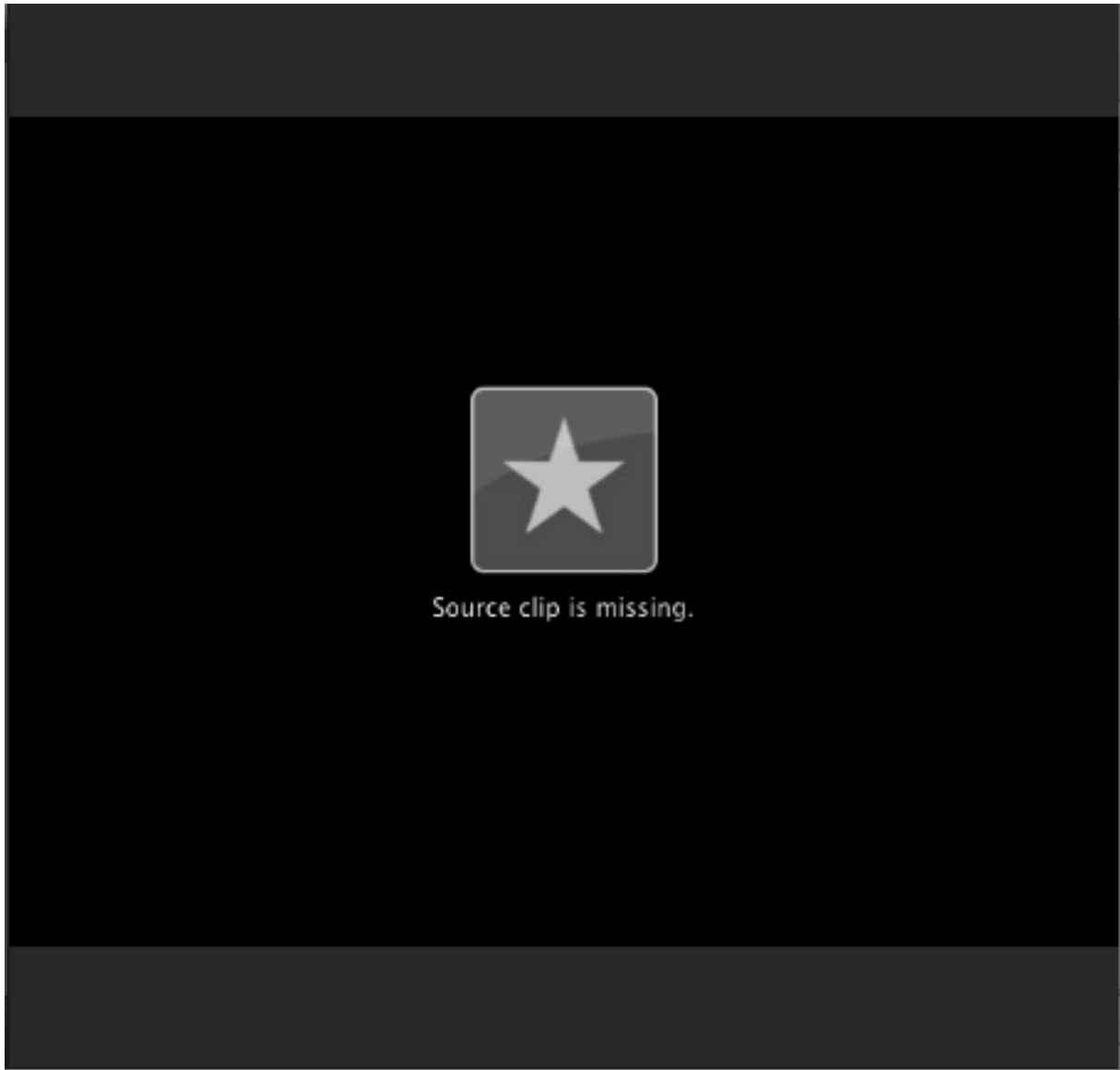


iMovie 09 "Source clip is missing."

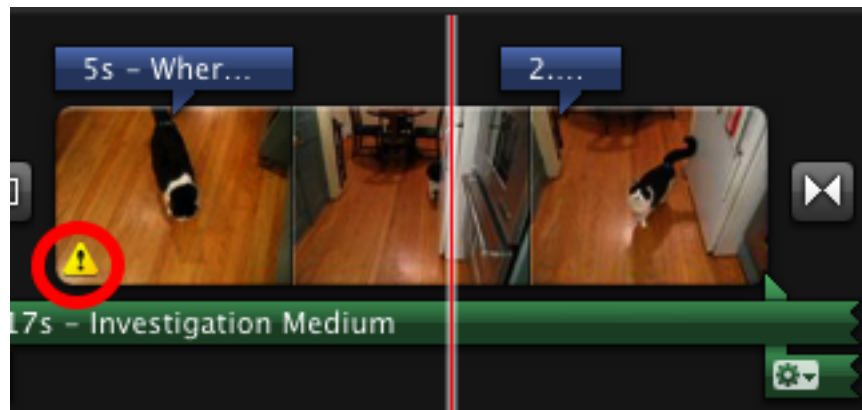
This lesson resolves the issue where iMovie reports it can not find the original audio or video files for a project. This typically happens when you add a new drive, do some "house-cleaning" or you have incorporated a new media storage plan.

"Source clip is missing."



You open iMovie 09 and see the image above is in the View window of iMovie. In addition, a small yellow triangle shows up in the lower left hand corner of the clip that is missing. (see below)

