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Excavation at Panagia Karmiotissa – Perhaps there are buildings under the temple

28/01/2024

Limassol Today

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With the geomagnetic survey carried out inside the church, it suggests the existence of buildings under the church.

The Department of Antiquities, Deputy Ministry of Culture, announces the end of the first excavation period of the "Panagia Karmiotissa" project. The investigations were conducted in the area surrounding the church of Panagia Karmiotissa in Kato Polemidia under the direction of Dr. Andreas Nicolaidis and Dr. Margot Hoffelt.

The project, according to what was published by the Press and Information Office (PIO), is part of the research program of a close collaboration between the Eratosthenes Center of Excellence (ECoE) of the Cyprus University of Technology (TEPAK) and the CNRS Center for Medieval and Modern Archeology in the Mediterranean (LA3M), of the University of Aix-Marseille (AMU), with the support of the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus.



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For many interrelated reasons (secondary historical sources, topography, toponymy, oral traditions) there were suspicions that the church was founded by the Carmelites during the 13th century. However, the existing church in question - if examined architecturally - cannot be older than the 14th century. For this reason, it was deemed necessary to systematically research the archaeological stratigraphy of the site.

During the investigations, three test cuts were made: two on the hill north of the temple and one east of the church sanctuary. In the most north-eastern section three layers were revealed and examined where the pottery that came to light from the intermediate layer is safely dated to the 13th century, thus confirming, perhaps, the establishment of the Carmelites in the area at the time of their arrival in Cyprus.



In the northwestern section, two post-Byzantine layers were identified. The first brought to light several peg holes connected to a wall built on an older layer of mortar, which was revealed at the end of the work.

In the section behind the sanctuary of the church, several empty spaces were excavated that were oriented east-west, suggesting empty graves that probably belong to a cemetery that may be connected to the church. Moreover, at the same stratigraphic level, steps (steps) carved into the rock were discovered, which seem to lead under the sanctuary of the church. This last element, which is verified by the geomagnetic survey carried out inside the church, suggests the existence of buildings under the church.



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ΠΑΡΑΞΕΝΑ

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The two events will take place in Limassol and promise to offer the public two exceptional experiences

Η Cult Experiences με χαρά ανακοινώνει τη δεύτερη έκδοση του Cyprus Music Video Festival (CMVF) και το πρώτο Cyprus Fashion Film Festival (CFFF), που θα καταπλήξουν το κοινό της Λεμεσού.

Οι ενδιαφερόμενοι μπορούν να υποβάλουν τις συμμετοχές τους εδώ:

CMVF – υποβολή μέχρι 2 Απριλίου 2024

CFFF – υποβολή μέχρι 1 Μαΐου 2024

Cyprus Music Video Festival (CMVF)

Το Cyprus Music Video Festival, τώρα στη δεύτερη χρονιά του, θεωρείται το πρωταρχικό φεστιβάλ για δημιουργούς και λάτρεις μουσικών βίντεο στην Κύπρο. Εκτός από την προβολή των καλύτερων μουσικών βίντεο στη μεγάλη οθόνη, το φεστιβάλ περιλαμβάνει έκθεση φωτογραφίας, δημιουργικές συνεργασίες και εργαστήρια, ζωντανή μουσική και jam sessions. Η Cult Experiences, ο διοργανωτής, αφοσιώνεται στο να προωθήσει το έργο παραγωγών, σκηνοθετών, ηθοποιών, σεναριογράφων, χορευτών, μουσικών και άλλων καλλιτεχνών παγκοσμίως.



Βασικές Λεπτομέρειες:

Ημερομηνία: 27 Απριλίου 2024

Χώρος: Orus Events Venue, Λεμεσός

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Cyprus Fashion Film Festival (CFFF)

Το Cyprus Fashion Film Festival, που κάνει το ντεμπούτο του, θα είναι το πρωτοποριακό φεστιβάλ για δημιουργούς μόδας και λάτρεις στην Κύπρο. Το CFFF γιορτάζει την τέχνη των φιλμ μόδας, περιλαμβάνοντας ζωντανές επιδείξεις μόδας σε συνεργασία με το Fashion Heritage Network Cyprus, έκθεση φωτογραφίας, δημιουργικές συνεργασίες και εργαστήρια. Δημιουργοί μόδας, σχεδιαστές κοστούμιών, στυλίστες, σκηνοθέτες, ηθοποιοί, σεναριογράφοι, χορευτές, μοντέλα και μουσικοί προσκαλούνται να υποβάλουν τις συμμετοχές τους.

