



ArcheoReport

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

COMP103P APPLICATION PROJECT

TEAM38

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1 Abstract

Our application project was assigned to the Egyptian Museum of Turin, Italy. We had to develop an exhibition based management tool which would be used by the museum professionals when they are hosting exhibitions outside of their local location. It is essentially an effective tool for museums with archaeological collections.

The application is designed in such a way where the user is able to create a full “condition report” about the state of preservation of the artefacts. “A condition report” is a detailed description of the condition of a museum artefact typically produced on the occasion of loans for exhibitions, special handling sessions, packing or restoration projects.

Additionally, the user is then able to generate a pdf file after filling out the form and save it to their database for further references and creating new forms. To expand, the app has a simple and user friendly interface with various field and dropdown menus and controlled vocabularies and it is able to acquire multiple images of the artefacts. The application allows the user to either upload a photo from the directory of their device or to take a photo from the camera provided on their device. After uploading the photo they are able to annotate the photos using their fingers or a tablet pen.

Furthermore, the application provides two view screens which are, the “view forms” and “view gallery”. Both of these screens showcase and group their data and the user is able to filter the data by the filtering options provided.

2 Context

2.1 Background

Our team has been in contact with Paolo Del Vesco, a UCL honorary researcher and a curator at the museum and Marco Rossani the registrar of the museum. The Egyptian Museum of Turin also known as “Museo delle Antichita” is the only museum other than the Cairo museum that is dedicated solely to Egyptian art and culture. According to the museums website “the collections that make up todays Museum were enlarged by the excavations conducted in Egypt by the Museums archaeological mission between 1900 and 1935 (a period when finds were divided between the excavators and Egypt).”

2.2 Purpose

As discussed in the Abstract the museum loans artefacts for exhibitions, have special handling sessions and packing or restoration projects. Therefore, the museum needs to be able to keep track of each artefact and be able to check the artefacts conditions before and after the sessions.

However, majority of these actions have been paper form based and this application fundamentally will be digitalising the records of the artefacts. By digitalising the system we have brought many advantages which were not possible before in the paper based system which will be discussed below.

2.2.1 Easy Access

From the moment a form is created it becomes accessible from any of the tablets which has the application downloaded. By having a paper based system, a paper file cannot be accessing by another employee at the same time and it is usually housed in file or cabinet which access must be requested.

2.2.2 Filtering and Searchable Text

The application allows the user to be able to locate and view forms based on their specific exhibition date and also has a gallery screen which provides all of the photos of the artefacts which can be filtered by the different parameters provided. This is extremely useful since if a client request a form, the museum will be able easily search the form required from their database.

2.2.3 Cost Savings

The switch to digitalising a system saves money for many establishments. By having a digitalised system we are minimising the cost of papers, secure file cabinets that the files need to be archived in and adding this to the cost of filing clerks and the downtime required to find specific forms the cost increases substantially.

3 Team Member Summary

3.1 Mohammad Hossein Afsharmoqaddam

Mo did not have any prior android development experience, therefore this was a new area for him to explore. He previously has had experience with C and Java from his university courses and basic web development. He has always liked frontend development and design, therefore his responsibilities were mainly the User Interface elements, navigation and the overall Logic of the application.

