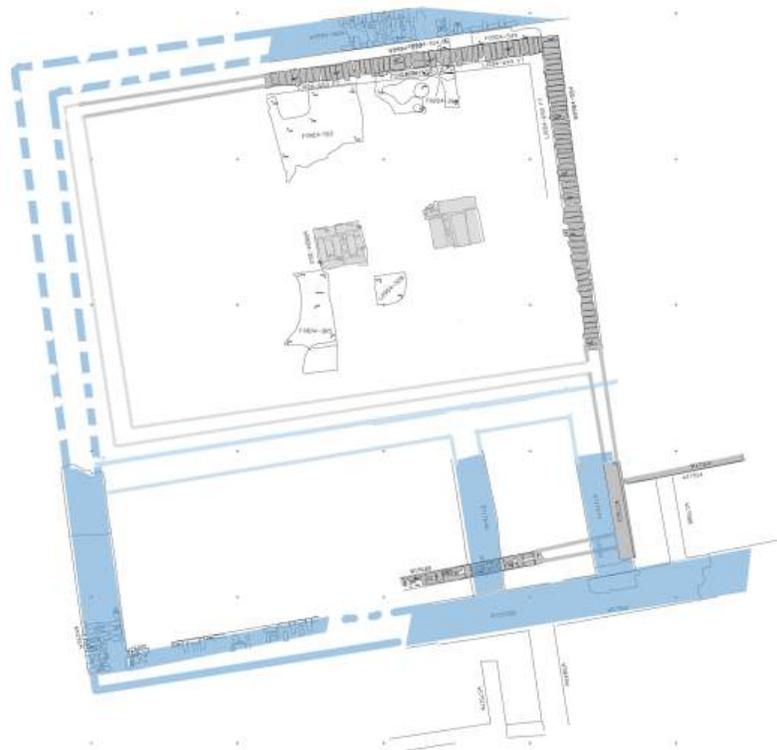


Figure 9. Proposed reconstruction of a double-wall building.

There is no definitive answer for now, so here are the possibilities for D4, both independent of D1 & D2 phasing and taking into consideration D1 and D2 phasing:

Possibility 1:

Phase 3: W05D4-060b; W08D4-363; F08D4-385; L09D4-584

Phase 4: W09D4-533; W09D4-554; F09D4-512; F09D4-514; F09D4-517; F09D4-549

Possibility 2:

Phase 3: W05D4-060b (reused); W09D4-533; W09D4-554;

