

{besps}vourka{/besps}

This 18th century mansion has been declared a historic monument as it is a typical example of Macedonian architecture. Its interior displays marble architectural remains and mosaics from different parts of the prefecture of Kozani. According to the marble inscription built into the wall of the mansion, which bears an incised cross and an epigram, the mansion was built on June 10th, 1748 and belonged to Demetrius Misiou Netiani.

The building has a courtyard and a precinct and is a typical example of urban Macedonian architecture. According to this, stone, wood and bricks were the basic materials used in building construction. The stonework followed a system of regular sized hewn stones. Urban residences were primarily two-storey buildings; the first floor consisted of the living quarters while utility rooms and work places were usually found on the ground floor but they could also have been located in the basement or the spacious flagstone courtyard.

Apart from the special architectural exterior with enclosed balconies, cantilevers, and the large windows, the houses of Kozani were characterized by an enormous diversity in interior design with carved wooden ceilings filled with paintings and fireplaces. The house of Vourkas is similarly decorated. Inside the mansion interesting wooden decorated ceilings and mousantres, built in cupboards that had a sort of hollow carving, have been preserved.

The Gr. Vourkas mansion is centrally located in the city of Kozani, behind the building of the Orthodox Metropolis of Servia and Kozani. Vourkas mansion houses the 17th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities. A significant number of marble architectural remains and mosaics from the prefecture of Kozani are kept in it.