

Tools and methods to make your project look and work great

# Blogging Workshop

No hands-on lessons here

Digital humanities focus

Talk about the kinds of things you can do

Give you ideas for developing your project

# Themes

- Traditional blog themes
- Newsletter/Magazine themes
- Portfolio themes
- Builder themes

Traditional blog themes are a running list of posts with maybe a sidebar and a few stock pages, such as a bio or contact form.

Newsletter/Magazine themes let you structure your site based on the different kinds of content you have. They include more varied layouts, natively including images.

Portfolio themes usually have a grid of images representing different projects, where you click through to get a detailed explanation along with other graphics where relevant

Builder themes let you organize your material page-by-page any way you think is appropriate. They usually have drag-and-drop interfaces on the back end for positioning elements like graphics, text blocks, embedded videos or slide shows, forms. Each will have its own distinctive style and formatting.

# Plugins for functionality

- Maps
- Annotations
- Data
- Embedded content
- Social media
- Full-scale projects

Map plugins interact with Google maps, or another provider.

Annotations can be your own or crowd-sourced.

Tabular data can be made more accessible.

If security concerns stop you from putting up certain types of interactivity, you can embed a page on a different service.

You can push or pull items from all the major social media sites, as feeds or easy embeds.

A theme specifically designed to handle wide ranges of data and graphically knit them together.

# www.museumethics.org

## Theme

- Magazine-style theme: ColorMag

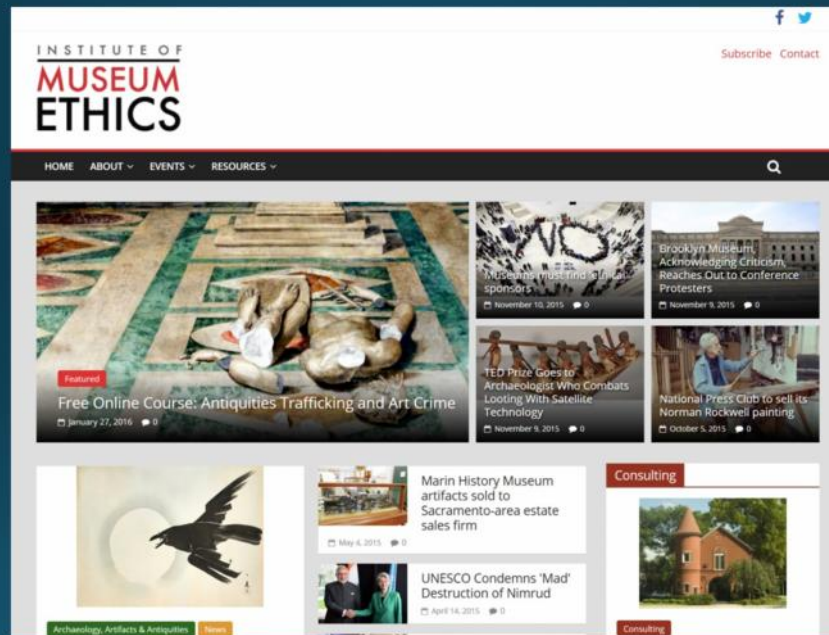
## Plugins

- Add-To-Any Share Buttons
- Contact Form 7
- Events Made Easy

Despite its separate domain name, this runs on blogs.shu.edu

We use one of the two tools we use to include “share” links on individual pages.

