AS Capstone Technical Specifications

Summer 2025

Project Name: Fiduciary Accounting Software

Team Members: Cooper Graves & Paige Leon

August 26, 2025

Update Log

- 7/30/25 - Cooper and Paige – Created Technical Specifications document
- 7/30/25 - Cooper – Site Map, Functionality Changes, Design Constraints
- 7/30/25 - Paige – Development Platform, began Feedback
- 8/03/25 - Paige – Pixso Design, Scope, finished Feedback
- 8/03/25 - Cooper – Functionality, User Personas, Design Constraints, Reviewed document layout and wording
- 8/04/25 - Paige – Fixed layout bug in table of contents
- 8/26/25 - Cooper – Reflect updates and changes (Pixso Design, Scope)
- 8/27/25 - Paige – Combined Scope and Pixso Design
- 9/14/25 - Paige – Expanded Scope to detail datatypes, connection to database, etc. Added to scope to include schedule settings portion. Added font section.

Project Description

We propose creating web-based software to assist with fiduciary accounting and the creation of relevant documents. This software will be a secure and cost-effective productivity tool mainly for conservators to streamline client accounting. Similar software on the market does not properly provide for the needs of conservators and is primarily meant for estates and trusts. The simplicity of transaction entry and management will allow for easy creation of professional documents for the probate court.

Functionality

The software will have the following functions:

- Allows input for individual bank transactions
    - Transaction name
    - Date
    - Amount
    - Bank Account
    - Transaction Type
    - Custom Grouping
- Creates formatted PDF documents from transactions
    - Individual schedules for transaction types
        - Inventory
        - Income
        - Expenses
        - Transfers
- Organize and manage entered transactions
    - Bank ledger display
    - Sorting by bank account
    - Searching through bank ledger by transaction info
    - Create new transactions
    - Delete existing transactions
- Create and edit client information
    - Save general client information
        - Including some sensitive information
    - Save probate case information
- Manage client bank account information
    - Create individual bank accounts
    - Multiple bank accounts per client
    - Edit bank account details retroactively
- Stretch Goals
    - Multiple preset PDF layouts
    - Saved mailing certification info
    - Import transactions from banking CSV files
        - Allow user to specify relevant fields
    - Popout windowed sections

User Personas

Heather Goodnow – Client

- Age – 50's
- Fiduciary Experience – 5+ years
- Technology Experience – Average
- Wants importing transactions to be easier
- Dislikes the inconsistent PDFs

Cooper Graves – Client

- Age – 20's
- Fiduciary Experience – 3+ years
- Technology Experience – High
- Wants less cluttered screens
- Wants easier access to bank ledger
- Dislikes the inability to enter transactions without mouse

James F'duciari - Fiduciary

- Age – 70's
- Fiduciary Experience – 20+ years
- Technology Experience – Low
- Dislikes spending a lot of time with software
- Does most of his paperwork by hand
- Wants an easy-to-use layout

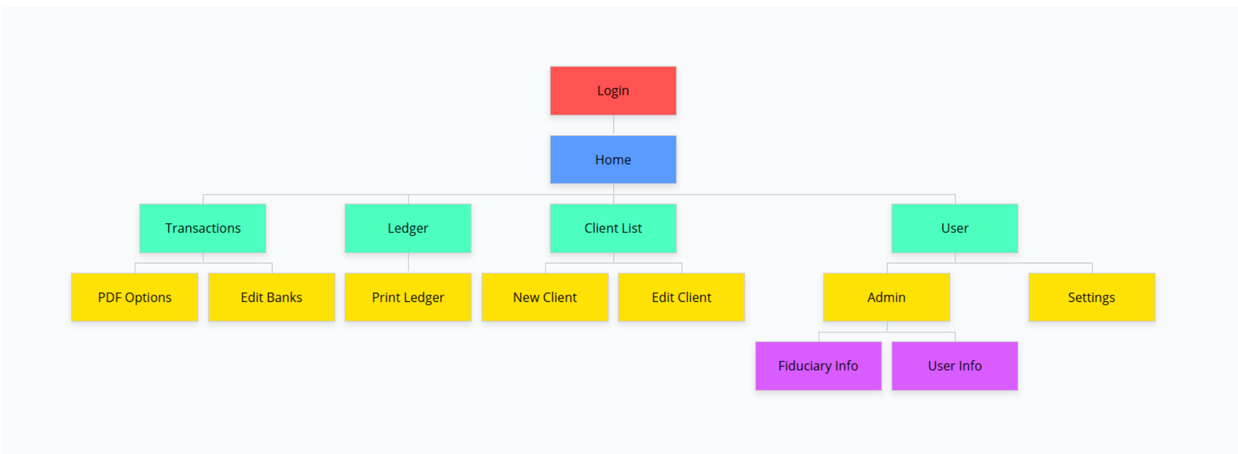
Development Platform

We will be utilizing the following languages:

- PHP
- HTML
- NodeJS
- CSS
- JavaScript
- MySQL

Design Constraints

Our project is web software that will be hosted on a local server to minimize security threats from online sources. Importing transactions through csv files faces the challenge of inconsistent data layouts from bank documents. Normal users and Administrators need to have different access to features such as user management or creation. Site Map

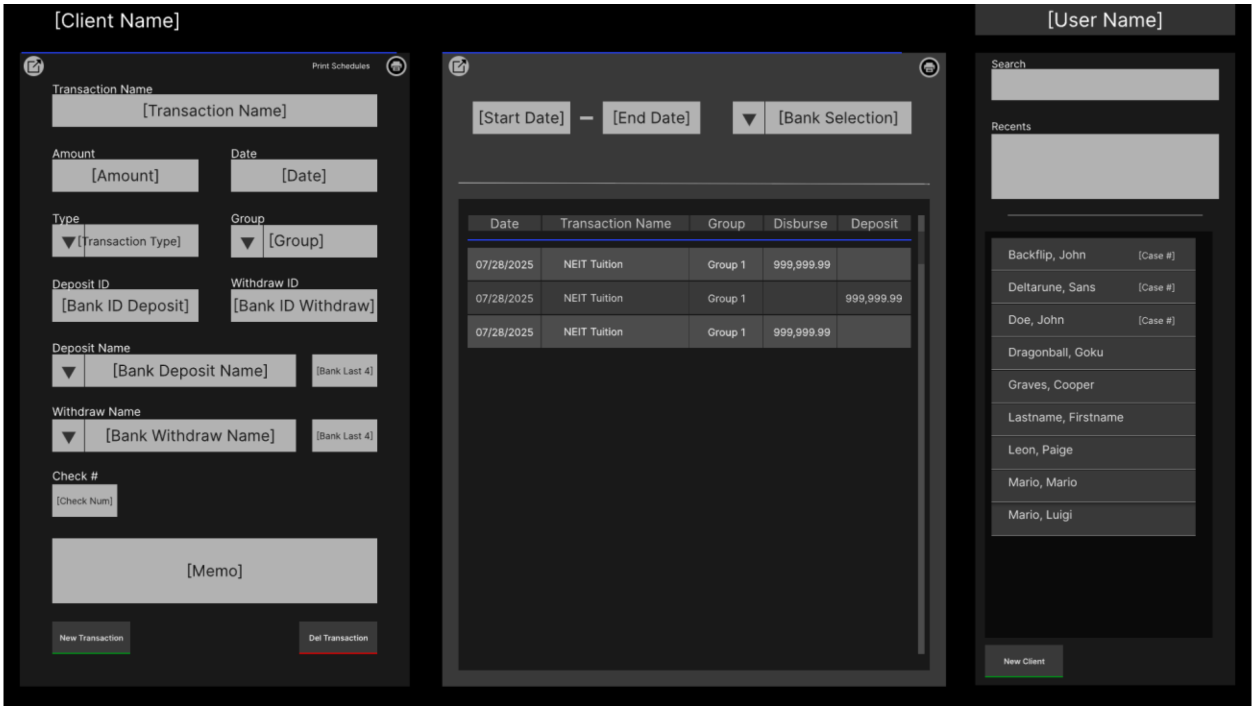


Pixso Design/Scope

Login

- Input of username and password
    - Password must be 8+ characters with one number and one symbol
- Show password toggle
- Submit button will validate information with database and bring user to Home.
- Display error if password or username incorrect

Home Page



- Transaction Section – saves, deletes, edits from transactions table
  - Entry text fields
    - Transaction Name
      - transName – varchar(50)
      - Text input
      - Required field
    - Amount
      - Amount – float
      - Number input – 2 decimal places
      - Required field
    - Date
      - transDate – date
      - Date input
      - Required field
    - Transaction Type
      - transType – varchar(12)
      - Selection input
        - [Select Type]
        - Inventory
        - Income

