Willison: the creation of a digital typeface based on researched handwriting at the Wagner Institute of Science.

A work in progress

Dermot Mac Cormack

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The Wagner Free Institute of Science

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Tyler School of Art & Architecture

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21xdesign

Patricia McElroy, Julie Lam, Marrissa Lough

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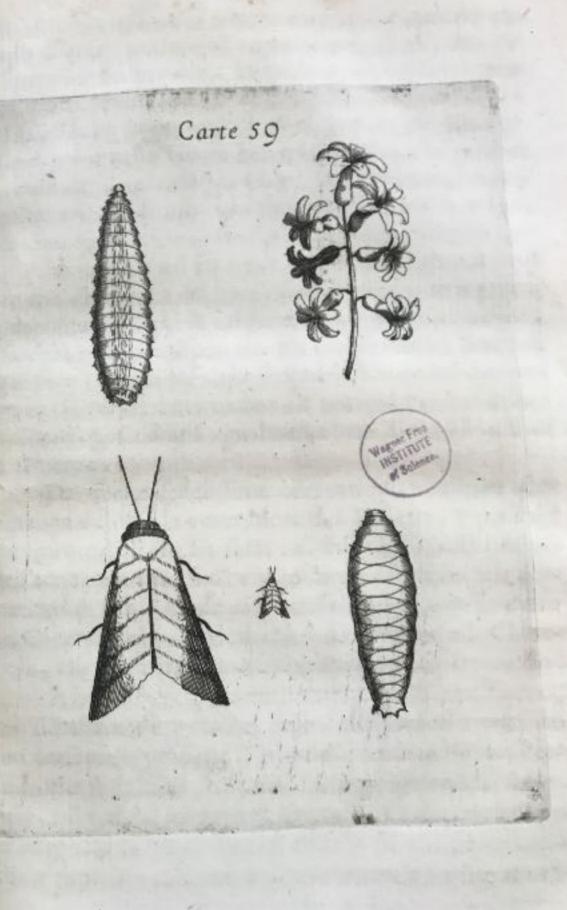
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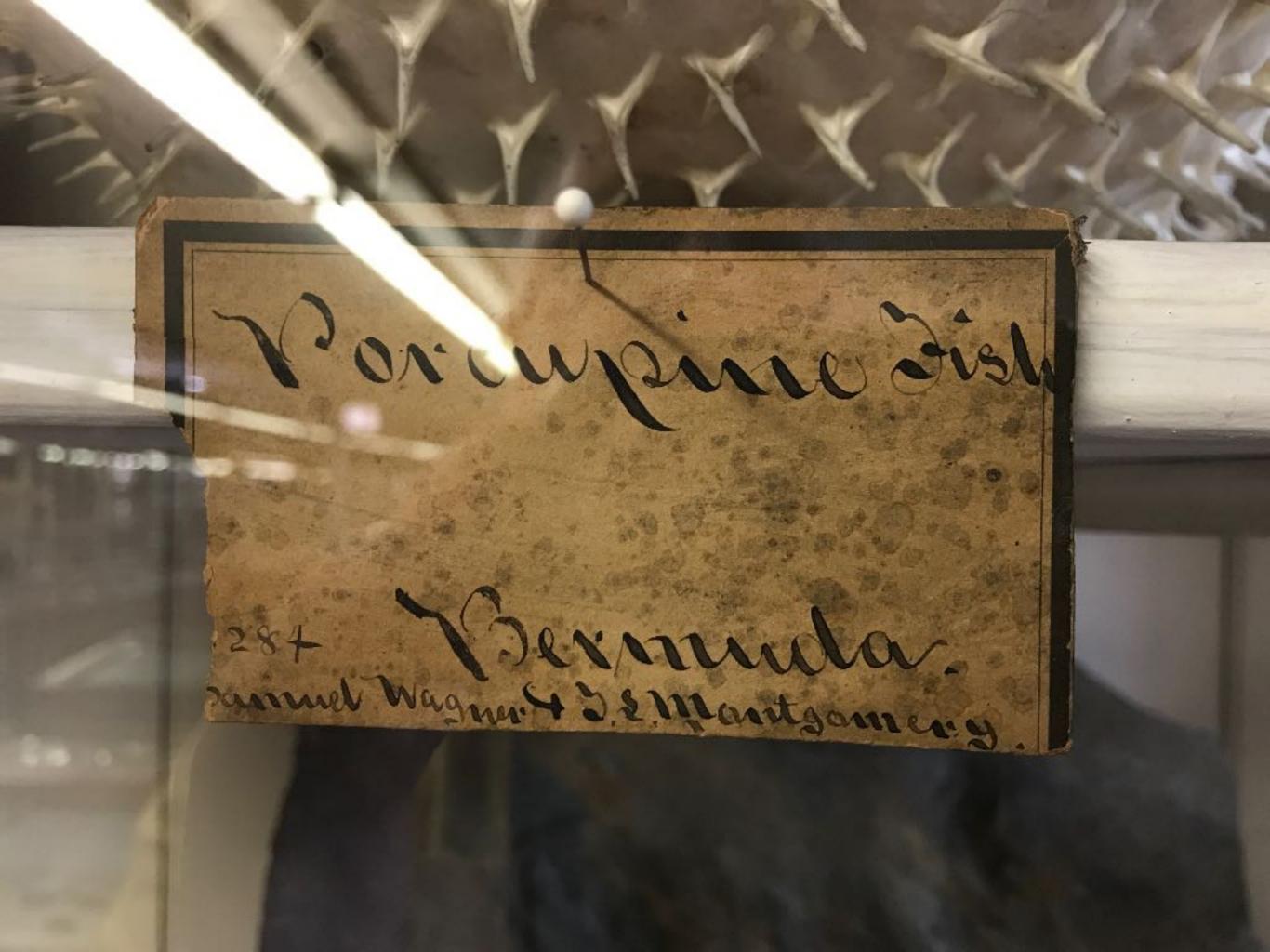
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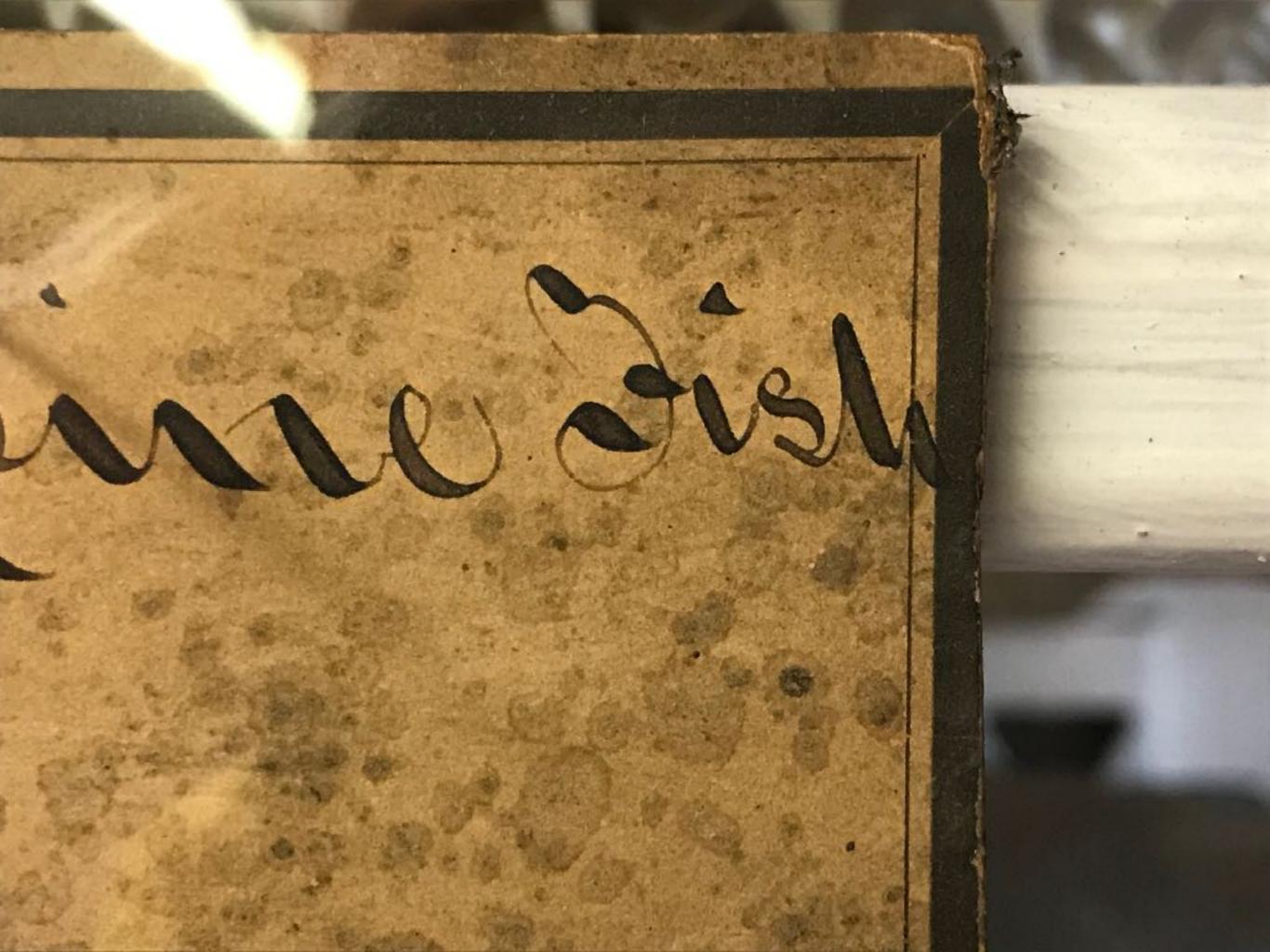
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Charles Willison Johnson



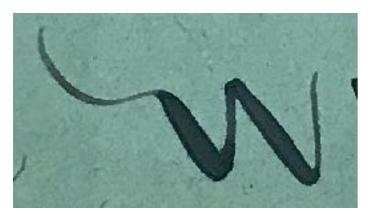
- Charles Willison Johnson was born on October 26, 1863, in Morris Plains, New Jersey.
- In 1880, he moved to St. Augustine, Florida, a place that inspired his interest in natural history.
- In 1888, while living in Florida, he met Joseph Willcox, who was at the time leading several expeditions from the Wagner Free Institute of Science to explore the paleontology of Florida. Willcox was impressed with Johnson's collection and his knowledge, and invited him to be a curator at the Wagner.
- Johnson moved to Philadelphia later in 1888 and began his job as curator for the Wagner. Under the leadership of Joseph Leidy, Johnson was tasked with reorganizing the collections.
- In 1891 Johnson went on an expedition to Jamaica, collecting shells and insects. Several of the shells were described as new species. In 1897, he married Carrie W. Ford. In 1903, Johnson was made curator of the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History.
- In 1910 he helped to found the Boston Malacological Club. He also spent this time collecting and studying the insects and mollusks of New England.
- Johnson's was the Wagner's foremost insect collector, and was responsible for the excellently organized and preserved entomological collection (which was later devastated by a dermestid beetle infestation).
- His personal collection is now owned by Harvard University. He died July 19, 1932, in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Perhaps the only anecdote from the Wagner archives on Johnson

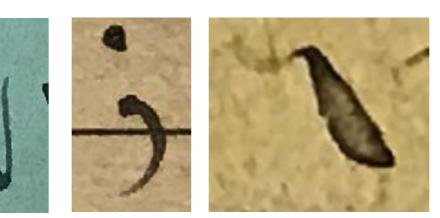
This is from a letter written by Joseph Willcox in July 1889 from Paris. Willcox was in Paris with Joseph Leidy purchasing specimens for the Museum. The letter is addressed to Thomas Montgomery (the museum's actuary and librarian) and contains this paragraph.

"I hope you and Mr. Johnson will succeed in your attempt to put on an exhibition in the museum on all the insects found in Phila. I can picture to myself Mr. Montgomery sitting on a chair at night in the Institute lot with a lantern in his hand to invite all the insects in the vicinity to the light; while Mr. Johnson rushes around wildly with a sweepnet to catch them. If you plant some sweet-scented flowers in the lot, you might attract and catch some wasps and bumble bees, and perhaps a stray honey bee. Take Mr. Johnson out to some of the suburban truck patches, and possibly he may trap a few potato bugs; and perhaps he may succeed in trapping some of the cockroaches in one of your Willington St. houses."

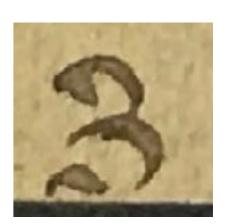
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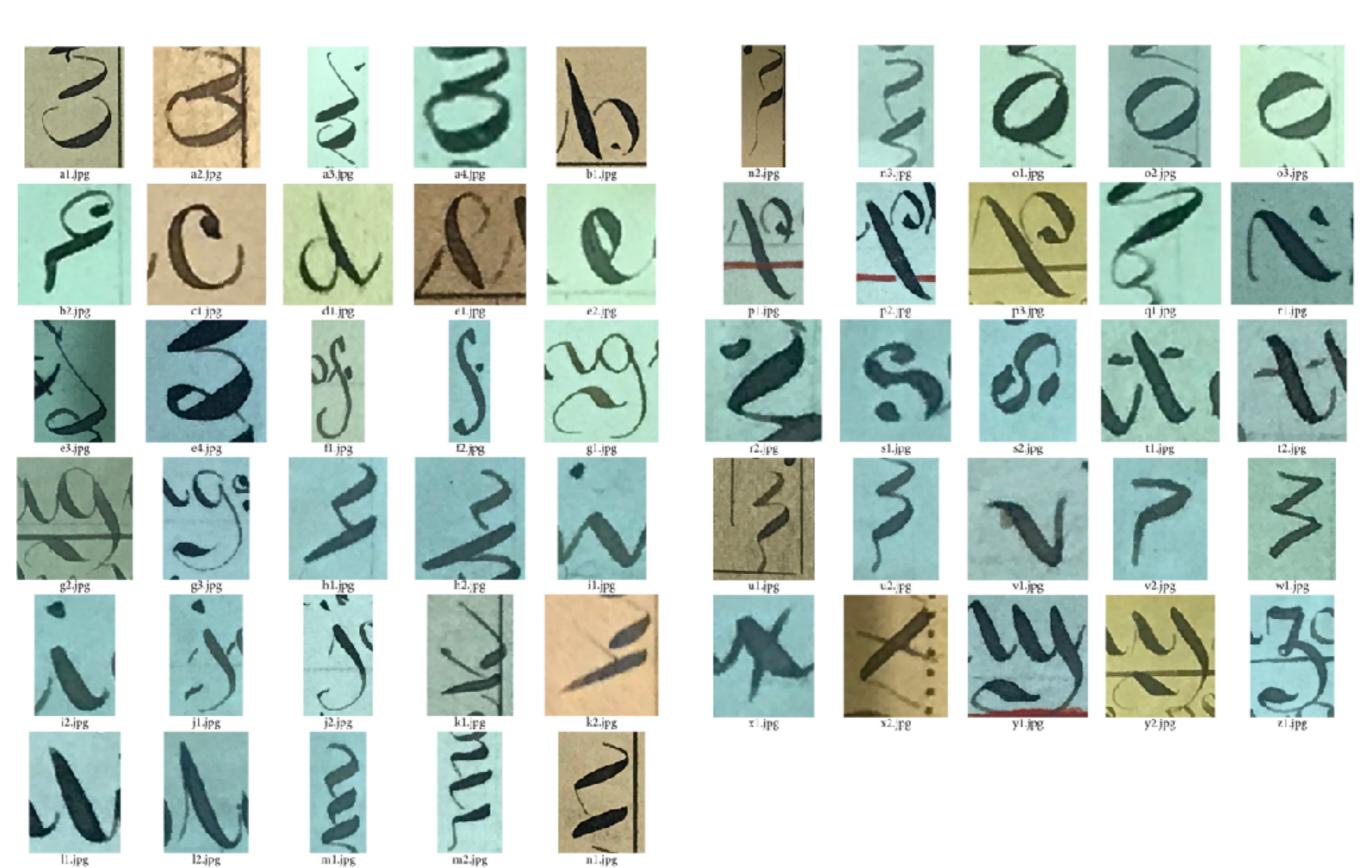


