CMU Marauder's Map Process and Design

Ideation

Problem
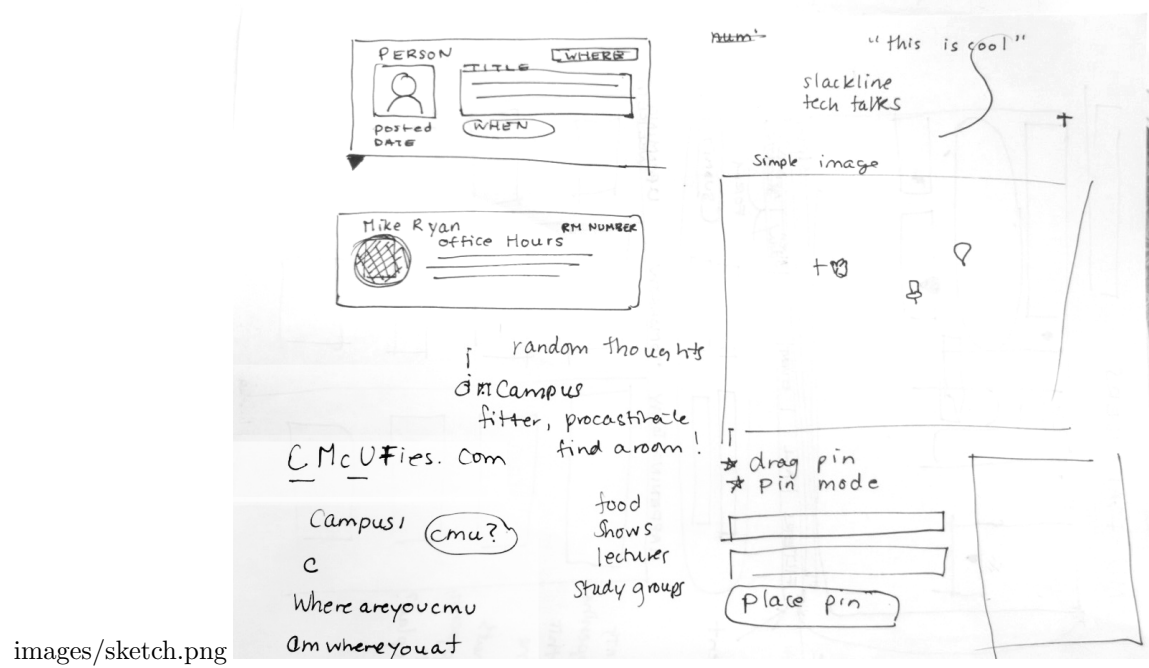
We started with the idea. How can we connect people on campus? Students are: * Busy * Awkward * Live various locations * Intellectual * Fear Rejection