Βασικές Λεπτομέρειες:

Ημερομηνία: 1 Ιουνίου 2024

Χώρος: Ceti Locale, Λεμεσός

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Ορισμένα από τα βραβεία των φεστιβάλ

- Best Music Video
- Best Cypriot Production Music Video
- Best Foreign Production Music Video
- Best 'Music Video' Photograph
- Best Fashion Film
- Best Cypriot Production Fashion Film
- Best Foreign Production Fashion Film
- Best Fashion Photograph
- Audience's Awards
- Best Director
- Best Screenwriter
- Best Cinematographer
- Best Editor
- Best Production Designer
- Best Costume Designer
- Best Hair & Makeup Artist
- Best Choreographer
- Best Female Singer
- Best Male Singer
- Best Female Performer (actress/dancer)
- Best Male Performer (actor/dancer)
- Best Song
- Best Lyrics





Και τα δύο φεστιβάλ προσφέρουν μια λαμπερή εκδήλωση κόκκινου χαλιού και τελετή απονομής, όπου οι συμμετέχοντες μπορούν να επιδείξουν τα ταλέντα τους και να συνδεθούν με άλλους επαγγελματίες του κλάδου.

Μετά τα φεστιβάλ, οι συμμετέχοντες καλούνται να συμμετάσχουν στο Podcast της **Cult Experiences**, μοιραζόμενοι εμπειρίες, έμπνευση, προκλήσεις και ακυρωμένες ιστορίες πίσω από τις κινηματογραφικές τους οράσεις.

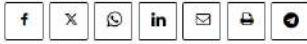
Η **Cult Experiences** είναι αφιερωμένη στην προώθηση μιας ζωντανής δημιουργικής κοινότητας, παρέχοντας μια πλατφόρμα στους καλλιτέχνες για να μοιραστούν το έργο τους με τον κόσμο.

Μπορείτε να παρακολουθήσετε την κάλυψη του Κόκκινου Χαλιού του CMVF [εδώ](#).

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THE "EFTAPATO": The first skyscraper of Limassol

27/01/2024

Limassol Today

LIMASSOL GUESTS



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by Phidias Pavlidis

"Eftapato" was built in 1958 and had the architect Fotis Kolakidis (1923-2009). It is a typical example of Cypriot Modernism. Construction of the

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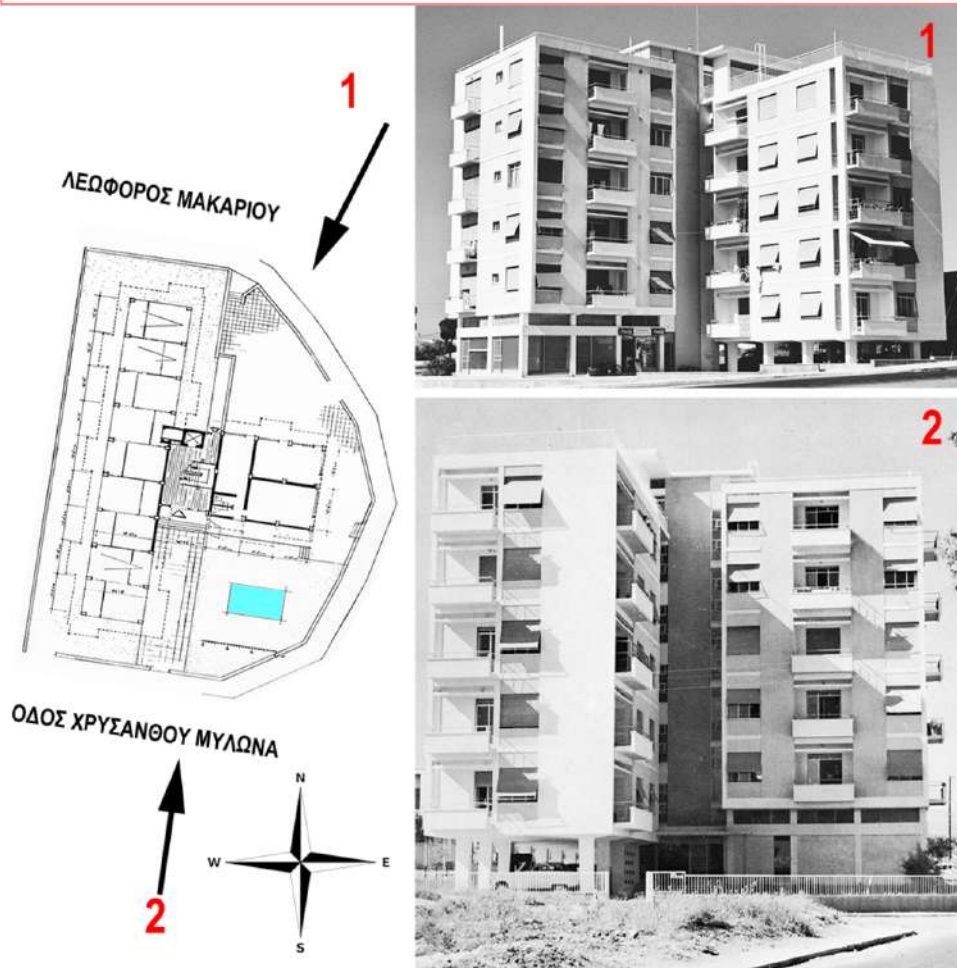
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"Eftapato" was, at its time, the tallest building in Limassol and was for years one of the most important landmarks of the city, once even more important than the junction (Agios Nikolaos roundabout) it dominates. Being the landmark of the whole area, he also gave his name to the area. Although today we probably know it as the Agios Nikolaos roundabout area, until recently it was known as the Eftapatos area.



