Interactive Floor Plan Designer:

Project Manual

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(and ChatGPT)

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PROJECT REPORT

Introduction:

The primary objective of this project is to design and implement an Interactive Floor Plan Designer using Java Swing, a versatile GUI toolkit for Java applications. The purpose of this software tool is to empower users to create detailed floor plans for various types of structures, ranging from residential homes to commercial office spaces. The project aims to provide a user-friendly interface to facilitate intuitive interaction and efficient design creation, drawing inspiration from the excellent utility of 2D architectural CAD software, in addition to the fun, engaging aspects of video games with floor plan design, such as in the *Sims* series.

The scope of the project encompasses the development of a top-down view interface, allowing users to visualize floor plans from an aerial perspective. Key elements such as doors, windows, walls, and furniture are represented using familiar symbols and icons to ensure easy comprehension and manipulation. The Interactive Floor Plan Designer was created with the intention of being useful for a wide range of floor planning applications. The inclusion of specialized furniture items such as refrigerators, sinks, and beds caters to the specific needs of residential floor planning, while a variety of desks, tables, and seating options may be useful in the design of a professional workspace.

The significance of this project lies in the practical realization of a new era of software engineering. The team behind this project had little to no prior experience with projects of anything close to this scale, and have had only limited exposure to the design and implementation of software engineering principles and practices. Furthermore, the design team had zero experience with the Java Swing framework, and only a cursory prior exposure to the Java language. Yet, by leveraging the assistance of ChatGPT, an AI large language model, the team was able to overcome knowledge gaps and accelerate productivity, producing a final application of a quality which would otherwise have been unrealistic and likely unachievable in the given timeframe. While the Interactive Floor Plan Designer may not aspire to become an industry standard tool, its creation demonstrates the potential of AI-driven development in simplifying complex tasks and democratizing software engineering.

Methodology:

The development methodology employed in this project revolved around leveraging Java Swing for GUI development and ChatGPT for knowledge augmentation. Java Swing's comprehensive set of components and robust event-driven programming model make it well-suited for creating interactive and visually appealing user interfaces. Additionally, the choice of IntelliJ IDEA as the IDE enhances developer productivity with its advanced features and seamless integration with other development tools. In particular, IntelliJ's tools for finding usages, inserting imports and unimplemented methods, and displaying parameter names in method calls were invaluable in the development of the Interactive Floor Plan Designer.

The iterative development process involved submitting prompts to ChatGPT, analyzing the generated outputs, and iteratively refactoring and refining the codebase. The primary approach to adding new features drew inspiration from some of the advice of Victor Rentea in his talk *The Art of Clean Code*[1] - start by inlining everything, then refactor into a more efficient and maintainable solution. While ChatGPT served as a valuable resource for generating initial solutions and providing insights, manual intervention and refactoring were crucial for maintaining code quality and adhering to best practices.

Implementation Details:

There were roughly four different arcs in the development process: the setup of the GUI, the creation and full implementation of a single instance of each of the two different object varieties, the implementation of all of the remaining objects, and a final extensive refactoring phase.

Arc 1:

The implementation of the Interactive Floor Plan Designer commenced with the setup of the GUI layout, encompassing elements such as buttons, selection panels, menus, and the central drawing canvas. These components were meticulously crafted to ensure a cohesive and intuitive user experience, with emphasis placed on ease of navigation and functionality. There were four different major revisions of the GUI throughout development, three of which were simply redesigns of the layout and revising object placements.

The fourth revision was by far the most significant, as this is where the message field was added to the application. The motivation for this revision was the realization of the necessity of providing feedback to the user, for example, when they attempt to perform an action that is not supported by the selected object. Furthermore, it was decided that

information regarding the status of file loading and saving should also be conveyed. However, most of the complexity in the fourth revision came from the compliment feature. It seemed like a fun and interesting feature to include, and was simple in concept: after a certain period of time, set the message field to a new String. Relative to many of the other aspects of the project, this actually ended up being only moderately difficult to implement, but creating this feature- which relied on thread manipulation- was one of the moments in which the incredible utility and power of ChatGPT was realized. After simply describing the goal of the feature (albeit in great detail), the team was provided with code that required almost no refactoring.

Arc 2:

Without a doubt, the longest arc in the development process was the second, in which each of the two objects types were designed and fully implemented. The key contributions in this arc were the creation of the FurnitureObject interface and the design and implementation of the object manipulation features, as well as the finalization of the object drawing methods. This arc also involved significant changes in the approach to creating and drawing objects, as well as a near-complete revision of the object hierarchy. In fact, it wasn't until what initially intended to be the very end of the arc that the need for a significant redesign became abundantly evident. Thankfully, some of the design choices made early in the development process contributed to making the significant redesigns during this arc a little less painful.

The first task in this arc was drawing the objects, which started as an incredible headache and only got worse from there. If there are any hints of animosity toward ChatGPT present in this document, then that section was almost certainly written during this phase of development. The team must have wasted at least six hours on just getting ChatGPT to draw the Door object correctly, and it never even got particularly close to what I wanted. After coming up with countless ways to describe two lines at a right angel with a dashed arc between them, it was finally decided to give up trying to get ChatGPT to do it, and the team decided to accept the loss and spend the time refactoring the closest result from ChatGPT into what was actually desired. The Wall object was the instance of the other object type that was created and implemented first (though a clear distinction between object types had yet to be established at this point). This was notably much easier for ChatGPT to do, and required only moderate refactoring.

After experiencing exactly how long it took to successfully arrive at implementations for only two objects, it became clear that trying to replicate this for 10's of objects would result in certain failure for the project. At this point in the project, a deep sense of dread filled the team, as the odds of success were looking bleak. Nevertheless, the team decided

to continue on with implementing the remaining required features, hoping that some solution might present itself at a later time.