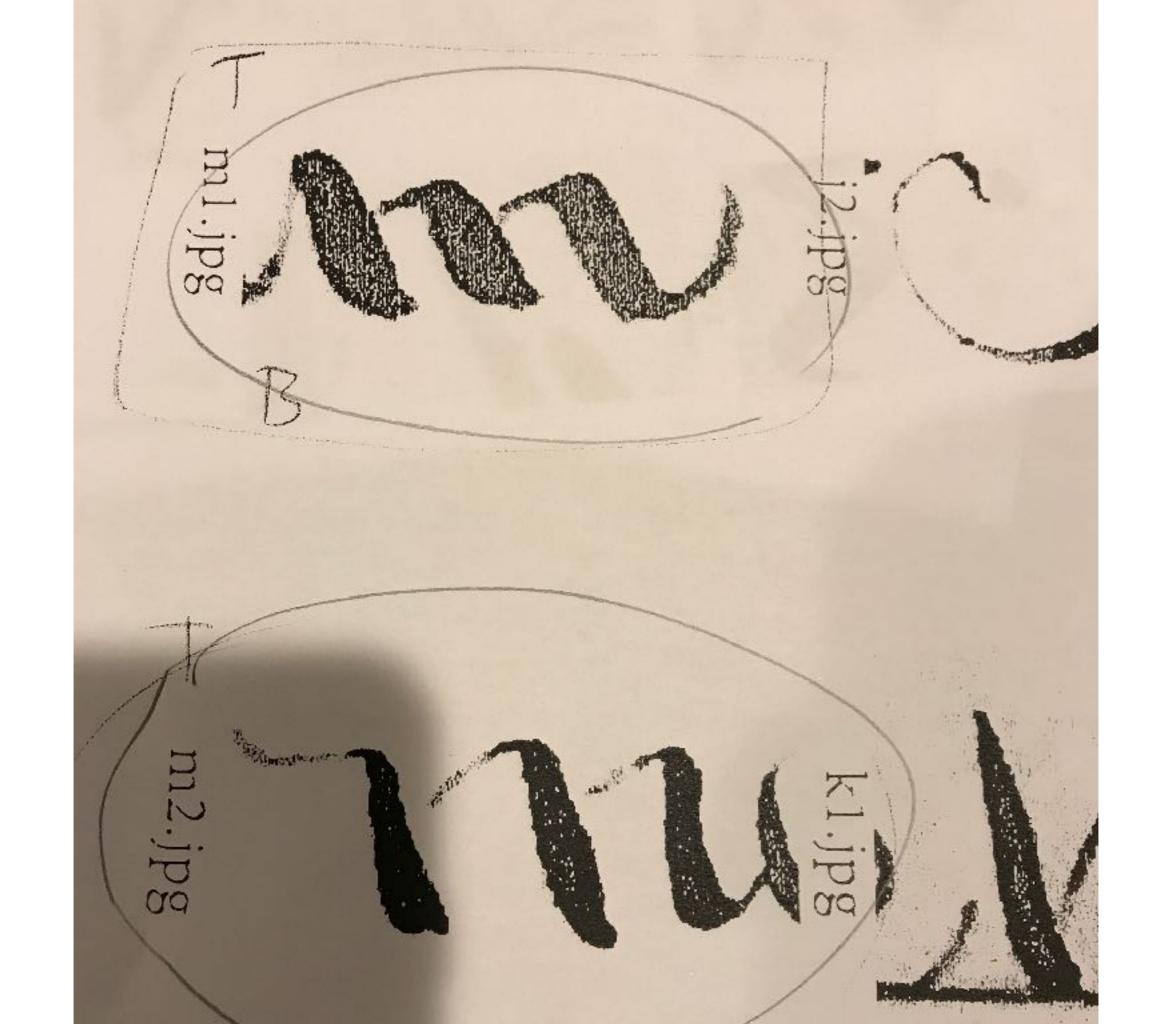


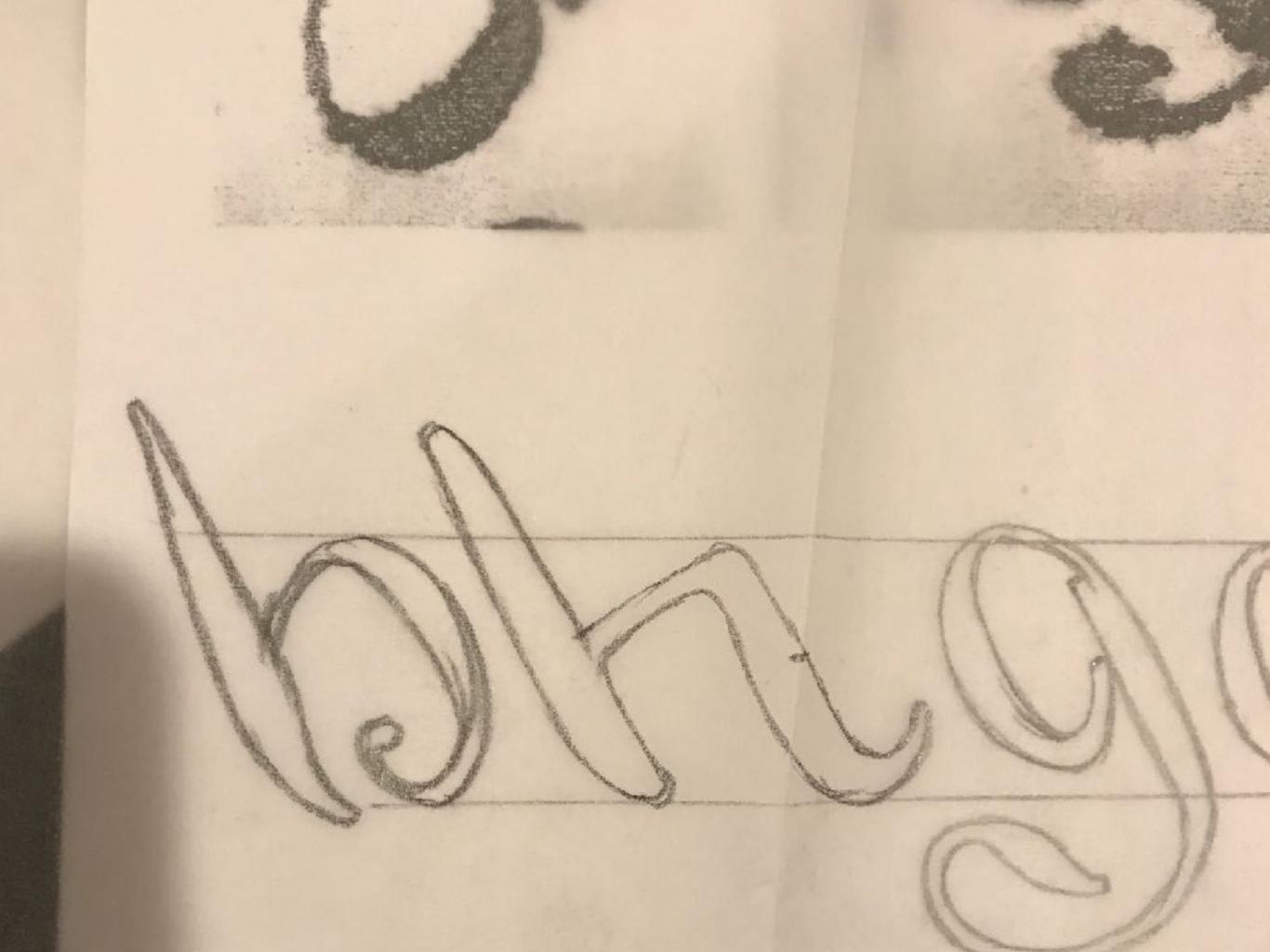








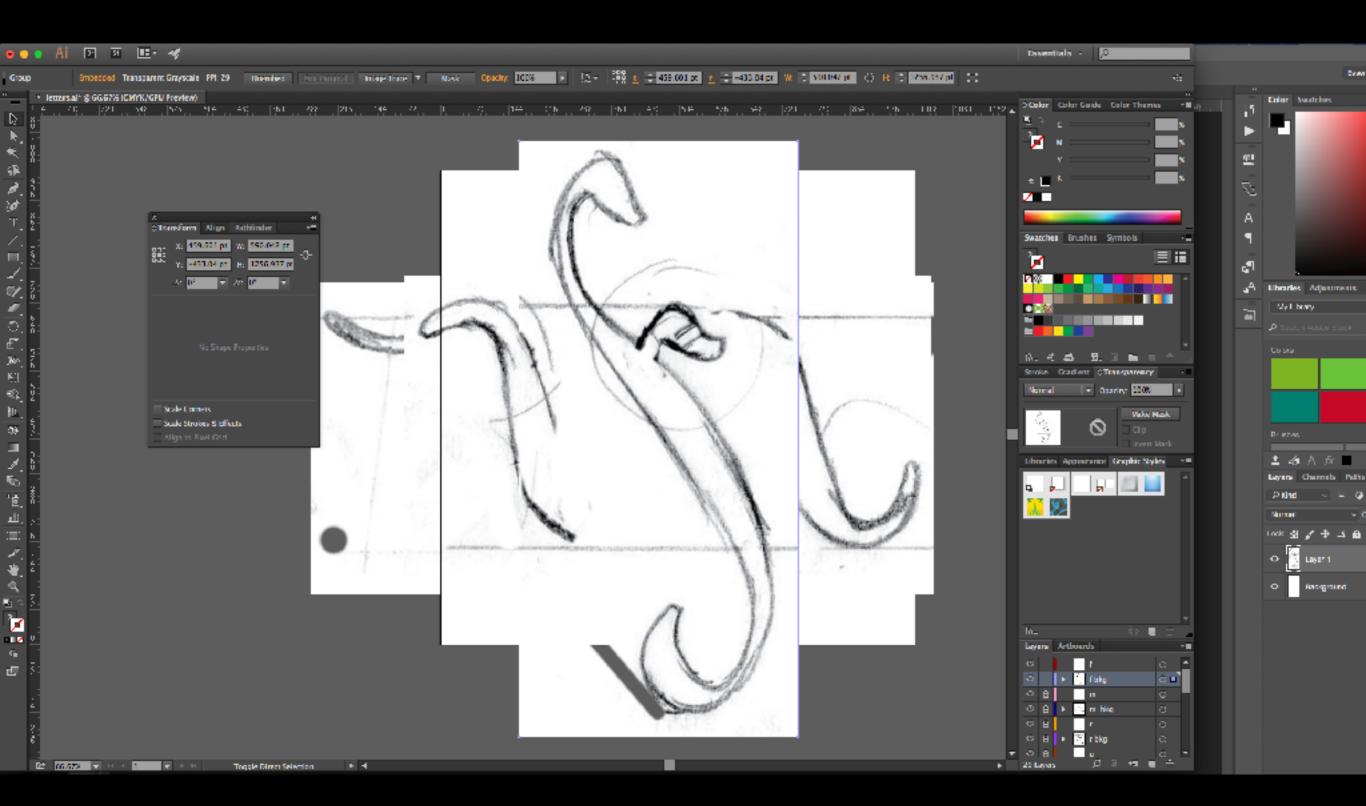






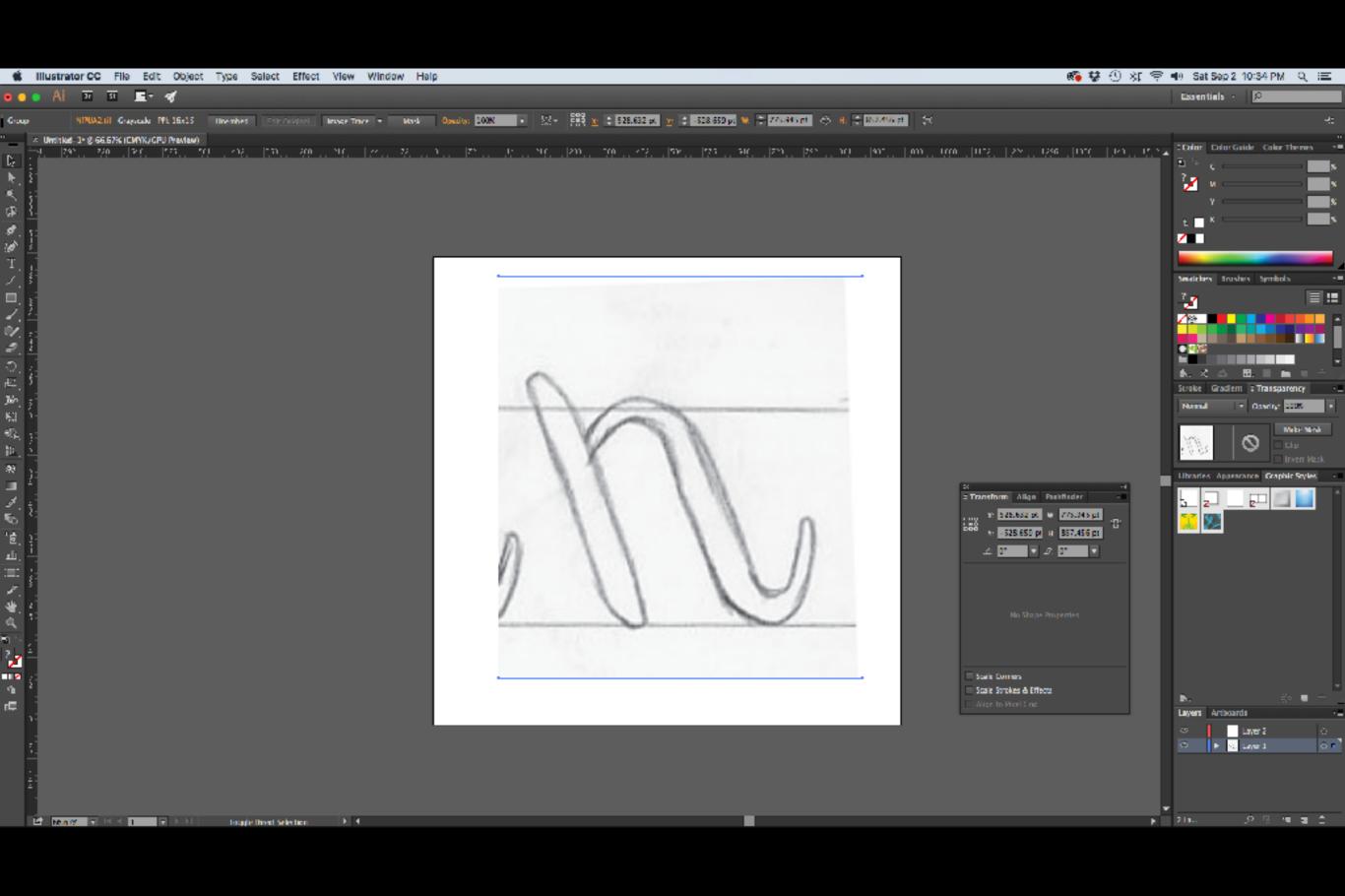


