



# Sharing Your Digital Projects and Data

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Reuse, Collaboration and Research Impact  
Content Management Systems and Digital Collections  
Management Systems

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# Objective(s)

- To appreciate the differing ways that WordPress (Content Management Software) and Omeka (Collections/Exhibition Management Software) are employed in the Humanities and Social Sciences;
- To increase and understanding of where each might be an appropriately particular choice and where they may work well in harmony.

# Agenda

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- Content Management defined
- Collections/Exhibitions Management Defined
- Strengths and Weaknesses
- Uses and Extending
- Case Studies
- Discussion



**A Short Digression for the Week That's In It  
Happy Open Access Week!**

**FINDABLE**

**ACCESSIBLE**

**INTEROPERABLE**

**REUSABLE**

# FAIR data



- Describe your data in a data repository
- Apply a persistent identifiers

**Findable**

- Consider what will be shared
- Obtain participant consent & perform risk management

**Accessible**

**Interoperable**

- Use open formats
- Consistent vocabulary
- Common metadata standards

**Reusable**

- Consider permitted use
- Apply appropriate licence



# Why is FAIR?

- If data cannot be found - it is essentially digitally lost
- Social cost
- Potential loss being recognised by funding bodies
- **Maximise** potential of data assets
- **Increase** visibility and citations of research
- **Improve** reproducibility and reliability of research
- **Stay aligned** with international standards - sustainable
- **Attract** new partnerships with researchers, business, policy and broader communities
- **Enable** new research questions to be answered
- **Use** new innovative research approaches and tools
- **Achieve** maximum impact from research

# Why Share FAIR?

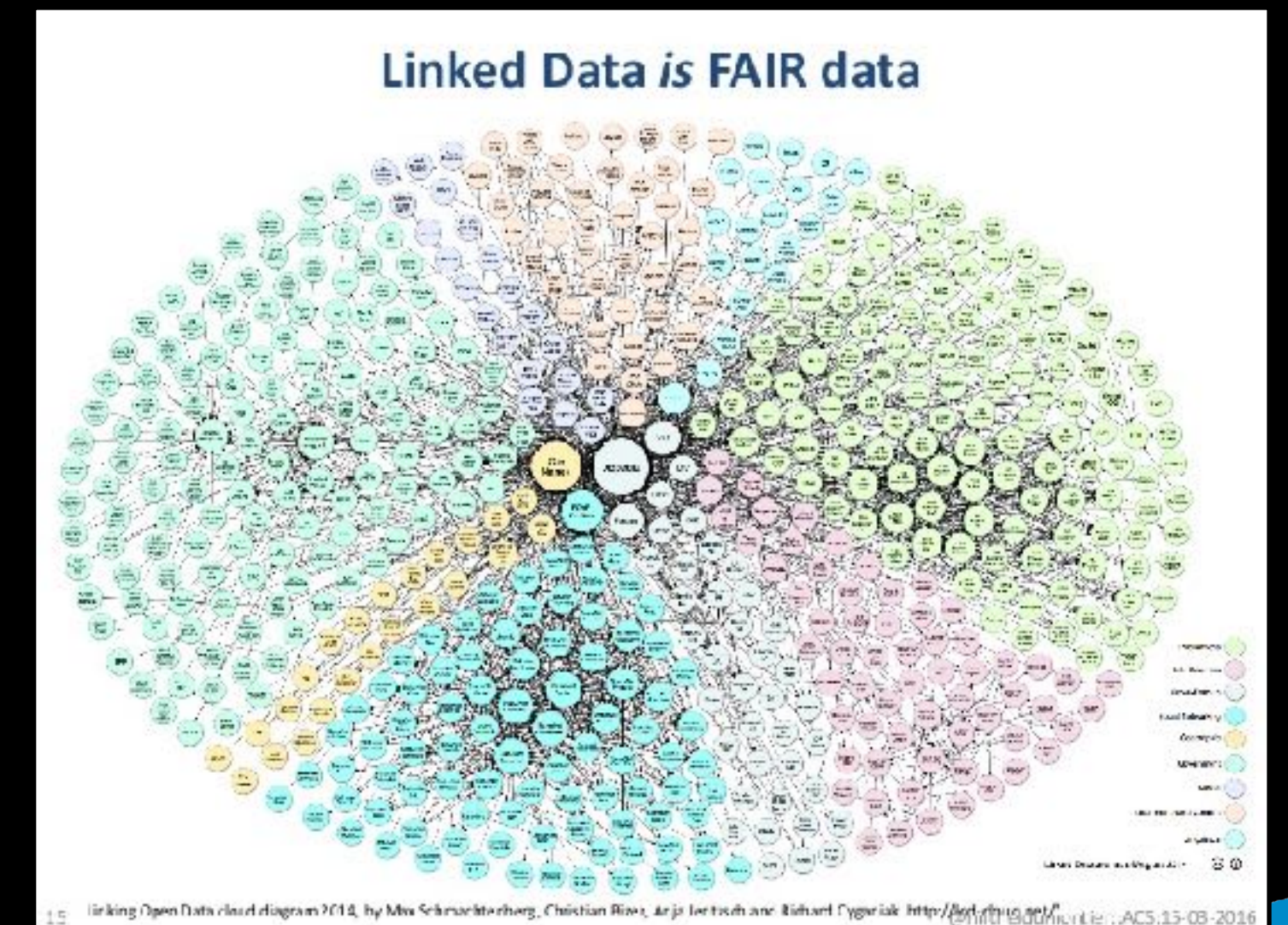
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- Minimal set of community-agreed guiding principles and practices
- An Ethos, an Approach, a Perspective
- Community-Owned and Initiated
- Values (rather than logistics) driven
- Interdisciplinary
- Pragmatic - Implementable in Entirety or in Part
- Data + Methods = Crucial
- Involves and serves both machine and human



# What FAIR is Not

- Not a Standard
- Not the semantic web or linked data
- Not just about human access
- IS Not Equal to Open
  - A Digression on OPEN
- Not Limited to the Life Sciences







**Returning to Our Regularly  
Scheduled Programming**

# What is a Content Management System?

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“A web content management system (WCMS) is a software system that provides website authoring, collaboration, and administration tools designed to allow users with little knowledge of web programming languages or markup languages to create and manage website content with relative ease”

-Wikipedia



# What is a Content Management System?

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- Collect and Disseminate
- Categorise
- Curate
- Is it a Blog? Is it Wiki?-Wikipedia

# Benefits of a CMS

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- Allow for a large number of people to contribute to and share stored data
- Control access to data, based on user roles (defining which information users or user groups can view, edit, publish, etc.)
- Aid in easy storage and retrieval of data
- Reduce repetitive duplicate input
- Improve the ease of report writing
- Improve communication between users



# Features of CMS

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- Templating
- User Management
- Scalability of Deployment
- Easily Editing of Content
- Extensibility of Features/  
Functionality
- Adherence to Web  
Standards
- Workflow Management
- Collaboration
- Delegation
- Authentication and  
Access Control
- Document Management
- Content Syndication
- Multilingual
- Versioning

# Popular CMS' in Academia

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- Drupal
- Joomla
- Wordpress
- Terminal 4

# Drupal

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## ▸ Pros

- Widely Used
- Many Modules
- Authentication and Security
- Scalable
- Many Custom Forks
- Commercial Forks

## ▸ Cons

- Steep Learning Curve
- Proprietary Cycle
- Deep

# Joomla

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## ▸ Pros

- Widely Used
- Many Modules
- Authentication and Security
- Scalable

## ▸ Cons

- Steep Learning Curve
- Proprietary Cycle
- Deep



# WordPress

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## ▸ Pros

- Widely Used
- Many Plug-Ins
- Social
- Approachable
- Multi-User
- Very Refined User Experience

## ▸ Cons

- Less Scalable
- Less Secure

# What is WordPress?

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- A robust blogging platform that has evolved into a multi-purpose content management platform
- Open Source software available as a hosted solution and also available for self-hosted extensibility
- Based on the combination of fluid posts and static pages
- The basis of over 25% of the websites on the internet
- Over 25,000 plugins and themes

# What is A Collections/Exhibit Management System?

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“Omeka is “WordPress for museums” despite the fact that Omeka isn’t WordPress and many more institutions (and individuals) than museums can use it.

But the analogy works here because WordPress is recognized as an easy-to-use, flexible, customizable web publishing platform—all goals of Omeka as well.”

- Julie Meloni, 2010



# What is Omeka?

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- “is used to to organize, describe, and display digital images, audio files, videos, and texts. The websites are visually appealing (many themes feature responsive design), and you can create exhibits to tell the narrative of groups of items.”