Once each object was able to be drawn, the next task was implementing selection. Given that the objects on the drawing canvas were captured in an ArrayList, it was natural to extend this concept to have another ArrayList hold the objects on the canvas that were actively selected. Though an initial implementation of object selection was achieved quite quickly, a significant issue surfaced later on, as the selection and manipulation tools ended up performing conflicting actions. In short, the mouse actions (click, press, drag, etc.) needed to trigger different actions based on whether the user was trying to select new objects or manipulation the currently selected objects. The natural first inclination was to implement a State design pattern, with states for Selecting and Manipulating, as the need for different behavior under an identical action is a textbook use case for the State DP. However, prior to committing to the complexity of such a design, the team consulted with ChatGPT to see if it might suggest a different method. Rather than creating states and the contexts to handle state changes, ChatGPT recommended the removal and storage of all active MouseListeners for selection, instantiation of the manipulation variants, then again removing all active MouseListeners and restoring the original ones. Though certainly less elegant, ChatGPT ended up providing an excellent starting implementation for this design choice, so this ended up being the solution used in the final application.

Regarding the object manipulation implementations, it was decided that some of the furniture objects needed to have the ability to be rotated, resized, or moved, but that needing one of these features did not necessarily imply the need for the others. Certainly, for some of the objects, it wouldn't make sense for all of these functionalities to be implemented. For example, when selecting a region of the design to resize the objects within it, the user should expect all of the objects within that area to be selected. However, the user would probably be surprised if a wall within this region was selected and also became bigger. Thus, it was necessary to develop a solution which separated each of these concerns.

The ability to implement multiple interfaces in Java was the backbone of the architectural implementation of separation of concerns for the object manipulation tools. Interfaces were created to allow objects to implement different methods for resizing, rotation, and movement. In the aforementioned example of trying to resize objects but leave the walls alone, the resizing method can be applied selectively only to instances of the Resizable interface. It later turned out that resizing and rotating always went together, but the team felt the principle of separation of concerns was of some inherent value, and thus this separation was kept in the final application.

In the process of implementing the Rotatable interface on the Door object, the demons of the project's past came back to haunt the team. All of the complication involved in drawing the Door completely and utterly broke when attempting to rotate the object. With the initial version of the drawing, it would have been necessary to calculate the angles at which the arc of the Door swing should start and end at every rotation. Even worse, this behavior was not going to be extensible to any of the other objects which were planned. With such a daunting task, the team quickly made the decision to focus on just getting the Door working, and limit the scope of the task to rotations of 90 degree increments, with the hope that this might make the task more manageable.

Alas, twas not manageable at all. No matter how much refactoring was done, or how many times ChatGPT was used, any and all rotations completely broke the drawings. It was around this time that some students demonstrated the current state of their applications in lecture, and I realized that others who had also chosen the floor plan designer had completely circumvented this issue by choosing to draw everything that wasn't a wall using an icon image file.

I am not being dramatic when I say that this revelation *saved the entire project*.

The initial plan for the Interactive Floor Plan Designer was to have all objects drawn as though they were made in a 2D CAD application- just lines and shapes made of lines. However, with the deadline rapidly approaching and already a week behind schedule, the decision was made to pivot to icon-based graphics. After about four hours, all icons had been downloaded, and the team had re-implemented everything that had already been functional in the Door. Not long after that, every necessary manipulation was working for both Door and Wall. Though certainly a troublesome detour, this refactor and redesign provided an essential attribute that our project completely lacked: extensibility.

A brief next step was the implementation of saving and loading from a file. This had previously been discussed in lecture as quite simple, only requiring a few lines of code each to save/serialize and load/deserialize. Unfortunately, images are not Serializable, and thus a custom implementation had to be created. The implementation of save and load turned out to be another instance of this project demonstrating the incredible capabilities of ChatGPT, as the team truly had no idea where to even begin with creating our own serialization methods. ChatGPT, on the other hand, knew almost exactly what to do, though the methods it gave us did require some refactoring in other areas of the codebase. It was quite remarkable to reduce a problem from needing to implement something and not knowing any of the parts involved, to hunting down a bug, which ended up being the need to load the image after loading the object.

Arc 3:

Reinvigorated by the string of successful efforts, the team began the third arc of development, creating the remaining objects, using Door as a template for all of the objects using icons, and Wall for those drawn using the Java Swing BasicStroke. At this point, every object was unified together by the FurnitureObject interface, yet, there were quite clearly two distinct subsets of FurnitureObject- objects which used icons, and objects which were drawn as lines on the boundary of the floor plan.

At the first realization of this, with the deadline now only a few days away, the team decided to ignore the implications and the instinctual repulsion to consequently copying and pasting large amounts of unmodified code for the end of quickly creating the remaining objects. However, approximately five objects later, the most dreadful thought entered the mind of a team member: *What if something needs to be fixed later?* At that moment, it became clear that, if and when something goes wrong later, continuing along the current path of ignoring a necessary hierarchical redesign was sure to result in issues down the line. Thus, the team stopped and performed the refactor. Out of this, the abstract classes IconObject and BoundaryLineObject were born. Though the refactor itself took a decent amount of time, it was mostly a painless process, with all questions and issues quickly resolved with conversations with ChatGPT. While the creation of the abstract classes certainly expedited the creation of the remaining objects, the true benefits of this refactor would not become apparent until the final arc of development.

Arc 4:

In the final arc of the development phase, the team did something which nobody should ever do: initiate multiple major refactors in the week of the deadline. Under normal circumstances, this would never have been attempted. However, having spent numerous hours learning how to work with ChatGPT and get the most out of it, the team felt confident in attempting to refactor, knowing that a fully functional (albeit grotesque) backup would be available in the event of a failure.

There were two primary objectives of the refactor: first, dismantle the main class and organize it into separate classes for each panel in the application, and a much smaller, more manageable main class; and second, make each of the new panel classes Singletons. Given that it was quite late (more like quite early) at the time that this major refactor was initiated, it was decided to start by simply giving ChatGPT each of the relevant classes and asking it to "refactor into multiple smaller classes" and "convert the class to a singleton".

And it did it.

It did (almost) exactly what was wanted, though naturally it left comments to "Put implementation her" in quite a few spots. This was an easy remedy, as implementations were copied and pasted over from the gargantuan original class. Of course, any refactor of this scale sets of a chain of subsequent refactors, every fix generating a new breakage. Surprisingly, it all went quite smoothly. Copying missing method calls, changing panel instantiation from constructors to their Singleton instance methods, and revising access modifiers were the bulk of the work. But just when it appeared that the project was almost complete, a major breakage was discovered.

