Databases

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Caveats

- The landscape of tools for VR collections is *extremely* complex
- The framework presented here is just one way to think about these tools
- Most systems fulfill more than one function
- Information about some of these systems is difficult to find if you're not an implementer
- The tools discussed today do not present a comprehensive list of all available options

Choose the right tool for the job

- All systems are designed with particular needs in mind
- Art images have distinctive needs
- Art image *users* have distinctive needs
- You need tools that both meet your needs and are supportable in your institution

Tradeoffs

- But your needs and supportability may be at odds
  - Specialized vs. “enterprise” systems
  - VR community is a small one and tools are not very mature
  - VR repositories tend to lack technical support
- Systems that perform multiple functions may meet your needs in some areas but not in others

Some terms you might hear

- Enterprise content management system
- Digital asset management system
- Digital library system

There is a disconcerting lack of common definition of these terms.

Considering systems by function

- VR Workflow Management
- Cataloging
- Discovery
- Data Sharing
- Presentation

VR workflow management

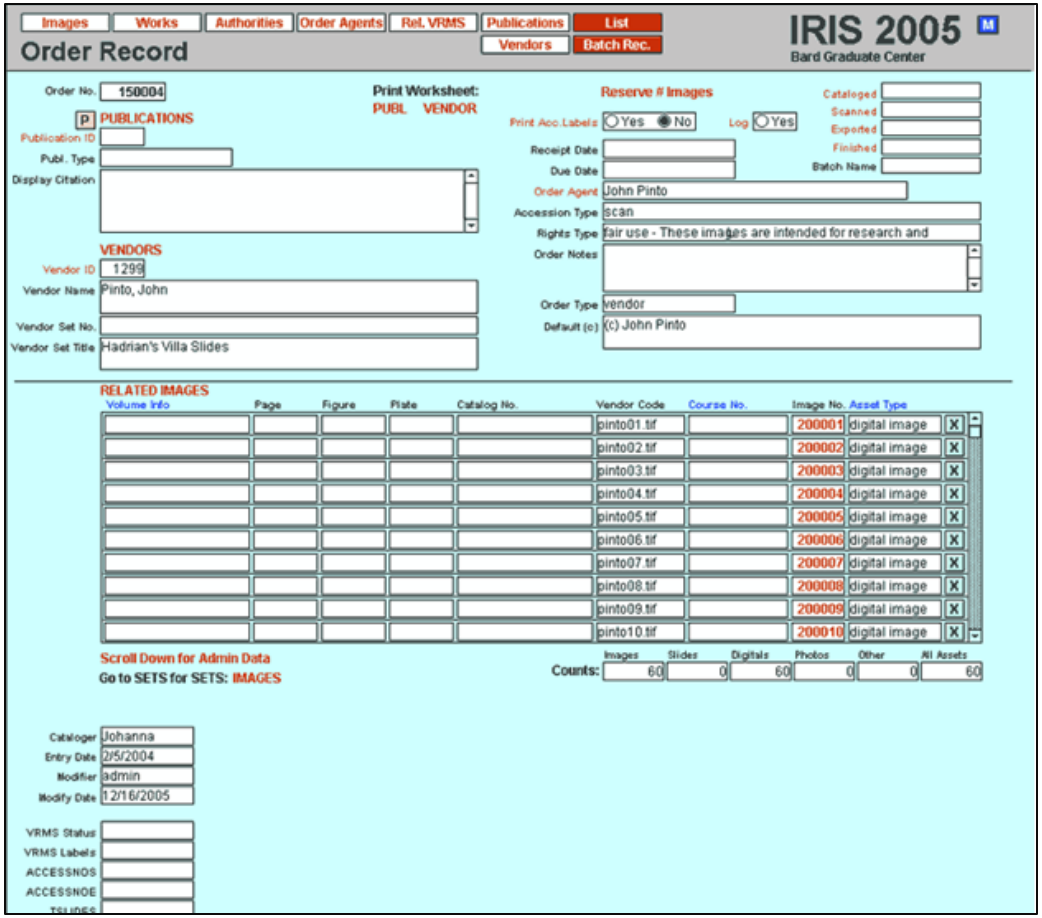
Workflow *for VRs*

- All systems support some workflow management
- Here we care about VR-specific workflows
  - "Orders" from faculty
  - Digitization process
- Don't have to manage inside an integrated system, but it can help
  - No duplicate data entry
  - Information is backed up and preserved
  - No need to learn a separate workflow

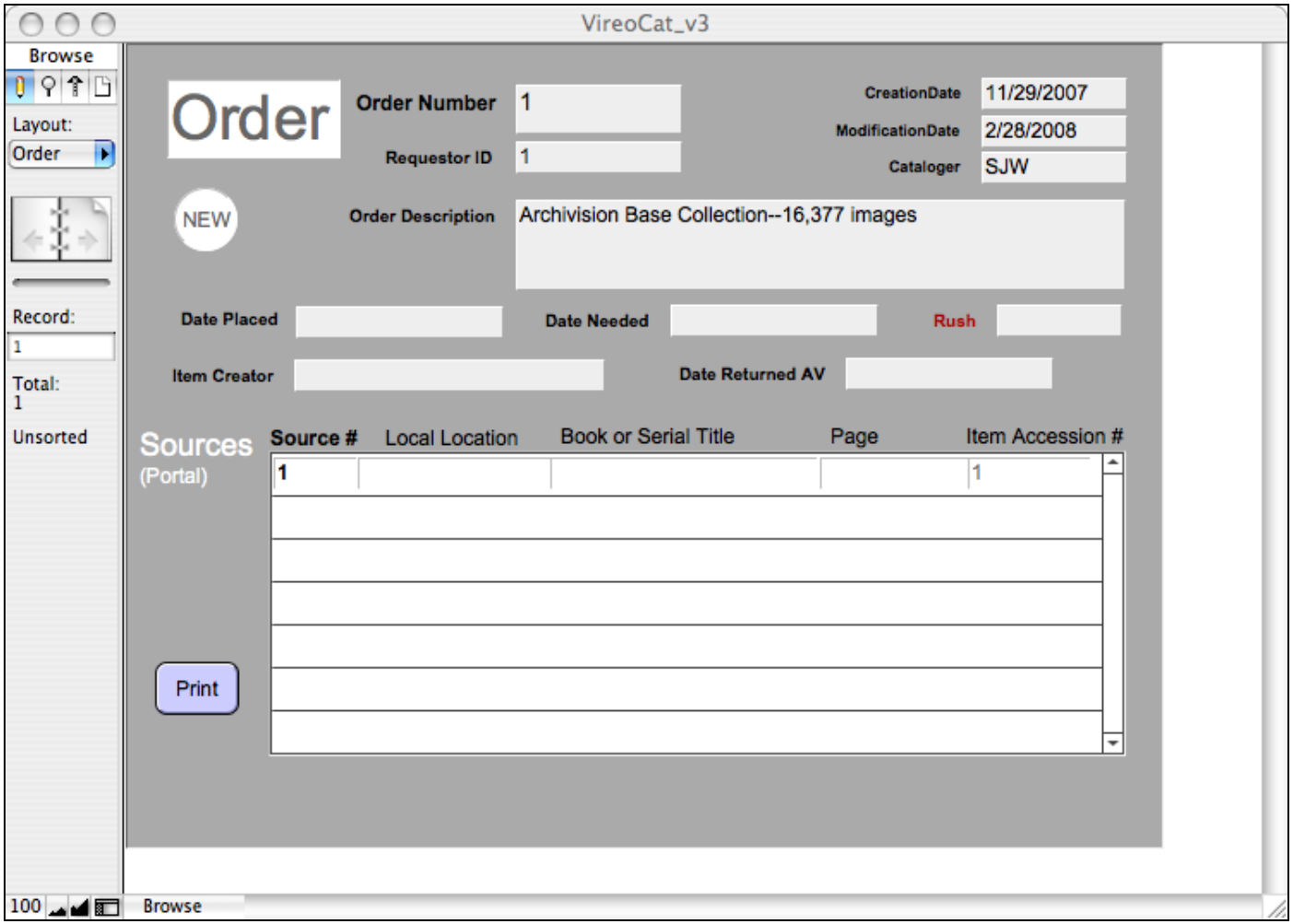
Some options

- Snapdragon
- Plus…

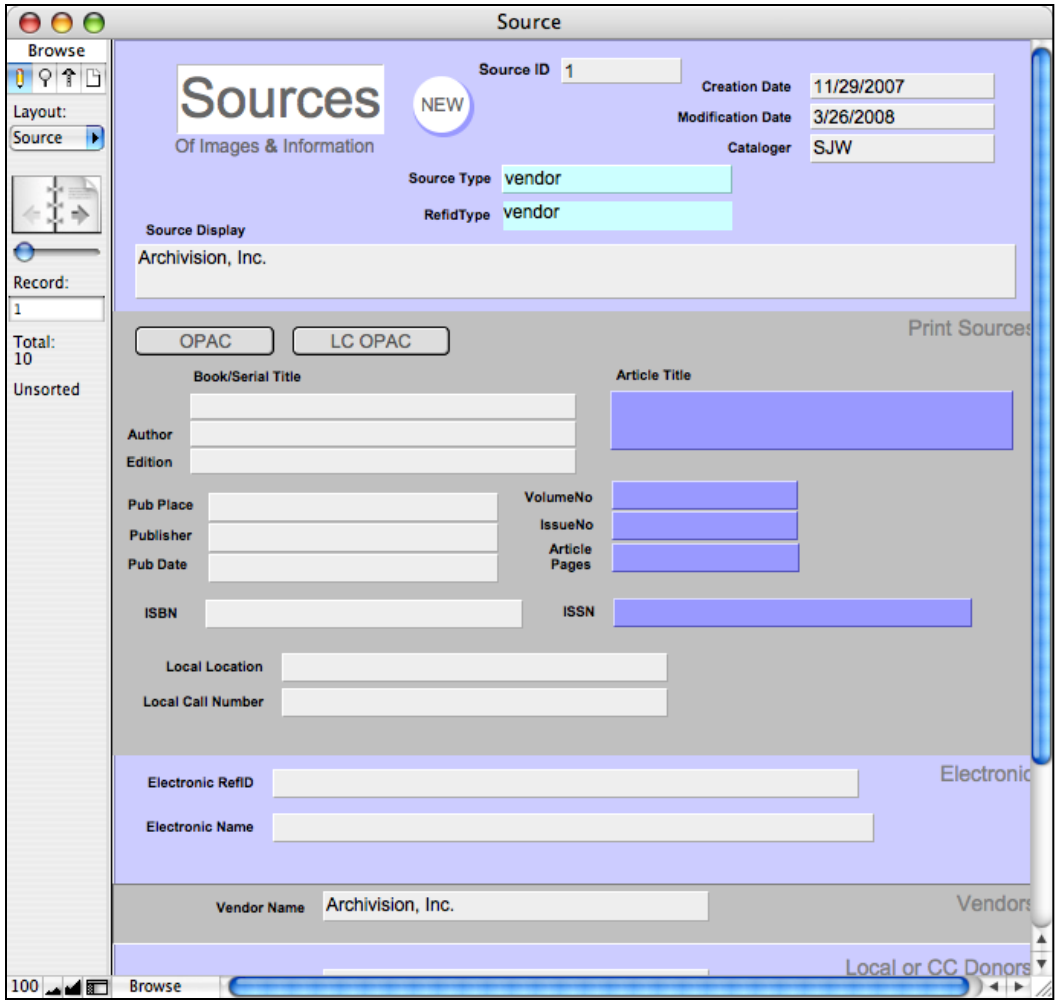
Iris order


Images
Works
Authorities
Order Agents
Rel. VRMS
Publications
List
Vendors
Batch Rec.
IRIS 2005
Bard Graduate Center
Order Record
Order No. 150004
Print Worksheet:
PUBL VENDOR
Reserve # Images
PUBLICATIONS
Publication ID
Publ. Type
Display Citation
Print Acc.Labels Yes No
Log Yes
Receipt Date
Due Date
Order Agent John Pinto
Accession Type scan
Rights Type fair use - These images are intended for research and
Order Notes
Order Type vendor
Default (c) (c) John Pinto
Cataloged
Scanned
Exported
Finished
Batch Name
VENDORS
Vendor ID 1298
Vendor Name Pinto, John
Vendor Set No.
Vendor Set Title Hadrian's Villa Slides
RELATED IMAGES
Volume Info
Page
Figure
Plate
Catalog No.
Vendor Code
Course No.
Image No.
Asset Type
pinto01.tif 200001 digital image
pinto02.tif 200002 digital image
pinto03.tif 200003 digital image
pinto04.tif 200004 digital image
pinto05.tif 200005 digital image
pinto06.tif 200006 digital image
pinto07.tif 200007 digital image
pinto08.tif 200008 digital image
pinto09.tif 200009 digital image
pinto10.tif 200010 digital image
Scroll Down for Admin Data
Go to SETS for SETS: IMAGES
Counts: Images 60 Slides 0 Digitals 60 Photos 0 Other 0 All Assets 60
Cataloger Johanna
Entry Date 2/5/2004
Modifier admin
Modify Date 12/16/2005
VRMS Status
VRMS Labels
ACCESSNOS
ACCESSNOE

VCat order


VireoCat_v3
Browse
Layout:
Order
Record:
1
Total:
1
Unsorted
Order
Order Number
1
Requestor ID
1
CreationDate
11/29/2007
ModificationDate
2/28/2008
Cataloger
SJW
NEW
Order Description
Archivision Base Collection--16,377 images
Date Placed
Date Needed
Rush
Item Creator
Date Returned AV
Sources
(Portal)
Source #
Local Location
Book or Serial Title
Page
Item Accession #
1
1
Print
100
Browse

VCat source


Source
Browse
Layout:
Source
Record:
1
Total:
10
Unsorted
Sources
Of Images & Information
NEW
Source ID 1
Creation Date 11/29/2007
Modification Date 3/26/2008
Cataloger SJW
Source Type vendor
RefidType vendor
Source Display
Archivision, Inc.
Print Sources
OPAC
LC OPAC
Book/Serial Title
Article Title
Author
Edition
Pub Place
Publisher
Pub Date
VolumeNo
IssueNo
Article Pages
ISBN
ISSN
Local Location
Local Call Number
Electronic
Electronic RefID
Electronic Name
Vendor Name
Archivision, Inc.
Vendors
Local or CC Donors
100
Browse

Cataloging Tools

Client vs. web-based

- Web technologies have developed to the point where advanced features previously only available in client software are possible
  - …but only recently
- Clients can be difficult to manage
  - Install issues
  - Permissions issues
  - Upgrade issues

VR-specific vs. general

- Metadata is perhaps the area in which we most need VR-specific support
  - VRA Core/CDWA Lite
  - CCO
  - Relevant authorities
- Work/Image distinction difficult for general tools to support

Work vs. image distinction

- Fundamental to the understanding of visual resources
- Requires linked records
  - Shouldn't have to duplicate work information in multiple image records
  - You'd think library-influenced systems (bib vs. authority) would be set up to do this, but they largely aren't!
- Is this a deal-breaker for you?

