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From the prehistoric age, man had an acute need to design and construct a personal hideaway from the weather conditions and dangers of the outside world, a place that would eventually become what we now call home. One of man's first attributes was that of invention; by creating his first lodgings, either by improving what nature had already offered him – such as caves, or by constructing a home from scratch using natural materials such as hay, mud, wood or stone. A simple space was then considered more than suitable for meeting the needs of an entire family. In the course of time, as the human race evolved, the only part of the process that underwent major change was the method of construction.

the art of architecture

With the passing of time, once man secured his basic needs he was in search for an improved quality of life. To meet this demand, the profession of "architecture" evolved into an art.

Everything begins on a sheet of blank paper, where a sketch will be designed and will slowly become the final plan for a completed creation. How does the mind of an architect work, when he/she considers the best possible ways of creating a particular home from scratch; a home that will be the realization of another's absolute dream? Taking into consideration the geographical location and orientation of the site, as well as the natural weather conditions of a particular region, plays an important role during the first phase of designing a home. The on-location visit of the architect helps him/her to estimate the advantages and disadvantages of the site. For example, on a flat plot without a view, the house will be placed in such a way that a beautiful garden can be created. Also, the orientation makes the basic difference when it comes to planning where the rooms will be built. The size of openings depends on how necessary the protection from the sun is.

In addition, the ideal home will be built based on the cooperation between the architect and the owners. The architect is obliged to arrange





the demands and ideas of his clients, discussing with them, directing them correctly, advising them and cooperating with them when establishing the first stage of the design. The better an architect gets to know his/her clients, the easier it is to materialize their ideas. It is not accidental that the lesson of psychology is taught in many architecture schools in order to facilitate good communication and create solid understanding with clients.



The client must take under consideration that the home is for him and not for others. Unfortunately, the majority of people are more interested in the opinions of third parties and do not express honestly or directly how they feel about their future home. That often results in the home being built larger than necessary. The architect must remember not to get carried away and think that the home is "his" creation. After all, it is not he/she who is going to reside in the house, even though each design may be an extension of his/her own dreams! ♦