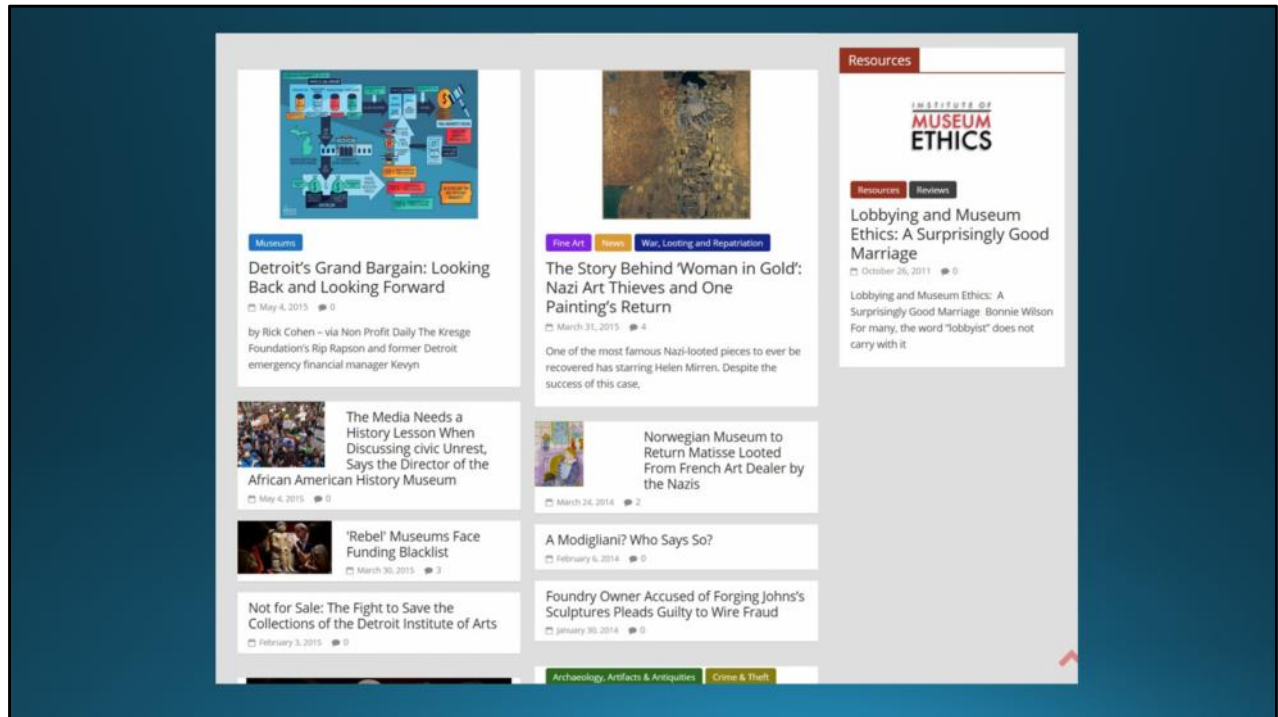
There’s a contact form, and the facility for an events calendar. This can generate a sidebar item, a calendar grid page with views for different time periods, or an agenda.



ColorMag has pre-configured blocks that you can place on your home page.

You assign categories to each section. Categories can have their own color.

This has a feature block across the top, which includes a slider.



The next sections are category based, and the grid adjusts automatically.

Other magazine-style themes include "Access Press Mag," "Awaken," "The Queue," "Magazine Basic," "Extra," "Nexus" and "Awaken"

# blogs.shu.edu

## Theme

- Builder-style theme: Divi

## Plugins

- Nothing special

Divi is one of the most-advanced builder themes out there. It does so much that we don't really need any added functionality through plugins.

CAUTION: Divi is prone to lock-in, meaning that the Builder inserts a lot of code into your custom-pages that isn't compatible with other themes.

The Divi Builder plugin is available, which lets you transition away keeping your page formats within the wrapper of a different theme.



