

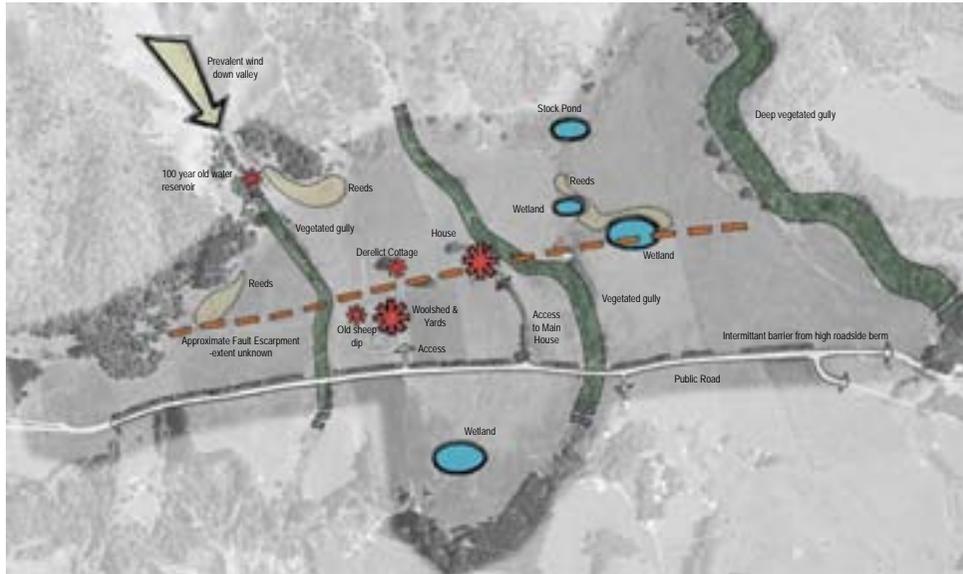
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In 2005 the Montfort Trimble Foundation engaged Isthmus Group to provide options for the development of their Rewanui property.

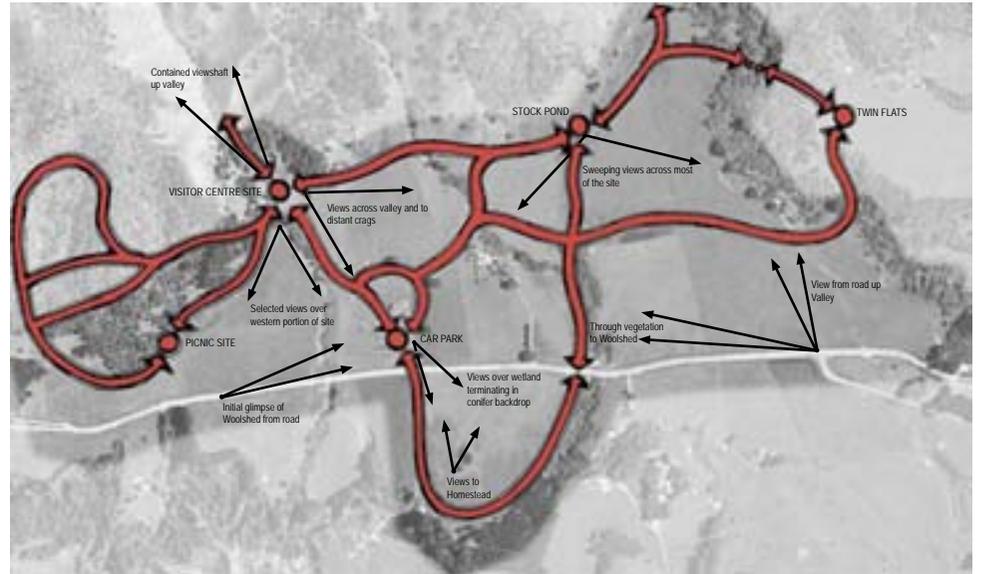
Initial stages of this work comprised the design of a standardised signage system which at the same time created structures that related to the working farm and Rewanui Farm Park itself. Further investigation and design led to the provision of a report into the viability of composting toilets and their appropriateness within Rewanui. Conceptual sketches of building design for the toilet building and a visitor centre were also provided.

This booklet has been developed as fulfilment of the final request from the Foundation for a broad indicative concept plan to act as a development guide for Rewanui.

