

domain LAND AND DEVELOPMENT

Living creatively is a breeze

Work from home in an ecology-inspired artwork, suggests **Katherine Townsend.**

ST KILDA
91 Wellington Street
\$425,000-\$525,000 plus

Private sale
Agent Wilson Pride, Albert Park,
9699 4555
Melway 2P F3

NEOMETRO'S award-winning buildings dotted across Melbourne have a loyal following among architects, designers and creative types for their distinctive look and feel.

The newest release in St Kilda is a development of 10 apartments with offices that sit above the car park access and a cafe. In an area where every second building is occupied by graphic artists, architects or designers it may have a captive audience.

Built over three levels, the approach from Crimea Street opposite gives a good view of the Neometro style.

Todd Butterworth's timber artwork for the frontispiece softens the effect and its open design ventilates the centre of the building.

Crisp spring-green canvas awnings shade the upper-floor balconies and cypress pine is used on a slatted entry door to the complex, with open brickwork on the balconies.

The apartments are simple and typical of the Neometro look. At 55 or 90 square metres they are small but have sleek lines and are cleverly designed to make the most of the space.

Floor plans are altered using the sliding internal doors. For instance, bedroom and study are



separated in the first-floor, one-bedroom apartments by a sliding door — or wardrobes can be shifted to change the shape.

The sleek and simple decor features natural, mostly unadorned materials such as concrete, rubber, timber, glass and wool.

The apartments use solar hot water and are cross-ventilated for energy efficiency. A central meeting area with a small garden is seen from the rear bedrooms.

The two-bedroom apartments on the upper floors are laid out over two storeys, with a kitchen, living and dining room on the lower floor and two bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs.

The apartments are zoned for business and residential use for those who run a business or work from home.



The split-level, two-bedroom apartments (above) on the upper floors have downstairs living and kitchen (below). The artwork frontispiece (left) ventilates the building, reducing cooling costs.

