

Watts Martin

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Profile

Technical writer with extensive experience creating and maintaining web-based, developer-focused documentation using the “docs as code” methodology. Broad experience with Markdown, static site generators, and ad hoc toolchains in several scripting languages.

Experience

Senior Technical Writer, North American Bixby Labs, San Jose, CA (Mar 2018–Dec 2023)

Writing and editing developer documentation for Bixby, Samsung’s voice assistant. Bixby encompasses clients across multiple devices, the Bixby Developer Studio IDE, and a server platform. Responsibilities included leading documentation for the “capsule” application platform, including the IDE, the server-side JavaScript engine, and libraries. Led design of a new information architecture hierarchy for the capsule documentation, including running user testing. Led documentation for an unreleased new system in 2023. Worked 100% remotely after mid-2022. (The company started as Viv Labs, founded by the creators of Apple’s Siri.)

Technical Writer, Realm, San Francisco, CA (Jan 2017–Sep 2017)

Led documentation for the Realm Mobile Platform, a mobile database with open source client-side components and a closed-source server. Redesigned and reorganized documentation site; introduced “Tech Notes” articles section; created Realm’s first style and process guide. (Realm is now part of MongoDB.)

Technical Writer, RethinkDB, Mountain View, CA (May 2014–Sep 2016)

Created the API documentation for RethinkDB, an open source “NoSQL” document store database. Wrote articles and release notes. Managed the community contribution process to RethinkDB’s documentation via GitHub. Our documentation was widely considered a “gold standard” in the open source world.

Lead Developer, TRAIL, San Francisco, CA (Mar 2013–May 2014)

Assumed all development roles, both front- and back-end, for JobScout, TRAIL’s online literacy platform, as well as a system administration role. The platform was in PHP with jQuery and MySQL. Implemented new features and design for a presentation at TechCrunch Disrupt 2013. Started a new TRAIL platform based on Laravel 4.

Software Engineer, Jupiter Grades, Pacifica, CA (Mar 2012–Mar 2013)

Implementation of new modules for Jupiter SIS, a web-based student information system. Written in native PHP (no framework), JavaScript, and MySQL. Set up company’s first version control system.

Consulting Web Development, SF Bay, CA (Feb 2011–Mar 2012)

- Implemented a new back end for RivalZone, an iOS/Android app for golfers, using Flask, SQLAlchemy, MySQL and RabbitMQ.
- Other work for RivalZone included a notification system, architectural documentation/design, and landing pages for consumers and marketing campaigns.
- Worked on StoreVantage, a symfony-based SaaS package for small business owners started by Hotwire's former dev leads.

Senior Software Engineer, Nokia, San Francisco, CA (Oct 2009–Dec 2010)

Development work on the web back end for Point & Find, an early augmented reality (AR) application for Nokia smartphones. (Point & Find was later rebranded as City Lens; it is no longer in development.) Designed and deployed new landing page; implemented a streamlined registration/ordering system, significantly improving conversion rate; developed proof of concept on-phone search UI using Qt Quick.

Web Developer, Fiji Island Escapes, Remote (Mar 2009–Jan 2010)

All development work on Fiji Island Escapes, a location-specific hotel booking service. Produced design documentation; designed site layout in Fireworks; developed complete application in CakePHP/jQuery; configured and deployed testing and production environments, issue tracker, and source code control system.

Senior Software Developer, Illumant LLC, Palo Alto, CA (Aug 2006–Jan 2008)

Co-developed Illumant's Compliance Assistant, an SaaS application to manage audited control activities for regulatory compliance; co-developed CIPSAT, a Homeland Security self-assessment tool for the Department of the Navy. Additionally, wrote several security assessment reports for clients of Illumant's consulting business.

Publications

- "Coyote Tracks," a tech blog featured as one of Tumblr's best technology blogs
- "Advertising on Demand," *The Magazine* #4
- "Review: Nisus Writer Express," *About This Particular Macintosh*
- *Kismet*, a science fiction novel (Argyll Productions, 2017)