Identify missing clip



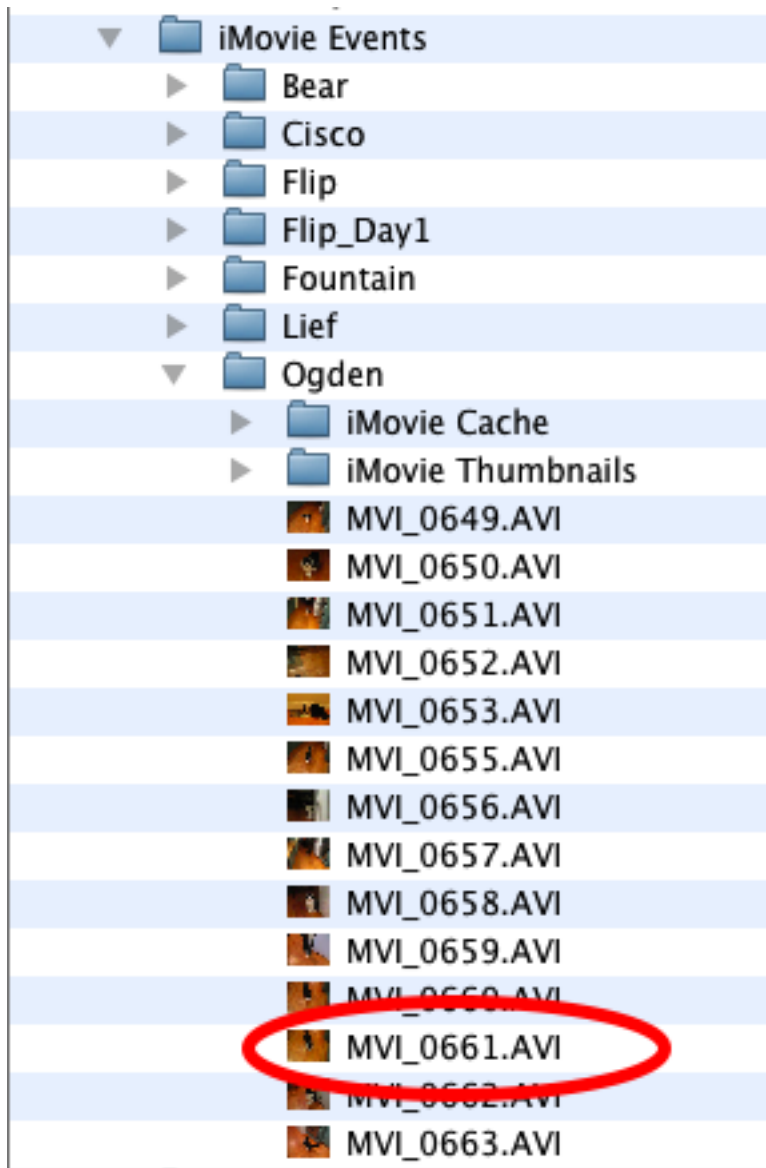
The clip that is missing is indicated by a small yellow triangle with an exclamation point (within red circle above.)

Determine where iMovie expected to find clip



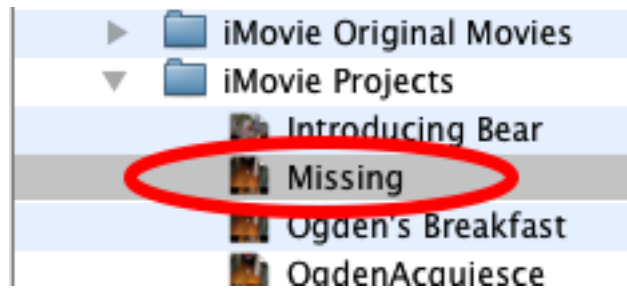
When you hold the cursor over the yellow triangle, a small box will appear with the file path of the missing clip. Note the path of the missing file, in this case it is "/Users/lkoepsel/Pictures/iPhoto Library/Originals/2008/Ogden Breakfast July 2, 2008/MVI_0661.AVI"

Determine where clip has been moved



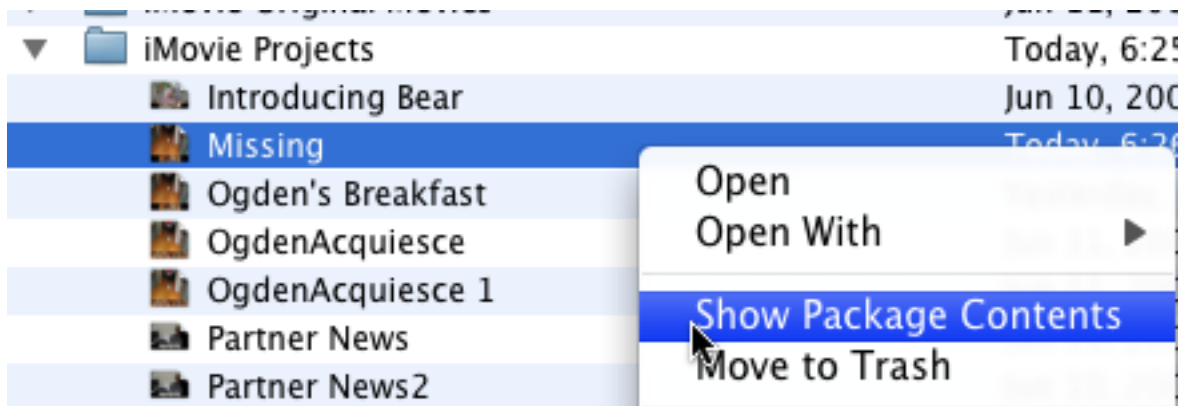
The clip was moved out of iPhoto Library and in to a new directory for iMovie projects. Complete path of clip is now "~/Movies/iMovie Events/Ogden/MVI_0661.AVI". **Note:** Though it is not shown above, the folder iMovie Events has a longer name, it is this long name that must be used later. To determine the longer name use Right click (or control-click) on the folder and click on Get Info. In the Get Info box, the field Name and Extension will show the full name of the folder is "iMovie Events.localized".