We decided campus would be a good place to focus because it is a central location that people most people come to during the day. Your facebook connects you to events that your network has shared. We decided to focus on an application that takes advantage of spatial proximity.
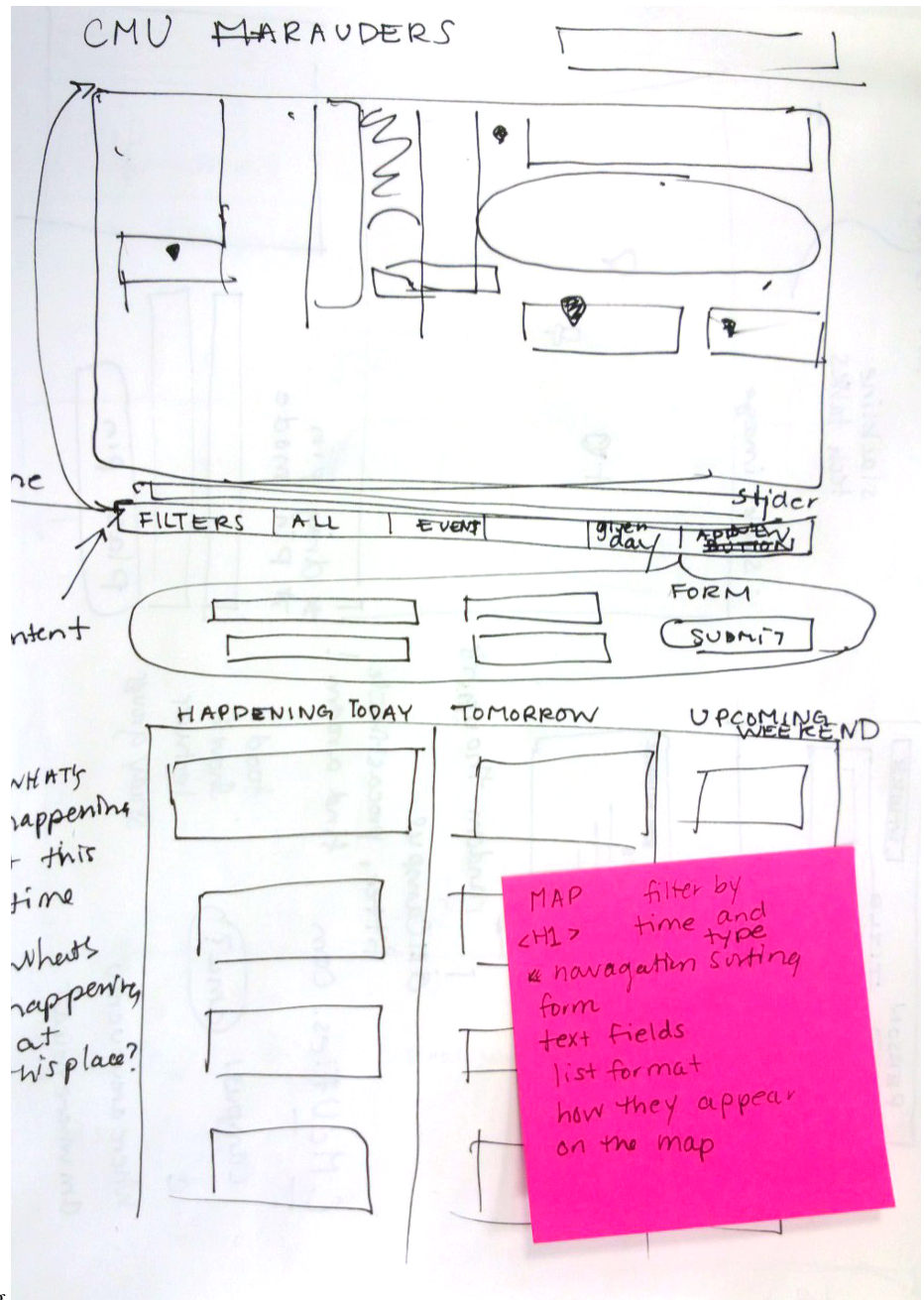
Competitive Analysis

