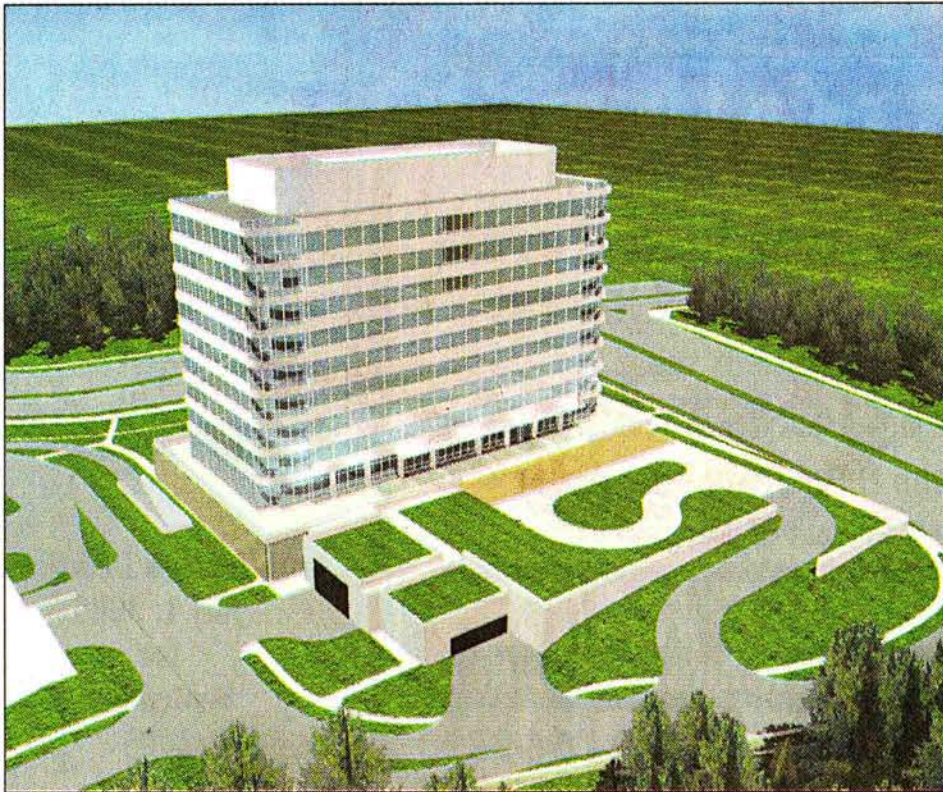


BUSINESS

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LISBOA INC.

Tower II, a 200,000-square-foot building planned for Rockville, is to meet Vedic standards as well as environmental standards set by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Tower II Planned With The Maharishi in Mind

Developer Aims to Build Healthful Workplace

By MARK CHEDIAK
Washington Post Staff Writer

Commercial office buildings are usually all about square footage, parking lots and maybe some marble in the lobby. But developer Jeffrey S. Abramson says his new building in Rockville will also offer a terrace called a vastu and an interior open space called a brahmasthan.

Abramson, a partner with Tower Cos. of Bethesda, says these and other features will make his planned Tower II the world's largest office building that meets the Vedic standards promoted by the Indian guru Maharishi Mahesh Yogi.

Like the Beatles decades ago, Abramson practices the maharishi's Transcendental Meditation. He said he learned about the

healing benefits of Vedic architecture after moving into a home built on its principles of universal harmony and order. He said his goal with Tower II is not to proselytize but to offer tenants a more spiritually fulfilling and healthful workspace.

"We spend 90 percent of our time indoors, and therefore the built environment has the potential to help a person to succeed," Abramson said. "That's why I'm interested in Vedic architecture."

Abramson said the \$72 million building also is to comply with environmental standards set by the U.S. Green Building Council. The 200,000-square-foot structure is to be built with nontoxic materials and rely on energy-efficient lighting and air condition-

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