3.2 Varun Mathur

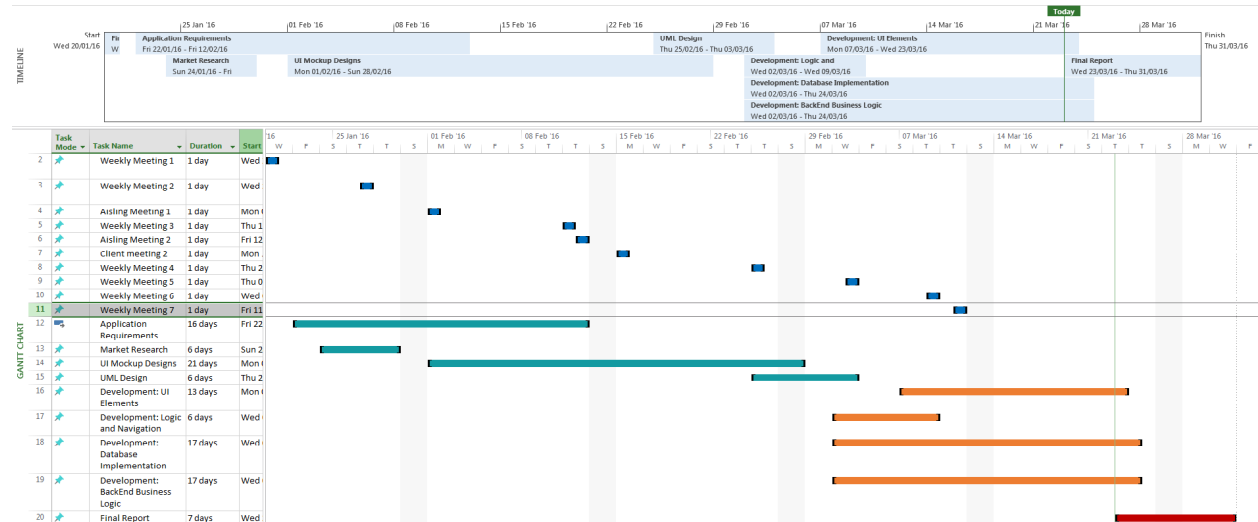
Varun has 4 years of Android experience. He has written a few apps as part of summer programs and internships. Varun did a lot of work on the back end functionality of the app, including implementing data persistence and implementing dynamic views that were populated with this data. This consisted of creating classes to represent objects in the system (Reports, Images, Annotations, Defects, Exhibitions), and then implementing the logic to store and retrieve this information and then present this data in the correct views. Additionally, Varun implemented the photo capture and annotation functionality that is present in the app as well as the filterable gallery.

3.3 Rouzbeh Mehregan

4 Work Plan (GANTT CHART)

To be as efficient and productive as possible and a Gantt Chart offers many advantages we decided to use this method to enhance our communication, and to be able to see our project over the long term and to track the results of each task.

In a glance we were able to keep track of incoming tasks, and tasks that remained to be completed, therefore we avoided any completion confusion. Furthermore, by being able to look ahead we were able to effectively allocate resources and tasks to each member.



As you can see from the figure, we separated the project into three different areas. The blue colour represents our team meetings during the project, the turquoise colour represents the timeline of our early planning, requirements and mock-up stages. The orange colour represents our development and programming phase and the red colour represents the evaluation and the creation of the final report. Additionally, the timeline on top of the chart provides us with the exact duration that each task should be completed.

5 Requirements

5.1 Project Brief

Our brief was to design an app for the UCL Institute of Archeaology that would enable them to generate condition reports for artefacts using a tablet app. Additonally, they wanted some additionally functionality including photo capture and annotation, auto completion of data fields using information from Excel files and signature authentication. We were given these specifications by the client in our initial meeting. After this we took all of their requirements for the app and prioritised them based on a cost/necessity basis. Essentially requirements were ranked based on their necessity versus cost of implementation. When we finished we showed our analysis to the clients who then suggested changes. Finally we ended up with a completed MoSCoW analysis of the requirements.

5.2 MoSCoW Requirements

5.2.1 Must Have

Report Generation - (PDF Generation) Condition reports for artefacts must be output by the app in PDF format. The format and contents of the report should be identical to the current form.

Report Data Should Be Saved for Subsequent Reports The client said that when an item is moved into an exhibition, a condition report is generated. Then after the exhibition another report is done, with reference to the prior one.

Condition Reports Must Be Grouped by Exhibition This entails a higher level menu wherein the user can create and manage exhibitions. Then within the context of one exhibition the user can manage condition reports.

Image Selection Wizard Screen When the user chooses to add a photo to a report, the menu should allow them to choose images from file directory or capture and annotate a new photo. Additionally, user should be able to mark a photo as a packing photo.

Photo Capture The app must allow the user to take photos of artefacts. These photos should be stored for later reference. Most likely cloud storage.

Photo Annotation The app must facilitate annotating images to mark defects on artefacts. These annotations must be classified, and linked to a textual description.

Auto-Fill Form The text inputs on the form will fill themselves in from data stored in an excel file once the user types in an items inventory number.

Storage of Descriptions for Annotations - Links to Visual Annotations Images will have to be categorised by their defects, thus annotations will have concrete classifications. Additionally, annotations will be linked to textual descriptions of the defect.

Picture Browsing with Defect Classification Pictures will be classified based on defects present in them. User must be able to search a gallery of images, and search by defect.

Import Excel data The user should be able to import data in the form of an excel document. This data will be used to auto complete fields in the condition report form.