Unbeknownst to the team, the refactor which created the BoundaryLineObject abstract class broke the save and load functionality for all of its concrete classes. The issue was that, each concrete class has a different combination of Color and BasicStroke objects with which to draw their lines, and ChatGPT informed me that neither of these were Serializable. Initially, this didn't seem like a big issue, as ChatGPT had once before given excellent custom serialization implementations for the icon images. However, it quickly became a bit of a nightmare.

After countless iterations of refactoring the methods required for save and load in the BoundaryLineObject abstract class, ChatGPT essentially concluded that there was no apparent reason as to why the breakage was occurring. Everything was being called in the right order, the correct `transient` flags were placed on the fields to be skipped over during the basic serialization, and all of the fields were being re-instantiated at load. Yet, the breakage remained.

It was at this point that the team had the realization that, had it not been for the previous refactor into BoundaryLineObject and IconObject, all of the changes currently being worked on would have needed to be replicated on every single instance of the respective objects. Even though that really only would have meant the three BoundaryLineObjects, having to copy over changes and then potentially find new bugs would have been soulcrushing.

After spending some time questioning all of the life decisions that lead up to that moment, the team decided to approach the problem by solving each issue directly and separately from the save and load methods, rather than actually fix them. The main issue that had presented itself was that, despite being saved and loaded successfully and calling the method to instantiate the field in the load method, the BasicStroke used to draw the objects was null at the time of drawing. So, the exact same line from the load method was placed in the draw method. And it fixed the issue. No breakage, no crashing. But then, the Colors were all the same. So the same method call to set the Color used in the loading method was again placed into draw method. And that was fixed too.

It was fully functional, v1.0, all features, no bugs, no breaks.

And nobody knew why. Another hour and a half was spent trying to figure out what the source of the issue was, but to no avail. It was discovered during this process, however, that Colors are indeed Serializable, and that removing the `transient` modifier from the Color field as one of the prior desperate attempts to fix the issue is actually what solved the Color problem. It was possibly the only time in the entire project that ChatGPT got anything explicitly wrong, and though the team didn't end up caring much about that, it is likely that this apathy was mostly a result of the mix of exhaustion and relief from finishing the application.

Testing and Evaluation:

The testing performed during the project's development was certainly not formal in any sense of the word, but generally followed a sequence of implementing a new feature and testing it in combination with multiple other features. For example, testing the rotation tool was performed by rotating an object, then moving it, then placing another object, then resizing them both, then moving them both, then trying to rotate both.

A personal philosophy on testing is that unit tests are inherently inadequate to test the full usability of a feature. A feature that works in isolation isn't much of a test- it just means that it isn't actively broken. Particularly due to my concern with removing and restoring MouseListeners, it was found to be much more useful to try to use features in combination to determine proper functionality. More than once, it was discovered that a feature worked in isolation, but broke the instant it was used as part of a sequence of actions.

Results and Discussion:

Having now completed the project, it has become apparent that there were really two major components to this project: recognizing and using design patterns, and learning how to utilize ChatGPT. For the former, it became quite clear how useful design patterns can be, and it was extremely helpful to have knowledge of them prior to starting this project. While it could certainly been completed without any design patterns and with the exact same functionality for the user (in fact, it initially was), the design patterns help assert meaning and convey information about the project through the the project's architecture. For example, there is only one of each of the panels on the GUI and there is only ever going to be one of them, so rather than worry about possible issues of new instances and trying to access methods which modify the wrong instance, the notion that there is and shall forever be exactly one of each can be asserted through the Singleton DP.

Use of the Singleton also helped clarify and justify the use of static methods for the panel classes.

As for the latter of the two project components, the experience using ChatGPT and fine-tuning how to interact with it, and what questions and tasks it can and cannot figure out has been nothing short of invaluable. Rather than having some ill-defined notion of its capabilities and constantly having to revise prompts in addition its output, the team now has the ability to identify a problem and almost immediately figure out an excellent (if not always optimal) prompt or series of prompts to provide to ChatGPT to solve a given issue. Though there is certainly more to learn, a much better grasp has been gained on the strengths, weaknesses, scale, and scope of problems for which ChatGPT can maximally perform.

Conclusion:

The successful completion of this project has demonstrated how relative novices in software engineering- armed with only theoretical knowledge, a decent grasp on the language used for implementation, and ChatGPT- now have the capability to be more productive than ever before in the history of software development. Problems which once required delving into various sources of poorly-written and out-of-date documentation have mostly been reduced to prompt formulation and understanding the capabilities of ChatGPT. Additionally, this project has made evident the need for excellent software engineering practices. After an initial version of the Interactive Floor Plan Designer evolved into an absolute monstrosity, it became clear just how essential it is to create software which is not only correct, but easy to digest and understand, incorporating multiple layers and hierarchies to abstract away implementational complexities, and enforce design decisions through the architecture of a project.

References:

[1]   Rentea V. The art of clean code [video on the Internet]. [place unknown]: Devoxx; 2017 Aug 30 [cited 2024 Mar 20]. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4OIo4T7I_E

USER MANUAL

Welcome to the Interactive Floor Plan Designer! This user guide will walk you through the various features and functionalities of the application to help you create your own floor plans.

Getting Started

Upon launching the application, you will be presented with a user-friendly interface consisting of a grid canvas in the center and a bar on the top containing the "Clear" and "Add Item" buttons, in addition to the Message Center. The grid canvas in the center is where you will be able to design your very own custom floor plan. The Message Center will provide helpful information for you throughout your design process, in addition to periodically offering words of encouragement and affirmation. The "Add Item" button, once clicked, will open a menu where you can select which category of items you would like to view. Once selected, the buttons for the items in the category will appear in a selection panel on the right. If at any point you wish to clear the canvas and start over, just click the "Clear" button on the top panel.

Placing Items on the Canvas

To add items to your floor plan, follow these steps:

- Click on the "Add Item" button located in the top sidebar.

- A menu will appear with different categories of furniture objects: Essentials, Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedroom, Seating, Desks & Tables, Rugs, and Fun!

- Select a category to view the available furniture options within that category in the right sidebar.

- Click on the button corresponding to the desired item in the right sidebar.

- Then, click again on the canvas at the location where you want to place the object. If the selected object is a line-based object (Wall, Window, or Mirror) click and drag to draw the item at the desired length

- The selected furniture object will be placed under the cursor on the canvas.

