



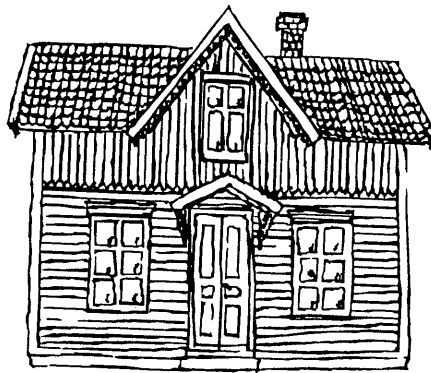
## **Feng Shui and Real Estate Values**

**Shera Gabriel**

Real estate appraising views a home or property in monetary terms, and changes are made to improve its market value. Feng Shui, on the other hand, considers the home as a holistic environment. It searches for ways to enhance the flow of Chi and release energy blockages that may manifest in corresponding life areas.<sup>1</sup> Though seemingly very different disciplines, Feng Shui can help maintain the optimum value of a real estate holding or even increase its worth.

With Feng Shui, instead of viewing a home through only economic glasses, you experience your living spaces as an integral part of your life. Buildings are dynamic entities that can either nurture and transform your life or undermine and weaken it. When the life-enriching energy of Chi flows through your dwelling, you are supported in your quest for a prosperous and fulfilling life. This prosperity also flows into your pocketbook.

A house is much more than a physical structure of wood, concrete, shingles, and siding. It reflects who you are and who you hope to be.



Just as your identity may be linked to your children, work, or even your pets, you also personalize your living space and infuse it with your hopes, ideals, and ego identity.

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<sup>1</sup> Please refer to "The Bagua," p. 35

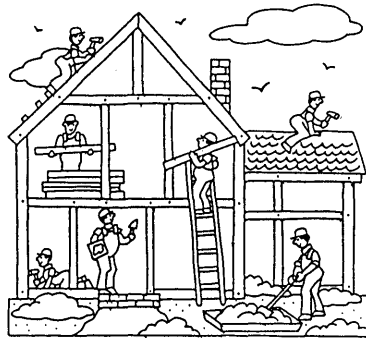
## **180 Contemporary Earth Design: A Feng Shui Anthology**

Most people have a strong emotional response when allowing a real estate appraiser to inspect their property. Often, there is a sense of *showing off* the home just as one would show off a precocious child. Other times the owners display a certain shyness at having a stranger view their innermost sanctum.

**People have an intuitive sense that their homes  
mirror who they are,  
reflecting both the loveliness of their spirits  
and the dysfunction of their egos.**

The real estate appraiser is an advocate for the home, looking for aspects that add or detract from its value. The Feng Shui consultant views it as a living space and uses cures for freeing blocked energy and enhancing the spirit. In Western society, property value is based on economics. Feng Shui takes you one step further; it helps maintain your home's economic value while increasing the blessings in your life.

### **What is Value?**



Economics defines market value as the most probable price a property will bring on the open market. On a practical level, you are concerned with protecting your home as an investment. You paint, repair, re-roof, and work hard to preserve its value.

When it comes time to sell, you want to receive the highest possible price.



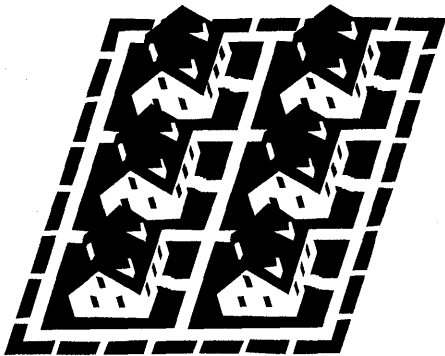
But what really constitutes value in your property? Could it be the flow of Chi? A home with an abundance of positive flowing Chi attracts people and potential buyers like a magnet. This *vitality* is what constitutes the greatest value in real estate.

*Viewing homes through the eyes of both a real estate appraiser and a Feng Shui practitioner, I have consistently seen a relationship between value and good Feng Shui. Homes that have good Chi are homes that often command the highest price in the neighborhood. Those with a certain stagnant, blocked energy are the homes that sit on the market the longest, often selling for less than the asking price and appraising for even lower.*

### **The Relationship of Feng Shui and Value**

Real estate guidelines and basic Feng Shui principles contribute to obtaining the highest property value estimate. These guidelines apply to current ownership as well as to buying and selling property.