        - Expenses
        - Transfers
    - Required field
- Group
    - transGroup – varchar(25)
    - Text input
    - Autofills will existing groups of current client
- Bank Deposit Field
    - Is disabled until income, inventory, or transfers selected
    - bankIn
        - Hidden field
        - Auto fills when selecting preexisting transactions
    - bankDepID
        - Banks.clientBankID - varchar(4)
        - If given a valid clientBankID autofills the other 2 deposit fields and refocuses on the next empty field
    - bankDepName
        - Banks.bankName - varchar(45)
        - If given an existing bank name autofills the other 2 deposit fields and refocuses on next empty field
        - Used in tandem with bankDepNum field to pull bankIn value from database
    - bankDepNum
        - Banks.bankNum - varchar(4)
        - Only accepts numbers
        - If given an existing bank name autofills the other 2 deposit fields and refocuses on next empty field
        - Used in tandem with bankDepName field to pull bankIn value from database
- Bank Withdraw Info
    - Is disabled until expenses or transfers selected
    - bankOut
        - Hidden field
        - Auto fills when selecting preexisting transactions
    - bankWitID
        - banks.clientBankID - varchar(4)
        - Text input

            - If given a valid clientBankID autofills the other 2 deposit fields and refocuses on the next empty field
        - bankWitName
            - banks.bankName - varchar(45)
            - Text input
            - If given an existing bank name autofills the other 2 withdraw fields and refocuses on next empty field
            - Used in tandem with bankWitNum field to pull bankOut value from database
        - bankWitNum
            - banks.bankNum - varchar(4)
            - Number input
            - If given an existing bank name autofills the other 2 withdraw fields and refocuses on next empty field
            - Used in tandem with bankWitName field to pull bankOut value from database
    - Check Number
        - checkNum - varchar(8)
        - Number input
    - Memo
        - memo – varchar(250)
        - Text area
    - clientID
        - clientID
        - Hidden field
        - Used for loading, editing, and deleting existing transactions
    - transID
        - transID
        - Hidden field
        - Used for loading, editing, and deleting existing transactions
  - New Transaction button to save current data and start new entry
  - Delete Transaction button to delete currently selected transaction
  - Popout window icon
    - Tabled until week 11+
  - Print accounting schedules button
    - Replaces ‘transactions’ include with ‘schedulesSettings’ include
- Ledger Section

  - Popout window icon
    - Tabled until week 11+
  - Print bank ledger button
    - Prints the currently filtered ledger
    - Div above ledger that is only visible during print with important ledger information for record keeping
  - Date selectors
    - startDate/endDate
    - Date input
  - Bank selector
    - Shows all banks by default
    - Uses getBanks(clientID) function to populate selector with their banks
    - Selections have value of bankID
    - Selections text display the userBankID, bankName, and bankNum (last 4) in the following format '#. Bank Name - ####'
  - List of client's transactions
    - Single click highlights transaction for easy reading
    - Double click populates the transactions form with relevant fields for editing/deleting
- Client List Section
  - Search bar for clients
    - Can search by client name or case number
    - Case insensitive, dash optional for numbers
    - Can find clients by Lastname comma Firstname or Firstname Lastname formats
  - Recent clients list
    - Last 3 selected clients
    - Saved in users database in the settings json field
  - Client List
    - Clients can be selected to bring up their information
    - Organized alphabetical by last name
    - Active clients at top
    - Deactivated clients grayed out and at the bottom
  - New Client button
    - Redirects to manageClients.php for creating or editing clients
- User option dropdown
  - Admin/User Settings page button
    - Redirects to settings.php

        - Log out button
        - Dark mode toggle
            - Tabled until week 11+
- Select Schedules
    - Only visible when print schedules button on the transactions panel clicked
    - X button to return to transactions panel
    - Checkbox inputs
        - Transaction Type Checks
            - Selects which transaction types to include in the schedule
                - Inventory, income, expenses, transfers
        - Per Last Accounting
            - idk
        - Use Date Range
            - Enables the Date Range field
    - Date Range Field
        - State Date/End Date
        - Date input
        - Disabled unless Use Date Range is checked
        - Filters the printed schedules within a date range
    - Print button
        - Submit button

