

UX Assessment

Navigation
(fixed position, does not scroll)

New Feed Template

- General Settings
- Feed Head Structure
- Item Structure

General Settings

Name

Description

Output News/RSS

Tags

Variable Elements

- Section +
- Instructional Text +
- Single-Line Text Field +
- Multi-Line Text Field +
- WYSIWYG Editor +
- Radio Buttons +
- Checkboxes +
- Drop-Down +
- Datepicker +
- Filechooser +
- Image Chooser +
- Asset Chooser +
- Field Set +

Feed Head Structure

Title

Description

Link

Publish Date Click to select date

Author

 Click or drag elements from the Variable Elements toolbar into this area.

Toolbar
(aka: The Problem)

Item Structure

Title

Description

Link

Publish Date Click to select date

Start Date Click to select date

 Click or drag elements from the Variable Elements toolbar into this area.

UX Assessment

The Description

The above mock-up shows a prototype of a new OU Campus feature. This feature utilizes several design patterns that are consistent throughout the product:

- The navigation block ("New Feed Template") is fixed (i.e., it does not scroll with the page).
- The panels in the main content block scroll vertically as necessary.
- The "Variable Elements" toolbar lists elements that can be dragged onto one of two possible drop-targets in the main content block.
 - The plus symbols on each element within the "Variable Elements" toolbar traditionally (in other areas of the system that utilize this same design pattern) allow the user to click and add an item easily to the end of the list, without having to drag-and-drop.

The Problem

In other areas where this type of toolbar is used in OU Campus, there is typically only a single drop-target. For this reason, the plus symbol is a very convenient way for users to just click and add an element to the region. However, in the case of this view, there are two potential drop-targets ("Feed Head Structure" and "Item Structure"), making it less obvious where users intend for the element to go when they click on the plus symbol. Additionally, because the navigation block ("New Feed Template") is fixed on the screen everywhere else, there is a potential issue with the toolbar being too tall to display on many lower resolution screens.

Your task is to design this view to eliminate these, and any other issues you may find. You are free to change as much or as little as necessary (if you want to imagine a completely different UI, that is acceptable). You can use any design tool to create your mockups / wireframes, and submit back to us in PDF, PNG, or HTML.

Feel free to contact shahab@omniupdate.com with any questions you may have about this assessment.

Navigation Question

What is the function of the fixed “New Feed Template” section. I’m under the impression that if a user wanted to add a Variable Element into one of the main content sections, they would first need to click the desired main content section in the Navigation before clicking the + icon for the desired Variable element in the toolbar section. Am I on track with this?

The “New Feed Template” section is our local navigation. At the very top of the application (not shown in the screenshots) is our global/top-level navigation. But once the user is in a particular feature/configuration screen, **we almost always have a fixed local navigation section that contains anchors to sections within that particular view.** This navigation uses **the scrollspy plugin** to highlight the part that you are on, and allows users to jump to a particular section (some configuration screens can have lots of sections).

As for the “Variable Elements” toolbar, the user should not have to interact with the navigation in order to select an element to add. This type of toolbar is less common (it only exists in one other location in the product, and there’s only one drop-target in that particular feature). - *Shahab*

<http://getbootstrap.com/javascript/#scrollspy> - There is a **drop down function in the scrollspy**

Multiple Nav Debate - I assume we want to keep Navigation the same throughout the platform. So whatever is done to the Nav on this 2 drop-target page would/should be done on 1 drop-target pages as well. **Is there an debate to have two different Navs for pages with 1 drop vs. 2 drop?**

Developer - Time & Possibilities

What is the time frame on this project? A few months? 2 weeks? And what are the limitations with development?

* For this simulation lets assume both. I’ll come up with a 2 week fix and a full make over.