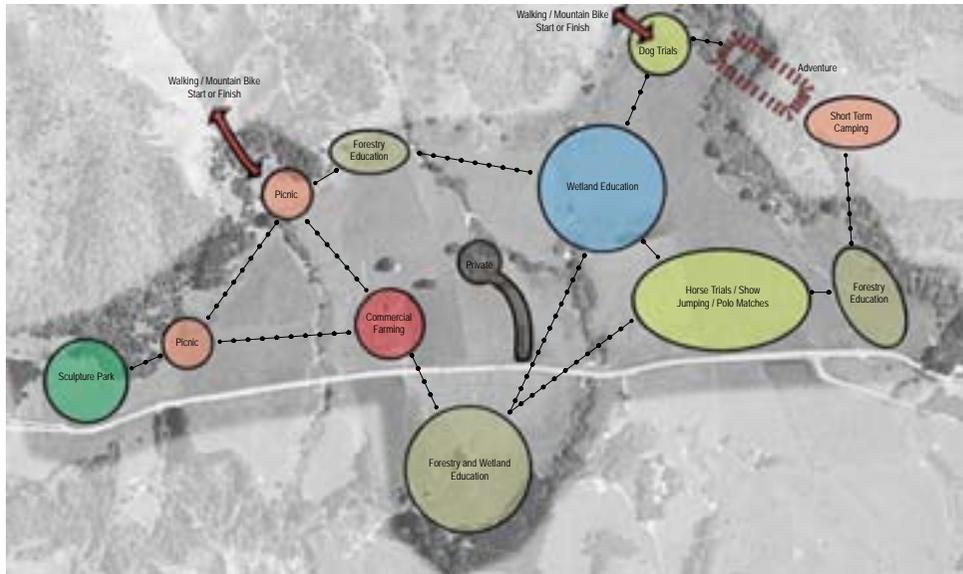
Site analysis of the property was undertaken in October 2005 to guide the creation of the concept plan. A draft of the plan was presented to a Foundation sub committee with their comments used to refine the plan to its final state. This landscape plan is not a complete and structured proposal but rather an indicative ideal for the Foundation members to work towards in fulfilling their stated objectives of afforestation.