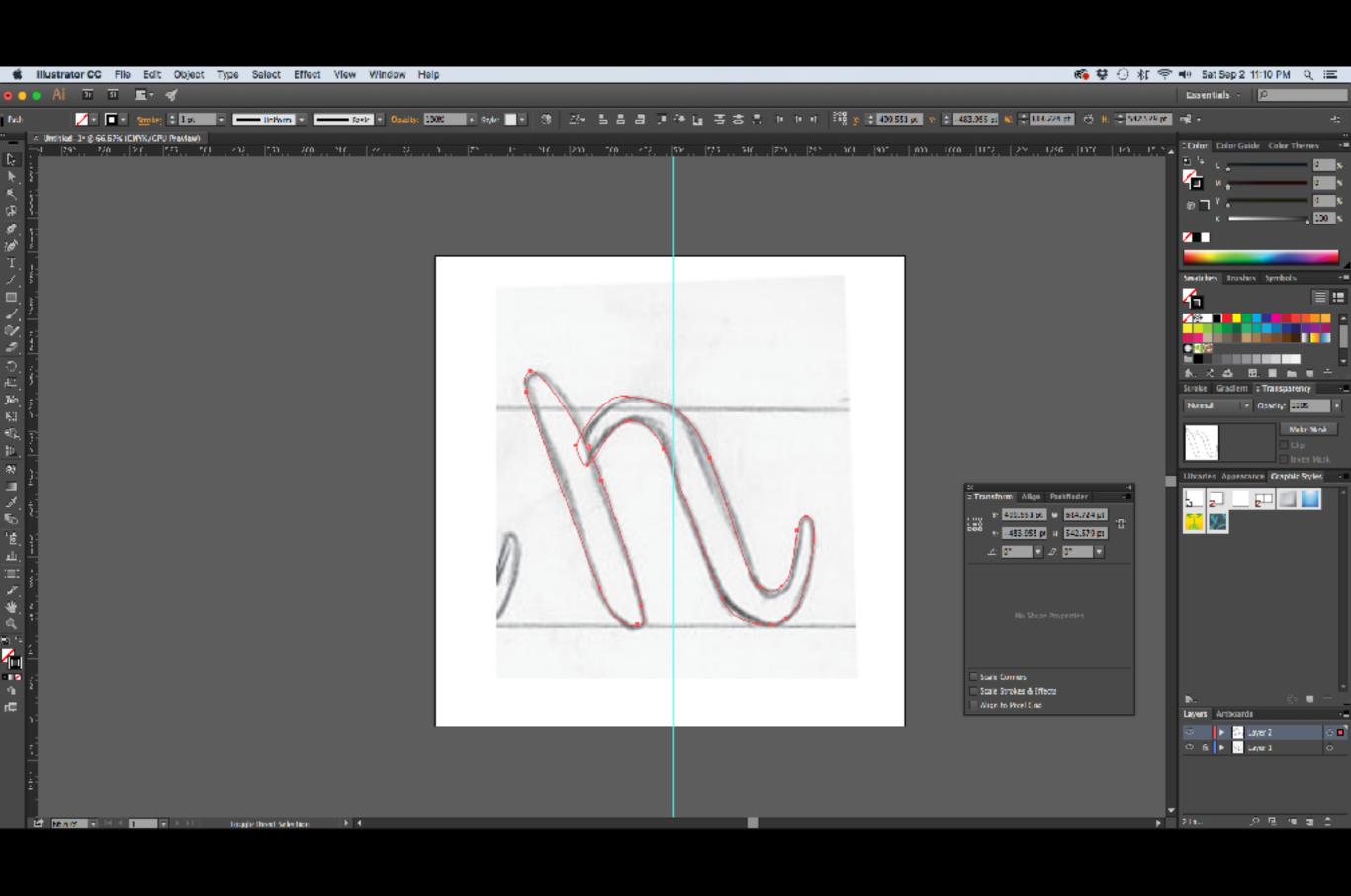




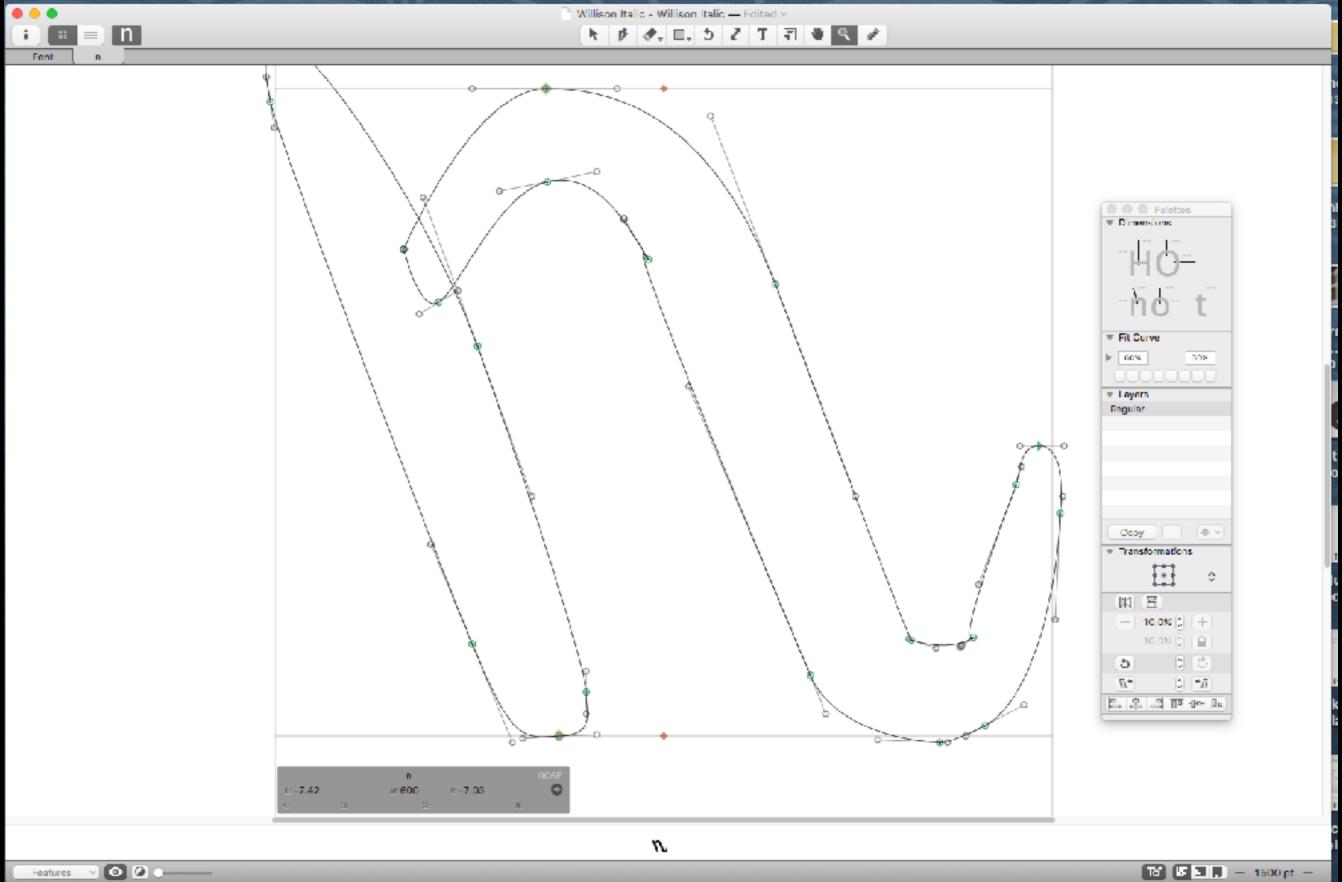


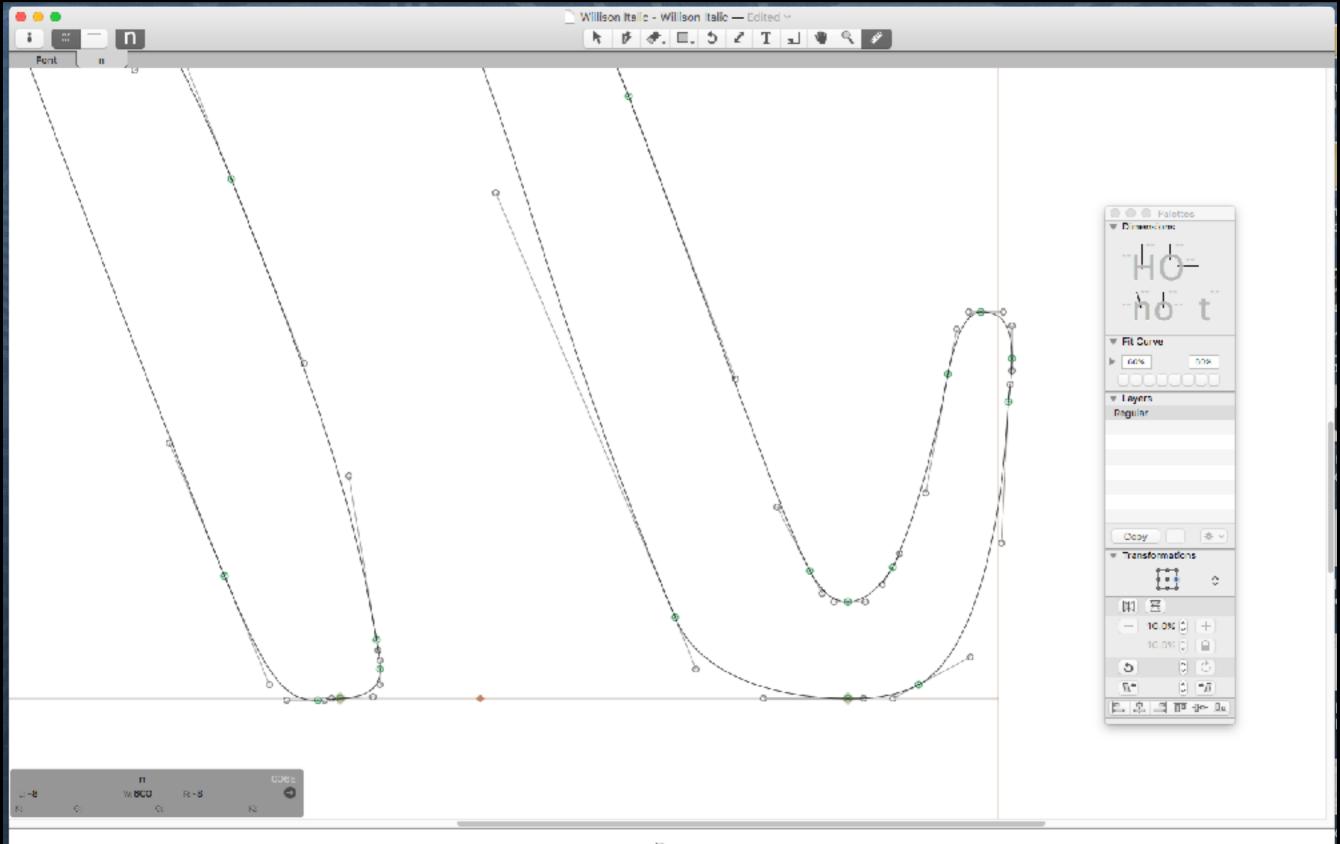


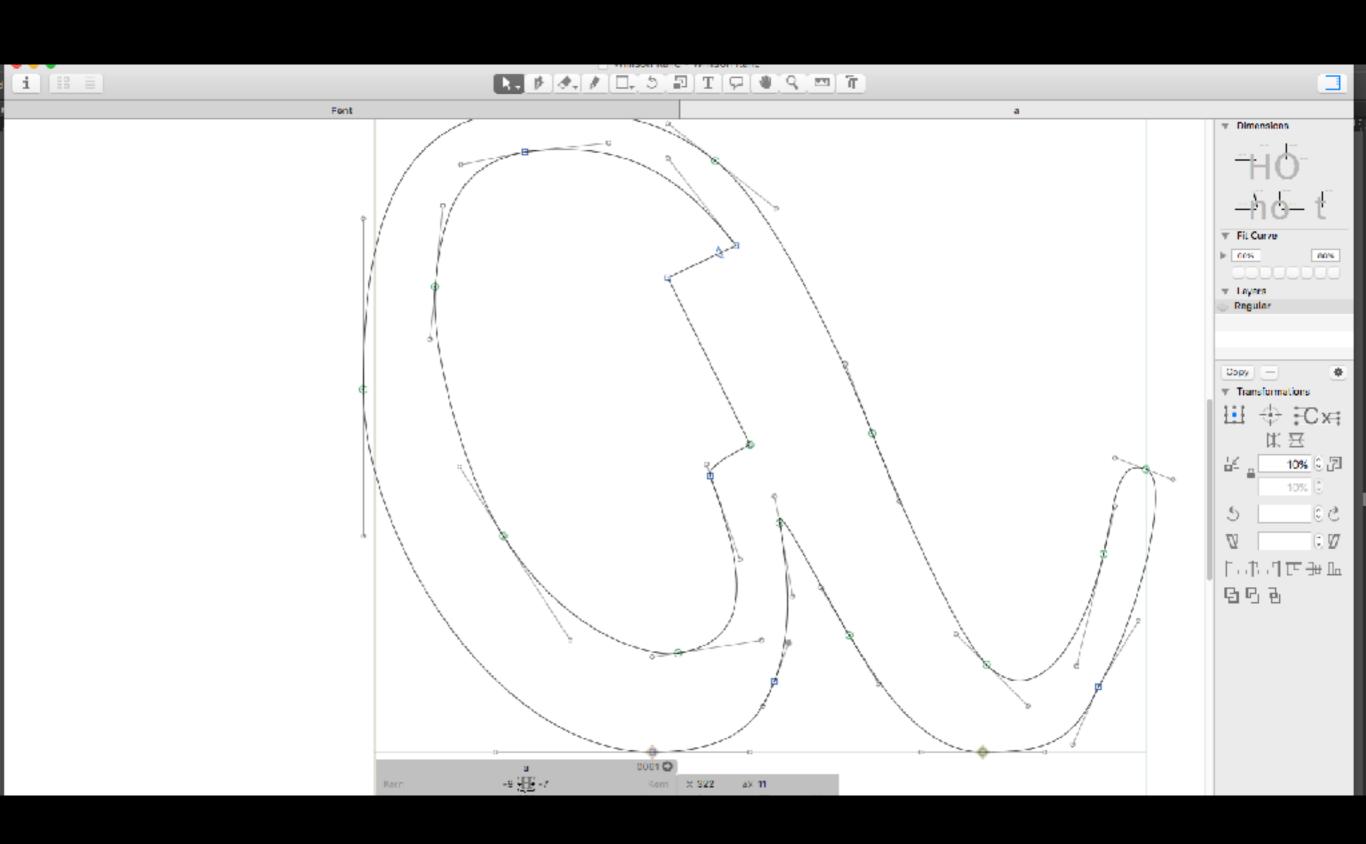




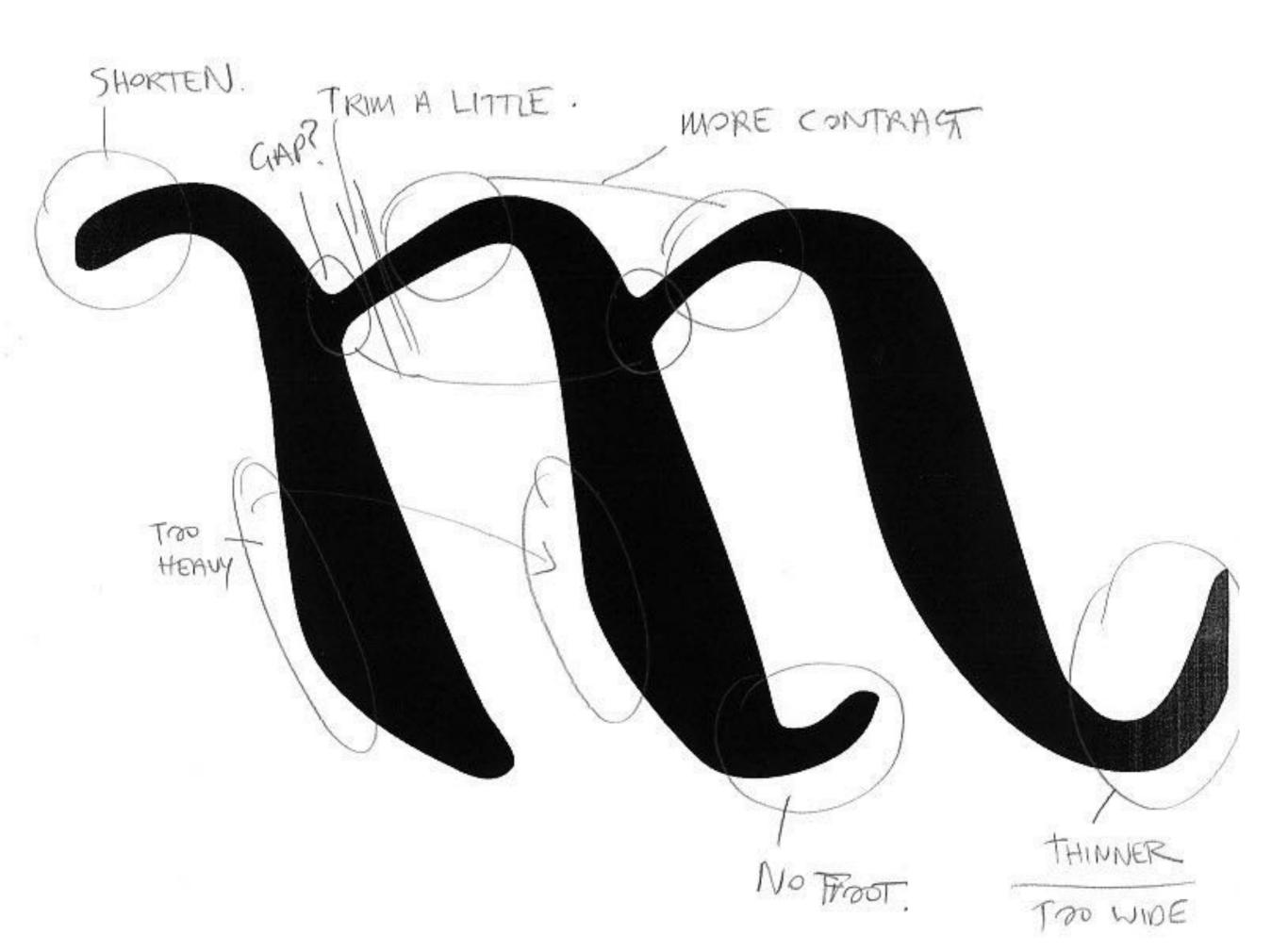