- Zach Coble, 2013

Crucially - It is driven by domain specific metadata in a way that a CMS is not.





# Why is Metadata Important?

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- "If a resource does not have any associated metadata information, then it is essentially lost."
- "If a resource has erroneous, inconsistent, or not enough metadata information, then it is essentially non-existent."





**Important: CMS and DCMS do in fact play well together and are not mutually exclusive.**

# What Makes Wordpress So Popular?

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- Easy and Accessible
- Vast Community
- Plug-In Ecosystem
- Templating
- Menu Management
- Extensible Through Custom Fields
- Custom Themes



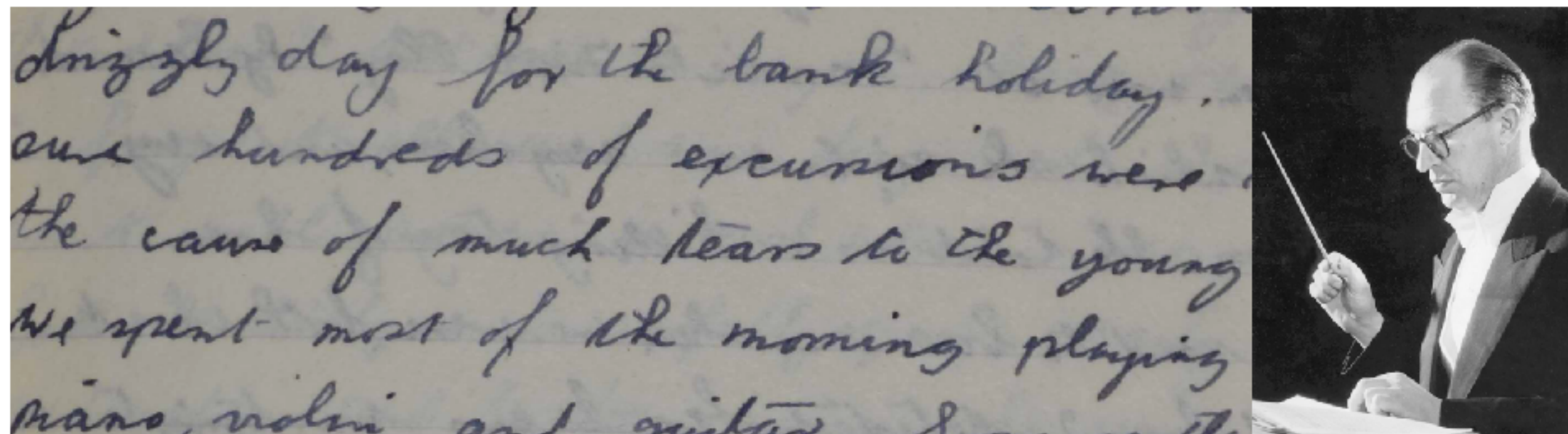
# Wordpress Downside/Challenges

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- Deep Modification Requires PHP Knowledge
- Graphic Modifocations Require HTML and CSS
- Extensiblility Can Substantially Impact Performance
- Privacy and Security

# A Case Study

WELCOME TO **THE FLEISCHMANN DIARIES**  
The 1926 and 1927 diaries of the Irish composer Aloys Fleischmann (1910-1992)



INTRODUCTION



View the Introduction

1926 DIARY



View the 1926 Diary

1927 DIARY



View the 1927 Diary

GALLERY



View the Gallery

<http://fleischmannndiaries.ucc.ie>

# Omeka's Strengths

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- Dedicated Collection Management
- Implicit Structured Metadata
- Rigidity is a Strength
- Robust extensibility
- Open Source basis
- Robust scalability



# Exploring Omeka



# Omeka in Action



**Gothic Past**  
VISUAL ARCHIVE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE IN IRELAND

[My Gothic Past Login](#) | [Register](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

[Home](#) [How To](#) [Archive](#) [Collections](#) [Exhibits](#) [Map](#) [Links](#) [About](#) [NEWS](#) [Contact Us](#)



St. Patrick's Cathedral,  
Dublin, County Dublin - Angel

(handwritten on back of image): 76.220,  
Dublin: St. Patrick's: angel over entrance to church from S....  
[...more](#)

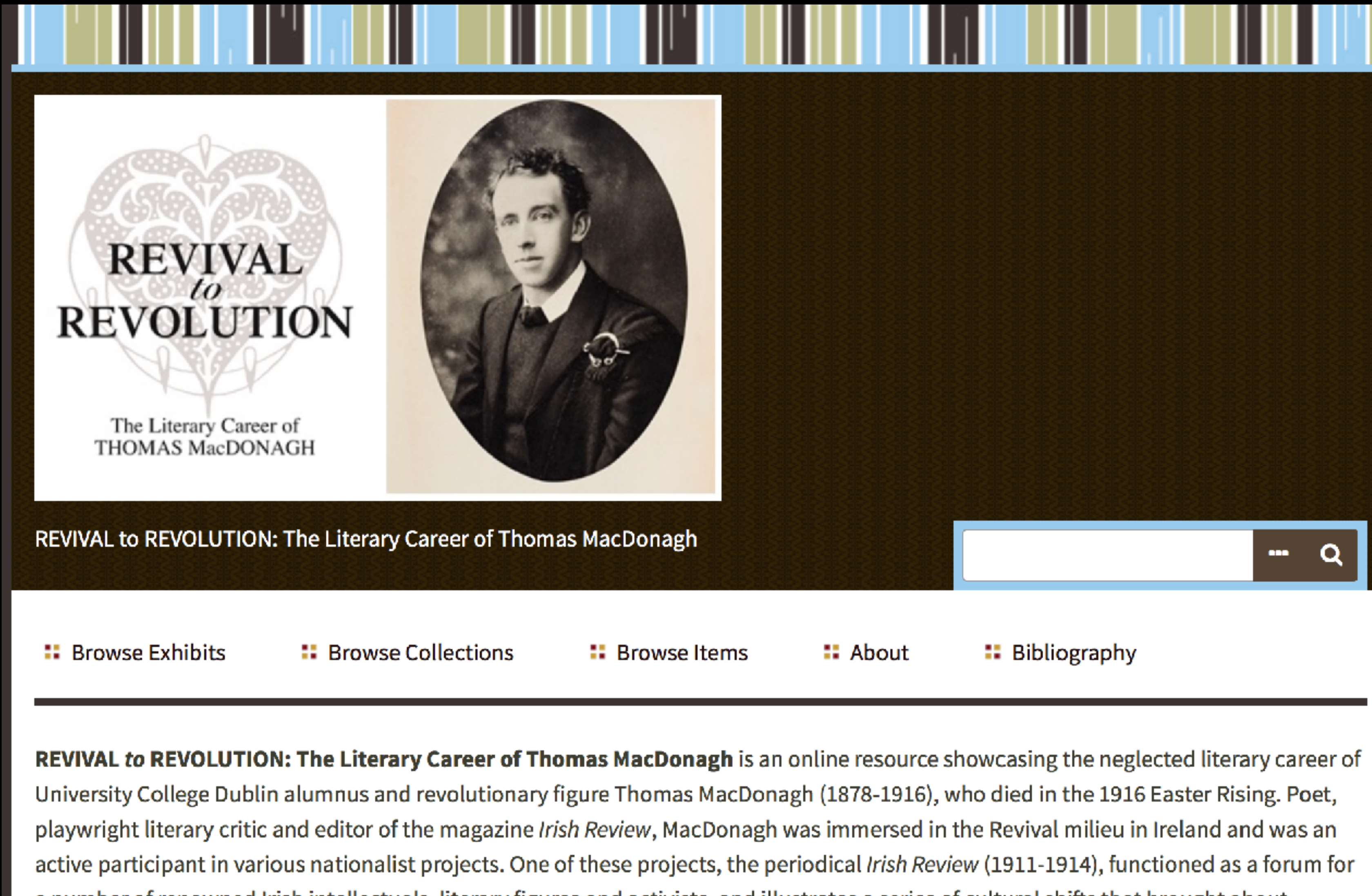
.....

Visual Archive of **Gothic Architecture** and Sculpture in Ireland





# Omeka in Action



The exhibit interface features a dark brown background. At the top, there is a decorative header with a repeating pattern of vertical bars in blue, green, and brown. Below this, the main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a logo for 'REVIVAL to REVOLUTION' with the subtitle 'The Literary Career of THOMAS MacDONAGH'. The right column contains a portrait of Thomas MacDonagh. Below the main content area, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom, there is a navigation menu with five items: 'Browse Exhibits', 'Browse Collections', 'Browse Items', 'About', and 'Bibliography'. Below the navigation menu, there is a paragraph of text describing the exhibit.

