

- ▶ To link to another file in the same folder, specify the file name. Example: everglades.htm
- ▶ To link to a file in a subfolder of the current Web site folder (such as the Images folder), the link path would consist of the name of the subfolder, a forward slash (/), and then the file name. Example: Images/gator.jpg.

You use the **root-relative link** primarily when working with a large Web site that requires several servers. Web developers generally use this type of link when they must move HTML files from one folder or server to another folder or server. Root-relative links are beyond the scope of this book.

Two other types of links are named anchor and e-mail. A **named anchor** lets the user link to a specific location within a document. An **e-mail link** creates a blank e-mail message containing the recipient's address. A third type of link is a **null**, or **script, link**. This type of link provides for attaching behaviors to an object or executes JavaScript code.

Relative Links

Another Dreamweaver feature is the variety of ways in which to create a relative link. Two of the more commonly used methods are drag-and-drop and browse for file. The **drag-and-drop method** requires that the Property inspector be open and that the site files display in the Site panel. The **browse for file method** is accomplished through a dialog box. The next step is to add the text to create the relative links between the home page and the national and state park pages. You will then use drag and drop to create a relative link from the text to a specific Web page.

Adding Text for the Relative Links

To create relative links from the index page, you add text to the index page and use the text to create the links to the other two Web pages in your Web site. You will center the text directly below the Discovering Scenic Florida heading. You add the text for the links in the following steps.

Steps To Add Text for Relative Links

- 1 **Click the index.htm tab. If necessary, scroll to the top of the page and then position the insertion point at the end of the title, Discovering Scenic Florida. Press the ENTER key and then press the END key.**

The insertion point is centered below the title (Figure 2-70). Pressing the END key positions the insertion point outside of the heading `</H1>` tag.

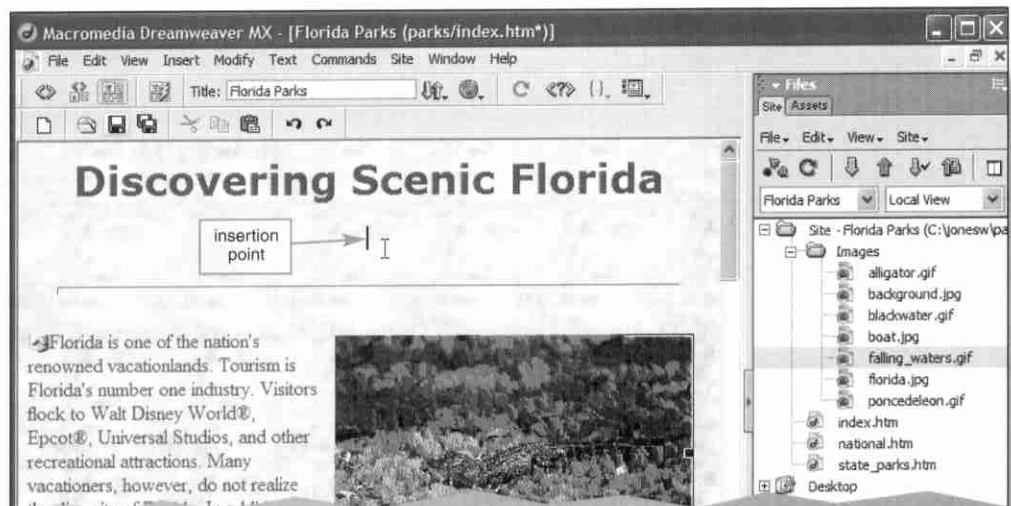


FIGURE 2-70

2 Type National Parks and then press the SPACEBAR.

The text for the first link, National Parks, is displayed in the Document window (Figure 2-71).

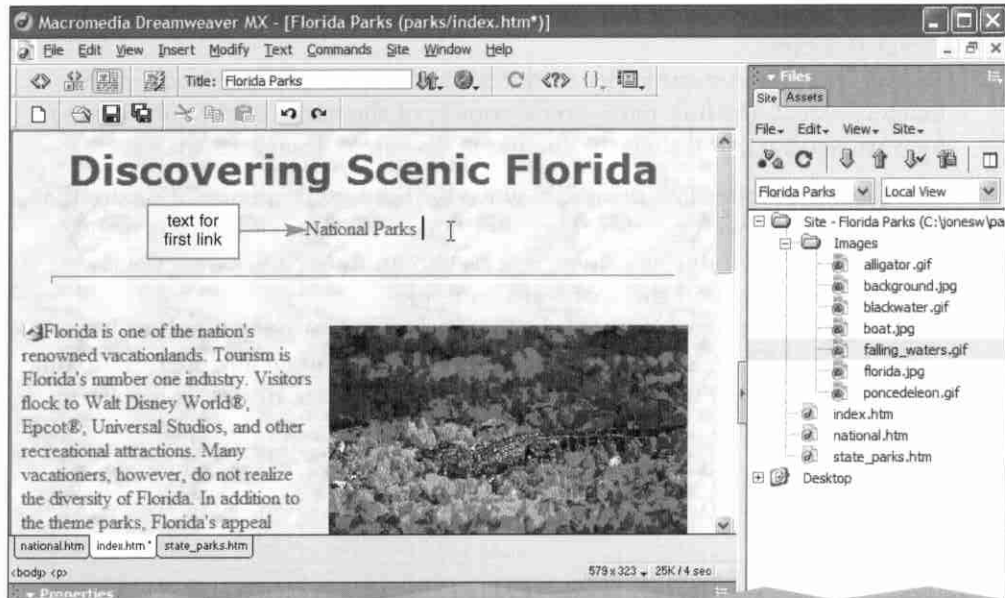


FIGURE 2-71

3 Hold down the SHIFT key and then press the VERTICAL LINE KEY (|). Press the SPACEBAR and then type NW State Parks for the second link.

Text for both links is displayed in the Document window (Figure 2-72).