#### **Explore the Neighborhood**



Your property should be harmonious in style, design, and of comparable value to others in the area. The upkeep of your property should contribute to a sense of order and beauty with its surroundings and create harmonious relations with your neighbors. As everyone is interconnected, the relationships you foster with neighbors add to the vitality of the area.

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There are some locations that are more auspicious than others, but no location is without hope. Some of the more challenging aspects can be put in balance with Feng Shui cures.<sup>2</sup> High tension wires nearby, environmental pollution, mixed zoning, and changing land use can affect not only the property value but the health and well-being of its occupants.

### **First Impressions are Lasting**

The first impression<sup>3</sup> is usually determined by the front door. It welcomes you or confuses you as to whether you are wanted in the home. All opportunity enters through the front door, so be sure it is inviting and welcoming to positive energies (and the real estate appraiser!) Front doors and exteriors should look fresh and clean, be in good repair, and exude a feeling of pride.

The exterior of your house is the face you present to the world. Winding pathways up to the front door allow Chi to meander slowly and flow smoothly into the home.



A well maintained landscape and exterior architectural features also contribute charm and grace to the property.

### **Inside the Home, What Do You See?**

How does it feel? How does it smell? Is it light and airy or dark and heavy? Upgrading windows can add value to your home. Clean windows add to the harmonious flow of Chi and allow nature to enter and become

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<sup>2</sup> Please refer to "Using the Components of Feng Shui Cures," p. 65.

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to "The Room of First Impression," p. 207, and "The Entry: New Beginnings," p. 201.

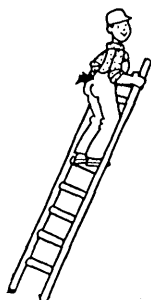
## **Feng Shui and Real Estate Values**

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a part of the inside environment. Illuminating dark corners and hallways welcomes the light into your life and provides a sense of warmth.

Whether you are selling or maintaining your property's value, you will reap the benefits of putting your environment in order and keeping it in good repair. Clutter is stagnating energy. It clogs up outer and inner *arteries*. Lightening up and ordering will allow better Chi flow and is immediately evident to you and all who enter.

Some ways to add monetary value to your home:



- Remodel the kitchen
- Add a bathroom
- Add a new room
- Upgrade the basement

Feng Shui can guide you in the most auspicious design for these improvements, suggesting colors, room placement, or a layout that enhances life areas. With the help of the Bagua, additions and upgrades will enhance your home's value and provide blessings in your life.

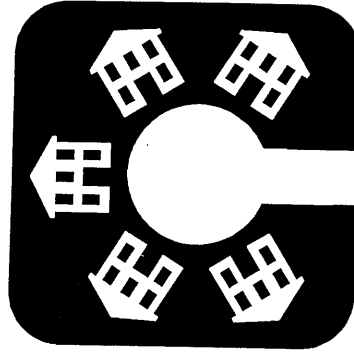
### **Buying Your Perfect Property**

Following basic guidelines when searching for property will insure that your dream home, once purchased, does not turn into your worst nightmare!

#### **The External Environment**

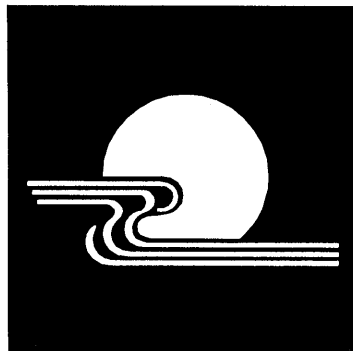
Consider what kind of neighborhood you want to live in. What is important to you: Friendly neighbors? Tranquil setting? Lots of trees? Slow, meandering traffic?

Avoid cul-de-sacs where Chi intensifies and has no outlet; neighbors get testy with one another here.



Property at the joining of a T-intersection should also be avoided. Chi zooms down a straight path right to your door. If you absolutely *must* buy that little house at the end of a T-intersection, there are cures to help deflect the rush of Chi like trees or a row of bushes between the street and the house.<sup>4</sup>

What about the name of the street? Is it Depression Lane or Happiness Court? Where would you rather live? In driving home from the office every day, what would you notice if you lived in this neighborhood? A cemetery? Prison? Junk yard? Are there high-tension wires on the same block? What about noise pollution?



