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Course: Internet Technologies

WORDPRESS WEBSITE: ONLYINTERIORS

AIM OF THE PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

- Description of the purpose of the project,
- Review of existing, similar solutions,
- Description of information technologies well suited to the implementation of own project,
- Justification of the choice of given technologies in the implementation of own task,
- Design of the structure of this application,
- Description of the problems solved during the project implementation,
- Description of the method of testing the developed application,
- Conclusions from the implementation of the task,
- Source code developed as part of the project, or a zipped folder containing the project files (e.g. the folder where WordPress was installed with the developed website and the file exported from the database).

DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

Have you ever needed help from a professional (in any field) and you didn't know where to find one? More often than not, everyone experiences this.

Some other times, we find the required professional but we do not have access to their previous works; an important factor in the hiring of these said professionals. Nothing is more painful than hiring less qualified personnel to do a task for us.

Hence the need for a portfolio website.

A portfolio website is simply a set of webpages that showcase the abilities of professionals in a designated field of work e.g. A website showing the gallery of a photographer.

The best way to market yourself as a professional would be to create a beautiful portfolio website. This can be done with the aid of website builders such as WordPress if the creator is not readily computer software programmer. This can be done with the aid of inbuilt templates

The advantages of a portfolio website cannot be over emphasized. Listed below are the importance of a portfolio website:

1. It helps in direct communication of goals and ideas of the designers to potential clients and briefs users about their range of services
2. Helps to display examples of past works.
3. Helps to build a solid online presence for the designer.
4. Displays the designer's skills in a visually appealing manner.
5. Provides professional information about a particular field of study.
6. Helps to answer frequently asked questions by clients or users.
7. Provides contact information hence facilitating direct communication between the owners of the website and the clients.
8. It helps to reach remote clients.

REVIEW OF EXISTING OR SIMILAR SOLUTIONS

There are a lot of portfolio websites that exists today and below are some reviews of some of the best examples of portfolio websites. Two popular websites would be shown below.

1. J.K. Rowling

J.K. Rowling is a best-selling author who write the Harry Potter series. She has her own website displaying her works as well as information about her. It has an interactive user experience and it is a very good example of a portfolio.

