

Taking Advantage of Existing Tools

Doing Digital History NYC
January 2008

Why reinvent the wheel?

Content Management Systems

- Features:
 - database + software
 - interface for authoring / management
 - public view
- do the heavy lifting for you
- different systems optimized for different purposes

Taxonomy of CMS-es

- Serialized Posts
- Wiki
- Discussion Board
- Archive

Blogs

- Serialized posts
- Comments
- Hosted: Typepad, Blogger, Wordpress.com
- Downloadable: Wordpress, Movable Type

Wikis

- Shared authorship of individual texts
- Versioning, so no change is ever lost
- Hosted: pbWiki
- Downloadable: mediaWiki, DokuWiki

Discussion Board

- Communal space
- Level playing field between participants
- Hosted: Google Groups
- Downloadable: phpBB, vBulletin

Archive

- Container for anything you define
- Flexibility varies by system
- Hosted: Flickr (for images)
- Downloadable: Streetprint, Greenstone
- Omeka

Organization

Tagging and Folksonomy

- Filing vs. Piling
- Self-tagging vs. user-tagging
- demo: Flickr.com

Syndication

- RSS Standard (XML)

```
<!-- generator="wordpress/1.5.1.2" -->
<rss version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Workshop Participant Blog</title>
    <link>http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/participants/sample/</link>
    <description>Doing Digital History, George Mason University</description>
    <pubDate>Fri, 03 Jun 2005 01:54:19 +0000</pubDate>
    <generator>http://wordpress.org/?v=1.5.1.2</generator>
    <language>en</language>
    <item>
      <title>Hello world!</title>
      <link>http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/participants/bridges/?p=1</link>
      <comments>http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/participants/bridges/?p=1#comments</
comments>
      <pubDate>Fri, 03 Jun 2005 01:54:19 +0000</pubDate>
      <dc:creator>Administrator</dc:creator>
      <category>Uncategorized</category>
      <guid>http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/participants/bridges/?p=1</guid>
      <description>
        <p>Welcome to WordPress. This is your first post. Edit or delete it, then start blogging!</p>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <p>Welcome to WordPress. This is your first post. Edit or delete it, then start blogging!</p>
      </content:encoded>
      <wfw:commentRSS>http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/participants/bridges/?
feed=rss2&p=1</wfw:commentRSS>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

RSS Reader

- RSS Standard (XML)
- RSS Reader
 - Web-based (Bloglines, Google Reader)
 - Standalone App (NetNewsWire, FeedDemon, NewsGator)
 - In-browser (Safari, Sage)
- How RSS discovery works

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
```

```
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
```

```
<head profile="http://gmpg.org/xfn/11">
```

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8" />
```

```
<title>Doing Digital History Workshop </title>
```

```
<meta name="generator" content="WordPress 1.5.1" /> <!-- leave this for stats -->
```

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/wp-content/themes/workshop/style.css" type="text/css" media="screen" />
```

```
<link rel="alternate" type="application/rss+xml" title="RSS 2.0" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/?feed=rss2" />
```

```
<link rel="alternate" type="text/xml" title="RSS .92" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/?feed=rss" />
```

```
<link rel="alternate" type="application/atom+xml" title="Atom 0.3" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/?feed=atom" />
```

```
<link rel="pingback" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/xmlrpc.php" />
```

```
</head>
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
```

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```

```
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```

```
<link rel="alternate" type="text/xml" title="RSS .92" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/?feed=rss" />
```

```
<link rel="alternate" type="application/atom+xml" title="Atom 0.3" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/?feed=atom" />
```

```
<link rel="pingback" href="http://echo.gmu.edu/workshops/june2005/xmlrpc.php" />
```

```
</head>
```

RSS feeds generated by:

- Blogs
- Social bookmarking/etc. sites
- Wikis
- Podcasts

Using Web Services

- Bibliographic Information
- Maps
- Images
- Timelines

API

(Application Programming Interface)



“One of the primary purposes of an API is to describe how computer applications and software developers may access a set of (usually third party) functions (for example, within a library) without requiring access to the source code of the functions or library, or requiring a detailed understanding of the functions' internal workings.”

...an example