

MASTERS THESIS

How social network applications like Strava affect modern practice of running?

social network
aspect

privacy and
security issues

self-tracking

dating apps

RUNNING / STRAVA

motivation

GPS-drawing

social network
aspect

privacy and
security issues

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GPS-drawing

This Way: Expressive Self-Tracking as Creative Practice

Joost Grootens

Institute of Visual Design, Centre for Visibility Design, Royal Danish Academy - Architecture, Design, Conservation

Publications: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding > Book chapter > Research > peer-review

 Overview

Abstract

The technological, economic, political, sociological, and theoretical dimensions of self-tracking as creative practice are analysed through a case study of a GPS drawing made by a Dutch amateur cyclist. Addressing the surveillance issues surrounding satellite navigation and fitness apps, as well as the economic models employed by the technology companies running the latter, the article uses sociologist Deborah Luptons five different modes of self-tracking to approach the self-tracking practice of the case study and propose a sixth mode: expressive self-tracking. A post-representational reading of GPS drawing emphasises the ambiguity of authorship and degree of completeness of digital production.

Key words:

self-tracking, GPS drawing, fitness apps, non-specialists, surveillance, post-representational cartography

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82

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-  [Link to publisher](#)
-  [Book launch at Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam, NL on 01.06.2023](#)

René Koppert, Giro d'Italia, 2020



Walking by Drawing

Daniela K. Rosner, Hidekazu Saegusa, Jeremy Friedland, Allison Chambliss
 University of Washington
 {dkrosner, chgm, jsfried, achamb}@uw.edu

ABSTRACT

This paper describes a study of algorithmic living with Trace, a mobile mapping application that generates walking routes based on digital sketches people create and annotate without a map. In addition to creating walking paths, Trace enables people to send the paths to others. We designed Trace to explore the possibility of emphasizing guided wandering over precise, destination-oriented navigation. Studies of sixteen people's use of Trace over roughly one week reveal how walkers find Trace both delightful and disorienting, highlighting moments of surprise, frustration, and identification with GIS routing algorithms. We conclude by discussing how design interventions offer possibilities for understanding the work of mapping and how it might be done differently in HCI.

Author Keywords

Walking, design, geo-spatial navigation, algorithmic living.