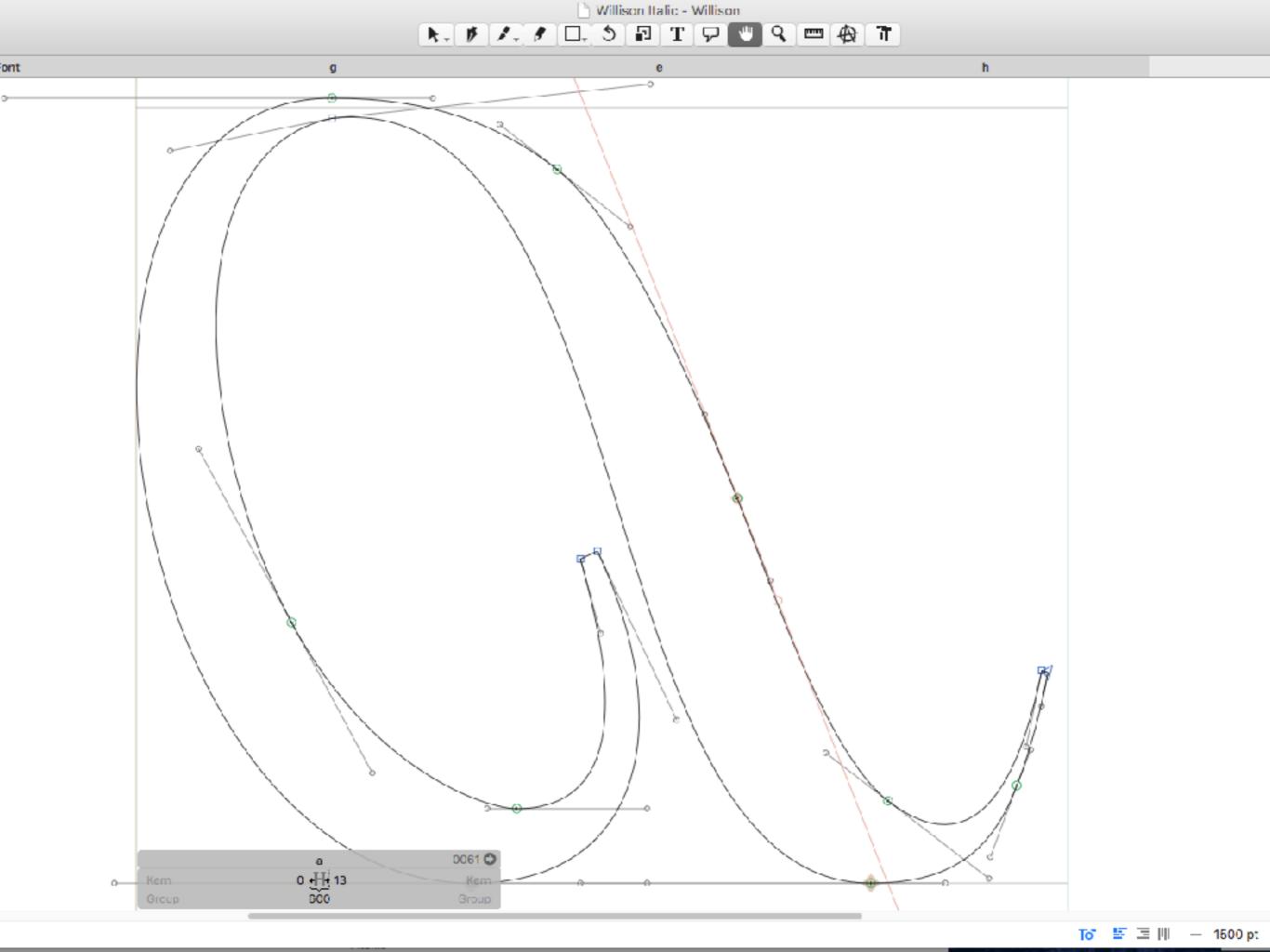


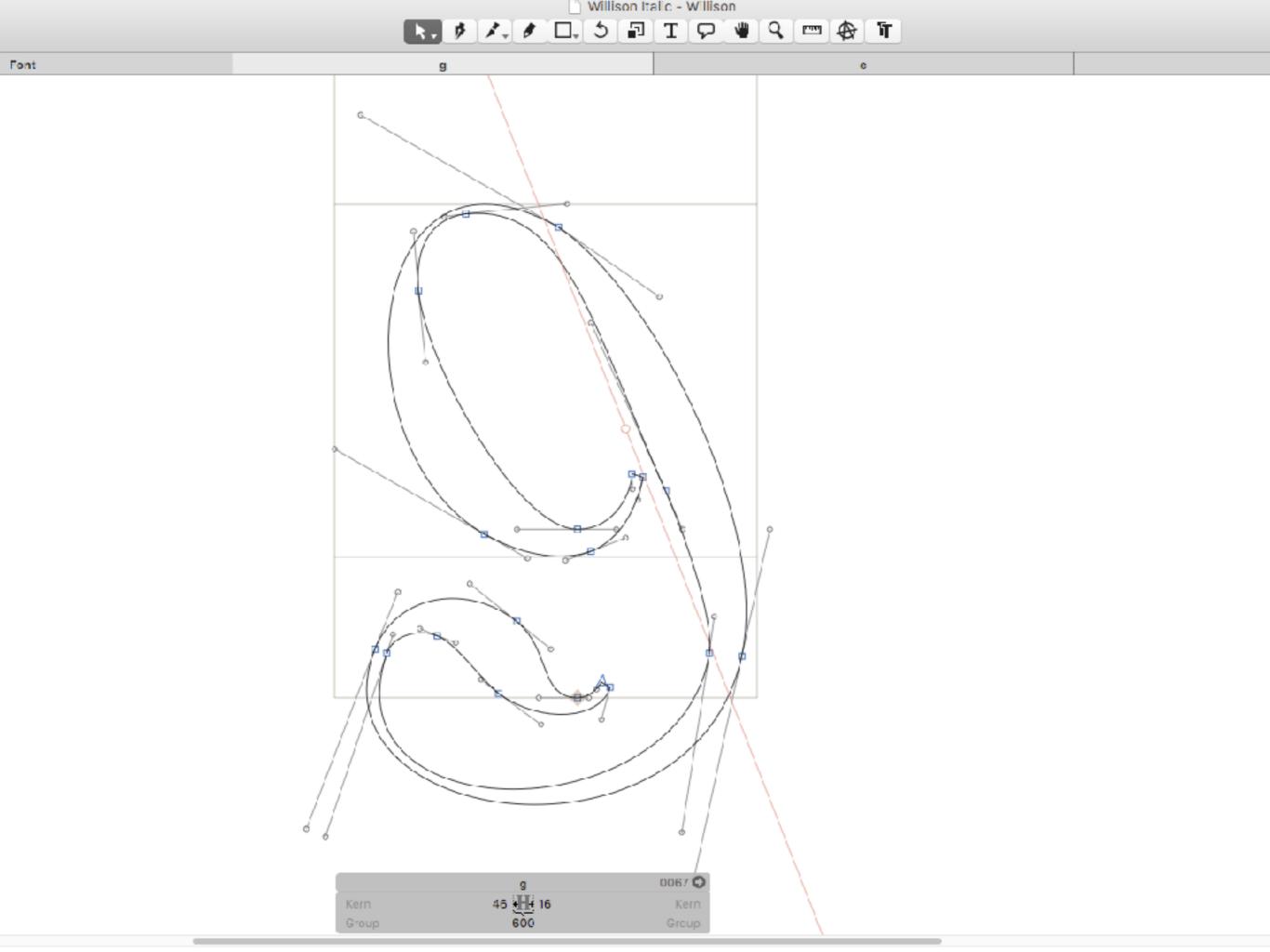


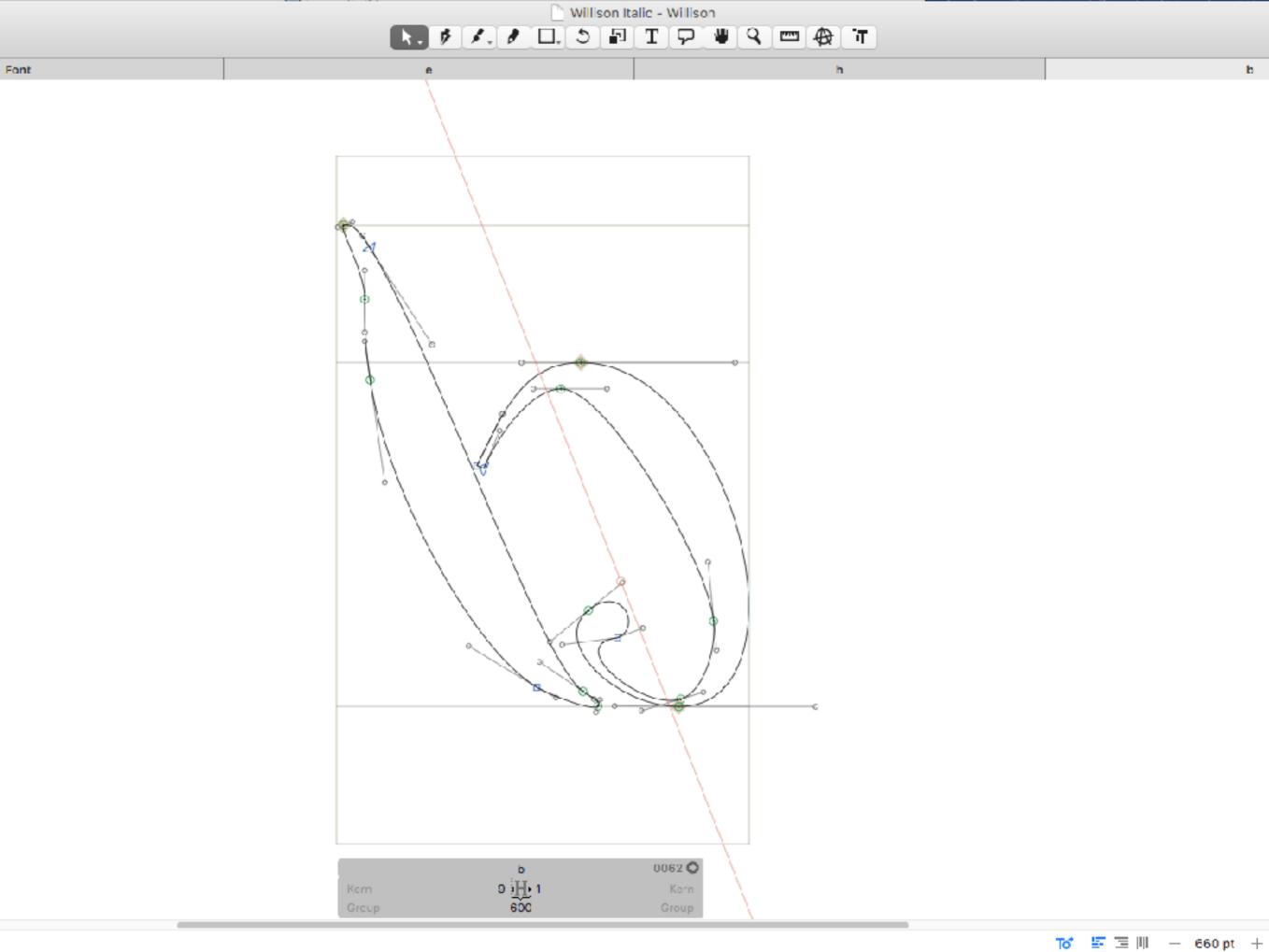
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