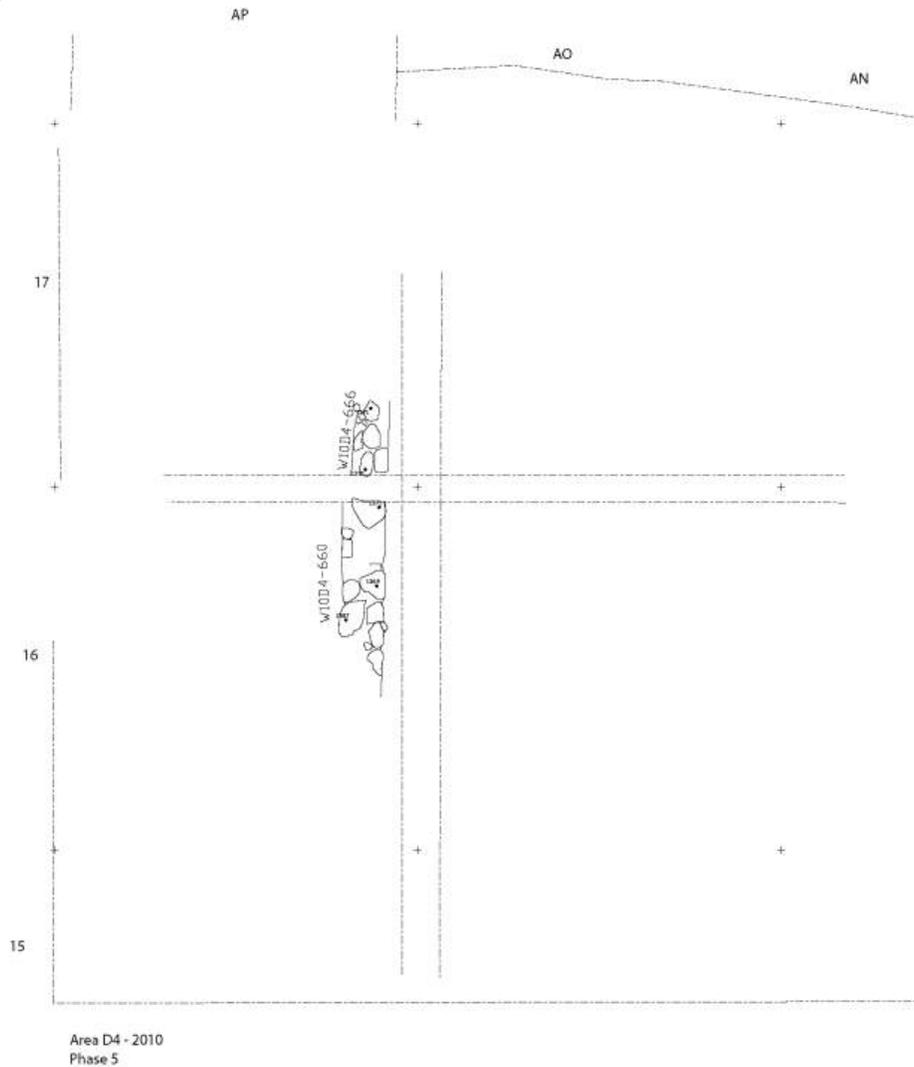
Phase 4: W05D4-060b

In this sequence, there is some question about which phase the connected to W09D4-533 and the pier features should logically belong to

Possibility 3:

The two sets of walls, and thus the remaining features, are all part of the same phase.

Phase 5:



Wall W10D4-660=W10D4-666 was found while excavating down from the second course of W08D4-363. The wall, very poorly preserved, is constructed of large field stones and running on the N-S axes in AP/17-16. It has no continuation in the north, but its southern end appears to continue under W08D4-363 (Fig. 10), which makes this wall the earliest feature in the area. Two wall numbers are technical, and refer to the wall fragments in two dif. squares: W10D4-660 in AP/17, and W10D4-666 in AP/16. No floors associated with this wall were found so far, but since the top of the preserved part of the wall is about 13.80-13.70 high, we can assume, that approximately from this level downwards the fill is deposited against phase 5 features, and thus earlier than all the phase 4 architecture in the area.



Figure 10. Wall W10D4-660 under W08D4-363, looking west (p10D4-9632).

Key Loci for AN-AP/15-17

L10D4-617
L10D4-618
L10D4-619
L10D4-631
L10D4-636
L10D4-637
L10D4-638
L10D4-649
L10D4-652
L10D4-650
L10D4-665
L10D4-668
L10D4-676
L10D4-671

Architectural Phasing of AP/18

Analysis by: *J. Nitschke*

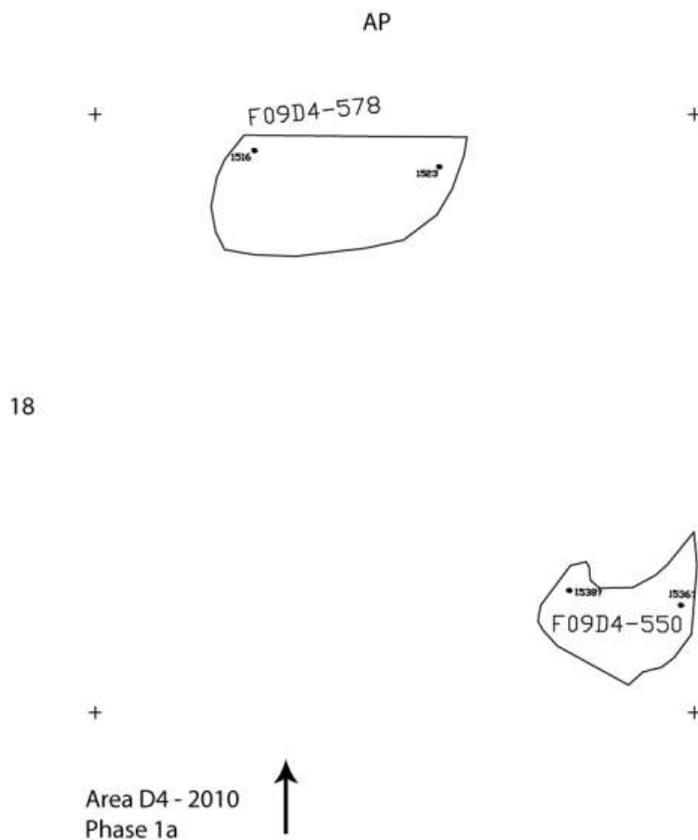
AP/18 was opened from topsoil only in 2009; a large sand pit divides much of the stratigraphy from that of the squares to the south. As AP/18 is still at a considerably higher elevation than the rest of the area, we continue to consider its architectural phasing separately. By the end of the excavation season, there were 3 clear phases with some subphasing; to what extent these phases correlate with the phasing of the rest of the area remains unclear at this point.