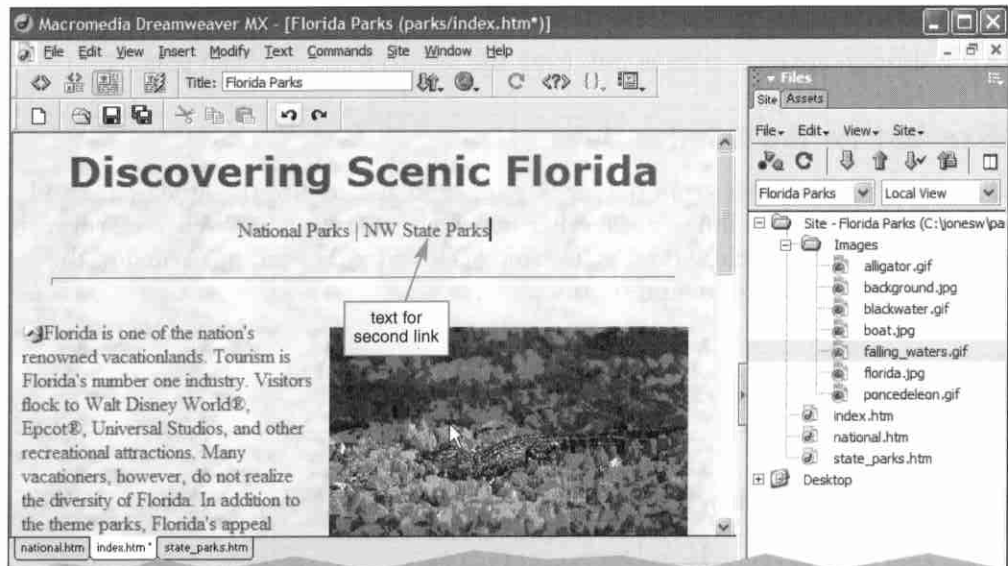


FIGURE 2-72

You will use the text, National Parks, to create a link to the national parks Web page and the text, NW State Parks, to create a link to the northwest state parks page.

Creating a Relative Link Using Drag and Drop

A relative link is used to create links between local files or files within one Web site. The drag-and-drop method requires that the Property inspector be displayed. Complete the following steps to use the drag-and-drop method to create a relative link from the Florida Parks home page to the national parks Web page.

Steps To Create a Relative Link Using Drag and Drop

- 1 Click the expander arrow in the lower-left corner of the Property inspector to collapse it. Drag to select the text **National Parks**.

The *National Parks* text is highlighted (Figure 2-73).

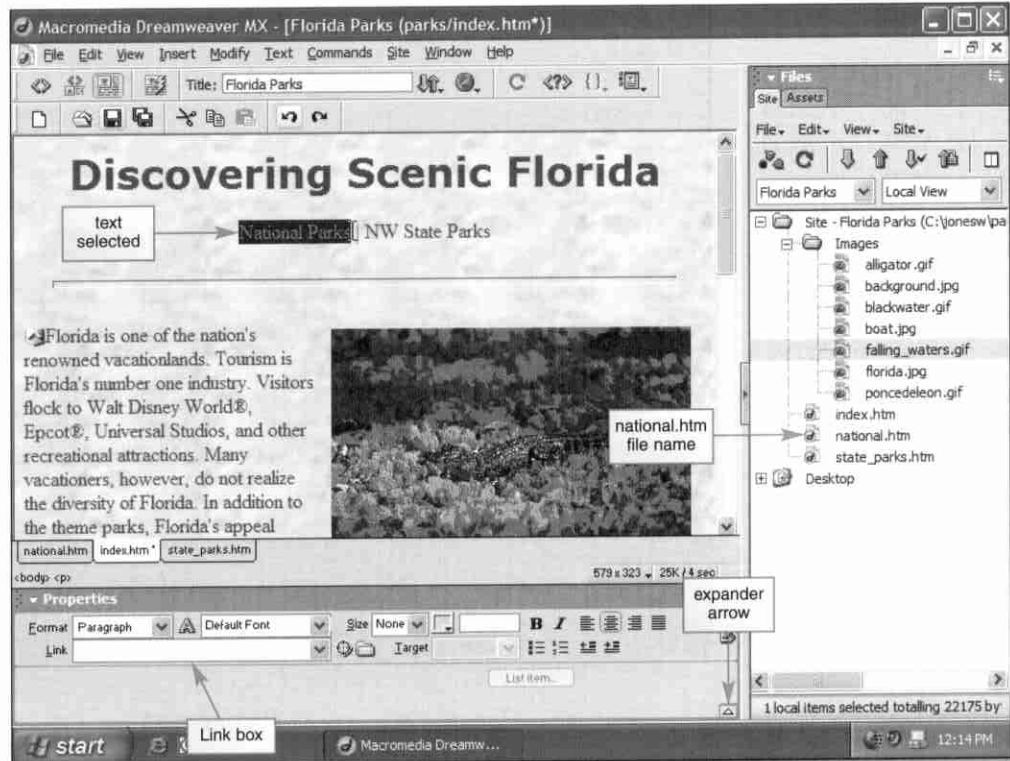


FIGURE 2-73

- 2 Drag the **national.htm** file to the Link box in the Property inspector.

When you start to drag, a page icon displays next to the mouse pointer, indicating the link is being copied. When the mouse pointer is over the Link box, it changes to a circle with a centered line (Figure 2-74). This circle indicates the link is established.

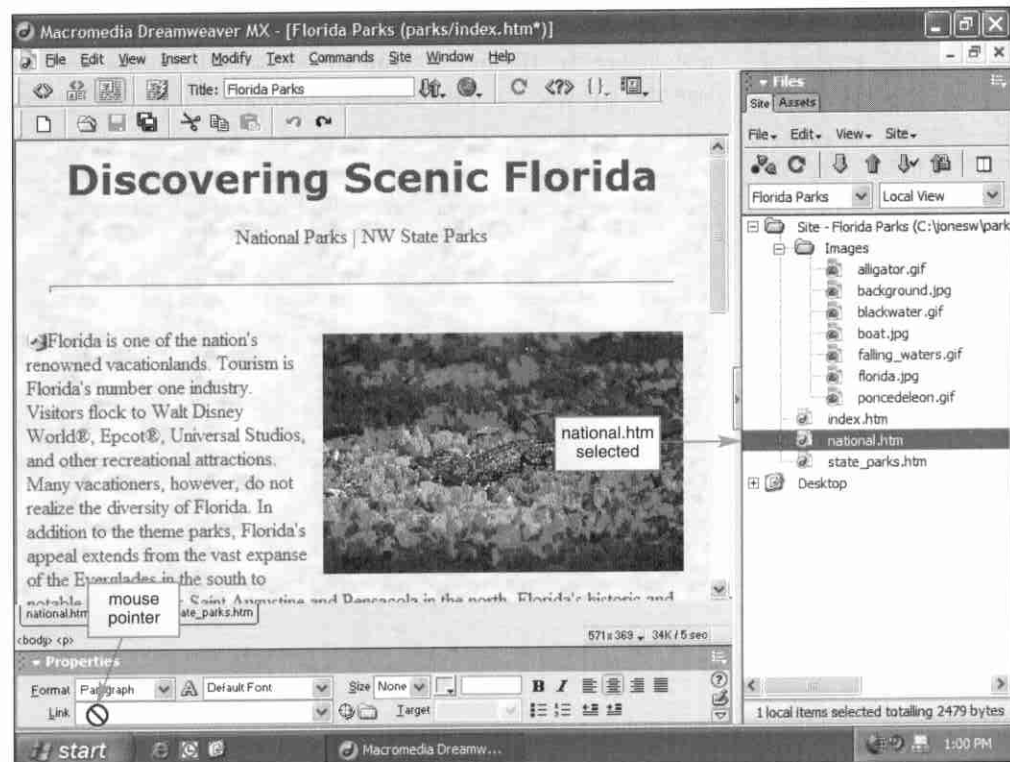


FIGURE 2-74

3 Release the mouse button. Click National Parks to display the linked text.

The linked text displays underlined and in a different color in the Document window, and the link text displays in the Link box (Figure 2-75). If you click anywhere else in the document, the linked document name does not display in the Link box.