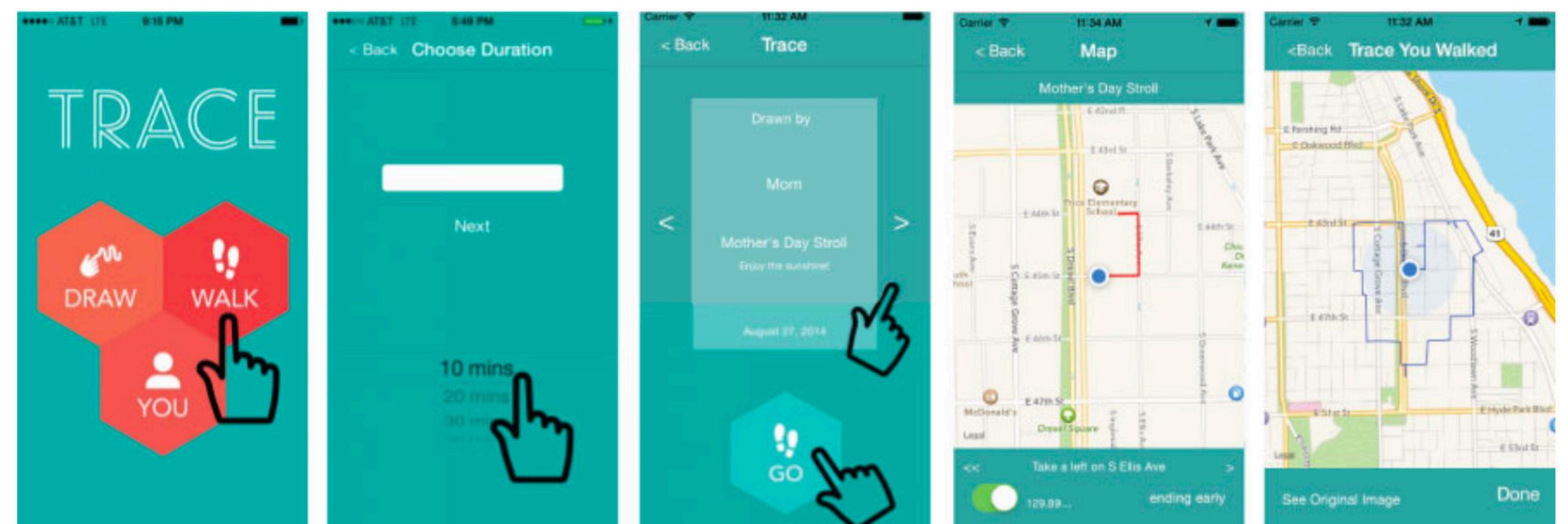
ACM Classification Keywords

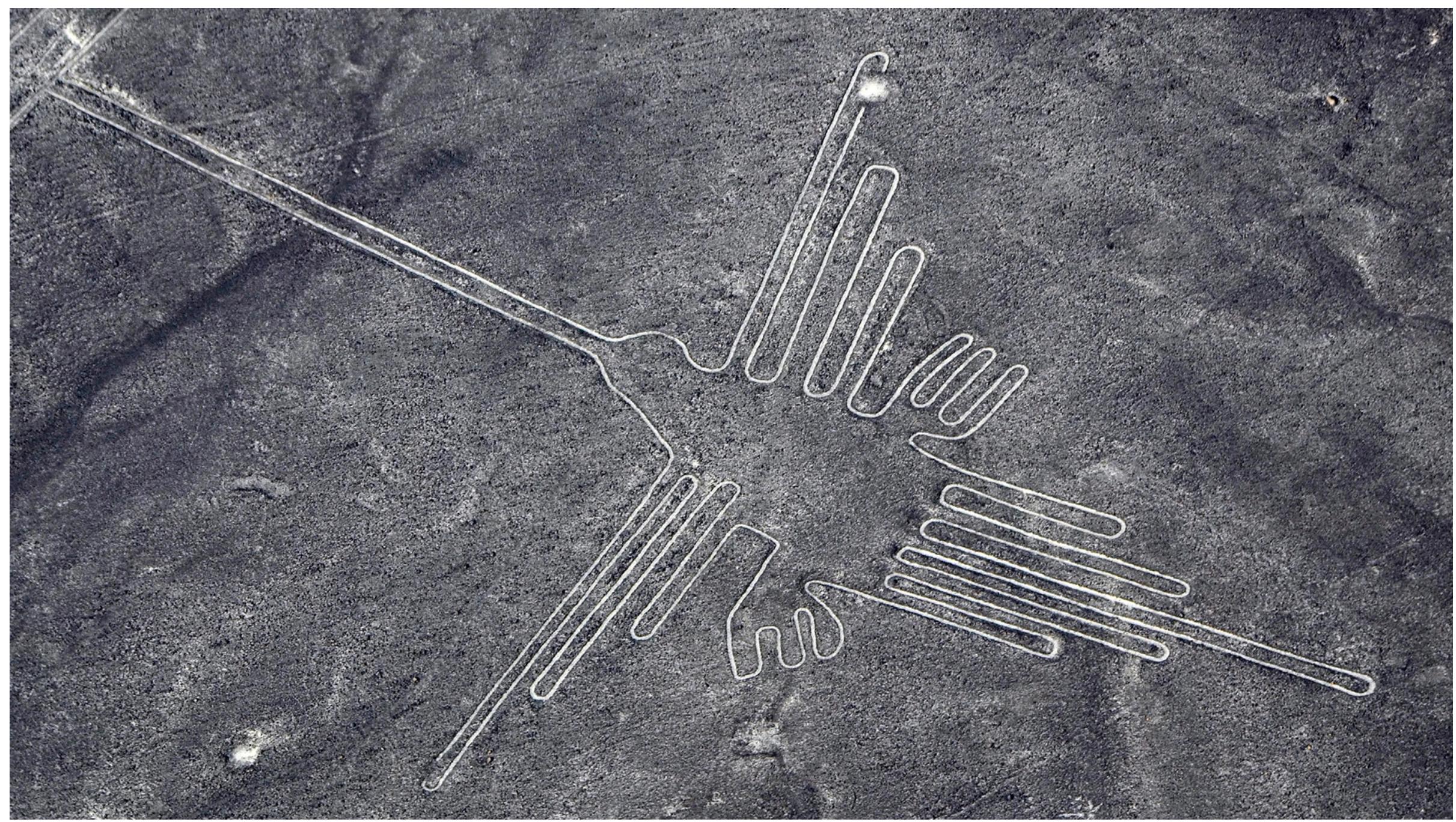
K.4.0 Computers in Society: general.

