

Research

The first website I took inspiration from is Gary Sheng's website (<https://www.garysheng.com/>). Gary is an accomplished software engineer who worked at Google and has coded his own civic outreach platform called Civics Unplugged. It's no wonder his site was one of the first to come up when I googled "software engineer portfolio website examples." I hope to take a lot of inspiration from Gary's site for my own. Immediately, the first design feature I really enjoyed is the background. A full-width photographic background suggests professionalism and stability. This is something I hope to emulate on my website. The next design feature of Gary's site that I admired is the formatting. Each resume point is listed one after the other in a list format, leaving white space on the page. I really like this open-ended look, and it's something I want to incorporate into the information section of my own site. The last design feature of Gary's site that I appreciated is the imagery and icons. There's a thumbnail image that accompanies the section on "Foundational Tech," providing a visual reference to the content. The use of imagery and icons helps convey the information that the site is trying to convey. I want to use similar tools on my website.



— My journey —

I'm a Forbes 30 Under 30 creator and entrepreneur dedicated to building technologies and empowering people who are laying the foundation for a Golden Age for humanity.

All things "Foundational Tech"

July 2022 - Present
Building Civics Unplugged was a dream.

Beyond the joy of supporting so many young civic innovators explore their passions and skills, I am grateful for how much time it gave me to explore the roots of civilizational decline and fragility.

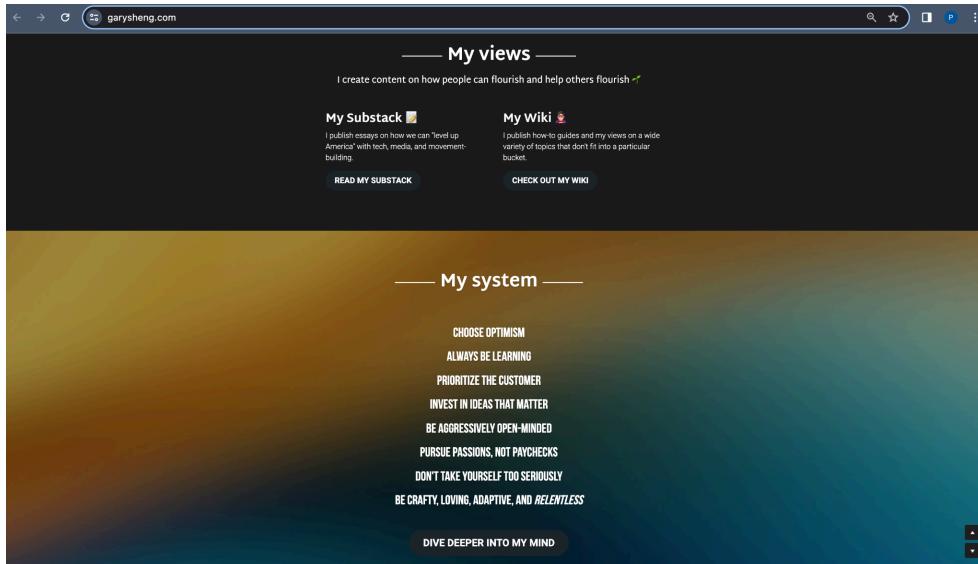
Given the growing number of existential risks facing Americans and all of humanity, my research has showed me that there may be nothing more important to humanity's long-term flourishing than investing in and building what I call "foundational technologies" that enable hyperlocal resilience, self-sustainability, dynamism, and ecological regeneration.

- How do we build villages and cities of the future that are not only not extractive, they leave the environment around them better off?
- How do we fund people and projects that generate and regenerate what matters?
- How can communities prepare for the worst, and simultaneously plant seeds for a new Golden Age for the U.S. (and all of humanity)?

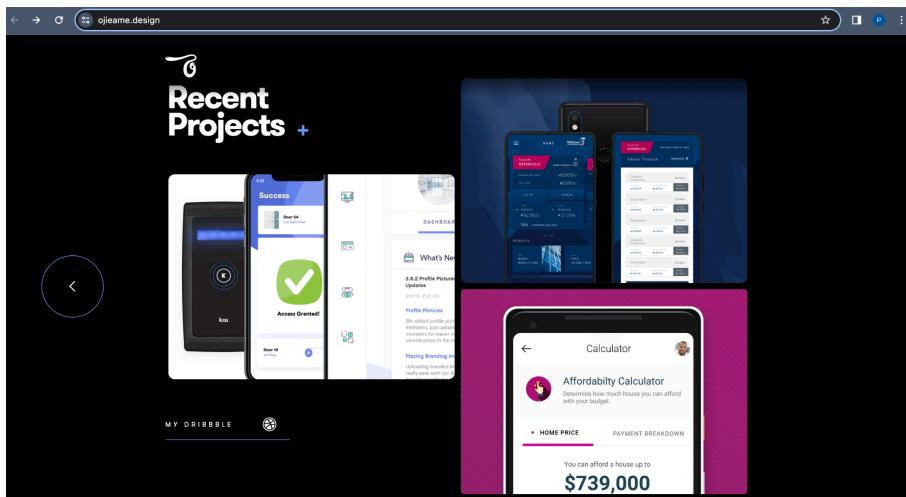
I am dedicating this newest chapter of my life to exploring questions like these and contributing to high-impact projects related to these questions, like [Zozulu](#).

If you'd like to compare notes and explore collaborating on topics related to foundational tech, hyperlocalism, regeneration, American dynamism, and more, feel free to DM me on [LinkedIn](#) or [X](#).

SUBSCRIBE TO MY SUBSTACK ON FOUNDATIONAL TECH



The second website design I researched is by Ojieame (<https://www.ojieame.design/>). Ojieame is a product designer, so his site is a great example of how to display personal projects and products. To begin, the first part of the site that caught my eye is the imagery. This section showcases images of recent projects, prominently featuring mobile and web interface designs. The visuals are central to the layout, illustrating the individual's work. Using proper imagery to convey and showcase is definitely a feature I want on my website. The next feature that interested me is the layout and design. The projects are presented in a carousel format, which allows users to browse through the work portfolio. The images are framed within devices and cards, giving context to the design work. The photo layout isn't on a typical axis, and instead rather fits to the entirety of the screen. I really appreciate this format as opposed to having evenly sized and spaced images, as I feel it is a unique look. I want to similarly format the photos and incorporate such design techniques into my own site.



The third and final website I researched is by Matt Farley, a front-end developer and designer (<https://mattfarley.ca/>). I really liked the simplicity that Matt's site carries. The first design feature that grabbed my attention is the layout. Matt's website is clean and organized with a prominent headline followed by a subheading. The layout is centered on the page, with plenty of white space around the text and graphics to avoid a cluttered look. I really want my site to feature similar characteristics and be easily readable. To continue, another design feature from Matt's website that I really liked is the imagery. There is a cartoonish avatar image of a person, which adds a personal and friendly touch to the site. Below the avatar is a stylized representation of a desktop with code on the screen, which visually communicates Matt's profession as a developer and designer. My site will similarly cater to being a developer, so I definitely want to use comparable imagery to Matt's to convey this. The last feature of Matt's website I found interesting is the navigation. The navigation is simple, with two interactive elements in the top right corner labeled "Mentorship" and "Say Hello," indicating these are likely links or buttons for further interaction. The "Say Hello" button is styled differently to stand out and possibly serves as a call to action. Likewise, I am also interested in having strong navigation on my site.