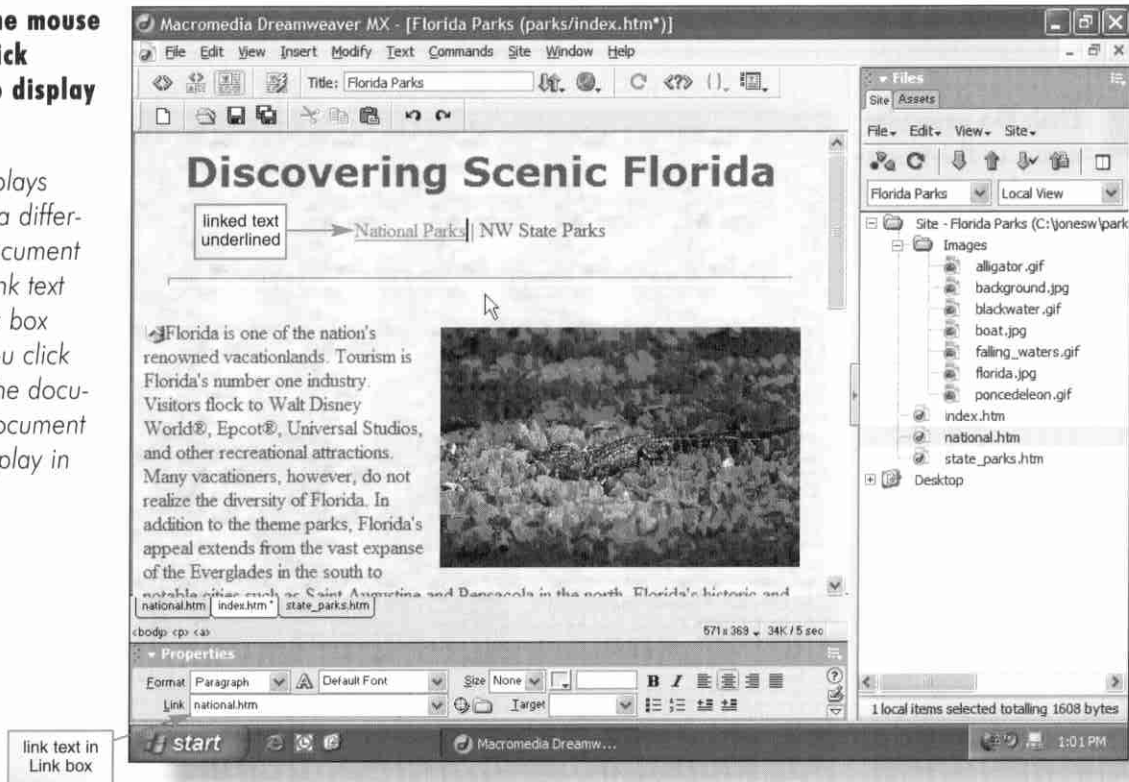


FIGURE 2-75

More About

Images as Links

It is easy to create a link from an image. Just select the image and then type or drag the file name into the Property inspector Link box.

Creating a Relative Link Using Browse for File

The **Browse for File** method is a second way to create a link. Using this method, you select the file name from the Select File dialog box. In the following steps, you use the Browse for File method to create a link to the state parks page.

Steps To Create a Relative Link Using Browse for File

- 1 Drag to select NW State Parks and then point to the Browse for File icon in the Property inspector.

The text NW State Parks is highlighted (Figure 2-76).

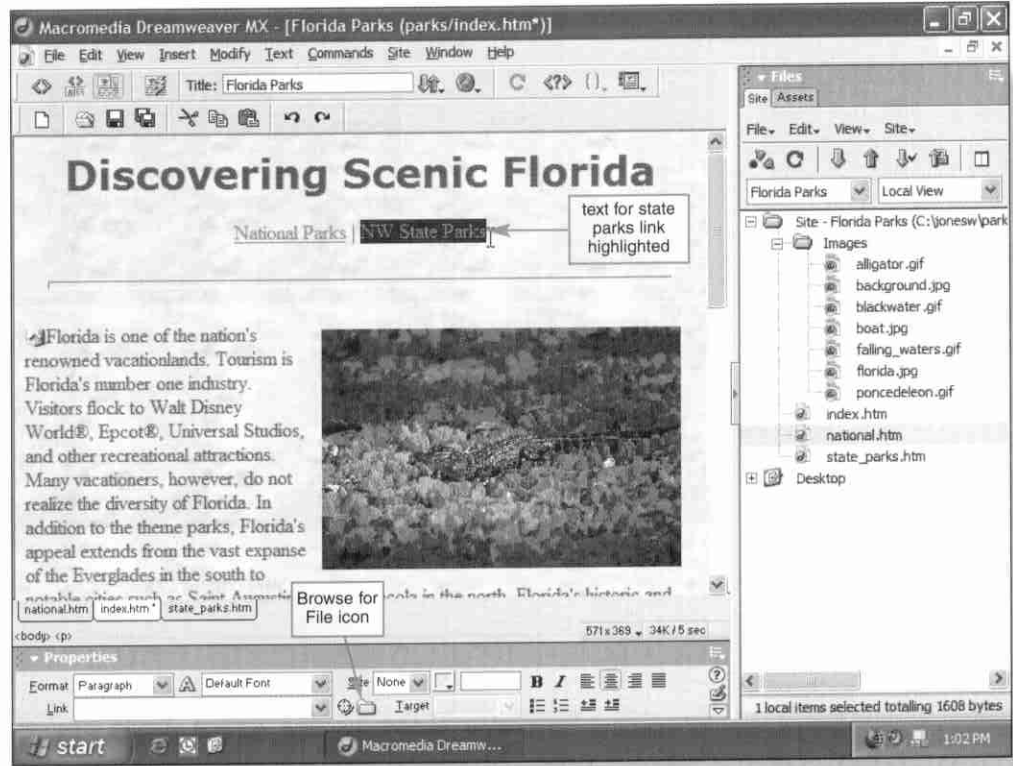


FIGURE 2-76

- 2 Click the Browse for File icon and then click state_parks.htm. Point to the OK button.

The Select File dialog box is displayed (Figure 2-77).