Authority control

- Surprisingly few of these systems make it easy to put a field under authority control
- None do it well, especially for large vocabularies
- Need access to relevant vocabularies
  - Form/genre/medium
  - Topical subject
  - Names
  - Geographic place
  - Work type
  - Style/period

Controlled vocabulary integration

- Moving terminologies "to the network level"
- What we really need is *integration*
- Access to entire authority record rather than just the heading
- For short vocabularies, provide a combo box
- For longer vocabularies
  - Auto-complete
  - Ajax-y interactions with hierarchical and alphabetical views
- Similar features could be used to perform maintenance of vocabularies

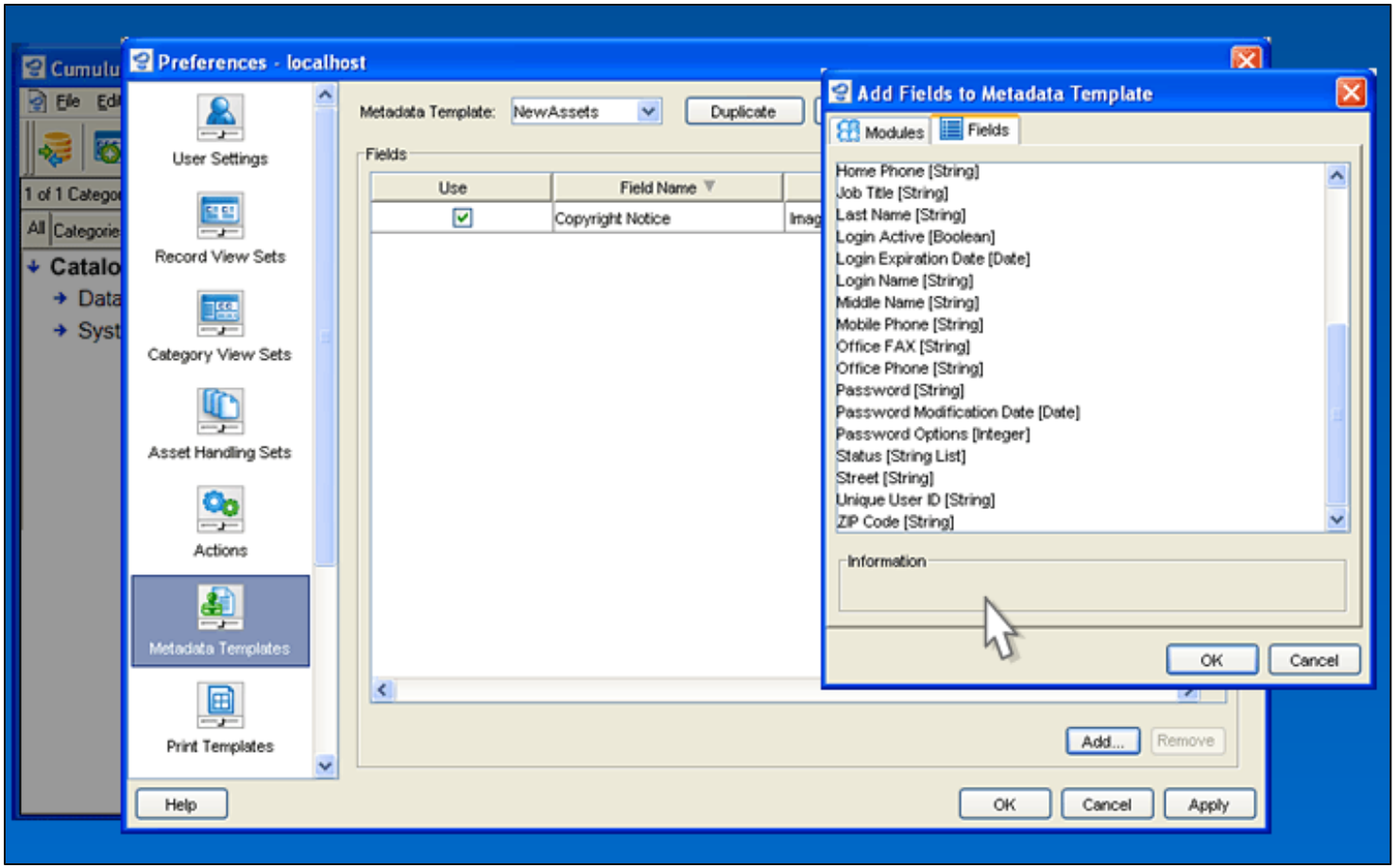
Other useful features

- Data type validation (while entering data in that field!)
- Auto-complete
- Record-level validation
- Spell check
- Integration of metadata creation guidelines into software tools

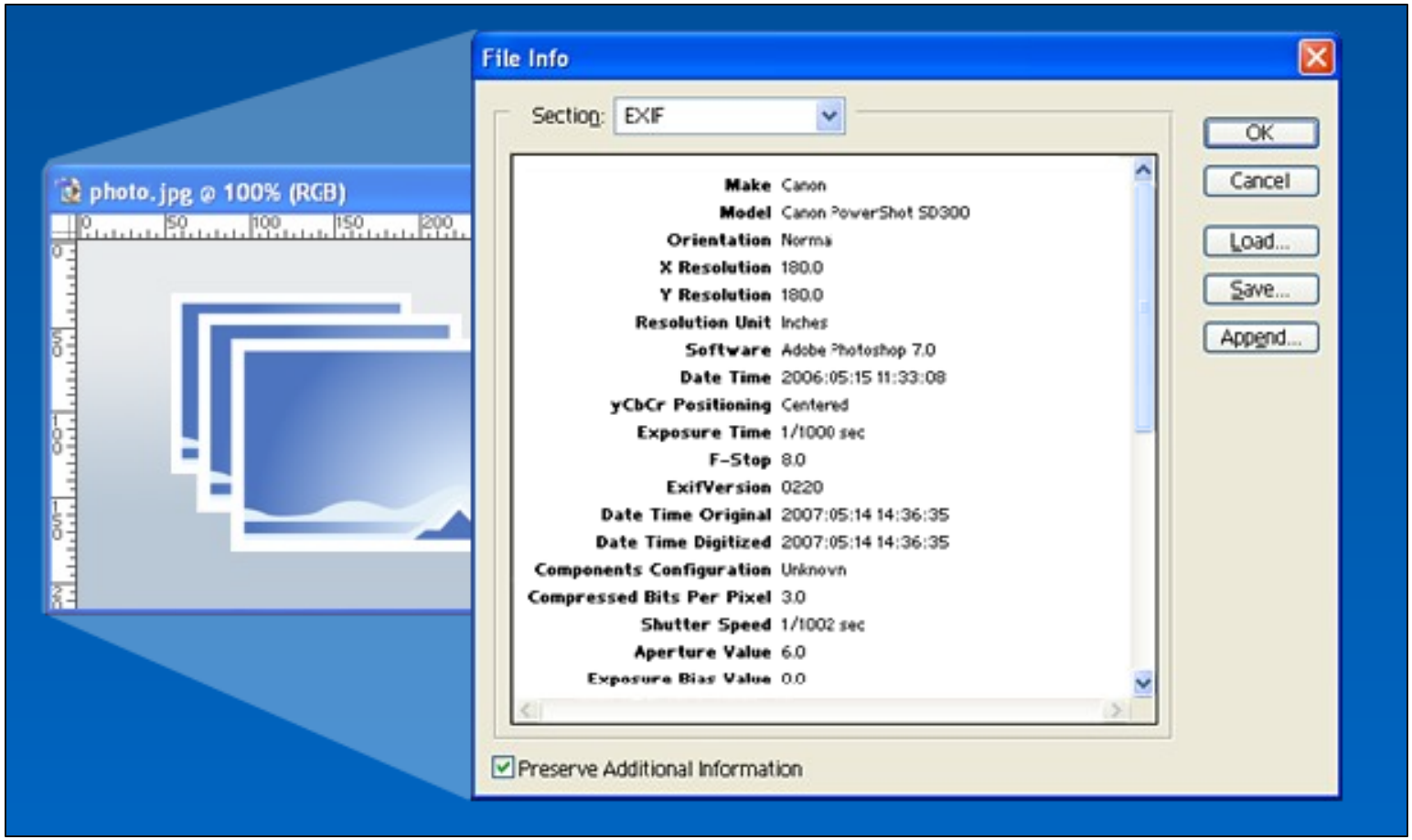
Some options

- Artesia DAM
- DSpace
- Fedora
- OPACs
- DigiTool
- Plus…

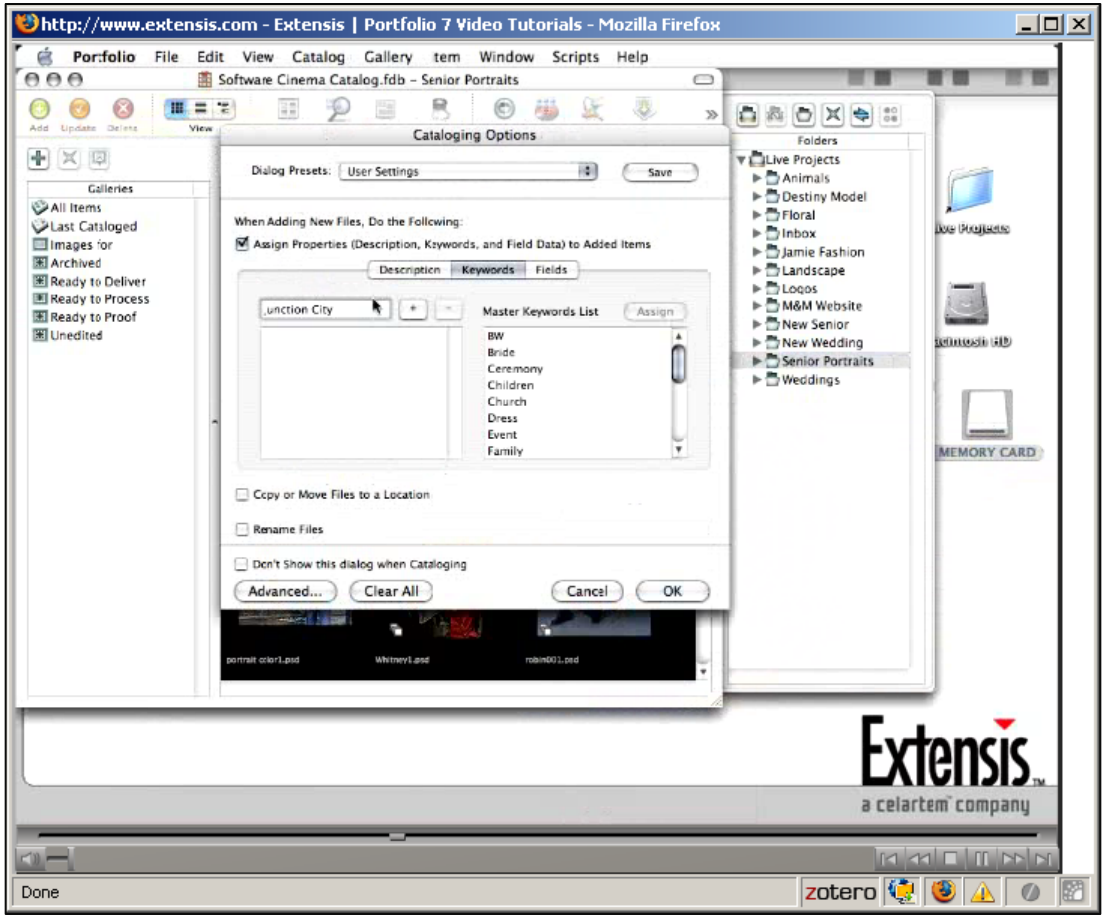
Canto Cumulus metadata (1)



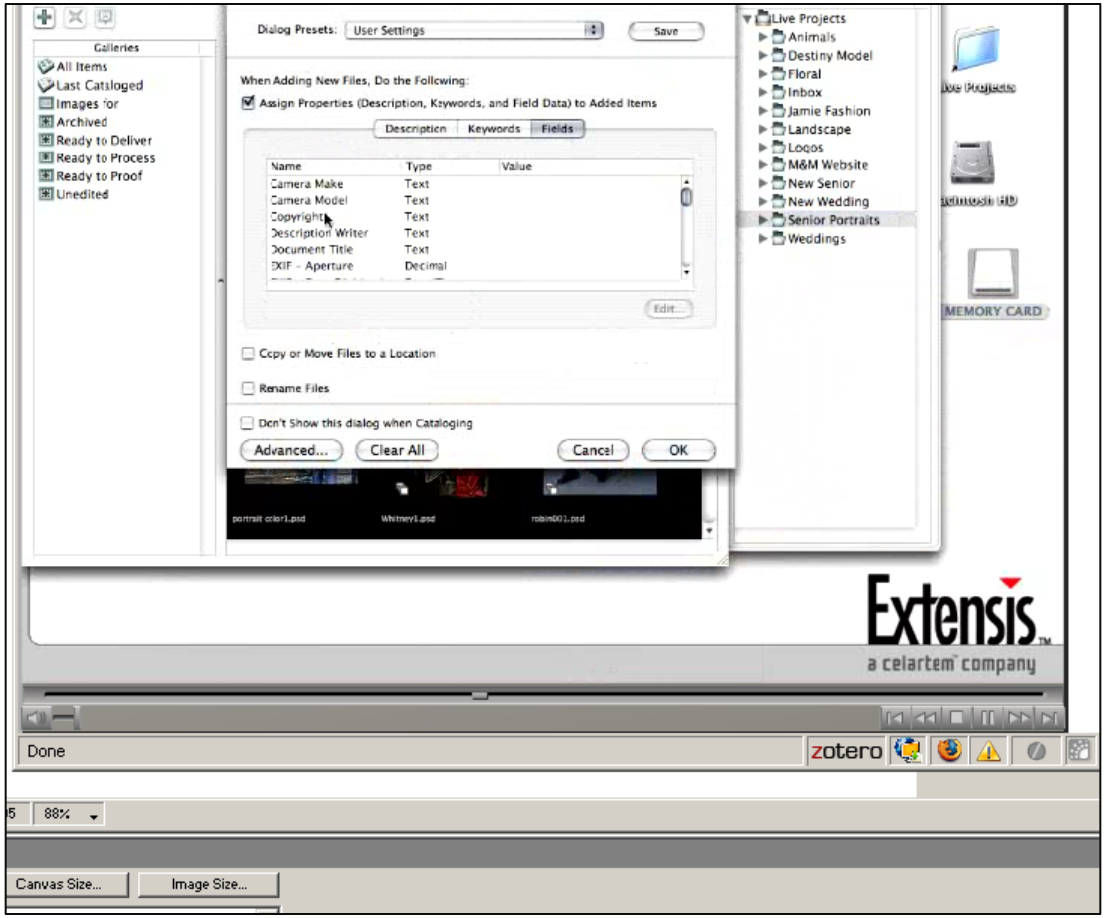
Canto Cumulus metadata (2)