Ground floor plan and two photos from the Archive of Fotis Kolakidi

The Architecture of Eftapatos

The building is developed on seven levels (with the logic of 1+5+1: ground floor with pilotis and shops, five floors with apartments and canopy on the roof). The architect of the project never gave the name "Eftapato" to the building. We do not find this name in any plan or presentation of the project. Probably the name was given by the people, and possibly the idea started at the time of construction, with the workers on the construction site admiring the height and originality of the building.

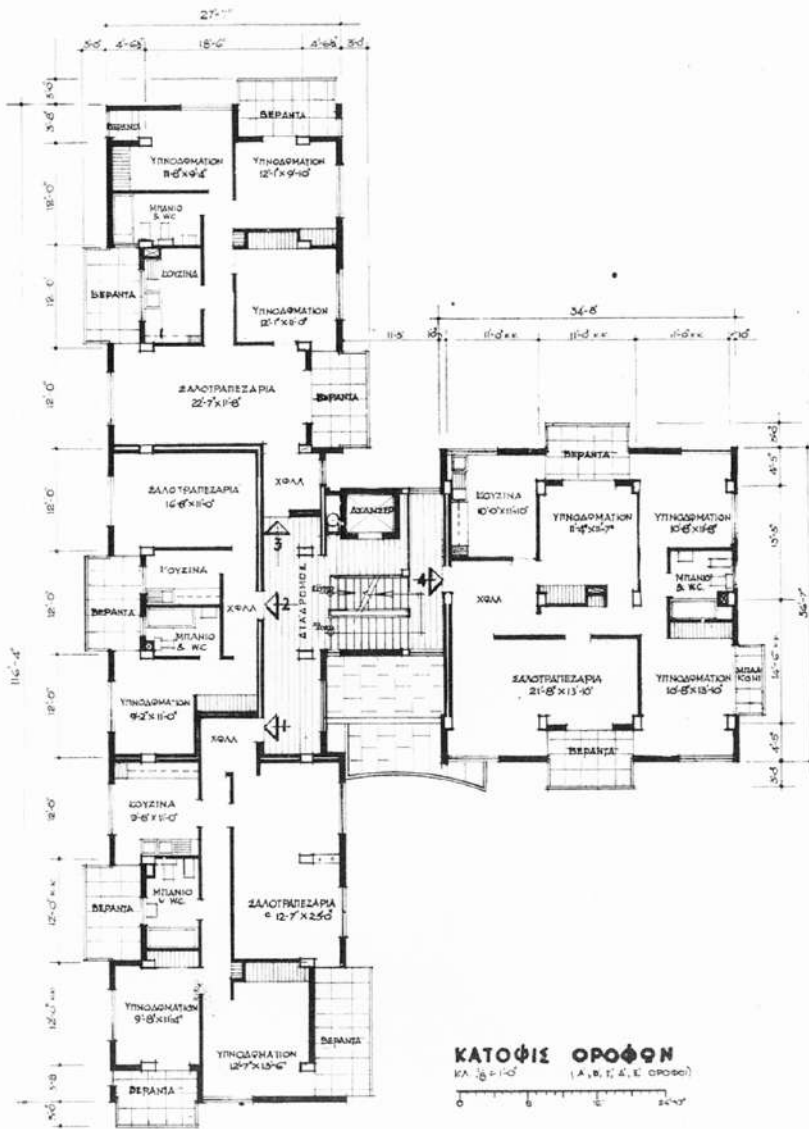
The building is T-shaped in plan. This shape, placed within the semi-circular plot, leaves room for two squares, on the north and south sides of the block. One square is located at the end of Makariou Avenue and is slightly sunken in relation to the street level. The other square is located at the end of Chrysanthou Mylonas Street. Both the floor plan drawings and the 3D perspectives show this square to be landscaped with an artificial pond and grass. The T shape also gave a building with two wings. The large wing had pilotis at ground floor level and three apartments on the standard floors. The small wing had shops on the ground floor and an apartment on the standard floors. The lower height of the pilotis, in relation to the height of the shops, leaves the large wing a little "shorter" than the small wing. Of interest is how this height difference is dealt with internally in the common circulation areas (staircases in the standard floor plan provide an answer for those who would like to solve this puzzle).

