

Document Design

Collected Process Books

Conlon Novak

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| Introduction

This is a collection of process books was taken from my time in Carnegie Mellon University course 05-899F Document Design, taught by professor Karen Kornblum in the fall of 2020.

The course was presented remotely for the first time, and these (slightly condensed, but otherwise unaltered) process books were our primary deliverables month to month.

On a technical level, I hope the improvement of my skills and visual design understanding throughout the semester is clearly demonstrated.

More importantly, I hope they provide some insight into how I approach open-ended design problems, respond to critique, reflect on my work's strengths and flaws, and improve from there.

Conlon Novak, October 2022

Texture Studies

“...push the limits of familiar typographic styling in order to create wildly different visual textures for each swatch.”

Study A: Serif Textures
Conlon Novak

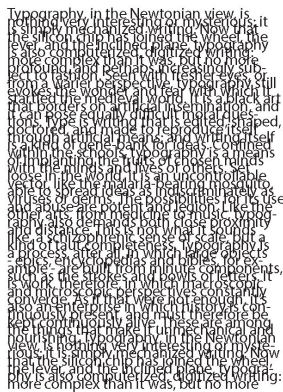


TYPOGRAPHY, IN THE NEWTONIAN VIEW, IS NOTHING VERY INTERESTING OR MYSTERIOUS; IT IS SIMPLY MECHANIZED WRITING. NOW THAT THE SILICON CHIP HAS JOINED THE WHEEL, THE LEVER, AND THE INCLINED PLANE, TYPOGRAPHY IS ALSO COMPUTERIZED, DIGITIZED WRITING: MORE COMPLEX THAN IT WAS, BUT NO MORE PROFOUND, AND PERHAPS INCREASINGLY SUBJECT TO FASHION. SEEN WITH FRESHER EYES, OR FROM A WARMER PERSPECTIVE, TYPOGRAPHY STILL EVOKES THE WONDER AND FEAR WITH WHICH IT STARTLED THE MEDIEVAL WORLD. IT IS A BLACK ART THAT BORDERS ON ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION, AND IT CAN POSE EQUALLY DIFFICULT MORAL QUESTIONS. TYPE IS WRITING THAT IS EDITED, SHAPED, DOCTORED, AND MADE TO REPRODUCE ITSELF THROUGH ARTIFICIAL MEANS; AND WRITING ITSELF IS A KIND OF GENE-BANK FOR IDEAS, CONFINED WITHIN THE SCHOOLS. TYPOGRAPHY IS A MEANS OF IMPLANTING THE FRUITS OF CHOSEN MINDS WITH THE MINDS AND LIVES OF OTHERS. SET LOOSE IN THE WORLD, IT IS AN UNCONTROLLABLE VECTOR, LIKE THE MALARIA-BEARING MOSQUITO, ABLE TO SPREAD IDEAS AS INDISCRIMINATELY AS VIRUSES OR GERMS. THE POSSIBILITIES FOR ITS USE AND ABUSE ARE POTENT AND LEGION. LIKE THE OTHER ARTS, FROM MEDICINE TO MUSIC, TYPOGRAPHY ALSO DEMANDS BOTH CLOSE PROXIMITY AND DISTANCE. THIS IS NOT WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE. A SCHIZOPHRENIC SENSE OF SCALE, BUT A KIND OF FACT COMPLETENESS. TYPOGRAPHY IS A PROCESS, AFTER ALL, IN WHICH LARGE OBJECTS — EPICS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND BIBLES, FOR EXAMPLE — ARE BUILT FROM MINUTE COMPONENTS, SUCH AS THE STROKES AND BOWLS OF LETTERS. IT IS WORK, THEREFORE, IN WHICH MACROSCOPIC AND MICROSCOPIC PERSPECTIVES CONSTANTLY CONVERGE, AS IF THAT WERE NOT ENOUGH, IT'S ALSO AN ENTERPRISE IN WHICH HISTORY IS CONTINUOUSLY PRESENT, AND

*Typography, in
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Study B: Sans Serif Textures
Conlon Novak



Typography, in the Newtonian view, is: it nothing very interesting or mysterious; it is simply mechanized writing. Now that the silicon chip has joined the wheel, the lever, and the inclined plane, typography is also computerized, digitized writing: more complex than it was, but no more profound, and perhaps increasingly subject to fashion. Seen with fresher eyes, or from a warmer perspective, typography still evokes the wonder and fear with which it startled the medieval world. It is a black art that borders on artificial insemination, and it can pose equally difficult moral questions. Type is writing that is edited, shaped, doctored, and made to reproduce itself through artificial means; and writing itself is a kind of gene-bank for ideas, confined within the schools. Typography is a means of implanting the fruits of chosen minds with the minds and lives of others. Set loose in the world, it is an uncontrollable vector, like the malaria-bearing mosquito, able to spread ideas as indiscriminately as viruses or germs. The possibilities for its use and abuse are potent and legion. Like the other arts, from medicine to music, typography also demands both close proximity and distance. This is not what it sounds like.

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Texture Studies

| Reflection

In retrospect, it's easy to see how the two swatches with the largest font size (bottom left of both Study A and B) are not “swatches of fabric made of text” in their own right, but at best something more similar to scraps of torn cloth.

In a potential revision, I would lean away from the semantic appeal of including only the first word or sentence in the swatch, and focus instead on the weave of the text—best exemplified (in my view) by the other three swatches in Study A.

Legibility Studies

“...make the text as legible and pleasurable to read as possible, while at the same time creating different visual textures in each swatch.”

Study A: Serif Textures

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Study B: Sans Serif Textures

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Texture and Composition Reproduction

“Students are assigned an existing historical document that they must reproduce [texturally and compositionally] as closely as possible”

A S P E C I M E N

By WILLIAM CASLON, Letter-Founder, in Chifwell-Street, LONDON.

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First Iteration

- A-head and B-head reproduced with accurate content and font, but with spacing and height matching issues
- ‘Lorem ipsum’ body text replicates general shape and texture of the rest of the document, but lacks spacing for chunks, header content
- Missing footer glyphs and text

A S P E C I M E N

By WILLIAM CASLON, Letter-Founder, in Chifwell-Street, LONDON.

A B C D
A B C D E
A B C D E F G
A B C D E F G H I
A B C D E F G H I J K
A B C D E F G H I J K L
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N

French Cannon.

Quoufque tandem abutère, Catilina, patientia nostra?

Two Lines Great Primer.

Quoufque tandem abutère, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam Quoufque tandem abutère, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor

Two Lines English.

Quoufque tandem abutère, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor ifte tuus elu-
Quoufque tandem abutère, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor

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Second Iteration

- Adjustments to A-head, B-head spacing and weight bring it more closely in line with the original
- First column and footer matches original on content, size, and style



This SPECIMEN to be placed in the Middle of the Sheet 5 U, Vol. II.

A S P E C I M E N

By WILLIAM CASLON, Letter-Founder, in Chifwell-Street, LONDON.

ABCD
ABCDE
ABCDEF
ABCDEFG
ABCDEFGH
ABCDEFGHI
ABCDEFGHIJK
ABCDEFGHIJKL
ABCDEFGHIJKLM

DOUBLE PICA ROMAN.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Double Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

French Cannon.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

English Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

English Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra?

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Two Lines Great Primer.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra?

Small Pica Roman, No. 1.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Small Pica Roman, No. 2.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Small Pica Roman, No. 3.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet?

Long Pica Roman, No. 1.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Long Pica Roman, No. 2.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

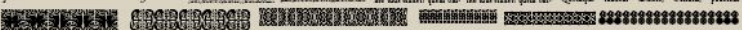
Long Pica Roman, No. 3.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Two Lines English.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet?

Small Pica Roman, No. 4.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Small Pica Roman, No. 5.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Small Pica Roman, No. 6.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO



The SPECIMEN is to be placed in the Middle of the Sheet D's, No. II.

Final Iteration

- Final column chunking is reminiscent of original, but isn't exact and lacks matching weight, fonts, and styling in many places
- General adjustments to text weight bring the overall look of the reproduction in line with original

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Italic.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Pica Roman.
Quoufque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quamdiu nos etiam furor iste tuus eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jac ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

Texture and Composition
Reproduction/Interpretation

| Reflection

While possibly straying too closely towards the “Reproduction” aspect of the assignment, I’m proud of the resulting work and thankful for the much-needed re-introduction to the finer details of inDesign.

If I had more time, I would go back and more carefully examine Caslon’s use of bold fonts and match those more closely, attempt to metaphorically iron out the visual wrinkles in my reproduction throughout the right three columns (all feel too dense, weighty, and dark despite matching chunking and content reasonably well), and spend more time matching the texture (if not the specialty fonts) of the fourth column, which was particularly difficult.

Grids and Chunks

Using a given grid, “...make thumbnails sketches of 3 possible page layouts... select one layout and [realize it as a] one-page document.”

