Gavin Cassidy

Web Design Final Website Report

Link to site: https://gacass48.github.io/

My original wireframes are below, my idea with these was to sketch a basic model of the structure of the website. I wanted a homepage that displayed short blurbs about the other pages with links to the other pages next to the information. I also wanted some images to add character to the page instead of just being dry text. This is a personal website and pictures are necessary to provide more about yourself. The navbar was also something I wanted for the navigation to the different pages. For the other wireframe pages I was not as committed to the structure or details, more brainstorming how to structure information on the other pages. I developed more on these ideas and added in colors in my Figma mockups featured later.
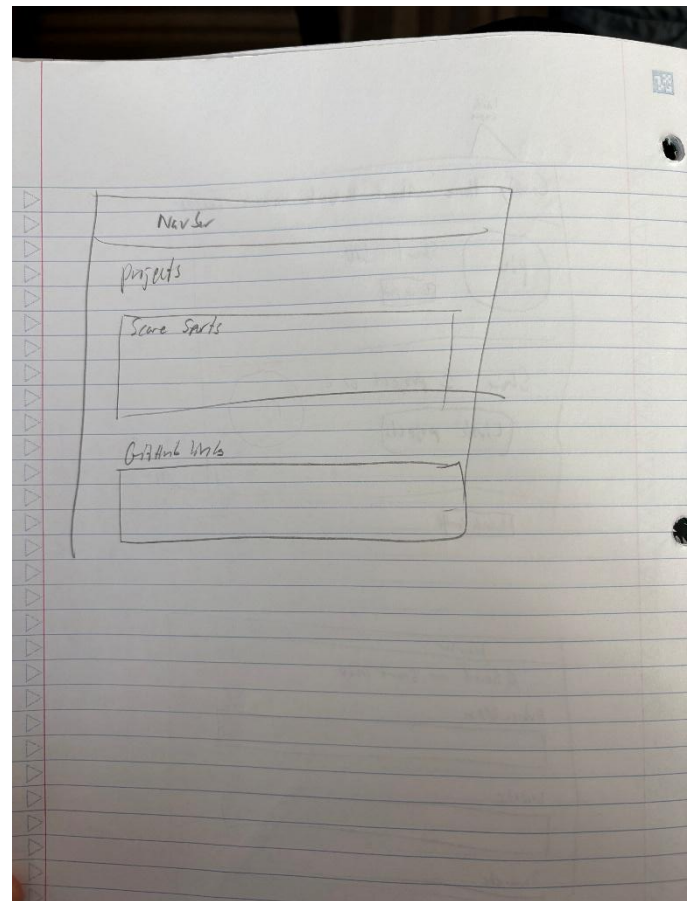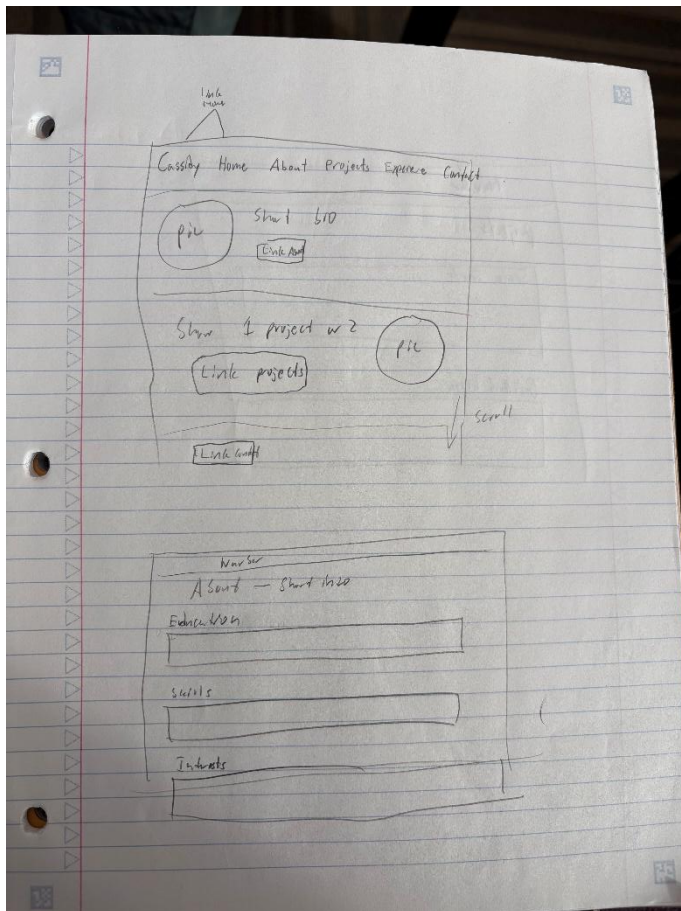
The next step in my design was playing around in Figma and adding color and more details to the wireframes. First I thought about my color theme. The base color I started with was a dark foresty green, having a nature feel and also implying growth and success. I coupled it with a brown color that also has an earthy feel along with stability. I selected a white text to go along with these colors to allow the text to be more readable and pop more. I also used our techniques for making "gray" colors that are based on our primary colors to feature more greens and provide more texture in the site. The blue color is what I have chosen for the accent color. This is the part of the color