NASA Mobile Site Prototype
Part 1: Building the Home Page

Although most mobile and app content is hard coded, developers often rely on prototypes as a guide for the design. Prototypes are created in Adobe Photoshop or other graphic application and then provided to the developer once the design has been approved. In this exercise you will use Photoshop to create a prototype of the new NASA site home page as it will appear on an iPhone. You will use Layers extensively, grouping objects into layer groups.
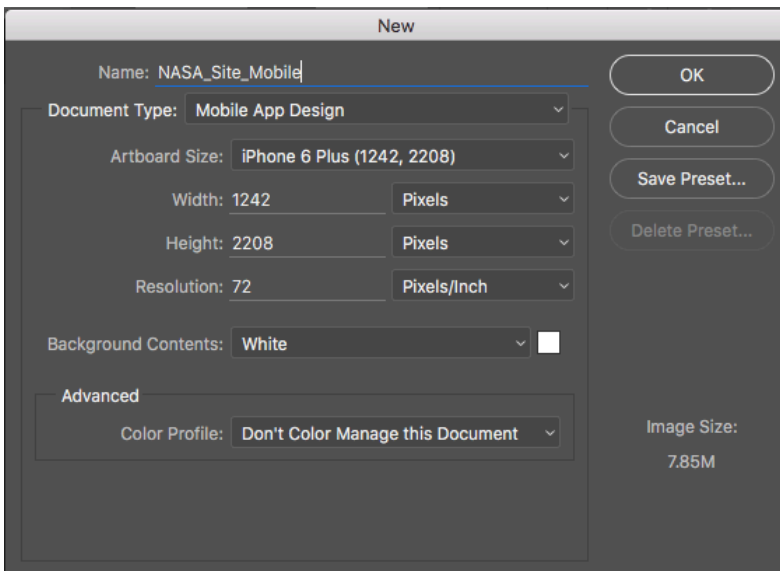
Download and decompress the projectimages folder. Using Adobe Photoshop. Follow the instructions to re-construct the Phone App prototype as shown.
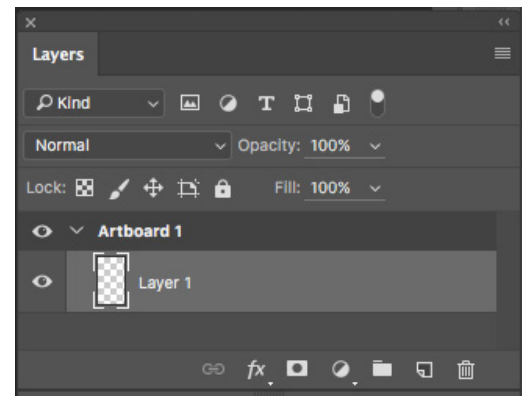
Step 1: Create a new Photoshop Artboard
In Photoshop go to File>New.
Document Mobile App Design (Artboard also works)
Size: iPhone6 Plus (1242, 2208) or another device of your choosing.

If you did this correctly, you will see the layer underneath the title of Artboard 1. This is important as you will add new Artboards later.