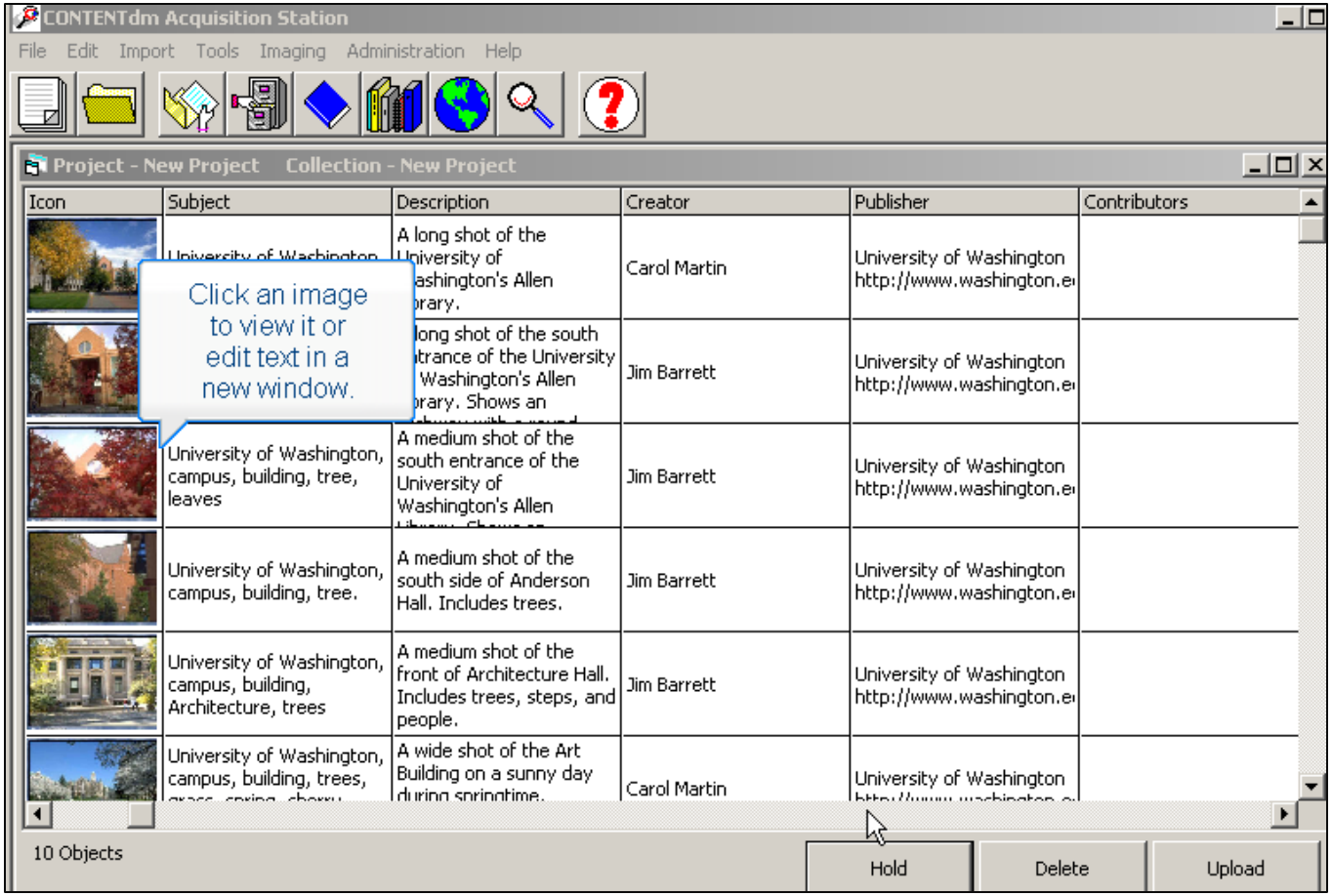
Extensis Portfolio (1)



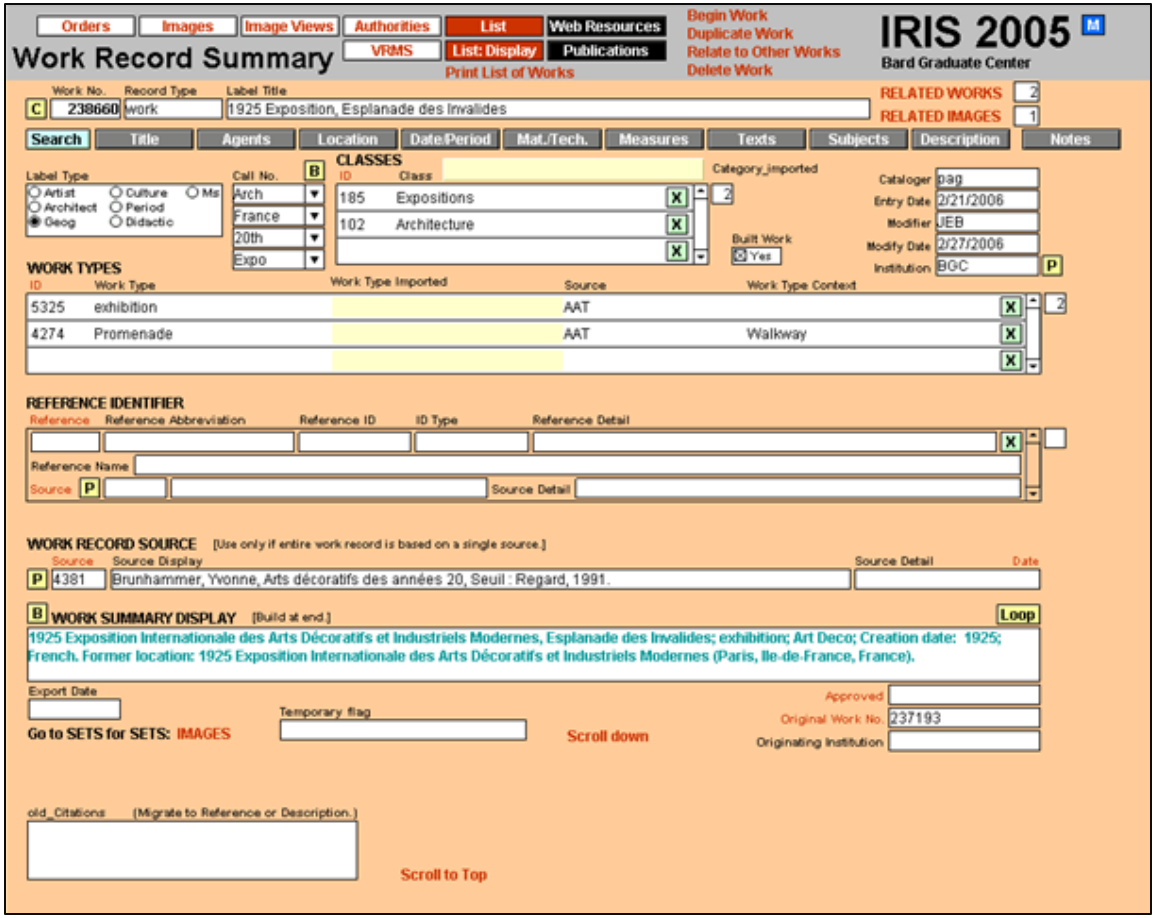
Extensis Portfolio (2)



CONTENTdm metadata



Iris metadata (1)



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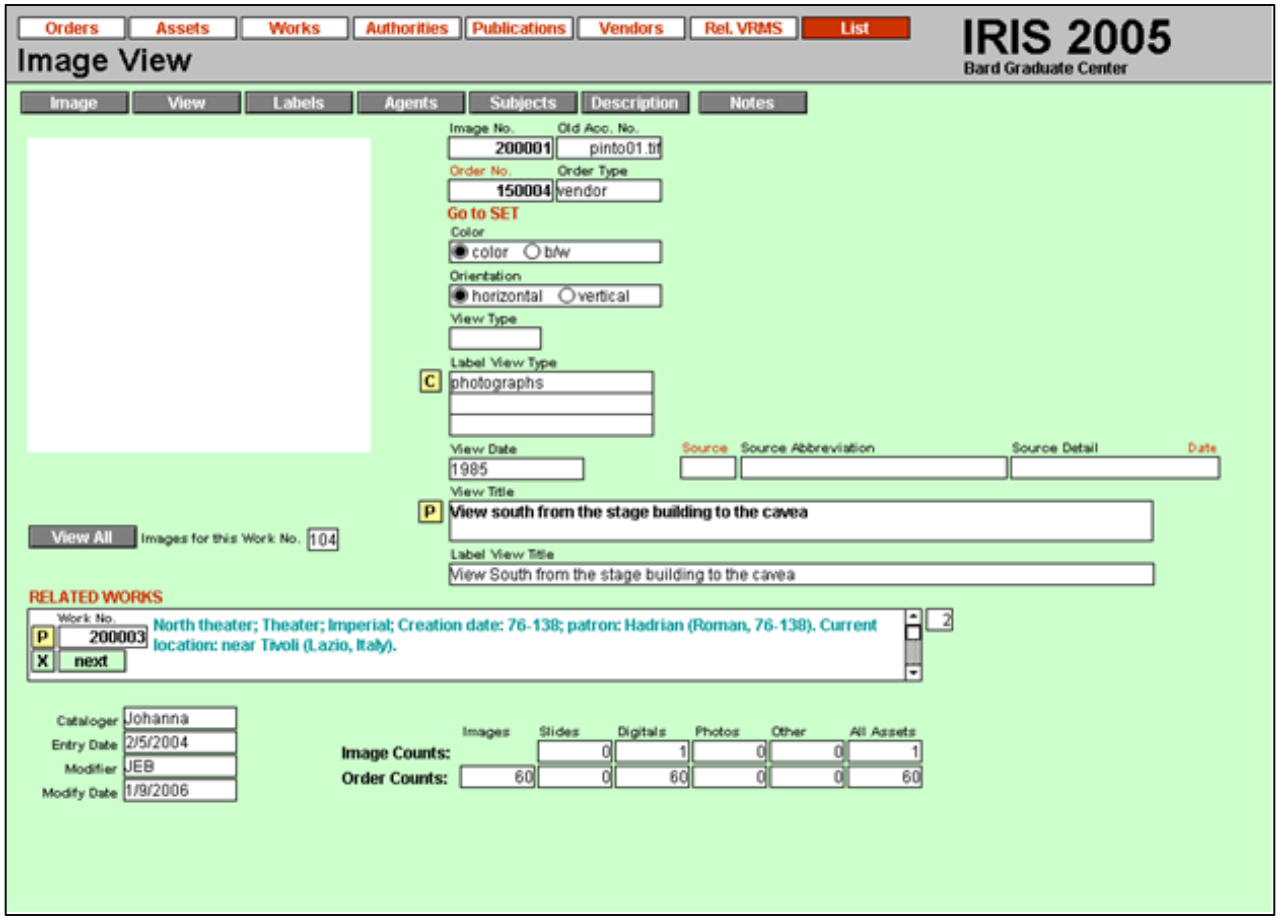
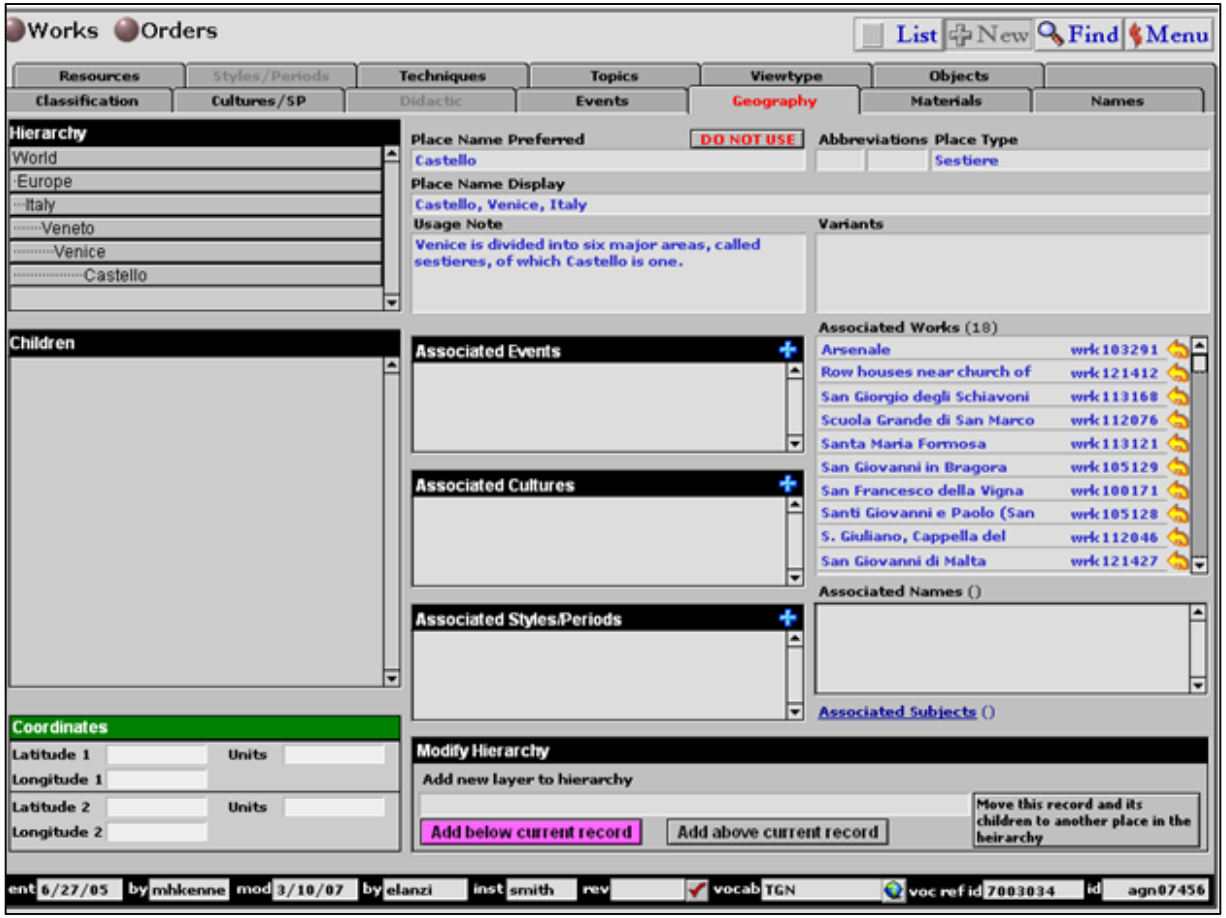
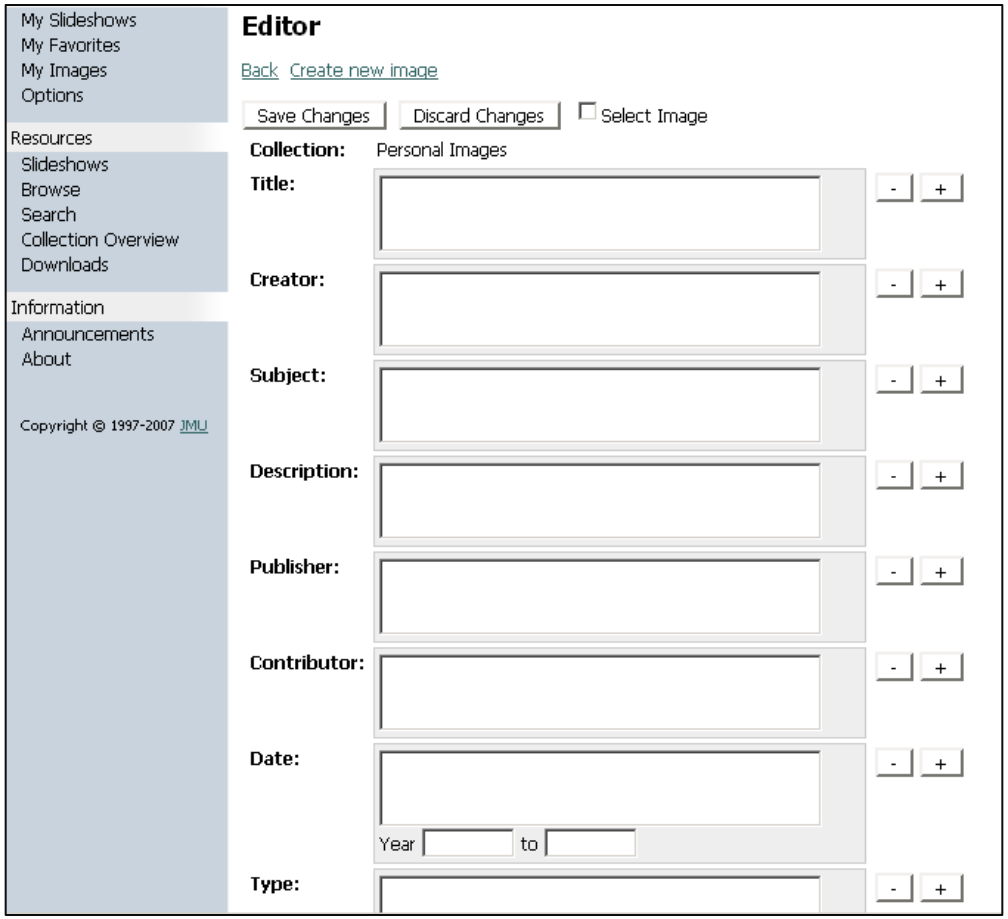