Manipulating Items

You can manipulate placed items on the canvas by clicking and dragging anywhere on the canvas to create a red selection box. Any item on the canvas touched by this box will then be selected. Once the mouse is released, a menu will display the following tool options:

- **Move:** If the "Move" tool is selected, you can then click and drag to move around all of the selected objects. You can move just a single potted plant, or even an entire room!

- **Resize:** The "Resize" submenu allows you to choose from the Small, Medium, and Large variants of the item. By default, all items are set to be the Medium size.

- **Rotate:** The "Rotate" submenu allows you to rotate the object at any 90 degree increment, allowing you to place your items in the exactly the right orientation.

- **Delete:** The "Delete" tool will remove all selected items from the canvas. Don't worry, you can always put them back again!

As a note, not all items support all of these actions. But don't worry, you don't have to keep track- the Message Center will let you know!

Saving and Loading Drawings

You can save your floor plan drawings to a file and load them later using the File menu. Here's how:

- Click on the "File" menu located at the top of the application window.

- From the drop-down menu, select "Save" to save your current drawing to a file. You will be prompted to choose a location and filename for the saved file. Floor plans created using the Interactive Floor Plan Designer will be saved with the ".floorplan" file extension.

- Additionally, you can choose to save a preview image (PNG) of your drawing. This way you can share your drawing with your friends and family, without having to open the app!

- To load a previously saved drawing, select "Load" from the "File" menu. Choose the file you want to load, and your drawing will be loaded into the canvas.

Congratulations! You are now ready to create your own floor plans using the Interactive Floor Plan Designer. Enjoy designing!

SOFTWARE DESIGN

Architecture Overview:

Overall Structure:

The FloorPlanDesigner application is designed as an interactive tool for creating floor plans. It provides a graphical user interface (GUI) allowing users to design floor layouts using various furniture objects and boundary lines. The software follows a modular and object-oriented architecture, leveraging Java Swing for the GUI components.

High-Level Components:

Canvas Panel (CanvasPanel):

Responsible for rendering the floor plan layout.

Displays furniture objects and boundary lines.

Provides interaction capabilities such as dragging and dropping furniture objects.

Top Panel (TopPanel):

Contains controls and options for managing the floor plan, such as saving and loading.

Displays messages and alerts to the user.

Right Panel (RightPanel):

Displays a list of available furniture objects that can be added to the floor plan.

Allows users to select and add furniture objects to the canvas panel.

Furniture Objects (IconObject, BoundaryLineObject):

Represent various items that can be placed on the floor plan, such as chairs, tables, walls, etc.

Extend common interfaces for movability, rotatability, and resizability.

Implement rendering methods to display themselves on the canvas panel.

Utils (FileHandler, PathConverter, ImageManipulator, etc.):

Contains utility classes for handling file operations, path conversions, image manipulation, etc.

Provides functionalities required by other components, such as saving/loading floor plans, converting paths, resizing/rotating images, etc.

Main Class (FloorPlanDesigner):

Entry point of the application.

Initializes and orchestrates the interaction between different GUI components.

Sets up the layout and event listeners.

Manages the overall workflow of the application.

Relationships:

The CanvasPanel interacts with Furniture Objects to render them on the floor plan.

TopPanel and RightPanel communicate with the CanvasPanel to provide user controls and add functionality to the floor plan designer.

FileHandler is used by the TopPanel for saving and loading floor plans.

Various utility classes (PathConverter, ImageManipulator, etc.) are utilized across components for performing specialized tasks.

Interaction Flow:

Upon launching the application, the FloorPlanDesigner initializes GUI components and sets up the layout.

Users interact with the RightPanel to select furniture objects and add them to the floor plan displayed on the CanvasPanel.

The TopPanel provides options for saving/loading floor plans and displays messages/alerts to the user.

Furniture objects can be moved, rotated, or resized interactively on the canvas panel.

Users can save the floor plan, including a preview image, using the functionalities provided by the FileHandler.

Interaction continues iteratively, allowing users to design and manipulate floor plans as desired.

Design Patterns:

One of the Design Patterns used repeatedly in the Interactive Floor Plan Designer is the Composite Design Pattern. Things like JPanels, JButtons, and different layouts are used as individual components, as well as in components consisting of multiple of these different objects. For example, the top panel of the GUI is itself a JPanel- a component- yet also contains Jbuttons and a JTextField- also components.

Another design pattern used in the project was the Singleton. It was known a priori that only one instance of each of the panels would ever be needed, so it was decided to enforce that assumption with the implementation of the Singletons. This logically also helped justify making some of the relevant methods static, as this was done based on an understanding that using the method on the instance was the same as using the method on the class itself.

Component Descriptions:

- FloorPlanDesigner:

Responsibilities:

User Interface Management:

Initialization:

Initializes instances of CanvasPanel, TopPanel, and RightPanel in the initComponents method.

Configuration:

Configures the layout of UI components within the frame (JFrame) using BorderLayout.

Adds UI components (canvas, top panel, right panel) to the frame in the specified layout positions.

Menu Bar Setup:

Sets up the menu bar with file and help menus.

Adds menu items for saving, loading, and exiting the application, as well as displaying information about the application (About).

File Handling:

Save and Load Operations:

Implements methods saveFloorplan and loadFloorplan to handle saving and loading of floor plans.

Utilizes FileHandler utility methods for file I/O operations.

Displays messages in the top panel (TopPanel) to inform the user about the status of file operations.

About Information:

Implements method showAbout to display information about the application (About) using a dialog box (JoptionPane).

Interfaces:

User Interface: FloorPlanDesigner provides a comprehensive user interface for designing floor plans, including a canvas for layout visualization and panels for item selection and interaction.

Communication with CanvasPanel, RightPanel, and TopPanel: It interacts with these panels to initialize and manage UI components and to display messages regarding file operations.

Interactions:

Communication with Panels:

FloorPlanDesigner initializes and manages the CanvasPanel, TopPanel, and RightPanel instances, integrating them into the GUI layout.

Communication with FileHandler:

Implements methods saveFloorplan and loadFloorplan to handle file operations, utilizing the FileHandler utility.

Menu Bar Setup:

Configures menu items for saving, loading, and exiting the application, as well as displaying information about the application (About).