Step 2: Add the background image. Place embedded starry_sky.jpg image. You will need to rotate and upscale this image to fit. Use Levels to adjust tonality as desired. Delete the empty Layer 1.
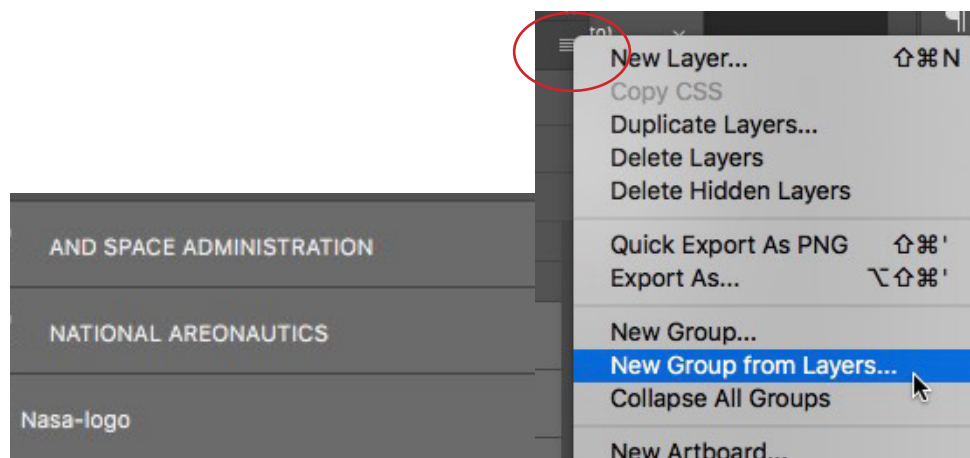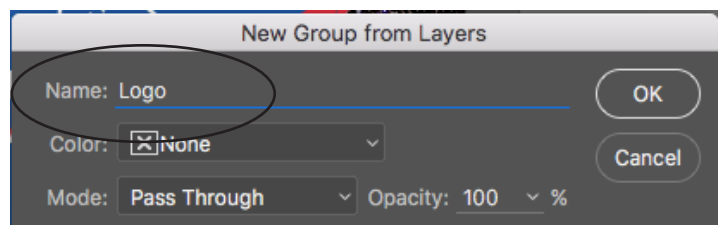
Step 3: Add text to the logo. Place embedded nasa_logo.png image. May need to scale to size as shown on example. Create text on path – note text is white and all caps. You will need two paths to create the text.
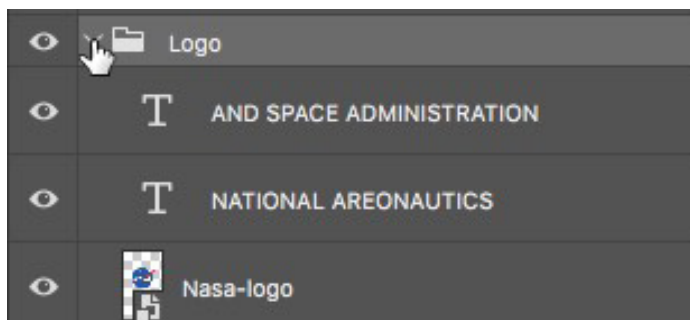
Step 4: Make a group. Now lets get better organized. Select all three layers - logo and the two text layers. In the Layers Options Menu choose from the pull-down menu "New Group From Layers".
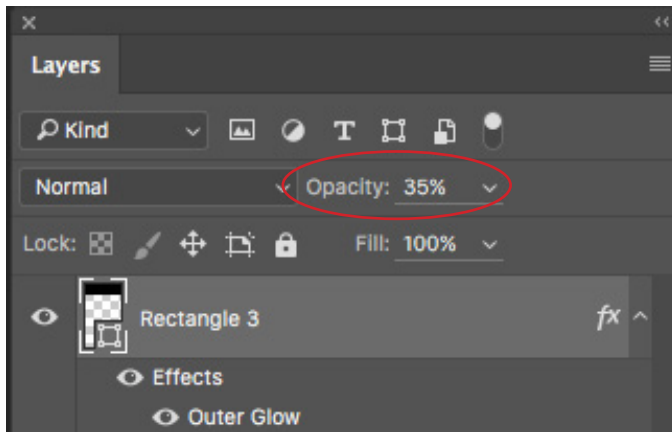

Name the Group "Logo". Click OK

The new group can be contracted or expanded to show the group items. Making a group also allows you to move the entire group at once using the Move tool.
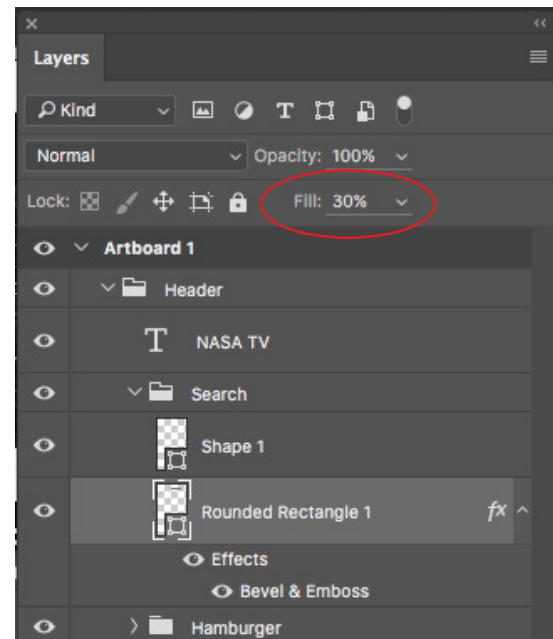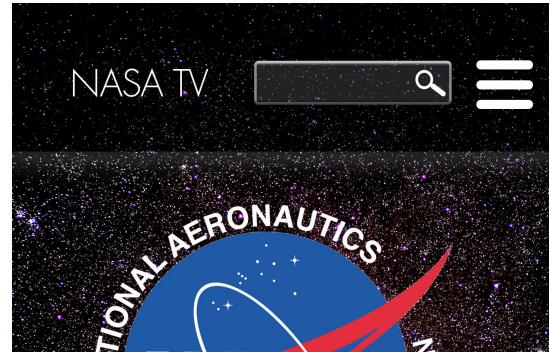
Step 5: Construct the Header area. Begin by making a black rectangle at the top. Make the rectangle the entire width of the document and about 342 pixels in height. Adjust the opacity to 35% and create a Layer Style of an Outer Glow.

Using what you now about type and shapes, construct the remaining elements.

• Use a thin Sans-serif font for NASA TV.
• The "hamburger" is constructed of three rounded rectangles. Group those items and call the group "hamburger".

