

# **Brightwood Vedic Architecture Guidelines for Homeowners**

*(Vedic Architecture is Sthapatya Veda, which means building according to knowledge of natural law. The purpose of Vedic Architecture is to establish a harmonious relationship between an owner, a home and the natural order of the universe.)*

## **Why Vedic Architecture?**

“We love our house so much that we just don’t like to leave it!” This is a common expression among those who live in a home built according to principles of Vedic Architecture.

One of the main motivations for coming to Brightwood is to be part of a special community where everyone is interested in a truly nourishing environment. Apart from the beautiful natural surroundings of the Blue Ridge Mountains, one of the unique aspects of Brightwood that has attracted people to come here is the use of Vedic Architecture to build homes because of its benefits for health, wealth and fulfillment. It should be noted that individual Vedic homes have been found to be very beneficial, but a whole community of them tends to magnify the effects.

A nice side benefit of using Vedic Architecture is that, because of the care and precision that are required in the building process, homes tend to be built better and tend to be of higher value. That, in turn, gives more value to the community.

## **Time-Tested Knowledge**

Vedic Architecture is that ancient art and science of architecture which offers the best, most universal and time-tested principles that connect homeowners with all the support and protection that nature can give. Thus, if people decide to build according to these principles and do it with care, they can feel confident that they will obtain maximum results from their home.

## **Style Not Restricted**

To gain the benefits of Vedic Architecture, you do not have to build in a particular style, but rather you just need to incorporate some natural principles into the design and building process. If you look around at Vedic homes that have been built in Brightwood and the Boone area, you will see a great variety of styles—from small courtyard homes to log homes to cedar-sided wood houses to elaborate French Country mansions.

## **Best Results With An Expert**

In order to get the best results from Vedic Architecture, it is important that it be done properly. For that reason, we require that you consult with one of the Vedic Architecture experts on the recommended list at the end of this document. The normal process is to work with an architect of your choosing and consult with a Vedic Architecture expert during the design and building of your home.

## Four Pillars of Vedic Architecture

To give you an idea about how Vedic Architecture works, here are some of the most important principles.

- Right Orientation
- Right Placement
- Right Proportion
- Right Materials

### Right Orientation

The home should be aligned precisely on the four points of the compass (based on true North) and the entrance should be facing due East or North for maximum benefit to the residents. An East entrance is favored since it provides the greatest light and energy from the sun and gives full support to spiritual and material growth.

### Right Placement

The home should be placed on an auspicious place on the lot, i.e., on an East or North slope with no obstruction to the sun. The rooms should be placed in such a way that they get the appropriate, supportive energy from the sun during the day. For example, it is considered to be most beneficial for the kitchen to be in the southeast corner of the house.

### Right Proportion

All dimensions of the house—external and interior—should be calculated carefully by a Vedic architect so as to give the best proportions for the maximum material and spiritual benefit of the homeowner. The Vedic architect essentially “tunes” the house with these dimensions—just like tuning a musical instrument—so that it resonates with you and the natural surroundings to get the most harmonious result.

### Right Materials

To provide a comfortable and health-promoting environment, home construction should make as much use as possible of natural and non-toxic materials such as wood, stone, tile, low VOC paints and wool or cotton carpets.

## Architectural Design Resources

This is the current list of recommended professionals who have worked in the area of Vedic Architecture. The list will be modified from time to time. Please check with the Brightwood Architectural Review Committee for the latest list. Call 828-264-2871 if you have questions.

### **Recommended Vedic Architecture experts:**

Deepak Bakshi – AIA, Vedic Architect  
PO Box 1644  
Fairfield, IA 52556  
641-469-6307  
[www.ads-vastu.com](http://www.ads-vastu.com)  
[vastudesignstudio@gmail.com](mailto:vastudesignstudio@gmail.com)

Maharishi Vedic Architecture Services  
Dr. Anthony Miles, Coordinator  
393 Little Laurel Rd. Extension  
Boone, NC 28607  
828-263-0649

RAAM Consultants, Inc.  
Sarah Reid, Registered Architect (USA) and  
Chris Adamson, CEng (UK), European Engineer  
825-C Merrimon Avenue, #274  
Asheville, NC 28804-2404  
Ph 828 252 1144  
Fax 570 227 1689  
Ithaca, NY Ph. 607 257 6066

Veda Design  
Dr. Sue Weller – AIA, Vedic Architect  
1537 Bull Lea Rd.  
Lexington, KY 40511  
859-243-0348 Ext. 1600

### **Recommended architects with experience designing and/or building Vedic homes and working with Vedic Architecture experts:**

Cynthia Hughes – AIA  
400 Old Hampton Rd.  
Boone, NC 28607  
828-268-0440

Peter Mullins – Karu Architects  
224 Pleasant Valley Lane  
Boone, NC 28607  
828-265-0444  
[www.karuarchitecture.com](http://www.karuarchitecture.com)  
[pmullins@karuarchitecture.com](mailto:pmullins@karuarchitecture.com)

Elihu Siegman – AIA  
Asheville, NC  
828-350-9230  
828-253-1819