The building stands out for its modernist architectural vocabulary, both in terms of the typology of the floor plan, and in the treatment of the facades. The building was treated as a three-dimensional object with every facet equally important. No special signaling was done for the entrance, since it was placed at the junction between the two wings.

Αναλύοντας την τυπολογία των διαμερισμάτων, παρατηρούμε πως αυτά δεν ξεφεύγουν κατά πολύ από τη λογική... a modernist house of that time (even though they are apartments). A vestibule (hall) is created at the entrance of each apartment. The kitchen is placed in a separate room, in the purely private areas of the apartment (the logic of the open plan was out of the question then). Corridors, long enough for apartments, ensure circulation in the private zone without it being visible from the more public zone (living room). All of the above would be a waste of space and materials for a current developer and would not follow the sociological changes that have changed the typology of apartments since then.

A communal area was placed on the roof of Eftapatos for the children to play and for the receptions of the tenants. The shared use of the roof by all tenants gives the development condominium elements (condominium is the literal translation of this Latin word), with common areas extending beyond the common corridors and stairwells. A more daring sociological analysis would characterize this provision as a first form of communal living, something we see in today's condos in Limassol, which have communal swimming pools, communal gyms or even other communal...

today's condos in Limassol, which have communal swimming pools, communal gyms or even other communal facilities.



ΕΤΑΙΡΙΑ ΟΙΚΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΟΛΑΚΙΔΗΣ, ΛΤΔ.
 75Α ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ ΣΤ 75Α
 ΛΕΜΕΣΟΣ-ΚΥΠΡΟΣ