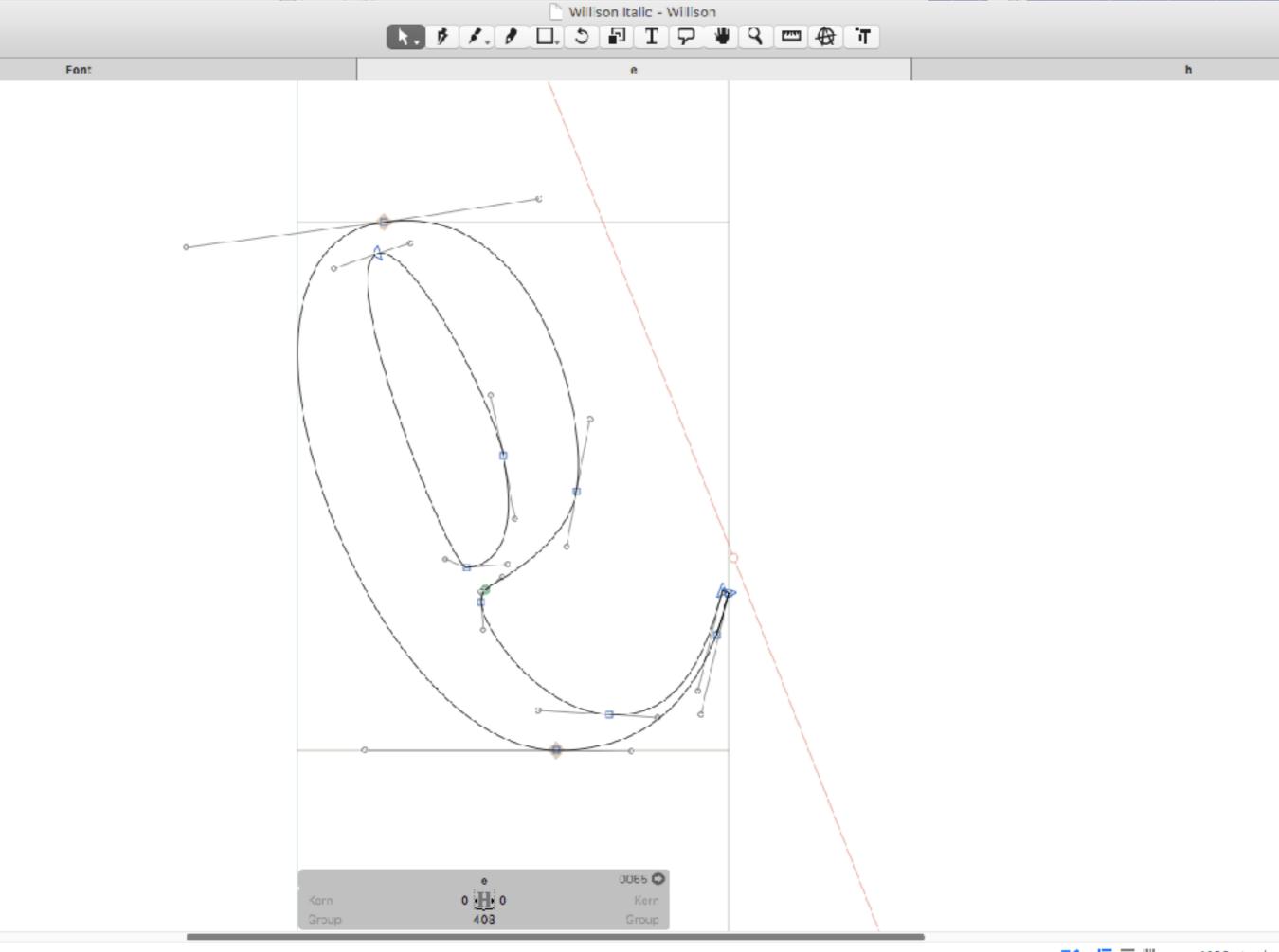


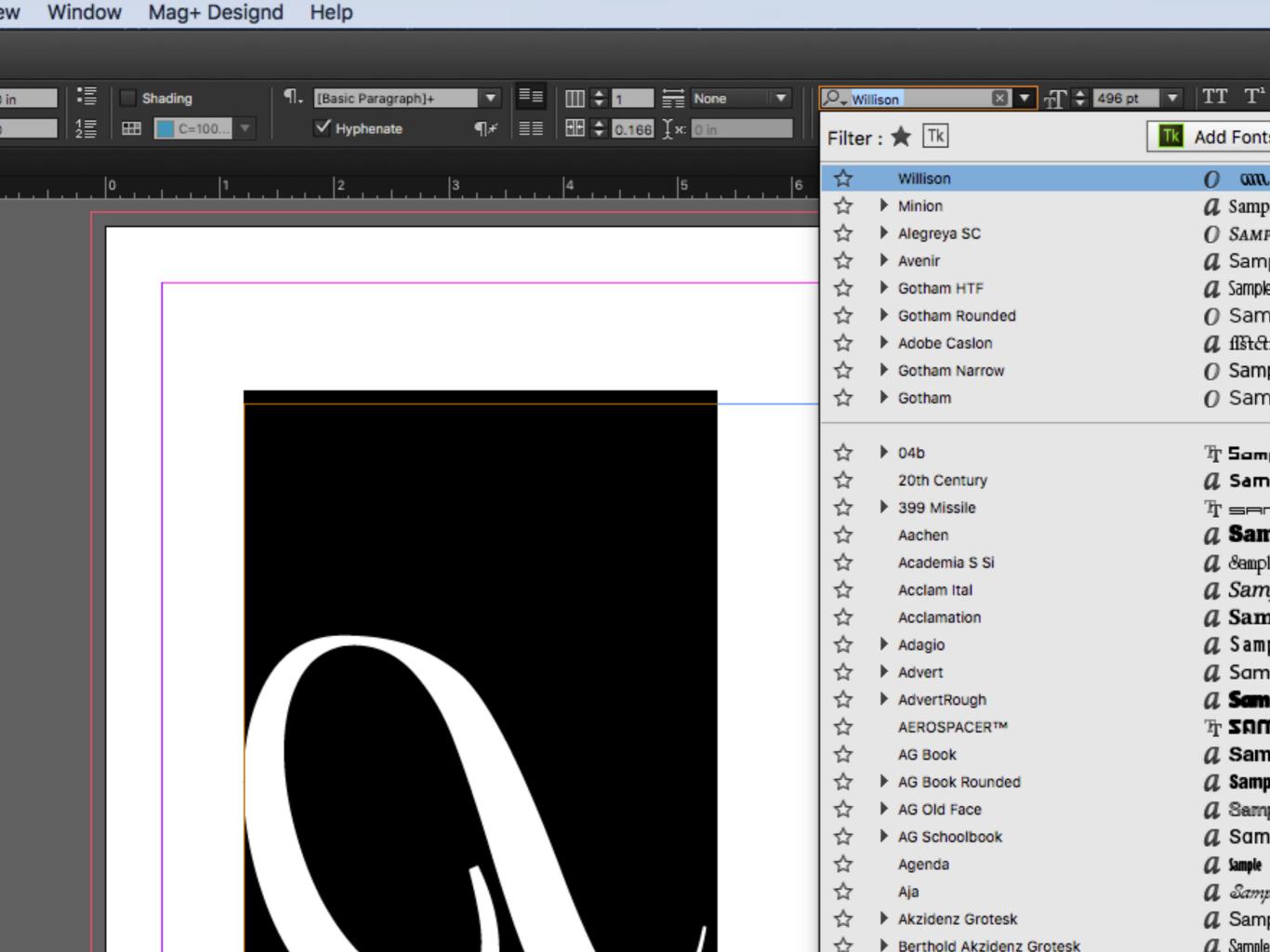
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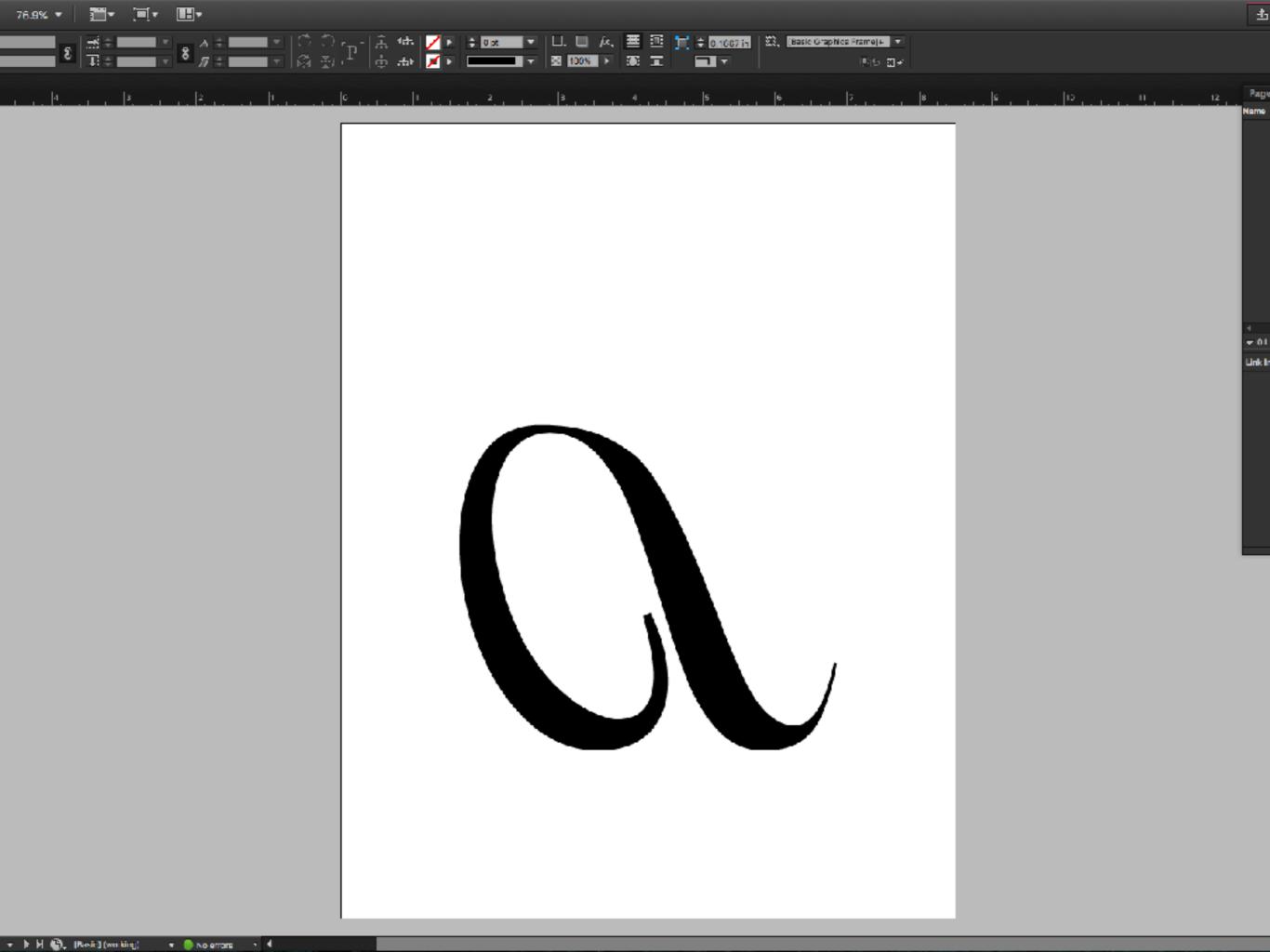




