



Creating Homes, Buildings and  
Ideal City Planning

According to Vedic Architecture  
in Harmony with Natural Law

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## Rammed Earth Home in Perth, Western Australia

Bob and Judy Jackson have recently completed their unique rammed earth home in the cooler elevated hills area on the outskirts of Perth. The home has great character and style - the design and colours although natural and subtle stand out in the leafy suburban surroundings. Their previous home was a little further out on a delightful 7 acre bush setting block however the upkeep, the desire to be closer to work and to have a new Maharishi Vastu Home prompted them to move. This is the second MSV rammed earth home to be built in WA.



**East Facing**



**Front Entry**

Bob, a Sidha for over 30 years, Adjunct Associate Professor of Education at ECU, PhD in Psychology-Murdoch University, Managing Director of Include - a human services and education company and Judy, also a Sidha for over 30 years, a teacher of French and German at a Perth High School and operator of a very successful literacy program for students and a superb gardener decided to expand their skills to project manage the construction of their home as owner builders. It was a substantial undertaking throughout all stages of designing, building and landscaping however they now feel a great sense of pride, achievement and satisfaction. Rammed Earth construction in accordance with Vedic Architecture is challenging – measurements and proportions in particular need constant attention because boxing for walls and other items have set sizes and rammed earth builders tend to have their own way of doing things. Bob and Judy were very “hands on” and always vigilant and this attention to the process ensured a successful and accurate Maharishi Vastu Home.

Strip footings and a concrete pad support the rammed earth walls which are internal as well as external. The rammed earth walls give a feeling of connectedness to nature and the earth, a sense of strength and longevity. The house has beautiful WA sheoak timber floors in the main rooms, an aerated concrete decorative plinth and Colorbond roof.



**Rammed Earth Walls**



**Internal Rammed Earth Walls**

The 250m<sup>2</sup> house is square in shape and has a well balanced square clerestory centralized over the lower roof. This allows light to flood into the home from all directions and especially the large grand living and dining area. The ceiling under the clerestory is around twice the height of the ceilings in the surrounding rooms and so gives this central area a feeling of expansion and lightness. The large full height windows on the south wall of the dining room which look out onto parklands further adds to the natural connection of house and environment and the feeling of unboundedness.

The Brahmasthan is marked on the floor centre by an inlaid timber decoration and the central position on the clerestory roof is adorned with a 24ct gilded gold Kalash. The east entrance to the house is recessed for cover and a skylight provides light - the beautiful timber and glass entry doors are welcoming. Other rooms in the home include a generous master bedroom with ensuite and WIR, 1-2 other bedrooms, 1-2 studies, meditation room, a stunning kitchen, a large laundry and another bathroom.



**Clerestory and Dining**



**Kitchen**

The well orientated 1200m<sup>2</sup> lot allowed adequate space to build a 63m<sup>2</sup> studio/workshop inside the Vastu at the rear of the house and to create a patio area between the house and the studio for relaxation and enjoyment. A covered carport stands outside the Vastu fence in the north east corner of the lot. Judy has created a delightful atmosphere with colourful gardens and creative landscaping. As Bob says 'Judy is the gardener and I am responsible for irrigation and odd jobs'. The house has leaf proof gutters and water is collected in two 10,000 litre tanks for most of the house requirements. In addition the sewerage system filters the water and provides sub-surface irrigation for the fruit trees and roses.



**Patio**



**Recessed Entry**

**Comments by Bob :-** "The house is built of rammed earth and is just over 250 square metres in size. My wife Judy and I owner-built it, which saved a lot of money as well as allowing us to oversee the process to ensure that the house conformed to Sthapatya Veda principles. From the laying of the pad to moving in took almost exactly 12 months but the finding of the land, drawing up the plans and getting approval took quite a while longer. The process was that we selected the basic external Sthapatya Veda design which allowed us to have doorways from both the east and north. The internal design was then drawn up in draft form so that we could get precise room measurements from our Sthapatya Veda consultant (Mike Lyons) allowing the final plans to be drawn up. There was a lot of to-ing and fro-ing to meet all the environmental and building requirements as well as fitting our vision and the Sthapatya Veda requirements. Overall the planning and building process was pretty much hassle free -- much easier than we had feared as amateurs in owner building! We had moved from a very large house on seven acres of bush so we thought that we would always miss the old property. In fact we find that we love the new house so much that we would never think of moving anywhere else. The house has such a feeling of peace and harmony. We are finding our whole life and relationships just seem to be happier and more peaceful. It is just such a nice house to be in -- something that is commonly remarked on by visitors and the house has become a bit of a feature of the neighbourhood. The golden kalash on the roof fits in really well and does not come across as 'odd' which we thought it might."

**Congratulations to Bob and Judy on creating such a special building.**

**Healthy, Wealthy and Wise in Buildings built in accordance with Natural Law.**

Mike Lyons, National Architecture Director for Australia  
Maharishi's Global Administration through Natural Law Ltd

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