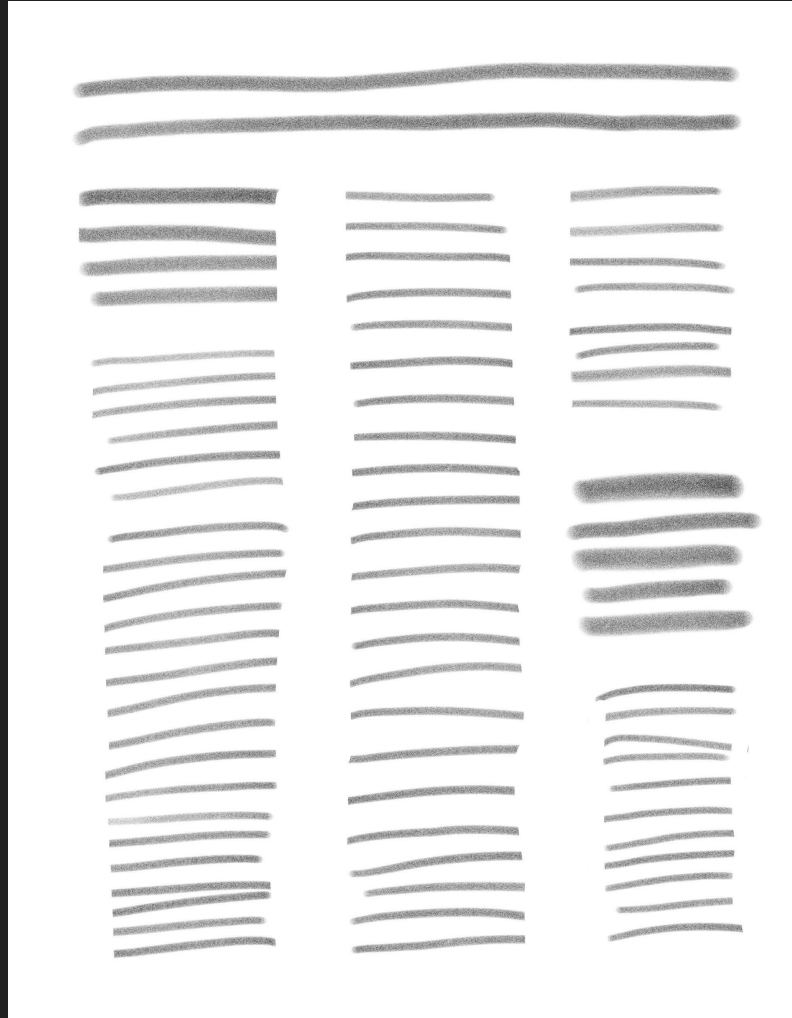
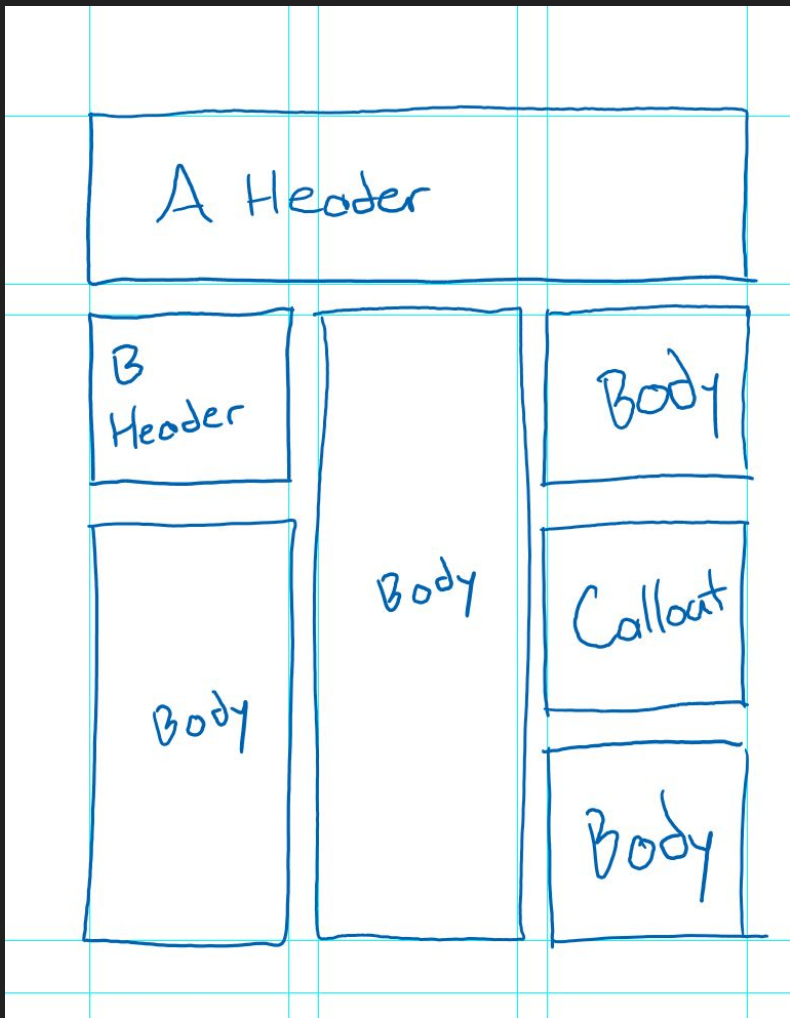
Grids and Chunks

Original Thumbnail

- Hand drawn in Microsoft OneNote over gridlines (cause for revision)
- Did not represent text or texture directly within the image
- Served more as a layout representation than a thumbnail

Revised Thumbnail

- Hand drawn in Adobe Fresco without rulers or guides
- Emphasis on weight and shading to differentiate different components while representing actual text
- Same overall layouts as originals
- Area for further improvement: better representation of text justification



Soil to Soil, Water to Water

This is ecology.
This is good design.

If we understand that design leads to the manifestation of human intention and if what we make with our hands is to be sacred and honor the earth that gives us life, then the things we make must not only rise from the ground but return to it, soil to soil, water to water, so everything that is received from the earth can be freely given back without causing harm to any living system. This is ecology. This is good design. If we use the study of architecture to go back in history, we will see that architects are always working with two elements, mass and membrane. We have the walls of Jericho, mass, and we have tents, membranes. Ancient peoples practiced the art and wisdom of building with mass, such as an adobe-walled hut, to anticipate the scope and direction of sunshine. They knew how thick a wall needed to be to transfer the heat of the day into the winter night, and how thick it had to be to transfer the coolness into the interior in the summer. They worked well with what we call "capacity" in the walls in terms of storage and thermal lags. They worked with resistance, straw in the roof to protect from heat loss in the winter and to shield the heat gain in summer from the high sun. These

were very sensible buildings within the climate in which they are located. With respect to membrane, we only have to look at the Bedouin tent to find a design that accomplishes five things at once. In the desert, temperatures often exceed 120 degrees. There is no shade, no air movement. The black Bedouin tent, when pitched, creates a deep shade that brings one's sensible temperature down to 95 degrees. The tent has a very coarse weave, which creates a beautifully illuminated interior, having a million light fixtures. Because of the coarse weave and the black surface, the air inside rises and is drawn through the membrane. So now you have a breeze coming in from outside, and that drops the sensible temperature even lower, down to 90 degrees. You may wonder what happens when it rains, with those holes in the tent. The fibers swell up and the tent gets tight as a drum when wet. And of course, you can roll it up and take it with you. The modern tent pales by comparison to this astonishingly elegant construct. Throughout history, you find constant experimentation between mass and membrane. The challenge has always been how to combine light with mass and air. This experiment displayed itself powerfully in modern architecture, which arrived with the advent of inexpensive glass. It was unfortunate that at the same time the large sheet of glass showed up, the era of cheap energy was ushered in, too. And because of that, architects

no longer rely upon the sun for heat or illumination. I have spoken to thousands of architects, and when I ask the question, "How many of you know how to find true south?", I rarely get a raised hand. There are three defining characteristics that we can learn from natural design. The first characteristic is that everything we have to work with is already here—the stones, the clay, the wood,

"... everything we have to work with is already here—the stones, the clay, the wood, the water, the air."

the water, the air. Everything is cycled constantly with all waste equaling food for other living systems. The second characteristic is that one thing allowing nature to continually cycle itself through life is energy, and this energy comes from outside the system in the form of perpetual solar income. Finally, the characteristic that sustains this complex and efficient system of metabolism and creation is biodiversity. What prevents living systems from running down and veering into chaos is a miraculously intricate and symbiotic relationship between millions of organisms, no two of which are alike.

First Iteration

- No paragraph breaks
- Bold serif header font
- Didn't use all of source text
- Many, many type crimes

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spoken to thousands of architects, and when I ask the question, "How many of you know how to find true south?", I rarely get a raised hand. There are three defining characteristics that we can learn from natural design. The first characteristic is that everything we have to work with is already here—the stones, the clay, the wood, the water, the air. Everything is cycled constantly

"... everything we have to work with is already here—the stones, the clay, the wood, the water, the air. "

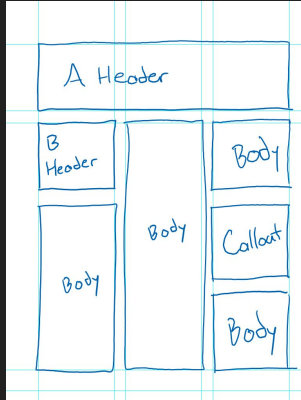
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From 'Design, Ecology, Ethics, and the Making of Things' by William McDonough

Final Iteration

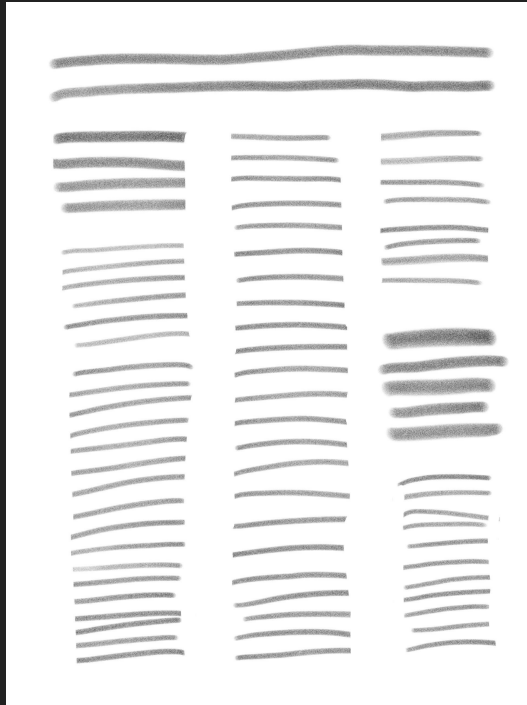
- Paragraph breaks, without indents
- Increased tracking to remove orphans in first paragraph
- Added attribution in bottom right to use all source text
- Increased leading, reviewed line length and point size for readability
- Increased size of first character to provide a better point of entry
- Adjusted spacing after B-head

Iteration Progression



ORIGINAL

REVISED



Soil to Soil, Water to Water

This is ecology.
This is good design.

If we understand that design leads to the manifestation of human intention and that we are always working with our own hands, then we can understand that design is not a neutral, objective process. It is a process of intention and choice, and it is always a process of negotiation and compromise. This is ecology. This is good design.

When we work with building materials, we are working with the earth. We are working with the elements of nature. We are working with the elements of life. We are working with the elements of the earth. We are working with the elements of the sky. We are working with the elements of the sun. We are working with the elements of the moon. We are working with the elements of the stars. We are working with the elements of the universe. We are working with the elements of everything. This is ecology. This is good design.

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FINAL

Soil to Soil, Water to Water

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ORIGINAL

... everything we have to work with is already here—the stones, the clay, the wood, the water, the air.

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From *Design, Ecology, Ethics, and the Making of Things* by William McDonough

Grids and Chunks

Reflection

While I'm not confident in my ability to design, lay out, and execute on high-quality documents (yet), it's remarkable to me how close I was able to come on my own, even before some of the pointed feedback in class.

I'm starting to get a feel for what to look for when reviewing my own work for type crimes, while still occasionally missing a few.

The final product isn't perfect (for example, I feel that the lack of a byline near the header is a significant error on my part) but wouldn't seem out of place printed next to a full-page glossy image of a woven tent, which is more than I expected at this point in the semester.

Here's to further progress!

Overall

| Reflection

These exercises helped to re-familiarize me with inDesign, type crimes, and general best practices when it comes to designing for print, which I've only had limited practice with over the past several years.

The most striking improvement in my work visible in this process book is between the last two iterations of the final Grids and Chunks document, where with only minor changes, my work went from nearly unreadable to what might pass and read as a page from a magazine at first glance.

What was especially eye-opening to me was the fact that laying out that initial document and making the following changes took approximately the same amount of time, despite the progressively more minute and granular nature of the work. Better budgeting my time to allow me to address both the macro and micro aspects of documents will improve the quality of my work significantly.

Resumé Design

“...create a unique professional resume using the typographical rules covered in class so far.”