Phase 1a:

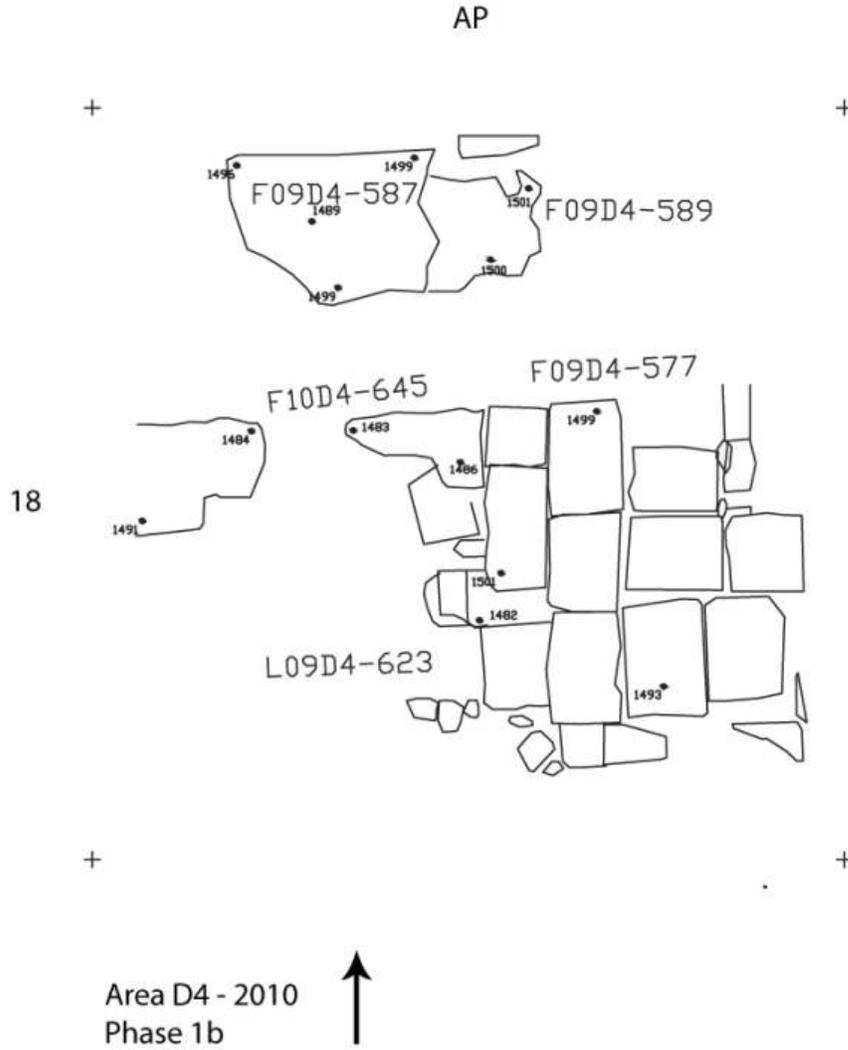
F09D4-578

F09D4-550

The features of Phase 1a were excavated in 2009; F09D4-578 and F09D4-550 are patchy floor fragments.



Phase 1b:



- F09D4-577
- L09D4-623 (large drain under F09D4-577)
- F10D4-645
- F09d4-587
- F09d4-589
- F10D4-629
- F10D4-630

The features of Phase 1b were revealed at the end of the 2009 season. F09D4-577 is a fragmentary pavement, presumably a continuation of the East-West road running East-West; the western section, which was particularly fragmentary and robbed out, was removed, while the more contiguous part in the east of the square is still in place. L09D4-623 is a large drain capped by the paving stones of F09D4-577; as that part of F09D4-577 has not been removed, the drain remains unexcavated.