COLAKIDES HOUSING COMPANY, LTD.
 75A GEORGE VI STREET
 LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

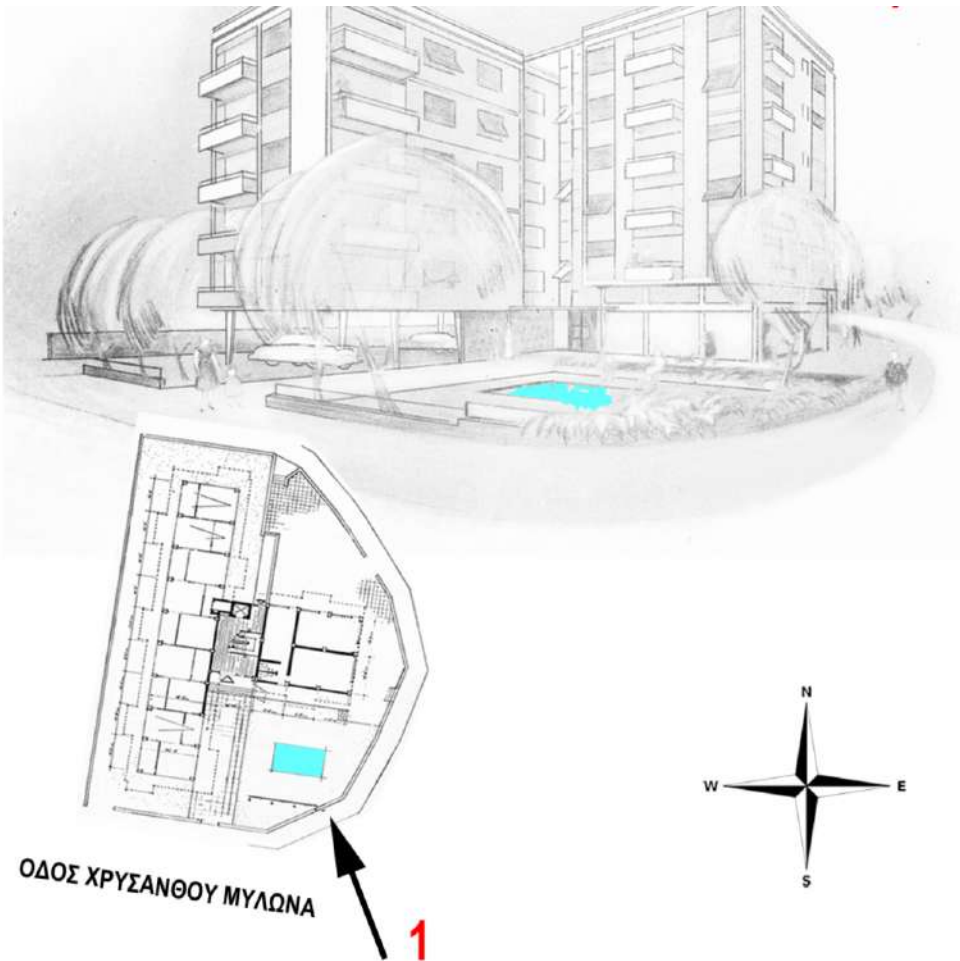
Typical floor plan. The plan bears the seal of the company, "Colakides Housing Company, LTD."

Developing in the 1960s

Eftapato was one of the first developments in Limassol with the logic of developing. Fotis Kolakidis, in addition to being the architect of the building, was also the owner and developer of the project. The company established for this purpose was called "Colakides Housing Company, LTD.", and in English "Colakides Housing Company, LTD.". In its time it was one of the first real estate development companies. For Fotis Kolakidis, it was not just an attempt to test himself as a developer, but also his opportunity to design, as an architect, a large project. Until before Eftapato, the tallest building in Limassol was the "Pavlidis Apartment Building" (designed by Neoptolemos Michaelidis) at the corner of Agios Andreou and Archbishop Kyprianos streets.

Η πρώτη αυτή προσπάθεια για developing στη Λεμεσό δεν στέφθηκε με επιτυχία. Η ιδέα του να ζει κανείς σε διαμέρισμα, και όχι σε οικία, δεν ήταν εδραιωμένη ανάμεσα στον κόσμο. Οι πωλήσεις δεν φαινόταν να πηγαίνουν καλά και ο Κολακίδης αναγκάστηκε να πουλήσει ολόκληρο το κτήριο (έναντι του ποσού των 75 χιλιάδων κυπριακών λιρών) στην εταιρία Harakis Properties (P. Harakis Ltd.). Η τελευταία κράτησε το κτήριο κάτω από τη δική της ιδιοκτησία και έδωσε προς ενοικίαση τα διάφορα διαμερίσματα και καταστήματα. Αρκετά διαμερίσματα νοσηριοποιήθηκαν ως νοσοκομεία, για να μην σπαστεί η τιμή της αγοράς. Σήμερα, με το χρόνο, αλλά και την ανάπτυξη της Λεμεσού, η περιοχή αυτή έδειξε να έχει ενδιαφέρον. Σήμερα, με το χρόνο, αλλά και την ανάπτυξη της Λεμεσού, η περιοχή αυτή έδειξε να έχει ενδιαφέρον. Σήμερα, με το χρόνο, αλλά και την ανάπτυξη της Λεμεσού, η περιοχή αυτή έδειξε να έχει ενδιαφέρον.

