

Wayne Durack

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Work

I'm good at:

- Having plain-English conversations with clients/account execs/stakeholders and understanding or helping them understand their requirements
- Making it happen & adapting
- Rapid prototyping
- Working with others
- Simplifying
- Giving a considered opinion

I want to create products that people use

Experience

Things I have current experience with:

HTML, CSS, Javascript, MVC, REST, React, NodeJS, NextJS, HapiJS, Express, Serverless Framework, AWS (S3, EC2, ECS, Lambda, ElasticSearch, CloudFormation, SQS, SNS, SES, Step Functions, Dynamo, ADDB, CloudWatch), K8s, Terraform, Babel, Chrome Extensions, Slack apps, Docker, Grunt, Gulp, Mongo, SASS, Mobile & tablet optimisation, Responsive Design, Web apps, jQuery, Redis, Modernizr, ASP JScript, PHP, SQL, Git, SVN, Integration Tests, Unit Tests, Vimeo API, Photoshop, Sketch

Things I would like to have more experience with:

IoT, TV apps, Electron applications, ePub/Mobi/eBooks

Who I have worked for:

Clients: Eurostar, Wilmington PLC, NatWest, Reed Business Information, AstraZeneca, Marks & Spencer, Sky, IBM, O2, CNN, 3, Barclays, Cravendale

Agencies: MSLGroup, Salterbaxter, DigitasLBi, Sapient Nitro, VCCP, Small Back Room

A selection of my work from the last few years:

failsafe.engineering, path.co.uk, hellostep.co.uk, ethicaltoyprogram.org, egi.co.uk/valuations, egi.co.uk/insight, salterbaxter.com, sloanestreet.co.uk, forum.salterbaxter.com, matiasgalan.com, planareport2013.marksandspencer.com, annualreport2013.marksandspencer.com, eastvillagelondon.co.uk, worksmc.com, business.sky.com

A single-page version of this CV is available from my website.

Employment History

Failsafe Engineering

In 2022 I started a technical consultancy, [Failsafe Engineering](#), with [Otto Pecz](#), a good friend and long-time colleague. Together we do software design, DevOps, database design, backend and frontend development, business analysis, architecture and a lot more.

Skills I'm using

Javascript, NodeJS, React, NextJS, Serverless, AWS (Lambda, SNS, SQS, Dynamo, Step Functions)

Things I'm doing

- Leading workshops to help founders understand the technical breadth of their product
- Defining technical roadmaps and/or backlogs - pre- and post- user research
- Creating architecture proposals
- Creating prototypes and proofs-of-concept
- Analysing existing software implementations and giving honest feedback, helping founders to increase their confidence and/or course-correct
- Educating and advising very early-stage startups about how to manage Software Development

Eurostar

Senior Developer as contractor, May 2022 - ongoing.

Skills Used

Javascript, Typescript, React, NodeJS, NextJS, Serverless, Kubernetes, AWS (Lambda, SNS, SQS, EKS, CodeDeploy, SES), Auth0, CI/CD, Cypress, Storybook

Things I did

- Assisted with delivering a major digital transition project focused on the internal software used in stations and the call centre
- Designed and implemented functionality in public facing website to enable large group bookings, freeing up call-centre resources
- Implemented automated package deployment using CI/CD
- Migrated a critical company-wide util to Typescript

Wilmington PLC

Senior Developer as contractor, March 2020 - January 2022. Working on the Digital Hub Platform integration project, and the Bond Solon Dashboard. Dealing with requirement gathering from multiple internal businesses and stakeholders.

Skills Used

Javascript, React, NodeJS, Serverless, AWS (Lambda, Step Functions, SNS, SQS, Dynamo, Amazon DocumentDB, ECS, CloudWatch), Terraform

Things I did

- Co-designed and implemented a large-scale, stateless Serverless Framework application to deal with interconnecting multiple third-party-platforms
- Designed and implemented Serverless Framework applications to:
 - simplify the process of using a stateless Lambda to subscribe to a third-party event publisher via a proprietary protocol
 - achieve a LIFO-style deduplication of certain Platform input events
 - create an automated circuit-breaker to pause parts of Platform that would otherwise overload business critical systems
- Supported and mentored a small team of full-time developers, as well as additional staff who were indirectly involved with the project
- Implemented a Dashboard application with a front-end in React, an additional publicly available API, and back-end orchestrator and microservices deployed in ECS Fargate instances
- Meeting frequently with multiple internal businesses and stakeholders to perform requirement gathering exercises

Path / NatWest Ventures (Commercial & Private Banking)

Tech Lead as contractor, April 2018 - February 2020. Helping Path develop multiple applications on the same platform across multiple squads.