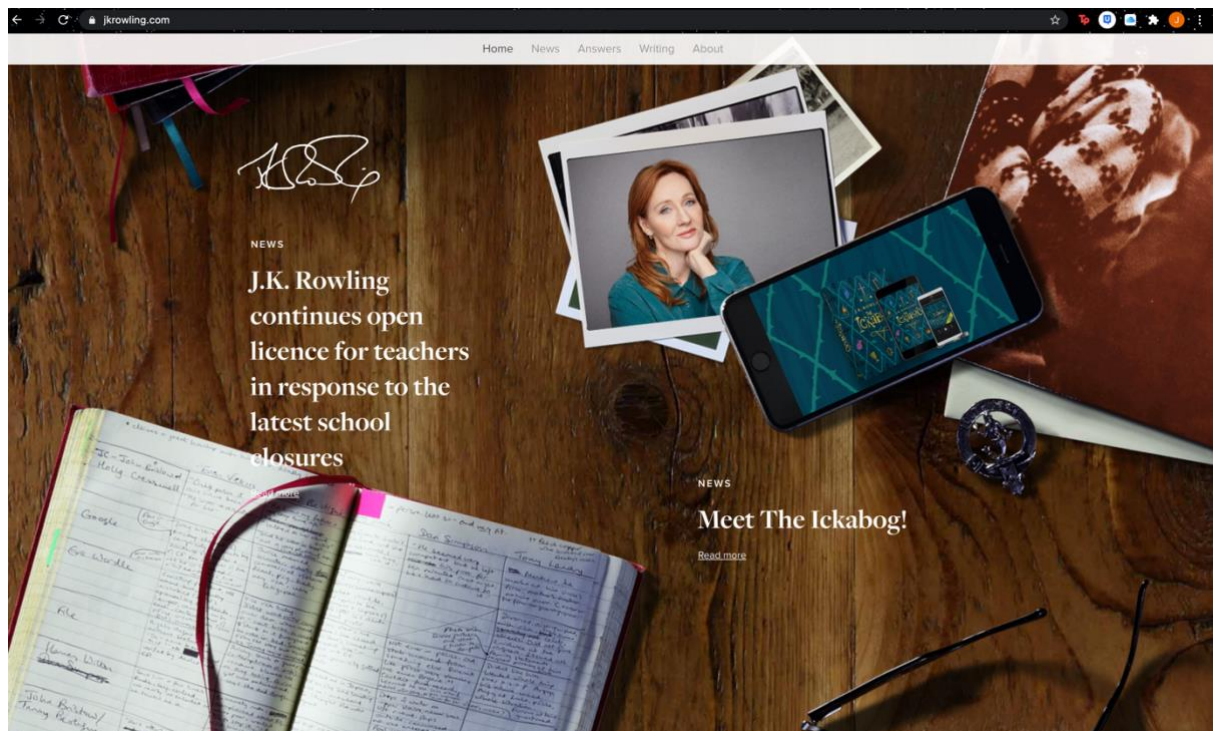


figure 1. this is the homepage

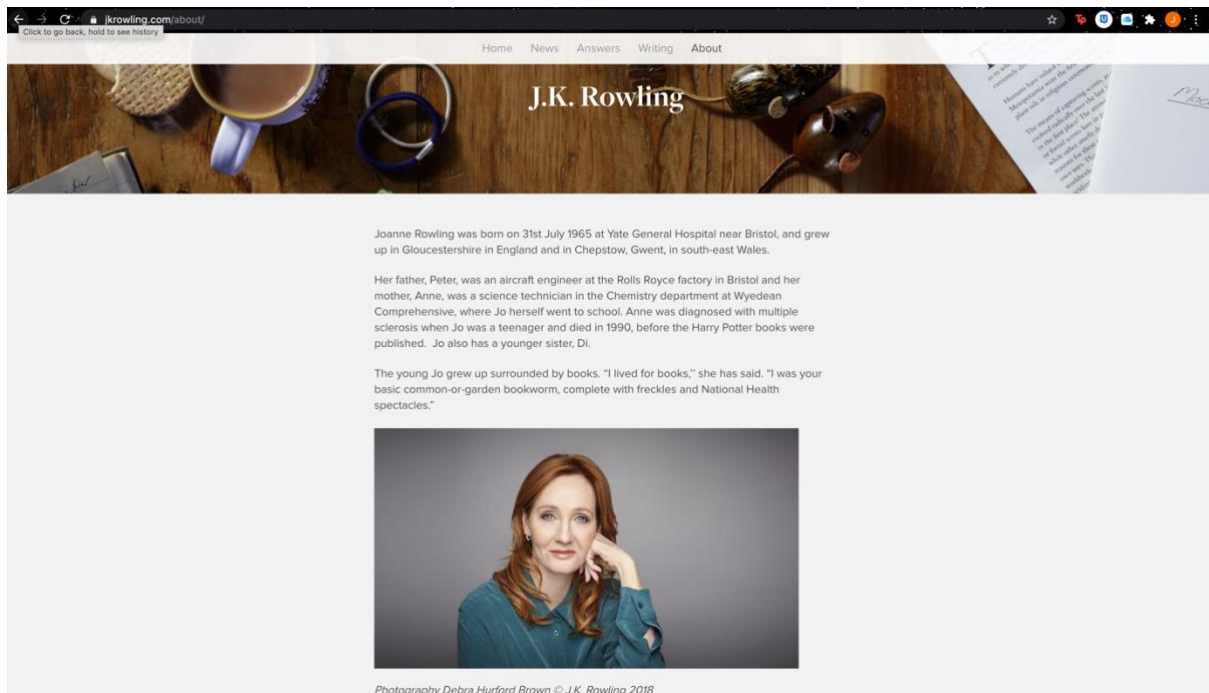


Figure2

In the above photos, she communicates to the clients more about herself.

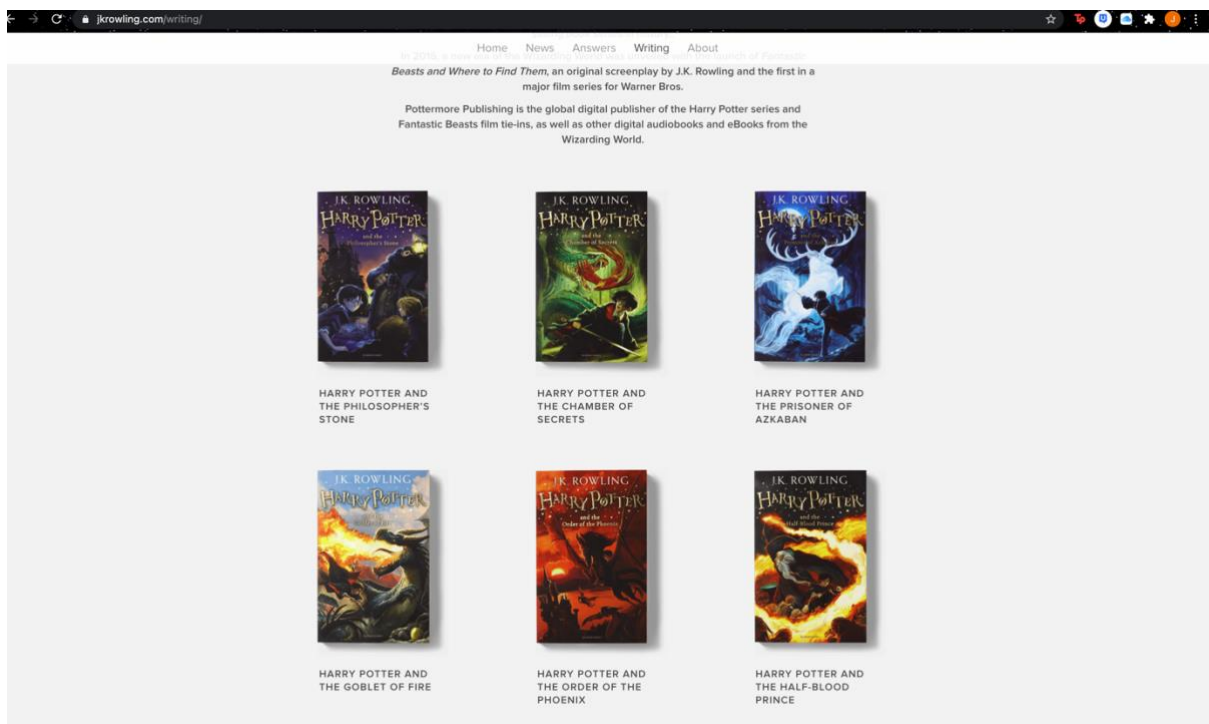


Figure 3

Here, she shows the various works done by her .It is important to always show the works done in a concise manner.