- PadMapper
- Offers a Google-Maps based interface for finding housing.
- Notable features include:
    - Pins on relevant locations
    - Mouseover text on pins
    - Ability to select range of locations based on different prices, bedrooms, etc.
    - Slider inspired date slider idea (later shelved for datepicker).
- http://www.padmapper.com/
- Mt Rainier Events Map
- http://www.visitrainier.com/pg/map/Interactive-Map-Find-Lodging-Events-and-Activities-in-and-around-Mt-Rainier
- Nice filters at top, different colors/icons for different events
    - Filters should not require lengthy page refresh
- Listings at bottom of map
- Google Maps
- Mouseover information for pins
    - Useful, but might block rest of map.
    - We will keep mouseovers plain to prevent obfuscation.
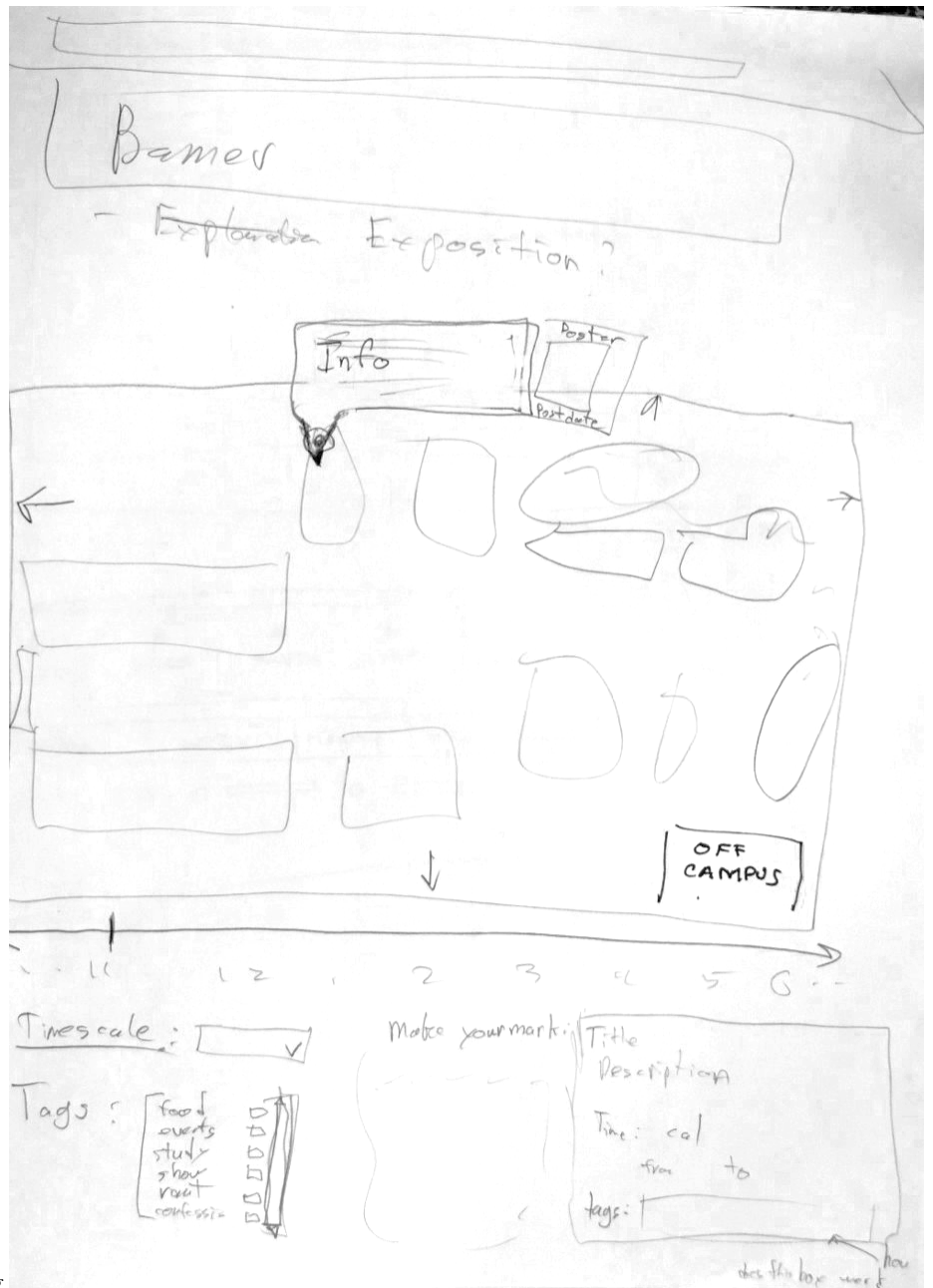- http://maps.google.com
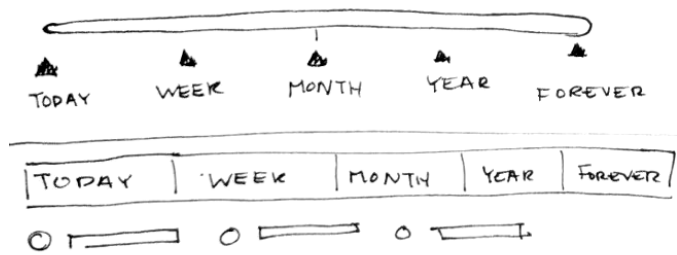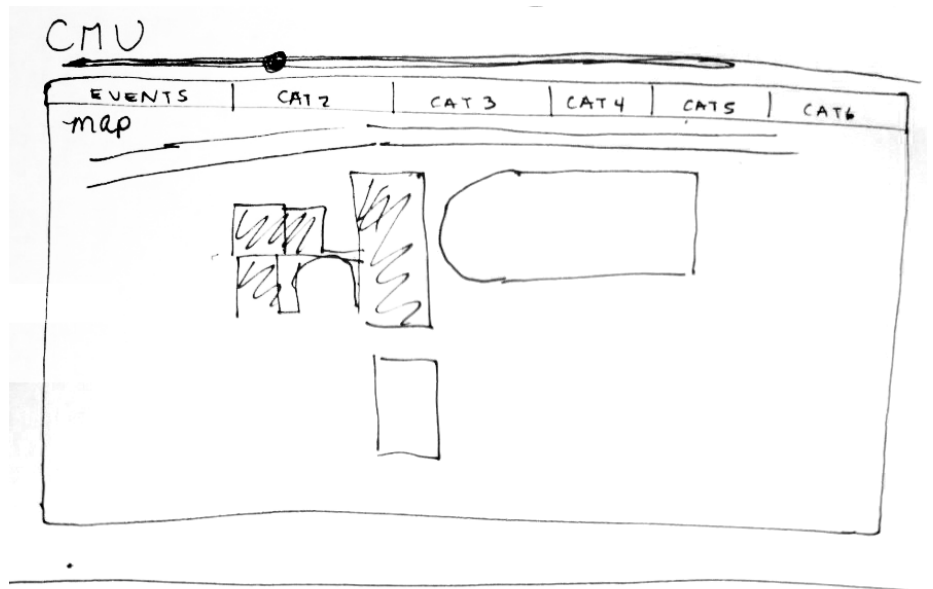
Sketching and Planning