Skills Used

Javascript, React, NodeJS, Express, REST, event-driven, microservices, ES7, MongoDB (Atlas, Opsmanager), AWS (S3, ECS, Lambda, SQS, SNS, CloudFront, SES), Continuous Integration/Deployment, GitLab, GitLab CI, Docker, SSO/Oauth, Auth0, Swagger, JSDoc, React-Static, Storybook, Redux, Twilio Messaging, Segment, FullStory, Slack Apps, Azure

Things I did

- Designed and implemented services-based API-first platform architecture consumed by multiple SPA clients and headless services
- Supported and empowered engineers in squads to own their features and ensured they were consistent with the overall technical direction
- Hired the engineering team
- Worked closely with the product team to influence and advise on roadmap
- Developed and released MVP of the product with a small team in six weeks
- Implemented automated Service and internal utility package releases
- Worked closely with the dev ops team
- Worked with the tech team of a 3rd-party business inside NatWest to coordinate API feature requirements and releases

Nudj

Full-stack Developer at a startup, May – September 2017, working with the CTO to build the first version of their product

Skills Used

Javascript, React, REST, NodeJS, Express, ES6/ES2015, Babel, AWS (S3, CloudFront), Continuous Integration, Docker, Git, Arango, Redis, HTML5, CSS3, SSO/Oauth

Estates Gazette / Reed Business Information

Lead Developer as contractor on three new projects, February 2015 – March 2017, helping Estates Gazette modernise their tech stack and try out new working methodologies.

Skills Used

Javascript, OO Javascript, Angular 1.x, REST, NodeJS, HapiJS, ES6/ES2015, Babel, Typescript, AWS (S3, EC2, ElasticSearch, CloudFormation, SQS), Continuous Integration, Git, Gulp, Grunt, Redis, HTML5, SASS, CSS3, Responsive Design, Handlebars, Google Chrome Extension, SSO/Oauth

Things I did:

- Mentored/trained-up many developers who had no or very little experience with Javascript, Node, Angular, CSS/Sass, and/or browser-based applications
- Contributed to and implemented large portions of the application architecture design and the design of the overarching inter-application support architecture that now having been proven are standard practice for the company
- Worked with the business to define a minimum viable product, features, stories, personas, etc
- Worked closely with product owners and UX to keep a tight user-feedback loop
- Encouraged and facilitated open communication within the teams, the tech group, and the wider company
- Encouraged developers to take ownership of and responsibility for the various features they implemented and problems they solved
- Always pushed the entire team to work leaner with a flat hierarchy, and to focus on solid goals with tangible deliverables
- Had as few meetings as possible

As well, teams that I was responsible for won several company-wide innovation/achievement awards while I was the Lead Developer.

Dig / DigitasLBI

Tech Lead/Lead Developer as contractor, October 2013 – December 2014

Skills Used

Javascript, OO Javascript, AngularJS, MVC, REST, NodeJS, HapiJS, Express, Websockets, HTML5, Google Chrome Extension, Git, Continuous Integration, Grunt, MongoDB, Gulp, Redis, SASS, CSS3, Handlebars

Things I did:

- Lead a team of between 3 - 5 developers
- Migrated a prototype, which was written with a mashup of a number of open-source products in different styles in coffee script and javascript, and homogenised it into a standard, agreed-upon style of javascript
- Architected and built 3 beta versions of an application
- Designed and implemented a multi-layer reusable messaging / communication system between multiple components of an application (which in themselves are unique applications) using JSChannel, Document events, and Chrome messaging
- Designed and implemented a websockets/Redis/Angular based messaging system for instant communication
- Architected and migrated an API from Express to Hapi
- Worked closely with research teams and the Product Owner to continually increment a product based on feedback from users and to debate the merits of the feedback
- Mentored/trained-up 7 developers who had never used Angular
- Mentored/trained-up 6 developers who had never used Node
- Mentored/trained-up 4 developers who had never worked with Chrome Extensions or the Chrome API
- Encouraged and facilitated open communication in the team, especially among developers
- Encouraged and facilitated all developers to discuss ideas in a constructive environment, and if the ideas had technical merit, pushed the Product Owner and Manager to allow the developer to expand upon the idea in a spike
- Met with clients and partners to provide plain-English explanations of technical processes and issues, and to respond to any questions or concerns that they may have had in layperson's terms
- Pushed all members of the team towards working in a Lean way
- Made a number of technical decisions (and went through the pain a number of technical challenges) to do with our stack, testing, deployment, and hosting processes that have now become standard practice for the innovation lab's latest projects
- And as a bonus: I didn't have to worry about any other browsers for a year