scheme I struggled with the most, finding a color that worked with the other 2 and stood out well. Paletton would be a great resource but the website has been down for about a week every time I have tried to access it. Instead, I found a site that generates colors and sees if they match well. It is called [Realtime Colors](#) and allows you to randomize colors that work together in different ways, lock in colors you like, and generally brainstorm. It has a Figma plugin that allows you to generate a color palate directly into Figma once you have colors you like. I used this to find the blue and then generated the gray-greens using our techniques. I also used Hello Web Design to select my initial colors that had the right feel for how I wanted my site.

The top here is what is generated by Realtime colors, the final color palate was made using that.
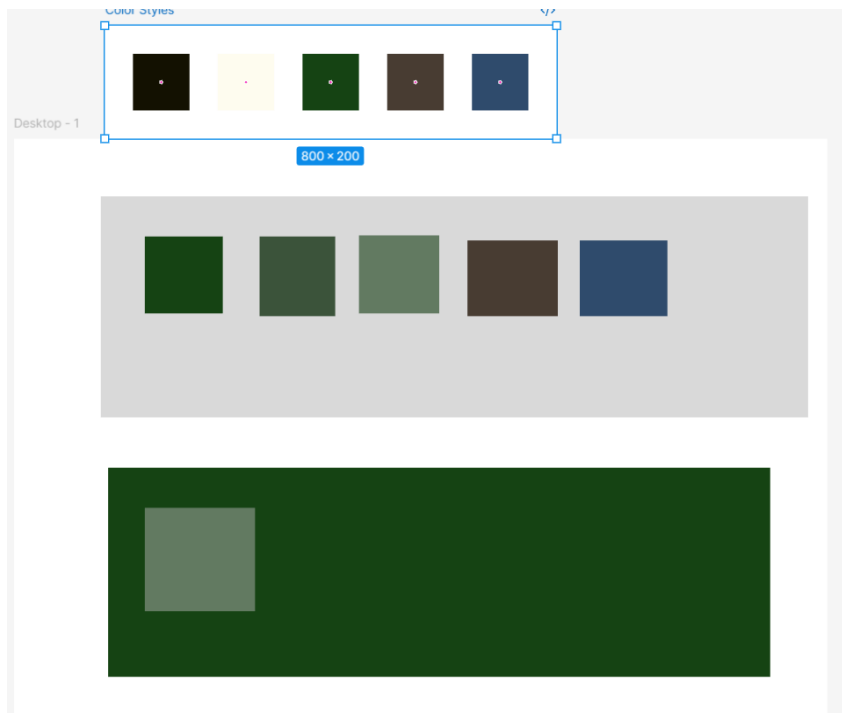
For my site, I took inspiration from the wireframes and incorporated the colors to bring more personality to the site and keep it readable. I have brown in the background and green in the foreground to make it pop. I followed the wireframe closely for this section of the site, with the image and text structure similar. I also like having a black bar around the boxes to draw focus inside of them. In the actual site I have more sections but this is what fit on the starting page for figma. The part I struggled and am still considering is the blue button color. I like how the white text works well with all the colors but I think the blue doesn't work as well as the green and the brown.