images/sketch.png

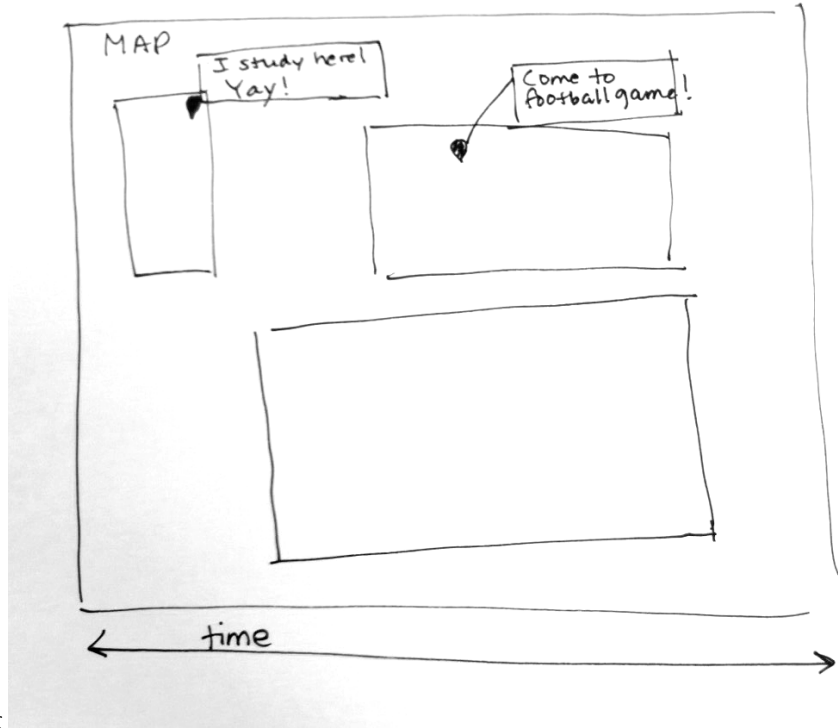images/postit.png

images/mikesketch.png

CMU

| EVENTS | CAT 2 | CAT 3 | CAT 4 | CAT 5 | CAT 6 |

map

TODAY   WEEK   MONTH   YEAR   FOREVER

| TODAY | WEEK | MONTH | YEAR | FOREVER |

FILTERS   MAP

images/laterSketch.png

images/sketch2.png

Listings

Name of Event HOST ⊗
MON 23
time - time | HOST
Desc

delete

11:00PM - 11:40PM

fri
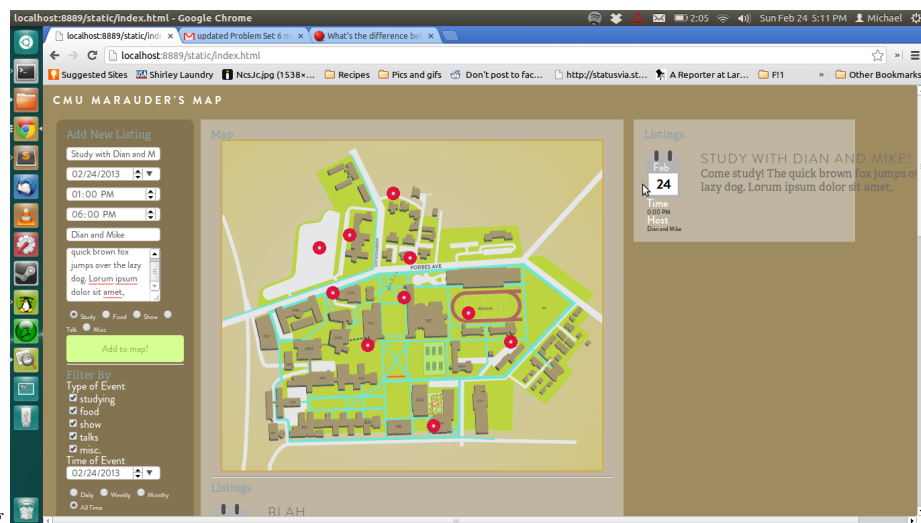MON <div> <div> <div>
       </div> <div
</div> <div