REVIVAL to REVOLUTION: The Literary Career of Thomas MacDonagh

[Browse Exhibits](#) [Browse Collections](#) [Browse Items](#) [About](#) [Bibliography](#)

**REVIVAL to REVOLUTION: The Literary Career of Thomas MacDonagh** is an online resource showcasing the neglected literary career of University College Dublin alumnus and revolutionary figure Thomas MacDonagh (1878-1916), who died in the 1916 Easter Rising. Poet, playwright literary critic and editor of the magazine *Irish Review*, MacDonagh was immersed in the Revival milieu in Ireland and was an active participant in various nationalist projects. One of these projects, the periodical *Irish Review* (1911-1914), functioned as a forum for a number of renowned Irish intellectuals, literary figures and activists, and illustrates a series of cultural shifts that brought about



# Content Management vs Digital Collection Management





# Mukurtu

## Welcome Mukurtu CMS 2.0

A Safe Keeping Place

- ▶ Drupal-based
- ▶ Industrial strength but steep learning curve.
- ▶ Very customisable but you have to learn the Drupal and the the Mukurtu way of doing things.
- ▶ What is Mukurtu for?
- ▶ “The free, mobile, and open source platform built with indigenous communities to manage and share digital cultural heritage.”

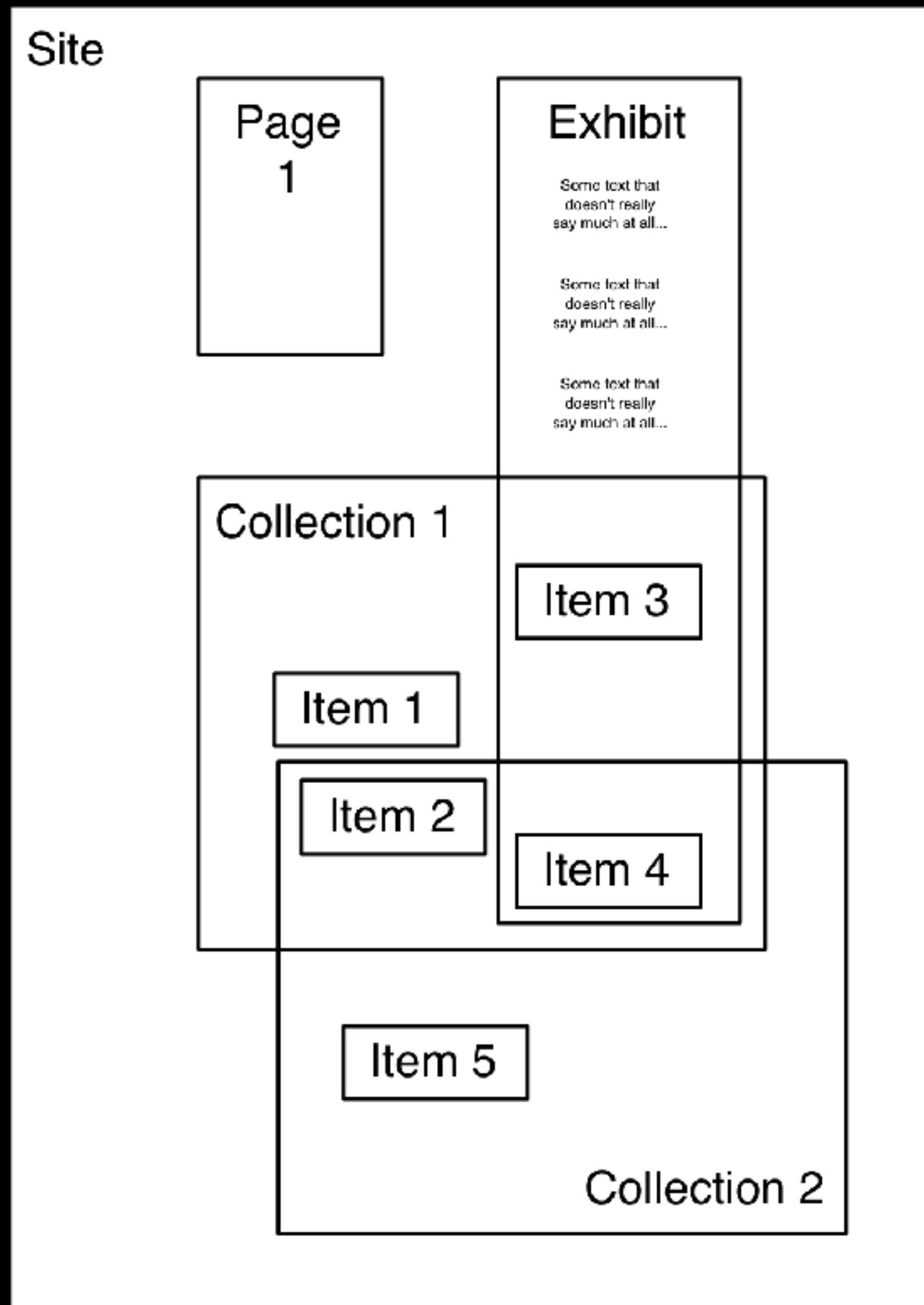


# Omeka Core Features

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- Based on Open Source Technology: Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP;
- Free to Use, Free to Change;
- Easy to Use;
- Change Design using Themes;
- Add Functionality with Plug-Ins;
- Unqualified Dublin Core Metadata;
- Strong Support Community;
- Extensible, Scalable, Flexible;
- Interoperable

# What is 'an Omeka'



- ▶ An Omeka 'instance' contains:
  - ▶ Items (digital Objects of various types)
  - ▶ Collections (of objects)
  - ▶ Sites (set of collections)
  - ▶ Exhibits (curated subsets of site collections)

# Extending Omeka

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- Based on Digital Objects
- Objects can be compound
- Can be organised into Collections
- Can be narrated via Exhibits



# So Let's Try Omeka A Short Tutorial or Two



# To Control Data Entry

- ▶ Establish your own Controlled Vocabulary for specific metadata fields?
- ▶ Make it easier for your team to enter consistent data?

## ▶ Install SimpleVocab



The screenshot shows the 'Simple Vocab' interface within an Omeka site. The top navigation bar includes 'James's Test Site', 'Plugins', 'Appearance', 'Users', 'Settings', 'Welcome, Super User', and 'Log Out'. A left sidebar contains links to 'Dashboard', 'Items', 'Collections', 'Item Types', 'Tags', 'Simple Pages', 'Dropbox', and 'Simple Vocab'. The main content area is titled 'Simple Vocab' and features a search bar. Below the search bar is a dropdown menu labeled 'Element' with the text 'Select Below'. A green button labeled 'Add/Edit Vocabulary' is positioned to the right. A text box labeled 'Vocabulary Terms' is provided for input. Below the text box, instructions state: 'Enter the custom vocabulary terms for this element, one per line. To delete the vocabulary, simply remove the terms and submit this form.' A link labeled 'Click here' is provided to display a list of existing texts. A list of caveats is shown at the bottom:

- Vocabulary terms must not contain newlines (line breaks).
- Vocabulary terms are typically short and concise. If your existing texts are otherwise, avoid using a controlled vocabulary for this element.
- Vocabulary terms must be identical to their corresponding texts.

# Use Library of Congress Subjects

- Do you want to easily use Library of Congress subject headings?
- Do you want to make it easier for entry and ensure consistency?
- > Library of Congress Suggest

Library of Congress Suggest Search +

Element Select Below Edit Suggest

Select an element to assign it a Library of Congress authority/vocabulary. Elements already assigned an authority/vocabulary are marked with an asterisk (\*).