Overall, FloorPlanDesigner orchestrates the functionality of the floor plan designing application by managing the user interface components and handling file operations. It provides a seamless user experience and ensures smooth communication between different parts of the application.

- CanvasPanel:

Responsibilities:

Display Canvas: CanvasPanel is responsible for displaying a grid canvas where furniture items can be placed.

Manage Layout: It manages the layout of furniture items placed on the canvas.

Handle User Interactions: It handles user interactions such as mouse clicks, drags, and releases for placing, selecting, moving, resizing, rotating, and deleting furniture items.

Provide Singleton Instance: It ensures that only one instance of CanvasPanel is created throughout the application runtime.

Canvas Management:

Creates and manages a canvas (BufferedImage) where furniture items are placed.

Handles resizing of the canvas based on the size of the CanvasPanel.

Layout Management:

Manages two ArrayLists, layoutItems, and selectedItems, to store placed furniture items and selected items, respectively.

Mouse Event Handling:

Listens for mouse events (click, press, release, drag) to facilitate various interactions with furniture items.

Handles mouse click to place furniture items on the canvas and mouse drag to create a selection box for selecting multiple items.

Selection and Manipulation:

Implements functionality to select multiple furniture items using a selection box.

Provides options to move, delete, resize, and rotate selected items.

Popup Menu Display:

Displays a popup menu with options for moving, deleting, resizing, and rotating selected items.

Drawing and Repainting:

Draws furniture items, selection box, and grid on the canvas.

Repaints the canvas to reflect changes in layout, selection, or user interactions.

Interfaces:

User Interface: CanvasPanel provides a visual interface for the user to interact with by placing, selecting, moving, resizing, rotating, and deleting furniture items.

Communication with RightPanel and TopPanel: It interacts with the RightPanel and TopPanel classes to set the current object to be placed and display messages, respectively.

Interactions:

Communication with RightPanel:

CanvasPanel sets the current object to be placed based on the selection made in the RightPanel.

Communication with TopPanel:

CanvasPanel displays messages in the top panel (TopPanel) to inform the user about the status of operations such as moving, resizing, and rotating selected items.

Overall, CanvasPanel serves as the main canvas component in the GUI, facilitating the placement, selection, manipulation, and removal of furniture items. It provides a rich interactive experience for users to design their layouts and communicates with other panels to update the application state and display relevant messages.

- **TopPanel**:

Responsibilities:

Display Components: TopPanel is responsible for displaying Swing components, including buttons and a text field (JTextField).

Handle User Interactions: It manages user interactions with the buttons (addItemButton and clearCanvasButton) and handles actions performed by the user on these components.

Provide Singleton Instance: It ensures that only one instance of TopPanel is created throughout the application runtime.

UI Component Management:

Creates and manages Swing components like buttons (clearCanvasButton, addItemButton) and a text field (messageField).

Configures the layout of components within the panel (BoxLayout with horizontal alignment).

Button Actions:

"Clear": Clears the canvas by invoking CanvasPanel.getInstance().clearCanvas().

"Add Item": Shows a popup menu with categories of items. Selection of a category adds items to the RightPanel.

Singleton Instance Management:

Ensures that only one instance of TopPanel exists by providing a static getInstance() method.

Message Field Management:

Provides a method (setMessage()) to set text in the messageField.

Interfaces:

User Interface: TopPanel provides a visual interface for the user to interact with. It includes buttons for clearing canvas (clearCanvasButton) and adding items (addItemButton).

Communication with Other Panels: It interacts with the RightPanel and CanvasPanel classes to perform actions such as adding items and clearing the canvas.

Interactions:

Communication with RightPanel:

TopPanel communicates with RightPanel to add items based on user selection. It triggers actions on RightPanel by calling its addItems method with different types of items.

Communication with CanvasPanel:

TopPanel interacts with CanvasPanel indirectly through the clearCanvasButton. When the user clicks on the "Clear" button, it invokes the clearCanvas method of CanvasPanel to clear the canvas.

Interaction with ComplimentGenerator:

TopPanel initializes an instance of ComplimentGenerator and starts generating compliments. It provides a reference to the messageField (a JTextField) to display these compliments.

Overall, TopPanel serves as a crucial part of the GUI, managing user interactions and coordinating actions with other panels in the application. It encapsulates UI components and behaviors related to its functionality.

- RightPanel:

Responsibilities:

Display Components: RightPanel is responsible for displaying Swing buttons representing furniture items.

Handle User Interactions: It manages user interactions with these buttons and updates the canvas accordingly.

Provide Singleton Instance: It ensures that only one instance of RightPanel is created throughout the application runtime.

Provide Furniture Items: It provides methods to retrieve different categories of furniture items like essentials, kitchen items, bathroom items, etc.

UI Component Management:

Creates and manages Swing buttons representing furniture items.

Configures the layout of buttons within the panel (GridLayout with one column).

Item Addition:

Provides a method addItems to add furniture items to the panel based on the category selected.

Generates buttons dynamically for each furniture item, displaying an image and the name of the item.

Sets an action listener on each button to update the current object to be placed on the canvas and highlight the selected button.

Image Creation:

Generates images for the buttons representing furniture items using the createImageForItemMenu method.

Singleton Instance Management:

Ensures that only one instance of RightPanel exists by providing a static getInstance() method.

Category-wise Furniture Item Retrieval:

Provides methods to retrieve different categories of furniture items like essentials, kitchen items, bathroom items, etc.

These methods return ArrayList instances containing furniture objects of the respective categories.

Interfaces:

User Interface: RightPanel provides a visual interface for the user to select furniture items. It displays buttons representing various categories of furniture.

Communication with CanvasPanel: It interacts with the CanvasPanel class to update the current object to be placed on the canvas.

Interactions:

Communication with CanvasPanel:

RightPanel interacts with CanvasPanel by setting the current object to be placed when the user clicks on a furniture item button.

Overall, RightPanel plays a crucial role in the GUI, providing a means for the user to select furniture items categorized by type. It handles user interactions with these items and communicates with the CanvasPanel to update the canvas accordingly. Additionally, it encapsulates the logic for retrieving furniture items of different categories.

- FurnitureObject:

Responsibilities:

Name Retrieval:

Defines a method getName() to retrieve the name of the furniture item.