Find the iMovie project



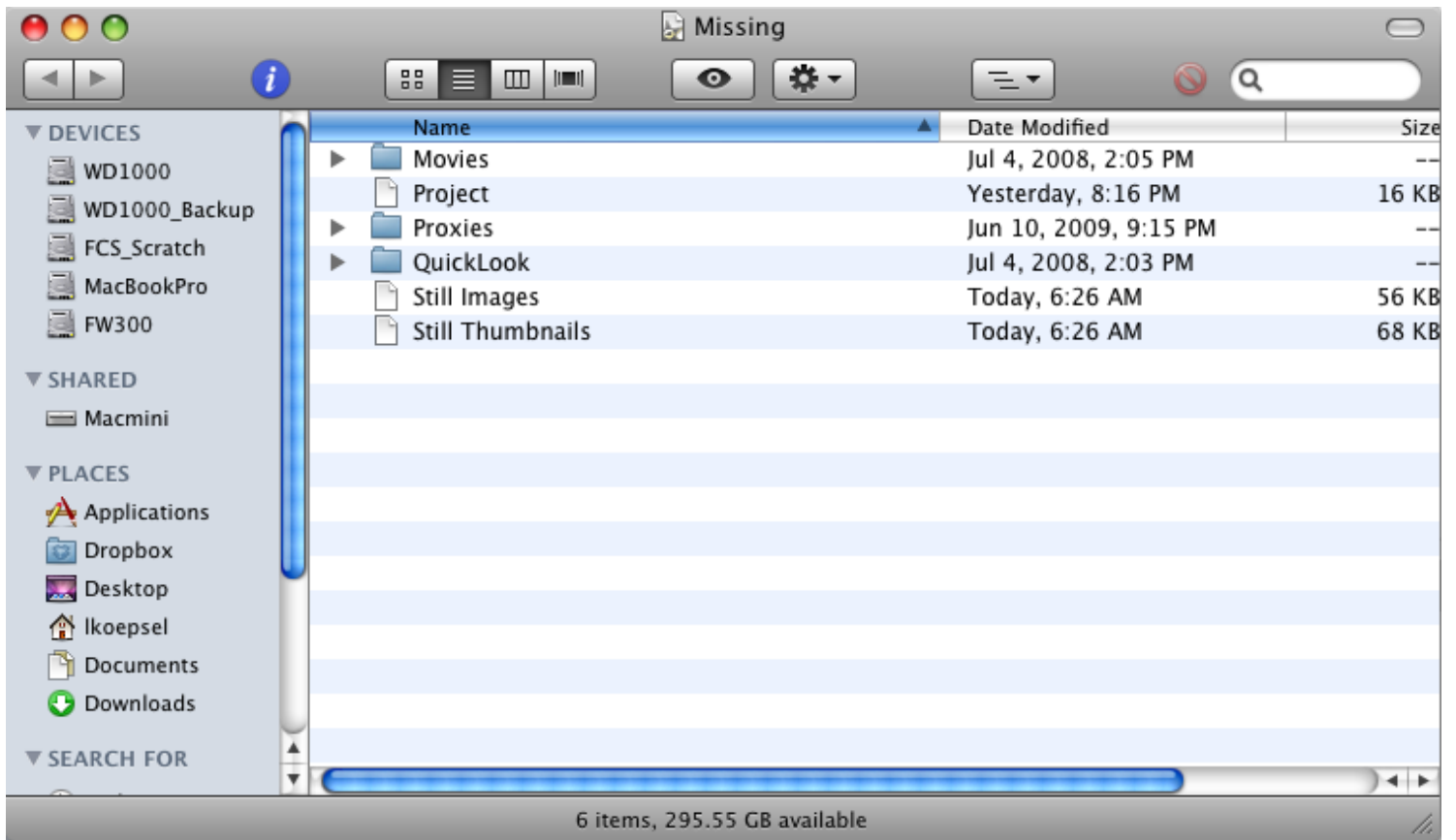
The iMovie project is called Missing and is in the iMovie Projects folder.

Open the project



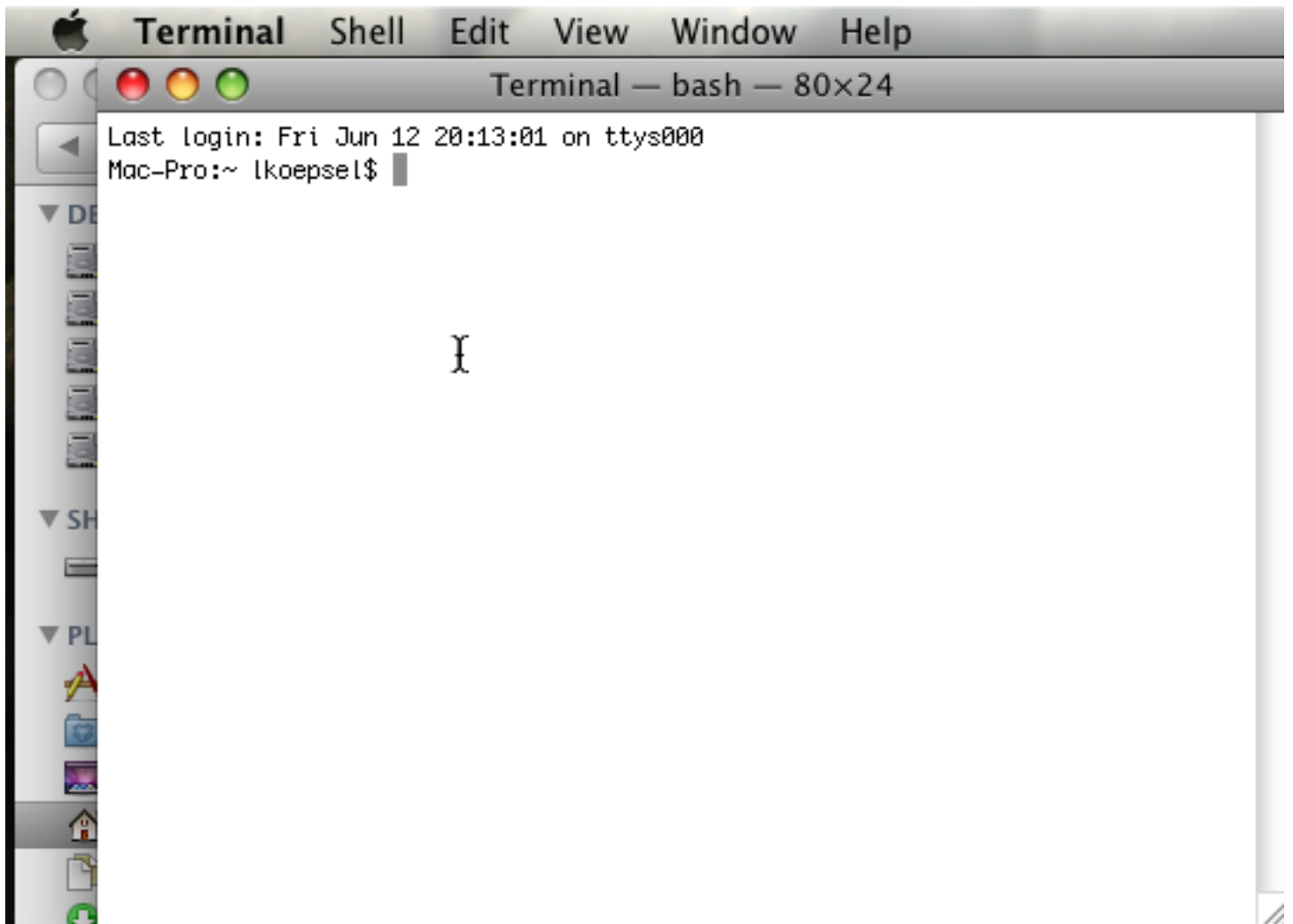
Right click (or control-click) on the project file "Missing" and choose "Show Package Contents" from the menu.

