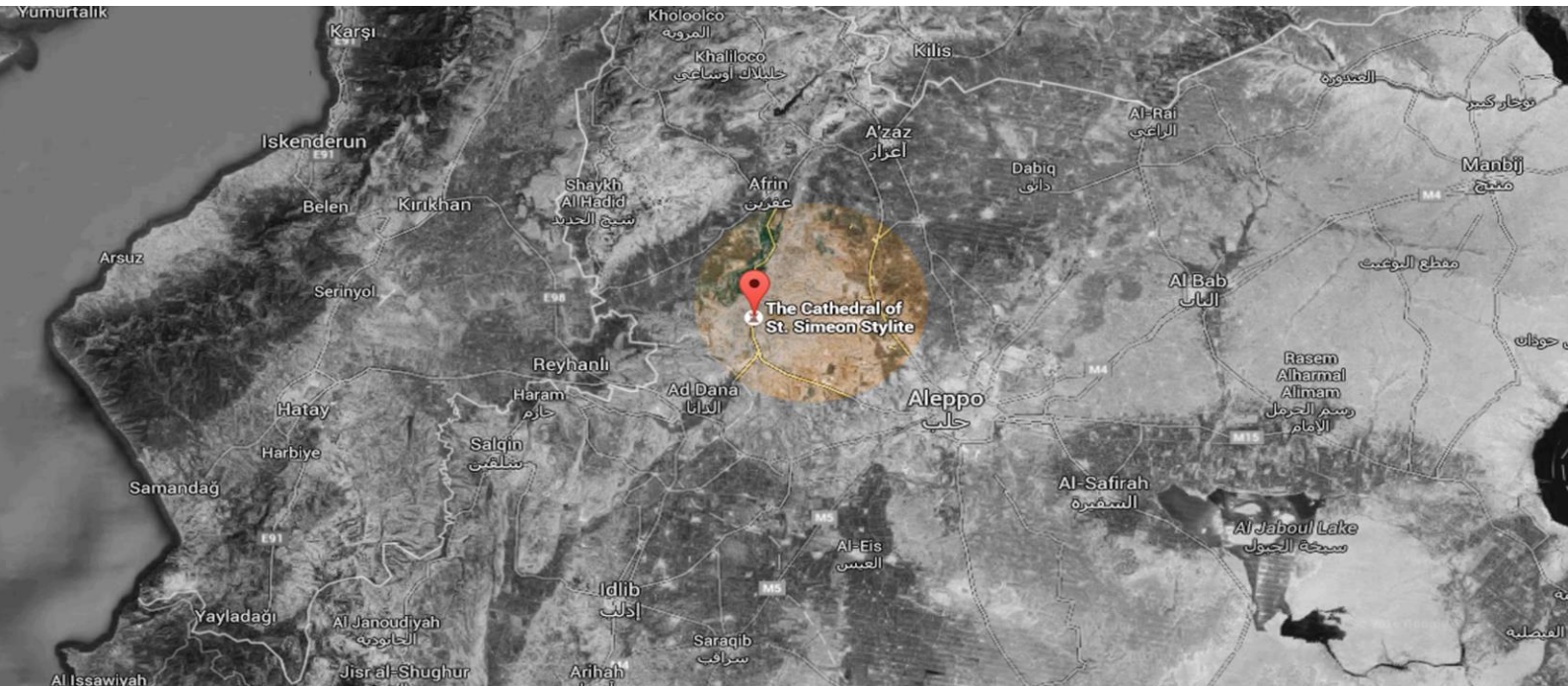


The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative

Site Monitors Project

Damage Report Site of St. Simeon

June 16, 2016



The Church of Saint Simeon was built in the year 490 AD on Mount Simeon. It served as an impregnable fortress during the days of Saladin. St. Simeon is a part of the “Dead Cities” listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

On Thursday June 16th, 2016, St. Simeon was targeted by the Russian air force for a second time at 9.00 am, causing damage to the site. The strike consisted of 3 missiles, two hit outside the compound causing superficial damage to the external walls (locations 2 and 3 on the map below). The third hit inside the compound across from the south façade of the church of St. Simeon (Location 1 on the map below). That third missile was a cluster bomb, which spread its load across the site causing widespread damage.