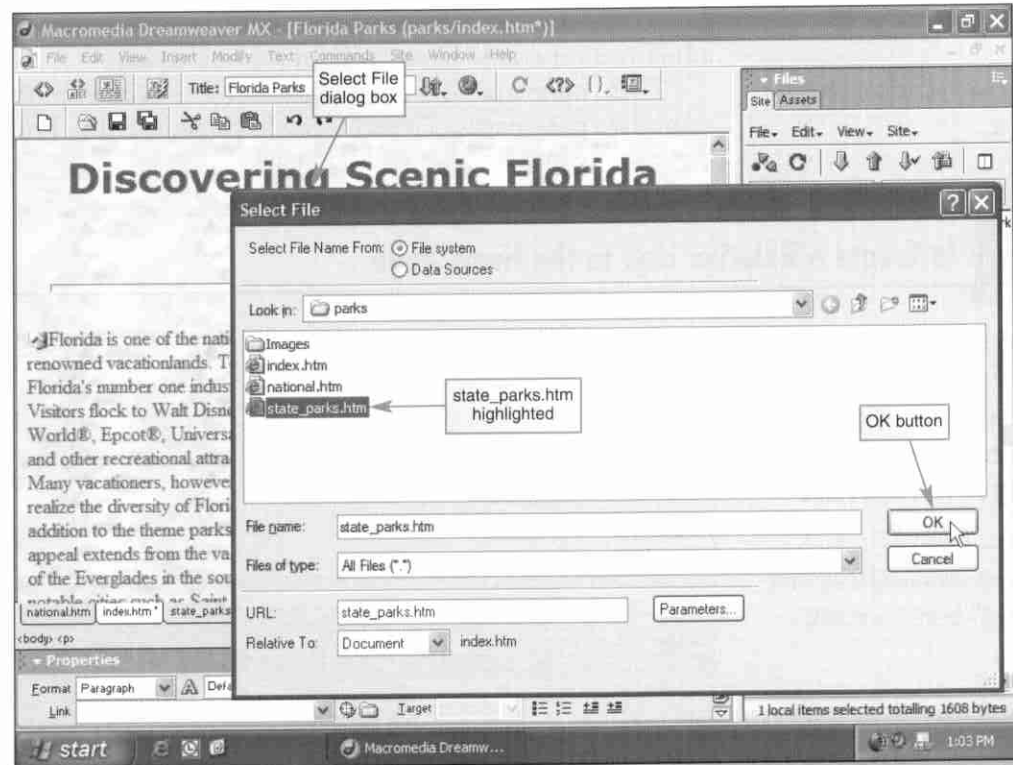


FIGURE 2-77

3 Click the OK button and then click the selected text, **NW State Parks**, to display the link.

The linked text displays underlined and in a different color in the Document window and the link text displays in the Link box (Figure 2-78). If you click anywhere else in the document, the linked document name does not display in the Link box.

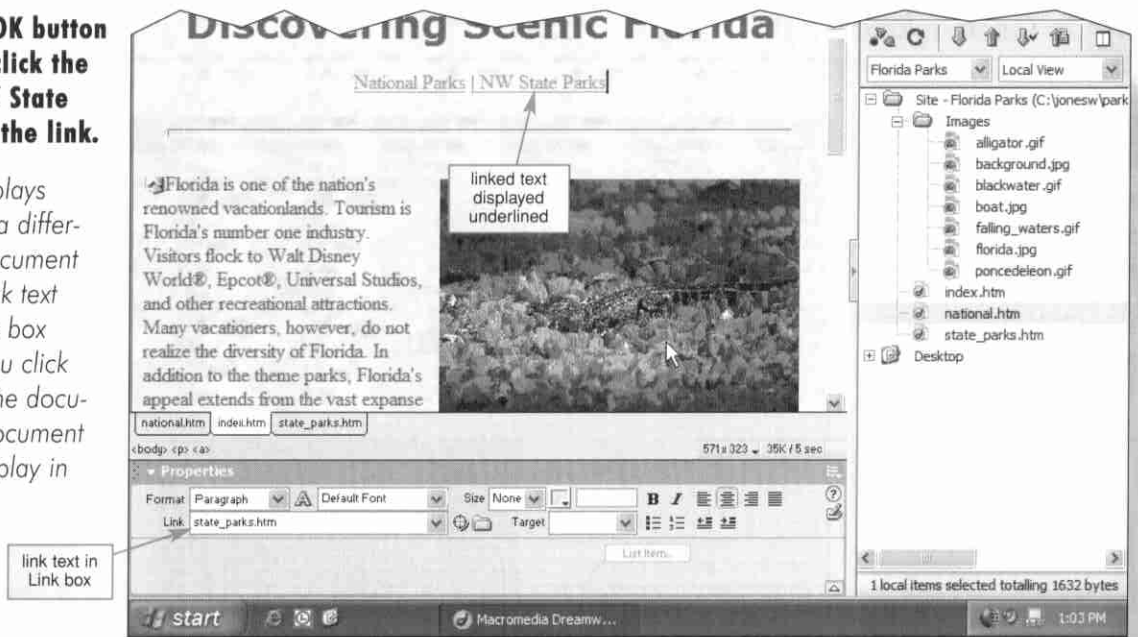


FIGURE 2-78

Other Ways

1. Click Link box, type file name
2. Click Point to File icon in Property inspector, drag to file name

Creating Relative Links to the Home Page and the Three National Parks Pages

You created a relative link from the home page to each of the other two pages within the Web site. Visitors can enter a Web site at any point, however, so it is important always to include a link from each page within the site back to the home page. Complete the following steps to create a link from the national parks page and a link from the state parks page to the home page.

Then, on the national parks page, create links from the three park names to the respective park pages. These links will be activated in Project 3 when you create the three pages for the three national parks.

Steps To Create a Relative Link to the Home Page

1 Click the **national.htm** tab and then scroll to the bottom of the page. Drag to select **Home**.

The text, **Home**, is highlighted (Figure 2-79). This text will become a link.