2. Peter Marino

Peter Marino is an American architect. He is world known and has received residential commissions from the arts sphere as well as European aristocracy.

Below are screenshots from his website:

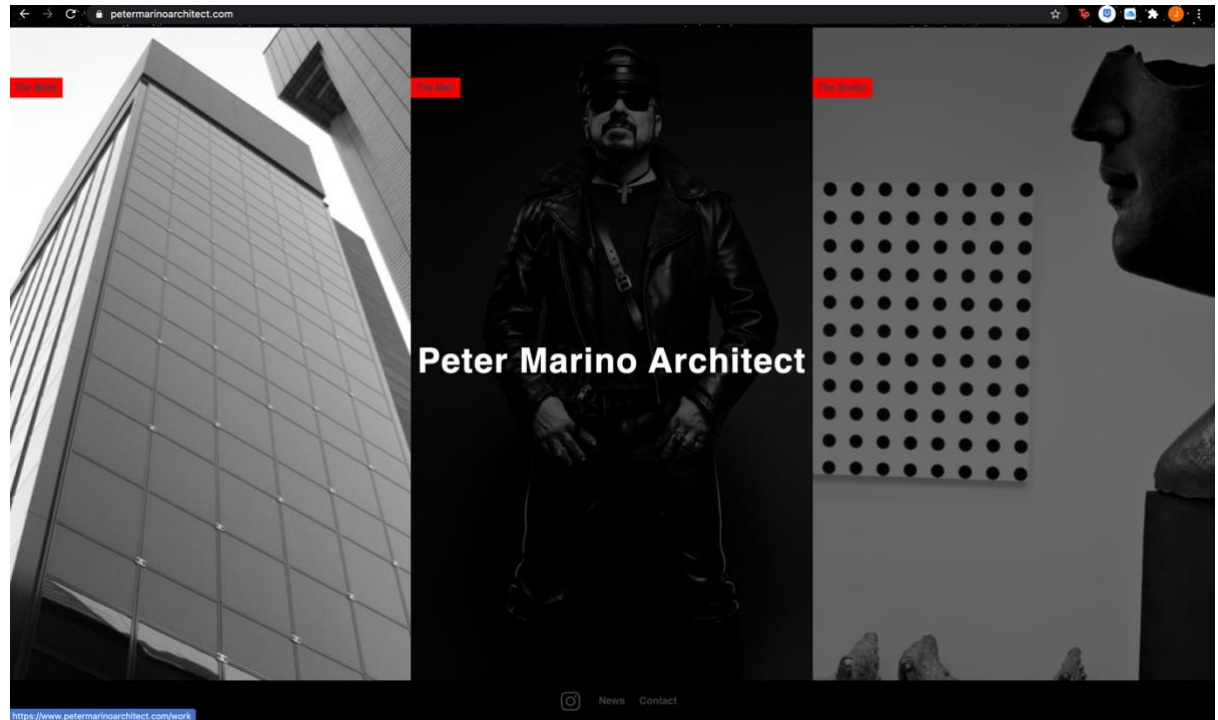


Figure 1: This is the homepage

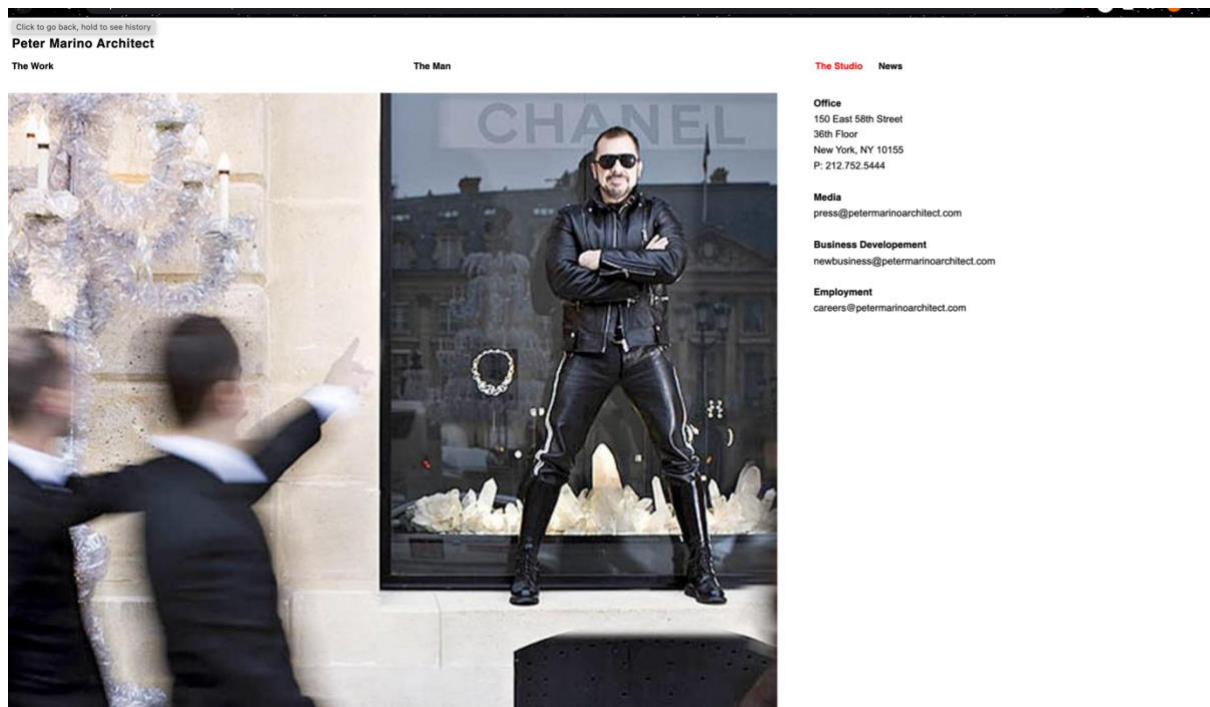


Figure 2: This is his contact page

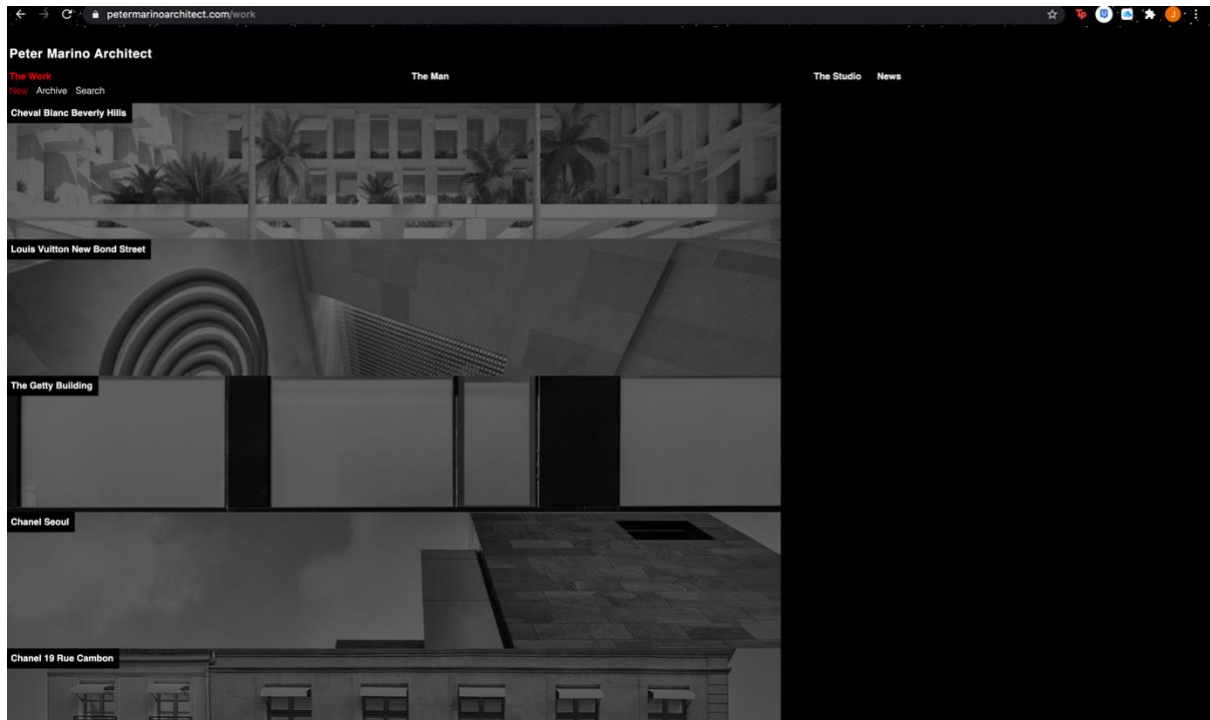


Figure 3: These are an aggregation of his works

Here, shows contact details, a list of his most notable works etc.

This example ticks all the boxes in the definition of a portfolio website.

Plus it is very easy to navigate.

DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES WELL SUITED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT

Below are some of the tools used in the creation and implementation of this project:

i. **WordPress:**

This is an open-source CMS (Content Management System) based on php and MySQL. This helps in the creation of webpages without having a strong coding background. Its use requires little to no coding experience.

ii. **XAMPP:**

This is an open-source software that acts as a server on a local computer without needing access to the internet. It allows for manipulation of MySQL databases and running of server-side scripts especially PHP. I deployed WordPress using a locally created server called **localhost**.

iii. **Server-Side Programming Language:**

This includes:

PHP: This is a server-side scripting language used to add functionality to web applications.

