

Explanation of the living structures used in San Antonio Alpanocan and Jantetelco

In case some persons still have doubts about our detailed analysis of the wants, needs and life styles of the potential recipients of the project, and our proposal for additional rooms, rather than houses, for the communities of San Antonio Alpanocan and Jantetelco, please find below the explanation of a social anthropologist, Julio César Flores, from Oaxaca, (+52 1 (951) 204 7383) that Samantha Mendoza Kong, a member of our project team, met a few weeks ago.

This is the way to build in many communities in Mexico.



The image belongs to an area in Oaxaca, one of many damaged with the 2017 earthquake.

The land that is located after the wire fence has several constructions.

The construction next to the street is the largest, it is configured by two blocks or rooms (in one the kitchen and in the rest the bedrooms).

On one side of this construction there is another that has a cross on the top. And at the bottom of the land another construction.

This structure of separate rooms indicates one thing: this family has at least 2 sons. How do we know?

The father builds separate rooms for his children when they get married. The first son goes to live with his family to the construction with the cross on the roof. And the youngest son to the construction more to the bottom.

The bathroom is usually separate and is common to all members of the family.

It looks close to the room of the youngest son, in gray wood and with a corrugated roof and things on top to maintain it.

This way of building and being, is from before the conquest.

It is why people do not build houses of several rooms, with living and dining rooms together, and it is the explanation why people prefer to build this way. The family lives on common ground, but each room correspond to a new nucleus within the same family, until each child wants and can buy new land to build and live.

We do hope that this anthropologist light will remove the last doubts on the GG1980700, if any.

From Samantha