See the contents of the project file



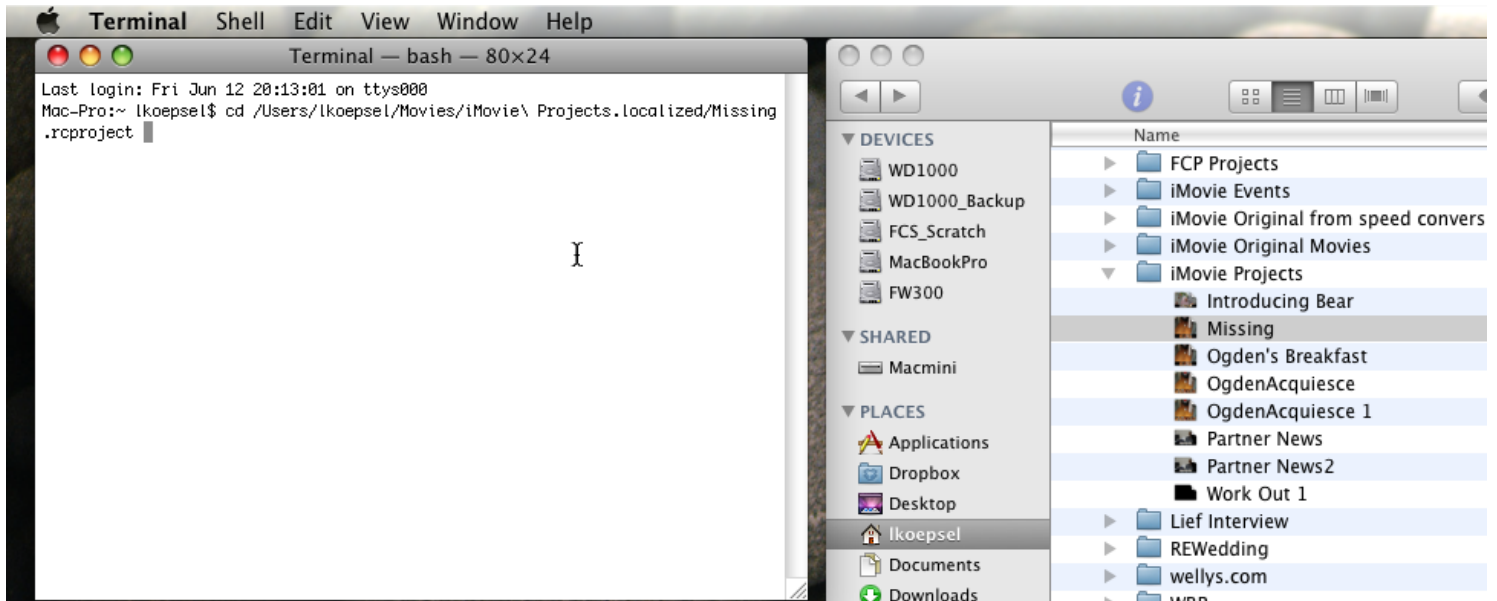
The command "Show Package Contents" will open a Finder window showing the projects files. The file that contains the paths of the media files is called "Project". This file is a binary flie and needs to be converted to text to edit then back into binary. If you don't make it binary then iMovie won't recognize the project. Close the window so that you can see the iMovie project.

Open Terminal



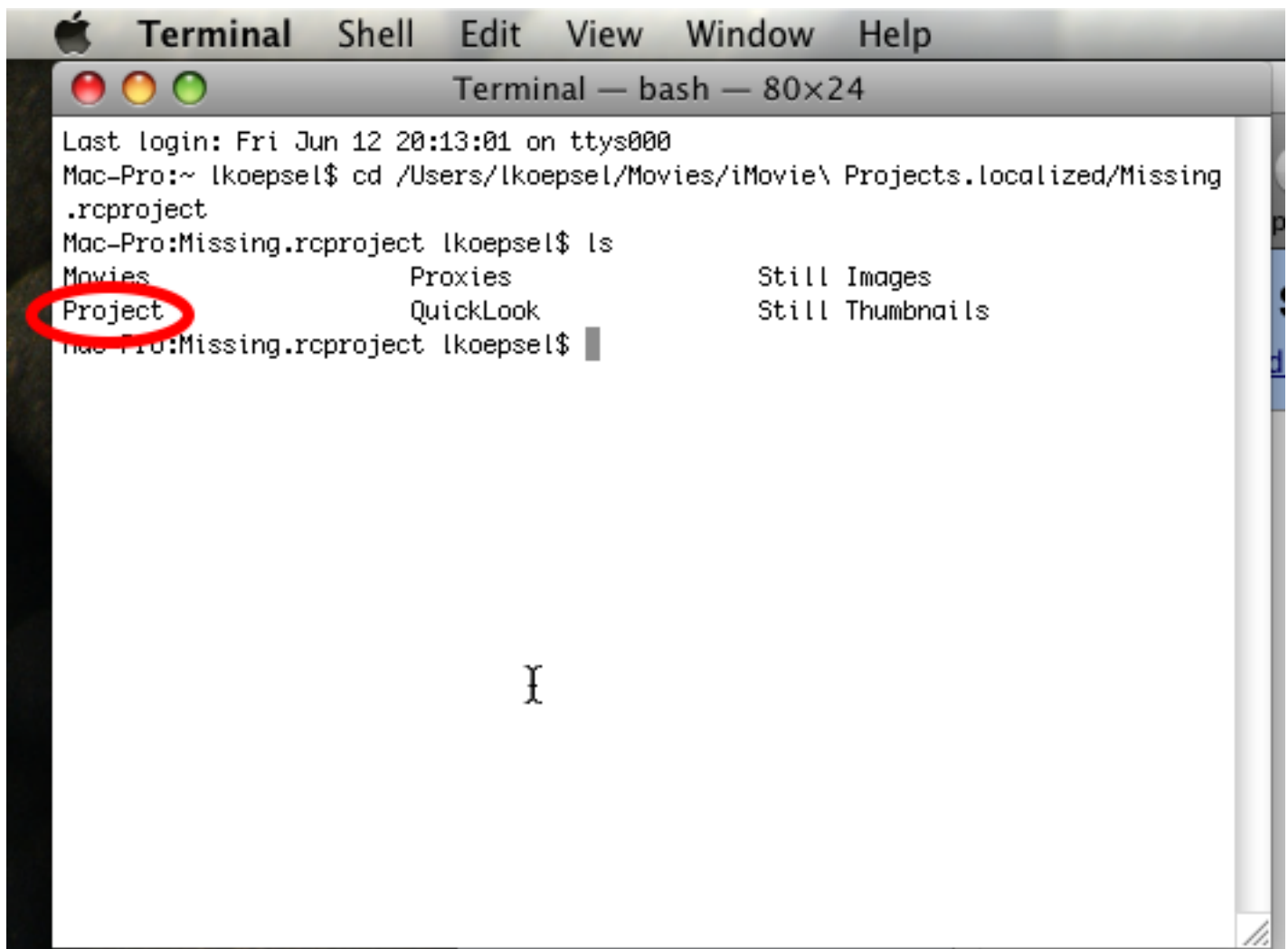
Within Terminal, you will change the directory to the directory with the Project file. The easiest way to do this is to type the letters "cd " (for change directory) and then drag the project file onto the terminal screen. This will place the path of the project immediately after the "cd ". Pressing return will change the directory to the project.

