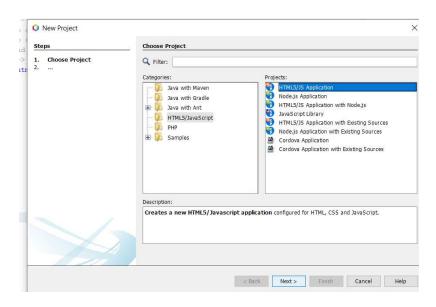
Introduction

In this assignment, we were to create a web page for the address book application. Some of the elements to be addressed included listing, adding, modifying, and deleting addresses. There was no "code-behind" to the assignment, the focus was on creating HTML pages and elements and styling the elements with Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Hard-coded mock data was added so we had something to look at.

Solution design

In order to most efficiently tackle this, I think the best way is to start the project with an HTML5 focus.

Going into NetBeans, there is a template for HTML5/JS application and I selected that as shown below:



This template starts you out with some framework including an index.html page.

I began by working on the HTML on index.html, laying out a table that would be used to display address and person data. I added , header, row and cell tags, and then began adding address data. In order to do the "edit" and "delete" icons for each row, I needed to go out and get some images. So, after a brief web search I found suitable icons and also grabbed a bit of clip art to make my site look better. I put all the images into an "images" folder at the website root.

Next, I created a Cascading Style Sheet and linked to it from my index.html page:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="css/AddressBookCSS.css">
```

At this point I had a functional page but the site was very bland, everything just white and left-justified. With the stylesheet in place, I began adding some styling elements to make it look better. Here is a screenshot of the stylesheet when completed:

```
body
    background-color: tan;
    border: 4px solid brown;
    padding: 10px 10px 10px 10px;
    font-family: sans-serif;
    margin-left: 20%;
    margin-right: 20%;
    border-radius: 10px
th
   background-color:brown;
    color: white
}
tr
    background-color: white;
    border-bottom: black;
    height: 40px
    margin-left: auto;
    margin-right: auto;
}
h1, div
    text-align: center
```

```
.add{
   background-color:brown;
   color: white;
   height:40px;
   width: 120px
}

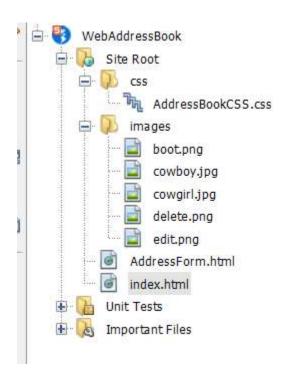
.entry{
   height: 24px;
   width: 240px

}

.label{
   font-weight: bold;
   color: brown;
```

In addition to the index.html page I also added an AddressForm.html for new address entries.

When I finally had everything in place, here is the site structure in NetBeans:



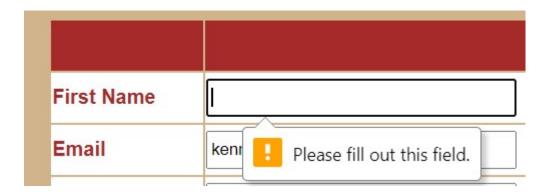
I set up chrome as the default browser for NetBeans, and this is what the site looks like when it is running:



It actually looks really good! Referring back to the style sheet, you can see the background-color = tan, the brown border, the border radius, the and styling, centering, and many other style elements I added. You can also see the "edit" and "delete" icons as well as some the clip art. I made the Add Pardner button pop open a separate page, and applied the same style sheet to that page as well, which really does a nice job of demonstrating the power of CSS. A single CSS sheet can provide cohesive styling to an entire web site, even if there are dozens of pages:



I also added a HTML5 *required* attribute to the first and last name inputs to see how that works and it works perfectly:



Conclusions

I really appreciate this assignment! I've been doing software development and web application development for years, but always in a big industrial setting where:

a) No one cares how pretty it is so they don't want you to spend a ton of time on styling, or

b) There is a professional web design group that does the styling for you, and you just have to make it work correctly while they handle the looks.

Historically, I have found that CSS is treated almost like something that everyone just knows, but no one ever spends the time to properly learn it. I thought the assignment was fun and the reading was really good on this. And it is super important: there will inevitably be a time when something on the page styling needs to be changed (like the width of an input or a table layout), and knowing how this works is very important to be able to go in and confidently re-style page elements.