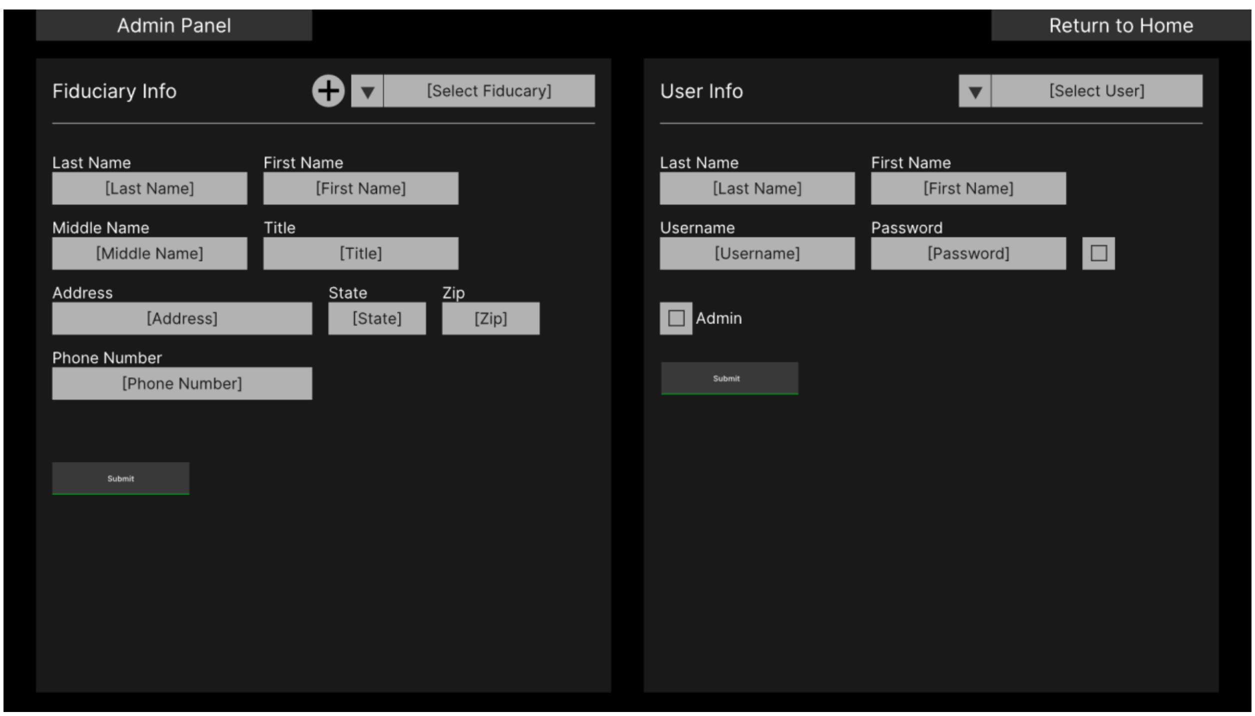
Client Management

- New/Edit client form
  - Entry fields for client info
    - First, Middle, and Last name
      - clientFName, clientMName, clientLName
      - First/Last name required, middle name optional
      - varchar(25)
      - Text input
    - Date of Birth and Date of Death
      - dateBirth/dateDeath
      - dateBirth required, dateDeath optional
      - Date input

    - Address, State, and Zip
      - clientAddress, clientState, clientZip
      - varchar(45), varchar(2), varchar(5)
      - All optional
    - Probate Case Number
      - caseNum
      - varchar(10)
      - required

        - Date of Appointment
            - dateAppt
            - Date format
            - required
        - Fiduciary
            - Selection input
                - Populated with existing fiduciaries
                - Value = fiduciary.fiduciaryID
                - Text = fiduciaries first and last name
        - Save button to add new client/edit existing
        - Clear button to erase form
        - Deactivate/activate client button to archive them
            - No delete available for record keeping reasons
- Client list
    - Same functionality as main page’s