iv. **Browsers:**

1. Google Chrome
2. Mozilla Firefox

v. **Database:**

1. MySQL
2. Apache Webserver

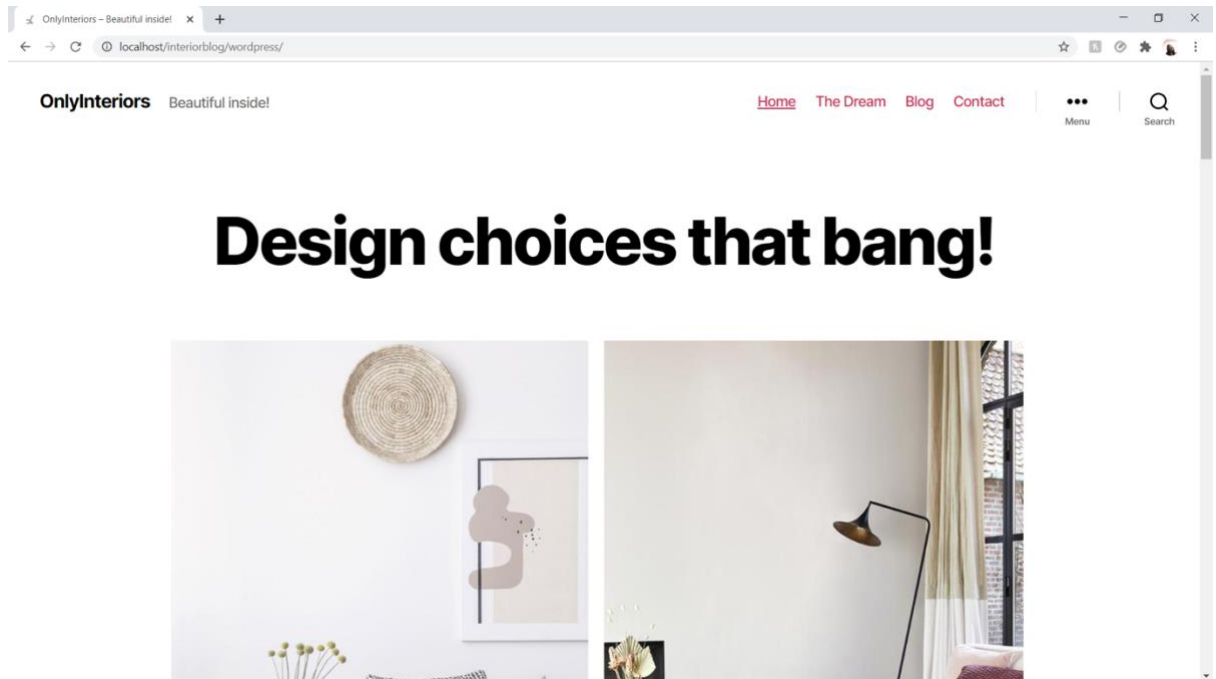
JUSTIFICATION OF THE CHOICE OF GIVEN TECHNOLOGIES

I used the tools which required the least amount of code knowledge. Also, the tools use in the creation of this project were open source and free to use. Also, WordPress, has come preloaded themes, of which I used to my advantage.

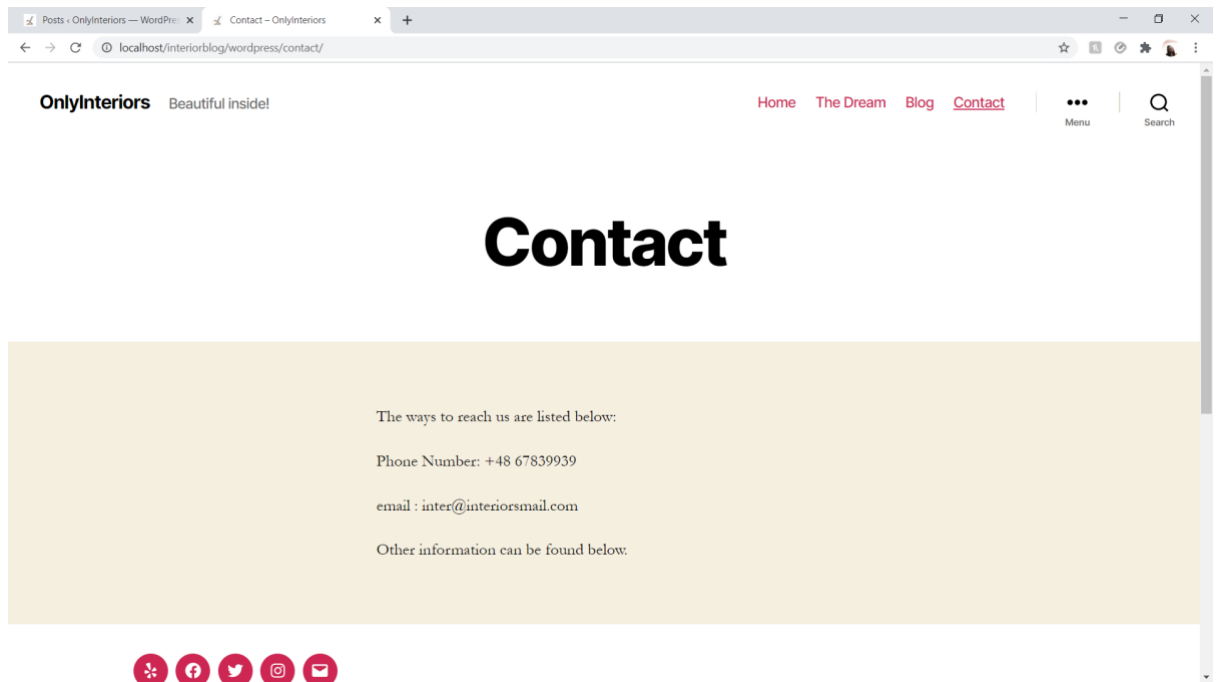
DESIGN OF THE STRUCTURE OF THIS APPLICATION

