“Al-Daraj” Historical Bathhouse is one of the Umayyad era bathhouses still standing in Sarmin

Built in the Umayyad era, Al-Daraj bathhouse is located slightly west of the town center, and has been restored several times beginning in the Ottoman era to the last restoration in 2002. The bathhouse was still functional to this day. Al-Daraj means “the steps”, derived from the long flight of stairs leading up to its entrance.

The bathhouse is divided into three main sections known by their positions within the structure. The “Outer” section is connected to the main entrance with a long flight of stairs, and has a large hall with stone benches on the periphery topped with rugs and cloth. There is also a small underground room connected to the building where a fire roars to heat the premises and the bath water.
On Thursday, 27 April 2017, the bathhouse was struck by Russian air force resulting in severe damage and total destruction of the bathhouse. Syrian Heritage Center’s site monitors visited the site and reported the damage.
Reported by:

Eng. Abdul Rahman Alyehia (Syrian Heritage Centre)

**Site Monitors Project Coordinator**

**Dr. Amr Al-Azm**