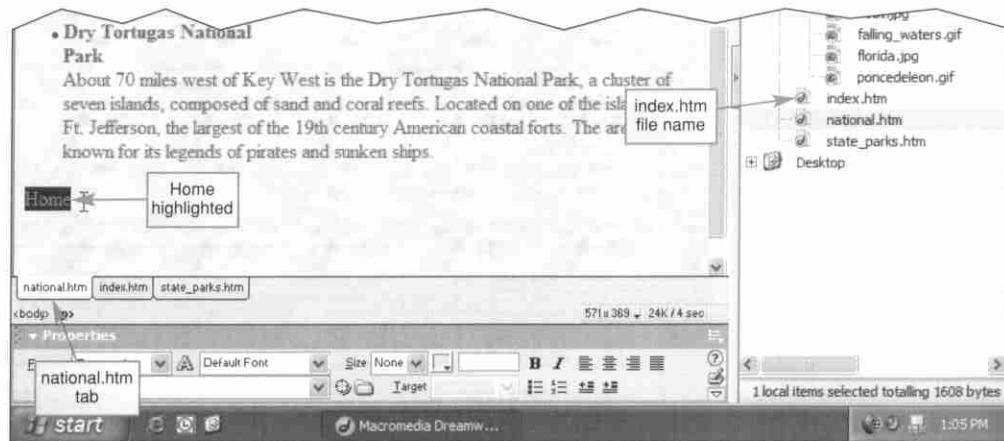
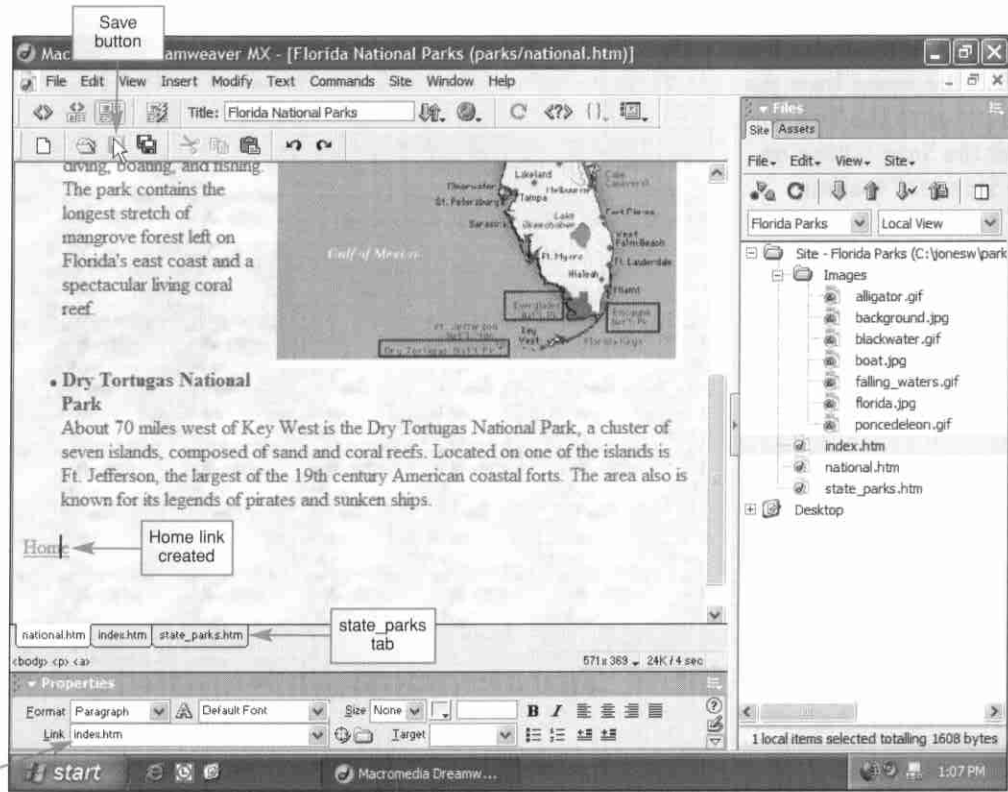


FIGURE 2-79

2 Drag the **index.htm** file name from the **Site** panel to the **Link** box. Click the text, **Home**, to display the link. Click the **Save** button on the **Standard** toolbar. Point to the **state_parks.htm** tab.

The link is created and **index.htm** displays in the **Link** box (Figure 2-80). The **national parks** page is saved and the asterisk no longer displays on the tab or title bar.



link text in Link box

FIGURE 2-80

3 Click the **state_parks.htm** tab. If necessary, scroll to the end of the document and then drag to select the text, **Home** (Figure 2-81).

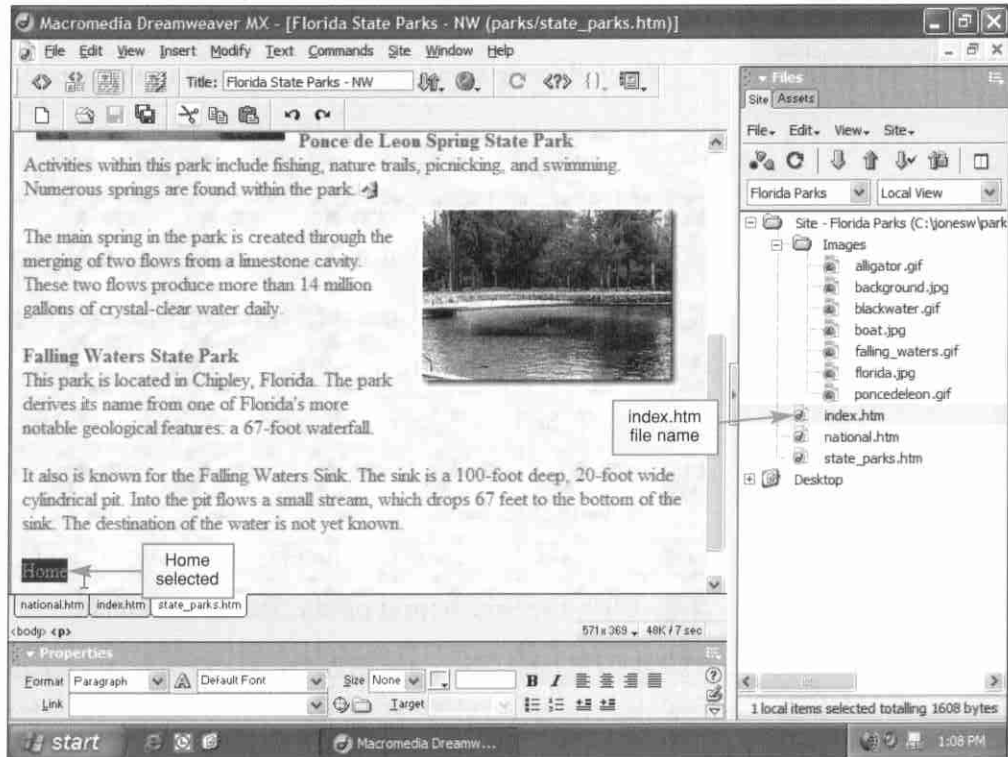


FIGURE 2-81

4 Drag the `index.htm` file name from the Site panel to the Link box. Click the Save button on the Standard toolbar.

The link is created and `index.htm` displays in the Link box (Figure 2-82). The state parks page is saved.