Authority/Vocabulary Select Below

Enter a Library of Congress authority/vocabulary to enable the autosuggest feature for the above element. To disable the feature just deselect the option. For more information about the authorities and vocabularies available at the Library of Congress see <http://id.loc.gov>

Current Assignments

Element Set	Element	Authority/Vocabulary
Dublin Core	Subject	All Authorities and Vocabularies
Dublin Core	Coverage	MARC List for Geographic Areas
Dublin Core	Creator	Library of Congress Names
Dublin Core	Publisher	All Authorities and Vocabularies
Dublin Core	Identifier	ISO 639-5 Language Families and Groups

# Do You Want to Establish Your Own Taxonomy?

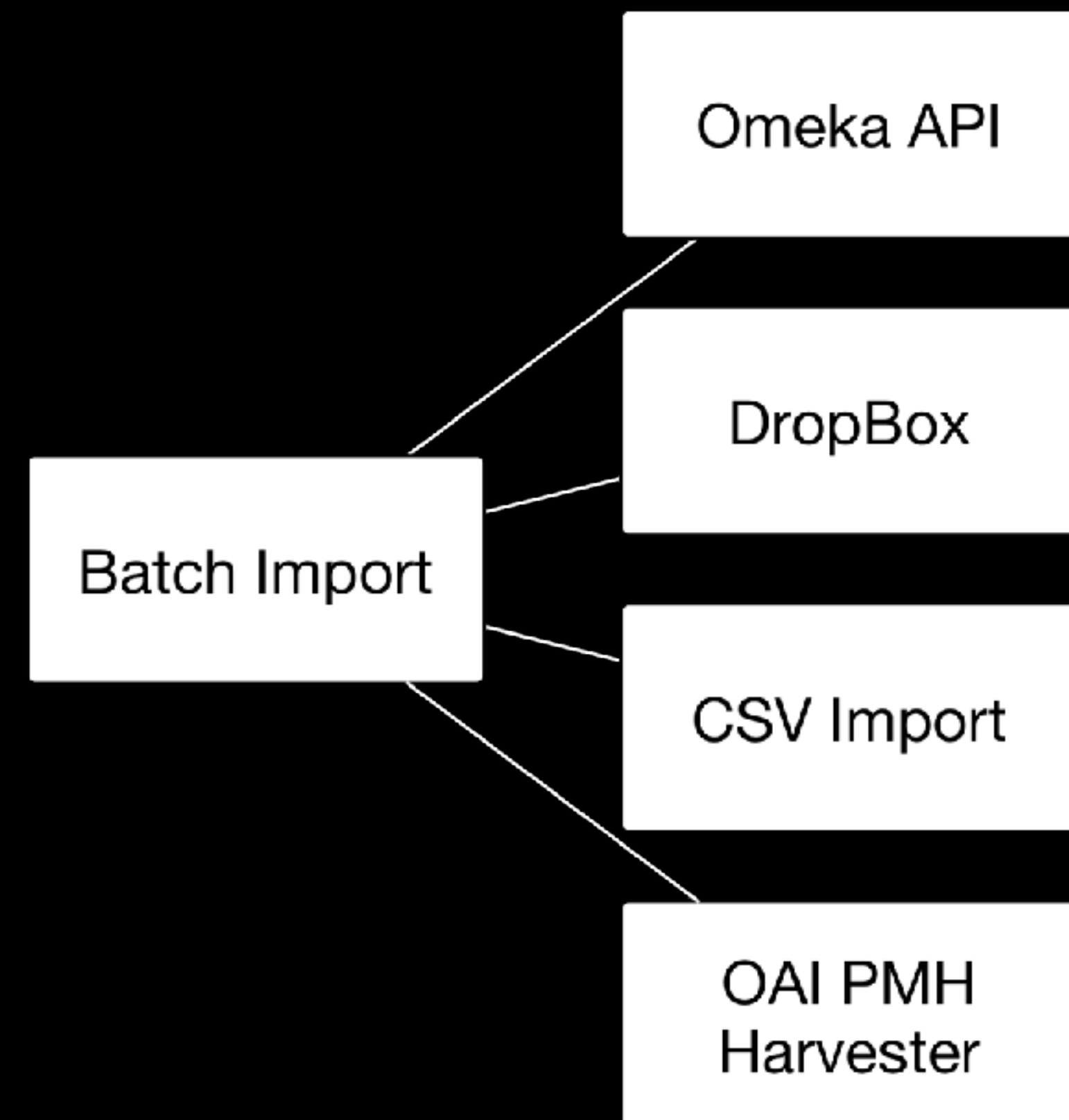
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- Do you want to establish a controlled tagging schema?
- You may add tags to individual items and exhibits;
- Before building your archive you may want to devise this schema to help control vocab and spelling;
- Tags can help you pull together different items for the purpose of arranging them on a map or creating navigational links to browse items with a specific tag;
- This is a standard feature for Omeka Items.



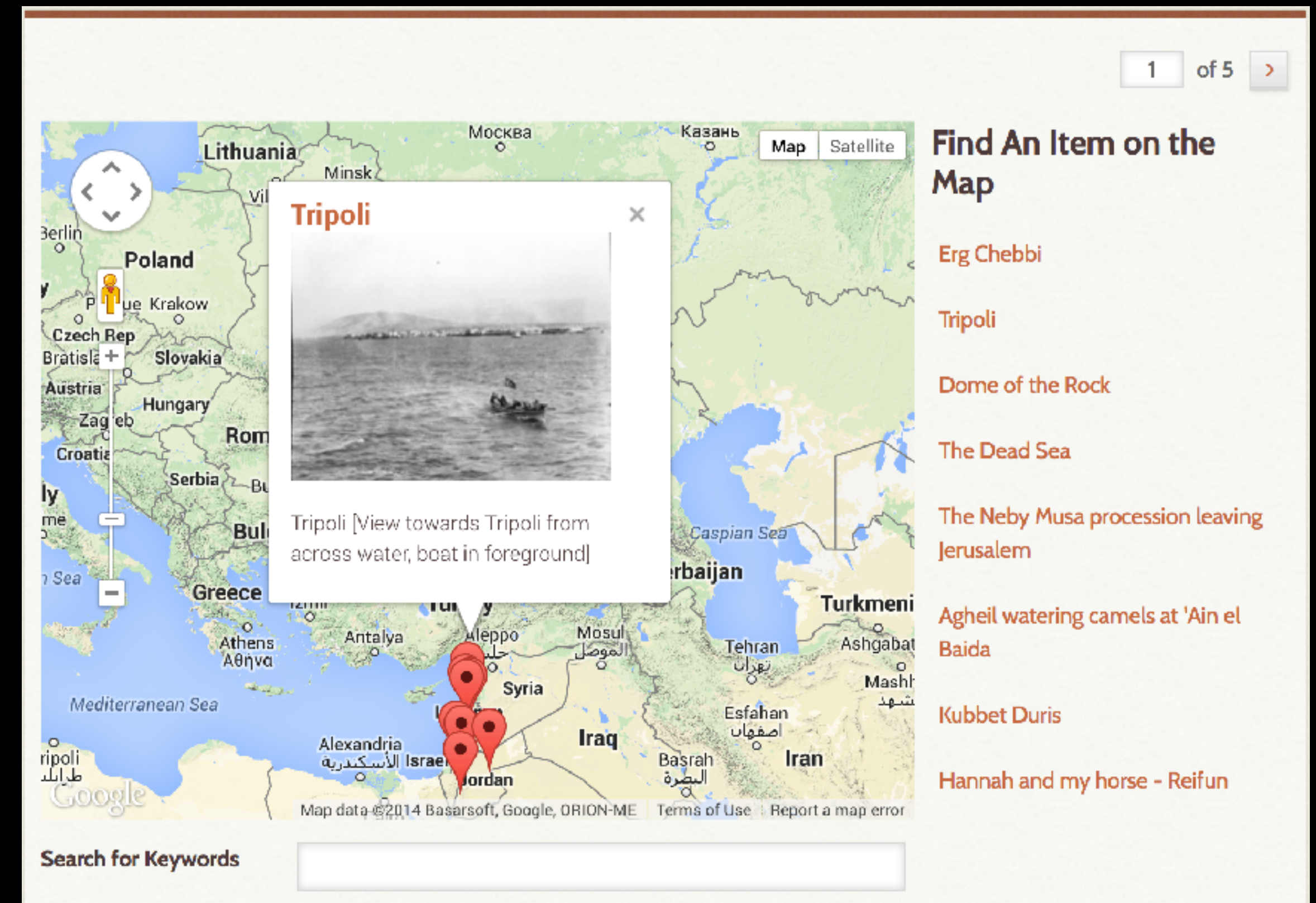
# Do You Have Objects in other Repositories?

- You may be able to batch add them into your Omeka site.  
Can items be exported in a Comma Separated Value format?  
Is there an OAI-PMH harvestable set?
- Do you have hundreds of files, or large media files?
- Are you using Fedora?



# Do Your Objects Have Locations?

- Activate the Geolocation Plugin.
- You must geolocate each item individually.
- A Great way to browse a collection.