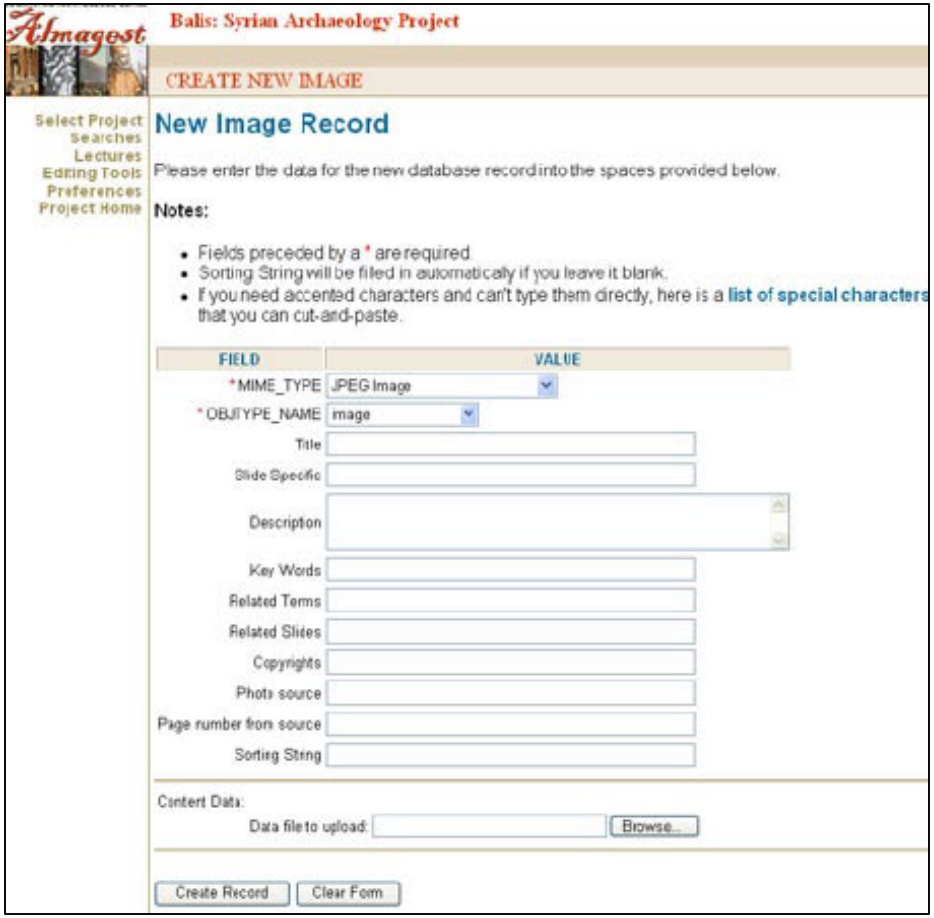
Snapdragon metadata



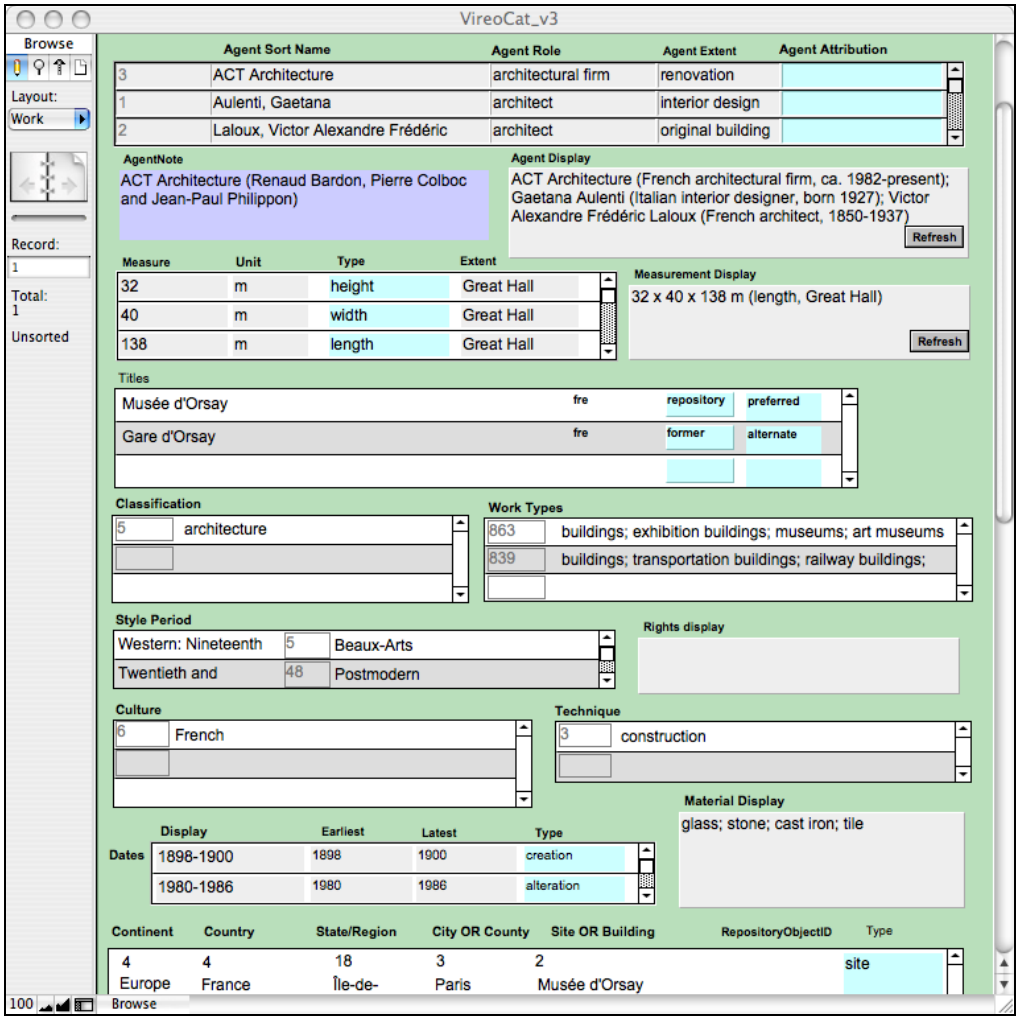
MDID metadata



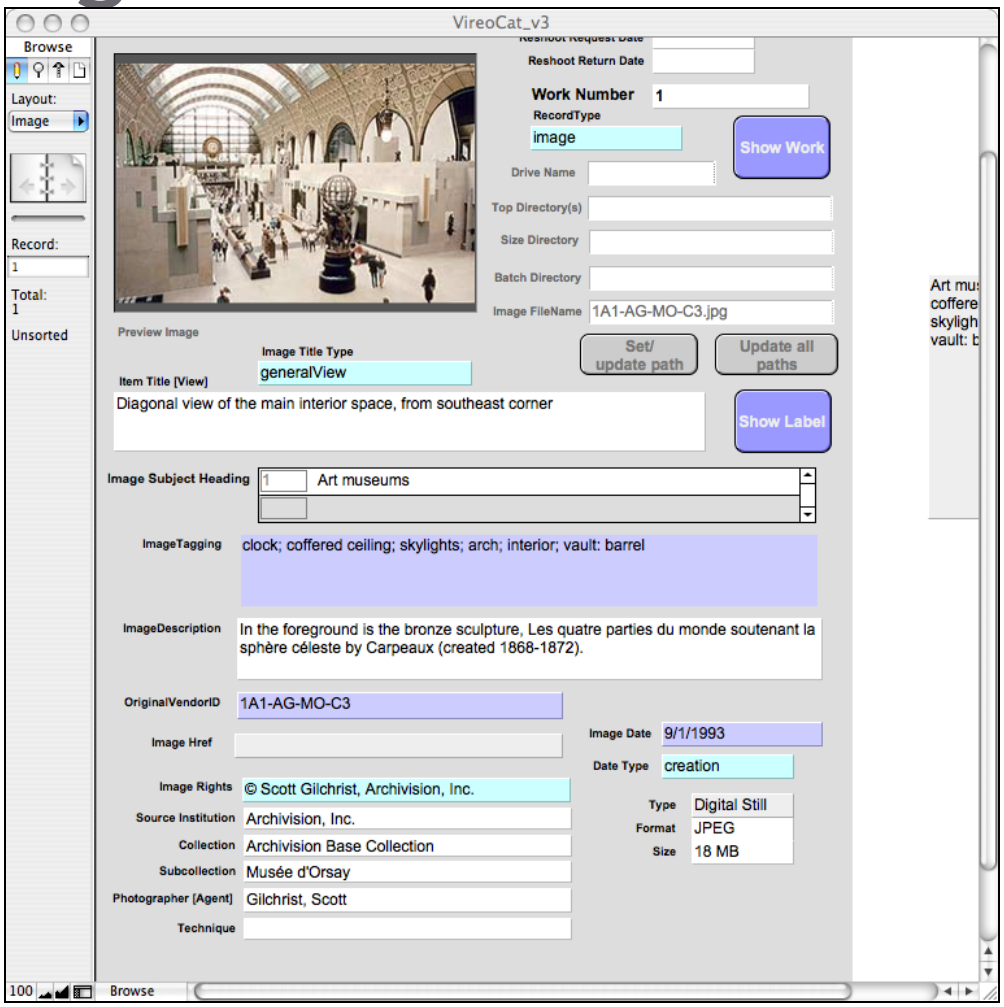
Almagest metadata



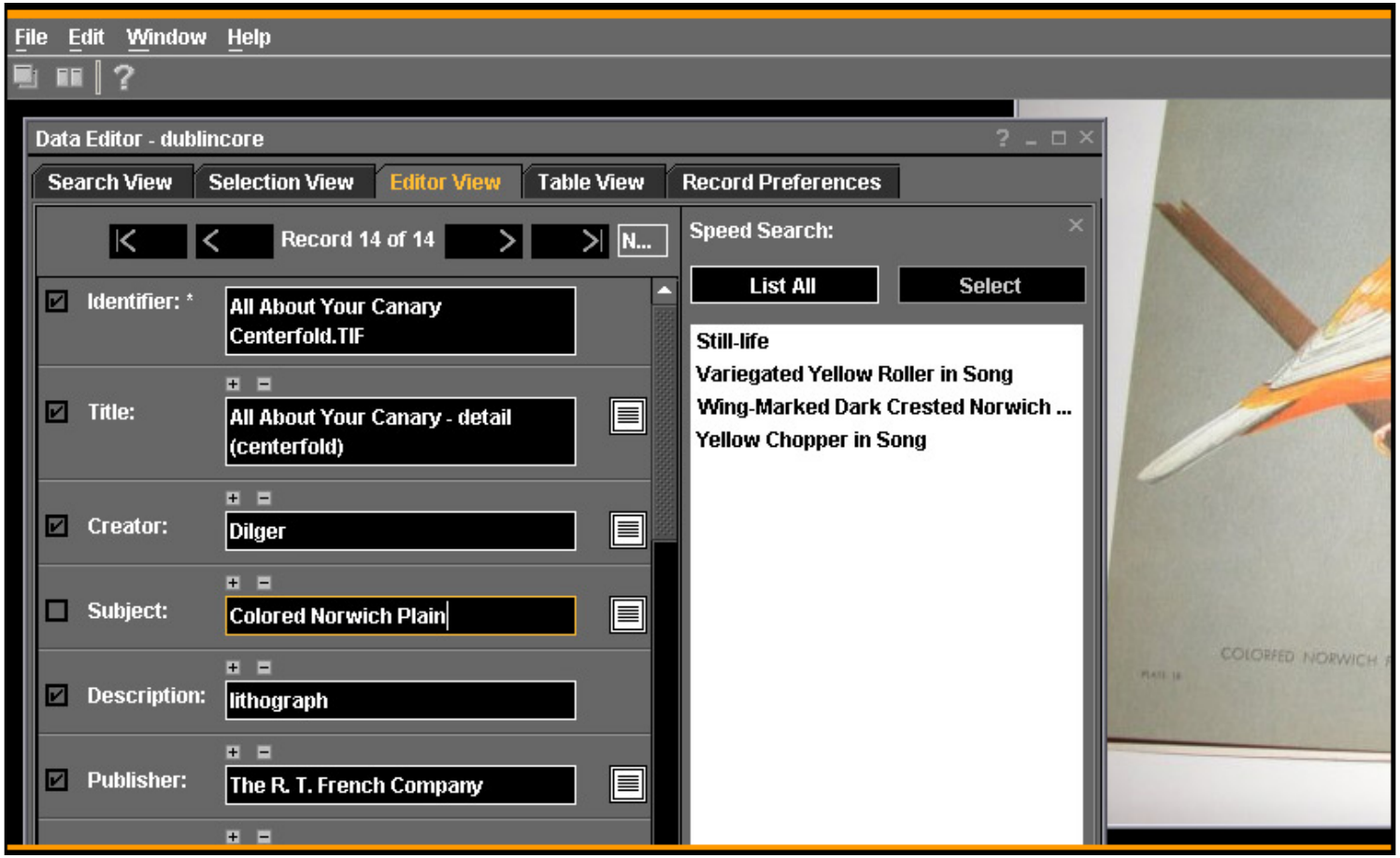
VCat work


VireoCat_v3
Browse
Layout:
Work
Record:
1
Total:
1
Unsorted
Agent Sort Name
Agent Role
Agent Extent
Agent Attribution
3 ACT Architecture architectural firm renovation
1 Aulenti, Gaetana architect interior design
2 Laloux, Victor Alexandre Frédéric architect original building
AgentNote
ACT Architecture (Renaud Bardon, Pierre Colboc and Jean-Paul Philippon)
Agent Display
ACT Architecture (French architectural firm, ca. 1982-present); Gaetana Aulenti (Italian interior designer, born 1927); Victor Alexandre Frédéric Laloux (French architect, 1850-1937)
Refresh
Measure Unit Type Extent
32 m height Great Hall
40 m width Great Hall
138 m length Great Hall
Measurement Display
32 x 40 x 138 m (length, Great Hall)
Refresh
Titles
Musée d'Orsay fre repository preferred
Gare d'Orsay fre former alternate
Classification
5 architecture
Work Types
863 buildings; exhibition buildings; museums; art museums
839 buildings; transportation buildings; railway buildings;
Style Period
Western: Nineteenth 5 Beaux-Arts
Twentieth and 48 Postmodern
Rights display
Culture
6 French
Technique
3 construction
Material Display
glass; stone; cast iron; tile
Display Earliest Latest Type
Dates 1898-1900 1898 1900 creation
1980-1986 1980 1986 alteration
Continent Country State/Region City OR County Site OR Building RepositoryObjectID Type
4 Europe 4 France 18 Île-de- 3 Paris 2 Musée d'Orsay site
100
Browse

VCat image


VireoCat_v3
Browse
Layout:
Image
Record:
1
Total:
1
Unsorted
Reshoot Return Date
Work Number
1
RecordType
image
Show Work
Drive Name
Top Directory(s)