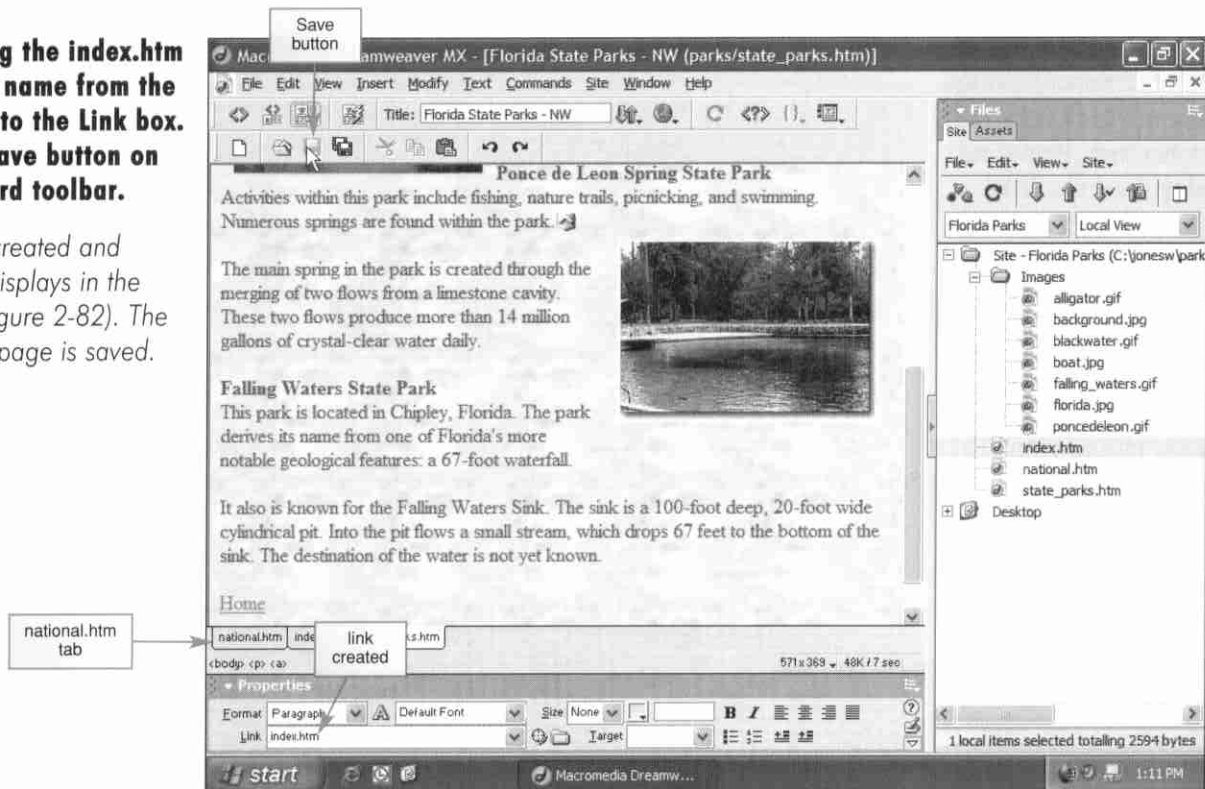


FIGURE 2-82

Other Ways

- 1 Click Link box, type file name

The following steps create relative links to the national parks pages.

TO CREATE RELATIVE LINKS TO THE THREE NATIONAL PARKS PAGES

- 1 Click the `national.htm` tab.
- 2 Drag to select the bulleted text, Everglades National Park.
- 3 Click the Link box and then type `everglades.htm` for the link text.
- 4 Drag to select the bulleted text, Biscayne National Park.
- 5 Click the Link box and then type `biscayne.htm` for the link text.
- 6 If necessary, scroll down. Drag to select the bulleted text, Dry Tortugas National Park.
- 7 Click the Link box and then type `dry_tortugas.htm` for the link text.
- 8 Click the Save button on the Standard toolbar.

The three relative links are added to the Florida National Parks page and the Web page is saved. You create the pages for these links in Project 3.

Absolute Links

In Project 1, you created an absolute link from the index page to the Florida Environmental Department. To create an absolute link, you must know the URL or the path of the external site to which you want to link. You can type the link in the Link box or copy and paste the link.

Creating an Absolute Link

You now will create three absolute (external) links in the NW State Parks page. These links are from the name of each of the three parks to a Web page about the selected park. Perform the following steps to create the three absolute links.

TO CREATE AN ABSOLUTE LINK

- 1 If necessary, scroll to the top of the page. Drag to select the text, Blackwater River State Park.
- 2 Click the Link box and then type `http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/district1/blackwater/index.asp`.
- 3 Drag to select the text, Ponce de Leon Spring State Park. Click the Link box and then type `http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/district1/poncedeleon/index.asp`.
- 4 If necessary, scroll down and then drag to select the text, Falling Waters State park. Click the Link box and then type `http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/district1/fallingwaters/index.asp`.
- 5 Click the Save button on the Standard toolbar.

The three absolute links are added to the respective state parks page (Figure 2-83) and the Web page is saved.

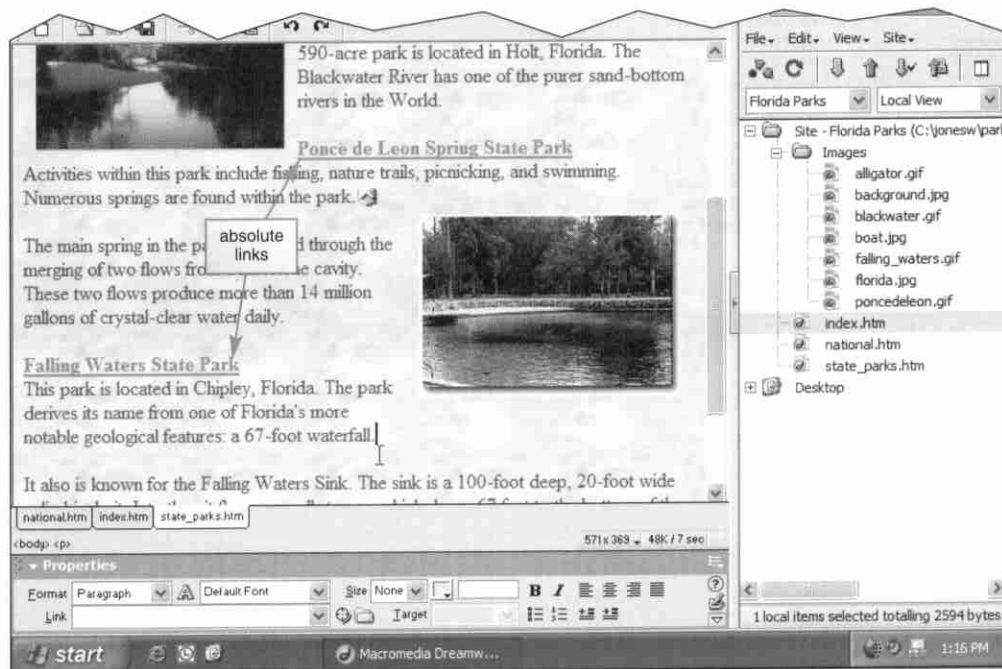


FIGURE 2-83

More About

Absolute Links

When you add an absolute link to a Web page, generally you have no control over the Web pages to which you have linked. If the name of the linked page is changed or removed, your visitors will receive an error message when they click the link. Maintain your site by testing your links periodically.