5.2.2 Should Have

Zooming functionality on annotation drawing screen User should be able to zoom in while drawing annotations such that they can draw with greater detail and precision.

5.2.3 Could Have

Signature The user could sign off on reports using the tablet in order to verify and authenticate their identity.

Login/Identification (Could replace signature) As an alternative to signatures, users could sign in using a username and password to verify identity. Also enhances security as users will have to be logged in to use the app.

Printing Printing condition reports is another feature that could be implemented. Android has this functionality.

5.2.4 Will Not Have

5.3 Glossary / Data Dictionary

Condition Report The clients currently conduct condition reports on museum artefacts in transit. In these reports, they record information about the condition of the artefact including any **defects** that are present. Additionally they note information about the way the item has been packed as well as general information about the artefact itself. Artefacts are identified using their inventory number which is stored in the report

Exhibition The clients would like to group their reports by exhibition. That is, the exhibition that the artefact is in transit to/from. Each exhibition has the following information: Name, Location, Start Date, and End Date.

Defect The clients have a set list of defects which they try to identify and record when doing condition reports on artefacts. In the context of the app, the user must be able to select defects from a pre set list when creating a condition report.

Annotation The clients wanted to be able to draw annotations on photos of artefacts and associate an annotation with a specific defect and then have those annotated photos saved on the device. In this case, annotations are just drawings, but they must be linked to a defect. Additionally, an annotated image must store the defects that are

associated with the annotations on the images. This way, in the gallery section of the app, photos may be filtered by the defect that they depict.

6 Status & Evaluation

6.1 Work Completed

Looking back to our project, we believe we have completed all of the fundamental and key functionalities that our clients had asked for and more. During the development of the application we have been constantly in touch with our clients and using their feedback to continuously improve our product. This proved difficult at first as our clients were located in Italy however through different methods of communicating such as skype sessions for important overviews and emails for frequent and minor updates we managed to effectively communicate with our clients.

We have managed to complete all of our “must have” requirements. The most difficult requirements were importing an excel file into the system directly therefore we came up with a solution of only importing the csv file which the client agreed to as they already have the csv files of their forms in their database. Furthermore, generating a pdf file proved difficult at first as they were very minor details that we had to consider when implementing to get the desired results, however we managed to find the correct library and documentation to solve the problem.

The “should have” part of our MoSCow analysis has been changed throughout the development series. After many meetings with the clients they decided they did not need many of the features needed. For example there was no need of any authentication as the application will be only available to the trusted employees of the museum and no one else will have access to the application. Moreover they decided having signatures on the condition reports for the artefacts were redundant and did not add much purpose for the functionality they needed. Finally, a printing functionality from the application was not needed as the whole purpose of this project was to digitalise their system, however they have the ability to transfer the generated pdf files onto computers for printing if needed.

6.2 Risks

Risk management is a critical matter and below we will be going over a few risks within our scope of our project and how we managed to minimise and solve each of them accordingly.

6.2.1 Risk 1: Exclusivity of project

Within software development it is inherently difficult to create a completely new and unique design given the amount of applications being used worldwide. To minimise any plagiarism or replication of any other software and their design we communicated with our clients very frequently to work out exactly how they wanted the app to look like and what features they were interested in for our team to implement.

6.2.2 Risk 2: Requirements Inflation

As the project moves forward and the development phase begins it becomes apparent that requirements and specification is incomplete or it contains conflicting themes. We minimised this risk happening as we were taking an agile approach. Within an agile approach we utilised the concept of an ambassador user, in our case the team leader to be readily available to answer any of the clients questions and make trade-off decisions on the project. As well as this approach we tried our best to confirm and finalise the core requirements in the beginning of the development phase to avoid any future obstacles.

6.2.3 Risk 3: Compromising on designs and planning stage

For many developers in order to get stuck in with the “real task”, the design and planning stage is either skipped or poorly done. This can have huge downtime in the long-term and can cause many problems throughout the life time of the project. Therefore knowing this we spent a fair amount of time in our planning phase where we identified the core requirements, created a high level design of the project and created mock-ups of the UI design and implemented Unified Modelling Language. This phase of planning is apparent as shown in GANTT CHART previously and it has helped us to develop the project as smoothly as possible by minimising the complications and efficiently spending time in the development phase.

6.2.4 Risk 4: Gold plating

Developers sometimes like to spend a lot of time in the beginning creating unnecessary features or making a screen look very stylish. As it is very important to have a very good UI design it is not the most important piece of the application. We detected this risk by finishing all the core and fundamental functionalities of the application and then focusing on the UI design and any other nice to have features. Especially since our client was very much focused on the output and usability of the application rather than how it looked visually.