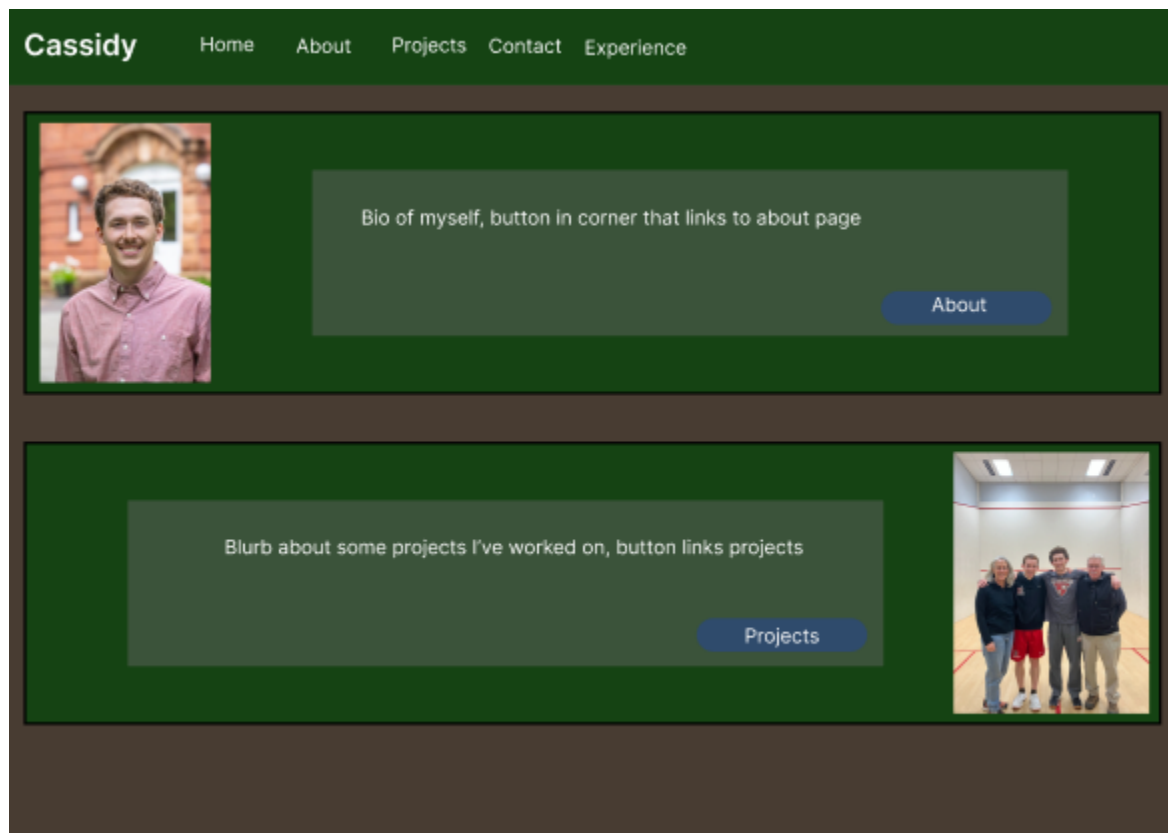
This is pretty close to how my page ended up with another section added.