Size Directory
Batch Directory
Image FileName
1A1-AG-MO-C3.jpg
Preview Image
Image Title Type
generalView
Set/ update path
Update all paths
Item Title [View]
Diagonal view of the main interior space, from southeast corner
Show Label
Image Subject Heading
1
Art museums
ImageTagging
clock; coffered ceiling; skylights; arch; interior; vault: barrel
ImageDescription
In the foreground is the bronze sculpture, Les quatre parties du monde soutenant la sphère céleste by Carpeaux (created 1868-1872).
OriginalVendorID
1A1-AG-MO-C3
Image Href
Image Date
9/1/1993
Date Type
creation
Image Rights
© Scott Gilchrist, Archivision, Inc.
Source Institution
Archivision, Inc.
Collection
Archivision Base Collection
Subcollection
Musée d'Orsay
Photographer [Agent]
Gilchrist, Scott
Technique
Type
Digital Still
Format
JPEG
Size
18 MB
100
Browse

Insight metadata



Discovery Tools

For end-users

- These are for our users; cataloging tools generally provide staff with the means to locate records
- Some decisions to make:
  - Search indexes
  - Browse indexes
  - Fields in brief and long displays
  - User-friendly labels

Client vs. web-based

- Similar issues apply as to cataloging/metadata creation tools
- But client download/install can be a significant barrier for our end-users
- Client interaction can also make it more difficult for users to get content *out* of the system and into environments where they perform other tasks

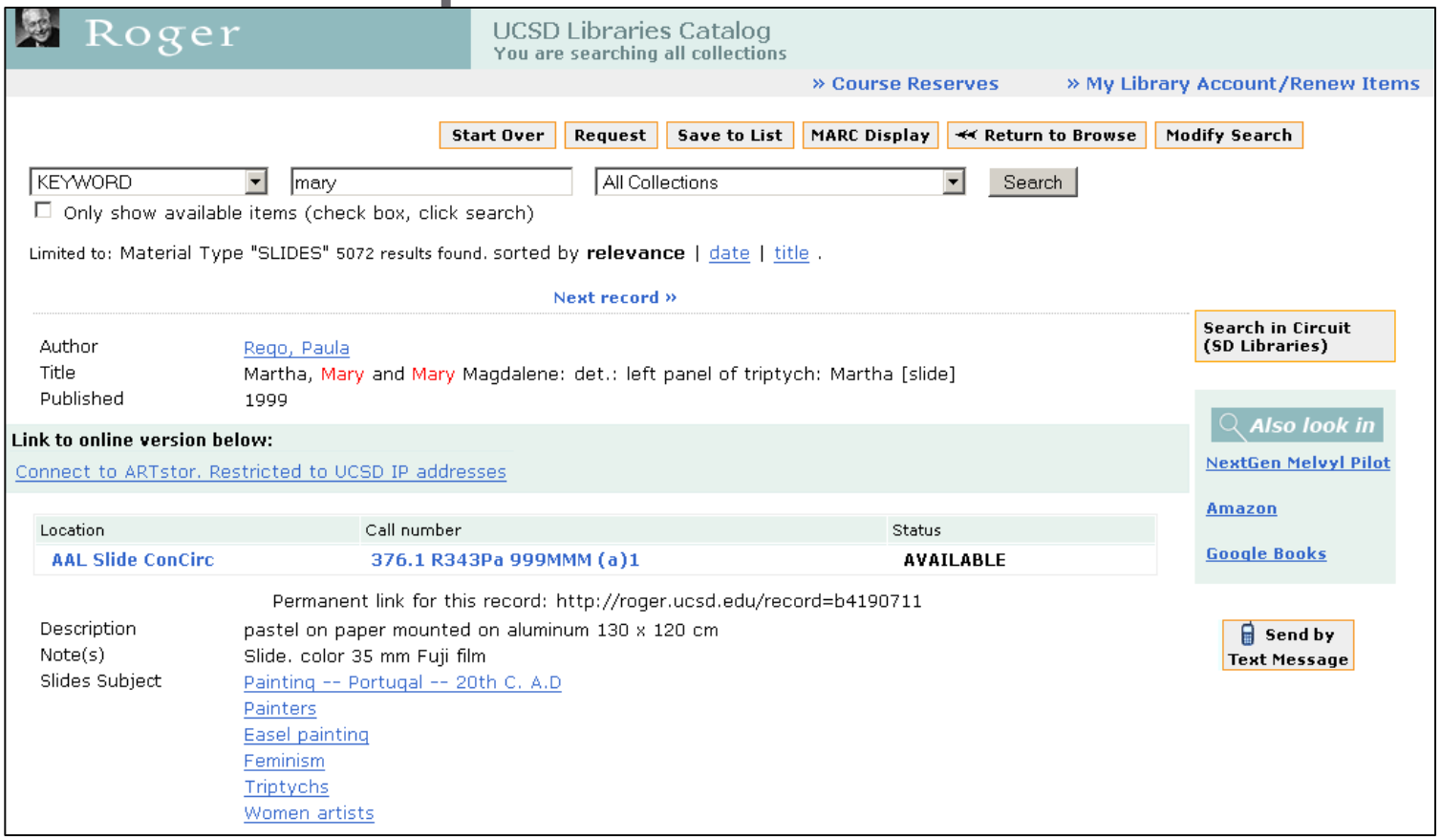
VR-specific vs. general

- Desired search/browse indexes and labeling can be different for VR materials than other types of material
- Who are your users and what other resources do they regularly use?

Some options

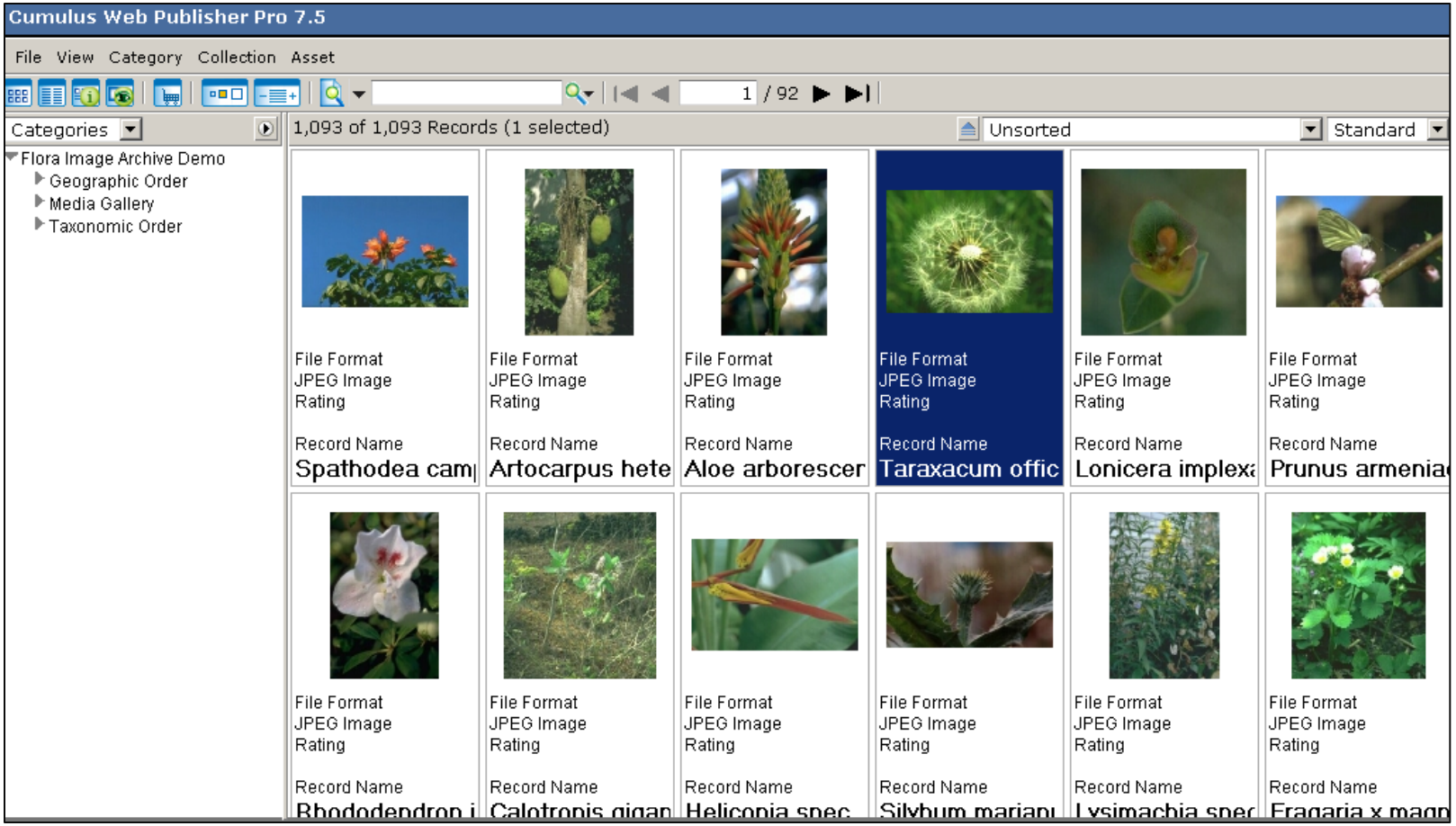
- ARTstor hosting
- Artesia DAM
- Fedora
- Plus…