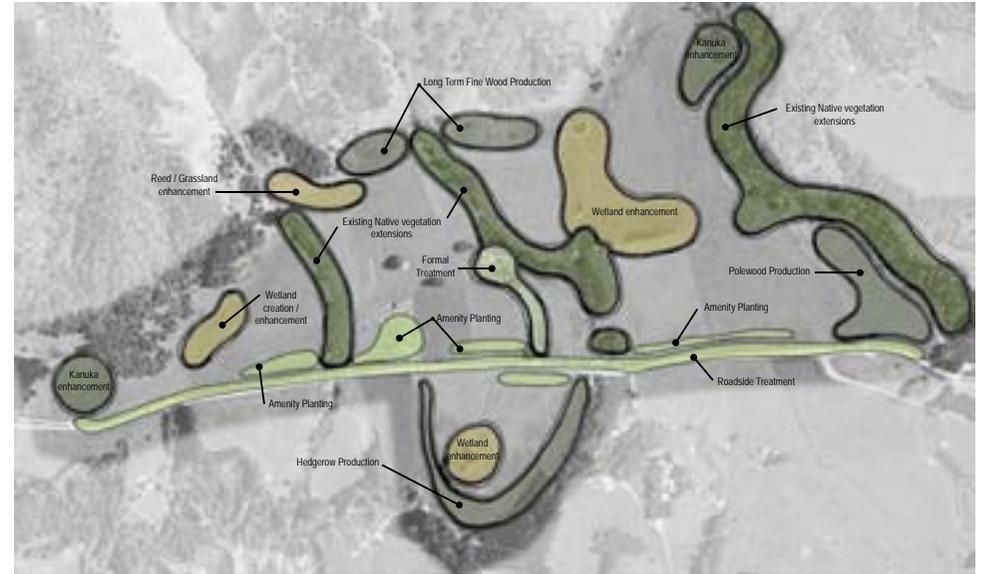
Built Structures and Natural Features



Site Circulation and Views



Activity Areas



Proposed Planting Areas

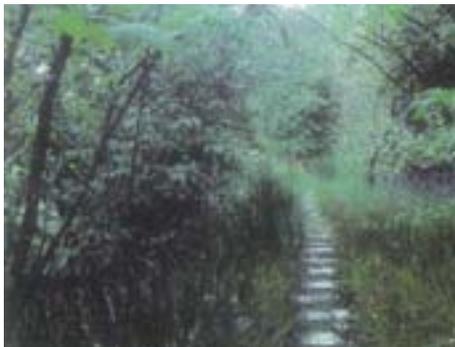
Shearing shed

Stockyards

Pedestrian walkway

Car park

Vehicle entrance

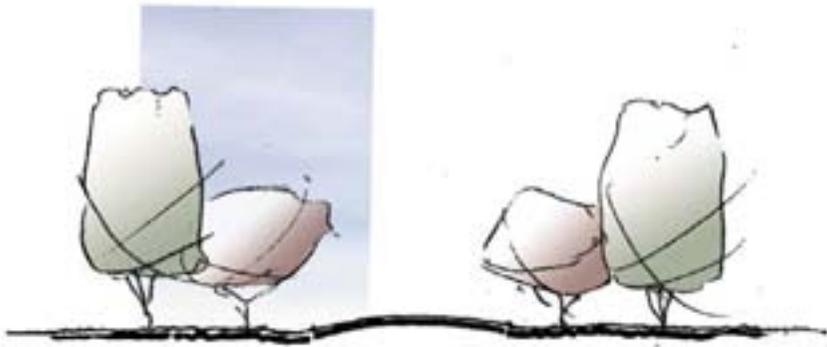


Located just off the main road the car park is the primary arrival point for visitors to Rewanui Farm Park. It is located beside the existing stock yards and in close proximity to the working shearing shed.

There is a variety of vehicles that are to be catered for within the car park, including; stock trucks accessing the shearing sheds, tour buses including turning space, and visitor car parking. It is proposed that the car park be surfaced in graded road base with suitable planting to the perimeter and centre to assist in drainage and avoid expanses of hard surface while still retaining clear visibility for drivers and pedestrians.

Pedestrian routes leading away from the car park are kept separate from the main vehicle entrances to avoid conflict. The Black Walnut walk stretches alongside the car park giving a sense of connection into the wider Farm Park environment and to shelter the car park from the elements and view.

A centrally placed information board within the car park assists visitors in orientating themselves and exploring the Farm Park.



Cross section through double avenue drive up to the main house

- Main house
- Semi-enclosure of lawn
- Formal lawn
- Double avenue approach to the main house



The main house at Rewanui is currently set within a working farmland setting, with some amenity planting surrounding the building. While the property for the large part of the year will remain a private residence there are opportunities to utilise this asset for yearly (or more frequent) open days, musical recitals and outdoor functions.

The proposals for the main house aim to formalise the setting of the building, beginning with the creation of a double tree lined avenue approach from the main road, which will give a sense of arrival into the property. Suitable tree species include flowering cherry for the inner tree line and elm, beech or liquidambar for the outer tree line.

The tree lined approach terminates beside the main house with a semi-enclosed circular formal lawn to the front of the house suitable for multiple outdoor function use. Enclosure is created by the continuation of a single line of the avenue trees to part of the perimeter under planted with shrub species. The semi-enclosed nature of the lawn enables protection from the prevailing wind while still directing the views across to the lower paddocks and valley beyond. A haha removes the requirement for visually obtrusive fencing.

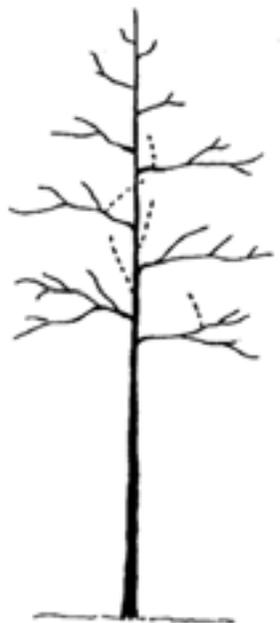
Existing Macrocarpas to the rear of the residence are removed with replacements located further to the north of the building.