This website was built with the idea of aesthetics and information giving source. Below are some images from the website:

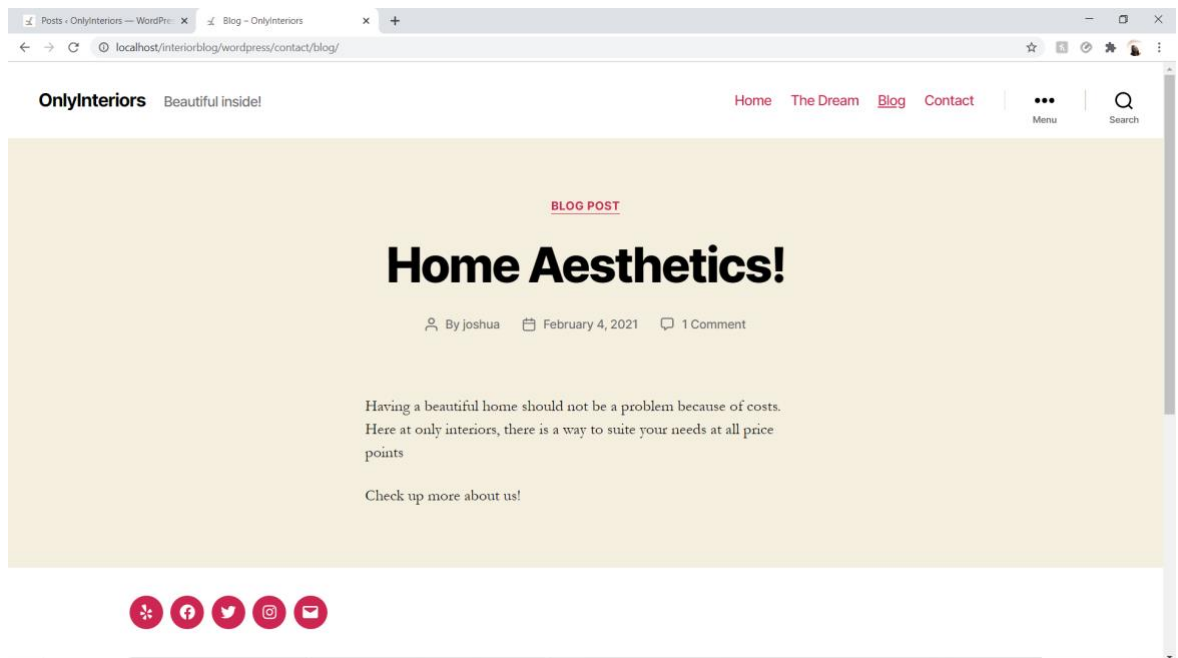
1. **Home:** A homepage is the default page in the site. It's the first page loaded when a website is opened.



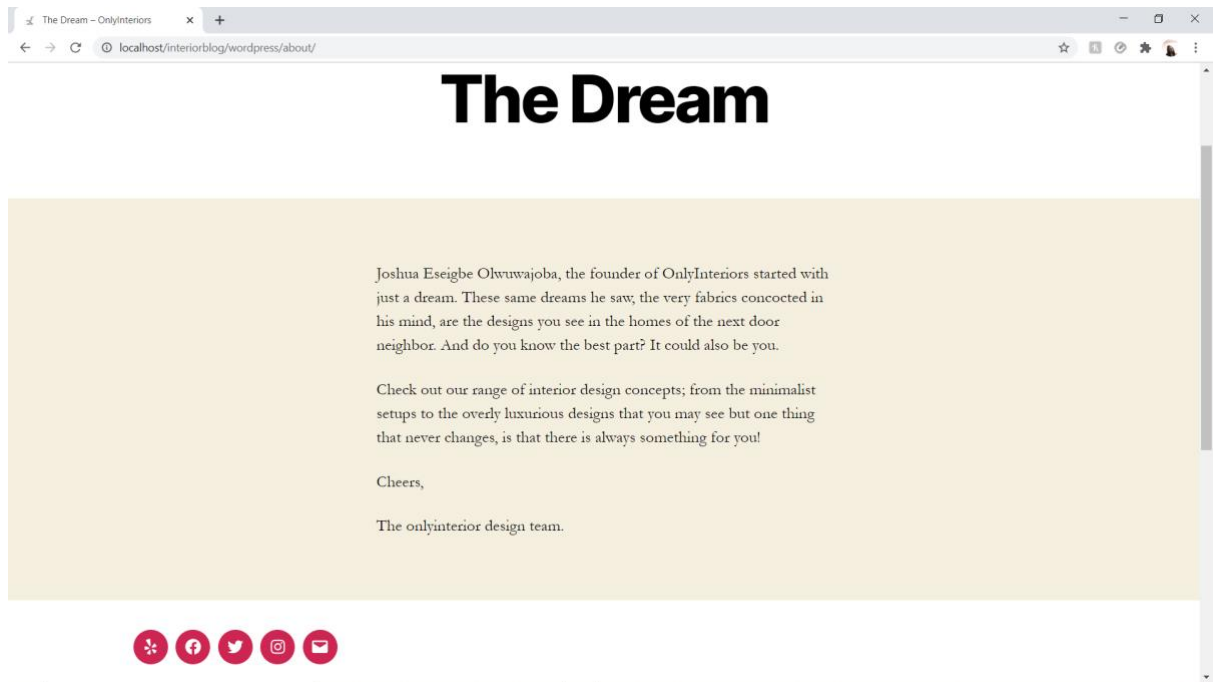
2. **Contact Page:** Here, information about the designer is displayed. Both the telephone number and physical locations are shown.



