

Weston Ganger BCIS

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Role Rails Software Architect / Web Developer

About Me I am an expert in Ruby-on-Rails, jQuery, and Linux through extensive usage across many projects. I also create and maintain many quality open source libraries for software development.

I started my career as a simple website developer but quickly moved into Software Engineering and Application Development using Ruby-on-Rails.

From 2014 to 2021, I was a contractor for BC Hydro developing Ruby-on-Rails applications for internal-use that manage various complex technical processes and business workflows. This involved creating many new applications and maintenance of legacy/existing Rails applications.

From 2020 to 2021, I was a Senior Rails developer with Vericatch building out their suite of seafood reporting software.

Since 2022, I am a Senior Rails developer with Braintree/Paypal working with the 3DS portion of the payments system. The team that I work with engages in pair programming on a daily basis. The collaboration that pairing drives towards is a real delight.

Skills

- Strong in system architecture design and implementation
- Highly experienced with reverse engineering legacy Rails apps through source code without documentation
- Experienced in writing clean, comprehensible code
- Strong leadership capabilities and taking ownership for projects end-to-end
- Capable of re-engineering code to adapt to requirement changes and performance needs
- Very strong research and learning capabilities
- Adaptable to new technologies and processes
- Strong in writing clean and well organized documentation
- Very strong with any general scripting
- Experienced with remote work

Work Experience Braintree / Paypal - Senior Rails Developer - 2022 to Present

- Software Development with Ruby-on-Rails
- Worked on 3DS portions of the payments system related to fraud detection
- Pair-programming

Vericatch - Senior Rails Developer - 2020 to 2022

- App Development with Ruby-on-Rails
- Handled a full re-architecture of the KnowYour.Fish platform through reverse-engineering
- Designed and implemented many systems including Multiple Public APIs, Translation engine, Billing and Payment system, Multi-app infrastructure
- Provided useful insight to the business side
- Provided guidance and leadership to existing team

BC Hydro - Rails Software Developer (Contractor) - 2014 to 2021

- Custom Web Applications & Software Development
- Develop Ruby-on-Rails applications for internal-use within the Telecom Engineering dept.
- Created and maintained many new applications

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- Upgraded, maintained, and reverse-engineered legacy/existing applications

Solid Foundation Web Development - Owner & Developer - 2014 to 2021

- Main client was BC Hydro developing custom Ruby-on-Rails apps
- Custom Web Applications & Software Development
- Website Design and Development

Education

Bachelors of Computer Information Systems (BCIS)

- University of the Fraser Valley, 2010 - 2014

Automotive Service Technician Certificate

- University Of The Fraser Valley, 2009

Open Source

I have dedicated myself to my open source work whenever I feel that I have an opportunity to solve a problem. These experiences have helped shape me into a better developer and improved my skills in architecting systems.

Listed below are some ways that I have succeeded at this:

- I have created numerous useful libraries for Ruby, Javascript, Crystal & the web
- I have revived important legacy libraries by reaching out to see about maintainership. The original authors have been very appreciative of the hard work I have done.
- I have submitted hundreds of pull requests to various libraries that I have been using. On numerous occasions I have submitted 10+ pull requests to a single library.
- I have further experience with extracting large portions of a major existing library to a plugin in order to ease maintenance of the codebases seperately in [paper](#) [trail-association](#) [tracking](#)

Notable Libraries I've Created

[spreadsheet_architect](#), [paper_trail-association_tracking](#), [protected_attributes_continued](#), [form_builder.cr](#), [sexy_form.rb](#), [capistrano-precompile-chooser](#), [active_snapshot](#), [rearmed-js](#), [select-sync](#), [input-autogrow](#), [chosen-bootstrap-theme](#)

Notable Libraries I've Adopted to Maintain

[prawn-rails](#), [xlsx_styler](#), [RODF](#), [cordova-plugin-camera-preview](#), [cordova-plugin-apprate](#)

Notable Libraries I've Contributed To

[paper_trail](#), [Frontman](#), [caxlsx](#), [Amber](#), [LocomotiveCMS-engine](#), [LocomotiveCMS-steam](#), [ActiveAdmin](#), [Fullstaq-Ruby](#) and [many more](#)

For a complete and descriptive overview of each of my libraries, please see:

<https://westonganger.com/#open-source-software>

For a complete list of my contributions to other libraries, please see:

<https://westonganger.com/#other-open-source-contributions>

Leadership Experience

As both a contractor and architect, I have engaged in many meetings with stakeholders to determine feasibility of projects, gather requirements, and set the project scope. Often times I would receive verbal requests that I would have to translate into a loose design during the meeting. I provided technological insight on these requests and asked questions to fill in the gaps in the design. Further experience was gained in taking ownership of struggling projects to ensure they ultimately get completed and succeed in meeting stakeholder requirements.

Within a development team context, I have shown proficiency in both delegation of tasks and

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clear/concise communication. I strive to be a good mentor through guiding other developers to make good design decisions, to be open to constructive advice, and showing how to reduce the need to re-write code through up-front requirements gathering and more thorough development practices.

My leadership abilities have grown further from working on open source projects. In the role of maintainer, I must guide the other contributors to make adjustments, improvements, and documentation changes so that the project development moves forward smoothly. In the role of contributor, I will discuss ideas and changes with the maintainer, iterate according to feedback, and provide feedback on improving current processes when applicable.