Conlon Novak

ConlonNovak@cmu.edu | (412) 402-8888 | ConlonNovak.com

EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University Pittsburgh, PA
Master of Human-Computer Interaction December 2020
B.S. in Information Systems and Human-Computer Interaction May 2020
Minor in Film and Media Studies 3.74/4.00 QPA
Dean's List, Honors or High Honors: F16, S17, F18, S19*, F19 Semesters*

SKILLS & COURSES

Programming Languages, Frameworks, and Software
Python, HTML, JS, CSS, React, Flask, Ruby on Rails, Adobe Suite, Java, MongoDB, SQL, Docker, C++

Relevant Courses

mHCI Capstone (Client: GovTech Startup), IS Consulting Project (Client: Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh), Application Design and Development, Interaction Design Studio, Programming User Interfaces, User-Centered Research and Evaluation, Imperative Computing

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Accenture, Technology Development Program Boston, MA
Advanced App Engineering Analyst, RPA and Machine Learning June - August 2019

- Designed and developed internal automation tools that will save ~90 effort hrs/year for the RPA Value Team
- Assembled, cleaned, and classified a dataset of 1,700 inputs to support a machine learning (ML) proposal
- Proposed a statistical model to classify semi-structured inputs per their alignment with client goals

Software Engineering Institute, Tactical Technologies Group Pittsburgh, PA
Full Stack Development Intern, Video Summarization May - August 2018
Machine Learning Technical Intern, Video Summarization May - August 2017

- Developed and styled an internal web application to automate TIG's Video Summarization (VidSumm) pipeline, which allowed non-experts to analyze video datasets using pre-trained and containerized ML algorithms
- Implemented machine learning algorithms for real-time activity detection in UAV surveillance video

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

CMU Office of First-Year Orientation, Orientation Staff Pittsburgh, PA
Head Orientation Counselor (HOC), Donner House December 2018 - August 2019
Orientation Leader (OL), Donner House March - August 2018
Orientation Counselor (OC), Donner House April - August 2017

- Designed, implemented, and facilitated over 80 hours of Orientation training for 130 staff members in preparation for ~300 academic, developmental, social, and cultural events over the nine-day program
- Implemented a daily feedback collection system that facilitated next-day responses and long-term analysis
- Transitioned 250+ staff and campus partners from ad-hoc messaging solutions to a Slack workspace

Human-Computer Interaction Institute, The ArticLab Pittsburgh, PA
Lead Intern for Science Annotation, Cultural EduTech October 2016 - May 2017

- Designed a linguistic annotation scheme for science reasoning features that achieved high inter-rater reliability
- Implemented a pictorial pre- and post-test evaluation application for elementary school students in Python

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society**, Upsilon Chapter, *Member* 2020-Present
- **Mortar Board Senior Honors Society**, Eta Chapter, *Member* 2019-Present
- **CMU Oakland Review Literary Journal**, *Prose Editor and Executive Board Member* 2016-Present
- **Competed in 11 Hackathons** and received 8 sponsor and performance awards 2016-Present
- **CMU Information Systems Dept. TA**, *67-262 Database Design and Dev. Teaching Assistant* 2018
- **CMU Alpine Racing and Freestyle Team**, *Slalom and Giant Slalom Ski Racer* 2017-2018
- **FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4150**, *Vice President and Programming Team Lead* 2012-2015

Previous Resumé

- Comprehensive, detailed, and well-written content
- Very dense, busy, and cluttered visual design
- Many bullets, especially under 'Extracurricular Activities' where they don't contribute to readability
- Content isn't focused solely on a single desired domain, and is in need of modernization and curation

Conlon Novak
Impact-Centered Developer and Designer (Alt: Impact-Focused Design Practitioner)
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ConlonNovak.com

EDUCATION
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Pittsburgh, PA
Master of Human-Computer Interaction (Expected December 2020)
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Dean's List, Honors* or High Honors: F16, S17, F18, S19*, F19 Semesters

SKILLS & COURSES
Programming Languages, Frameworks, and Software
Python, HTML, JS, CSS, React, Flask, Ruby on Rails, Adobe Suite, Java, MongoDB, SQL,
Docker, C++

Relevant Courses
mHCI Capstone (Client: GovTech Startup), IS Consulting Project (Client: Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh), Application Design and Development, Interaction Design Studio, Programming User Interfaces, User-Centered Research and Evaluation, Imperative Computing

EXPERIENCE
GovTech Startup, Service Delivery for State Benefits Programs (Pittsburgh, PA)
Developer, Designer, and Videographer, MHCI Student Consultant (January-July 2020)
Spent 7 months on a team of 5 Masters students researching, deriving insights, ideating, and prototyping designs to increase equity and accessibility in state benefits applications in PA. Lead development and user testing of an accessible, text-based conversational agent experience that performed well in UMUX-Lite assessments (5.2 for usefulness and 6.8 for usability out of 7, n=7 for final of three rounds of iterative testing). Conducted large-scale remote user research on technology use, smart-speaker ownership, and benefits enrollment in Pennsylvania, identifying under-supported groups (students, seniors, and single parents) for co-creation, interviews, and user testing (n=415).

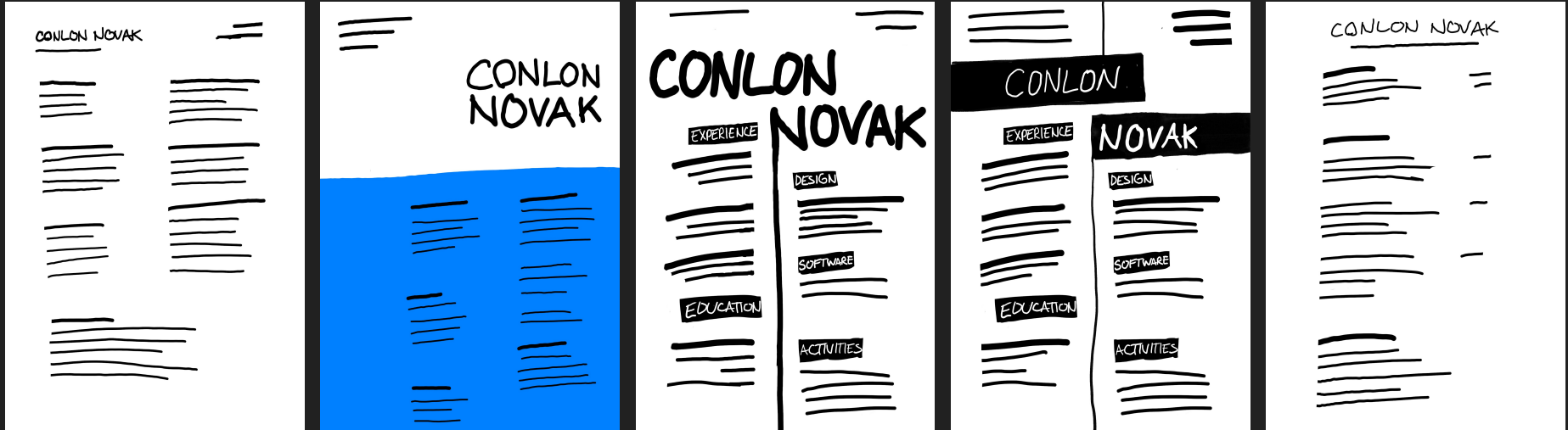
Accenture, Technology Development Program Boston, MA
Advanced App Engineering Analyst, RPA and Machine Learning June - August 2019
Designed and developed internal automation tools that will save ~90 effort hrs/year for the RPA Value Team. Assembled, cleaned, and classified a dataset of 1,700 inputs to support a machine learning (ML) proposal. Proposed a statistical model to classify semi-structured inputs per their alignment with client goals

Software Engineering Institute, Tactical Technologies Group

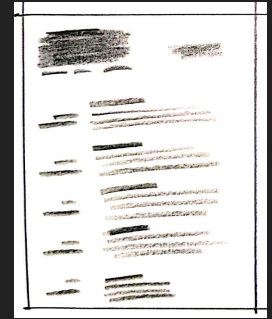
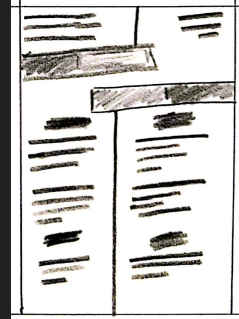
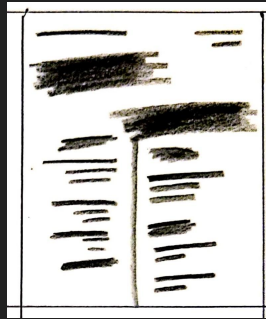
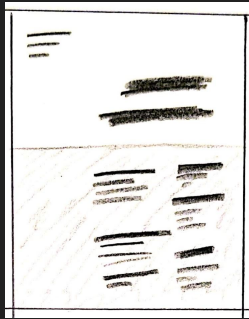
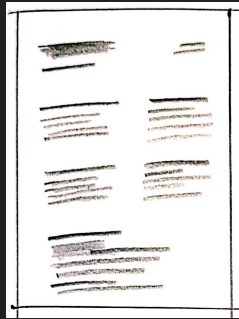
Content Preparation

- Tagline tailored towards roles at social impact design firms like Greater Good Studio
- Core themes are change and impact (“multiply capacity of users”, “empower clients and communities”), humanity (“deeply respectful, empathic, and human-centered”), and diversity (“advancing equity”, “inclusive”, “[individual] agency”)
- Included mHCI capstone project

Thumbnail Sketches

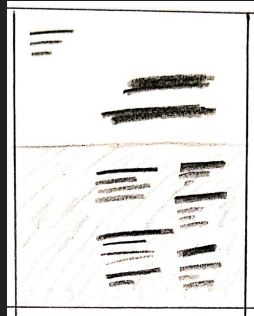


Thumbnail Sketches, Revised



Revised based on feedback to hand draw thumbnails at a smaller size and lower fidelity.

Digital Sketches



THUMBNAIL

SKETCH

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EDUCATION

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• Conducted large-scale remote user research to identify under-supported groups (students, seniors, and single parents) for co-creation, interviews, and user testing (n=415).

Advanced App Engineering Analyst, Accenture (June–August 2019)

- Designed and developed RPA automation tools that will save ~90 effort hrs/year.
- Assembled, cleaned, and classified a dataset of 1,700 inputs to support an ML proposal.
- Proposed a statistical model to classify semi-structured inputs per alignment with client goals.

Full Stack & Machine Learning Engineer, Software Engineering Institute (May–Aug. 2017, 2018)

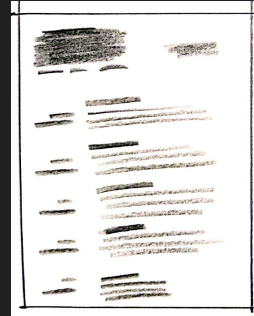
- Developed an internal web application to automate TIG's Video Summarization pipeline, allowing non-experts to analyze videos using pre-trained and containerized ML algorithms.
- Implemented machine learning algorithms for quasi-real-time activity detection in videos.

Orientation Staff, CMU Office of First-Year Orientation

- Head Orientation Counselor (HOC), Donner House (Dec. 2018–August 2019)
- Orientation Leader (OL), Donner House (March–August 2018)
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- Designed, implemented, and facilitated 80+ hours of Orientation training for 130 staff members in preparation for ~300 academic, developmental, social, and cultural events over the nine days.
- Implemented a daily feedback system, facilitating next-day responses and long-term analysis.
- Transitioned 250+ staff and partners from ad-hoc messaging solutions to a Slack workspace.