This is the framework for the about section, my hope is to have a much more in depth section than the Homepage. I have split up different areas of focus into different boxes to provide an easy way to read what might be interesting. I intend the top section to be a kind of overview that allows the reader to get an idea of the content of the whole page while not having to read everything. I think this is also the idea with having the blocks on the homepage, allowing people to get an idea of the content without having to read the entire page. I am considering adding an image or 2 to the lower part of the page but am not sure what I might be able to find that is applicable to interests/skills.
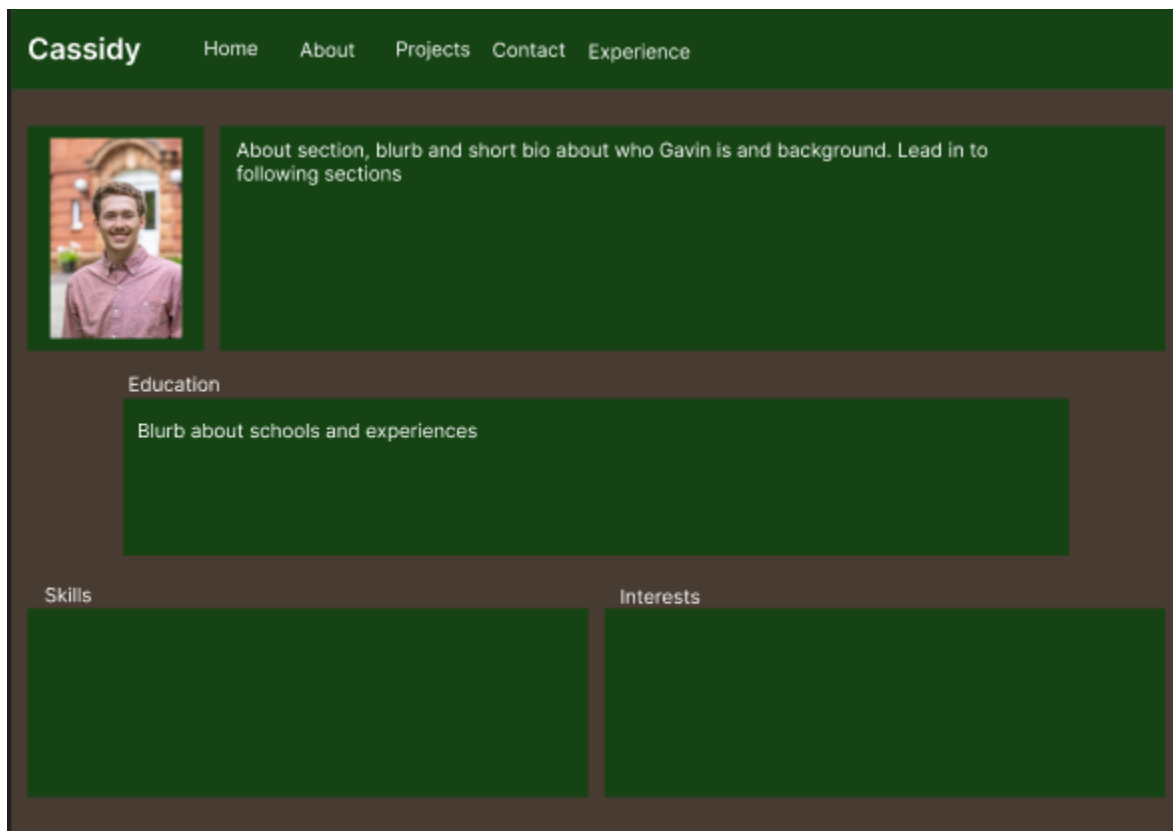
My final version of this page added in a couple of images to the Skills and interests sections to provide more personality about myself. There is also a lot more contrast in the text sizes, with more emphasis on the headers.

I think the biggest struggle with this project was all the minute spacing details and making it fit well for different sizing. Some sections have built in bootstrap features but others were tougher to manage. I also am still stuck on if the blue color was the correct choice. I played around with colors for a while but didn't find anything that worked better and had the right emphasis. If I find something better I will change it for sure.