INTRODUCTION

In the 1967 artwork *A Line Made by Walking*, a field of grass presents residues of a path that artist Richard Long tracked up and down by foot [9]. Through walking, Long reshaped the environment to describe a trajectory of move-

Drawing on studies of social mapping [1,11,25] and algorithmic life [6,8,15,33], we develop a complement to this technology for walking called Trace. Trace is a mobile application that transforms hand-drawn digital sketches into walking paths to share with others – thus introducing a unique form of digital communication to HCI: walking by drawing. Rather than aim for efficiency or competition, Trace relies on communication between the creators and recipients of walking paths. During field trials with sixteen people across Boston, Chicago and Seattle, Trace evoked surprising contrasts. On the one hand, people used Trace to extend their everyday interactions. They “slowed down” walking routines to encounter new features of their environment. Through the design of the routes and the accompanying annotations, they also turned walking paths into personal messages: engaging enigmatic riddles, love notes, and ruminations. On the other hand, people encountered Trace as deeply disruptive of familiar routines. Trace prompted people to explore areas they did not want to travel, sometimes revealing discriminatory behavior. Trace also obligated people to use scarce spare time and walk redundant paths — ultimately intensifying desires for efficiency and control. To reconcile these disconnects between people’s perceptions and practices, the people we studied began to interrogate the procedural logics behind GIS-routing and see their neighborhoods through an algorithmic lens.





Nazca lines



Richard Long



A line made by walking, 1967



Walking a circle in mist, 1986

Traverse Me
warwickcampus
map for pedestrians



mead gallery
warwick arts centre
Jeremy Wood 2010



My ghost

Jeremy Wood

やっさんのGPS絵画プロジェクト
<http://ameblo.jp/fa-yas/>



Yasushi Takahashi

OK GO, GPS Parade

Daria Kotova

17:38

A screenshot of a Twitter post from Airbus (@Airbus). The post includes a logo, a "Follow" button, and a "Sign up" button. The main content is a tweet with a photo of a flight path on a map of Europe. The path forms a stylized Christmas tree shape. The tweet reads: "Some early ‘Season’s Greetings’ from one of Flight Test Teams in Hamburg 🎄✈️ flightradar24.com/AIB232E/fd1fd63 @flightradar24". Below the tweet is a screenshot of the Flightradar24 website showing the flight path and aircraft details. The timestamp on the post is 4:11 pm · 13 Dec 2017. Engagement metrics are shown: 1,444 Reposts, 159 Quotes, and 2,642 Likes. There are also standard social media interaction icons at the bottom.



