Sonja's Photography

Website Summary

Sonja's Photography is a photography website which aims to demonstrate my photography to those interested and provide the opportunity to those interested in my photography to ask questions. This website includes:

- A page where the user can contact me by filling out a form
- Two photo galleries
- A FAQ page for those interested in learning more about my photography.

Current Issues

At the moment, the contact page is not fully functional. Submitting won't do anything and there's also no error managing if fields are unfilled.

Things to improve on

In the future, I think adding more effects on the website would help, for instance making a transition for the FAQs upon scroll when more are added. Moreover, I would implement the functionality for the Contact Me page.

Responsive Design

A responsive design has been implemented to all pages of the website. This was done using media queries. Notably, using flexbox and grid designs for the gallery photos and the FAQs ensured a responsive design. Additionally, the navigation bar has been made responsive, using a burger navigation bar for shorter widths.

Website Evaluation using Nielsen's Heuristics

Visibility of System Status – The current webpage that the user is on is bolded and the mouse cursor changes shape when hovering clickable items.

Match Between System and Real World – The website uses symbols, such as Instagram, which is recognisable to it's users. Jargon used in appropriate sections such as the FAQ page, since people wanting to learn more about my photography will visit this page.

User Control and Freedom – Navigation bar at the top of each page to facilitate movement throughout the website for the user.

Consistency and Standards – Uncomplicated design and is typical and consistent of existing web designs with the use of navigation bar to navigate, standard layout, etc.
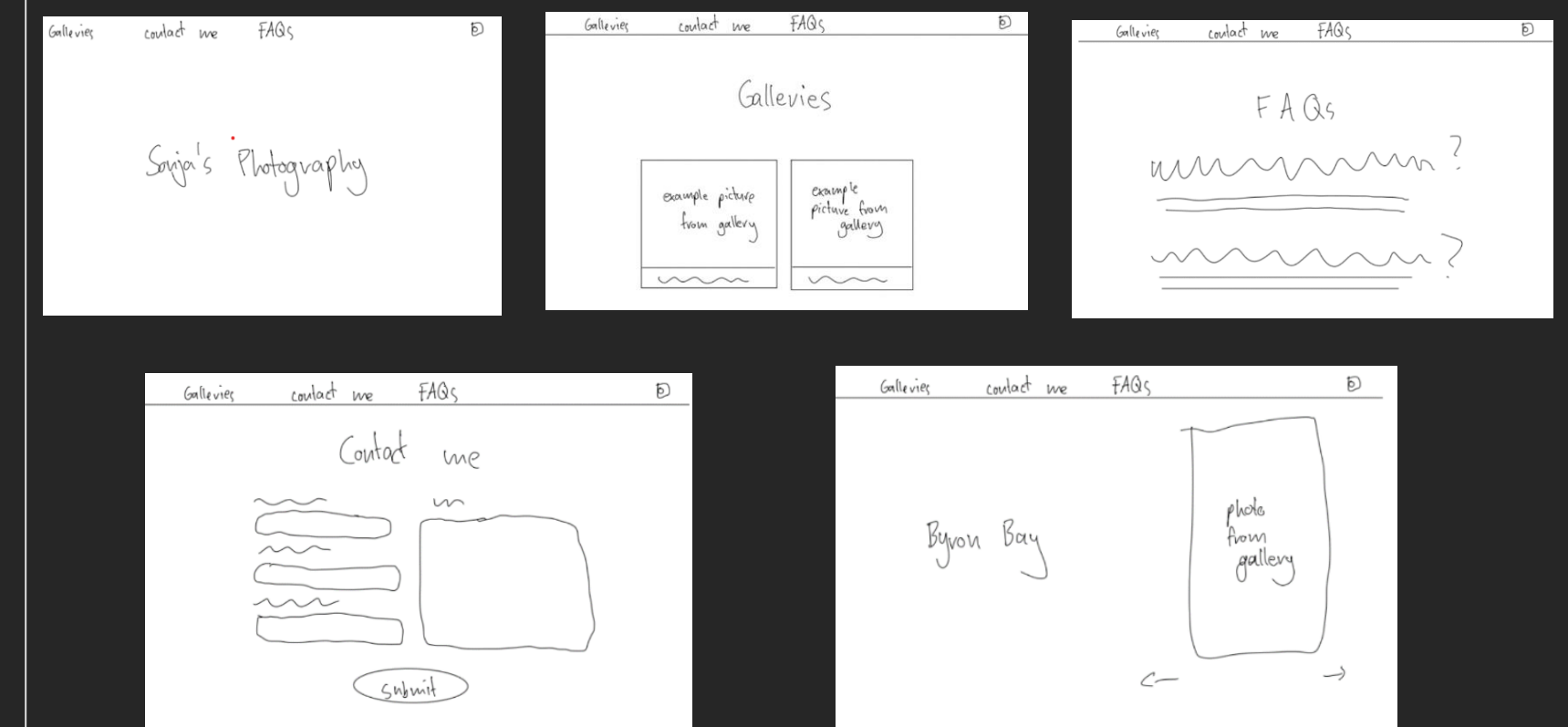
Error Prevention – This was unfortunately not implemented into the web design as hoped, but intent to implement it in the future for the Contact Me page.