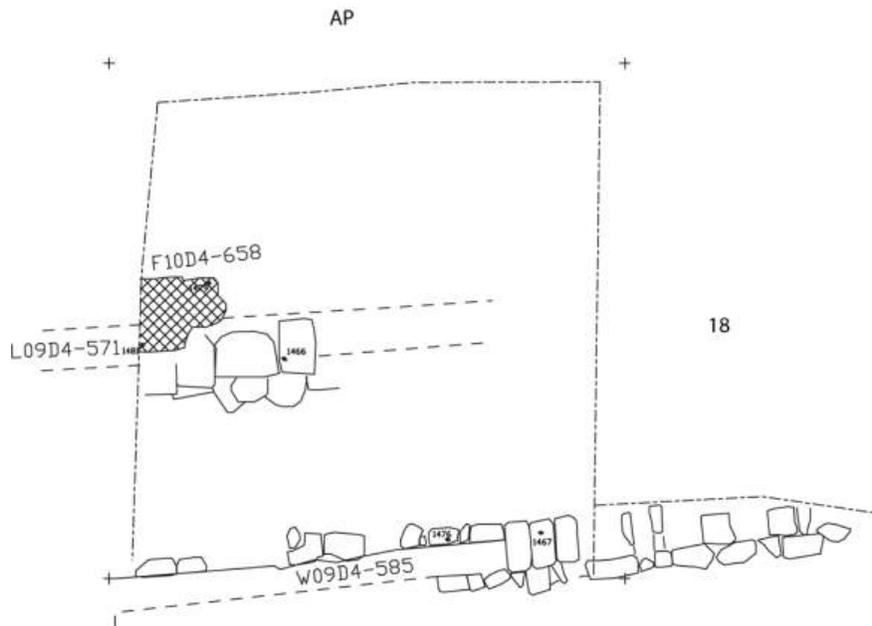
F10D4-645 is a hardpacked surface revealed by the removal of the western section of the paved street F09D4-577; I believe it is a subsurface for the Roman pavement, and so I've placed it here. Its makeup (L010D4-658) contained Roman and Hellenistic pottery.



Figure 11: Relationship btw F09D4-587, F09D4-589 and F09D4-577. (p10D4-9701)

F09D4-587 and F09D4-589 are crushed kurkar floors in the north of the square; They may have had a relation with the street F09D4-577, but a robber trench just north of pavement F09D4-577 has destroyed this information. (**Fig. 11**) F09D4-587 appears to be a resurfacing or patching of F09D4-589. F10D4-629 & F10D4-630 are subflooring under F09D4-587 & F09D4-589.

Phase 2:



Area D4 - 2010
Phase 2

F10D4-658

L09d4-571 (small east-west drain; contents: rm and hl); part of contents excavated.

L09D4-585 (small east-west drain, unexcavated)



Figure 12: F10D4-658; its makeup and fill below sits on top of drain L09D4-571. (p10D4-9706)

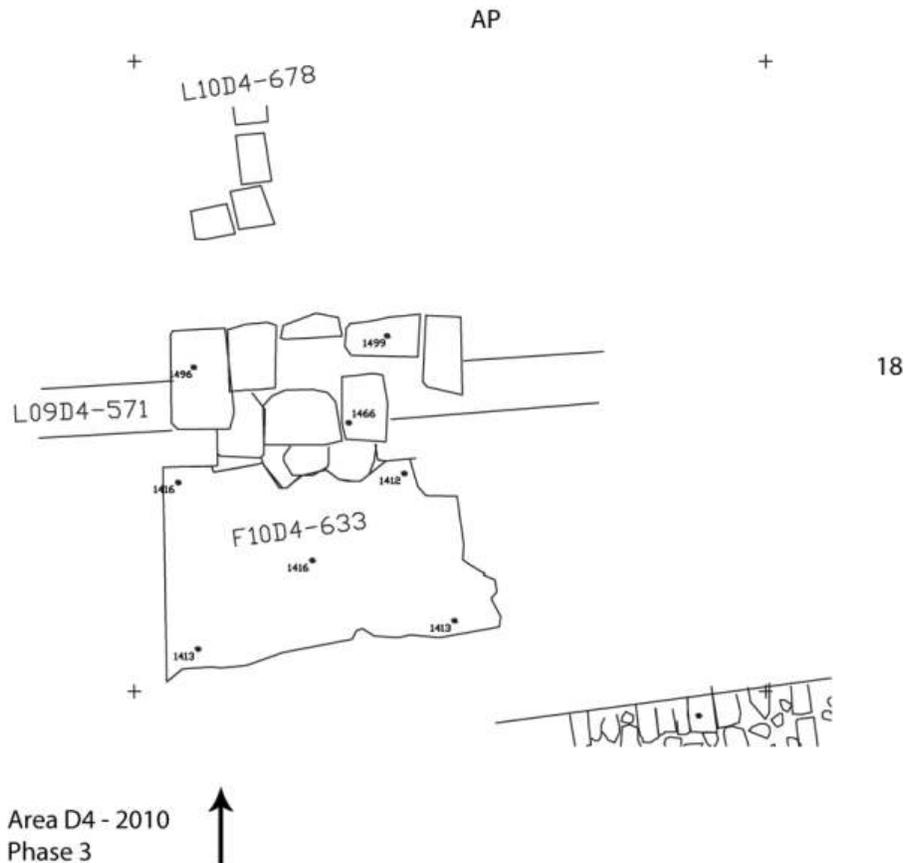
Excavation of the fill below F10D4-645, L10D4-658, came down on a hard-packed surface, F10D4-658. L10D4-663 and L10D4-772, the floor makeup and fills continuing