OPAC example

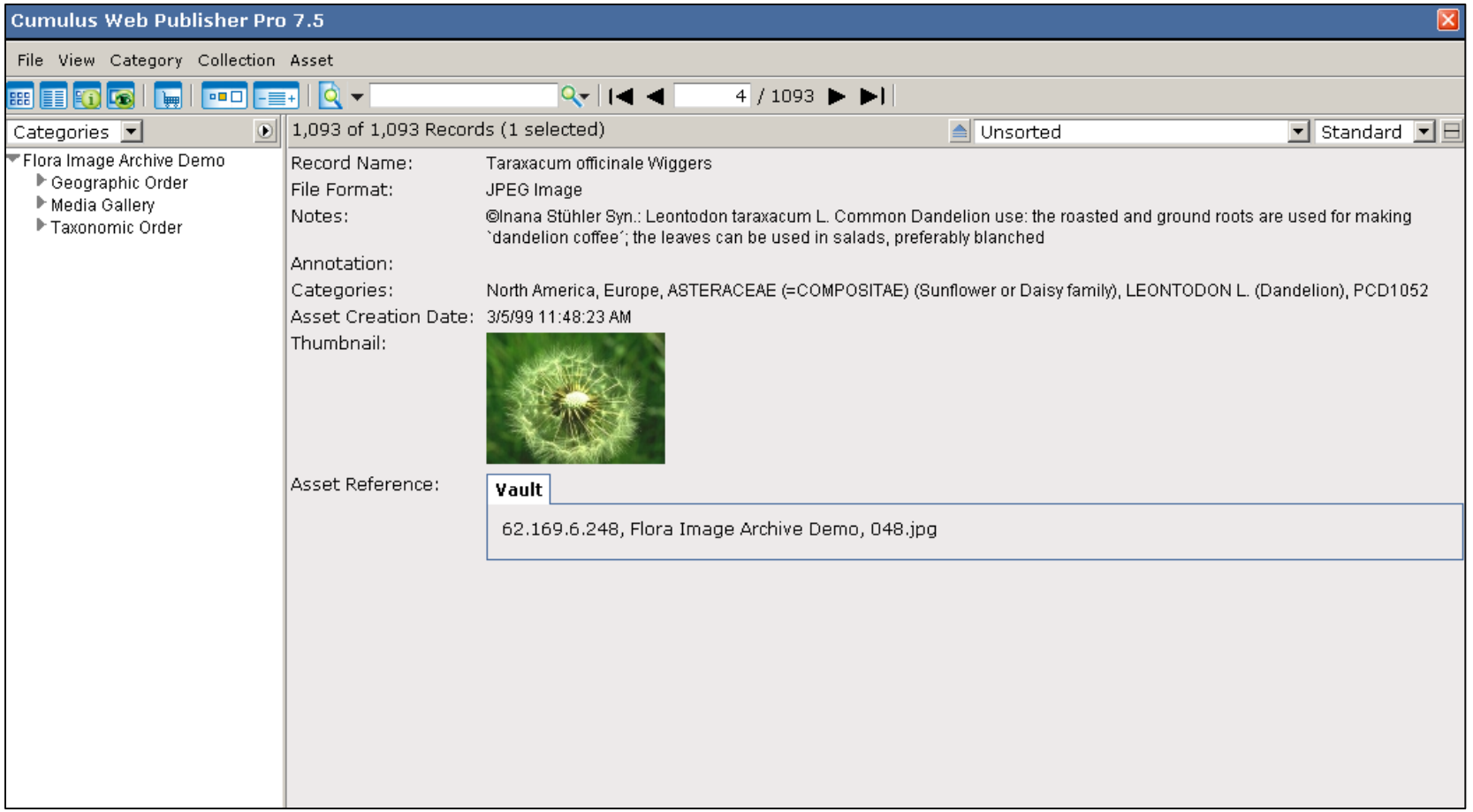


Demo: http://roger.ucsd.edu/screens/mainmenu.html

Canto Cumulus web interface (1)



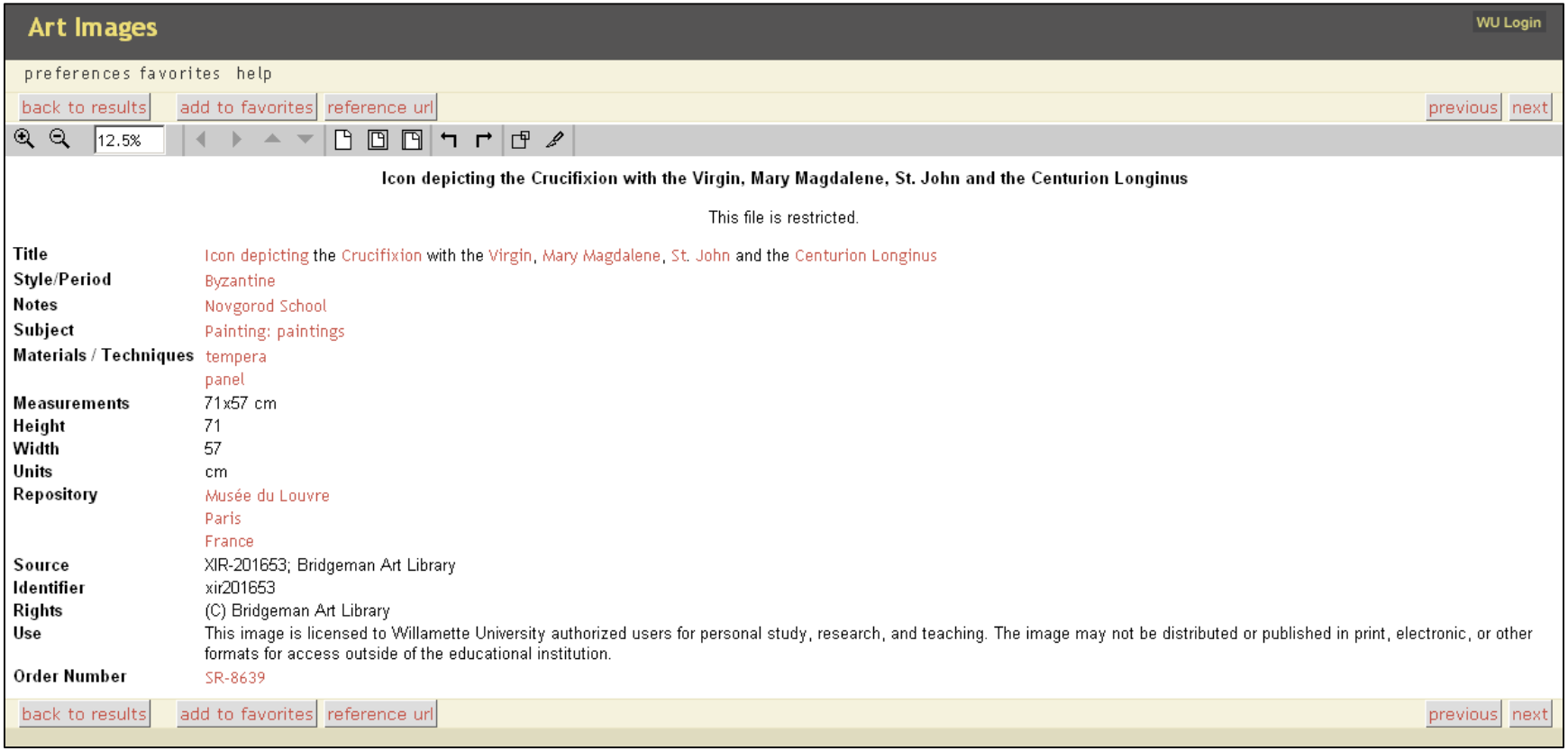
Canto Cumulus web interface (2)



DSpace

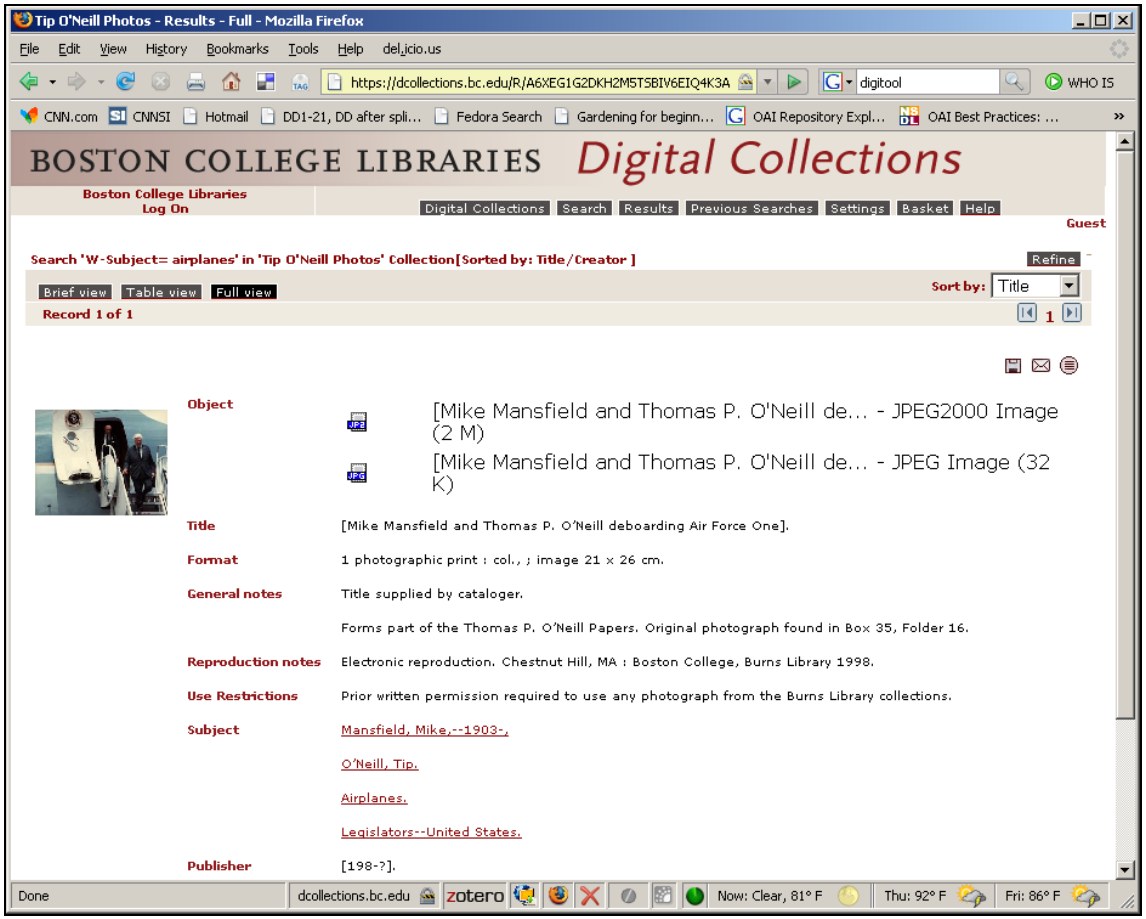
Demo: http://dspace.sunyconnect.suny.edu/handle/1951/6640

CONTENTdm



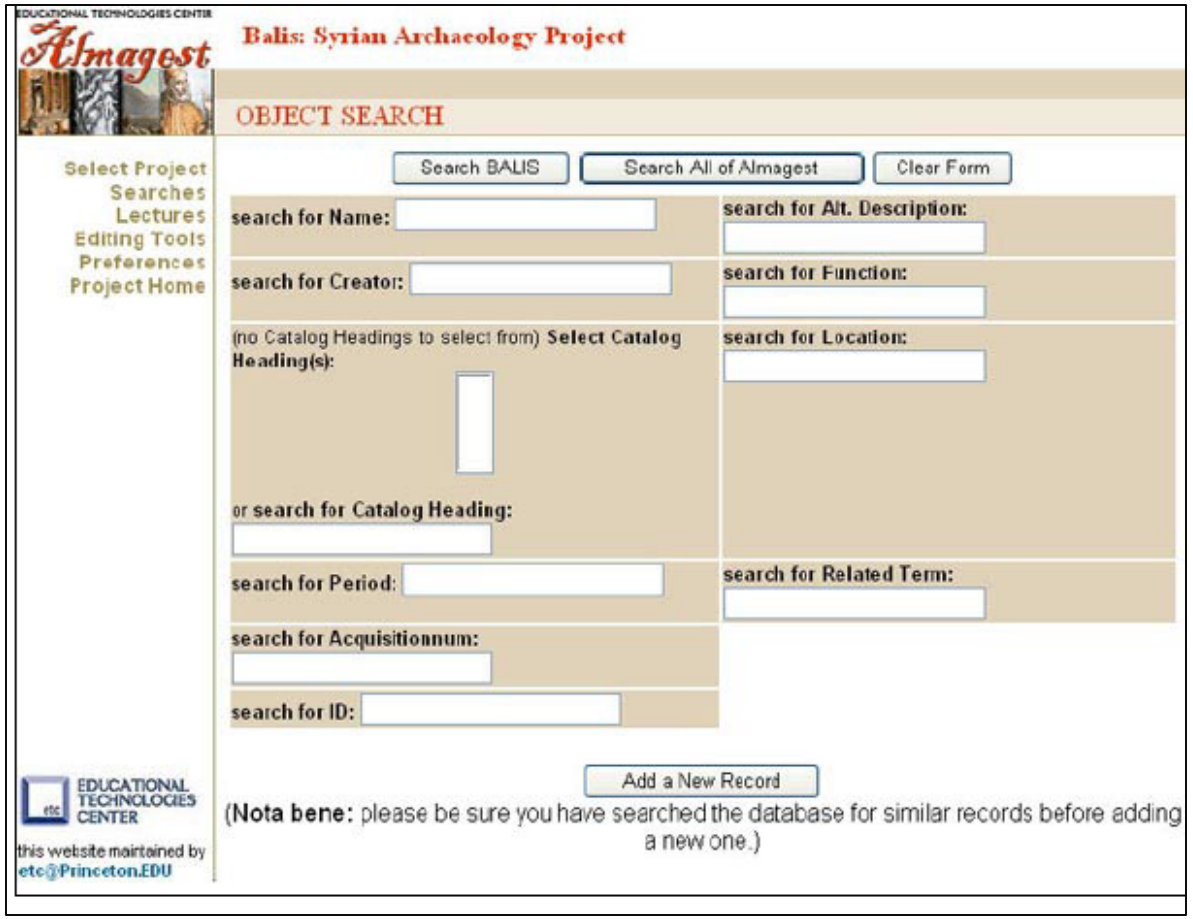
Demo: http://libmedia.willamette.edu/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/art