Admin Panel/User Settings Page



- Fiduciary Info
    - Only visible if admin
    - Fiduciary selection dropdown

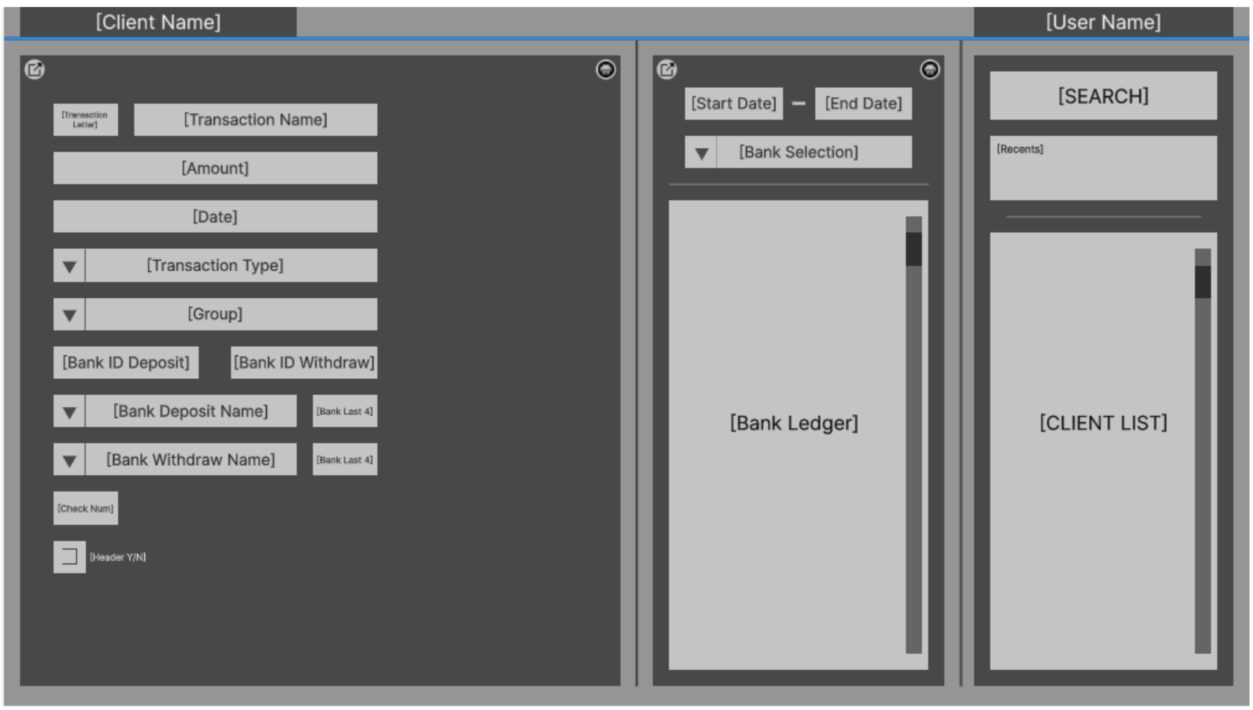
        - [Select Fiduciary] - value = 0
        - Populated by existing fiduciaries using getFiduciary() function
            - value = json populated with all values of fiduciary
            - Text = fiduciary first and last name
        - New fiduciary – value = -1
    - Entry fields
        - First, Middle, and Last Name
            - fidFName, fidMName, fidLName
            - varchar(25)
            - Text entry
            - fidMName optional
        - Title
            - fidTitle
            - varchar(25)
            - Text entry
            - optional
        - Address, State, and Zip
            - fidCity, fidState, fidZip
            - varchar(45), varchar(2), varchar(5)
            - required
        - Phone number
            - fidPhone
            - varchar(11)
            - ########## format (no dashes, spaces, parentheses etc)
            - Required
        - Save button for adding/editing fiduciaries
        - Clear button for emptying field
        - Delete button for deleting fiduciary
- User Info
    - User Selection Dropdown
        - Only available for admin users
    - Entry Fields
        - First Name and Last Name
        - Username and Password
            - Password visibility toggle
            - Password must be 8+ character, one number, one symbol
        - Admin toggle

        - Only available for admin users
    - Save button for adding/editing users
    - Delete user button
        - Only available for admins
        - Cannot delete self