Drawing:

Defines a method draw(Graphics2D g2d) to draw the furniture object on the canvas using the provided 2D graphics context.

Object Creation:

Defines a method createObjectAtPosition(Point position) to create furniture objects at specific positions on the canvas.

Bounding Box:

Defines a method getBoundingBox() to obtain the bounding box of the furniture object, which can be used for collision detection or selection purposes.

Serialization and Deserialization:

Specifies methods writeObject(ObjectOutputStream oos) and readObject(ObjectInputStream in) for custom serialization and deserialization to manage the persistence of object state.

Interfaces:

Template for Furniture Objects: FurnitureObject serves as a template for creating various types of furniture objects representing items in the floor plan. This base template is extended in the IconObject and BoundaryLineObject abstract classes.

Custom Serialization and Deserialization: Specifies methods for custom serialization and deserialization to manage object state persistence.

Interactions:

Drawing Furniture Objects:

Defines a method for drawing furniture objects on the canvas using the provided graphics context.

Object Creation:

Defines a method for creating furniture objects at specific positions on the canvas.

Bounding Box Retrieval:

Defines a method for obtaining the bounding box of furniture objects for collision detection or selection purposes.

Serialization and Deserialization:

Specifies methods for custom serialization and deserialization to manage the persistence of object state.

Overall, the FurnitureObject interface defines the common functionality and behavior required for objects representing furniture items in the floor plan designer application. It specifies methods for obtaining names, drawing objects, creating objects at positions, and managing object state persistence through serialization and deserialization. This interface serves as a template for implementing various types of furniture objects in the application.

- **IconObject**:

Responsibilities:

Initialization:

Provides constructors to initialize the position and size of icon objects.

Image Handling:

Loads images associated with icon objects from file paths specified by imagePath.

Resizes loaded images to fit the specified size.

Draws the resized image onto the canvas.

Serialization and Deserialization:

Implements custom serialization and deserialization methods (writeObject and readObject) to persist the state of icon objects, including the associated image data.

Image Resizing:

Utilizes methods from the ImageManipulator class to resize loaded images to the specified dimensions.

Image Rotation:

Implements methods to rotate the associated image by 90, 180, or 270 degrees.

Communication with ImageManipulator:

Utilizes methods from the ImageManipulator class to perform image manipulation operations such as resizing and rotating.

Interfaces:

Template for Furniture Objects: IconObject serves as a template for creating various types of icon objects representing furniture items in the application.

Communication with ImageManipulator: It interacts with the ImageManipulator utility class to manipulate images associated with icon objects.

Interactions:

Communication with ImageManipulator:

Utilizes methods from the ImageManipulator class to load, resize, rotate, and manipulate images associated with icon objects.

Overall, IconObject encapsulates the common functionality and behavior required for managing icon objects representing furniture items in the application. It handles image loading, resizing, drawing, serialization, and deserialization, providing a convenient template for creating and manipulating icon objects. Additionally, it interacts with the ImageManipulator utility class to perform image manipulation operations required for displaying and modifying icon objects.

- BoundaryLineObject:

Responsibilities:

Initialization:

Provides constructors to initialize the position of boundary line objects.

Drawing:

Draws boundary line items on the canvas with specified characteristics such as color and stroke width.

Ensures that lines are drawn perfectly horizontal or vertical for accurate representation.

Snap to Grid:

Adjusts the position of boundary lines to snap to a grid for precise alignment.

Serialization:

Implements the writeObject method to serialize object state, including stroke width, to an output stream.

Deserialization:

Implements the readObject method to deserialize object state, including stroke width, from an input stream.

Interfaces:

Template for Furniture Objects: BoundaryLineObject serves as a template for creating boundary line objects representing walls or partitions in the floor plan.

Custom Serialization and Deserialization: Implements methods for custom serialization and deserialization to manage object state persistence.

Interactions:

Drawing Boundary Line Items:

Handles drawing boundary line items on the canvas with specified characteristics such as color, stroke width, and position.

Serialization and Deserialization:

Implements custom serialization and deserialization methods (writeObject and readObject) to serialize and deserialize object state, including stroke width.

Overall, BoundaryLineObject encapsulates the functionality and behavior required for managing boundary line items representing walls or partitions in the floor plan designer application. It handles drawing boundary line items, adjusting

positions, and ensures accurate representation on the canvas. Additionally, it implements custom serialization and deserialization methods for persistence of object state.

- PathConverter:

Responsibilities:

Operating System Identification:

Contains a method isWindows() to identify whether the current operating system is Windows.

Path Conversion:

Provides a method convertPathBasedOnOS(String path) to convert file paths based on the detected operating system.

Utilizes the isWindows() method to determine whether to convert the path to a Windows-specific format.

Implements a method convertToWindowsPath(String linuxPath) to convert Linux-style paths to Windows-style paths by replacing forward slashes with backslashes and removing any leading backslashes.

Ensures that if the detected OS is Windows, the input path is converted to a Windows path format using the convertToWindowsPath() method, while for other operating systems, the original path is returned unchanged.

Interfaces:

Operating System Identification:

Identifies the current operating system to determine the appropriate path conversion method.

Interactions:

Path Conversion:

Converts file paths based on the detected operating system to ensure compatibility.

Overall, the PathConverter utility class provides a mechanism to convert file paths to ensure compatibility across different operating systems. It identifies the current OS and applies the appropriate conversion method to the provided path. This

utility is crucial for maintaining consistency and interoperability in file handling operations within the application.

- MoveUtility:

Responsibilities:

Item Movement:

Provides a method moveSelectedItemsOnPanel(ArrayList<FurnitureObject> selectedItems, JPanel canvasPanel) to enable the movement of selected furniture items within a panel.

Registers mouse listeners to track mouse press, drag, and release events for item movement.

Stores initial mouse press location and initial positions of selected items relative to the mouse press location.

Calculates movement offsets based on mouse drag events and updates the positions of selected movable items accordingly.

Repaints the canvas panel to reflect the updated item positions during movement.

Restores previous mouse adapters upon completion of item movement by removing the added mouse adapter and restoring the saved ones.

Interfaces:

Mouse Adapter Handling:

Manages the addition, removal, and restoration of mouse adapters on the canvas panel.