MMD 1

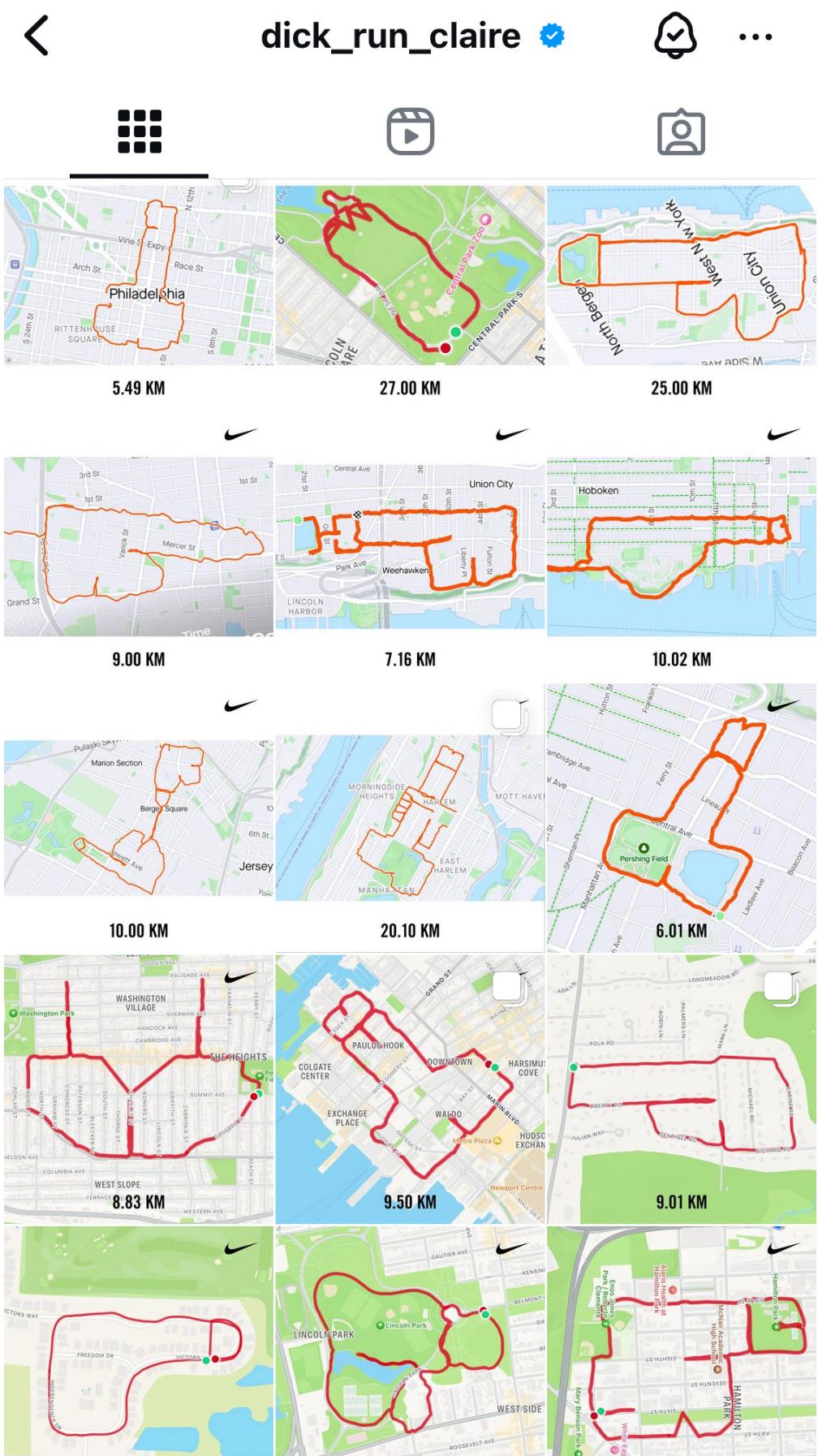
HEAD 2024

Claire Pisano (@dick_run_claire)

Pisano says, "I did it by accident. You want to plan out a run to know how hilly and how far it is. I planned a fairly circular run, and then took a wrong turn." She continued, "There's a surprising amount of people who have started doing this. Once in a while someone will tag me in a run they've done."

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BofRt0OHKeO/>

Pisano got into running about five years ago. She says it's a peaceful activity. "It's me time." Pisano's favourite race is the Marina Crops half-marathon, which she's done several times. When she's training seriously she doesn't dick run, it's just something she does for fun. If you're looking to change your running route, here's how you dick run.



RUNNING + GPS-DRAWING + MOTIVATION

What is the role of GPS-drawing in the modern running practices? (Strava case)