DigiTool

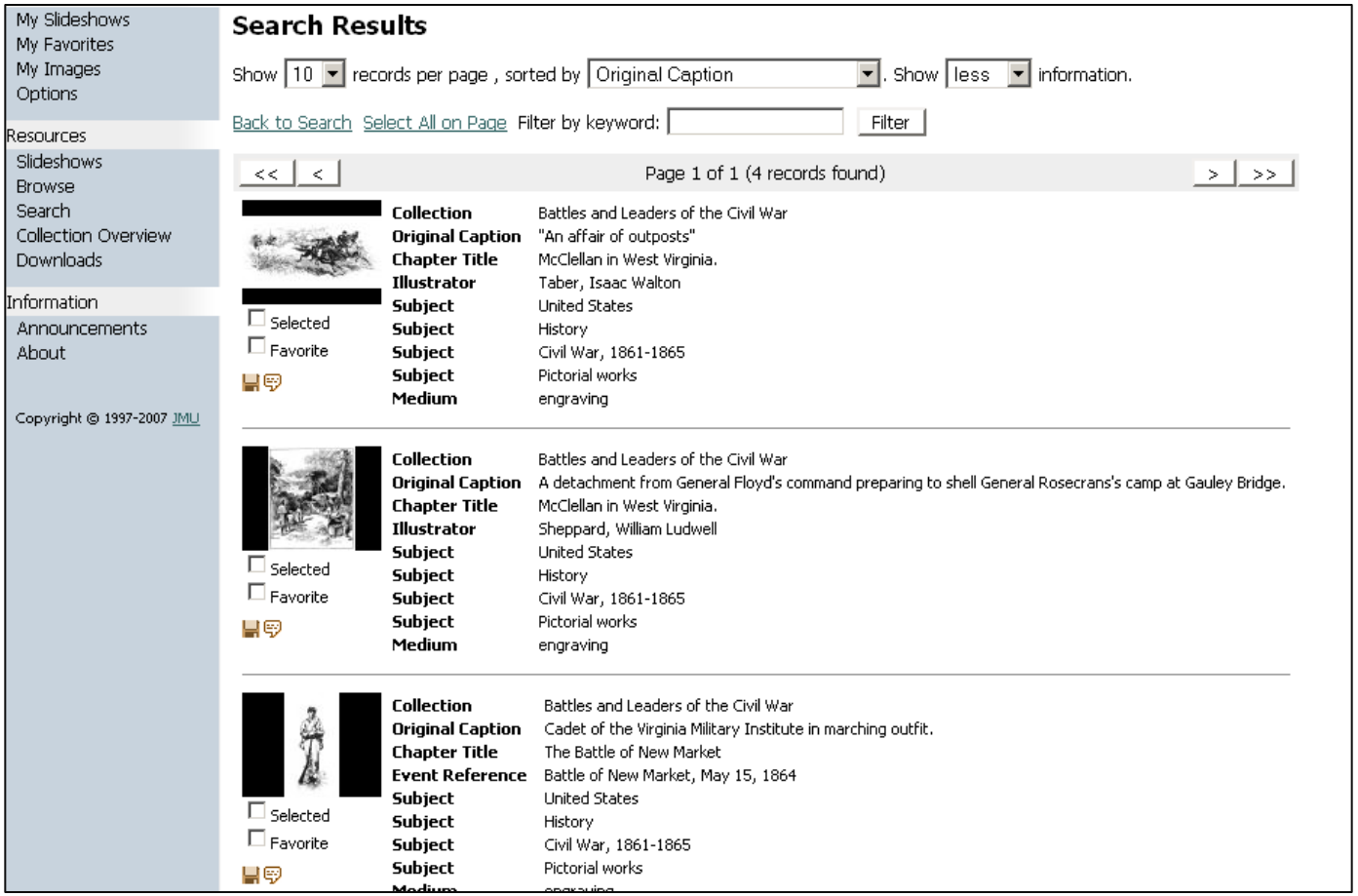


Demo: http://tinyurl.com/3wrf2d

Almagest search



MDID search results



Luna Insight image viewer

Data sharing

Shareable metadata isn't just about OAI-PMH

- Some other options:
  - Lightweight APIs (e.g., OpenLibrary)
  - Google SiteMaps
  - OpenSearch
  - OpenURL
  - SRU
  - OAI-ORE
  - Linked data

Notice Z39.50 isn't on this list.

- Jim Michalko, RLG: library data sharing mechanisms are "high value and low participation"

Sharing VR data

- This community doesn't have a strong tradition of sharing
  - Rights to content have been one big barrier
  - Relatively recent development of descriptive standards is another
- Can't we share work data?
  - UCAI tried to do this
  - Is it time to try again?
- What if we took the plunge to share and just waited to see what would happen?

Presentation Tools

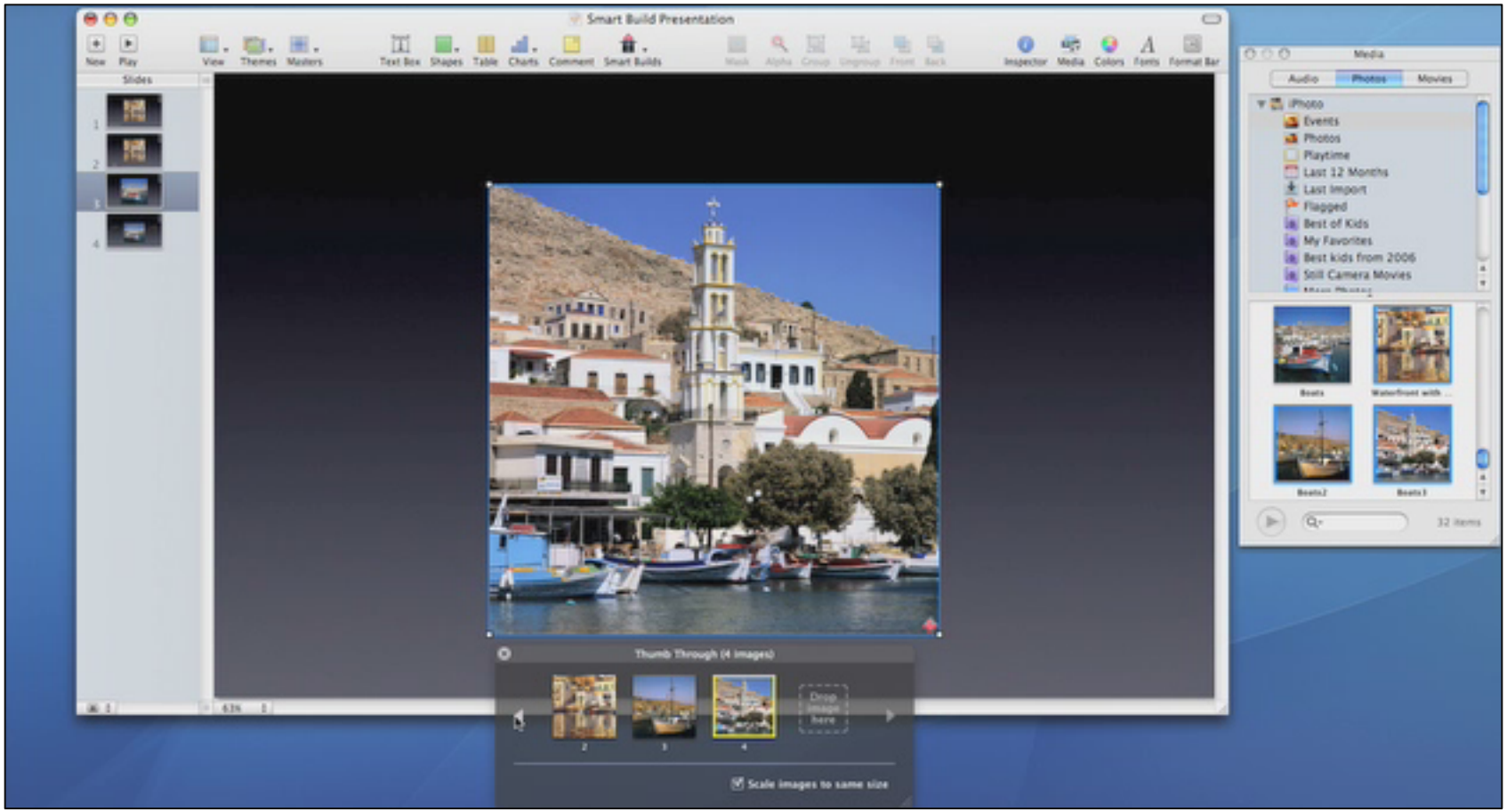
Generally client applications

- Highly interactive nature makes these the last tools to move to the web
- Often requires a time investment on the part of the user
  - But can pay off with significant benefits
- Both general and VR-specific tools exist