Autumn/Winter 1: with no feather



Autumn/Winter 2: new seasons feather



Autumn/Winter 4 or 5: balanced tiered branch system



Extension of native planting

Amenity planting of exotic tree species

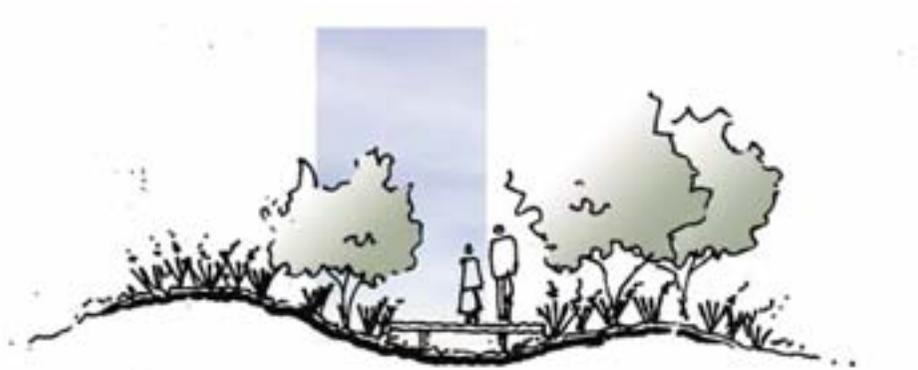
Main road

Predominantly exotic amenity planting to the farm park's road edge will provide a varied and visually attractive edge to Rewanui.

A proposed establishment method for these areas is through the fencing off of small parts and planting trees of various ages [from whips to standards] at a relatively high density with the view to sustaining some losses and removing other specimens at later dates, or management of the stand through coppicing.

Further individual exotic species [elm, beech, oak, liquidamber etc] will add to the park like environment to the western picnic and sculpture areas. These specimens will help to establish wind and stock protection through the design of suitable tree guards.

Outside the fences along the road berm a selection of relatively low growing native species will eventually replace the rank grass, and will act as a testing ground for best practice techniques for the establishment and enhancement of farm roadside edges.



Cross section through approach to wetland & hide



Hide

Wetland

Native marginal planting

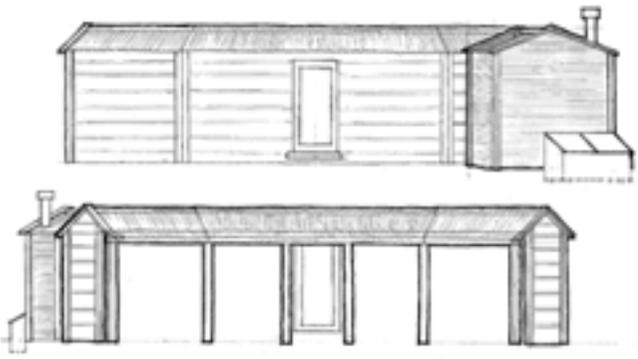


Subtle earth shaping to the edge of the wetland will allow for its extension and a greater amount of water retention.

A structured path system including bridges, seats and explanatory signage lead the visitor through this unique environment.

A hide is constructed to the edge of the enlarged pond & wetland with its entrance being concealed by planted moundings to either side. Visitors will have the opportunity to appreciate wildlife from a discrete vantage point.





Indicative Visitor Centre



- Visitor Centre
- Picnic area and outdoor classroom space
- Weir
- Path from car park



The main information centre for Rewanui sits at the entrance to a valley with panoramic views over the surrounding landscape [See also Visitor Centre & Toilet Building Concepts *March 2006*].

Informal picnic facilities also able to function as an outdoor classroom are provided to the rear of the Visitor Centre. The shape of the building will give a sense of enclosure and protection for the elements to this space.

Fencing is extended to enclose the Visitor Centre and historic reservoir building while a haha excludes animals to the front enabling clear sight lines over the Farm Park.



Picnic area

Pond with marginal planting

Sculpture garden

Weir

Main road



The more 'enclosed' western end of Rewanui is proposed to comprise several intimate picnic areas with a created lake. Plantings within this area will be predominantly native revegetation including Rewarewa and Kanuka. These plantings will provide structure and enclosure to this end of the farm.

Additional plantings of individual or small groups of exotic species such as elm, chestnuts and oak will provide seasonal colour and be ideal locations for picnicing.

A sculpture park is proposed to be located within this portion of the park. Sculptural elements which could be built from site specific materials could be displayed around the picnic sites. Invitations for artists to produce these works could be by way of regular registrations of interest or through a programmed plan.