Combining Local Nav and Toolbar

Using the ScrollSpy plugin, It’s possible to add a drop down function in the Navigation. But, would it be possible for the drop down to have the same functionality as the Variables Elements Toolbar? Meaning the Tool Bar would display as a drop down for the section the user was currently in on the page. ([See Sketch #1](#))

Hovering Tag Clouds (and crafts) system

Under the same train of thought of Combining the Variable section and Nav section, Would it be possible to replace the drop-target system in the main content section with a system that resembles the Tag cloud system. Each cloud representing the Variables that are allowed in the particular section selected. Tag cloud would appear when main content section was selected (or hover over). possible? ([See Sketch #2](#))

option 1 +

option 2 +

option 3 +

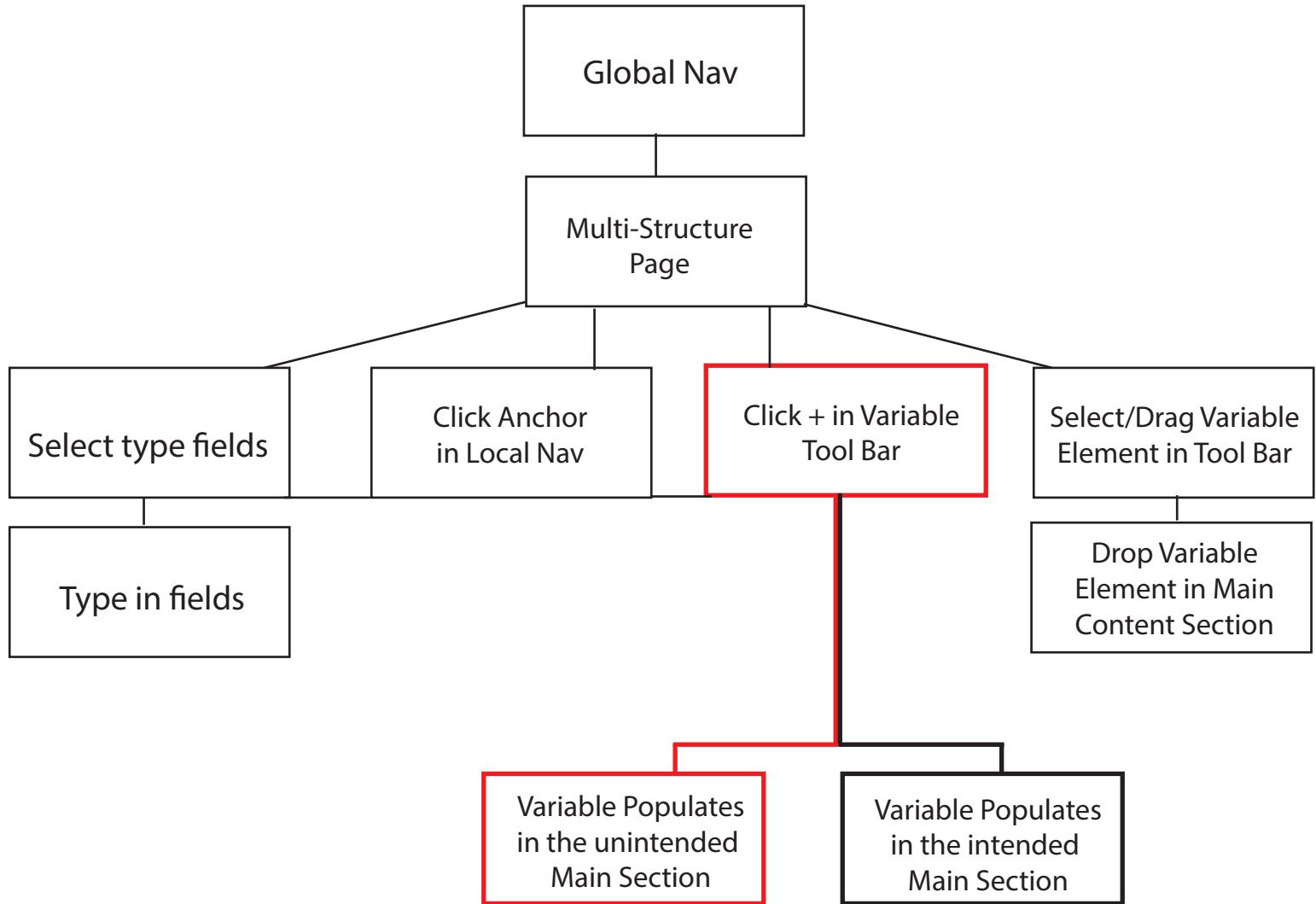
option 4 +

option 5 -



Click Flow & Task Analysis Issues

Click flow when populating type fields and adding variables in the intended main content sections of an OU campus multi-structure web page.