Drag project into Terminal



Type "cd " (be sure to add a space after the "d"). From the Finder window on the right side, drag the project "Missing" into the terminal window. This will put the path of the project on to the command line. Press "Return".

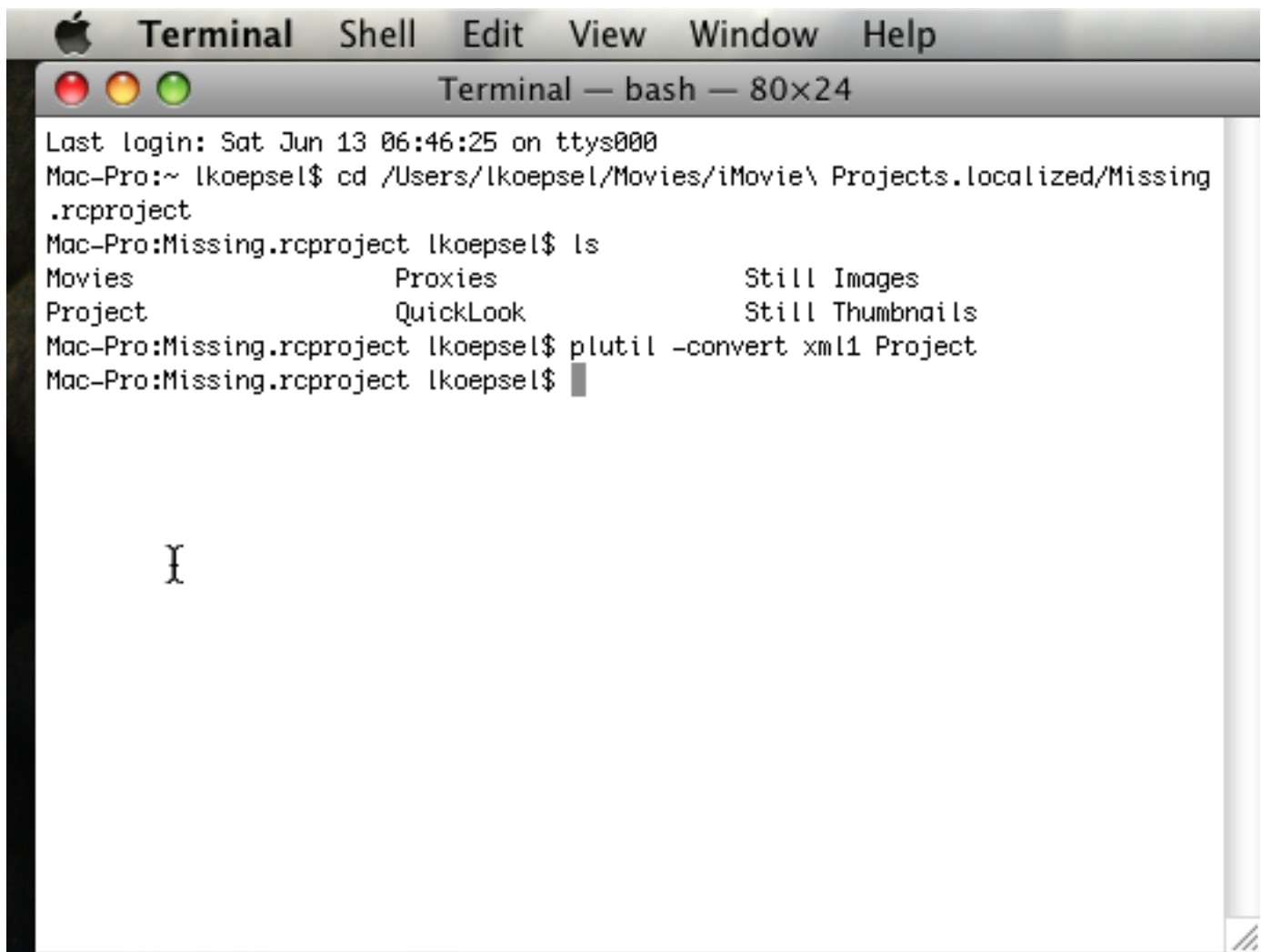
View the contents of the project



```
Terminal Shell Edit View Window Help
Terminal — bash — 80x24
Last login: Fri Jun 12 20:13:01 on ttys000
Mac-Pro:~ lkoepsel$ cd /Users/lkoepsel/Movies/iMovie\ Projects.localized/Missing
.rcproject
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ ls
Movies                               Proxies                               Still Images
Project                               QuickLook                             Still Thumbnails
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$
```

In Terminal, type "ls" and press Return to view a list of the files in the project. The file "Project" is the file that needs to be edited.