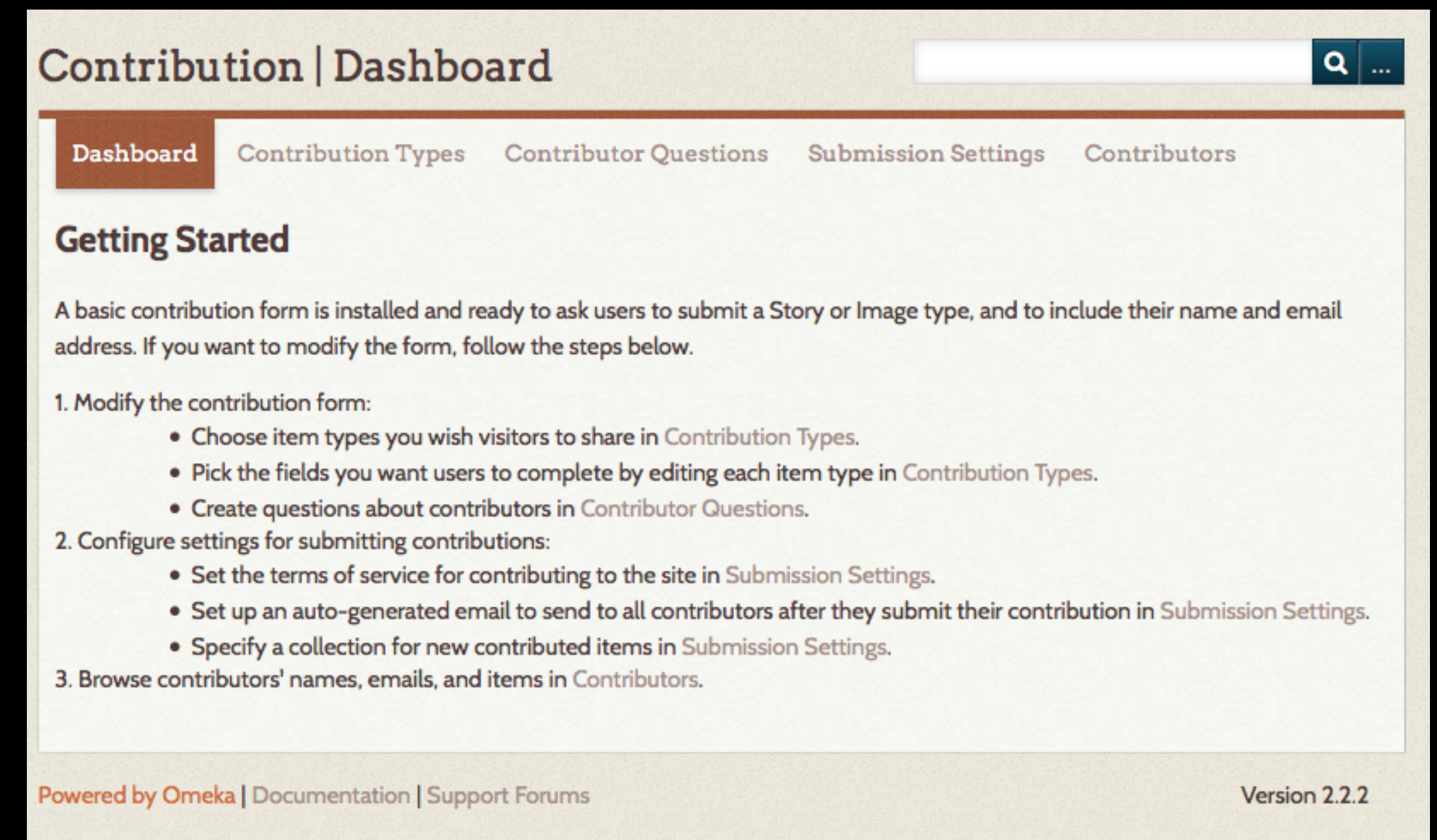




# Do You Want to Crowdsource Your Content?

- Collaborate with MyOmeka
  - Create Custom Tags and Annotations
  - Collect these to Author Posters
- Contribution Plugin
  - a way to collect stories, images, or other files from the public and manage

those contributions in your Omeka archive as items.



The screenshot shows the 'Contribution | Dashboard' interface. At the top, there's a search bar and a menu with options: Dashboard, Contribution Types, Contributor Questions, Submission Settings, and Contributors. The 'Getting Started' section explains that a basic contribution form is installed and provides a list of steps to customize it. The footer includes 'Powered by Omeka | Documentation | Support Forums' and 'Version 2.2.2'.

Contribution | Dashboard

Dashboard Contribution Types Contributor Questions Submission Settings Contributors

### Getting Started

A basic contribution form is installed and ready to ask users to submit a Story or Image type, and to include their name and email address. If you want to modify the form, follow the steps below.

1. Modify the contribution form:
  - Choose item types you wish visitors to share in [Contribution Types](#).
  - Pick the fields you want users to complete by editing each item type in [Contribution Types](#).
  - Create questions about contributors in [Contributor Questions](#).
2. Configure settings for submitting contributions:
  - Set the terms of service for contributing to the site in [Submission Settings](#).
  - Set up an auto-generated email to send to all contributors after they submit their contribution in [Submission Settings](#).
  - Specify a collection for new contributed items in [Submission Settings](#).
3. Browse contributors' names, emails, and items in [Contributors](#).

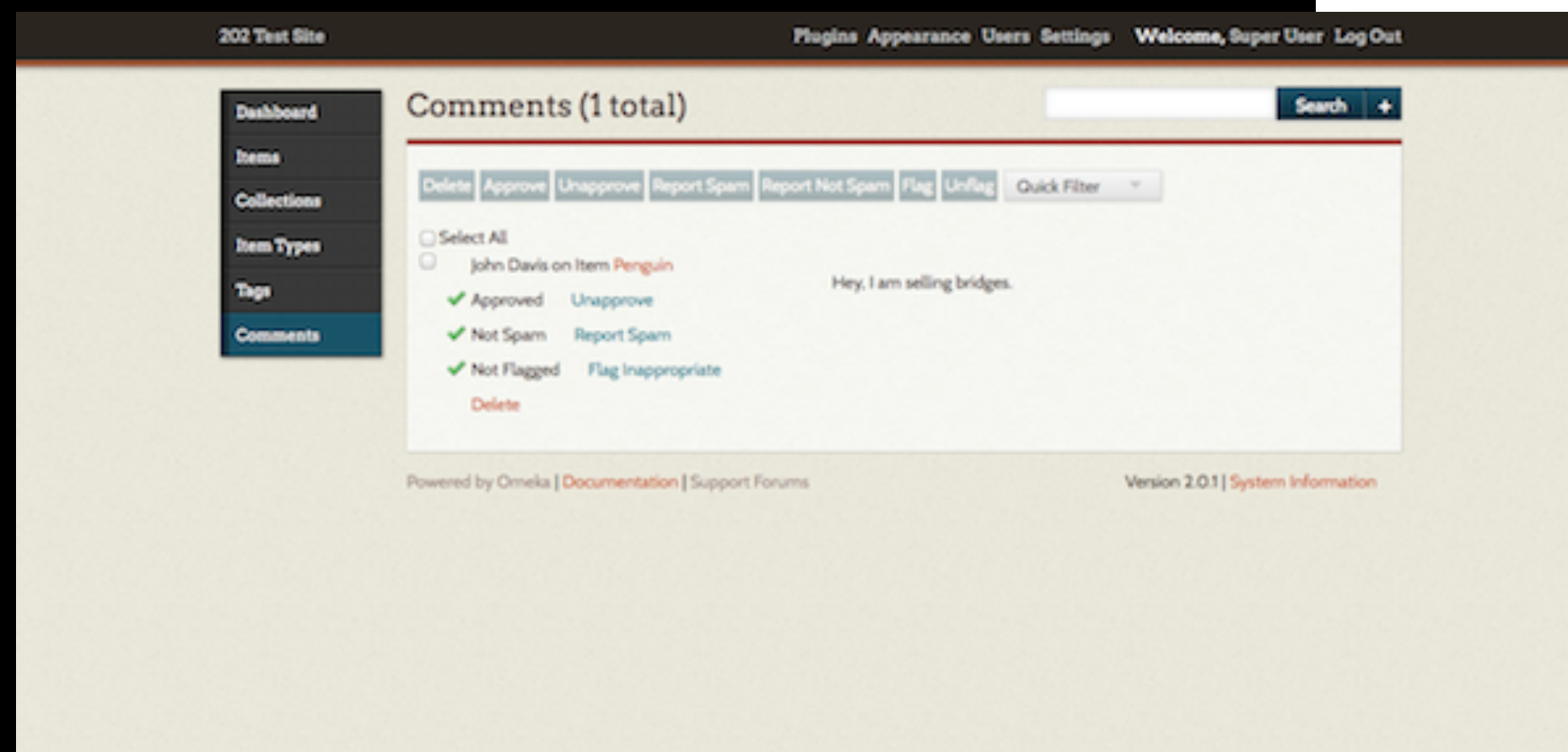
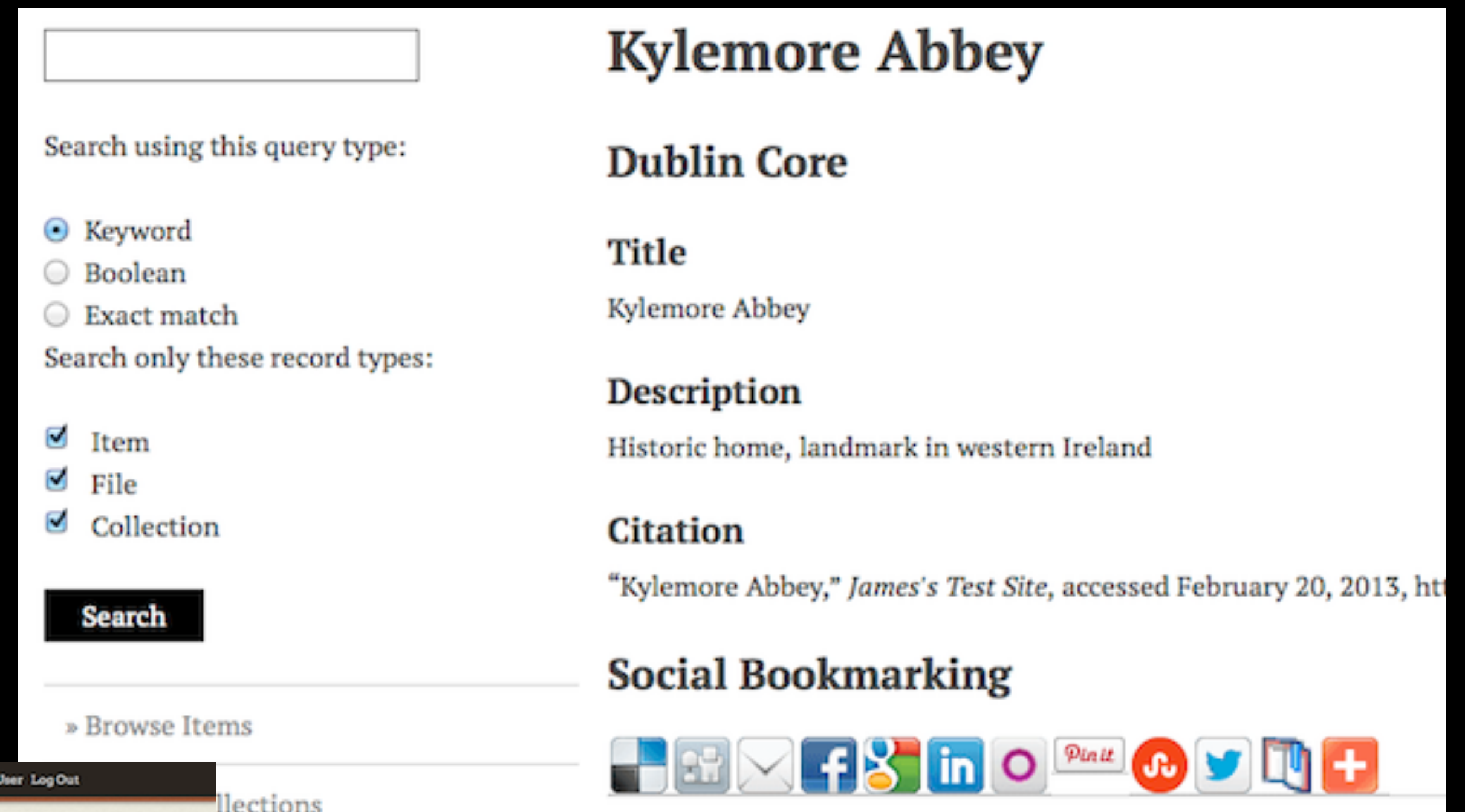
Powered by Omeka | Documentation | Support Forums