Issue

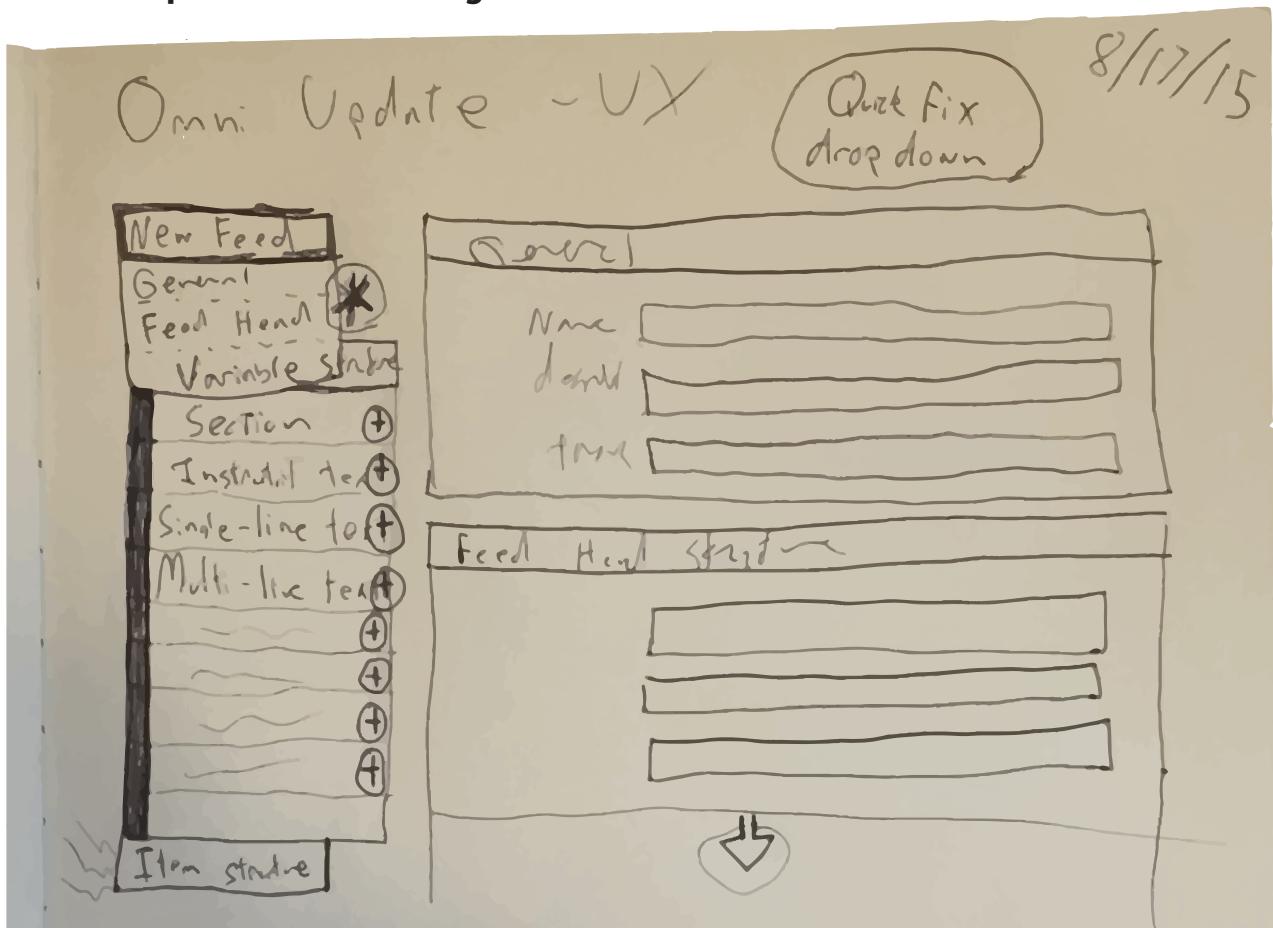
- It is not clear where Variables are being added to when users select the + Variable in the tool bar section.
- Tool Bar is cut off in smaller screen resolutions, too tall.