Other Ways

- 1 Start browser, open Web page, select URL, copy URL, close browser, paste in Link box

E-mail Links

An **e-mail link** is one of the foundation elements of any successful Web site. It is important for visitors to be able to contact you for additional information or to comment on the Web page or Web site. When visitors click an e-mail link, their default e-mail program opens to a new e-mail message. The e-mail address you specify is inserted automatically in the To box.

Creating an E-mail Link

The next steps create an e-mail link for your home page using your name as the linked text. You do this through the Insert menu.

Steps To Add an E-mail Link

- 1 Click the **index.htm** tab, scroll down, and then drag to select your name. Click **Insert** on the menu bar and then point to **Email Link**.

Your name is highlighted and the **Insert** menu is displayed (Figure 2-84).

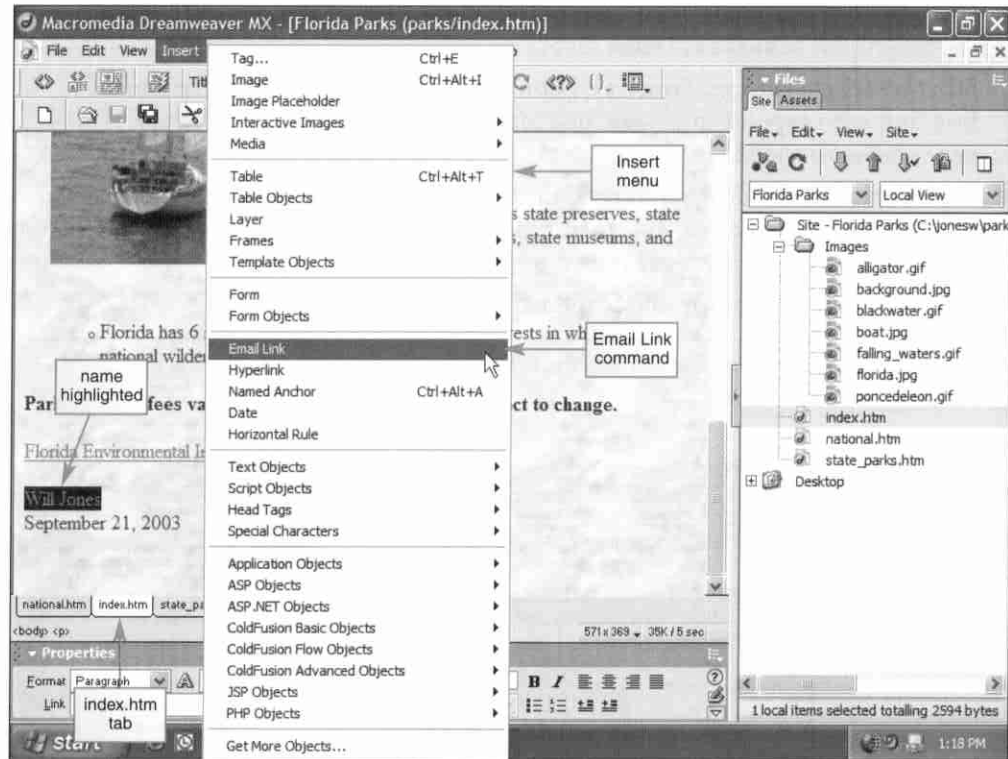


FIGURE 2-84

2 Click Email Link.

The Email link dialog box is displayed. Will Jones is highlighted in the Text text box (Figure 2-85). On your computer, your name is displayed in the Text box.

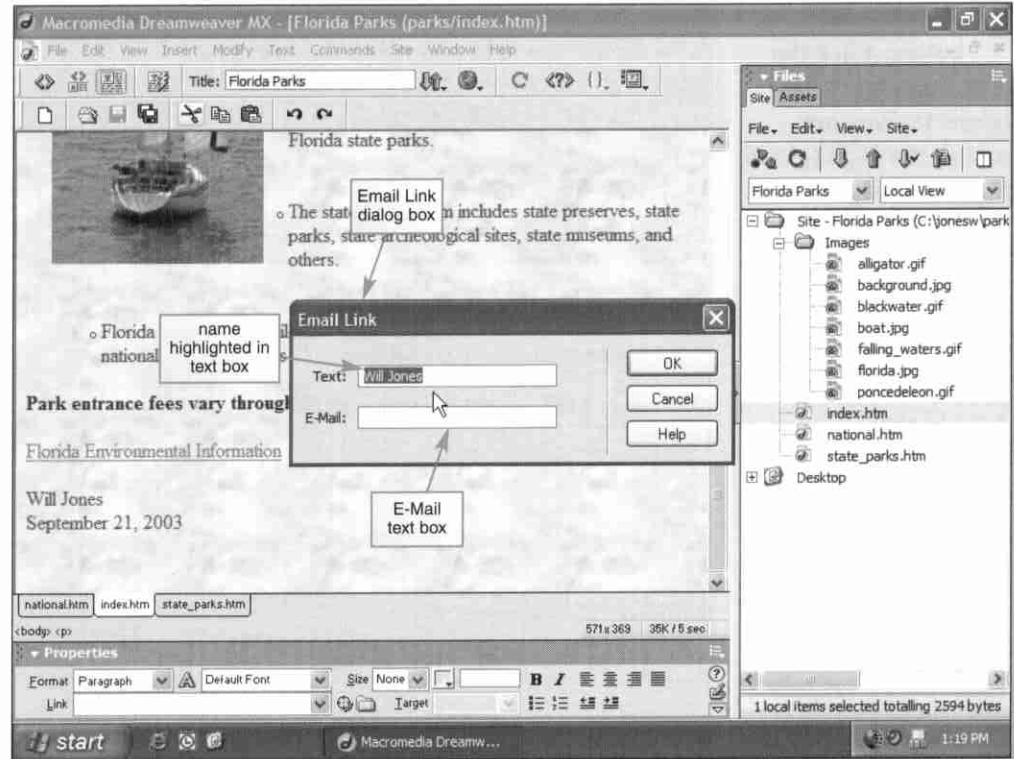


FIGURE 2-85

3 Click the E-Mail text box and then type your e-mail address. Point to the OK button.

The e-mail address for Will Jones is displayed in the E-Mail text box. On your computer, Dreamweaver displays your e-mail address (Figure 2-86).