6.3 Final Evaluation

In conclusion we believe we have created a good user friendly application for the Egyptian Museum of Turin, Italy. Even though one of our team members did not contribute to any of the tasks within this project we still managed to finish the application in the small time frame provided with all of its core features working competently. Additionally, by taking an agile approach we tried to minimise all of the risks presented throughout the project and communicated effectively with each other and to the client to create the best application we possibly could.

7 References

8 Appendices

8.1 Bi-Weekly Reports

Written records of our meetings during the phase of the project.

8.1.1 Report #1

Summary Meeting 1 - Mo and Varun - 20/01/2016

Our first meeting was 20th Jan. We met to discuss our initial understanding of the requirements given to us by the client. We wrote up questions that we would ask the client in order to clear up any misunderstandings we might have had with the requirements.

Client Meeting - Mo and Varun 20/01/2016

On the same day, we had our first Skype conference with the client. First, they explained the purpose of the application and how and by it would be used. They gave us a more specific list of requirements that they definitely wanted in the app as well as some features that were desirable but not necessary. Furthermore, they were able to answer some of our questions, however some we left unanswered. We resolved to send them an email in order to clarify some details of the application that were still unclear to us.

Meeting 2 - Mo and Varun 27/01/2016

We had a second team meeting on the 27th of Jan. Based on the requirements that were given to us during the Skype call, we conducted a MoSCoW analysis in which we prioritised the different features of the application. We also drafted and sent an email in which we asked the client for some more information about specific aspects of the application. These included the transfer and storage of information to the museum database, user authentication, and the version of Android they were running.

Meeting with Aisling - Mo and Varun 01/02/2016

On 1st Feb, we had our first meeting with Aisling. During the meeting we explained to her our project, the requirements given to us by the client, and the progress we had made so far. Aisling advised us to start making basic mockups of the UI to show the client so that we do not waste time making changes later. She also advised us to consult a technical TA to gauge the difficulty of implementing certain features, namely drawing annotations on pictures in the app. She stressed that it would be unwise to invest too much time into programming anything until we had a solid idea of what the client wants.

Meeting 3 - Mo and Varun 11/02/2016

In this meeting we compared our rough ideas for the UI and UX of the app. We drew sketches of the various screens of the app and how they would be linked. We also talked about the kind of workflows that the user would experience in the app (i.e. report creation, report viewing, gallery viewing etc.). After discussion, we combined our ideas and began work on a more professional UI mockup using a tool called FluidUI. After working on this

mockup, we realised that there were elements of the app that we were still unsure about. Therefore we resolved to contact our client as soon as possible to discuss these specifics.

Tasks Completed:

- Initial contact with client
- Consultation with client, clarification of specifications
- MoSCoW analysis of requirements
- Research into apps with similar features
- Storyboarding / UI Mockup

We feel that the project is running on time. The client is happy so far and we have had good communication. We are confident in the apps specifications and we feel that they are realistic and achievable. We feel that we will be ready to start development after reading week. Plan for Coming Weeks: Our plan is to approach development slowly. We will refine our UI mockups and share them with the client to ensure that we have all features and screens included in our design. Then we will start to plan development. We will identify all the components that need to be implemented (i.e. JAVA classes, UI elements, documentation). And we will try to estimate how long these components will take to create, test and install.

Tasks worked on: Mo Afsharmoqaddam

- Being involved in the first Skype meeting with the clients and coming up with questions and clarifying requirements.
- Revising the requirements mentioned by the client and trying to come up with a finalised requirements list and sharing/discussing it with the team
- Creating a MoSCow analysis form with team-mates and researching application with similar functionalities
- Creating a rough high level mock UI of the functionality of the application on paper and comparing it to the other designs created by team-mates.

Tasks worked on: Varun Mathur

- Arranged meetings as team leader
- Met with client, discussed app requirements and specifications.
- Met with team to discuss requirements, and categorised them using MoSCoW analysis.

- Did a rough sketch of the app, then met with team mates where we shared our UI ideas Combined ideas and did a more professional UI mockup on fluidUI
- Began planning development phase
- Started research into development platform and planning how we will achieve certain requirements.