Fix

- **Create a more intuitive Design by solving the Variable Tool Bar Section issues.** Keep in mind this is a multi-structure page, and that there are also single structured pages that will use this navigation design as well.



Sketch #1 - Drop-Down - Combining New Feed and Variable Tool Bar



Notes

- Combining Navigation & Variable Elements
 - ❖ use shading & colors & alignment to differentiate
- Replace symbol with in Navigation
- Still allow drag and drop though unnecessary.

△ Keep New Feed Fixed? △ Make Variable drop down scrollable.

Pros

- shortens toolbar, makes it fit
- eliminates Guessing

Cons

- same amt of clicks
- might not recognize that it's a dropdown Nav
- other Nav items lost at the bottom

- colors, shading, lining, use same symbol

- Eliminated separate Variable Section.
- Added variable list drop-down function within selected/intended nav elements.
- Used shading and/or coloring to clearly identify parent/child relation between Nav Elements & Variable elements.
- Considered matching icons in navigation and main content section by replacing either the the "Drop down" or "+" icons with the other.



Sketch #1a - Drop-Down - Combining New Feed and Variable Tool Bar

New Feed Template

General Settings

Feed Head Structure

- Section +
- Instructional Text +
- Single-Line Text Field +
- Multi-Line Text Field +
- WYSIWYG Editor +
- Radio Buttons +
- Checkboxes +
- Drop-Down +
- Datepicker +
- Filechooser +
- Image Chooser +
- Asset Chooser +
- Field Set +