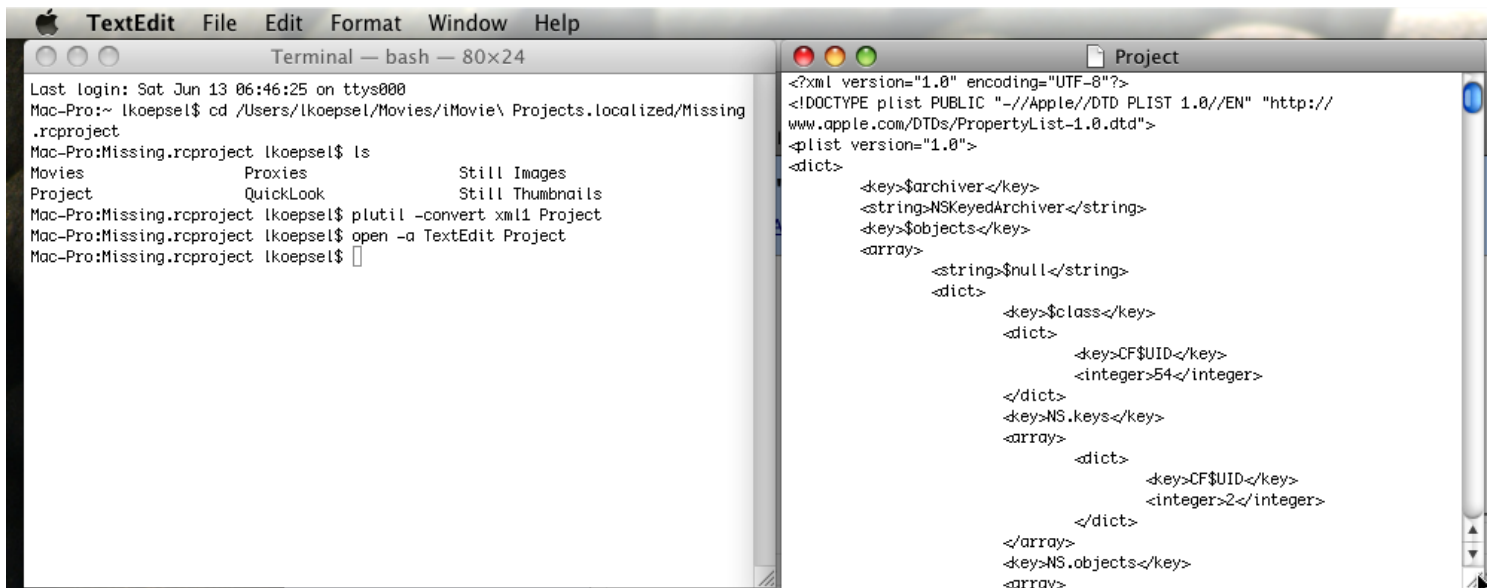
Convert file



```
Terminal — bash — 80x24
Last login: Sat Jun 13 06:46:25 on ttys000
Mac-Pro:~ lkoepsel$ cd /Users/lkoepsel/Movies/iMovie\ Projects.localized/Missing
.rproject
Mac-Pro:Missing.rproject lkoepsel$ ls
Movies                Proxies              Still Images
Project              QuickLook            Still Thumbnails
Mac-Pro:Missing.rproject lkoepsel$ plutil -convert xml1 Project
Mac-Pro:Missing.rproject lkoepsel$
```

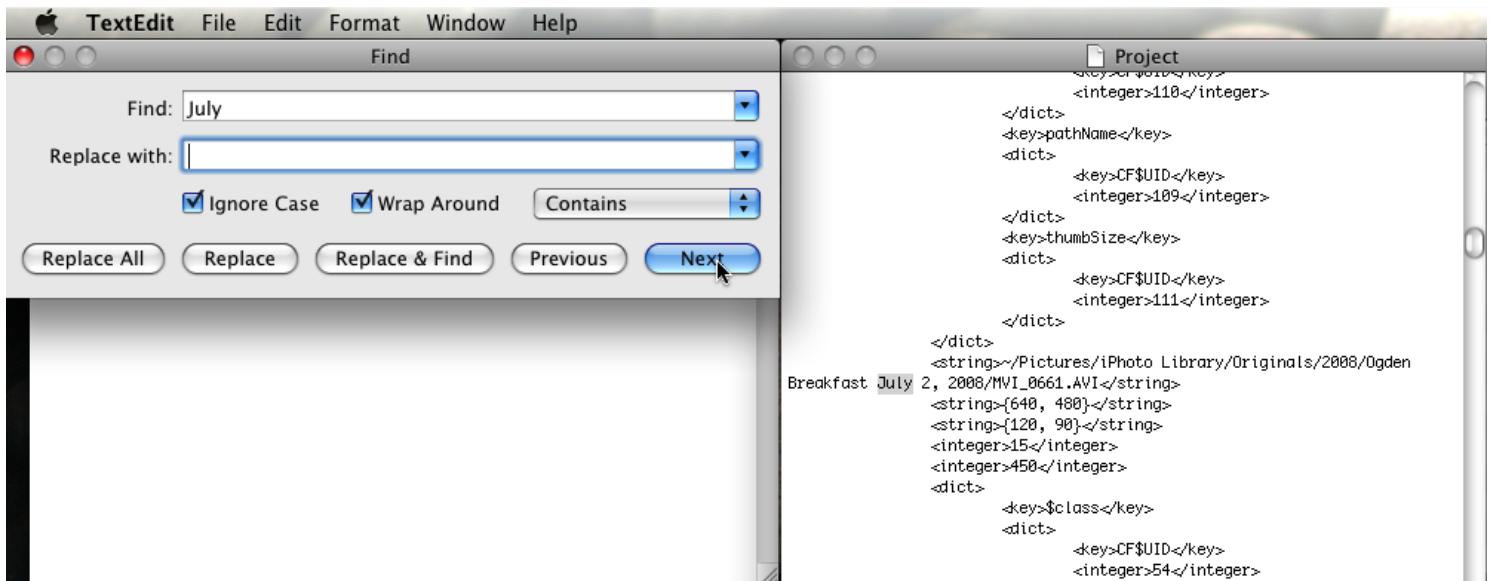
In Terminal, use the command "plutil" to convert the binary file into xml. To do this type "plutil -convert xml1 Project" and press Return.

