COIT13234

Mobile Application Development

Part B: Application Design

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Contents

Redesigned Property Watch Application

New features, helping low-income earners and the socially disadvantaged

The two property applications from assignment one and two were carefully considered, observing what features to keep, and what features were lacking. Additionally, other property apps on the market were also studied as a way of gathering insight and design ideas for new features.

More importantly, this newest iteration of Property Watch was redesigned to assist the needs of low income and socially disadvantaged users, providing a means of finding more affordable properties to rent or buy.

Proposed new features:

1. A quick search feature on the home screen. This allows users to quickly search for properties by postcode, affordable price range, NRAS scheme properties, and Shared rental listings.
2. The Property Watch application features NRAS-listed properties. The National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) is offered by the Australian Government as an affordable housing initiative, issuing financial incentives to property organisations. NRAS rentals are available for low-income Australians who struggle to pay full market rental prices, providing discounts of 20 percent or more below market value. These are private rental homes, not social housing.
3. Shared rental listings will help the socially disadvantaged and low-income earners by providing them with shared accommodation options.
4. The feature 'Filters' allows users to search with several options, ranging from the number of bedrooms, bathrooms, parking spaces, to proximity to facilities such as public schools, shopping centre, medical practice, welfare services and more.
5. Sold property search feature helps identify which suburbs are the most affordable to purchase in.
6. Affordable listings are shown on the home screen, sortable by property types such as NRAS.
7. The 'Sign In' feature: users can sign up for an account that allows them to save properties in 'Favourites' and configure alerts for new listings so they don't miss out.
8. The 'Agency' feature: users can search for properties listed by an agency they have a rental history with, helping improve their application chances.
9. The Property Details screen contains a photo gallery, along with extra property details such as a full property description and Agency contact details.
10. A 'fully functional' google map of each listing will be provided, including Directions and so on.
11. The 'Social Share' button on the Property Details screen allows users to share a listing using Email, or via popular social media platforms. Social sharing helps reach out to more disadvantaged people.

Design Mock-up

A medium fidelity mock-up was created for this redesigned property application.

Flow between screens

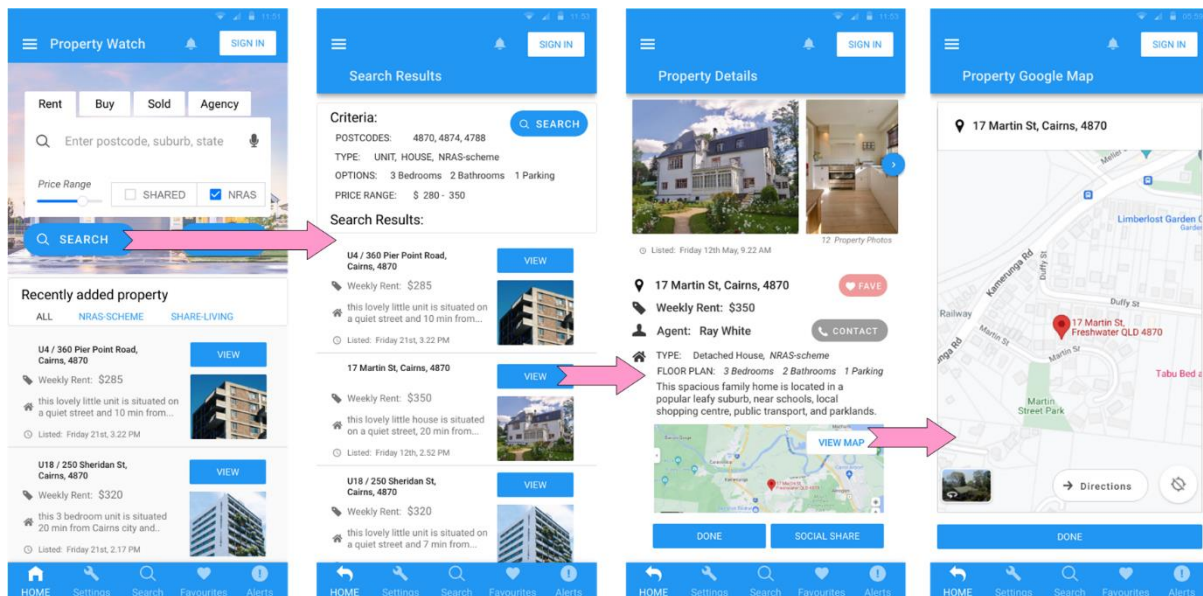The Property Watch App offers a direct flow route, displaying properties within seconds.

Figure 1. Flow route.