Interactions:

Item Movement:

Tracks mouse events to determine item movement offsets and updates the positions of selected furniture items accordingly.

Repaints the canvas panel to reflect the updated item positions during movement.

Overall, the MoveUtility class provides essential functionality for enabling the movement of selected furniture items within a panel. It tracks mouse events to calculate movement offsets and update item positions accordingly, ensuring a smooth and intuitive user experience. Additionally, it manages the restoration of previous mouse adapters to maintain the application's original functionality after item movement is completed.

- MouseAdapterHandler:

Responsibilities:

Canvas Panel Management:

Provides a method setCanvasPanel(JPanel newCanvasPanel) to specify the canvas panel to which mouse adapters will be applied.

Mouse Adapter Management:

Saves the active mouse listeners and mouse motion listeners attached to the canvas panel.

Provides methods saveActiveMouseAdapters(), removeAllMouseAdapters(), and restoreSavedMouseAdapters() to respectively save active mouse adapters, remove all mouse adapters, and restore previously saved mouse adapters on the canvas panel.

Interactions:

Canvas Panel Management:

Tracks the canvas panel to which mouse adapters are applied.

Provides methods to set the canvas panel and manage mouse adapters.

The MouseAdapterHandler class encapsulates functionality for managing mouse adapters on a canvas panel. It allows for the dynamic addition, removal, and restoration of mouse listeners and mouse motion listeners, providing flexibility and control over mouse event handling in the application.

- ImageManipulator:

Responsibilities:

Resizing Images:

Utilizes Java's Graphics2D object to create a resized version of an original image.

Applies rendering hints to improve the quality of the resized image.

Provides a method resizeImage(BufferedImage originalImage, int targetWidth, int targetHeight) to resize an image to the specified target dimensions.

Rotating Images:

Utilizes Java's Graphics2D object and AffineTransform to create a rotated version of an original image.

Calculates the new dimensions of the rotated image based on the rotation angle.

Provides a method rotateImage(BufferedImage originalImage, double angleDegrees) to rotate an image by the specified angle in degrees.

Interactions:

Image Manipulation:

Utilizes Java's Graphics2D API to perform image resizing and rotation.

Provides methods resizeImage(BufferedImage originalImage, int targetWidth, int targetHeight) and rotateImage(BufferedImage originalImage, double angleDegrees) to respectively resize and rotate images.

The ImageManipulator class encapsulates functionality for resizing and rotating images. It provides methods to perform these operations, allowing for image manipulation within an application.

- FileHandler:

Responsibilities:

Saving Floor Plan:

Prompts the user to select a file location for saving the floor plan.

Writes the layout items data, along with an optional preview image of the canvas panel, to the selected file.

Provides a method saveToFileWithPreview(Component parentComponent, ArrayList<FurnitureObject> layoutItems, Component canvasPanel) for saving the floor plan data.

Loading Floor Plan:

Prompts the user to select a file for loading the floor plan.

Reads the layout items data from the selected file and updates the application state accordingly.

Provides a method loadFromFileWithPreview(Component parentComponent, ArrayList<FurnitureObject> layoutItems, Component canvasPanel) for loading the floor plan data.

Interactions:

File Handling:

Interacts with the user interface to prompt for file selection and saving.

Utilizes Java's file I/O classes to handle serialization and deserialization of floor plan data.

Renders a preview image of the canvas panel and saves it along with the floor plan data.

The FileHandler class encapsulates functionality for saving and loading floor plan data along with preview images. It interacts with the user interface to facilitate file selection and saving, as well as utilizes Java's file I/O classes for serialization and deserialization of floor plan data.

- ComplimentGenerator:

Responsibilities:

Scheduled Generation:

Periodically generates compliments and updates the user interface with positive feedback.

Utilizes a scheduled executor service to execute the compliment generation task at fixed intervals.

Provides a method startGeneratingCompliments() to initiate the scheduled generation of compliments.

Random Compliment Selection:

Selects a random compliment from a predefined list of compliments.

Ensures that each compliment is unique within the current session.

Interactions:

User Interface Interaction:

Utilizes Swing's JTextField to display generated compliments in the Message Center.

The ComplimentGenerator class is responsible for generating compliments periodically to provide positive feedback to the user. It interacts with Swing's JTextField to display generated compliments and utilizes a scheduled executor service for the periodic generation of compliments.

- Rotatable:

Responsibilities:

90-Degree Rotation:

Defines a method rotate90degrees() to rotate an object by 90 degrees.

180-Degree Rotation:

Defines a method rotate180degrees() to rotate an object by 180 degrees.

270-Degree Rotation:

Defines a method rotate270degrees() to rotate an object by 270 degrees.

The Rotatable interface outlines methods for rotating an object by specified degrees. It provides flexibility for implementing different rotation functionalities in classes that implement this interface.

- Resizable:

Responsibilities:

Resizing:

Set Small:

Defines a method setSmall() to set the size of an object to small.

Set Medium:

Defines a method setMedium() to set the size of an object to medium.

Set Large:

Defines a method setLarge() to set the size of an object to large.

The Resizable interface outlines methods for resizing an object to different predefined sizes. It allows classes that implement this interface to manage their size based on the defined levels of small, medium, and large.

- Movable:

Responsibilities:

Get Position:

Defines a method getPosition() to retrieve the current position of an object.

Set Position:

Defines a method setPosition(Point newPosition) to set the position of an object to a new location specified by the given point.