8.1.2 Report #2

Meeting with Aisling - Mo and Varun 12/02/2016

In this meeting, Aisling recommended that we finish our mockups and our MoSCoW requirements and share these with the client. She said that by the end of reading week we should be completely confident in our knowledge of the clients requirements.

Client Meeting - Varun 15/02/2016

In this meeting with the client, we discussed the MoSCoW analysis of the requirements that we had done. Additionally, we shared with them a preliminary mockup of one of the main screens of the app. The client suggested a few changes and we have updated our requirements document to reflect this. We are also working on updating the mockups and creating a complete and finalised mockup. We are planning to complete this and show it to the client on the 28th.

Meeting with TA- Varun and Rouzbeh 16/02/2016

We Skyped our teaching assistant and shared with her our progress so far. She said that we were on track and recommended finalising our plans and beginning development. She also suggested an agile development approach wherein we develop many iterations of the app and continually improve it until the client is satisfied.

Team Meeting- Mo and Varun 25/02/2016

We split up the task of creating final mockups which we hope to finish by the 28th. By the end of next week we plan to finish UML diagrams to aid us later in development. Additionally we have sent the final requirements document to the client for their confirmation. We are now starting to set up for development. We created a Github repository where we will collaborate on the app itself. We also created a Trello page for our team to track tasks for development and also general planning and communication.

Tasks Completed:

- Finalised requirements
- Presented Mockup
- Setup Trello and Github repo
- Began planning for development

Plan for Coming Weeks:

- Get confirmation of our finalised requirements from the clients by Monday Feb 29th.
- Finish the UI mockups by Monday Feb 29th and email the client and get their confirmation.
- Finish a full UML diagram of the application by Friday March 4th.
- Split up development tasks between members by next week.

Tasks worked on: Mo Afsharmoqaddam

- Attended meeting with Aisling to report about our progress on our client requirements and mockups design.
- Creating finalised UI mockups
- Started researching Android Studio and the Java language and downloading the required software
- Started researching on a few requirement criteria of our MoSCow requirements.

Tasks worked on: Varun Mathur

- Attended Meeting with Aisling
- Skyped with client to finalise requirements and get feedback on mockup
- Had Skype call with TA to discuss progress and plans
- Started work on final mock ups
- Organised plans to start planning for development by creating UML diagrams for solution
- Set up Trello for organisation and task management
- Created Github repo for team

8.1.3 Report #3

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun - 03/03/2016

We worked on mockups to show to the client and also to aid us in development. We also made a UML diagram to map out the system and also help us with development. We are spending a lot of time planning and design, heeding advice given to us early on in the program. We will start on development once we have solid plan and designs that we have 100% confidence in. This will make development faster because we wont have to change anything or add new, unexpected features.

Meeting with TA - Mo and Varun 08/03/2016

We met with our TA, Manal. She told us to quickly get on with development so that we could have something to show to the client. She advocated an iterative kind of development where we made prototypes often and to show to the client and get feedback. She also emphasised a few deadlines in the future we should aim for so that we are not left behind.

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun 09/03/2016

During this meeting we worked together on our prototype. We divided the tasks between us and we hope to have this done by Monday and show it to the client to get their feedback.

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun 11/03/2016

Again we worked on our prototype. No difficulties so far. Components are proving to be less difficult than anticipated. General workflow so far has been: Mo works on UI elements and logic and then Varun implements backend business logic and links views together.

Tasks Completed:

- Finished planning and design
- Began work and made significant progress on prototype.
- Met with our TA

We were a bit behind in schedule but we have picked up the slack and we feel we are now back on track. We are confident that we can deliver a very good product soon.

Plan for Coming Weeks:

Our plan is to deliver a prototype next week. Then we will continually improve on this until the client is satisfied and all requirements are met adequately. Furthermore, after receiving an email from the client we will continue to adjust our design based on their requirements.

Tasks worked on: Mo Afsharmoqaddam

- Finished finalized mockups

- Started programming the navigation page, including buttons and navigation drawer
- Created the most of the structure of the application, and implementing features such as adding/storing data and adding images
- Created first draft of the report screen
- Started implementing some UI design

Tasks worked on: Varun Mathur

- Finished Mockups
- Did significant work on prototype
- Designed UI elements
- Implemented database and business logic
- Implemented annotation functionality

8.1.4 Report #4**Team Meeting - Mo and Varun - 15/03/2016**

Continued work on app development. We updated each other on our individual progress. Mo had made updates to the UI, while Varun had implemented the photo capture functionality and database integration.