Home Screen

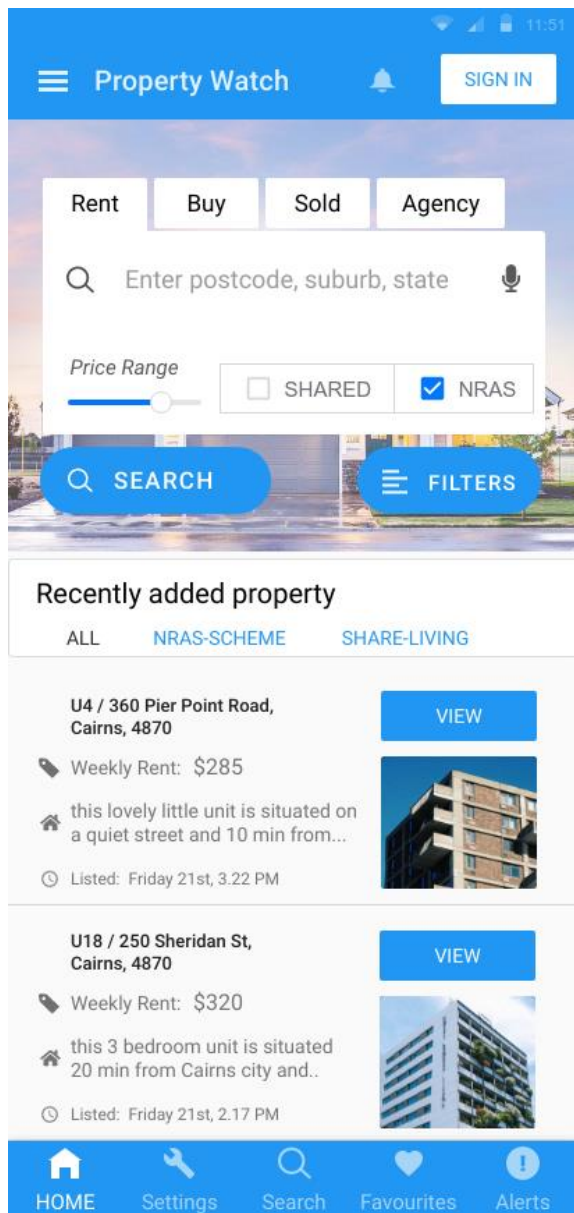It provides a quick property search function, advanced search filters and featured affordable properties.

Figure 2. Home Screen.

Search Results

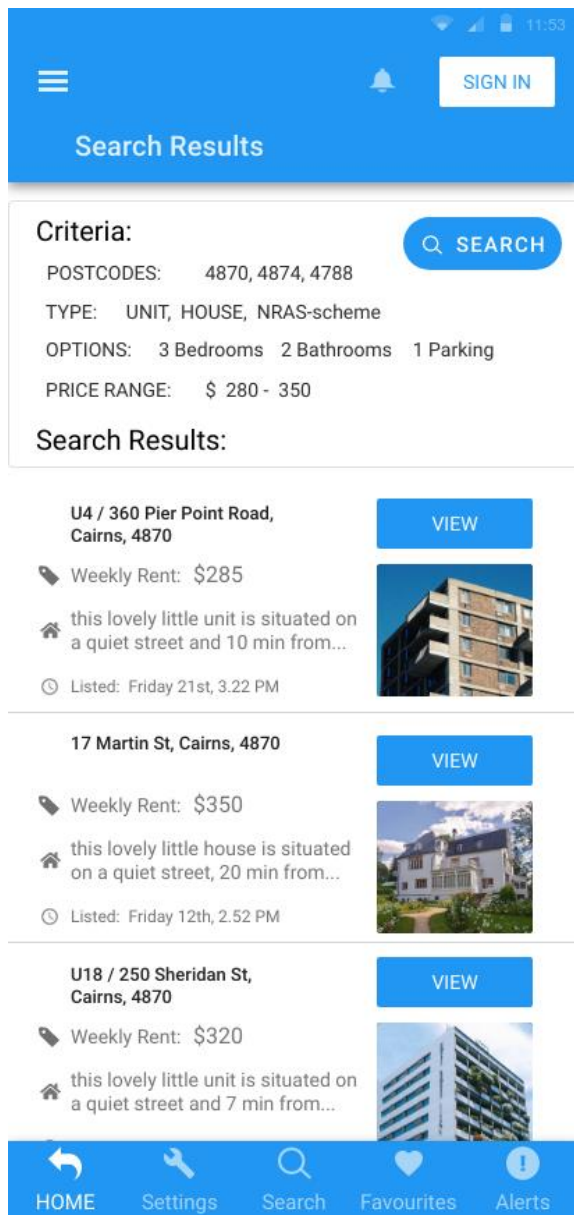Screen showing search results from user-defined filtered search criteria.

Figure 3. Search Results.