background → calendar

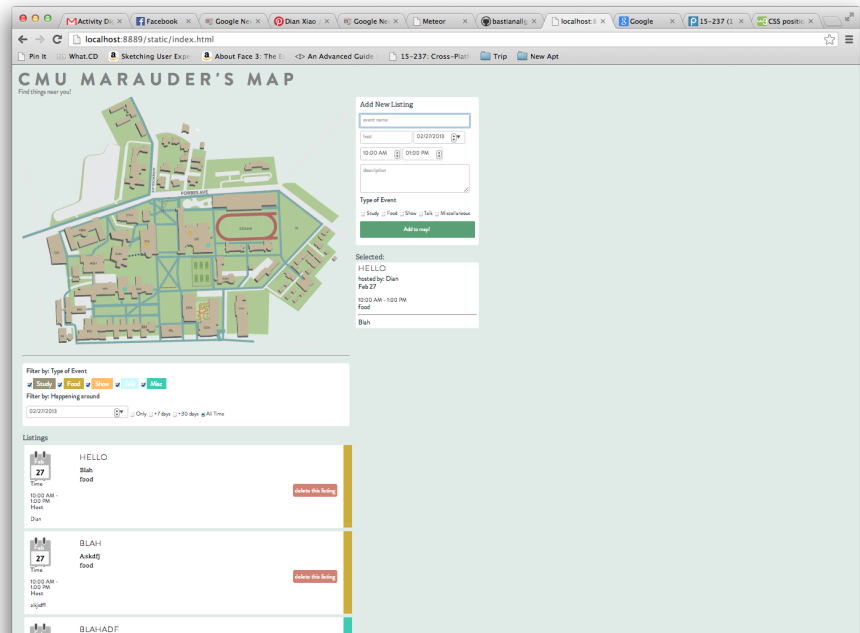images/listingsketch.jpg

Development
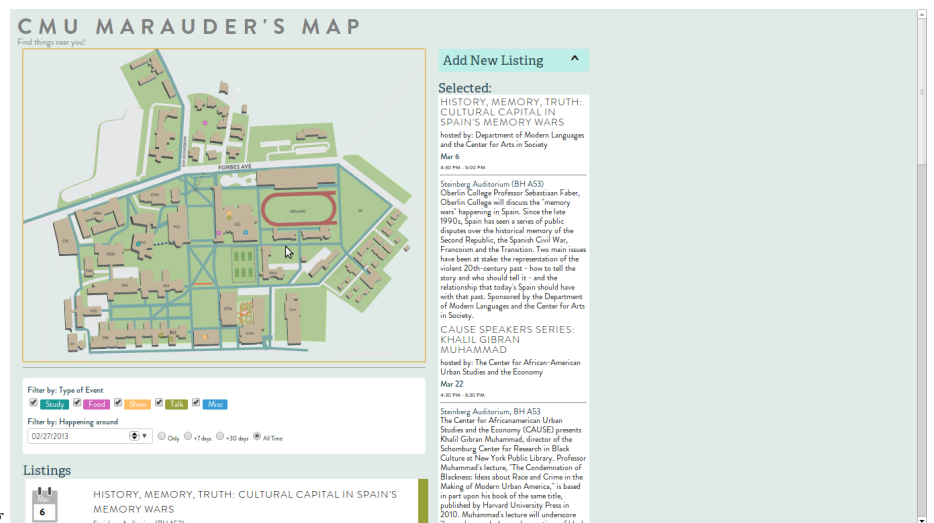

images/app1.png

images/SundayCheckpoint.png

images/app3.png

images/finalApp.png

Initial design - on paper

- U01

- Concerns over anonymity, ways to find signal from noise

Work in progress

- U02

- Unsure if editing form enabled map addition

- Event data form and filter were not separate, led to confusion

  - Separate event data and listing filters, prompt user with alert and cursor change over canvas.

Almost finished product

- U03

- Need way to identify type of listing on map

  - Color code event type - add sidebar on main listings panel and color-code map pins.
  - Concerns over map pins blending in with map background.

- U04

- User error arose - added event of type that had been filtered out

  - Fix: Auto-select added event type in filters.

- Unclear if event was added due to not being shown on map immediately.

  - Fix: Alert box updates to acknowledge the addition, then times out. ### Design Sessions in Class

- U05

- inputing dates a little clunky, time a dropdown menu

- did the event load when the button click?

- mistake button, confusing, should say cancel

- user color to match the event types

- understood objective pretty well

- U06

- made a typo button confusing

- wanted the form to clear all

- U07

- thought it might have been helpful to be able to toggle between map and list view

- form needs to be able to clear

- U08

- form should clear

- the tie between adding an event and the map action should be stronger

- dates should be ordered

- stronger feedback about the event being added

- U09 Observations

- User tried to click map to add instead of add new listing.

- Checked calendar for event.

Revising

We changed our layout in the end because we felt were not taking advantage of the whitespace on the screen.