



Maximos Mansion

19, Herodou Attikou str.

Maximos Mansion is situated in the centre of the city of Athens, in the vicinity of the old Palace (nowadays, the Parliament building). It was built in 1924, to serve as residence of Demetrios Maximos.

Demetrios Maximos was an outstanding economist and politician. He served as Governor of the National Bank of Greece, honorary Member of Parliament, and assumed his duties as Prime Minister in 1947. He was at the head of the Greek Government as an extra-parliamentary personality during the Civil War, a period very difficult and critical for the modern Greek history.

The time when Demetrios Maximos entrusted the architect Anastasios Chelmis with the construction of his residence, coincided with the increased application of reinforced concrete. Anastasios Chelmis was among the first to have applied the then novel building technique. The new material allowed the construction of vast openings and multi-storey buildings. Thus, Maximos Mansion was built in the spirit of that era, and in particular by one of its main representatives. Following the sumptuous architectural style of the big detached houses of the neighbouring area, it was a luxurious single-storey neoclassical residence, built in the pattern of the urban *Palais*. Gardens and lawns allowed for a lot of open external space, while the interior was

characterized by spacious reception rooms, central staircases and the ample sitting-rooms.

After Demetrios Maximos' death, Maximos Mansion came to the possession of the Greek State, and after the completion of various structural works, extensions and arrangements of the precincts, it was used for the accommodating of leaders of foreign countries and personalities visiting Greece.

Since 1982 Maximos Mansion is the Prime Minister's official residence, retaining the name of its former owner.