Kostas Kolakidis had also told me that another reason why no one wanted to buy an apartment in Eftapato was that, at that time, the apartment building was outside the urban fabric and far from the amenities that a city can offer. In fact, it was located on the axis that connected the city to the cemetery of Agios Nikolaos, which was considered, at the time, far outside the city (this axis was formerly called Anapausesos Street, while today it has another name). Sixty years later, this area has the most central (now), expensive and sought-after lots and properties in Limassol.



Ground floor plan and perspective designed by Fotis Kolakidis

The Seventh in the Magazine "ARCHITEKTONIKI" in 1966

In the winter of 1966, the Greek magazine "ARCHITEKTONIKI" (edited by Antonis Kitsikis) devoted its entire issue number 55 (January-February 1966) to the architectural and artistic production of Cyprus. Eftapato was not presented in that emblematic issue, but in the very next one, in issue number 56. According to the presentation of the work in the Greek magazine:

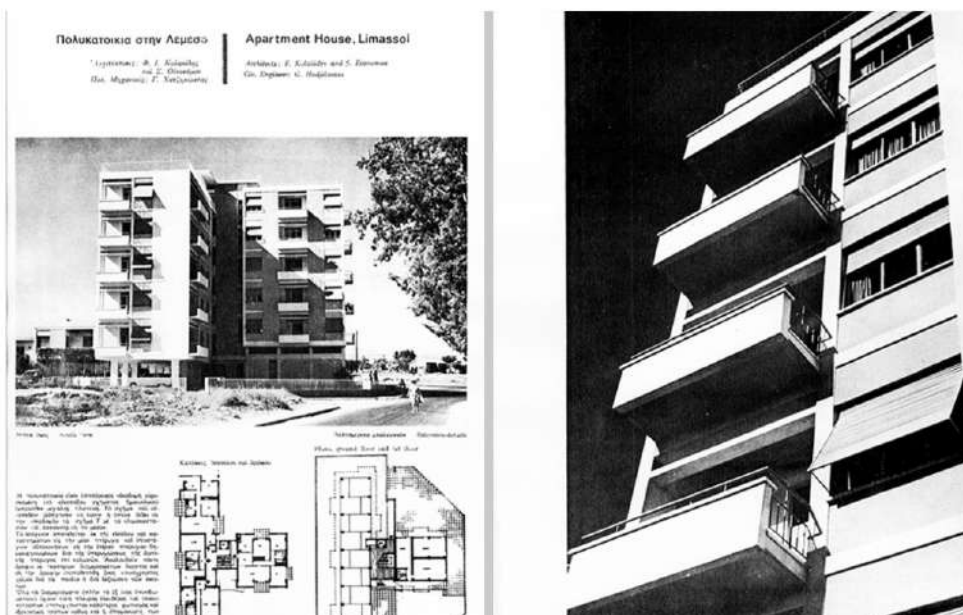
"The apartment building is a seven-storey building located on a semi-circular plot in front of a large square. The shape of the plot led to a solution that gives the building a T shape with the stairwell and elevator in the middle.

The ground floor consists of the entrance and shops in one wing and carports in the other wing, created by elevating the west wing on columns. There are five floors of four apartments each and on the roof a common area was placed for the children or for receptions of the tenants.

All apartments (except the one-bedroom apartments) have three free sides and in this way better lighting and ventilation is achieved as well as the isolation of the apartments from the rest of the building. On all sides of these there are a large number of balconies.

The construction is of reinforced concrete frame with brick walls plastered inside and outside. The external doors and windows are metal with plastic shutters. The floors are mostly thermoplastic."

Below (see Figure 4) we present all four pages (66 to 69) dedicated by the magazine "ARCHITEKTONIKI" (issue 56, March-April 1966) to Eftapato.



Εξ όψεως, ο κτίσιμος κεντρικός οικόσημος, ο οποίος αποτελείται από πέντε ορόφους, είναι ένα από τα κτίσματα της αρχιτεκτονικής της δεκαετίας του 1960, το οποίο αποτελεί το πρώτο βήμα της αρχιτεκτονικής της δεκαετίας του 1960.



67



68

4. Τύπος κτίσματος
 1. Τύπος κτίσματος
 2. Τύπος κτίσματος
 3. Τύπος κτίσματος
 4. Τύπος κτίσματος



69

The development plan for the urban district of Eftapato was with the aim of providing a modern residential area for the city of Limassol. The plan of the district was based on the concept of a group of blocks, which were to be arranged in a regular pattern around a central square. The plan also provided for a network of roads and a system of public transport. The development plan was approved by the Council of the Municipality of Limassol in 1960. The plan was implemented in 1961 and the first buildings were completed in 1962.