below F10D4-658, cover drain L09D4-571 (**Fig. 12**); the baskets from L663 had Hellenistic and Late Persian pottery but no Roman; thus I have placed F10D4-658 in phase 2. The pottery from the contents of the drain (contents: L09D4-641, wet-sifted) was mixed hl/rm. This could mean that the drain and the F10D4-658 were constructed in the Hellenistic (and thus should be placed in phase 3?) and then reused in phase 2; the full removal of the Roman pavement (F09D4-577) should help to clarify the stratigraphic relationship.

NB: The hole in the floor visible in the photograph was a result of weekend clandestine digging.

L09D4-585 is an East-West drain that appears to be built on top of W07D4-060 in AO19, as revealed by the collapsed baulk from the winter; it is robbed out in the west. It also appears to sit on top of F10D4-624=F10D4-633. (**Fig. 13**)

Phase 3



- F10D4-633=F10D4-624
- F10D4-664
- L09D1-571(?)

A series of superimposed (probably resurfacings) hard-packed floors were found in the south of the square, underneath the robbing action that demolished the various drains (i.e.

L10D4-623; L09D4-585). F10D4-624 was left unexcavated to remain as a baulk in the south of the square; F10D4-633 was excavated, and we changed loci (F10D4-664; “floor makeup and fill below” is L10D4-677) for technical reasons after several centimeters; the reality is most likely that we have a series of resurfacings that are impossible distinguish; we have yet to fully go through them; when excavation continues, it should be considered a continuation of L10D4-677 “floor makeup and fill below.” The baskets for the floor makeup are clean Hellenistic and earlier.

Note that phase 2 drain L09D4-585 sits on top of F10D4-624; but F10D4-633 appears to reach drain L09D4-571; this suggests perhaps that L09D4-571 may actually be phase 3 reused in phase 2.



Figure 13: Square AP/18, end of season photo (p10D4-9711)

Key Loci:

L10D4-623 (big drain below F10D4-577)

L10D4-629 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-589)

L10D4-630 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-587)

L10D4-632 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-629 & F10D4-630)

L10D4-645 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-577)

L10D4-658 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-645)

L10D4-659 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-645)

L10D4-663 (floor make-up & fill below F10D4-658)

L10D4-641 - fill from drain 09D4-571

L10D4-664 (fl make-up & fill below F10D4-633)

L10D4-677 (floor make-up and fill below F10D4-664 - technical change because these are superimposed hard-packed surfaces)

Walls removed during the season:

W04D1-050 - a wall constructed of reused ashlar and ashlar fragments, and field stones, built in perhaps four definable courses; and dovetailing, via one ashlar extending from the eastern face, with W07D4-040.

W04D1-067 - a wall constructed of field stones and small reused ashlar or fragments thereof (many of which had evidence of plaster facing), roughly coursed, and dovetailing with W04D1-068; this wall contained two fragments of plaster-coated fluted columns, 09D4-5752 and 10D4-6827.

W04D1-068 - a wall constructed of field stones and small reused ashlar or fragments thereof (many of which had evidence of plaster facing), dovetailing with W04D1-068, W07D4-78, and W0D1-050.

W04D1-169 - a fieldstone wall in AP/16, to be identified as the western extent of W07D1-052 in AO/16: the two were interrupted by RT07D4-099; this wall appears to dovetail with W04D1-180.

W07D4-040 - a wall constructed of field stones and small reused ashlar or fragments thereof, roughly coursed, and dovetailing with one ashlar of W04D1-050.

W07D4-052 - a fieldstone wall in AO/16, to be identified as the eastern extent of W04D1-169 in AP/16; the two were interrupted by RT07D4-099.

W07D4-061 - a wall constructed of ashlar and reused half-columns, constructed on top of the southern extent of W04D1-050 and its widening by the addition of W04D1-169; this wall is of the same construction as, and bonds with, W07D4-100.

W07D4-100 - a wall constructed primarily of reused half-columns and reused ashlar; this wall bonds with W07D4-061.

W07D4-180 (a wall constructed of field stones and small re-used ashlar or fragments thereof; this wall appears to dovetail with W04D1-169.

W08D4-340 - a wall constructed of field stones and reused ashlar or fragments thereof.