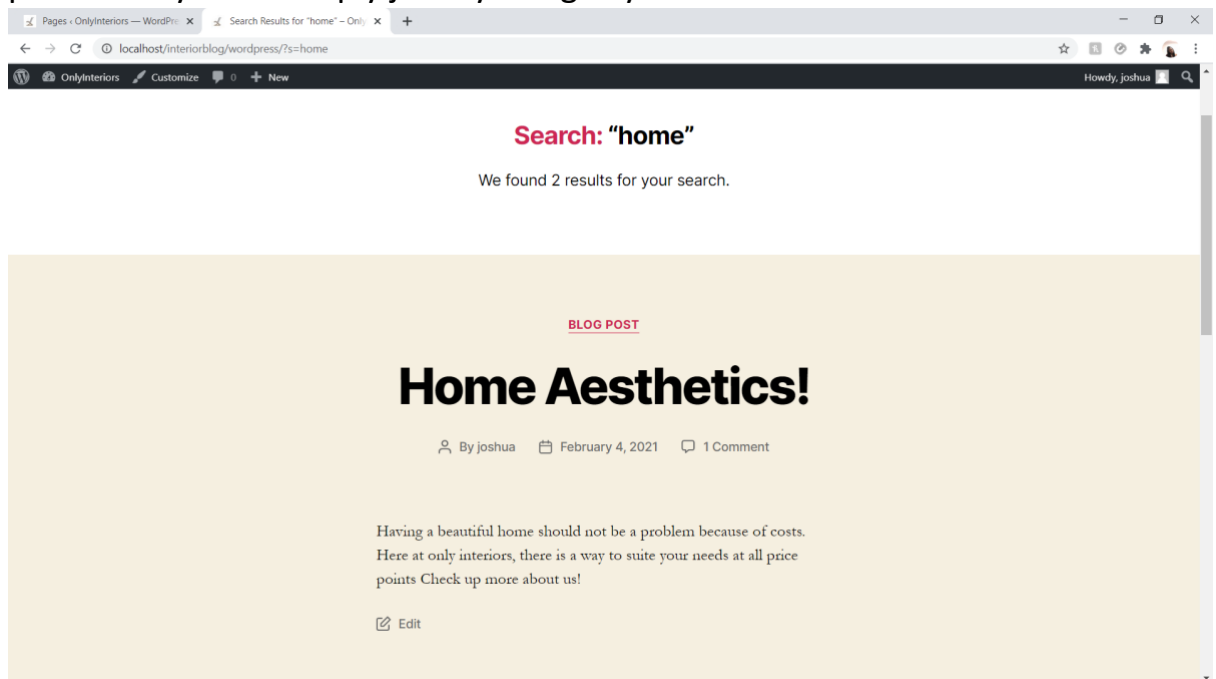
3. **Blog:** Here, articles are periodically written and updated in this section. These articles can be commented on and they are moderated by the administrator.