Version 2.2.2



# Do You Want to Make Your Site Social?

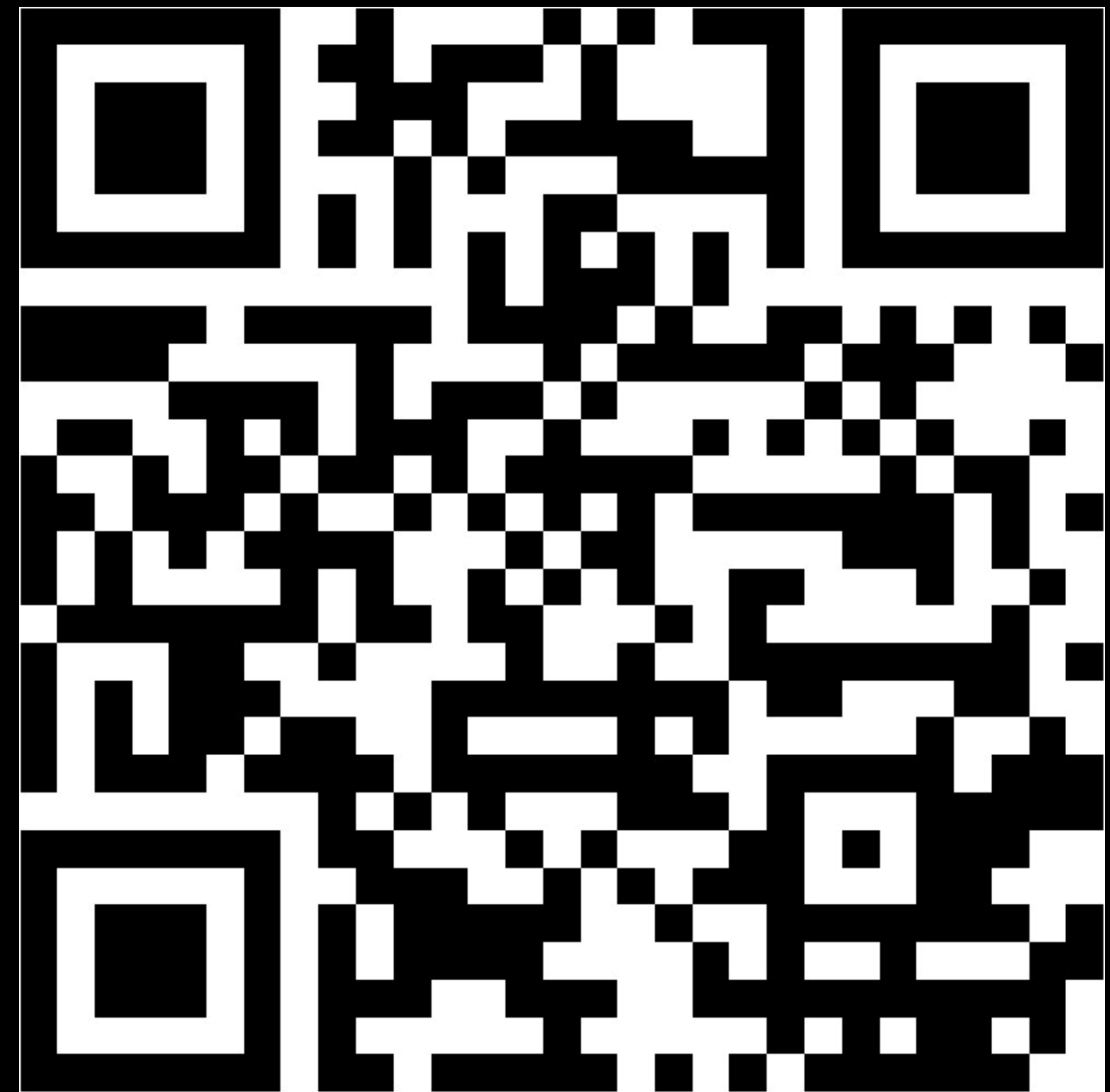
- Add social bookmarking icons to the bottom of items;
- Allow users to share links to that item w/their social networks.
- Allow the public to 'comment' using the Omeka Comment Plug-In



