

Forest Welch (they/them)



SKILLS

Proficient: React, Next.js, Redux, Node.js, MongoDB, Mode Analytics, Sentry, Git, CircleCI

Familiar: React Native, React 360, Angular, PostgreSQL, Docker, Heroku, AWS, Elastic Cloud, Redis, Mongoose, GraphQL, Jest, Mocha, Chai, Cypress, TypeScript, Ruby on Rails, Webpack, jQuery

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer | *BuildVision*

Nov 2023 – April 2024

- Spearheaded the development of the UI and major views for a pre-seed startup, leading to a successful on-time launch and seeding round
- Established a comprehensive design system with the NextUI component library, creating reusable components and standardizing styles to accelerate development and ensure consistency
- Implemented RTK Query with cache tags to optimize data management and API interactions, enhancing scalability and efficiency

Career Break

Jan 2022 – Mar 2023

Took a sabbatical to reassess career goals, volunteer, deepen spiritual practices, and travel

Software Engineer | *Autodesk (Formerly BuildingConnected)*

Aug 2018 – Jan 2022

- Authored an org-wide React [component library](#), decreasing library size by ~30%, and increasing functionality and customizability by ~50%; standardized design principles reduced typography and color discrepancies by >95%
- Led a localization and internationalization initiative that expanded the user base by over 200% in Oceania and Europe, pivotal in Autodesk's acquisition
- Transformed internal tools from Angular to React, improving Customer Success operations and resolving critical issues in multi-million dollar contracts
- Optimized frontend operations by overhauling the CircleCI pipeline and implementing Elasticsearch optimizations, which improved build times by >50% and search accuracy from <92% to ~97%
- Spearheaded a project cost estimation initiative, empowering contractors with competitive bidding tools, and played a key role in expanding Autodesk's talent pool by leading the frontend interview process and supporting the launch of a satellite office in Toronto
- Improved morale and mitigated burnout during COVID through hosting org-wide yoga and meditation Zoom calls, as well as pair programming and board game sessions

EDUCATION

Full-stack Software Engineering | *App Academy*

2018

BA in Linguistics (Minor in Deaf Studies) | *University of Pennsylvania*

2016