Salterbaxter

Front-end Developer as contractor, April – September 2013

Skills Used

HTML5, CSS3, SASS, Responsive Design, Javascript, OO Javascript, jQuery, SVN

Things I did:

- Built a non-responsive site for Sky which will be live from mid-October: annualreview.sky.com
- Built two responsive sites for Marks and Spencer: annualreport.marksandspencer.com and planareport.marksandspencer.com
- Was involved in the entire process from conception to launch and provided guidance to the design and client management teams
- Enabled the design team to push their concepts further than they were previously able to
- Created two single-page marketing pieces with accompanying HTML email for Salterbaxter's own marketing team: forum.salterbaxter.com and salterbaxter.com/thepoint
- I was also consulted for my opinion about future projects and current pitches

Small Back Room

Front-end Developer as contractor, March - April 2013

Skills Used

HTML5, CSS3, SASS, CSS Animation, Responsive Design, Javascript, OO Javascript, jQuery, Zepto.js, Git

Things I did:

- Built a bunch of modular animation elements using CSS animation based on static designs and conversations with the client and designers. These elements were put together in a static prototype site for approval, and will be integrated into the client's existing and upcoming sites. These can be seen on every main page at eastvillagelondon.co.uk
- Created Javascript animation fallback code for IE7/8/9
- Built the front end to a graphic and transition heavy responsive site for a internationally renowned luxury clothing/shopping brand

VCCP

Front-end Developer as contractor, February 2013

Skills Used

HTML5, CSS3, Responsive Design, Javascript, Zepto.js

Things I did:

- Created responsive, single-package/multiple-device mobile ads

Alternative Promotions

Developer as remote contractor, December 2012 - February 2013 (ongoing)

Skills Used

HTML5, SASS, CSS3, Responsive Design, Javascript

Things I did:

- Contracted directly by client to develop their new website after multiple meetings and written proposals
- Convinced client to use Responsive Design in their new site
- Led discussions with the client and designer on how to resolve issues in their design

Havas Lynx

Front-end Developer as remote contractor, December 2012

Skills Used:

HTML5, CSS3, CSS animation, Javascript, zepto.js

Things I did:

- Created a web application for iPad

Works Digital

Front-end Developer as contractor, October 2012

Skills Used:

HTML5, CSS3, CSS animation, Javascript, OO Javascript, jQuery, Responsive Design, Single-page web application

Things I did:

- Implement a mobile optimised version of a site post-launch
- Created a single-page web application for client employee training

Sapient Nitro

Front-end Developer as contractor, August - November 2012

Skills Used:

HTML5, CSS3, SASS, CSS animation, Javascript, OO Javascript, jQuery, Backbone, SVN

Things I did:

- Components of site for major client
- Interactive demo for major client for upcoming project
- Updated and standardised templates and SASS for current major project

- Wrote scripts for current major project
- Tutored junior developers

Outside Line

Front-end Developer as contractor, June 2012

Skills Used:

HTML5, CSS3, Javascript, OO Javascript, Facebook Pages, LitmusApp

Things I did:

- New Facebook competition page
- Bug fixes / advice
- Email build

Works Digital

Senior Developer, May 2008 – June 2012 (4 years 2 months)

Skills used:

HTML5, CSS3, Javascript, OO Javascript, jQuery, JSON, Mobile & tablet optimisation, Responsive Design, Web apps, Modernizr, ASP JScript, PHP, SQL (SQL Server / MySQL), SVN, Unit Testing, Facebook Graph API, Photoshop

Things I did:

- Moved large corporate sites over to HTML5
- Mobile ready/mobile optimised sites
- Worked with APIs to create a smooth/seamless experience for users
- Created APIs to do facilitate the above on the server side.
- Wrote lots of Javascript
- Recreated Photoshop designs pixel-perfect in HTML/CSS
- Reskinned old sites / recreated old templates to deal with existing systems
- Made SEO recommendations for new and existing clients, and then implemented them
- Dealt daily with designers, other developers and account handlers
- Dealt directly with clients
- Managed and mentored other developers
- Managed my workload on multiple projects simultaneously

2am Webworks

Developer, August 2006 – September 2007 (1 year 2 months)

Skills used:

XHTML, CSS2, OO ASP JScript, Javascript, JSON, AJAX, VBScript, SQL, SVN, Unit Testing, Database design, Photoshop

Things I did:

- Wrote lots of OO Jscript ASP
- Learned all about version control and used it
- Learned all about unit testing and used it

Freelance work

Developer, 2004 – August 2006 (2 years)

Skills used:

XHTML, CSS2, ASP Jscript, Javascript, VBscript, MySQL