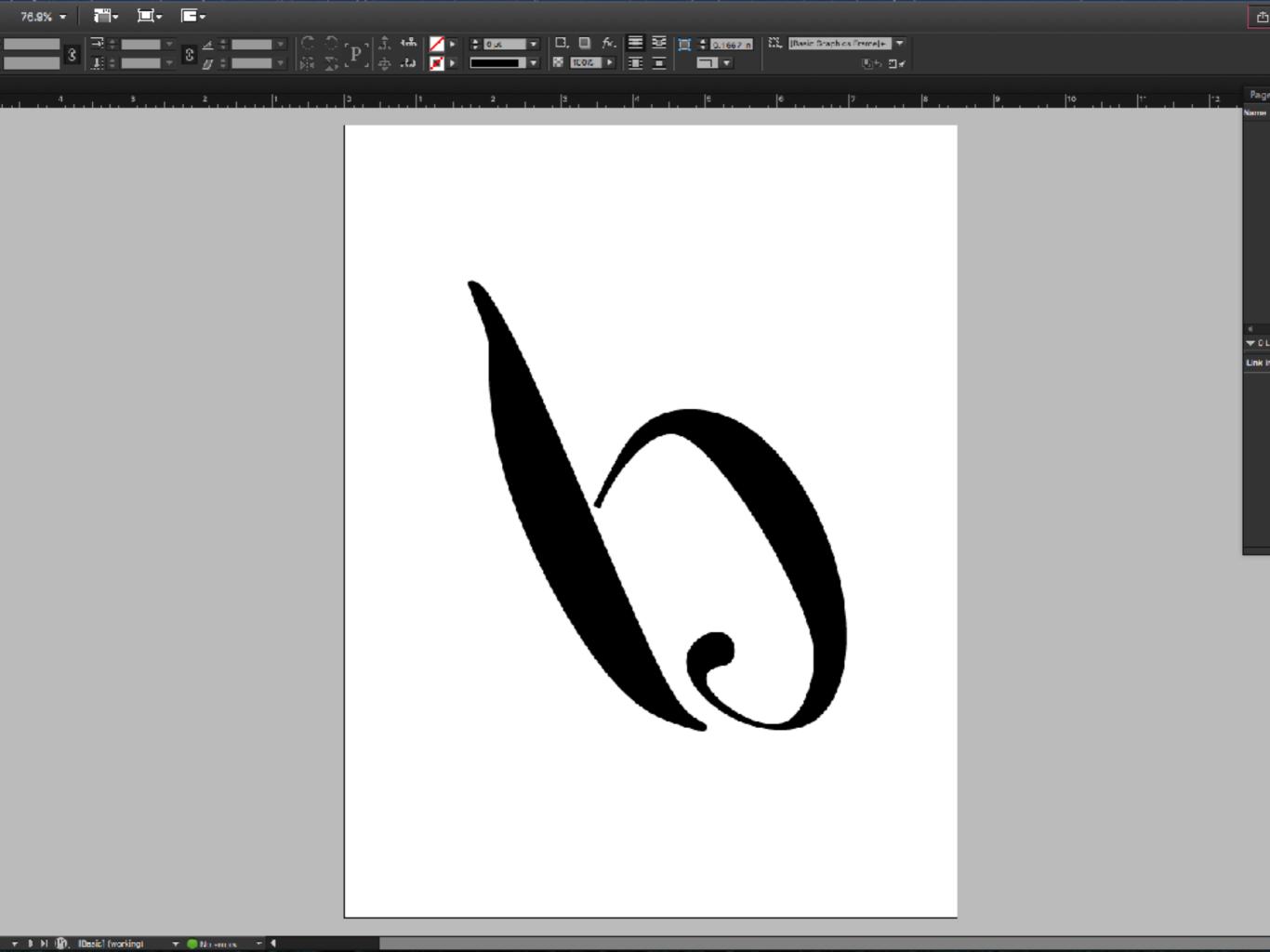




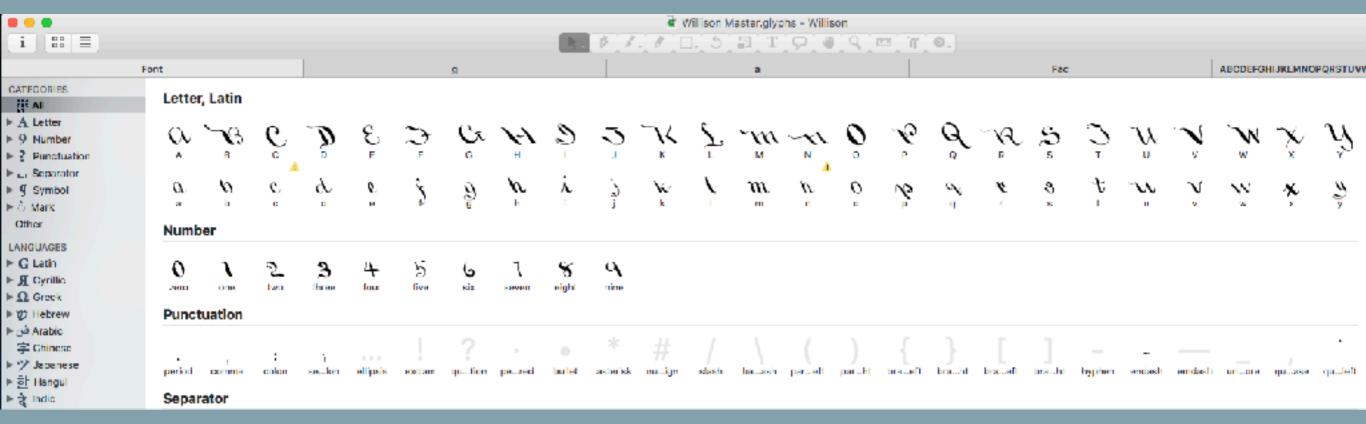




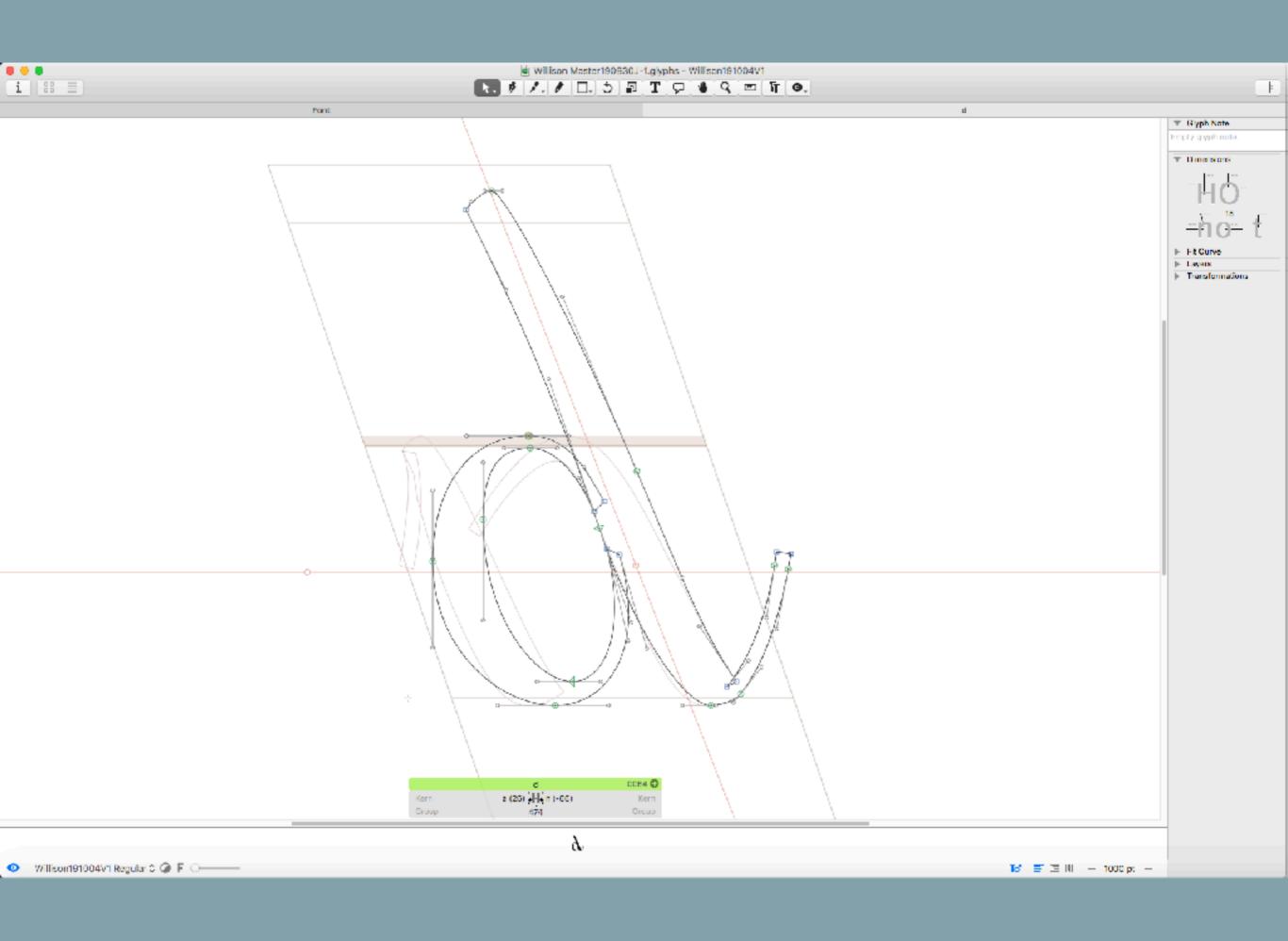


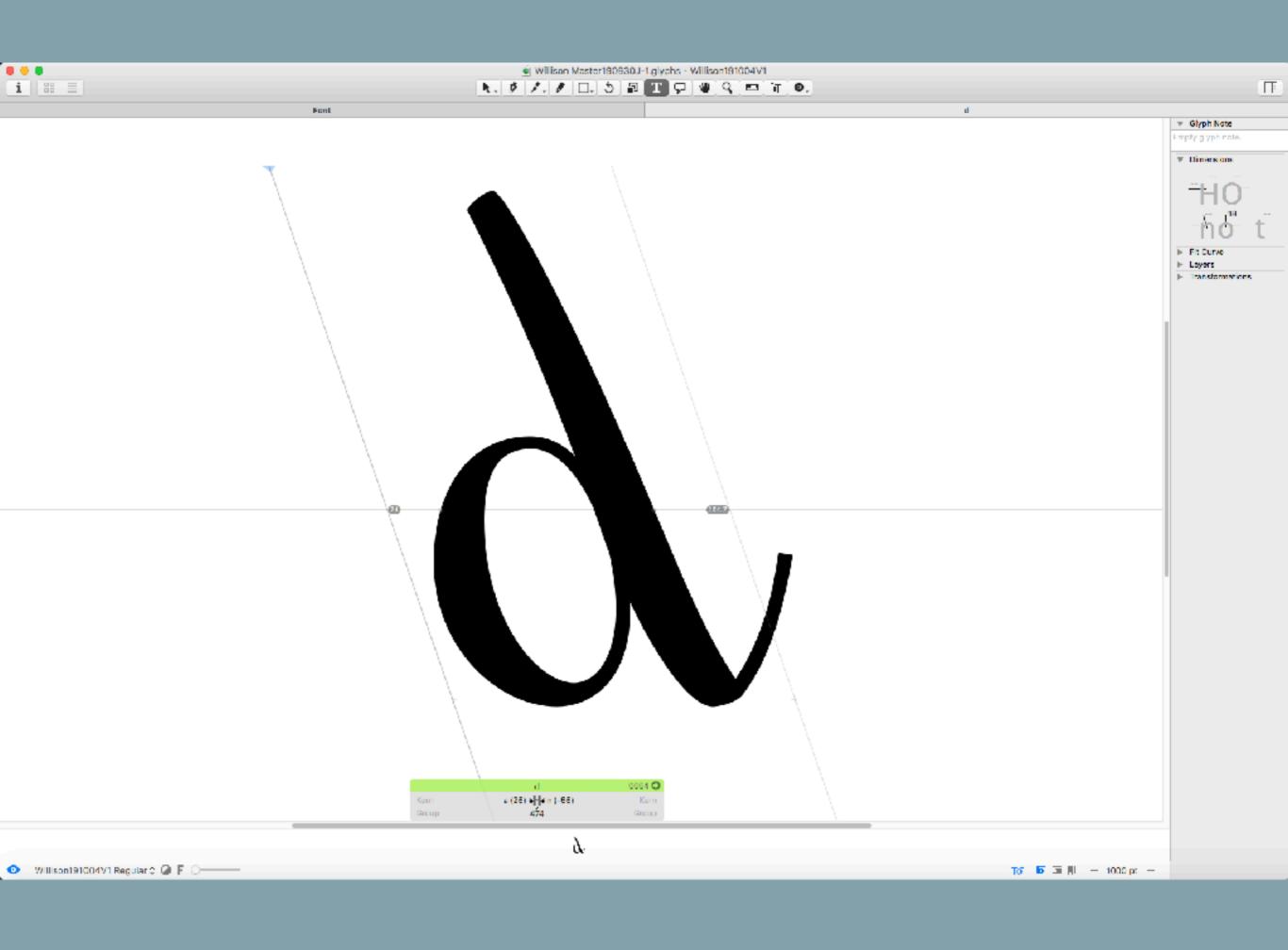