Edit file



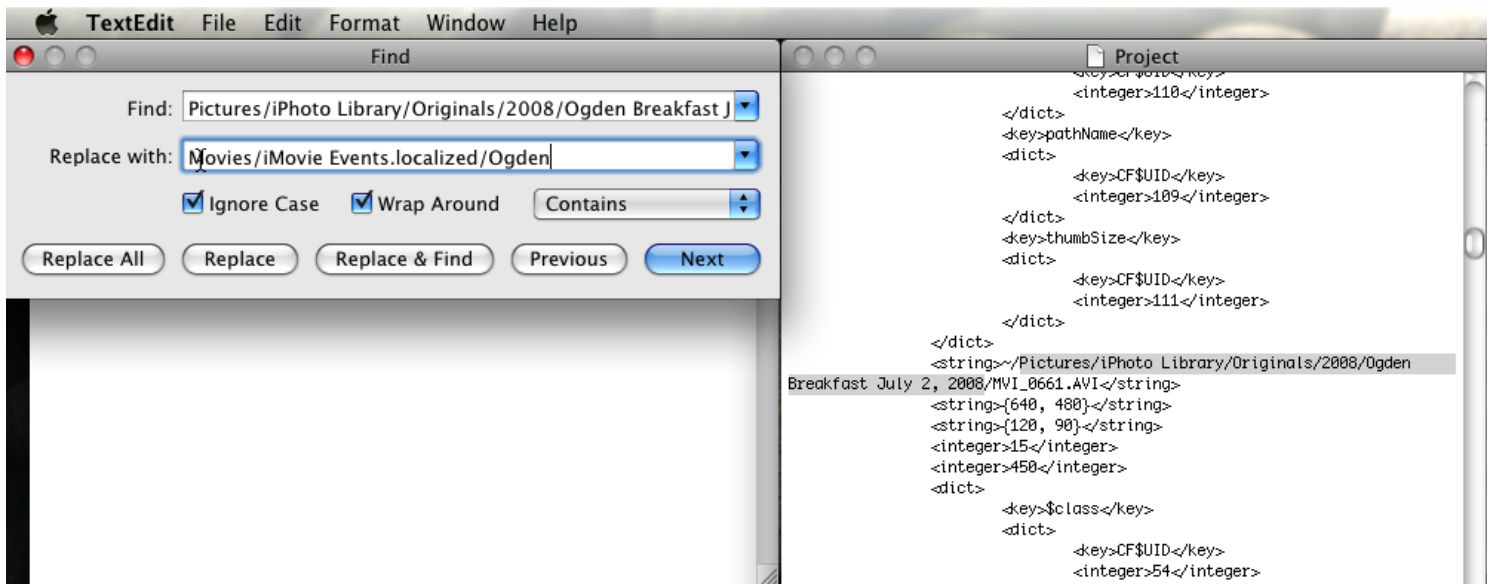
Type "open -a TextEdit Project" and press Return. This will open the file Project in a window in TextEdit.

Find the incorrect media location in the file



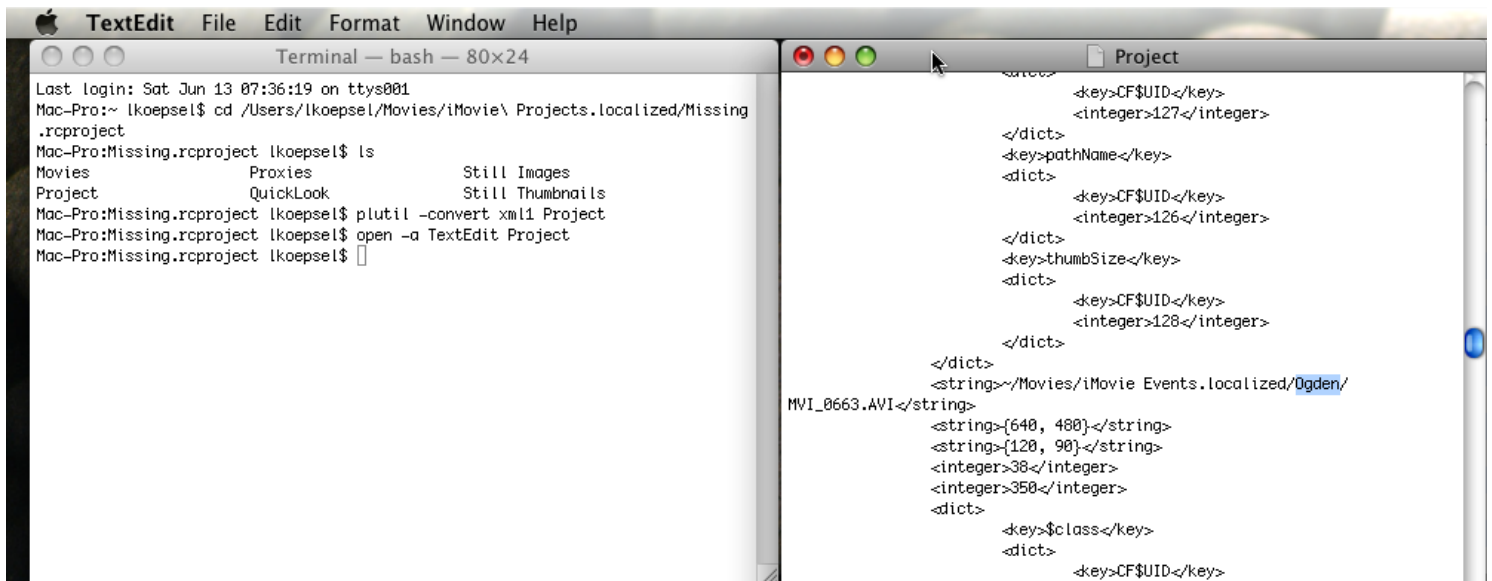
Use the Edit - Find - Find... command in TextEdit to find the line that contains the incorrect location. In this case, I used the word "July".