The presentation of Eftapato in the magazine "ARCHITEKTONIKI" (Issue 50, March-April 1960, pages 60 to 69)

As an epilogue

In today's Limassol of developing and "towers", in Limassol where even the purchase of a small apartment seems like an elusive dream, we are surprised that the first attempt at developing was crowned with failure. Let this little story around Eftapato remain as a reminder that times change and everything is fluid.

In closing, I would like to thank Kostas Kolakidis for the material he entrusted to me from the Archive of his father, Fotis Kolakidis, as well as for the information he gave me.



Ground floor plan and photograph from letter card ("Limassol, Partial View", Publisher & Distributor: NGYfarchos & Co. Ltd., printed in Israel)

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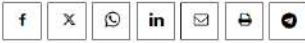
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- Information from the internet and especially from the "Limesos Memories" page on Facebook.
- Information and photos from the Archive of the architect Fotis Kolakidis.



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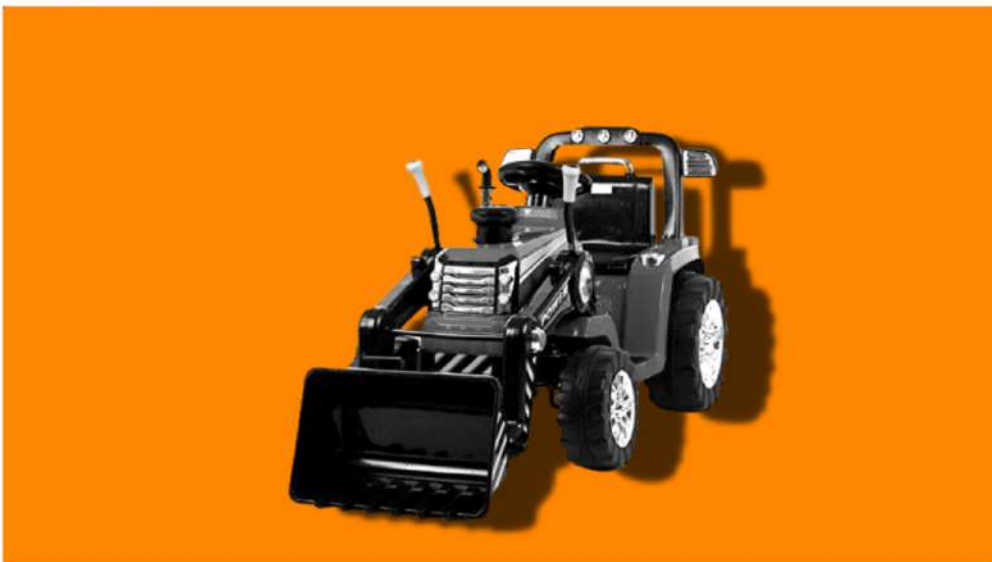
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Works for the project "Improvement of the Bypass Road of Germasogeia"

27/01/2024

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The Office of the District Engineer of Limassol, Department of Public Works, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works announces that the work on the project "Improvement of the Bypass Road of Germasogeia", Phase A' continues as normal.

In the period from Monday 29/1/2024 until Tuesday 30/4/2024, work will be carried out at the junction of Patron Street and Agia Paraskevi Street. During the execution of the works, the section of the junction of the two roads will be closed to traffic from and to Agios Athanasios - Sfalangiotissa, while traffic from and to Germasogeia - Foinikaria dam will be through an adjacent temporary vehicle access and will be regulated by traffic lights. Traffic from and to the area of Agios Athanasios - Sfalangiotissa will take place via Tillirias - Agia Paraskevi street.

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Also, the period of execution of works on the eastern part of Isabellas Street, from its junction with Mikis Theodorakis Street to its junction with Potamias Street, is extended until 30/4/2024. The section of road remains closed to traffic and traffic to and from the eastern area is via an adjacent temporary section of road that has been constructed for this purpose.

The rest of the traffic arrangements remain as they are.

The Department of Public Works apologizes for the unavoidable inconvenience that will be caused and calls on the public to show the necessary understanding and patience and comply with the temporary road markings and the instructions of the Police.



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