Property Details

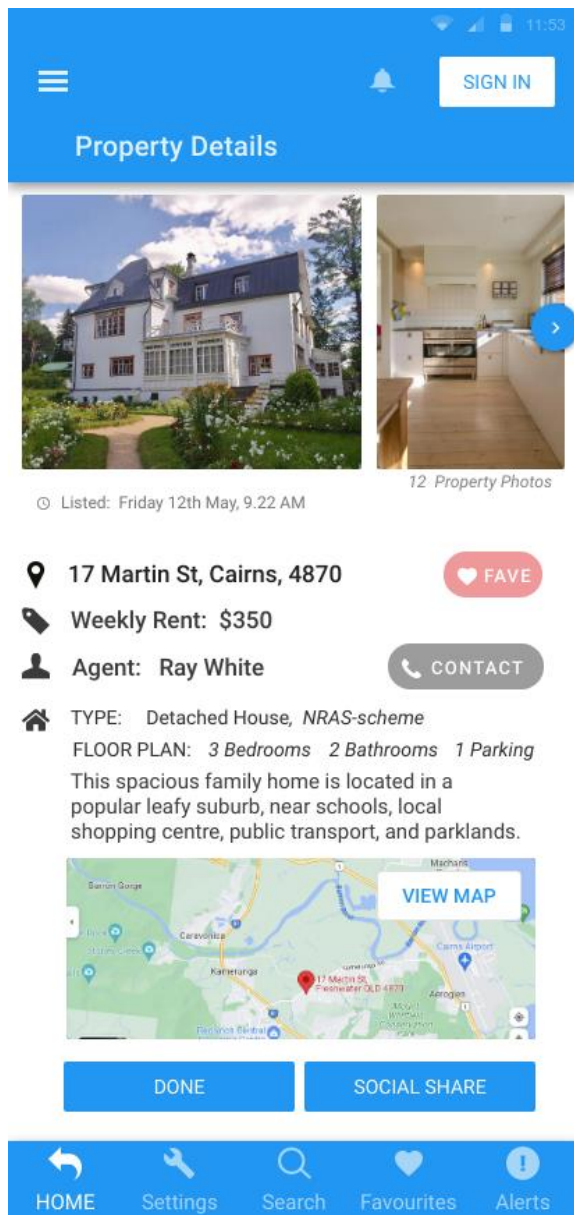A property listing with a photo slider, and detailed information.

Figure 4. Property Listing Details.
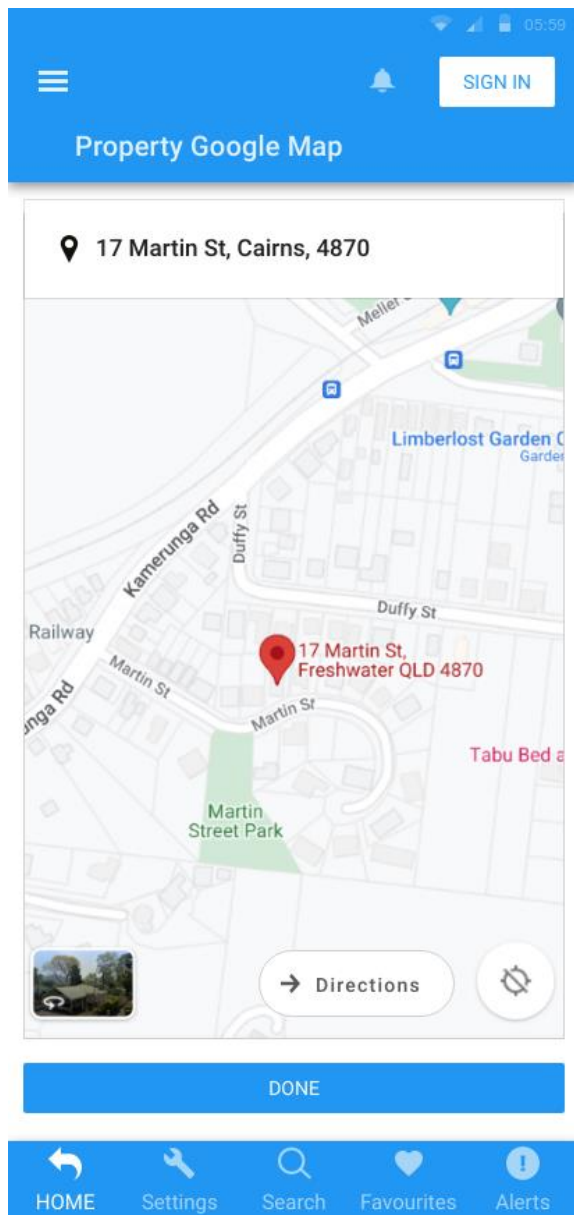
Property Location Map

Each property location will use Google Map.

Figure 5. Property location map.