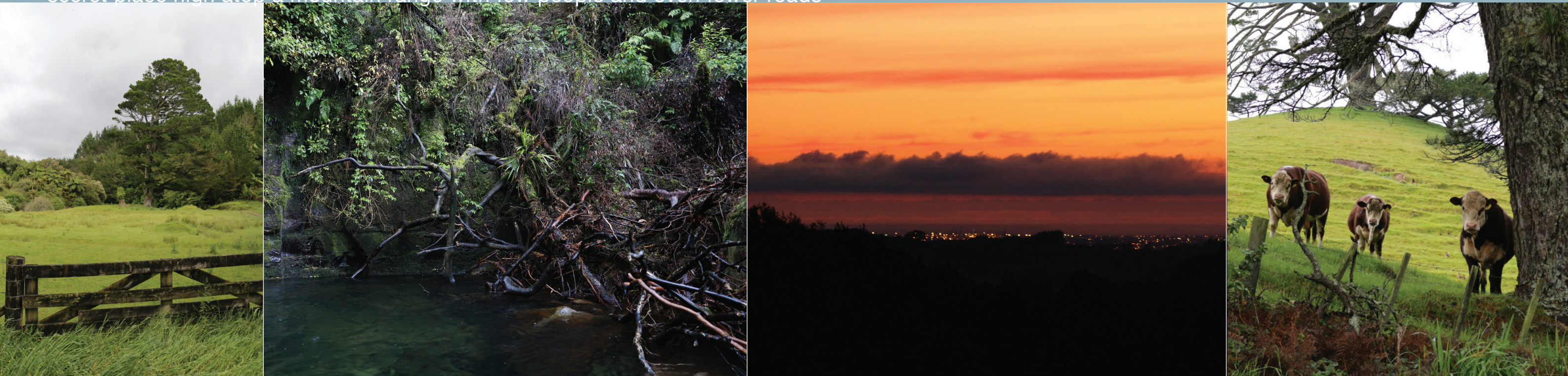




Windy Ridge studio

Paul Wilding's creative work space, New Zealand 1993 - 2017.

Go a little distance out of a big city (and perhaps a little back in time) and you enter a secret place high atop a mountain range with few people and even fewer roads

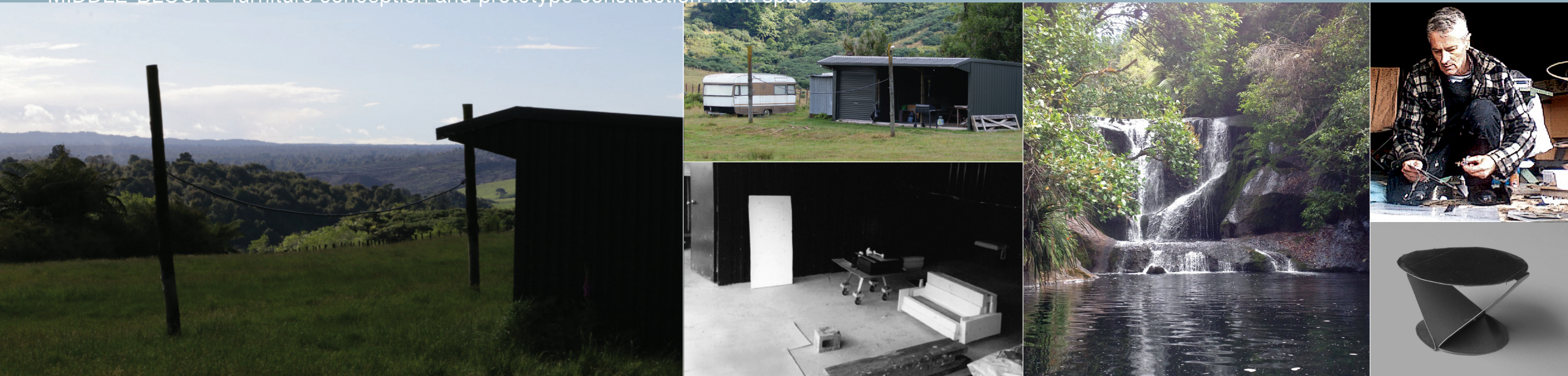


Living, and working in a raw natural environment, not far from the lairs of wild pigs, and deer wallows, creates a state of being that proves to be a slow, and mysterious reveal of the locked secrets within - best discovered, if you leave your keys at the gate, and strike out into the hills on foot.

After a prolonged heavy rain, rivers turn into a torrent of malevolent fury, and are only to be braved with the lust for adventure, or driven by the most extreme need to get to the other side. A river obeys no laws other than it's own - errors are not permitted, as it does not forgive - one slip, and you are at it's mercy.



MIDDLE-BLOCK - furniture conception and prototype construction work space



Cold comfort

The shed captures the view and everything else: the sun, wind, rain, hail and cold - and that's summer - in winter, when the sleet drifts in, it is minus celsius. The shed stands alone amidst an immensity of landscape under a huge sweep of sky, far removed from the hub of the farm: a retreat, within a retreat.