Tech Experience

- Expert Ruby-on-Rails developer on the Linux platform using SQL Databases
- Proficient in general Javascript and jQuery. I can maintain any existing JS frameworks.
- Web foundations such as HTML, CSS, JS, jQuery, SASS, Webpack & other asset build tools
- Linux servers and tools such as Bash Scripting, VIM, Nginx, Apache, Monit, Debian, Redhat
- Working knowledge of other languages including Crystal, Java, Python, etc.
- Admin frameworks such as ActiveAdmin, Wordpress
- Static Site Generators like Frontman, Middleman, Jekyll
- Hybrid Mobile apps with Cordova and Ionic 1.x
- PDF generation & manipulation with PrawnPDF
- Spreadsheet creation & import
- Web scraping
- Automated testing

Javascript Experience

I have focused most of my time on jQuery and general-use Javascript as it has enabled me to complete project goals quickly and maintain the code easily with much less technology churn.

For modern SPA development, I spent some time around late-2015 to mid-2017 exploring the world of Cordova mobile apps using Ionic/AngularJS 1.x. I was able to build many mobile applications quickly and was very happy with this setup. Then new wave of JS SPA frameworks arrived with their mobile counterparts and I decided to sample React Native, Ionic/Angular v2, and Quasar/VueJS frameworks by creating a bite sized mobile application in all each framework. Unfortunately the churn of technology in the JS and app development space started becoming very complicated at this time and I decided to re-focus my efforts on Rails, jQuery and the web essentials.

I am very capable of maintaining your existing products that utilize any complex JS SPA frameworks, however as a Software Architect making best choices for ease of maintenance, I would choose not to use a large JS SPA framework because they add so much extra development time and added complexity to the application.

Projects Overview for Vericatch

From 2020 to 2021, I was a Senior Rails developer with Vericatch building out their suite of seafood reporting software.

I implemented many systems including core application functionality, multi-app infrastructure, multiple Public APIs, Translation engine, Billing and Payment system.

One main project was to handle the re-architecture and reverse-engineering of the

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KnowYour.Fish platform. Among many other improvements, I also implemented a full batch API for the application.

Other projects include enhancing our common infrastructure as we build out a newer application for seafood catch reporting.

Projects Overview for BC Hydro

From 2014 to 2021, I was developing Ruby-on-Rails applications for internal-use within the BC Hydro Telecom Engineering department. I created, upgraded, and maintained both new and legacy/existing Ruby-on-Rails applications. I also administrated the linux servers used to host the applications.

Below is a list of the applications I developed for them during this time. Most applications have approximately 20 database backed models unless otherwise specified.

App 1: Tool for authorizing, tracking and reporting on the use of telecom resources. Facilitates the design, approval and implementation process of telecom authorizations.

- Around 60 database backed models
- Approximately 1300 Git issues resolved
- Extensive PDF diagram generation component using PrawnPDF
- Very large forms with complex behaviour
- Massive spreadsheet exports

App 2: Used to calculate and generate cost estimates for telecom work.

- Around 30 database backed models
- Heavy use of ag-grid for performant tables with complex features
- Utilized custom caching techniques to improve performance
- The gem `spreadsheet_architect` was created during development of this application to streamline our ability to create spreadsheets efficiently

App 3: Tracking tool for tracking telecom designer tasks.

- Around 45 database backed models
- Application has undergone a few large and difficult re-writes to adapt to major design changes
 - I had to learn, fix, enhance, and overhaul this complex legacy application completely from the source code without help from the previous developer.
 - Deciphering what was correct and not added to the complexity of learning this system. In this case, it contained a very complicated web of model callbacks which also contained various design flaws and incorrect behaviours

App 4: Database containing all common data between all applications like projects, sites, etc.

- For this application we had certain overlapping data models in some of the legacy applications that were becoming difficult to manage. I proposed to create a central database and frontend for this information that the other applications can plug into.

App 5: Track and manage tower, antenna, and repeater information. Provide interactive visual presentation of the tower and its antennas. Upload inspection data from desktop tool. Upload and manage files and photos related to each structure.

- Around 35 database backed models
- Interactive diagrams were implemented in RaphaelJS

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- Had an associated offline-use desktop application written with NW.js and AngularJS v1.x
- Desktop application was designed for use on surveys in the field and then information is to be imported to main tool by management

App 6: Tracking tool for tracking telecom planning and non-design tasks.

- Created using a legacy version of ActiveAdmin

App 7: Create, track, and report on record drawings and packages. Packages and drawings are moved through different stages of the submission process.

App 8: Used by multiple disciplines to create, track, and log co-location requests. Facilitate the co-location review and approval process

App 9: Used to calculate the 48V power consumption at the sites. The chargers and battery sizes and all the loads are entered into the database.

App 10: Generate document numbers and track documents. Upload and manage related files.

App 11: Create telecom bill of material to procure and track the telecom material items.

App 12: Tracks and logs projects requiring telecom design work, and design and drafting reviews for telecom projects. Facilitate the review and approval process for telecom designs throughout all project and site phases. Track and report designer workloads.

App 13: Track and manage telecom facility and infrastructure requests.

App 14: Repository for generating design and commissioning documentation and numberings.

App 15: Generate document numbers, track telecom planning studies, and manage related files and documents.

App 16: A centralized list of hazards and associated info for engineering projects.

App 17: A tool to aid in the design of clusters and authorizations

App 18: A tool to aid in the design of authorizations and SONET devices