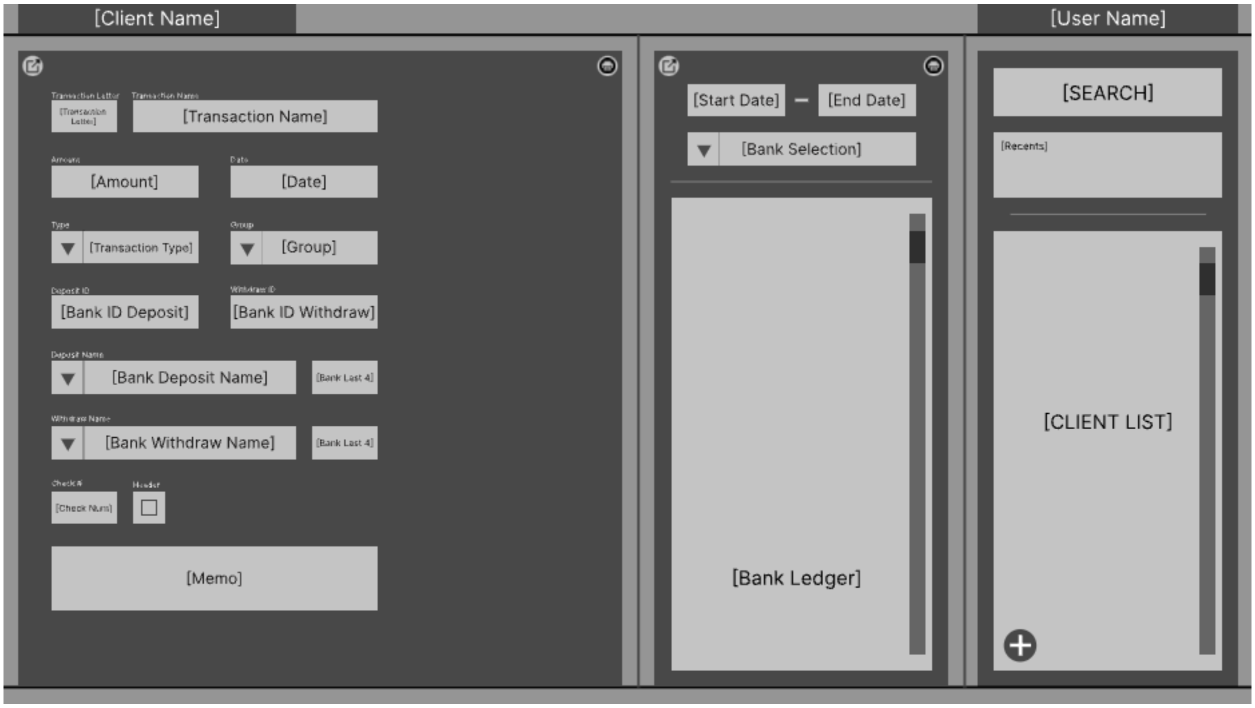
- Return to home button
    - Sends user back to main.php