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Upsilon Chapter, Member (2020-Present)

Mortar Board Senior Honors Society, Eta Chapter, Member (2019-Present)



THUMBNAIL

FINAL

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Designer and consultant
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ACTIVITIES

2020–Present
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Upsilon Chapter, Member
2019–Present
Mortar Board Senior Honors Society, Eta Chapter, Member
2016–Present
Competed in 11 Hackathons and received 8 sponsor and performance awards
2012–2015
FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4156, Vice President and Programming Lead

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Full Stack & Machine Learning Engineer, Software Engineering Institute (May—Aug. 2017, 2018)

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Mortar Board Senior Honors Society, Eta Chapter, Member (2019-Present)

First Iteration

- Black text on solid, dark blue background contributes to poor contrast and readability
- Inconsistent spacing around headers
- White space feels unintentional
- Lacks a clear point of entry
- Intended to have more color than the average resumé, but lacked a strong document design to build from first

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ACTIVITIES

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Upsilon Chapter, Member (2020-Present)
Mortar Board Senior Honors Society, Eta Chapter, Member (2019-Present)
Competed in 11 Hackathons and received 8 sponsor and performance awards (2016-Present)
FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4150, Vice President and Programming Lead (2012-2015)

Second Iteration

- White text on blue header provides a strong point of entry for the document
- Use of color sets the document apart from others, but still too colorful for a professional resumé
- Body text is more readable, but feels dense and cluttered
- Whitespace still lacks intentionality

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ACTIVITIES

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Upsilon Chapter, Member 2020—Present
Mortar Board Senior Honors Society, Eta Chapter, Member 2019—Present
Competed in 11 Hackathons and received 8 sponsor and performance awards 2016—Present
FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4150, Vice President and Programming Lead 2012—2015

Third Iteration

- Maintaining the strong point of entry and (now only splashes of) color, the header now flows better into the body of the document
- Distribution of content across two columns gives ample breathing room
- Colored employers on the left column are implicitly associated with the colored header text
- Right-aligned text in the bottom right feels out of place

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ACTIVITIES

2020—Present **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society**, Upsilon Chapter, Member
2019—Present **Mortar Board Senior Honors Society**, Eta Chapter, Member
2016—Present **Competed in 11 Hackathons** and received 8 sponsor and performance awards
2012—2015 **FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4150**, Vice President and Programming Lead

Final Iteration

- Largely an editing pass on the previous iteration
- Tightened up spacing and line breaks for consistency, sense-breaks
- Moved dates in 'Activities' section to the left column for consistency
- Changed B-head capitalization to sentence-style, rather than proper case
- Missing geographic locations of 'Education' and 'Experience' items

Iteration Progression

THUMBNAILS



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EXPERIENCE
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Full Stack & Machine Learning Engineer Software Engineering Institute (Sep 2017–Aug 2019)
Developed an internal web application to automate TTE's Video Summarization pipeline, allowing non-experts to analyze videos using pre-trained and customized ML algorithms. Implemented machine learning algorithms for quasi-real-time activity detection in videos.

Donor House Orientation Staff, CMU Office of First-Year Orientation (2016–2019)
Designed, implemented, and facilitated the base of Orientation training for 150 staff members in preparation for ~300 academic, developmental, social, and cultural events over the nine days. Implemented a daily feedback system, facilitating next-day responses and long-term analysis. Transitioned 250+ staff and partners from ad-hoc messaging solutions to a Slack workspace.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Upsilon Chapter, Member (2016–Present)
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INITIAL

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Donor House Orientation Staff, CMU Office of First-Year Orientation (2016–2019)
Designed, implemented, and facilitated the base of Orientation training for 150 staff members in preparation for ~300 academic, developmental, social, and cultural events over the nine days. Implemented a daily feedback system, facilitating next-day responses and long-term analysis. Transitioned 250+ staff and partners from ad-hoc messaging solutions to a Slack workspace.

ACTIVITIES
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Donor House Senior Honor Society, Eta Chapter, Member (2016–Present)
Completed in 11 Hackathons and received 5 sponsor and performance awards (2016–Present)
FIRST Robotics Competition Team 4150, Vice President and Programming Lead (2012–2015)

REVISED

FINAL

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ACTIVITIES
2020—Present
2019—Present
2016—Present
2012—2015
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Donor House Senior Honor Society, Eta Chapter, Member
Completed in 11 Hackathons and received 5 sponsor and performance awards
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Resumé Design

Reflection

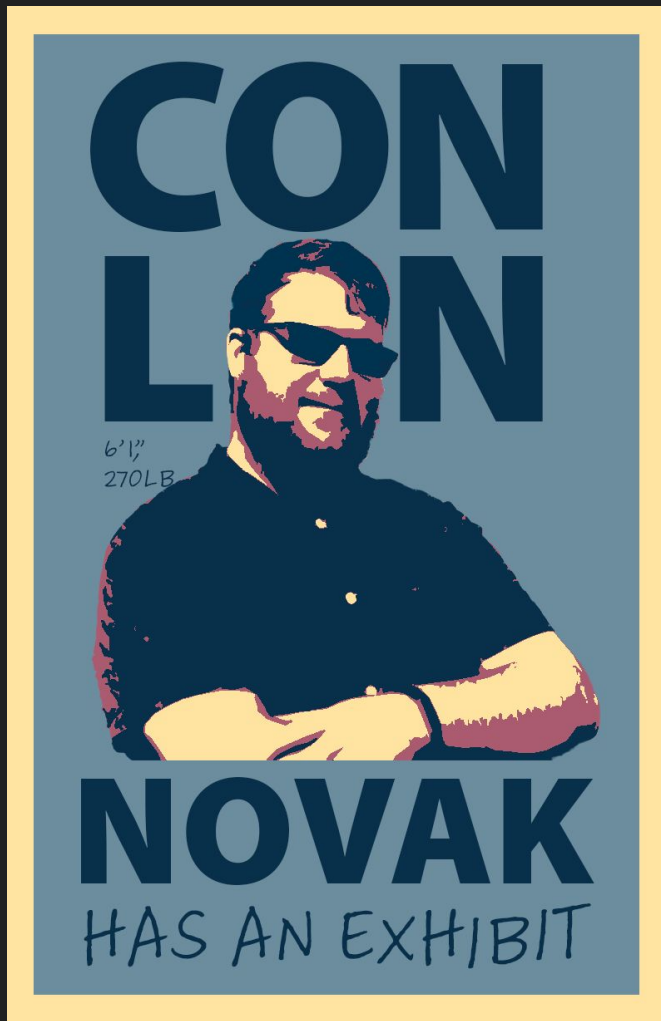
I came into this assignment thinking of it as an exercise to create a non-standard but functional resumé, but not one that would necessarily replace my previous resumé. After all, my existing resume had been sufficient to land me two internships and grad school. How bad could it have been?

In short: pretty bad. I didn't realize just how bad until I began comparing my work to that of my classmates and received feedback from Professor Kornblum (sometime around when I began work on the second iteration).

In future revisions, I'd like to examine and try different amounts of spacing between the header and body to try to balance the document, which currently feels top-heavy. Additionally, I'd like to re-add some of the important metadata (e.g. geographic locations) that was lost while curating prior content.

Self-Promotional Poster

“...create a self-promotional poster in the style of [Shepard Fairey] ... to advertise an exhibit about your life.”



Self-Promotional Poster

- An homage to Fairey's style, this combines the general color scheme of the Obama poster, the strong sans-serif text of 'Obey', and the hand-annotations of the original Andre the Giant sticker
- Overlaying my head over the second "O" in my name is both an interaction between text and image as well as a joke about the most common misspellings of my name

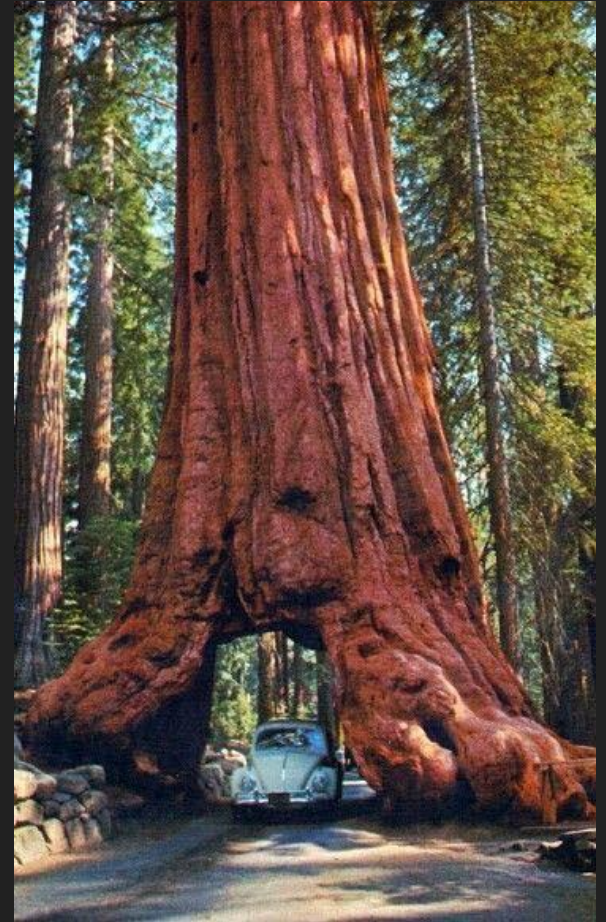
Large Poster

“...create a large poster to promote a lecture that is part of a distinguished speaker series at a university.”

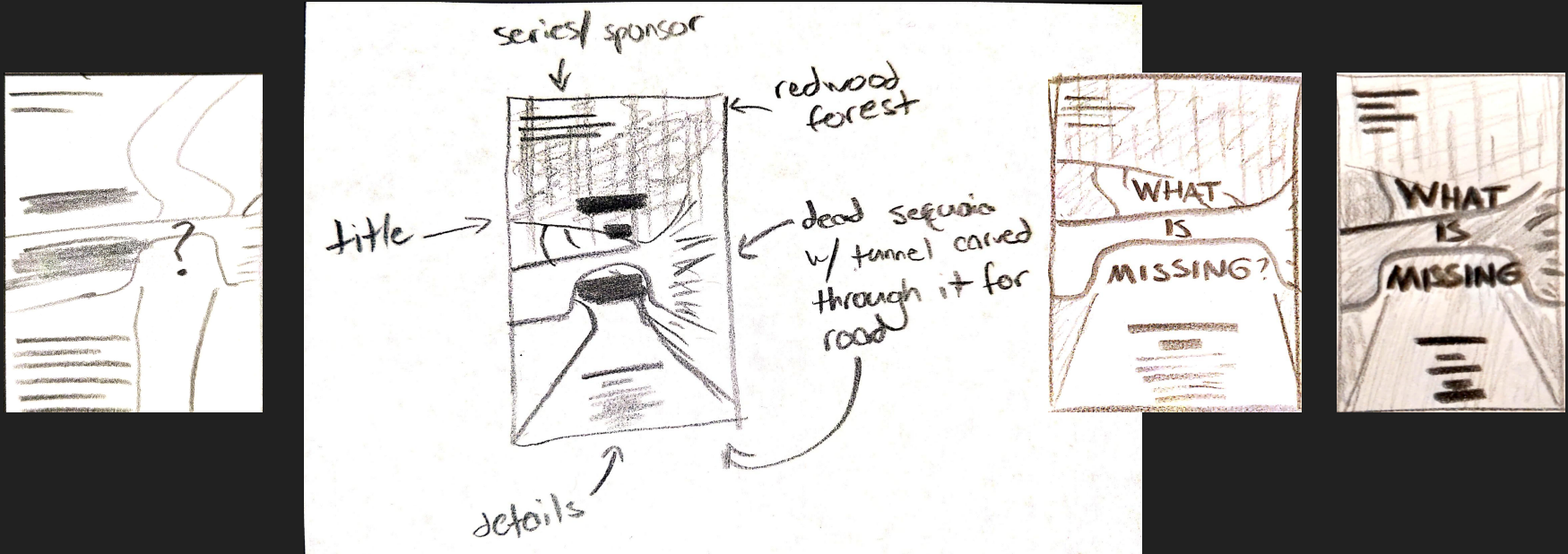
Content Preparation



The use of strongly metaphoric imagery captures the themes of Lin's work regarding human-caused habitat disruption.