A work space can be made to confine, or it can serve to liberate. The shed design space isn't about shutting things out - it's about letting everything in. Living outside inside is an invitation into a very special universe; cold becomes a catalyst into opening the door to the self truths - thoughts, and beliefs not hidden behind present day subterfuge, or fanciful thinking. The closer we are to the natural world, the more we allow ourselves to be absorbed into it, and the more it reveals - thus, seemingly allowing the work "to do itself."

This space is where designs are conceived, basic models made, and initial full-size shaping profiles fashioned.





A point of view

800 hectares of rolling hill beef, deer and sheep farm - a wild landscape full of mists, wind, stories, and more. Hills that speak of spectacular views in every direction - on a clear day, one can see and feel, the majestic snow-capped Mt Ruapehu 125 kilometres to the south. Facing towards the east; the ocean and islands beyond (above) - to the north and west; sweeping views of 50,000 hectares of forest, and rolling farmland that Monet may have painted.



APARTMENT - design space



The best of both worlds

The apartment is close to a major road, one kilometre upriver from the middle-block shed - yet only 250 metres downriver from the river's headwaters, in the 400,000 hectare Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park.

This space is where conceptual ideas conceived at the middle-block shed, are moved into larger models and/or full-size shaping profiles. Original conceptual ideas are also conceived, both on paper, and basic models made.



WHITE HOUSE - furniture contemplation space



The coolest show in town

The elevation is higher here, so in winter, one's head is forever in the clouds, and it's colder. Living is relatively more comfortable than the middle-block with more facilities - it's also off-grid, reliant on alternative energy for power.

Adjacent to the apartment, the whare's sole function is to provide a personal showroom environment for contemplating and critiquing finished full-size shaping profiles and prototypes.

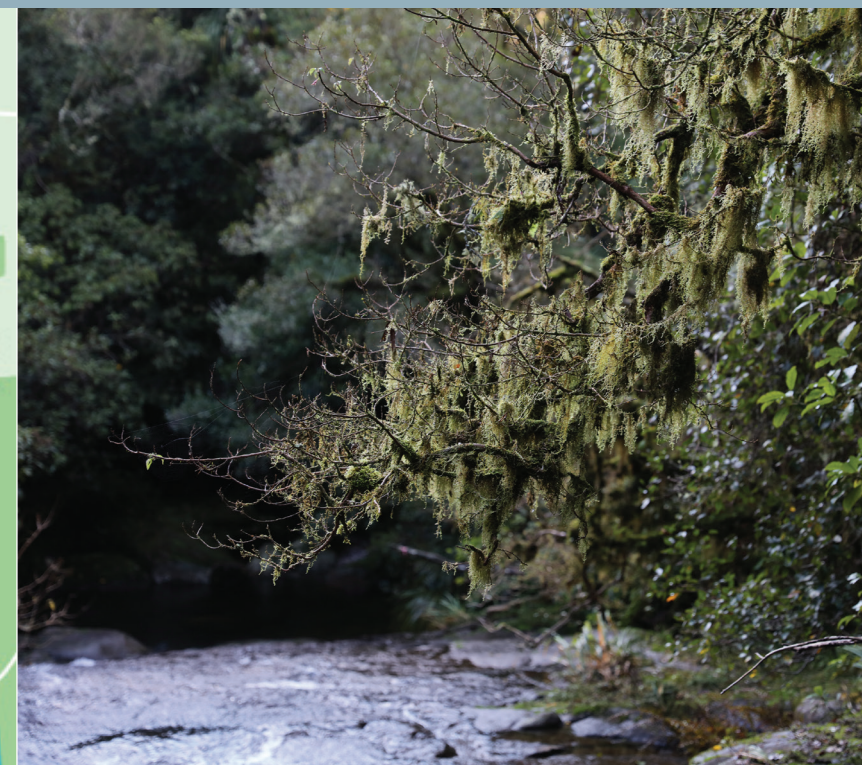




It's not just a river, it's also a philosophy

A river is a living being, and has outbursts of fury and bad moods - fortunately, it is not always so rampant, and in summer, the deep pools are designed for 'wild river swimming' - pools of perfectly clear water: a jewel-like turquoise in the shallows and a dark cerulean deeper.





The courage to dare

For those who have an inclination to leave a protected life in the city, and dare to venture into the unknown and make some of those impossible things happen; Windy Ridge studio has proven to be one of those situations ripe with possibilities, in both an imaginative and real landscape.

Some of Paul Wilding's designs are fairly easy to imitate, but the path of his creativity is not as he has always followed his instincts - making his way of life very individual, very inimitable.

Although at times, it has been a place of uncertainty and sometimes disquieting experiences - months have rolled into years, and having a secret space to experiment, allowing one's imagination to soar free and going beyond conventional form - has born much fruit.





Paul Wilding visual narratives

1. **Period of search:** 1985 - 2002

Printed 2014

2. **The courage of original design**

Printed 2014

3. **Discovery:** 1991 - 2016

Printed 2016

4. **Windy Ridge studio:** 1993 - 2017

Printed 2017



Paul Wilding Design

MODERN FURNITURE

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