What feelings would these sights evoke that might determine your mood for the day? Do the other houses in the neighborhood appear to be loved, the way you would love your house? Can you relax in this neighborhood and feel like this is your home?

**Good Feng Shui advises you to follow your intuition rather than some abstract recipe that may or may not be relevant to your needs.**

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<sup>4</sup> *Do not despair if you already own a property with one of these features. See Earth Design: The Added Dimension for additional cures.*

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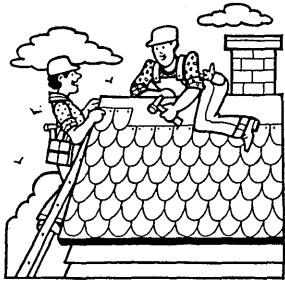
Check with the local zoning board to make sure there are no proposed land use changes that could be the source of stress in the future. Note if the street surface is smooth and even. Drive outward from the immediate neighborhood to outlying areas. What else do you find?

### **Inspecting the Home (Enter at Your Own Risk)**

Stand outside the house awhile and look at it. Has this house been cared for? Does the shape of the house appeal to you?



Are there any broken or cracked windows?



How does the roof appear?



Does the house need painting?

Walk around the house and inspect the foundation. This will be the foundation of your life experience. You want it strong and solid with no cracks that could undermine its purpose. From a Feng Shui perspective, symmetrical shapes are best. A house with many offsets and angles could indicate fragmentation.

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Is there a garage? A detached garage is best. If it is attached, it should be away from the front entrance so that it does not detract Chi in its path to the front door.

Once inside, check the ceiling for water marks that would indicate a leaking roof. Are there plenty of windows? Do they open smoothly, or are they painted shut? Are the floors solid and level? How does the traffic pattern feel? Walls that form many angles and slants give off negative Chi that is unbalanced and uncomfortable. Are there heavy beams overhead in any of the rooms? This downward energy can feel burdensome and may even contribute to headaches if you sit or sleep under them. A most troublesome feature is a stairway that faces the front door of the house. Chi comes rushing down the stairs and flies out the front door.

How is the house designed? Watch out for a bathroom or kitchen in the center of the house, Chi will flow down and out this *center drain*. A main bathroom that can only be reached by going through a bedroom is another negative feature. The bedrooms should be located at the back of the house away from the street. What is the first room seen upon entering the house? This will have an effect on all who enter. Is it a bathroom? Or a kitchen? A blank wall? Use your imagination to guess the effect each of these could have.

These guidelines are only a starting point in the creation of a harmonious living space. Purchasing property that has good Feng Shui helps the flow begin.



Combining the mundane aspects of real estate management and valuation with a spiritual understanding of Feng Shui can enhance your life on all levels.

You are caring for the earth and yourself when you bring harmony and balance into your environment. Profit then becomes simply a by-product of a higher objective, to aid in the unfolding of all of life's potential.



Excerpted from  
*The Feng Shui Anthology*

Jami Lin's  
Feng-Shui-Interior Design

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In *The Feng Shui Anthology*, when the **Bagua** is discussed, **only the Life-Aspiration Energies are mentioned** (except in Derek Walter's article.). **To work with the Bagua and to maximize your Feng Shui with the information of all the masters, you must include your 8) Best Directions and 9) Flying Star Energies.**

Your [Personal Success Bagua-Map](#)  
will optimize Feng Shui & Design Success

If you are a Feng Shui beginner or an expert...

Your Personalized Success Map  
contains ALL essential, at-a-glance solutions  
that Jami Lin provides during a private consultation.

**IMPORTANT: Popular Feng Shui misconceptions!**

- REAL Feng Shui is not a "one size fits all"
- There is not one Feng Shui map generic to everyone's home.
- If you moved in your home between 1984 and 2048,  
there are 2048 Bagua maps.
- **ONLY ONE BAGUA-MAP is correct for YOU**  
and Your Home: and it is called YOUR [Personal Success Map!](#)

Check out YOUR Custom [Personal Success Map](#)  
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I made it really easy for you to personally benefit with my experience.**

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