• The search field uses a custom shape for the magnifying glass icon.
• The rectangle that has a fill opacity of 30%, and a Layer Style of Bevel & Emboss
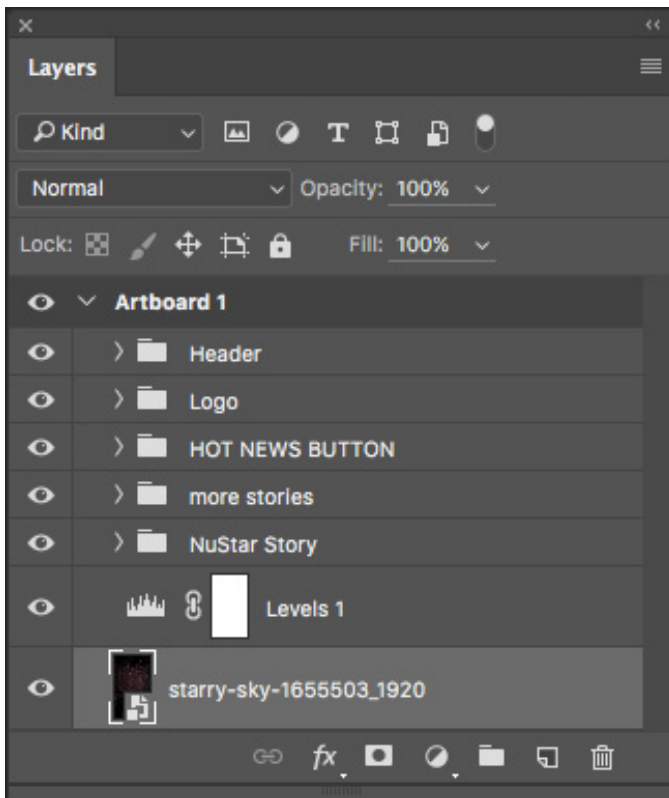• Select the two shapes and create a group named "search".

Group all layers: Text, rectangle, search, and hamburger. Name this group "Header.
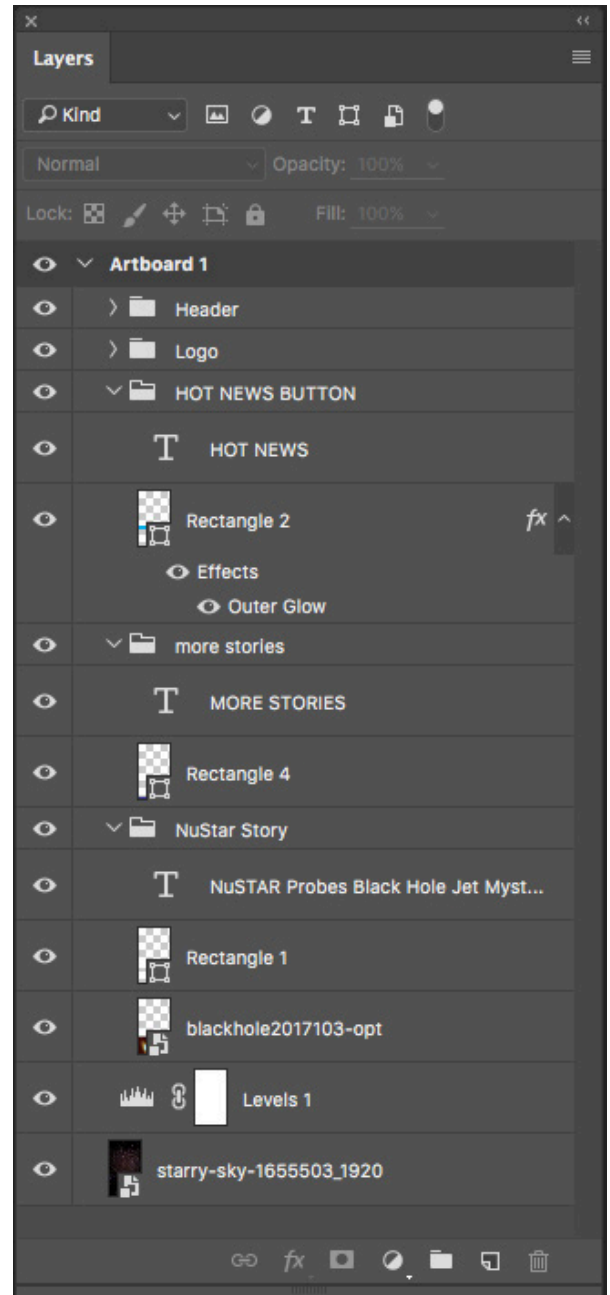
Construct the bottom portion of the prototype. Note that the HOT NEWS has an outer glow and the white bar and the blue bar are somewhat transparent.

Group the elements as shown in the Layers images below.

Completed project: Layers Collapsed.

Completed project: Layers Expanded.