Recognition and Recall – Navigation bar always present, decreasing user's memory load. Navigation bar doesn't move (always at the top of page) thus easily found, thus less memory load for the user
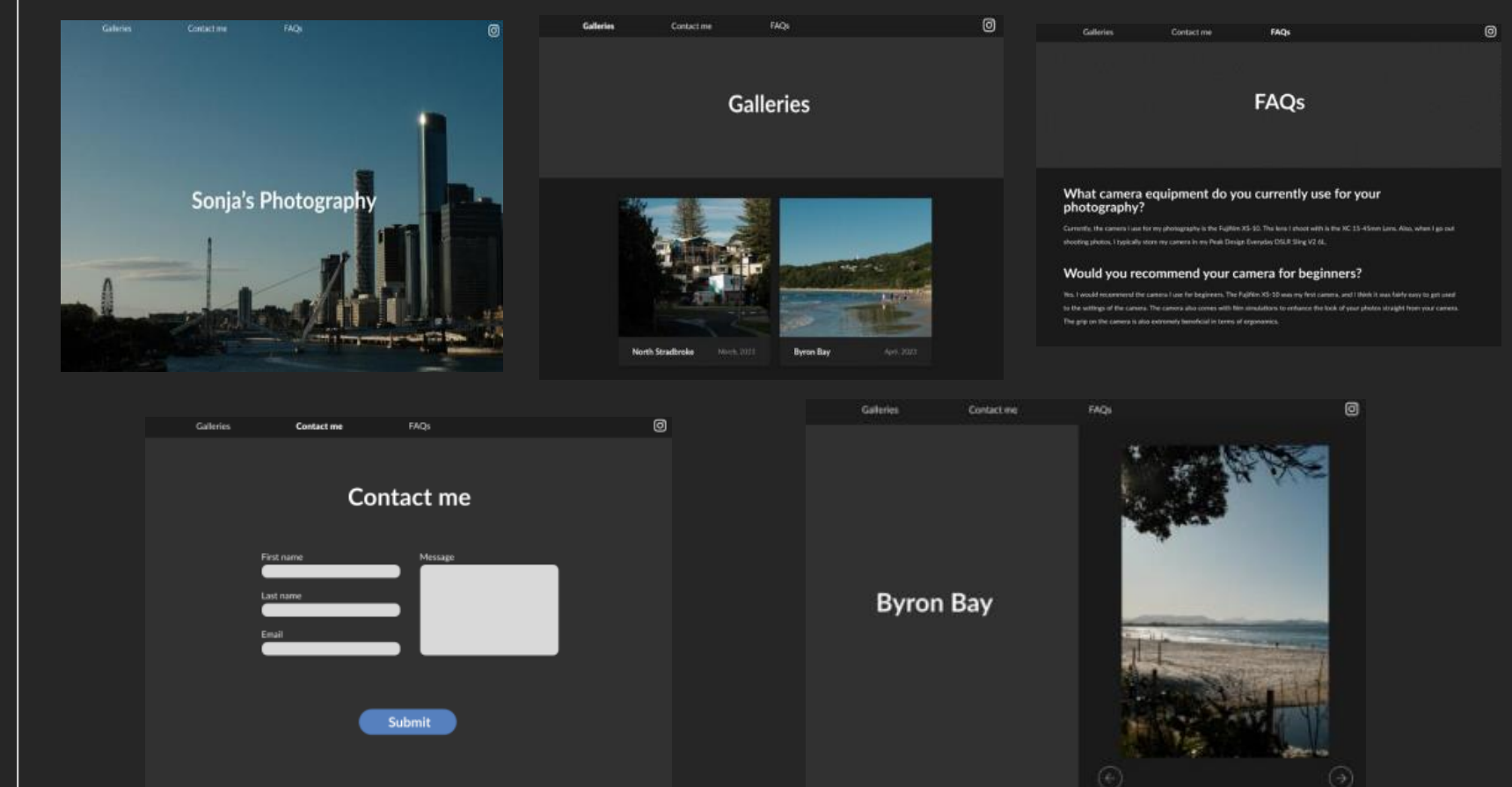
Aesthetics and Minimalist Design – This website has employed a minimalist design and follows a clear aesthetic. I thought that the original Contact Me page was potentially too bland, so I updated the design for the final product so that a piece of my photography was present as it is a photography page.

Website Screenshots

Design Prototypes

Low Fidelity Prototype

High Fidelity Prototype

Reflection and lessons learnt

I have learnt a lot during this web design and web implementation journey. I had troubles initially with figuring out flexbox when building the website, but once I got the hang of it I valued the tool immensely. Furthermore, following Nielsen's Heuristics provided me a rich understanding of the design choices surrounding websites. Additionally, I have developed an understanding of media queries, which has proven to be useful in terms of achieving a responsive design. This journey has made me excited to learn more about website implementation tools and web design.