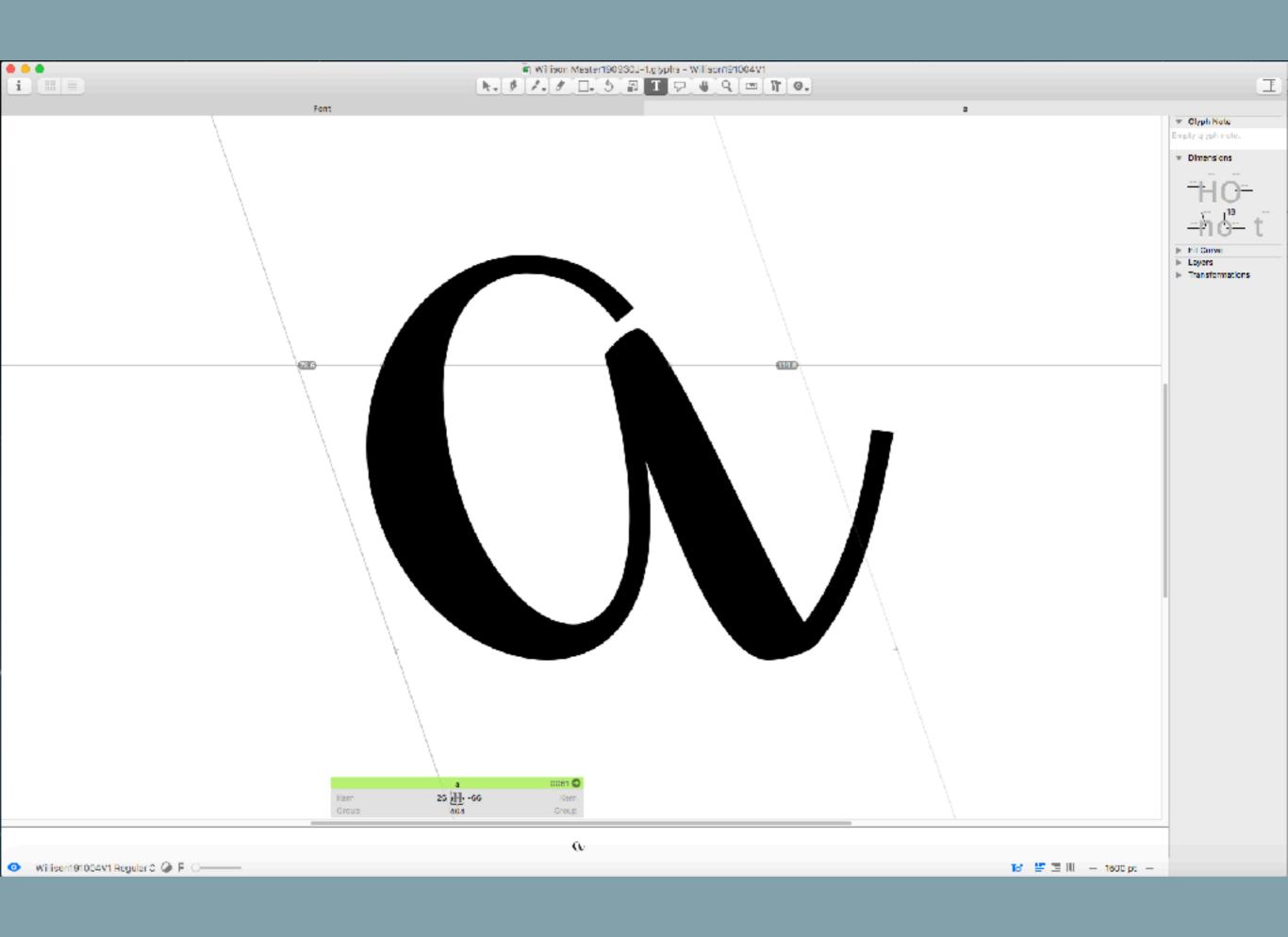


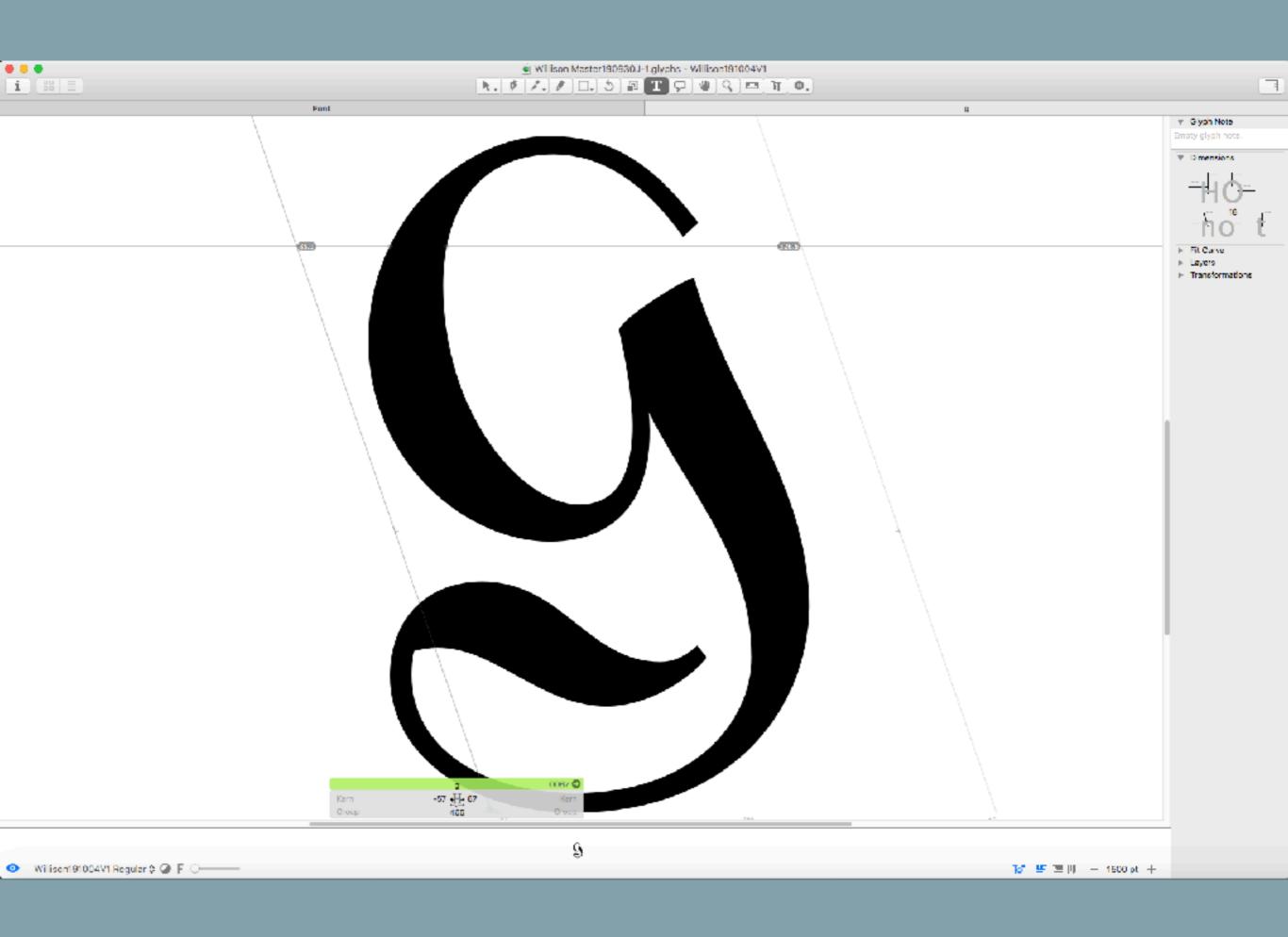


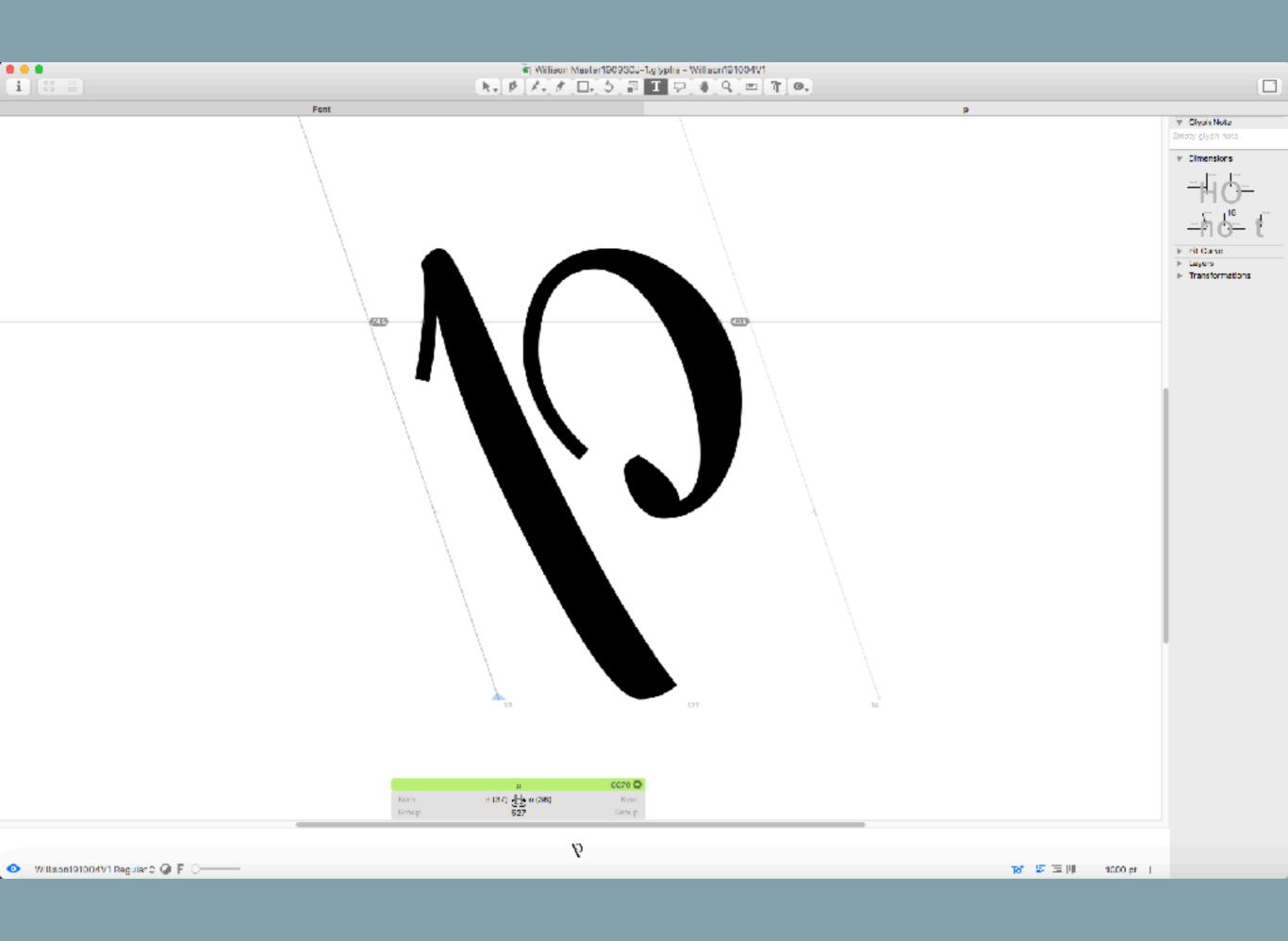


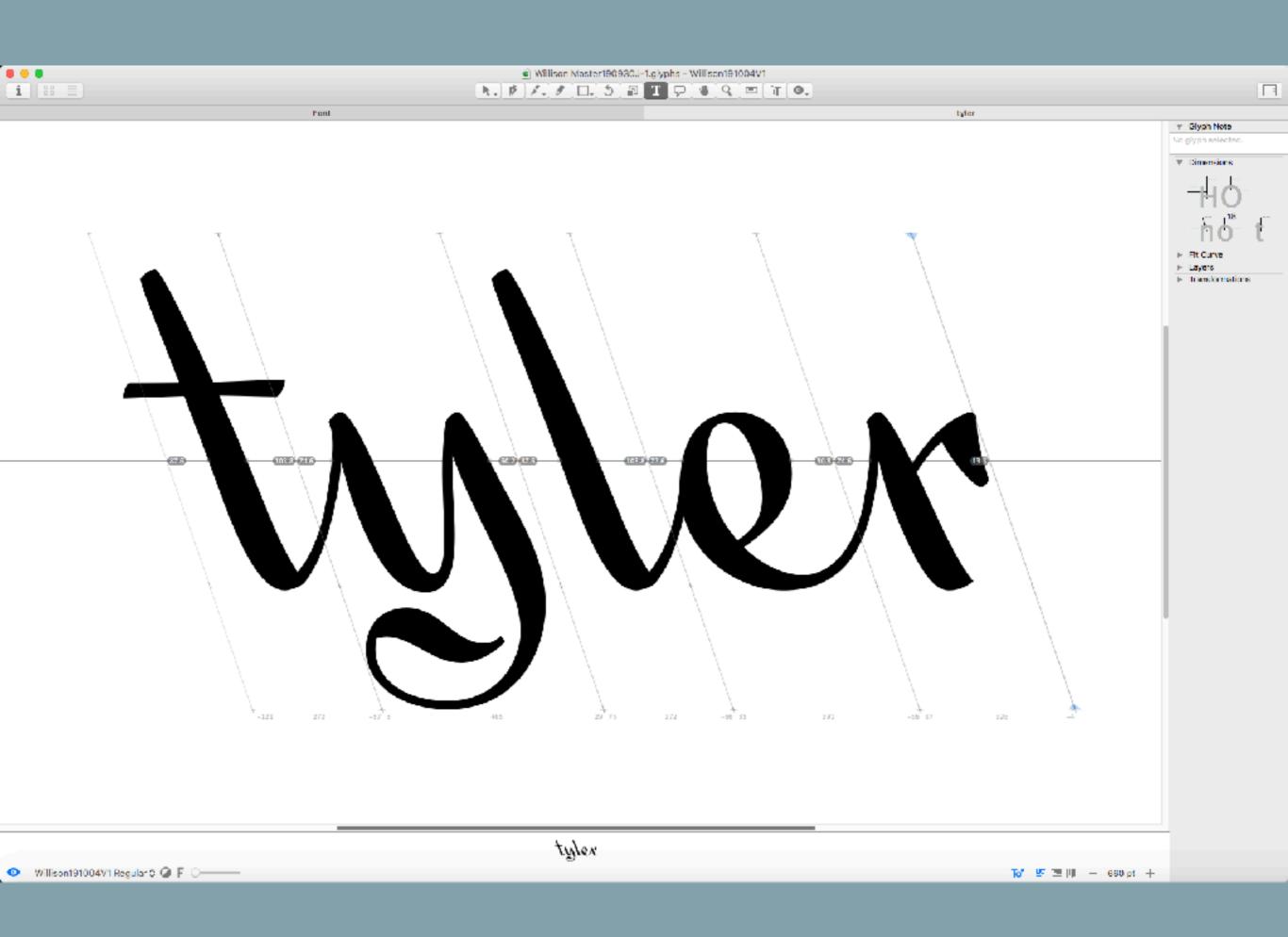




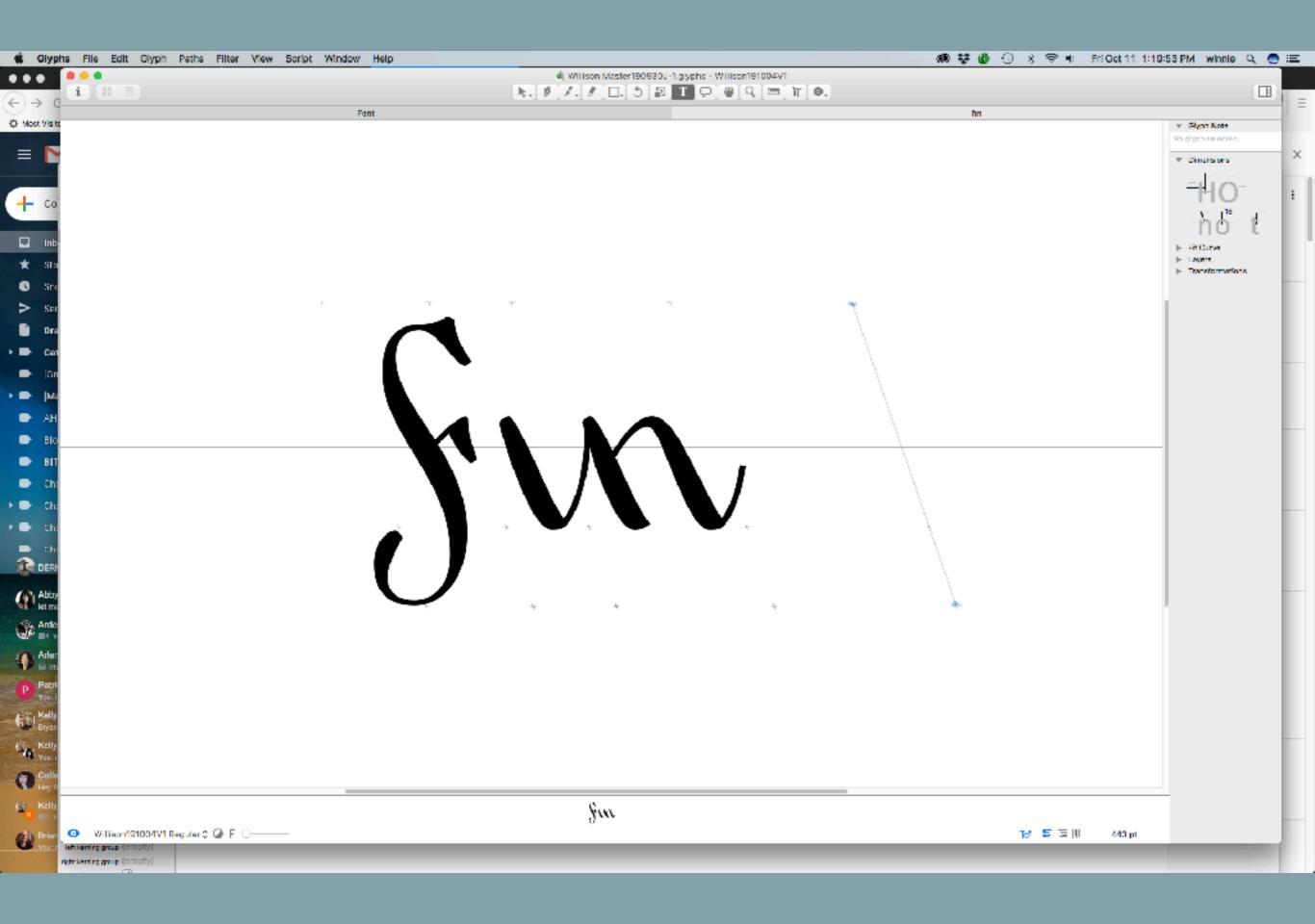