Replace the incorrect location with the correct one



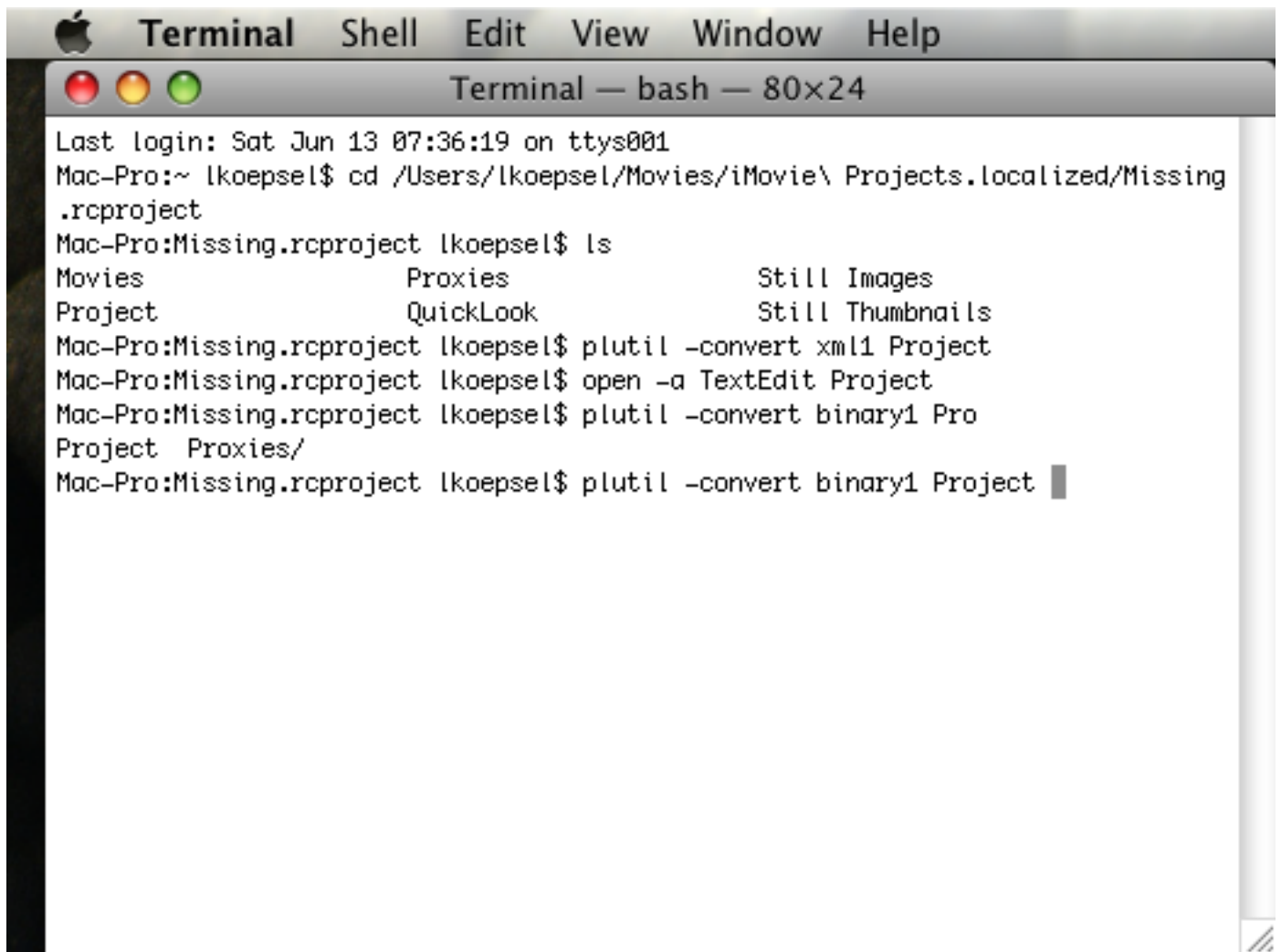
I took the entire path following the "~/" to the filename and replaced it with the new path. Click on Replace to replace the text, make sure the change is correct then click Next. Repeat this procedure until "Not Found" appears on dialog box. **Note:** It is important to use the long name of iMovie Events.

Save and close file



Use File - Save to save file then Textedit - Quit Textedit, to close file and exit TextEdit.

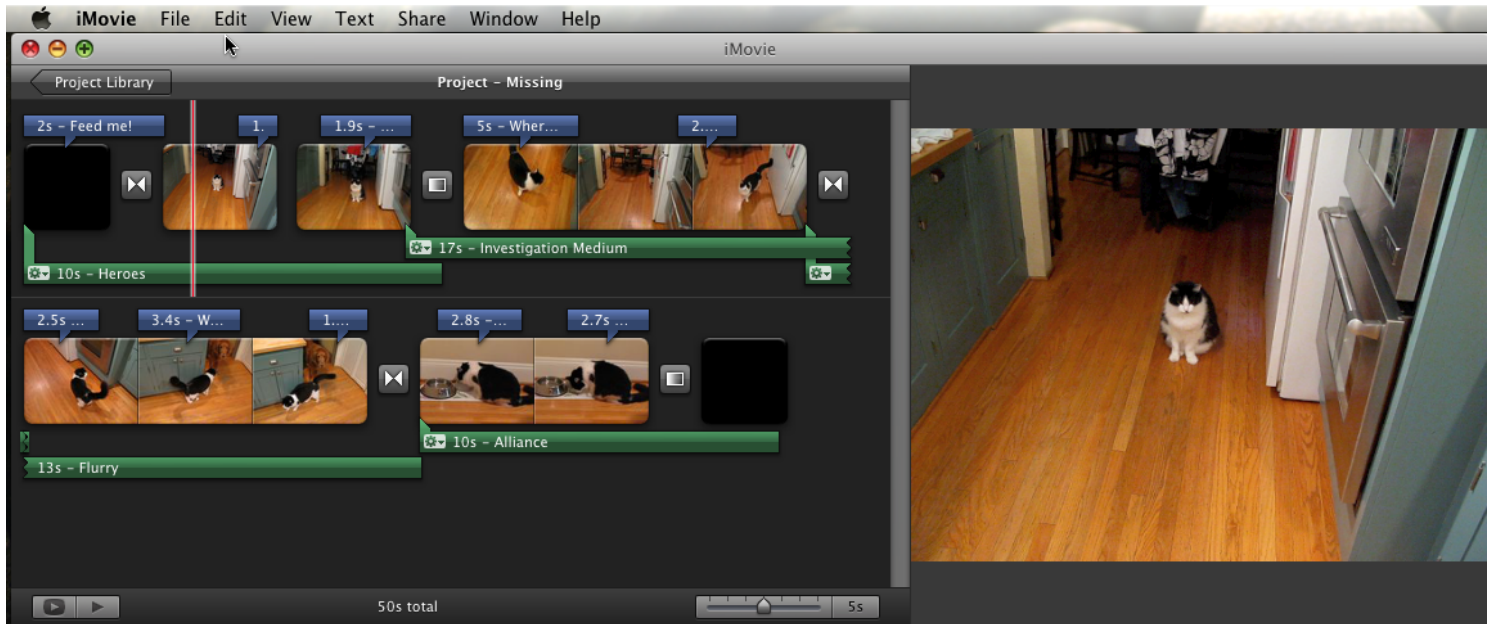
Convert file back to binary



```
Terminal  Shell  Edit  View  Window  Help
Terminal — bash — 80x24
Last login: Sat Jun 13 07:36:19 on ttys001
Mac-Pro:~ lkoepsel$ cd /Users/lkoepsel/Movies/iMovie\ Projects.localized/Missing
.rcproject
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ ls
Movies                Proxies                Still Images
Project               QuickLook              Still Thumbnails
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ plutil -convert xml1 Project
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ open -a TextEdit Project
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ plutil -convert binary1 Pro
Project Proxies/
Mac-Pro:Missing.rcproject lkoepsel$ plutil -convert binary1 Project
```

In Terminal, type "plutil -convert binary1 Project" and press Return. This will convert the file into the format that iMovie requires. If this step is missed, iMovie won't recognize the project file.

Open the iMovie Project



All of the yellow triangles have disappeared! Woohoo!