Thumbnail Sketches



Iterations on the Sequoia tree tunnel design, featuring changes to layout, fidelity, and contrast.

Digital Sketches



THUMBNAILS

SKETCHES



Posterizing, Expanding, and Denoising Images



ORIGINAL

POSTERIZED

EXPANDED & DENOISED



Using Photoshop's content-aware fill tool and a custom posterize filter, smaller images can be upscaled and expanded to hide the edges of the original frame and cleaned to reduce visual noise in the foreground.

University of Michigan
Rackham Auditorium
915 Washington St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Maya Lin



What is
Missing?

Friday January 15, 2021 @ 8pm

Designed as her last memorial, *What is Missing?* is not a singular static object, but a work that can exist in multiple sites simultaneously.

Maya Lin's goal is to create, through science-based artworks, an awareness about the disappearance of species due to habitat degradation and loss. By creating innovative artworks that utilize sound, media, and science, people of all ages connect with the species and places that have disappeared or will likely disappear if we do not protect them.

Artist and designer Maya Lin interprets the natural world through history, politics, and culture. She has designed several of the most significant and best-known works of public art of the late 20th century. Unlike many artists, she is an articulate and compelling speaker, who talks freely about the meaning of her works, her goals in creating them, and her working methods.

First Iteration

- Combining elements of the digital sketches, this design draws heavily from the style of '30s-era WPA National Park promotional posters in font choice, color scheme, and art style
- The progressive disclosure of the poster is meant to draw the eye downward from Lin's name, through the title of the talk, and finally to the date and time (the three most important pieces of information for on-campus flyers), reducing competition among these elements

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Second Iteration

- Adjusted the color of less prominent metadata (address, sponsor, description) to reduce competition with desired takeaways (speaker, title of talk, date and time)
- Reflowed description text into two more equal paragraphs (about the work and the author respectively)
- Adjusted both the placement and size of the background image and talk title to improve contrast and readability while overlaid

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Third Iteration

- In class, feedback focused on the conflict between the size and intent of the title's placement on the background image.
- As a result, the text was reduced in size, placed entirely within the tunnel (no longer "bracing" or obscuring it), and entirely capitalized
- This partially relieved, but did not eliminate, the illusion of a box popping out towards the viewer due to the background of the tunnel

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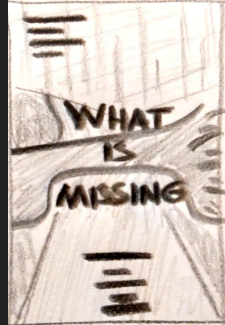
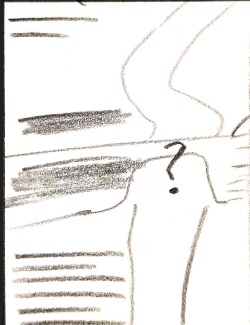
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Final Iteration

- Background image simplified to reinforce negative space, removing shadows under and behind the tree tunnel, as well as recoloring the tree trunk to suggest continuity
- Slightly tilted title text to suggest alignment with the background rather than the foreground, further encouraging perceived negative space
- Font changed from Minerva Modern to Optima, per assignment constraints

Iteration Progression

THUMBNAILS



FINAL



INITIAL

REVISED

Large Poster Design

Reflection

This assignment pushed me not only to leverage and improve upon my skills from prior units and courses, but it asked me to design for a context and function that I was not initially comfortable with. Most posters I recall seeing on campus were varying shades of obvious Microsoft Word documents or commercial-grade spam, so aiming for somewhere in the middle of that spectrum while respecting the prior work and current topics of the speaker's work became the primary challenge.

While this is clearly not the poster that Maya Lin would design for her own work, both in terms of imagery (mine is likely too specific) and quality (I lack her 40+ years of experience as a designer), it is certainly the best manifestation of my most interesting thumbnail sketch I could manage in the given timeframe.

In filmmaking, a subtle but powerful editing tool is to pose a question, usually explicitly voiced by a character, followed immediately by a cut to a different scene which visually answers that question. What made the initial thumbnail so interesting, and the late-stage class feedback so valuable, was a similar interaction between the semantics of the question and the visuals of the image, answering it.

“What is missing? asks the text. *The natural world that stood in the way of human expansion and profit*, says the image of the tunnel carved into the fallen tree. “The species that have gone extinct ... because we destroyed their habitats,” says Maya Lin.

Representing that dynamic in a clear, obvious, and striking way was the goal of the many iterations with such seemingly minor changes, with breakthroughs around visual simplicity, vanishing points, and gravity.

The posterize filter has a tendency, at higher levels of fidelity, to replicate complex colors and patterns as noisy, jagged shapes. Maintaining visual simplicity while still presenting a recognizable image was a defining struggle for me throughout this project, until eventually realizing I could simplify more and more of the road to a single, high-contrast color. This removed ambiguity, noise, and distractions from the background image without sacrificing recognizability or metaphoric meaning.

The point of entry is designed to be Maya Lin's name, and then to draw the viewer's eye downward to the logistical information towards the bottom. The focal point of the image, however, is the tunnel and its superimposed text. Disappearing into this space, and swimming against the visual gravity of the poster, are the two lines that make up either side of the road that disappears off the bottom of the poster. Cropping out non-parallel lines (my breakthrough between iterations 1 and 2) helps to reinforce the impact of these lines and maintain a single, powerful vanishing point.

Book Design

“...design and print a twenty-page book about environmental issues that are specific to [the Northwest United States, as]... one in a series of books about environmental issues around the world.”

Book Design

Content Preparation

“...find resources for text and images about The Environment of [the Northwest United States.]”

This book is designed to be *an educational and informational resource for community organizers and grassroots activists*, highlighting the most immediate and impactful issues involving the *environment of the Pacific Northwest* and proposing solutions that can be pushed for at various levels of government.

The book is organized (most critical to slightly-less urgent) as follows:

- Tectonic Plate Activity (earthquakes, esp. those causing tsunamis)
- Climate Change (wildfires and hydrology)
- Plant Life (grouped with wildfires as a proposed solution)
- Biodiversity (grouped with hydrology as a serious side-effect)
- Natural resources and Renewable energy solutions
- Animal life and the Sustainable fishing of freshwater salmon

Table of Contents

- Tectonic Activity
 - Earthquakes, Tsunamis, and “The Really Big One”
- Climate Change
 - Wildfires
 - Growing Healthier Forests
 - Preserving Coastal and Marine Habitats
- General Solutions
 - Incentives for Renewable Energy
 - Preservation Strategies for Freshwater Salmon

Tectonic Activity	1
Solution: Inland Migration	4
Climate Change	5
Wildfires	6
Solution: Active Fuel Management ...	7
Growing Healthier Forests	8
Solution: CO ₂ Capture Technologies ...	9
Preserving Coastal Habitats	10
Solution: Lowering Sea Levels and Temperatures	11
Solution: Renewable Energy	12
Solution: Sustainable Fishing	13

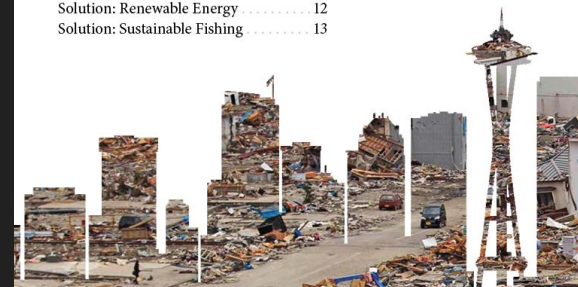


TABLE OF CONTENTS
[WORK IN PROGRESS]

Content Preparation Body Text

Climate

Climate Change in the Pacific NW - US FWS - <https://www.fws.gov/pacific/climatechange/changepnw.html>

Temperature records indicate that Pacific Northwest temperatures increased 1.5°F since 1920. Regionally downscaled climate models project increases in annual temperature of, on average, 2.0°F by the 2020s, 3.2°F by the 2040s, and 5.3°F by the 2060s (compared to the 1970-1999 period), averaged across all climate models.

Weather

Climate Change in the Pacific NW - US FWS - <https://www.fws.gov/pacific/climatechange/changepnw.html>

Projected changes in annual precipitation, averaged over all models, are small (+1 to +2%), but some models project wetter autumns and winters and drier summers. Increases in extreme high precipitation (falling as rain) in the western Cascades and reductions in snowpack are key projections from high-resolution regional climate models (Littell et al., 2009)

Plant life

Climate Change in the Pacific NW - US FWS - <https://www.fws.gov/pacific/climatechange/changepnw.html>

Studies and the results of vegetation change modeling suggest that a number of different scenarios are possible for Pacific Northwest forests. These scenarios differ dramatically, ranging from projections of forest expansion to forest dieback, as a result of uncertainty regarding how projected temperature and precipitation changes will interact to affect drought stress in trees or otherwise modify total annual productivity. Other major uncertainties are whether increased levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere would increase primary productivity or help trees withstand reduced soil moisture. The likeliest scenario seems to be that increased forest growth could occur during the next few decades, but that at some point temperature increases would overwhelm the ability of trees to make use of higher winter precipitation and higher CO₂.

In any case, the changes in climate are likely to cause plant communities to undergo shifts in their species composition and/or experience changes in densities. Species range shifts are expected to be individualistic rather than primarily as collections of currently associated species. In other words, species won't all move together. Extinction of local populations and, potentially, species are expected with climate change. Species with poor dispersal ability may have particular difficulty in shifting their spatial distributions in response to climatic changes. Loss of

California

With its amazing mix of climates from high mountain peaks to arid deserts, California grows about half of the vegetables, fruits and nuts consumed in the U.S., and livestock and poultry bring in 24 percent of California's gross cash income, according to NAGC. Water can be a limiting factor in arid and semiarid areas. California contains about 33 million acres of forested land. In 2011, California had about 700 active mines, with important products being boron, portland cement, gold, silver, sand, gravel, crushed stone and gemstones, according to the California Department of Conservation. The state's oil deposits produce about 37.2 percent of the petroleum used in California, according to the California Energy Commission.

Washington and Oregon

Washington contains a rain forest in the Olympic Mountains in the northwest and a steppe climate in the east with limited moisture from the rain shadow effect of the Cascade Mountains. According to NAGC, about 230 crops grow in this state, with Washington leading the nation in production of raspberries, hops, spearmint oil, apples and sweet cherries. Fish and shellfish include trout, oysters, clams, geoducks and mussels. Oregon has a robust agriculture, despite dry summers that require irrigation, with crops yielding 69 percent of total sales, according to ADO. Leading crops are blackberries, hazelnuts, loganberries and grass seed. Beef and dairy products are important, as are salmon, tuna, shrimp, crabs and oysters. Oregon and Washington together contain 17 National Forests that provide timber, grazing, wildlife habitat and recreation. Washington's mineral resources include sand, gravel, crushed stone, portland cement, gypsum, magnesium and gold. Oregon contains the only producing natural gas field in the Pacific Northwest and mines sand, gravel and crushed rock, according to information retrieved March 2014 from Oregon's Department of Geology and Mineral Industries website.

Human activity (farming, fishing, industrial development, etc.)