Item Structure

Item Structure

Item Structure

Selected Structure

Unselected Structure

General Settings

Name

Description

Output News/RSS

Tags

Feed Head Structure

Title

Description

Link

Publish Date Click to select date

Author

Item Structure

Title

Description

Link

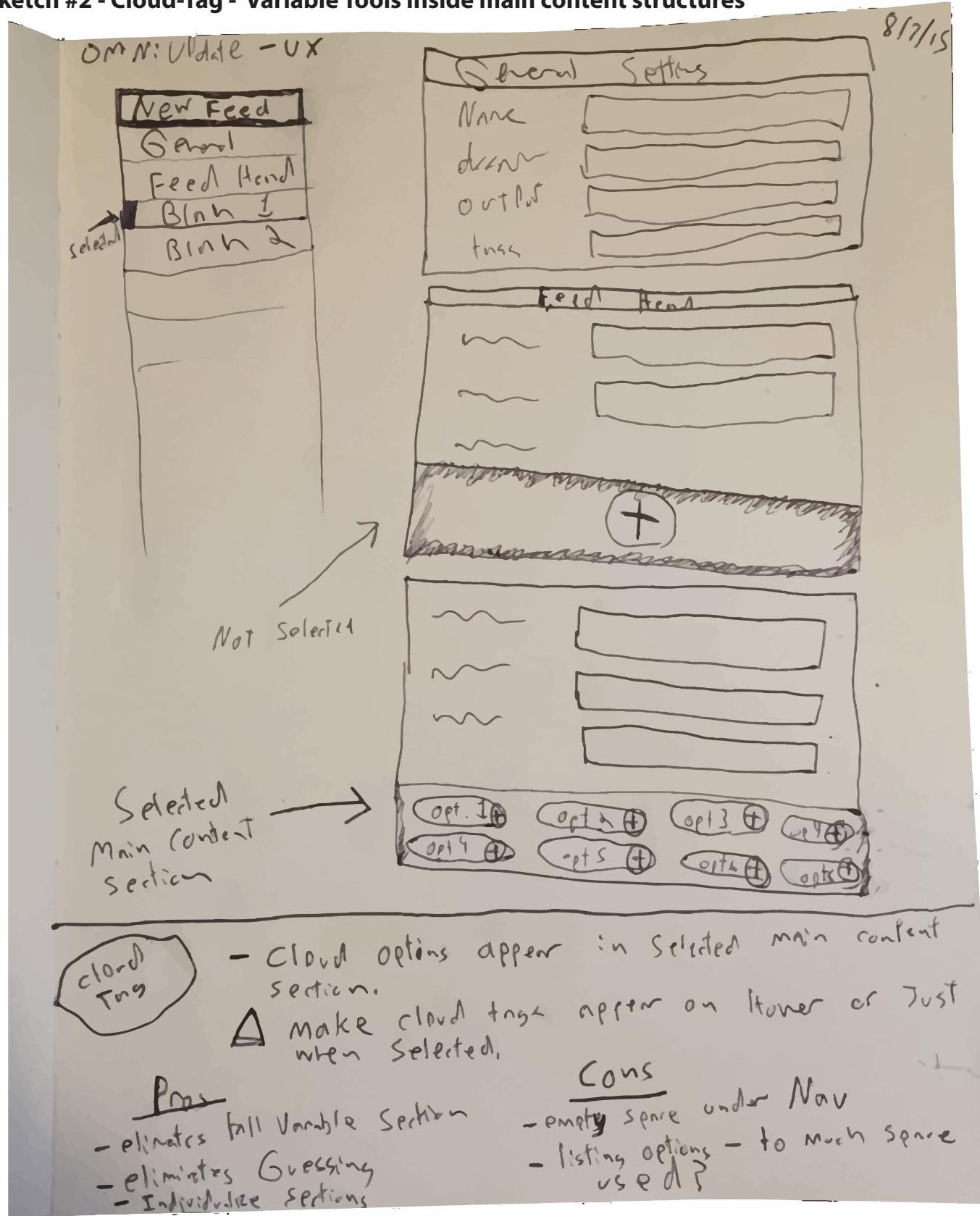
Publish Date Click to select date

Author

+ +

Cancel Create

Sketch #2 - Cloud-Tag - Variable Tools inside main content structures



- Eliminated separate Variable Section.
- Replaced Drop-target icon for plus icon (because you no longer "dropping anything")
- Used shading and/or coloring to clearly identify parent/child relation between Main content & Variable elements.
- Considered letting cloud tag section appear when a user hovers over individual structures in main content.



Sketch #2a - Cloud Tag - Variable Tools inside main content structures

New Feed Template

General Settings

Feed Head Structure

Item Structure

Item Structure

Item Structure

Selected Structure

Unselected Structure

General Settings

Name

Description

Output

Tags

Feed Head Structure

Title

Description

Link

Publish Date

Author

Instructional Text Section Single-Line Text Field Multi-Line Text Field

WYSIWYG Editor Radio Buttons Checkboxes Drop-Down Datepicker

Filechooser Image Chooser Asset Chooser Field Set

Item Structure

Title

Description

Link

Publish Date

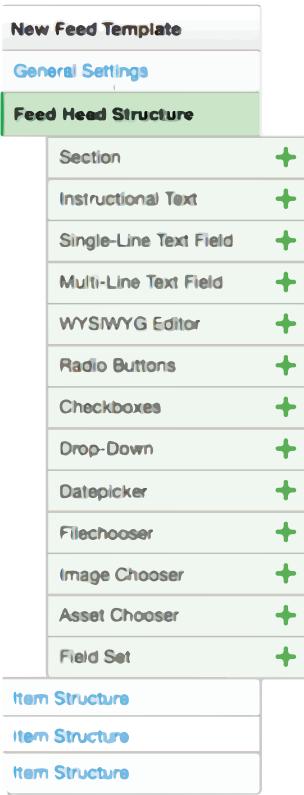
Author

Cancel Create



Sketches - Pros, Cons, Decisions

Sketch #1 - Drop-Down



Pros

- Shortens tool bar by combining into Nav
- Makes Variable tool bar Fixed (in the nav)
- Eliminates Confusion where Vars. will be placed
- Customizable variable tool list for each structure
- Color and Shading helps Identify
- Still keep drag option
- Consistent symbols reduce confusion