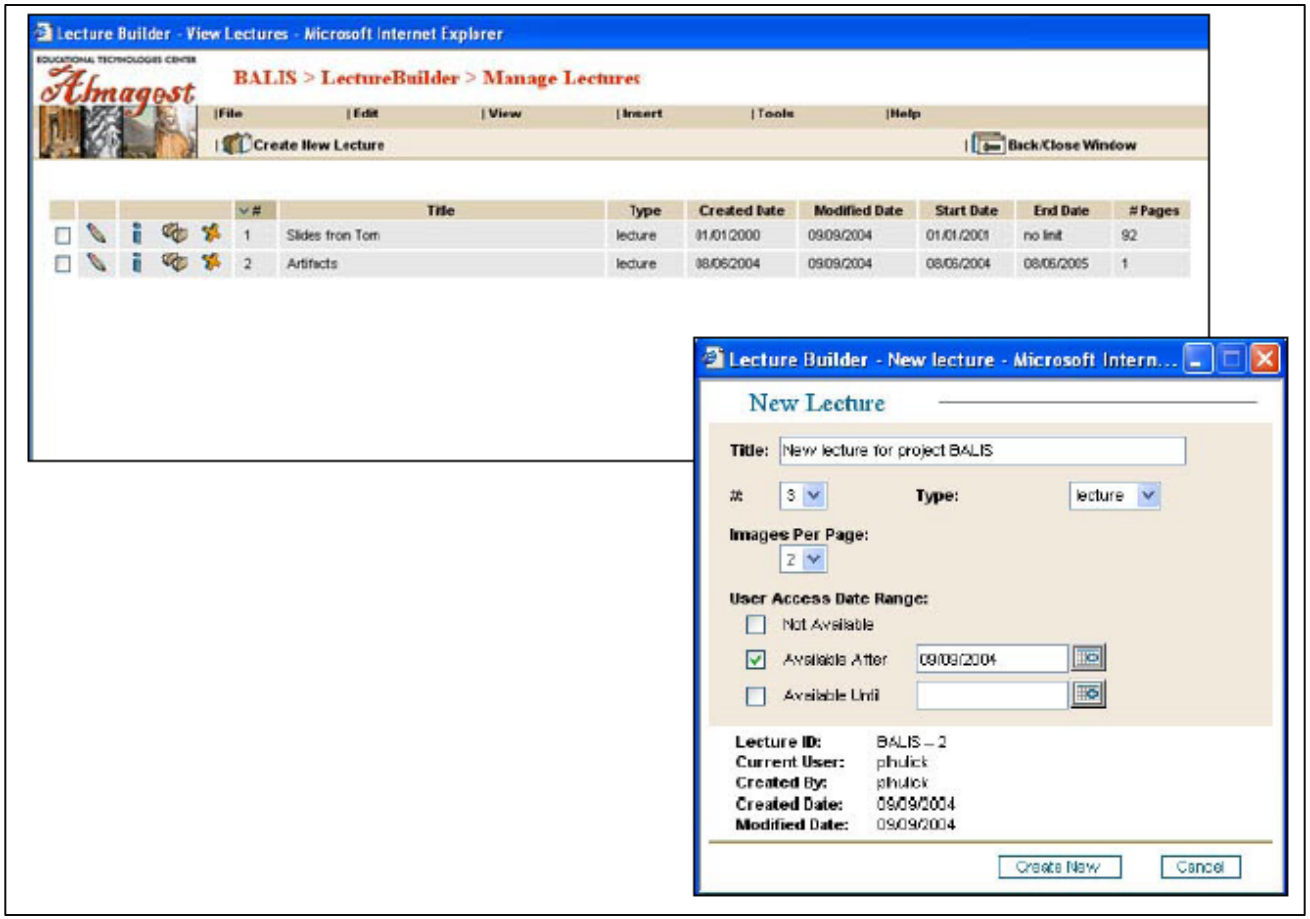
Some options

- Powerpoint
- CONTENTdm Powerpoint plugin
- Plus…

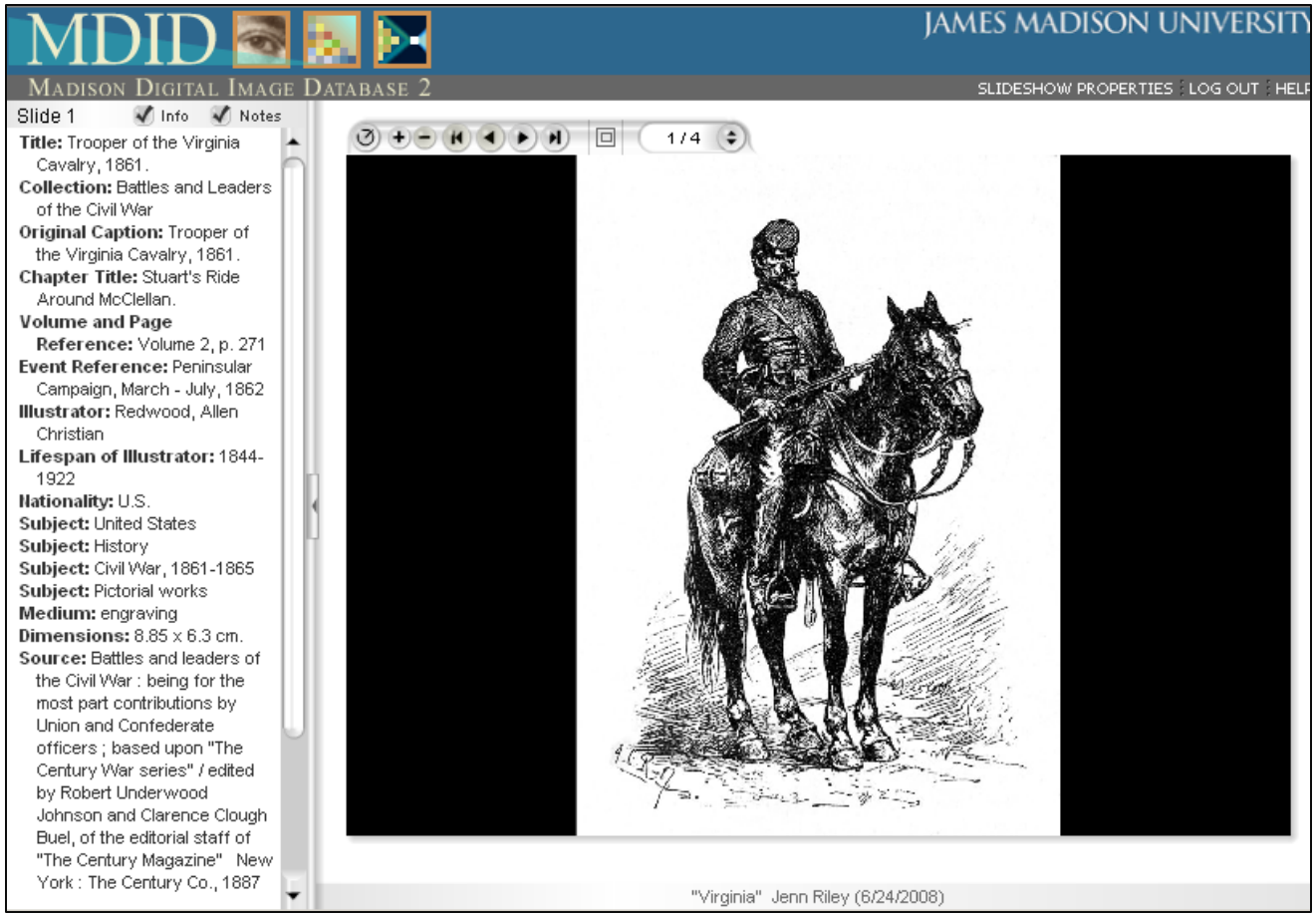
Keynote


Smart Build Presentation
Thumb Through (4 images)
Scale images to same size

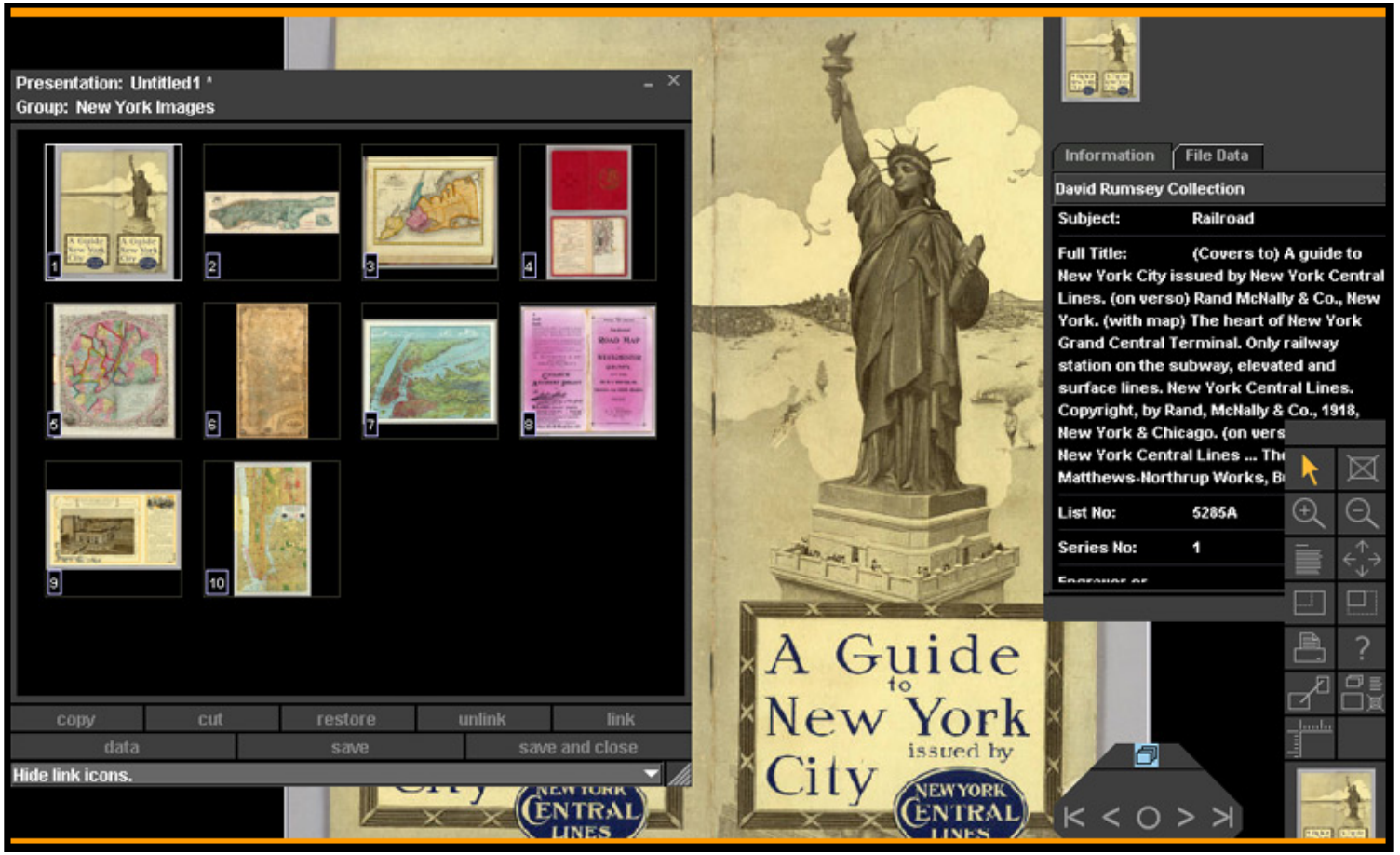
Almagest presentation tools



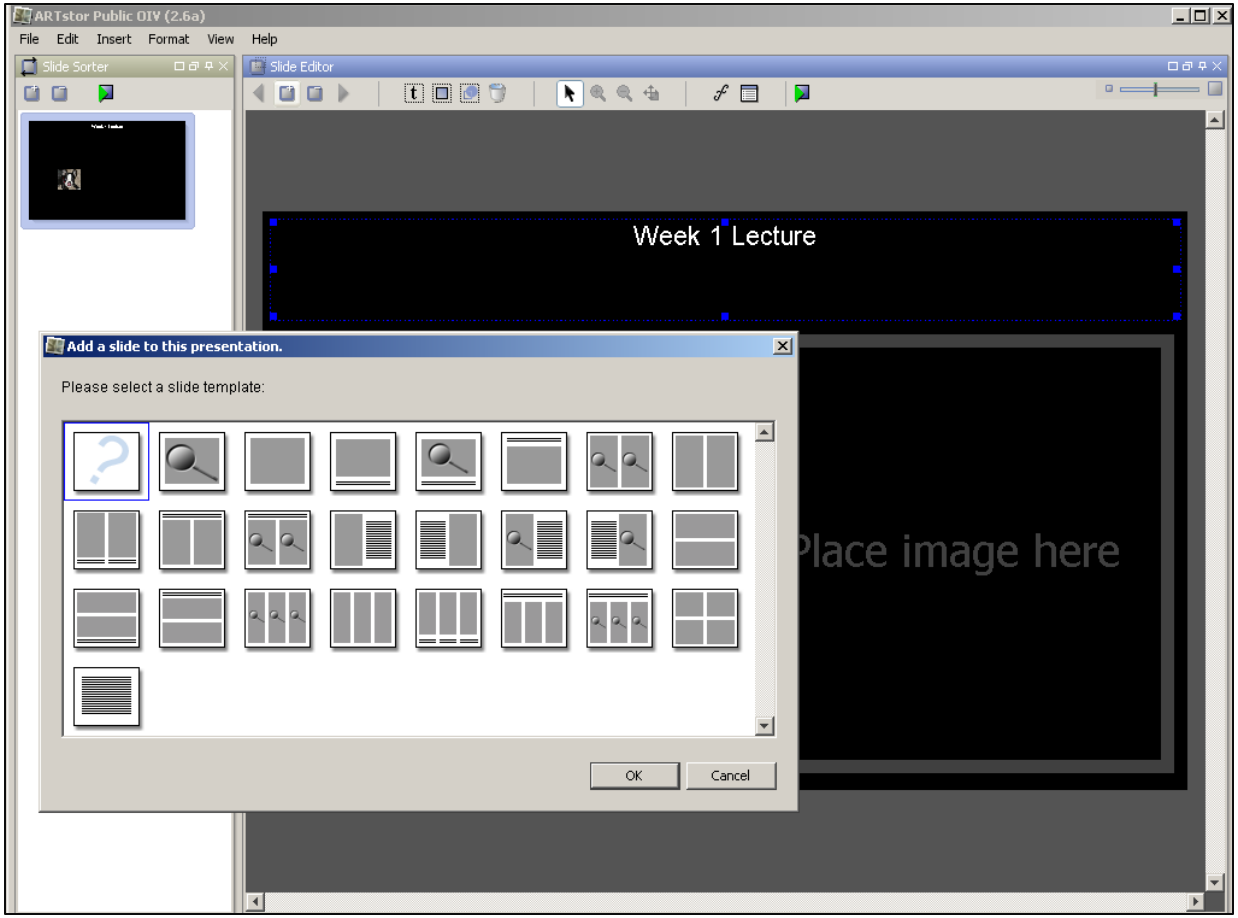
MDID image viewer



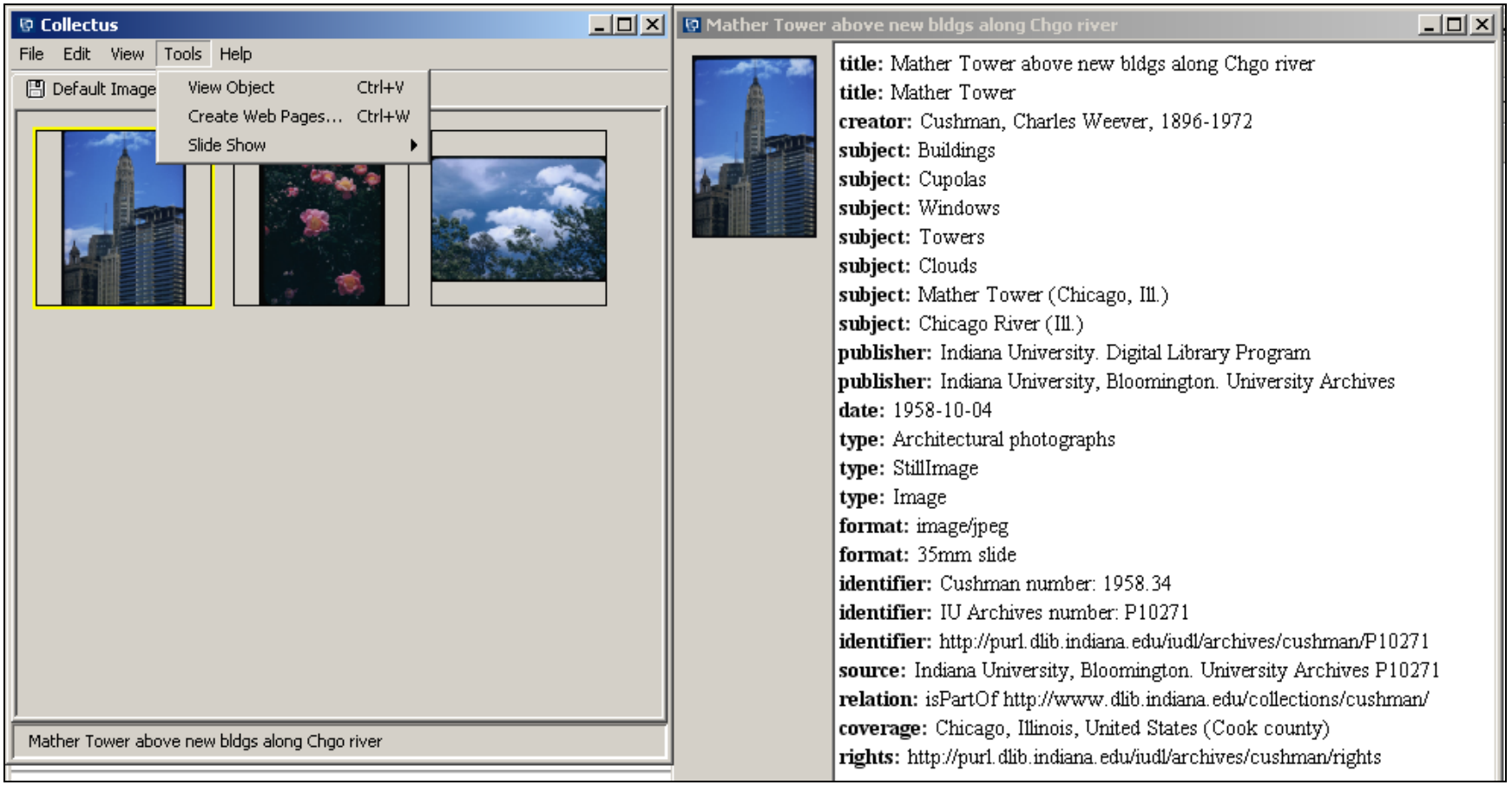
Insight presentation tool



ARTstor Offline Image Viewer



Collectus



Demo: http://www.dlfaquifer.org

Whew.

- And these aren't even all the choices!
- Start by outlining in detail your requirements
  - Metadata
  - Discovery functions
  - Image use
- You'll need to compromise…

…but at least then you'll be making an informed decision

Thank you!

- jenlrile@indiana.edu