



AREA C

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Hellenistic Structures

In the season of 2009, the trenches at the northern end of courtyard C were extended to the north and west. They showed that multi-level earlier building levels lie beneath the areas less effected by erosion. Four Hellenistic levels (C04a-C04d) were recognized above the walls of the Neo-Assyrian palace. It seems to be a sequence of two to three Hellenistic courthouses and it appears as though the southern parts of these structures have been partly excavated (**Fig. 1**). On the basis of coins and other objects, the levels can be dated to the period of the 3rd to the 1st century B.C. (**Fig. 2**). Some of the rooms were equipped with tannur-ovens for bread-production. It seems as if a pebble-paved open space lay west of the houses.

The Hellenistic walls were built directly upon the Assyrian ones. This supports the continuity between the Neo-Assyrian and Seleucid periods that is also apparent in the material remains.

Neo-Assyrian Structures

The layout of the Neo-Assyrian governor's palace was further clarified, as well. A strongly robbed wall of a room from level C07 was recognized in the northwestern corner of the courtyard. The wall was cut in level C06 and was covered by a new, elevated pavement made of pebbles. In level C06 the stone-slab covered path leading northward, was covered by a row of rooms. These mark the northern boundary of the courtyard in the terminal period of the palace. The western boundary of the courtyard was not localized.

(Translation: A. Sollee / B. Sollee)