Site monitors from the TDA–HPI in cooperation with the Syrian Cultural Heritage Preservation Center documented the damage from the second strike (see Photos below).

The first airstrike on the site of St, Simeon occurred on Thursday May 12th, 2016 and caused extensive damage to the site. The TDA-HPI team documented that strike in a separate report.



General view of the site prior to the airstrikes



Map showing first airstrike in May (Red) and second airstrike in June (Blue)

Photos Showing Damage in Location 1 Across from the South Façade of the Church of St. Simeon



South façade of the Church of St. Simeon (Photo facing northeast)



South façade of the Church of St. Simeon (prior to airstrikes)

Photo by Bernard Gangon



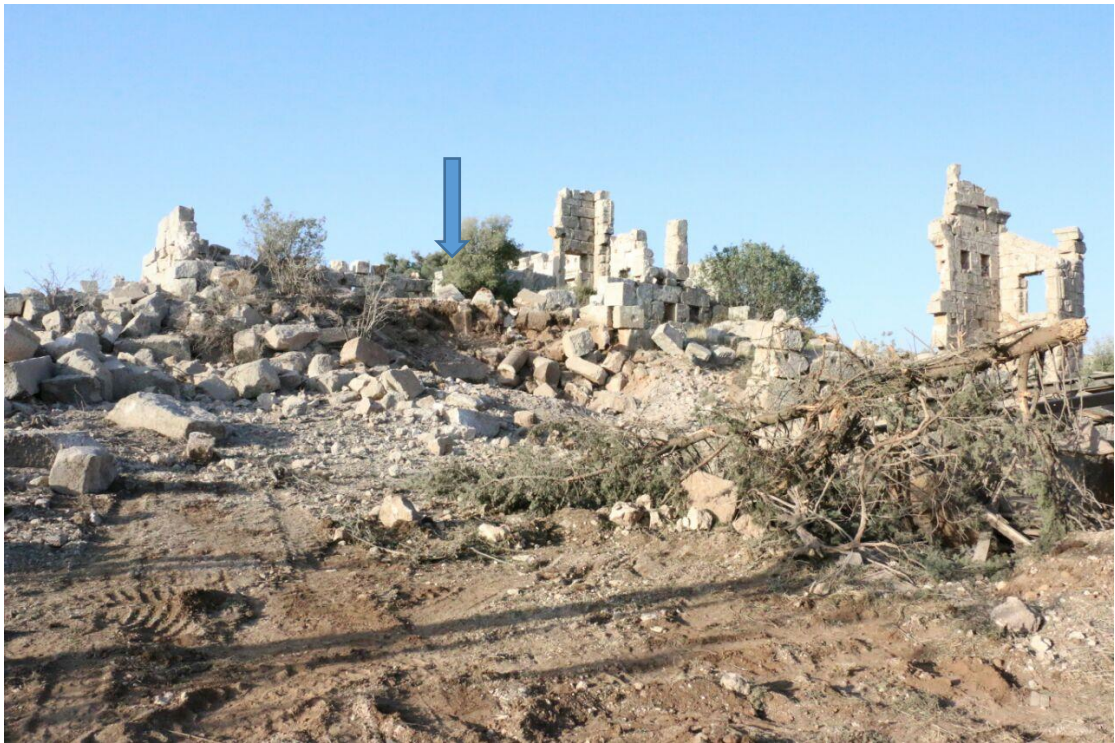
(Photo facing north)



(Photo facing north)



Extensive damage including collapsed and fragmented stone masonry
(Photo facing northeast)



(Photo facing east)

Photos Showing Damage in Location 2 at the Southern End of the Site on the Road Outside the Enclosure Wall



Damage to the road





External wall damaged by shrapnel (photo facing southwest)



Damage to external wall (photo facing west)

Photos Showing Damage in Location 3 at the North East Corner of the Site outside the Enclosure Wall



Northeast corner (Photo facing south)



Damage to northeast outer wall



Northeast outer wall

Reported by:

Eng. Abdul Rahman Alyehia (Syrian Heritage Centre)

Site Monitors Project Coordinator

Dr. Amr Al-Azm