Salmon

Climate change affects salmon throughout its life stages. Historically, warm periods in the coastal ocean have coincided with relatively low abundances of salmon, while cooler ocean periods have coincided with relatively high salmon numbers. Salmon productivity in the Pacific Northwest is clearly sensitive to climate-related changes in stream, estuary, and ocean conditions. In the past century, most Pacific Northwest salmon

Volcano threat in the combination of increased volcanic activity and reduced rainfall. The amount of volcanic activity in the Pacific Northwest has increased since 1900, and the amount of rainfall has decreased. The amount of volcanic activity is expected to increase in the future, and the amount of rainfall is expected to decrease. The amount of volcanic activity is expected to increase in the future, and the amount of rainfall is expected to decrease.

A recent earthquake in California caused a landslide that killed a person. The earthquake was a 6.5 magnitude earthquake that occurred in California. The earthquake was a 6.5 magnitude earthquake that occurred in California. The earthquake was a 6.5 magnitude earthquake that occurred in California.

Scientists at the Coast Range in the Pacific Northwest are studying the effects of climate change on the region's forests. The scientists are studying the effects of climate change on the region's forests. The scientists are studying the effects of climate change on the region's forests.

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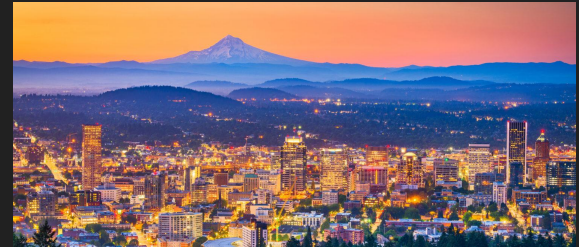
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Sourcing and synthesizing information to write titles, headings, and citations.

Content Preparation

Featured Images



Content Preparation

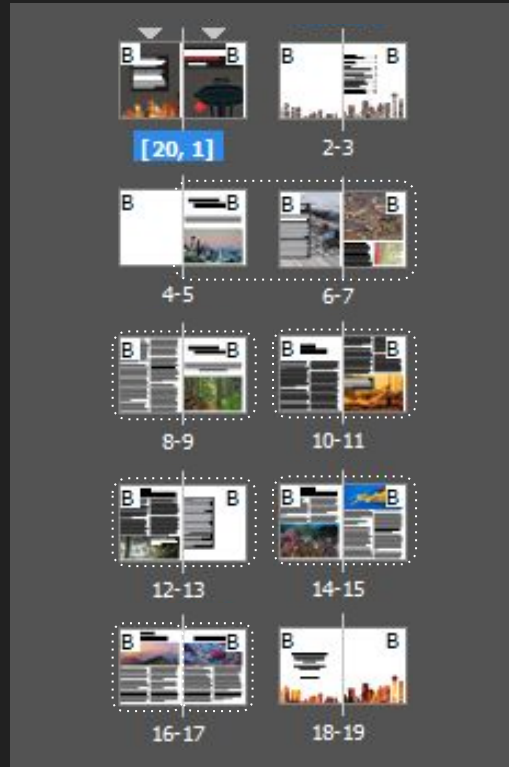
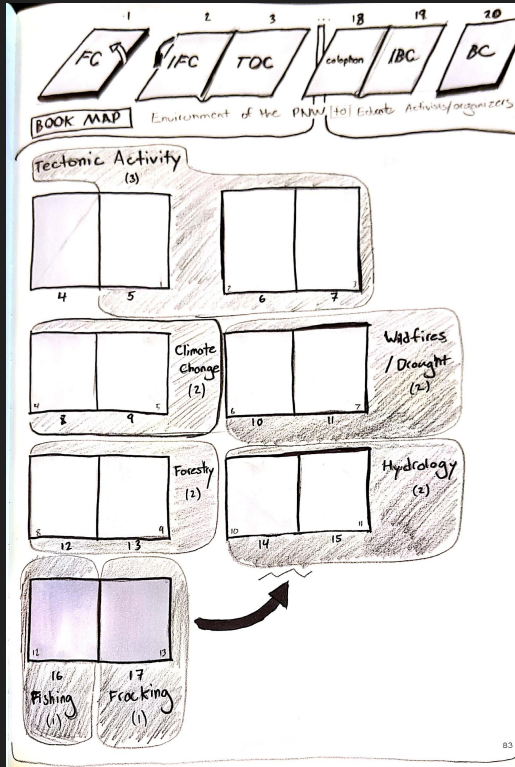
Cover Art



Double exposures of the Seattle skyline over wildfires, fire damaged structures, and tsunami aftermath developed for use as cover art.

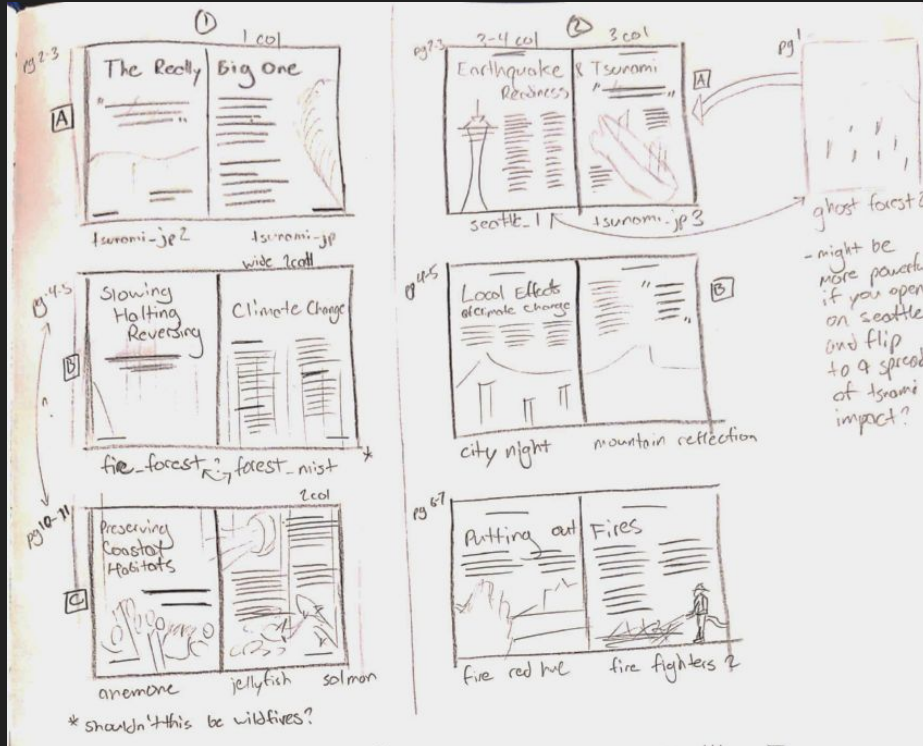
Content Preparation

Book Map



Initial book map (left) and work-in-progress InDesign spread view (right) with topical groups marked with bubbles and dotted lines, respectively.

Thumbnail Sketches

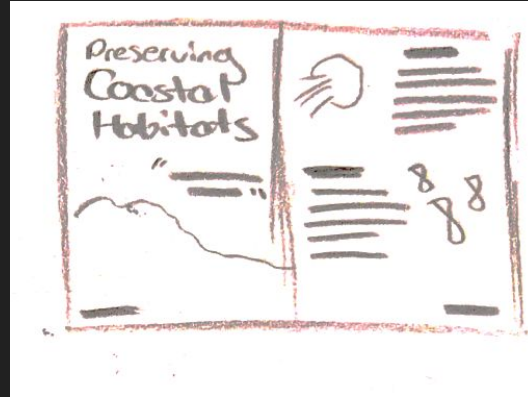


Two different styles of spreads, with the left column featuring full bleed images on the left of each spread, and more dense images on the right.

The right column features designs with text and images flowing around images cropped and placed towards the centers and bottoms of pages.

- Ⓐ In the PNW, the area of impact will cover... Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Eugene, Salem, and Olympia.
"Our operating assumption is that everything west of interstate 5 will be toast"
- Ⓑ Virtually all future climate scenarios predict increases in wildfires ... east of the cascades
- Ⓒ Virtually every major biological function has been shown to respond to acidification changes in seawater

Revised Thumbnail Sketches



Revisions of pgs. 2-3, 6-7, and 10-11 to better represent different typographic elements, such as callouts and headers, as well as overall hierarchy.

Systems and Page Design Style Sheet

The Really Big One

CLIMATE CHANGE

Annals of Seismology

When the 2011 earthquake and tsunami struck Tohoku, Japan, Chris Goldfinger was two hundred miles away, in the city of Kashiwa, at an international meeting on seismology. As the shaking started, everyone in the room began to laugh. Earthquakes are common in Japan—that one was the third of the week—and the participants were, after all, at a seismology conference. Then everyone in the room checked the time.

Seismologists know that how long an earthquake lasts is a decent proxy for its magnitude. The 1989 earthquake in Loma Prieta, California, which killed sixty-three people and caused six billion dollars' worth of damage, lasted about fifteen seconds and had a magnitude of 6.9. A thirty-second earthquake generally has a magnitude in the mid-sevens. A minute-long quake is in the high sevens, a two-minute quake has entered the eights, and a three-minute quake is in the high eights. By four minutes, an earthquake has hit magnitude 9.0.

No early warning system

When the Cascadia earthquake begins, there will be, instead, a cacophony of barking dogs and a long, suspended, what-was-that moment before the surface waves arrive.

"There aren't many injuries in the tsunami 2011," one seismic expert with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, or dogami, told me at the time. "People just die."

WHEN THE 2011 EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI STRUCK TOHOKU, JAPAN

14 Novak | Running Footer

A-head

Optima
Font Size: 41
Font Weight: Bold
Leading: 50
Tracking: -10

B-head

Font Size: 35
Font Weight: Medium
Leading: 42

C-head

Font Size: 25
Font Weight: Regular
Leading: 30

Paragraph text

Minion
Font Size: 10
Font Weight: Regular
Leading: 15

Callout title

Callout Text

Optima
Font Size: 16
Font Weight: Bold
Leading: 20
Tracking:

Image caption

Font Size: 12
Font Weight: Normal
Leading: 16

RUN-IN HEADING WITH CAPITAL FIRST LETTER

Font Size: 12
Font Weight: Italic
Leading: 15

15 Folio | Running Footer

Minion Pro
Font Size: (17) 10
Font Weight: Bold
Font Style: All Caps
Leading: 15

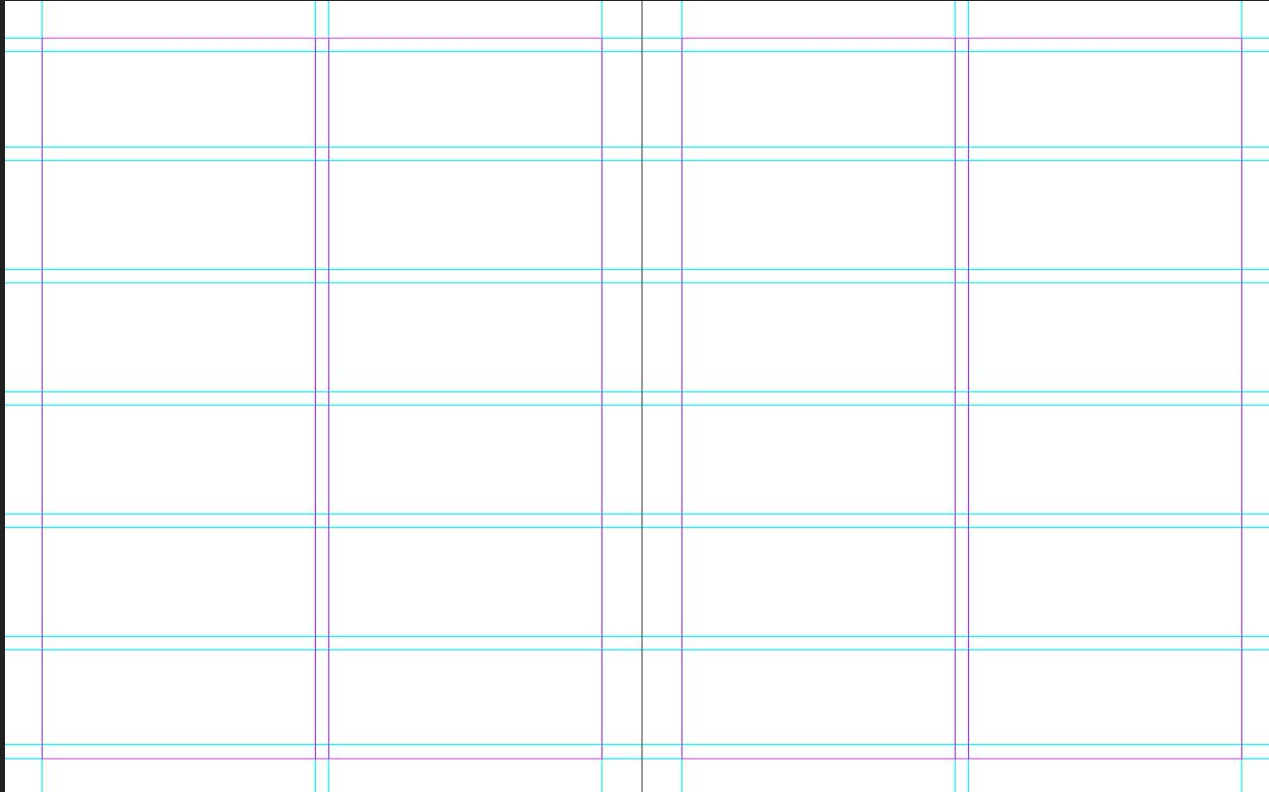
Myriad
Font Size: 12
Font Weight: Semibold
Leading: 15
Tracking: -25

Font Size: 12
Font Weight: Light
Leading: 15
Tracking: -25

Optima, Myriad, and Minion were chosen as font families for the headers, running feet, and paragraph text respectively to play to each font's strengths.

Optima bold and medium make for striking title and header text, while Myriad semibold and light give the running footer a different texture from the rest of the text.

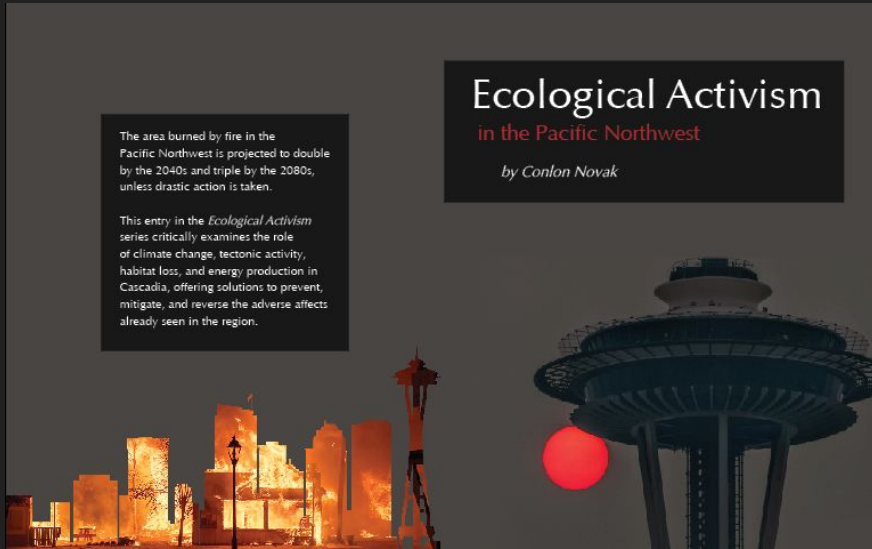
Master Grid



A two column grid allowed for a high level of design flexibility while not overcomplicating the structure of the book in the process.

Covers

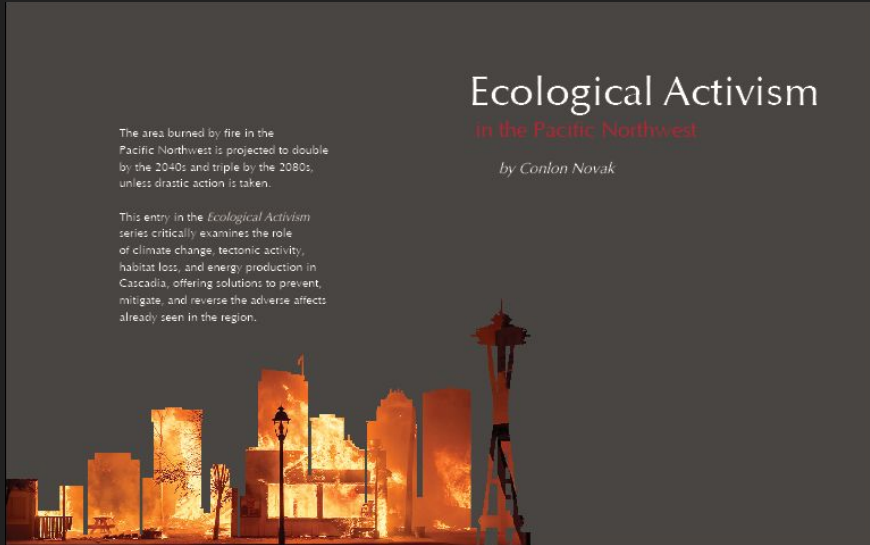
First Iteration



- Building off of the imagery of Seattle's Space Needle partially eclipsing a blood-red, smoke occluded sun, the initial cover spread designs utilized the color palette of the image for the grey of the background and the red of the subheading
- Black boxes used to increase contrast and improve readability of the text, borrowing elements from within earlier versions of the interior spread designs

Covers

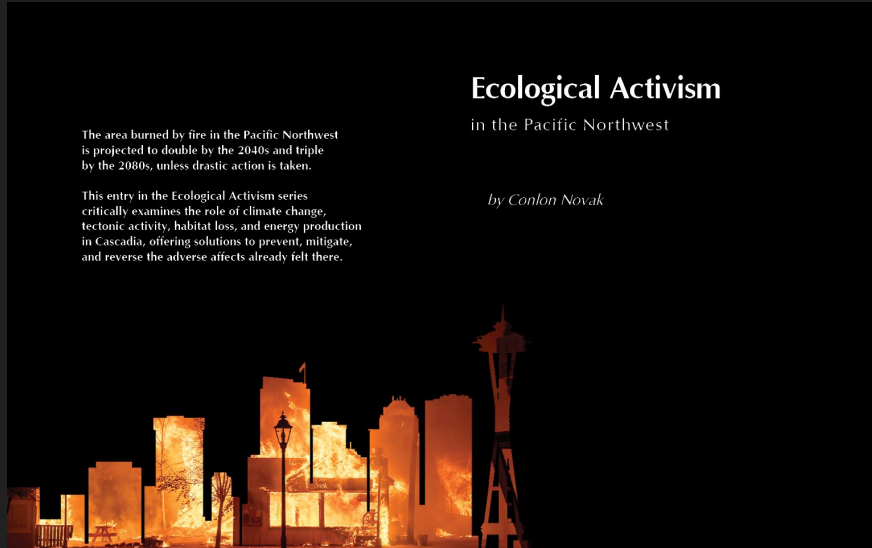
Second Iteration



- Removed cover image in favor of double-exposure illustration wrapping around the spine to the back cover text based on class feedback
- Color palette (esp. of background, subtitle) is now no longer tied to primary cover image, no longer holds meaning and impairs readability

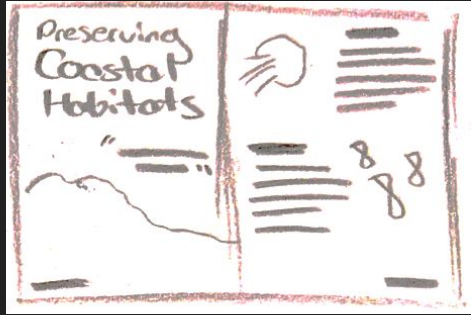
Covers

Final Iteration



- Improved contrast with new background color allows the title to better pop off of the page while making better use of white space and a “less is more” design philosophy
- Adjusted placement of the back cover text allows for improved readability and better sense breaks between lines
- Further revisions might investigate how the double exposure art might be adjusted to make the Space Needle more prominent against the background

Interior Spreads Iteration Progression



THUMBNAIL

**Climate Change:
Preserving Coastal Habitats**

In THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, CLIMATE CHANGE MAY AFFECT THE COASTAL MARINE ENVIRONMENT BY INCREASING OCEAN TEMPERATURE, increasing the vertical stratification of the water column (reducing mixing which is important to the marine food chain), and changing the intensity and timing of coastal winds and upwelling. Wind-driven coastal upwelling and mixing are particularly important to productive marine ecosystems that support diverse marine life, major fisheries and seabirds.

Upwelling usually brings cold, nutrient-rich water to the surface in nearshore areas, supporting highly productive food webs. However, too much wind may transport planktonic organisms offshore and away from coastal areas. These

physical changes to the near-shore environment appear likely, much remains to be learned about the magnitude, geographic extent, and temporal and spatial patterns of change, and their effects on coastal and marine species.

Solution: Lowering Sea Levels and Temperatures

THERE ARE WAYS TO SLOW THESE CHANGES. Leading crops are blackberries, hazelnuts, loganberries and grass seed. Beef and dairy products are important, as are salmon, tuna, shrimp, crabs and oysters. Oregon and Washington together contain 17 National Forests that provide timber, grazing, wildlife habitat and recreation. Washington's mineral resources include sand, gravel, crushed stone, portland cement, gypsum, magnesium and gold. Oregon contains the only producing natural gas field in the Pacific Northwest and mines sand, gravel and crushed rock, according to information retrieved March 2014 from Oregon's Department of Geology and Minerals.

When the 2011 earthquake and tsunami struck Tohoku, Japan, Chris Goldfinger was two hundred miles away, in the city of Kashima, at an international meeting on seismology. As the shaking started, everyone in the room began to laugh. Earthquakes are common in Japan—that is one of the things of the week—and the participants were, after all, at a seismology conference. Then everyone in the room checked the time.

Seismologists know that how long an earthquake lasts is a decent proxy for its magnitude. The 1989 earthquake in Loma Prieta, California, which killed sixty-three people and caused six billion dollars' worth of damage, lasted about fifteen seconds and had a magnitude of 6.9. A thirty-second earthquake generally has a magnitude in the mid-sevens. A minute-long quake is in the high sevens, a two-minute quake has entered the eights, and a three-minute quake is in the high eights. By four minutes, an earthquake has hit magnitude 9.0. When Goldfinger looked at his watch, it was quarter to three. The conference was wrapping up for the day.

He was thinking about sushi. The speaker at the lectern was wondering if he should carry on with his talk. The earthquake was not particularly strong. Then it ticked past the sixty-second mark, making it longer than the others that week. The shaking intensified. The seats in the conference room were small plastic desks with wheels. Goldfinger, who is tall and solidly built, thought, No way am I crouching under one of those for cover. At a minute and a half, everyone in the room got up and went outside.