# Do You Want to Extend a Physical Exhibit?

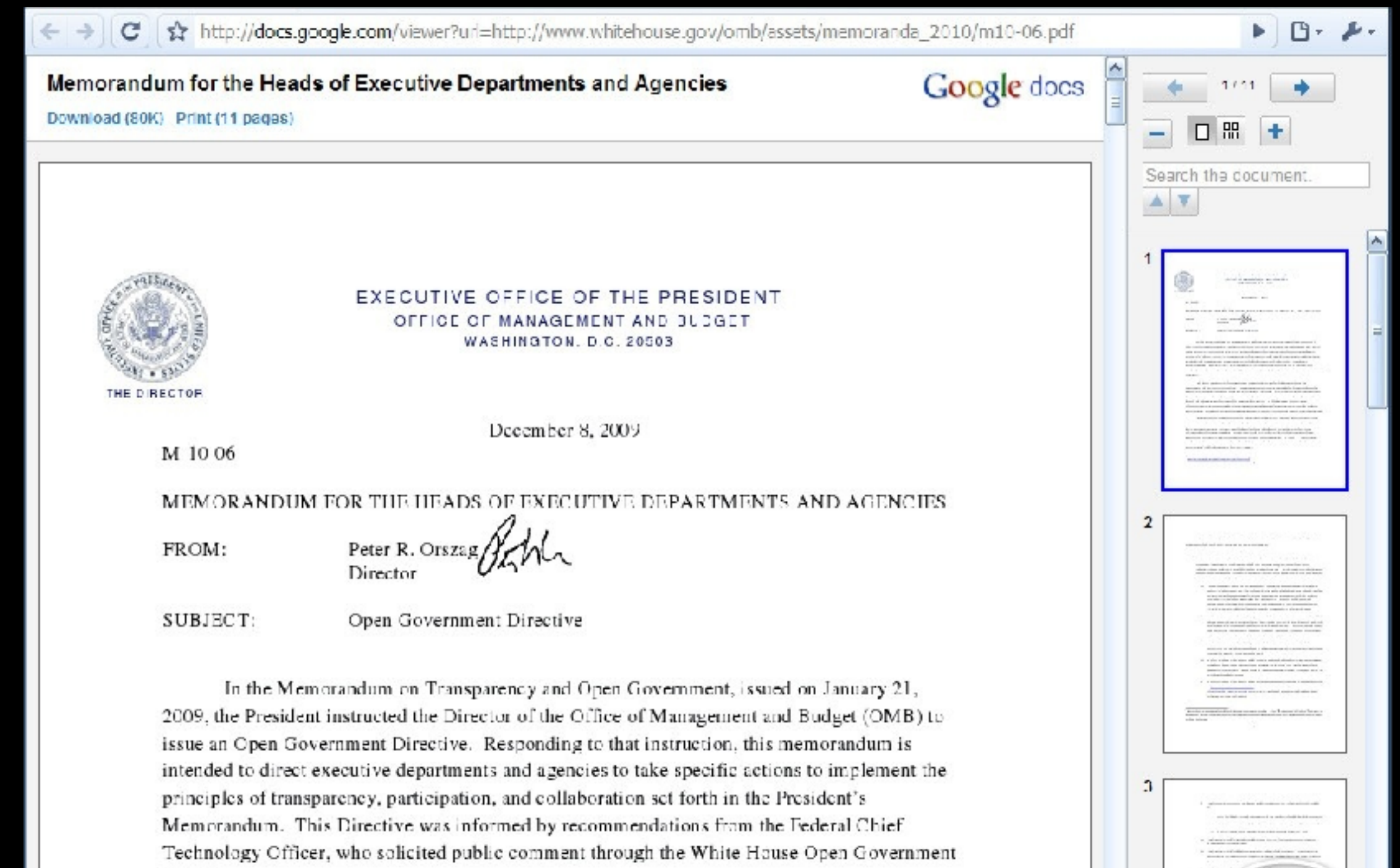
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- **The Reports And Codes**  
Plugin exports a list of items selected/browsed/matching criteria and generates PDFs of QR Codes.
- **Use Mobile Devices to Browse Omeka Collectionss**  
for more information



# Do You Want to Have Users Read Supporting Documents Online?

- Use the DocsViewer Plugin
- Embeds a Google document viewer into item show pages. PDF documents, PowerPoint presentations, TIFF files, and some Microsoft Word documents are supported.





# Do You Want to Transcribe Items?

- Crowdsource the transcription of Omeka Items.
- Uses MediaWiki, and Scripto allowing items with files to be transcribed. Transcriptions are then captured into Omeka.



The screenshot displays the 'Omeka + Scripto' interface. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation links: 'HOME', 'CHOOSE AN ITEM TO TRANSCRIBE', 'CHOOSE A TYPE OF ITEM TO TRANSCRIBE', and 'SCRIPTO'. The main content area is titled 'SCRIPTO | TRANSCRIBE PAGE' and includes links for 'Recent changes', 'View item', and 'View file'. It features a title 'Maya Angelou, "On the Pulse of the Morning"', a file name 'mayaangelou.mp3', and an audio player with a progress bar. Below the player are navigation links '« previous page | next page »' and 'show discussion'. The 'Current Page Transcription' section includes links for '[edit]' and '[history]', followed by the transcribed text: 'Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Gore, and Americans everywhere. A rock, a river, a tree Hosts to species long since departed Marked the mastodon, the dinosaur, Who left dry tokens'.

# Extending Omeka Even Further

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- Do you want to allow users to be notified of changes to your items, collections, or exhibits?
  - —> Atom Output (Atom Syndication Format)
- Do you want users to be able to harvest objects to their own bibliographic managers (such as Zotero)?
  - —> COinS metadata
- Do you want to track user demographics?
  - —> Google Analytics
- Do you want to generate derivative images?
  - —> Derivatives plug-in



# Comparing omeka.org/.net and [loCloud.eu](http://loCloud.eu)

Features	omeka.org	omeka.net	loCloud.eu
Server	LAMP server required	no server required	no server required
FTP client	Required for file uploads and modifying Omeka	not required	not required
Web-based administration	Yes	Yes	Yes +
Storage Space	Determined by your server admin	Determined by your plan: 500 mb; 1 gb; 5 gb; 10 gb; or 25gb	500Mb Free +
File size limitations	Determined by your server admin, with ability to use Dropbox plugin for files that exceed that limit.	32 mb maximum	
Sites per Installation	One website for one Omeka installation	Depending on plan, multiple sites available managed by one user.	Depending on plan, multiple sites available managed by one user.
Custom Domain Redirects	You may point any Omeka installation to any domain name.	No redirects available. All sites are subdomains of Omeka.net (yoursite.omeka.net)	No redirects available. All sites are subdomains of Omeka.net (yoursite.locloudhosting.eu)
Plugins and Themes	Any and all available in Add-ons directory (see more on other pages)	Not all Omeka plugins are available for use on .Net. And availability of those plugins depends on the plan chosen (see more on other pages).	Not all Omeka plugins are available for use on loCloud. Custom plugins not available elsewhere are included.
Pricing	Free: all versions of Omeka, and all of its plugins and themes are free and will be always.	Free basic plan will always be available, with other options available for small fee: <a href="http://www.omeka.net/signup">http://www.omeka.net/signup</a>	All Free currently, charges may apply after Dec 2015
Support	User Forums: <a href="http://omeka.org/forums">http://omeka.org/forums</a>	Help section with detailed instructions: <a href="http://info.omeka.net">http://info.omeka.net</a>	Support Forums
	Developers' Google Group: <a href="https://groups.google.com/group/omeka-dev/">https://groups.google.com/group/omeka-dev/</a>	Troubleshooting help form: <a href="http://info.omeka.net/contact">http://info.omeka.net/contact</a>	
	Advanced development: GitHub: <a href="http://github.org/omeka">http://github.org/omeka</a>		

# Who's Behind Omeka?: CNMH

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- Roy Rosenzweig Centre for New Media and History
- Founded 1994
- George Mason University in Washington
- Collaborative Space Supporting 50+ Scholars
- To preserve and present history online
- Transform scholarship across the humanities
- Supported by grants from AHA, NEH, NHC, Library of Congress, Mellon, Sloan, Rockefeller and Kellogg Foundations amongst others

# Bonus: CNMH Open Source Products



## Zotero

Zotero [zoh-TAIR-oh] is a free, easy-to-use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite your research sources.



## Omeka

Designed for cultural institutions, enthusiasts, and educators, Omeka is a platform for publishing online collections and exhibitions.



## Omeka.net

Let Omeka.net host your collections, research, exhibits, and digital projects.



## THATCamp

Short for “The Humanities and Technology Camp,” THATCamp is a BarCamp-style, user-generated “unconference” on digital humanities.



## Scripto

Scripto is a free, open source tool that enables community transcriptions of document and multimedia files.



## PressForward

PressForward is pioneering new methods to capture and highlight orphaned or underappreciated scholarship and share it with digital humanists across the web.



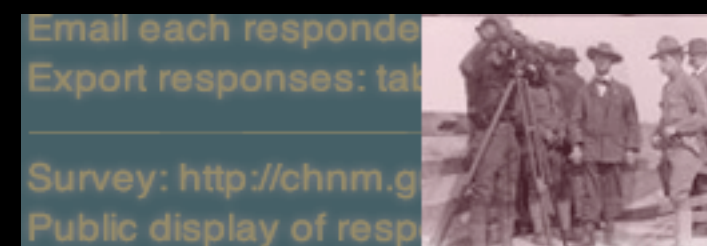
## ScholarPress

Manage your class, publish research, or collaborate on a conference presentation with this hub for scholarly & educational plugins.



