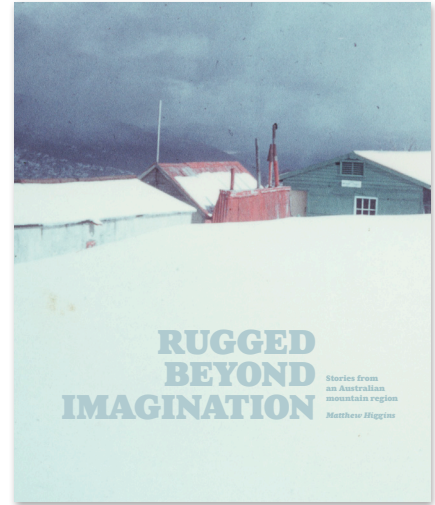




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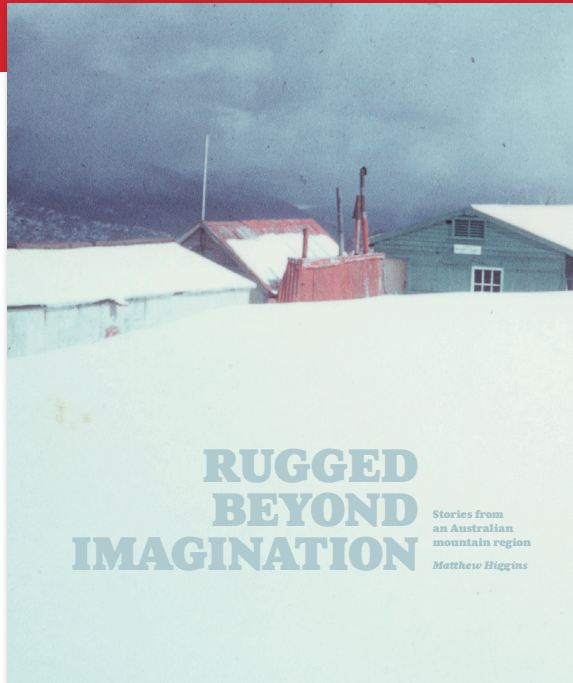
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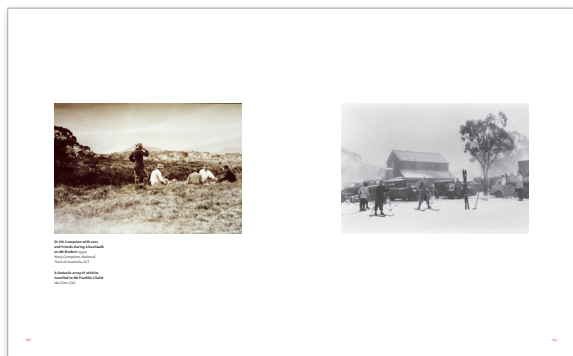
RUGGED BEYOND IMAGINATION

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mountain region

Matthew Higgins

Grand, wild and windswept, the Australian Alps have played a big part in forging the identity of our nation. *Rugged Beyond Imagination* examines the lesser-known northern Alps, defined by the Namadgi–Tidbinbilla region of the Australian Capital Territory, and pursues its historical links with Kosciuszko National Park. Drawing on a rich oral history, this book captures the experiences of stockmen and skiers, scientists and surveyors, dam builders and brumby runners to paint a vivid picture of how people were shaped by the mountain environment and how they endeavoured to shape it. Rare and iconic images help to convey the beauty and history of a very special part of Australia.

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Matthew Higgins has been exploring the Australian high country, in bushwalking boots and on cross-country skis, for more than 20 years. He has worked professionally as a historian since the early 1980s and was appointed a senior curator at the National Museum of Australia, Canberra, in 2004. He wrote this book while a research fellow at the Museum's Centre for Historical Research.



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