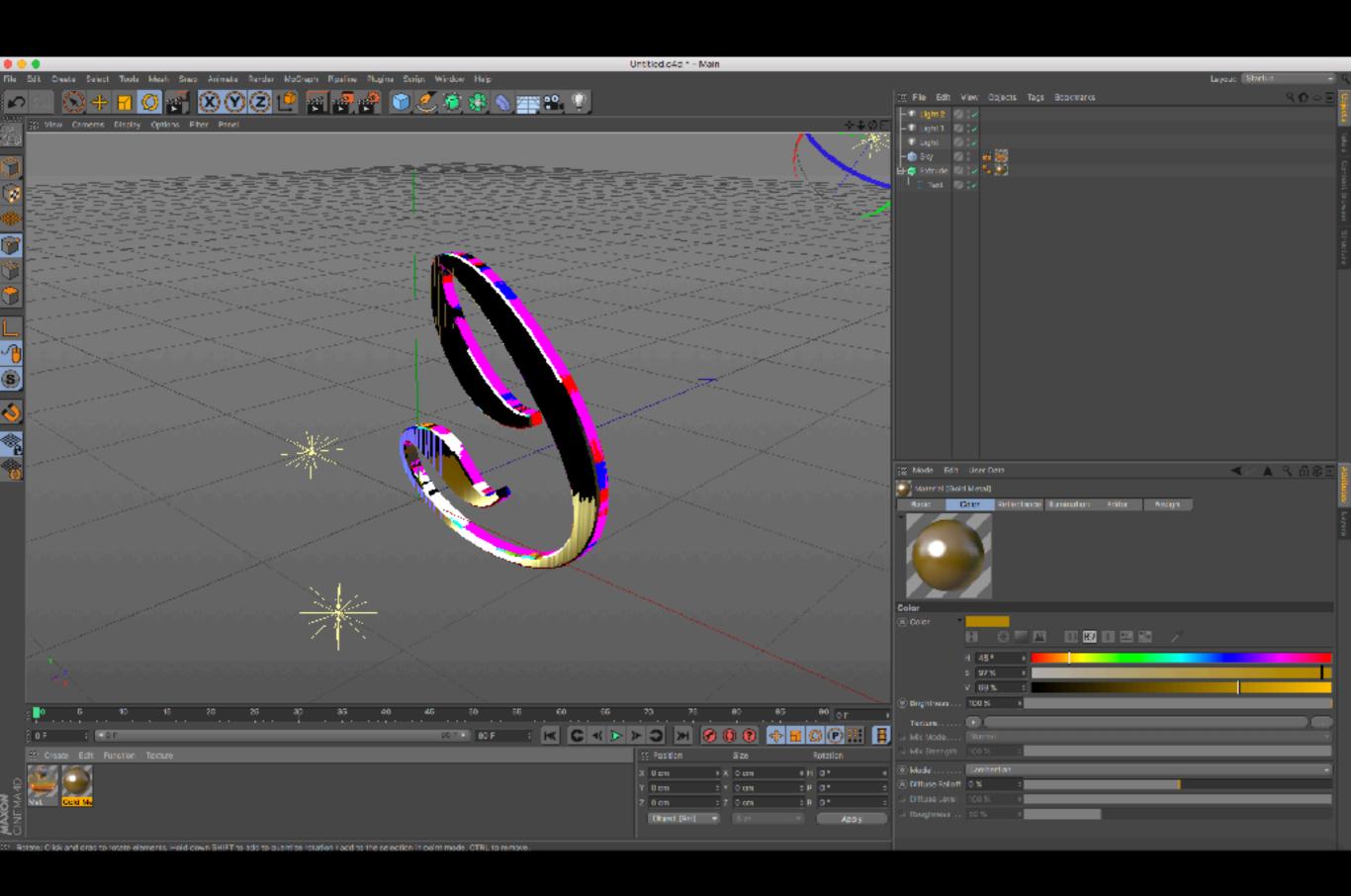


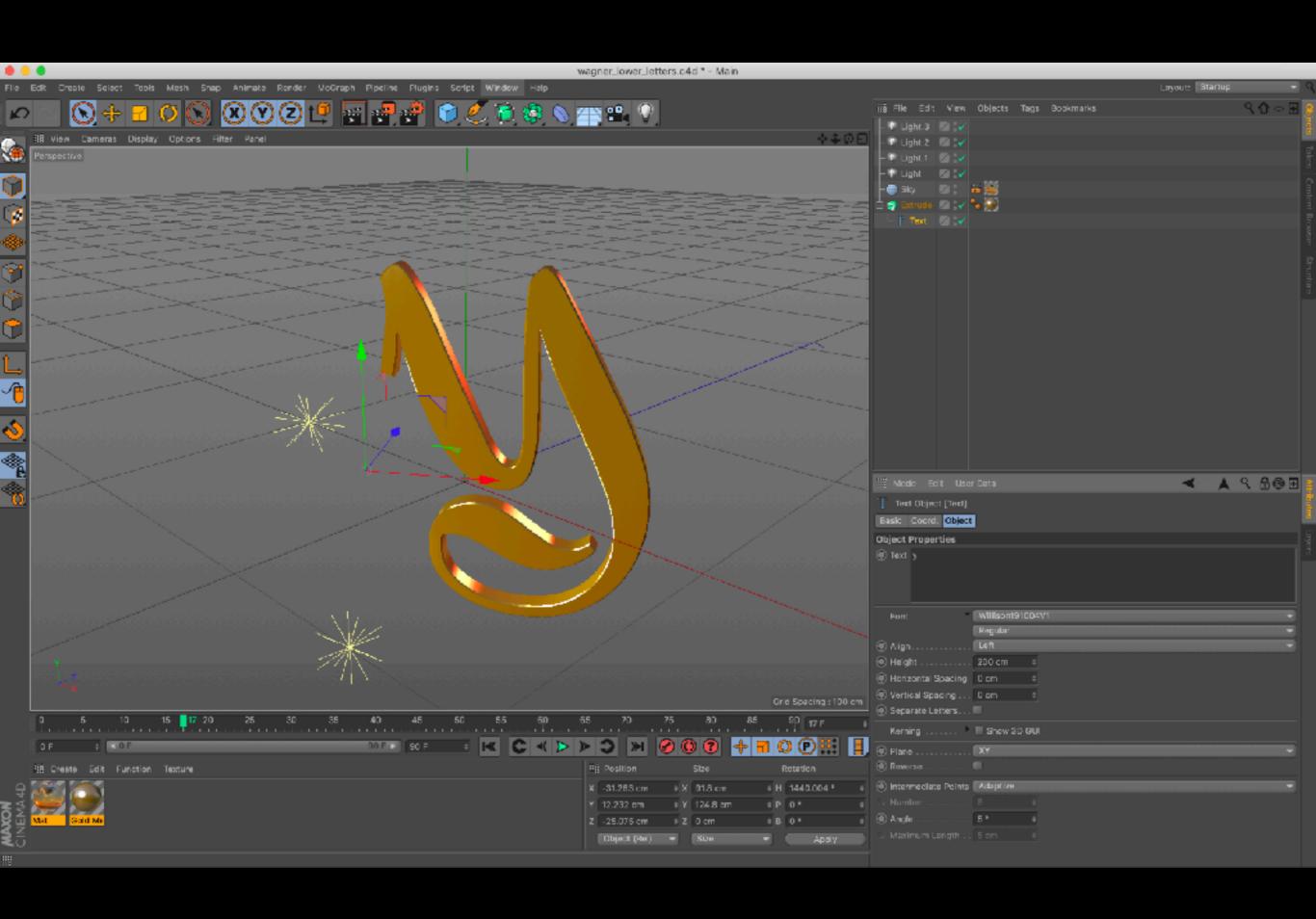


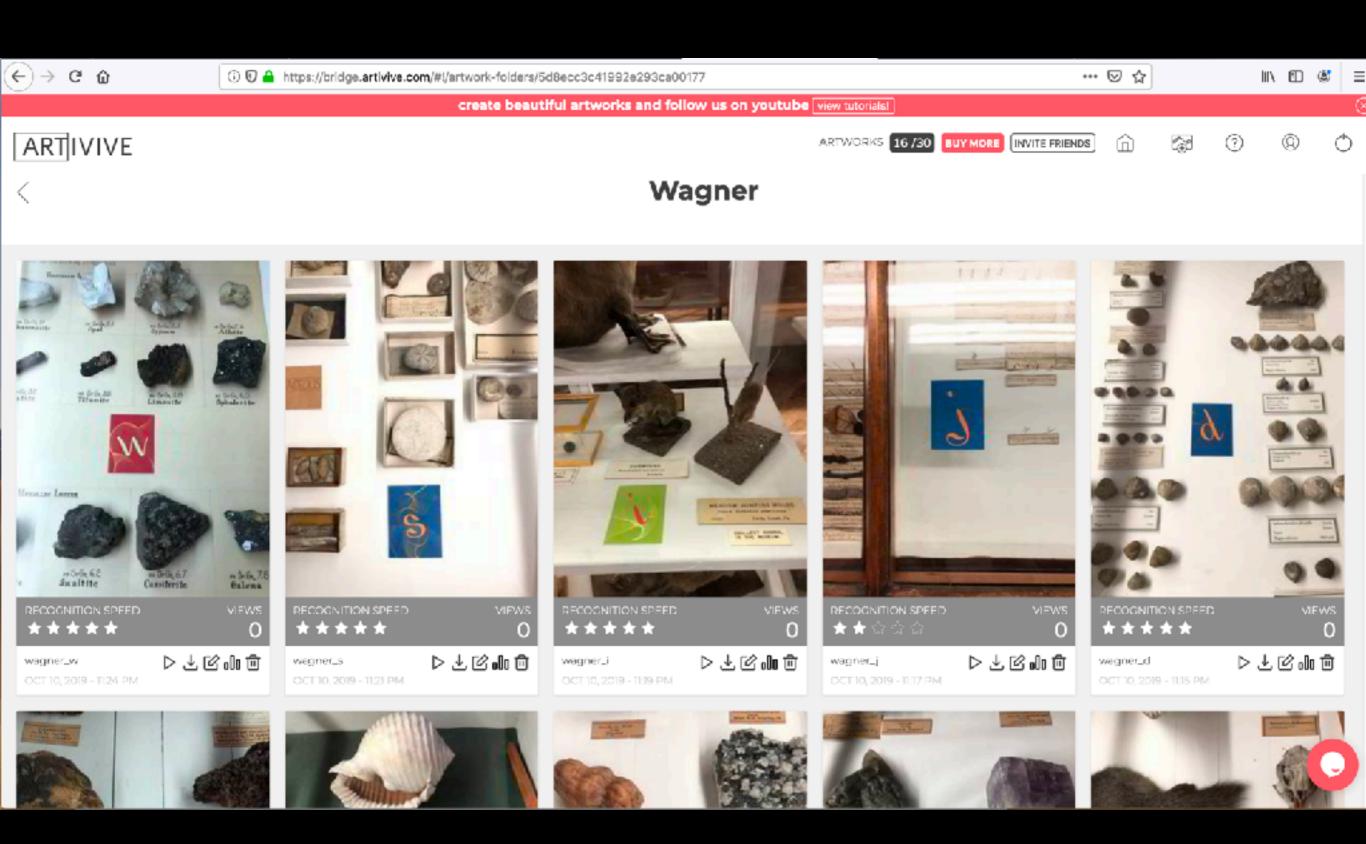


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