The Movable interface outlines methods for managing the movement of an object within a two-dimensional space. It allows classes that implement this interface to get and set the position of the object.
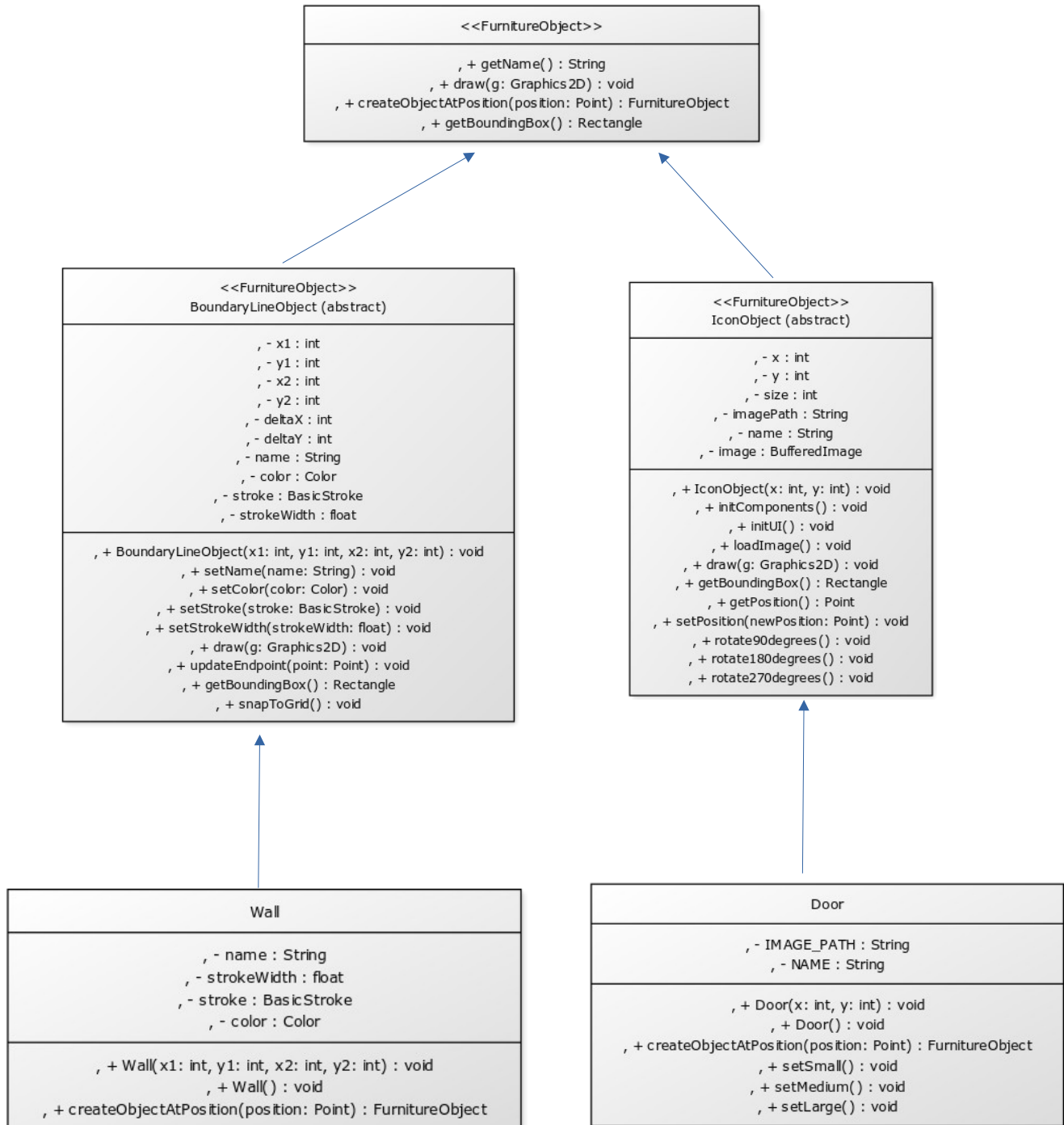
Diagrams:

<<FurnitureObject>>
- , + getName() : String
- , + draw(g: Graphics2D) : void
- , + createObjectAtPosition(position: Point) : FurnitureObject
- , + getBoundingBox() : Rectangle

<<FurnitureObject>>
BoundaryLineObject (abstract)
- , - x1 : int
- , - y1 : int
- , - x2 : int
- , - y2 : int
- , - deltaX : int
- , - deltaY : int
- , - name : String
- , - color : Color
- , - stroke : BasicStroke
- , - strokeWidth : float

- , + BoundaryLineObject(x1: int, y1: int, x2: int, y2: int) : void
- , + setName(name: String) : void
- , + setColor(color: Color) : void
- , + setStroke(stroke: BasicStroke) : void
- , + setStrokeWidth(strokeWidth: float) : void
- , + draw(g: Graphics2D) : void
- , + updateEndpoint(point: Point) : void
- , + getBoundingBox() : Rectangle
- , + snapToGrid() : void

<<FurnitureObject>>
IconObject (abstract)
- , - x : int
- , - y : int
- , - size : int
- , - imagePath : String
- , - name : String
- , - image : BufferedImage

- , + IconObject(x: int, y: int) : void
- , + initComponents() : void
- , + initUI() : void
- , + loadImage() : void
- , + draw(g: Graphics2D) : void
- , + getBoundingBox() : Rectangle
- , + getPosition() : Point
- , + setPosition(newPosition: Point) : void
- , + rotate90degrees() : void
- , + rotate180degrees() : void
- , + rotate270degrees() : void

Wall
- , - name : String
- , - strokeWidth : float
- , - stroke : BasicStroke
- , - color : Color

- , + Wall(x1: int, y1: int, x2: int, y2: int) : void
- , + Wall() : void
- , + createObjectAtPosition(position: Point) : FurnitureObject

Door
- , - IMAGE_PATH : String
- , - NAME : String

- , + Door(x: int, y: int) : void
- , + Door() : void
- , + createObjectAtPosition(position: Point) : FurnitureObject
- , + setSmall() : void
- , + setMedium() : void
- , + setLarge() : void

Fig 1. Simplified class hierarchy for Door and Wall,
which were the model concrete classes for
the two respective furniture object types

Standards and Conventions:

There weren't any particular standards that the team adhered to, but there were a few conventions followed in the naming and discussion of the project. If referring to a concrete implementation, such as Door or Wall, it is called an "item". If referring to an instance of an interface or abstract class, such as FurnitureObject or IconObject, then it is an "object". If the object is an instance of a JPanel, then it better have some form of the word "panel" in the name.

Another convention that was followed was the creation of utility classes. It was decided that, rather than go back and forth as to whether a particular method should belong to one class or another, if it had no logical connection to the concept of what any of the classes actually represent, put it in its own class as part of the Utils package. It was also a goal to keep all of the classes around 200 lines or less, but the numerous Listeners on the CanvasPanel could not be avoided.

APPENDIX

ChatGPT Logs for Ryan Swift:

(available in git bundle in `chatgptLogs` directory)