Cons

- On single structure pages the variable list should be visible
- Same amount of clicks to complete task
- Might not recognize Var in Nav (hover decision)
- Item structures in the Nav under the selected item structure will be pushed down lower in the page**

Decisions

- Is it more intuitive to have drop down appear when user hovers over individual sections?**
- Does the drop down reduce the height of the Variable tool section enough? Lower structures in the Nav lost on small screens?
- Is this nav compatible with the skyscroll plugin?

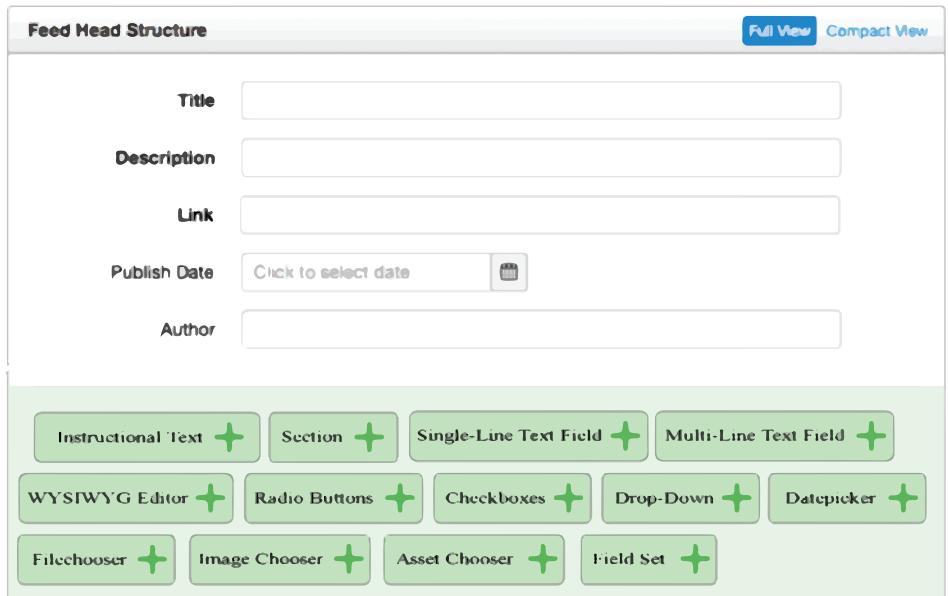
Sketch #2 - Cloud-Tag

Pros

- Eliminates tall variable tools section
- Reduces the amount of clicks to complete task**
- Plenty of room for cloud in single structure pages
- Customizable variable tool list for each structure

Cons

- Empty Space Under the Nav
- Potentially too much space used in multi-structure pages
- User might not recognize where cloud tags are located before selecting a structure (without a show/hover function).



Decisions

- Is it more intuitive to have the cloud-tags appear when an individual section is hovered over.**
- Do all structures need the same variable tool list or can we customize?
- Can we use the new empty space under the Nav?**



Other Ideas & Review

Ideas I didn't Use

- Clunky idea - Eliminate Vairable Tool Bar, Replace Drop target in Main content with a Drop-down and select function with Variable tools.

Issues: Clunky looking, Not intuitive, to many clicks in single structure pages, To much spacing under nav, To much space used in Main content

- Very Quick, but still issues - Keep everything the same but get rid of the "press +" functionality and rely on just the drag and drop functionaility.

Issues: Variable tool section may still not fit on smaller screen resolutions.

What's Next

- Find feedback on ux design
- Discuss options with development team
- In the meantime create prototype and process document.