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun 17/03/2016

Again we updated each other on our progress. Varun had finally got the database integration fully working. Exhibitions and reports could be created and saved to the database. Additionally, PDFs were now being generated when the user created a report. The next step would be getting the image capture and annotation to link up with reports in the database.

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun 22/03/2016

Met to once again update each other on progress. Varun had implemented image capture and annotation, now these images were being saved on the device and in the database. Next step is to create a gallery screen and allow user to filter images by defect, report and exhibition.

Team Meeting - Mo and Varun 24/03/2016

Varun has implemented the gallery screen as well as the CSV import functionality. App is functionally complete and meets most requirements. Next step is to implement aesthetic improvements and minor functionality improvements. Additionally, code must be cleaned up, documented and generally made more readable to ease maintenance down the line.

Tasks Completed:

- Finished a version of final app.

After having been behind earlier, we picked up the pace and implemented a working version of the app. The app meets specification, must there is room for improvement. The team is happy with what we have achieved given earlier setbacks and our late start.

Plan for Coming Weeks:

Our plan now is to make improvements to the aesthetics and user experience in the app. Additionally we can implement more features that the client wanted but deemed not crucial. We must also work on making the app more extensible by making the codebase more readable and creating documentation.

Tasks worked on: Mo Afsharmogaddam

- Worked on some UI elements of the list view
- Created the Form screen
- Started writing the final report:
- Abstract and Background completed
- Team summary completed
- Created Gantt Chart and Requirements page completed

Tasks worked on: Varun Mathur

- Implemented core functionality of app
- Creating models of objects in the system
- Data persistence in database
- Populating views with data from database
- Image capture and annotation
- Saving images in database and linking them to specific defects
- Created gallery screen to allow user to view annotated images and filter by defect, report, and exhibition.

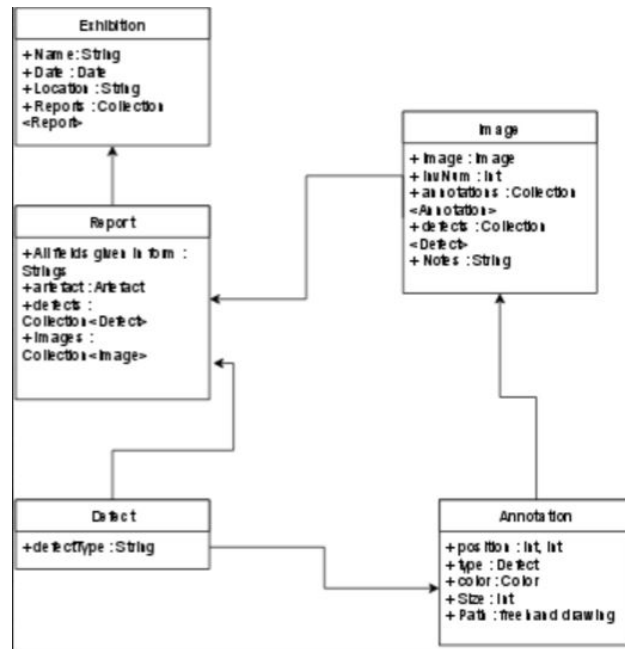


Figure 1: A highlevel UML design

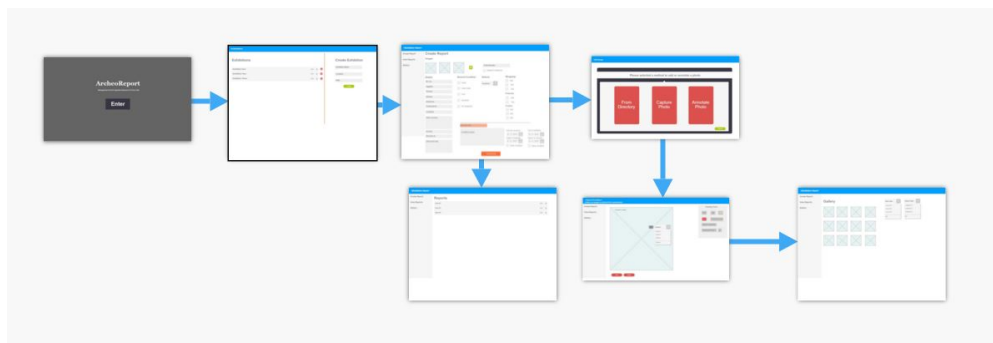


Figure 2: MockUp Design