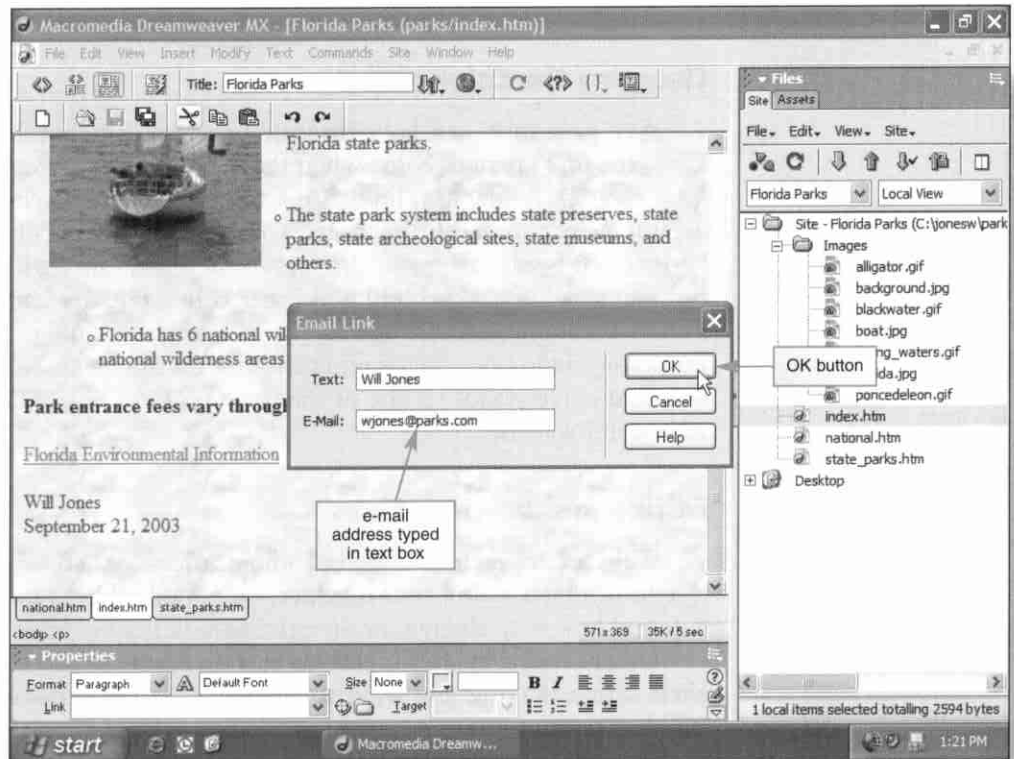


FIGURE 2-86

4 Click the **OK** button. Click the **Save** button on the **Standard toolbar** and then click the **highlighted text (your name)**.

The selected text for the e-mail link, *Will Jones*, is displayed as linked text. The **Link box** displays the e-mail address (Figure 2-87). On your computer, Dreamweaver displays your name as the linked text.

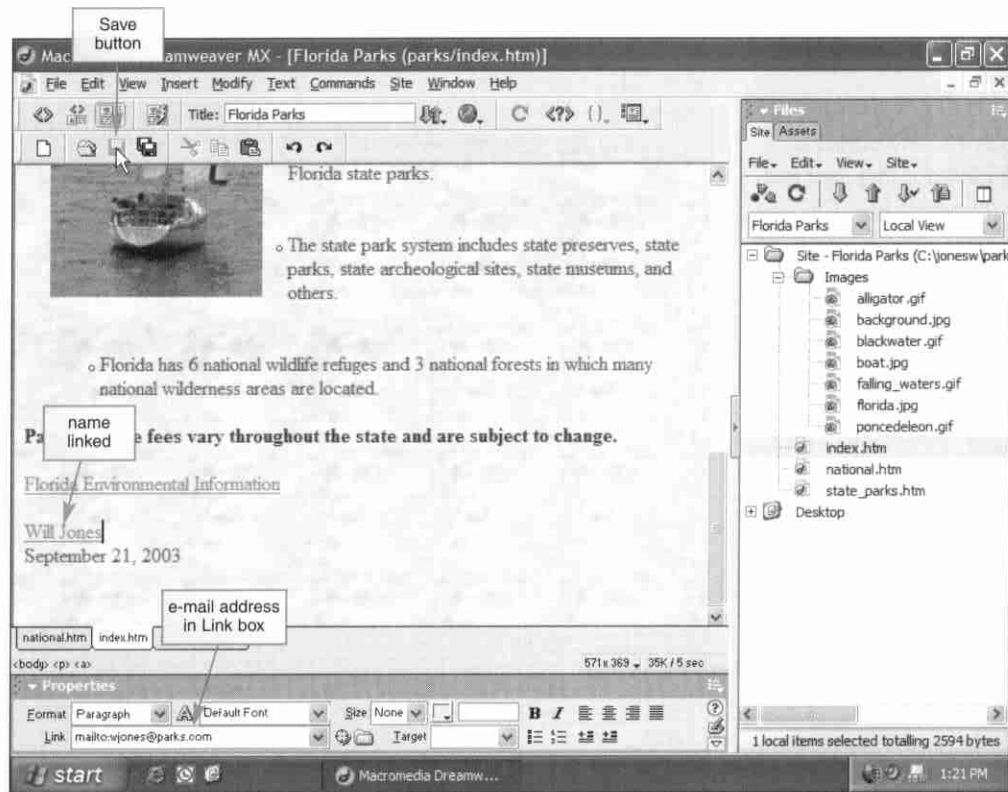


FIGURE 2-87

Changing the Color of Links

Web page links can have three colors: Link (the link has not been clicked), Active Link (the link changes color when the user clicks it), and Visited Link (the link has been visited). By default, linked text follows the color scheme established in your default Web browser. In Internet Explorer, linked text is blue and visited links are dark red. It is easy to make changes to these default settings and select colors that complement the background and other colors you are using on your Web pages. This is accomplished through the Page Properties dialog box. You display the Page Properties dialog box by clicking **Modify** on the menu bar. You then can click the box that corresponds to one of the three types of links and select a color to match your color scheme.

Editing and Deleting Links

Web development is a never-ending process. At some point, it will be necessary to edit or delete a link. For instance, an e-mail address may change, a URL to an external link may change, or an existing link may contain an error.

Dreamweaver makes it easy to edit or delete a link. First, select the link or click within the link you want to change. The linked document name displays in the **Link box** in the Property inspector. To delete the link without deleting the text, delete the text from the **Link box**. To edit the link, make the change in the **Link box**.

A second method to edit or delete a link is to use the context menu. Right-click within the link you want to change and then click **Remove Link** on the context menu to eliminate the link; click **Change Link** on the context menu to edit the link.

More About

Targeting Links

By default, when you click a link, the Web page will open in the current browser window. You can specify, however, to open a linked Web page in a new browser window.

First, select the item and create the link. Then, in the expanded Property inspector, click the **Target** box arrow and click **_blank** on the **Target** pop-up menu. When you view the page in a browser and click the link, it will display in a new window.