Version History

Version 1

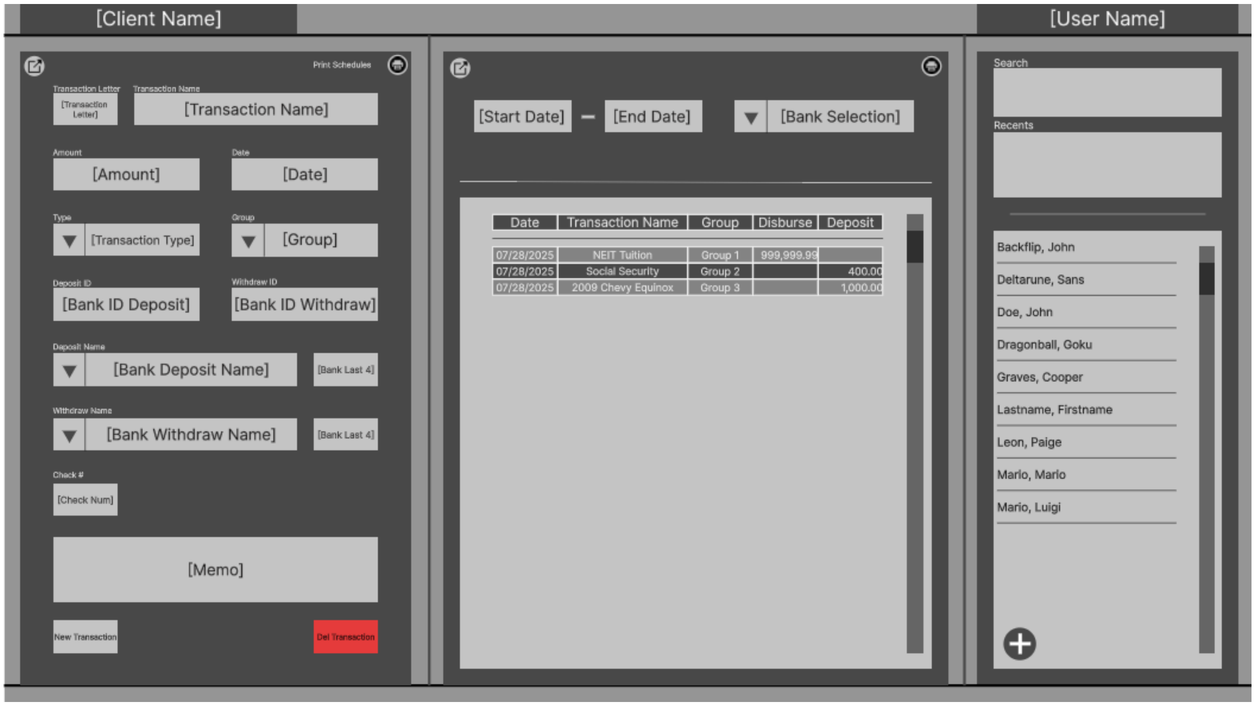


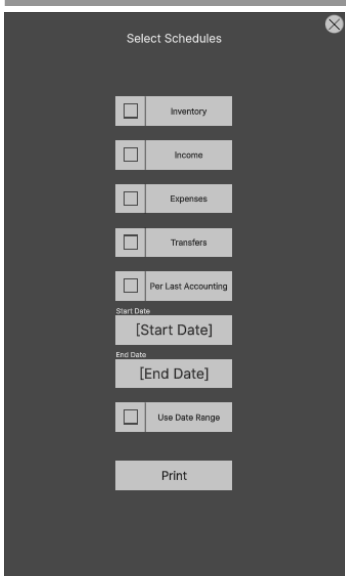
Version 2



- Added memo
- Added new client button
- Added labels above form elements
- Repositioned some form elements

Version 3





- Added label to print button on transaction entry panel
- Added New Transaction button to transaction entry panel
- Added Delete Transaction button to transaction entry panel
- Made ledger panel bigger
- Added visual examples for the ledger and client panels
- Added print panel

Colors

#000000	Main Page Background
#191919	Dark Background
#393939	Medium Background Odd ledger entries Client List
#4C4C4C	Light Background Entry Field
#FFFFFF	Text
# E40101	Cancel/Delete Buttons
#009418	Confirm Buttons
#2643FF	Accent Lines

Font

Helvetica

Feedback

Comment #1

Header checkbox is confusing and redundant.

Solution #1

Remove checkbox entirely and instead have the software automatically organize transactions by group name.

Comment #2

Is it possible for separate windows to talk to each other (regarding popout feature)

Solution #2

This is possible with web nodes.

Comment #3

What if users misspell bank names?

Solution #3

- The bank names will be tied to the last 4 digits as a safety precaution.
- Duplicate last 4 digits will be allowed but will generate a confirmation if the names do not match.
- We will add a bank manager page to allow renaming in the event of a misspelling

Comment #4

What settings will non admin users be able to change and how?

Solution #4

The user will be able to change the following settings. These settings will be stored locally.

- Change their own password
- Change their display name
- Adjust font size
- Toggle light and dark mode

Comment #5

Printing menu appears to have redundant or confusing options.

Solution #5

- Add checkbox to enable date range
- Move Per Last Accounting to be by Inventory and make only one clickable at a time

Comment #6

Is there a way to edit client information?

Solution #6

Put an information icon by the selected client in the client panel to allow for editing

Comment #7

How do you determine who has admin permissions?

Solution #7

Give admins the option to give other users admin privileges through the admin panel

Comment#8

Does the ledger need to display a running total?

Solution #8

Yes we will add a total underneath the table

Comment #9

The Start Date, End Date, and Bank Select seem too big on the ledger

Solution #9

We disagree, but will change the layout to make it look cleaner

Comment #10

The label font seems too small

Solution #10

The font size from the client list will become the standard for font size

Comment #11

The headers need work

Solution #11

We will play with them to figure out which option seems best but they will change