It was March. There was a chill in the air, and snow flurries, but no snow on the ground. Not, from the feel of it, was there ground on the ground. The earth snapped and popped and rattled. It was, Goldfinger thought, like driving through

10 | Hydrology

Ecological Activism in the Pacific Northwest | 11

CLIMATE CHANGE Preserving Coastal Habitats

IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, CLIMATE CHANGE MAY AFFECT THE COASTAL MARINE ENVIRONMENT BY INCREASING OCEAN TEMPERATURE, increasing the vertical stratification of the water column (reducing mixing which is important to the marine food chain), and changing the intensity and timing of coastal winds and upwelling. Wind-driven coastal upwelling and mixing are particularly important to productive marine ecosystems that support diverse marine life, major fisheries and seabirds.

Upwelling usually brings cold, nutrient-rich water to the surface in nearshore areas, supporting highly productive food webs. However, too much wind may transport planktonic organisms offshore and away from coastal areas. These

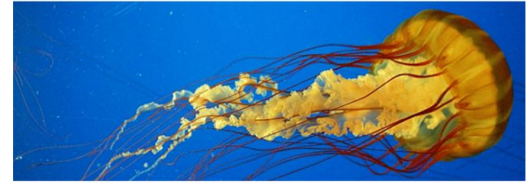
coastal systems are highly variable in both locality and time. Natural changes can occur daily, weekly, seasonally, yearly or even every ten years. And upwelling can vary greatly due to El Niño-Southern Oscillation events which occur on average every 2 to 7 years, as well as decadal shifts known as cool or warm phases of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation. For example, El Niño events often result in reduced upwelling and productivity. (Littell et al., 2009)

The Fish and Wildlife Service's 2009 5-year review of the Marbled Murrelet (pp. 42-45) contains a thorough evaluation of climate change affects to the marine environment. The review concludes that climate change is likely to result in changes to the murrelet's marine environment. While



Coral reefs are especially prone to damage from ocean acidification, and can take years to begin to recover.

10 | Hydrology



Aquatic wildlife, like this native "Moon Jelly", will face the brunt of the effects of coastal habitat destruction in the PNW.

physical changes to the near-shore environment appear likely, much remains to be learned about the magnitude, geographic extent, and temporal and spatial patterns of change, and their effects on coastal and marine species.

Solution: Lowering Sea Levels and Temperatures

THERE ARE WAYS TO SLOW THESE CHANGES. Leading crops are blackberries, hazelnuts, loganberries and grass seed. Beef and dairy products are important, as are salmon, tuna, shrimp, crabs and oysters. Oregon and Washington together contain 17 National Forests that provide timber, grazing, wildlife habitat and recreation. Washington's mineral resources include sand, gravel, crushed stone, portland cement, gypsum, magnesium and gold. Oregon contains the only producing natural gas field in the Pacific Northwest and mines sand, gravel and crushed rock, according to information retrieved March 2014 from Oregon's Department of Geology and Minerals.

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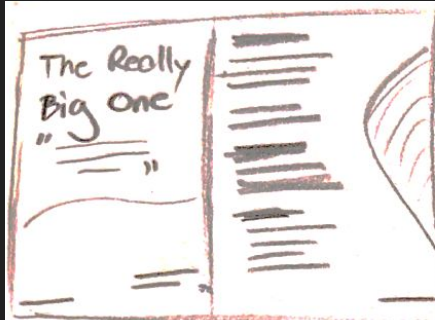
Ecological Activism in the Pacific Northwest | 11

INITIAL

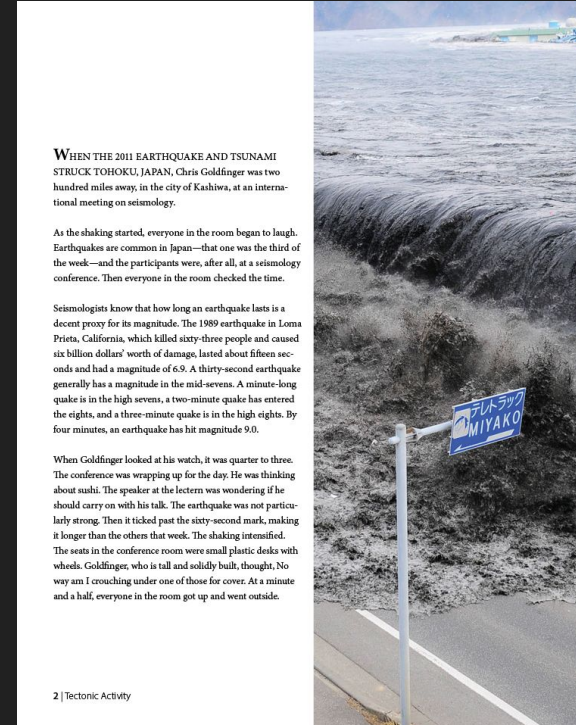
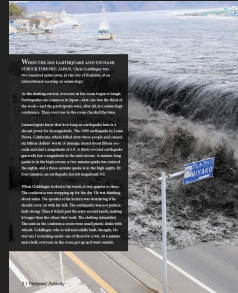
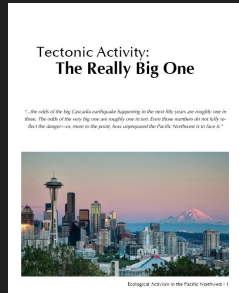
FINAL

Interior Spreads

Iteration Progression



THUMBNAIL



TECTONIC ACTIVITY

The Really Big One

"...the odds of the big Cascadia earthquake happening in the next fifty years are roughly one in three. The odds of the very big one are roughly one in ten. Even those numbers do not fully reflect the danger—or, more to the point, how unprepared the Pacific Northwest is to face it."



Ecological Activism in the Pacific Northwest | 1

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2 | Tectonic Activity

INITIAL

FINAL

Interior Spreads Iteration Progression



THUMBNAIL

Climate Change: Putting Out Fires

WILDFIRE ALL SYSTEMS STATUS: A major wildfire in the Pacific Northwest is burning out of control. The fire is spreading rapidly and is threatening nearby communities. The fire is burning in the area of the town of... (text is partially obscured)

Solution: Active Fuel Management

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The area burned by fire in the Pacific Northwest is projected to double by the 2040s and triple by the 2080s.

CLIMATE CHANGE Putting Out Fires

VIRTUALLY ALL FUTURE CLIMATE SCENARIOS PREDICT INCREASES IN WILDFIRE IN WESTERN NORTH AMERICA, ESPECIALLY EAST OF THE CASCADES, due to higher summer temperatures and earlier spring snowmelt. Fire frequency and intensity have already increased in the past 50 years, and most notably the past 15 years in the shrub steppe and forested regions of the West. The area burned by fire regionally is projected to double by the 2040s and triple by the 2080s. The probability that more than two million acres will burn in a given year is projected to increase from 5% (observed) to 33% by the 2080s. USFS and CIG researchers have linked these trends to climate changes. Drought and hotter temperatures have also led to an increase in outbreaks of insects, such as the mountain pine beetle, increasing the risk of fire cover.

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It was March. There was a chill in the air, and snow flurries, but no snow on the ground. Nor, from the feel of it, was there snow on the ground. The earth snapped and popped and rattled. It was, Goldfinger thought, like driving through rocky terrain in a vehicle with no shocks, if both the vehicle and the terrain were also on a raft in high seas. The quake passed the two-minute mark. The trees, still hung with the previous autumn's dead leaves, were making a strange rattling sound. The flagpole atop the building he and his colleagues had just vacated was whipping through an arc of forty degrees. The building itself was base-isolated, a seismic-safety technology in which the body of a structure rests on movable

bearings rather than directly on its foundation. Goldfinger lurched over to take a look. The base was lurching, too, back and forth a foot at a time, digging a trench in the yard. He thought better of it, and lurched away. His watch swept past the three-minute mark and kept going.

Solution: Active Fuel Management

WILDFIRE ALL SYSTEMS STATUS: A major wildfire in the Pacific Northwest is burning out of control. The fire is spreading rapidly and is threatening nearby communities. The fire is burning in the area of the town of... (text is partially obscured)

For a moment, that was pretty cool: a real-time revolution in earthquake science. Almost immediately, though, it became extremely uncool, because Goldfinger and every other seismologist standing outside in Kashiwa knew that was coming. One of them pulled out a cell phone and started streaming videos from the Japanese broadcasting station NHK, shot by helicopters that had flown out to sea soon after the shaking started. Thirty minutes after Goldfinger first stepped outside, he watched the tsunami roll in, in real time, on a two-inch screen.

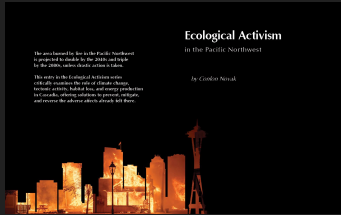
In the end, the magnitude-9.0 Tohoku earthquake and subsequent tsunami killed more than eighteen thousand people, devastated northeast Japan, triggered the meltdown at the Fukushima power plant, and cost an estimated two hundred and twenty billion dollars. The shaking earlier in the week turned out to be the foreshocks of the largest earthquake in the nation's recorded history. But for Chris Goldfinger, a paleoseismologist at Oregon State University and one of the world's leading experts on a little-known fault line, the main

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Ecological Activism in the Pacific Northwest | 7

Final Spreads



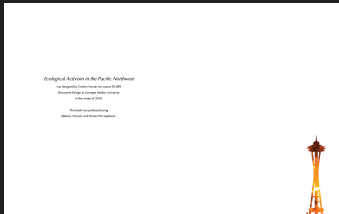
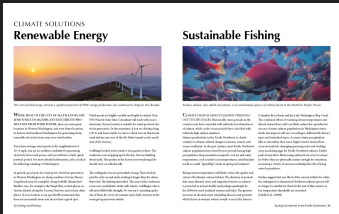
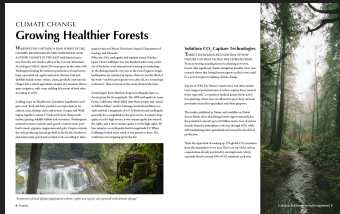
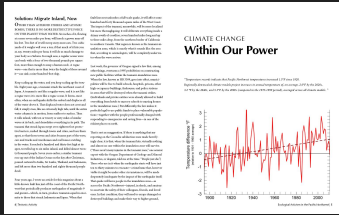
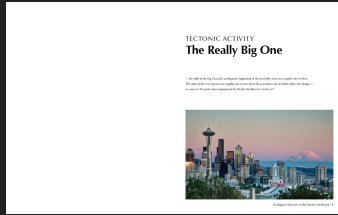
COVERS

Ecological Activism in the Pacific Northwest

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COLOPHON

Printing and Binding

Crop Marks and Bleeds

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Printing and Binding Final Book



Book Design

Reflection

This project was easily the most challenging that I've taken on as a graphic and document designer, combining elements of all of the previous projects in this course (visual design, page layouts, typographic design, and more) with a production element that I had no prior experience with.

This project also became, as it ballooned in size, scope, and effort required during the hardest time yet of this awful year, an exercise in managing sunk costs, return on investment, and scope creep. The result, I am happy to say, is one that I'm proud of—but not because of its ambition, but rather because of its consistent improvement and timely completion.

Going forward, I'd like to find ways to incorporate the physical production of otherwise virtual media into my workflow. Having the booklet proof in my hands gave me an entirely different perspective on some of my design decisions in a way that was both valuable for further improvement and a tangible reminder of how far I had come.