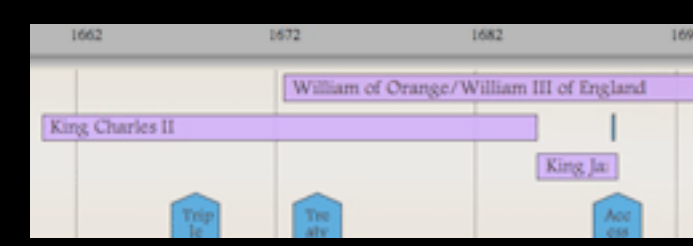
## Anthologize

Anthologize is a free, open-source, plugin that transforms WordPress into a platform for publishing electronic texts.



## Survey Builder

Build online surveys that are especially applicable to oral histories.



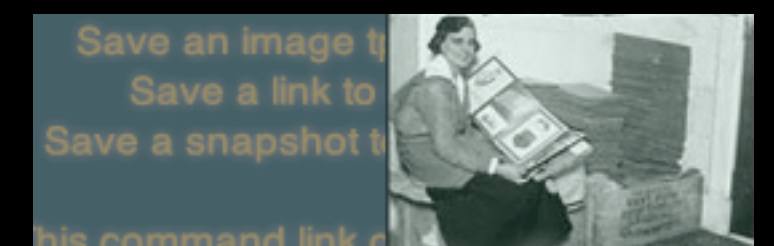
## Timeline Builder

CHNM Labs: Easily create and manage a timeline of historical events for your website.



## Serendip-o-matic

Serendip-o-matic connects your sources to digital materials located in libraries, museums, and archives around the world.



## Web Scrapbook

Store all kinds of media items — URLs, images, text, and movies — & collaborate thru the CHNM online scrapbook.



# Why Choose Wordpress over Omeka?

1. You want to hire a web developer - huge community know WP;
2. You want to do the site yourself and customise look and feel but don't know PHP;
3. You want more than just a collection management and display system - WordPress has 50,000+ Plugins, Omeka <100 - customisation off the shelf;
4. You want to tell stories embellished with discrete objects.



# Why Choose Omeka over WordPress?

1. You need/want to ensure consistent metadata;
2. You want to provide users with easy access to citable digital objects;
3. You want to focus on managing discrete digital objects and driving curation and narration using objects as a foundation.

# Technical Requirements

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- Surprisingly Similar
- Both offer hosted solutions on their own servers:
  - [wordpress.com](https://wordpress.com)
  - [omeka.net](https://omeka.net)
- Both offer self-hosted more powerful versions:
  - [wordpress.org](https://wordpress.org)
  - [omeka.com](https://omeka.com)
- Both are Open Source - MySQL, PHP based
  - Other organisations also offer solutions to employ these platforms - i.e. [loCloud.eu](https://loCloud.eu)



# Structure vs Flexibility

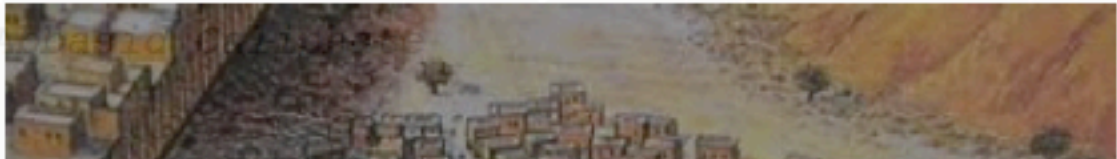
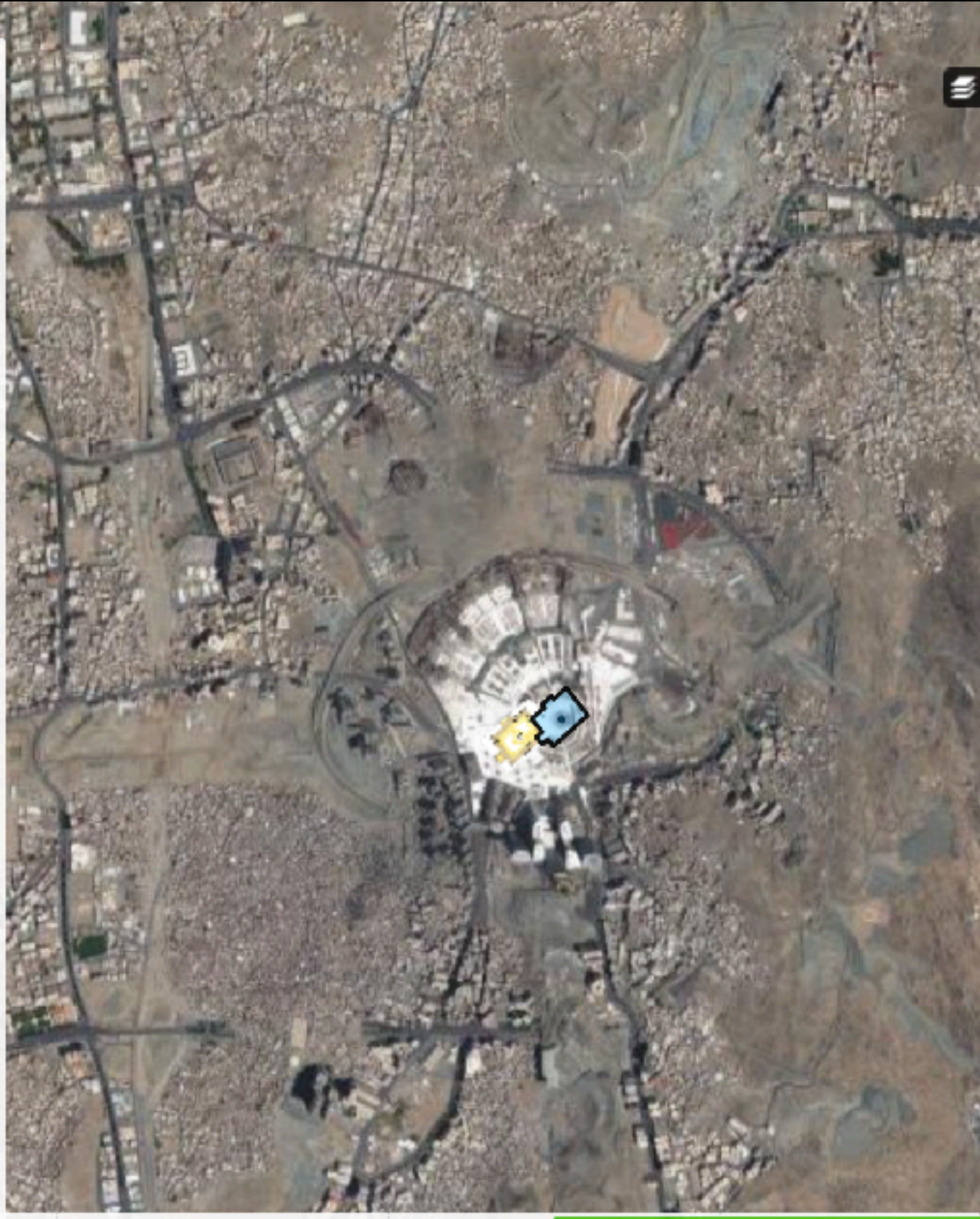
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# NeatLine



## Welcome!

Perspectives on the Haram aims to showcase the Haram Mosque and Mecca throughout time by drawing upon the accounts of different travelers spanning one thousand years. By focusing on these accounts we hope to not only showcase the ways in which the Haram changed over time, but also the parts of Mecca that travelers found most worthy of recording.

Over the course of many centuries, Mecca has gone from a small settlement around a shrine in the pre-Islam era to a city that must support millions of pilgrims on Hajj each year. Through this exhibit you'll now gain a sense of Mecca every century along the way!

Al-Azraqi (900)

Nasar-E Khosraw (1050)

Ibn Jubayr (1183-85)

Ruling Power: Mamluk Su

Ruling Power: Ayyubid Dynasty

## Welcome!

Navigating the Exhibit

Background: Mecca and the Haram

## Travel Accounts

Al-Azraqi (900)

Nasar-E Khosraw (1050)

Nasar-E Khosraw: Haram

Nasar-E Khosraw: Ka'ba

Ibn Jubayr (1183-85)

Anonymous Italian (1575)





# Thanks

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