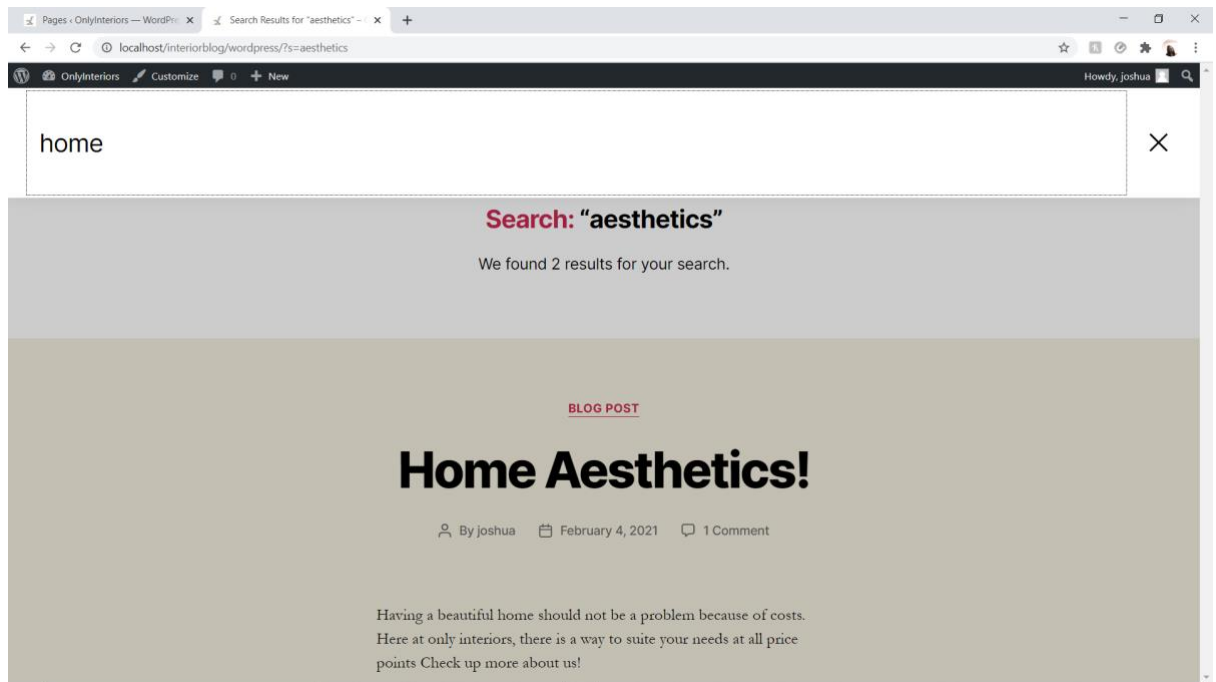


4. **About Page:** The vision statement about the company is written here. This is an inspirational piece for prospective clients.

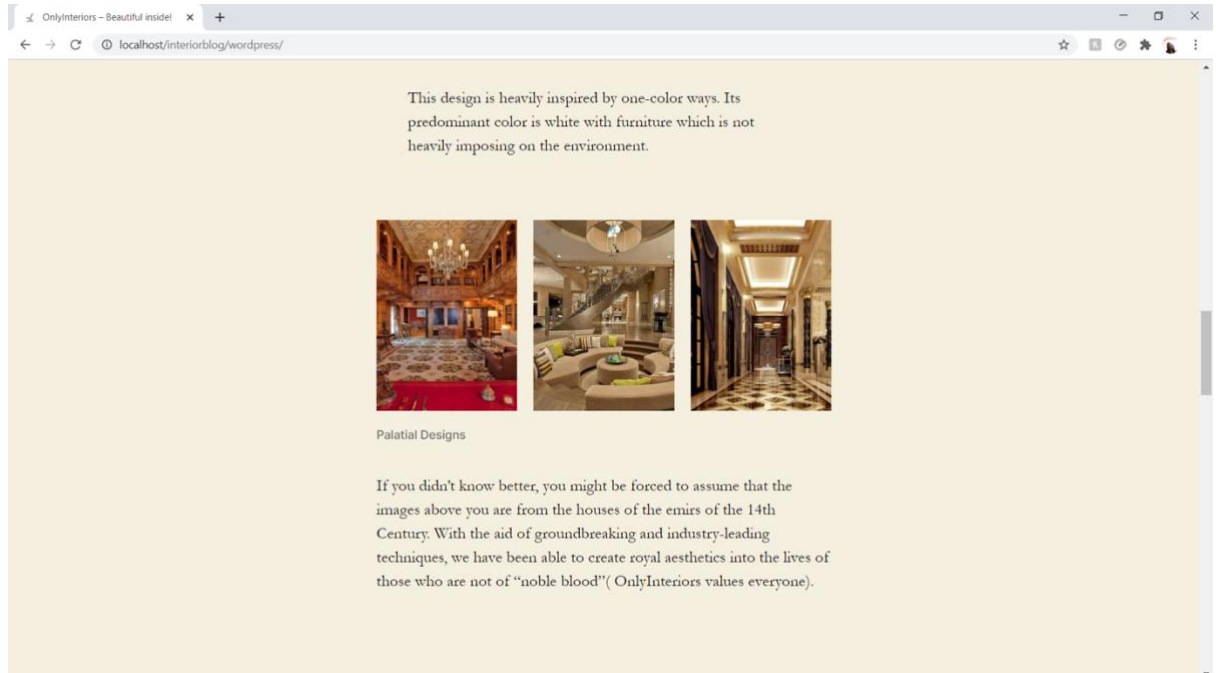


5. **Search Function:** Here, a user of the website can search for articles or photos they want simply just by using keywords.





6. **Gallery:** The photos of interior designs done by the company are on display. This is to create a visual board for users.



DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEMS SOLVED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

I encountered problems while trying to set up WordPress on my **MacOS** system. I eventually had to change my operating system to **Windows OS** and I was then successfully able to install WordPress.

I used your videos as well as YouTube as a guide so I didn't experience any more technical issues.

DESCRIPTION OF THE METHOD OF TESTING THE DEVELOPED APPLICATION

Clone your entire website to a staging environment. Make sure the PHP and MySQL version on your staging match the one from your live environment.

Check that your staging site is ok. Just a routine check to make sure the clone is perfect would make the cut here.

Update your website on staging. Specifically, make sure you're going to update:

WordPress core files

Theme files

Plugin files

Don't forget to manually update those items that don't have an automated update

Repeat step 2 again and create screenshots on the updated website from your staging. Don't forget to create screenshots for all your URLs from the URL list as well as for Chrome, Safari, Firefox on Mac, Edge on Windows (latest versions), iPhone and Android phone.

Do a last visual routine check of the website.

CONCLUSION

The project took a short amount of time to complete. It is very clear that one can easily run into errors while creating a free-flowing website. Hence, one should take all the factors extremely carefully.

The aim was to create a very concise view of what Portfolio website should look like. Also, a lot of inbuilt WordPress themes were used to create an impressive view for the clients.

My goal of creating a website with portfolio functions was successful. Features can eventually be added to the website if a need arises.