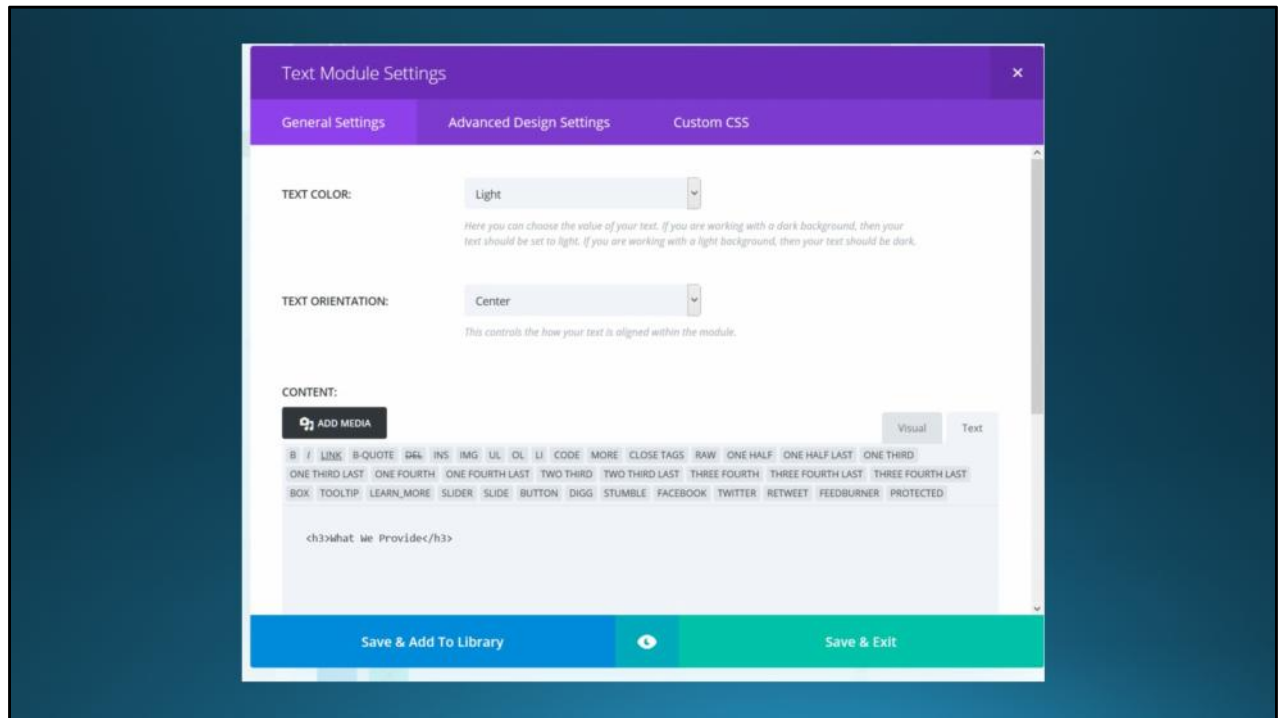
There's a full-width slider with link buttons, and animated icons that fly in as you scroll down.





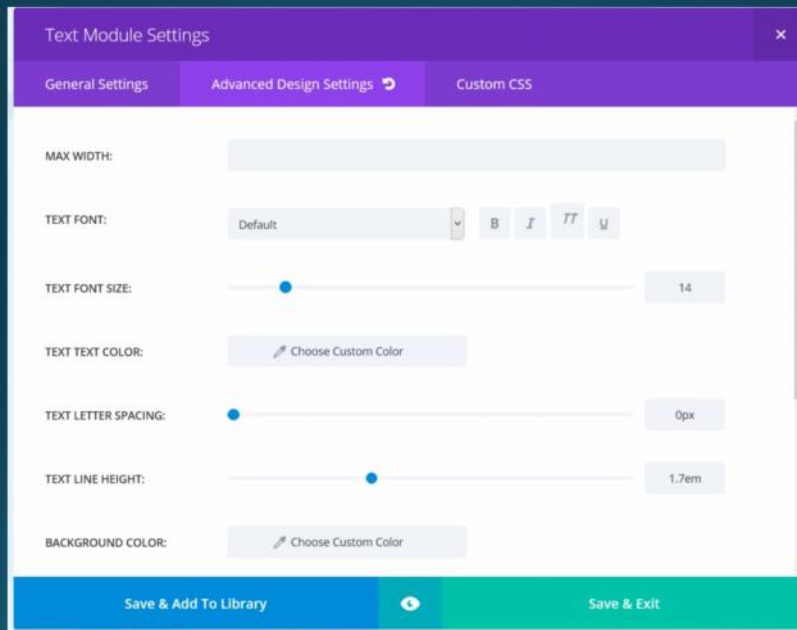
Not just eye candy.

Just add sections, then rows with columns, then blocks.



Each is configured separately. There's a basic view...

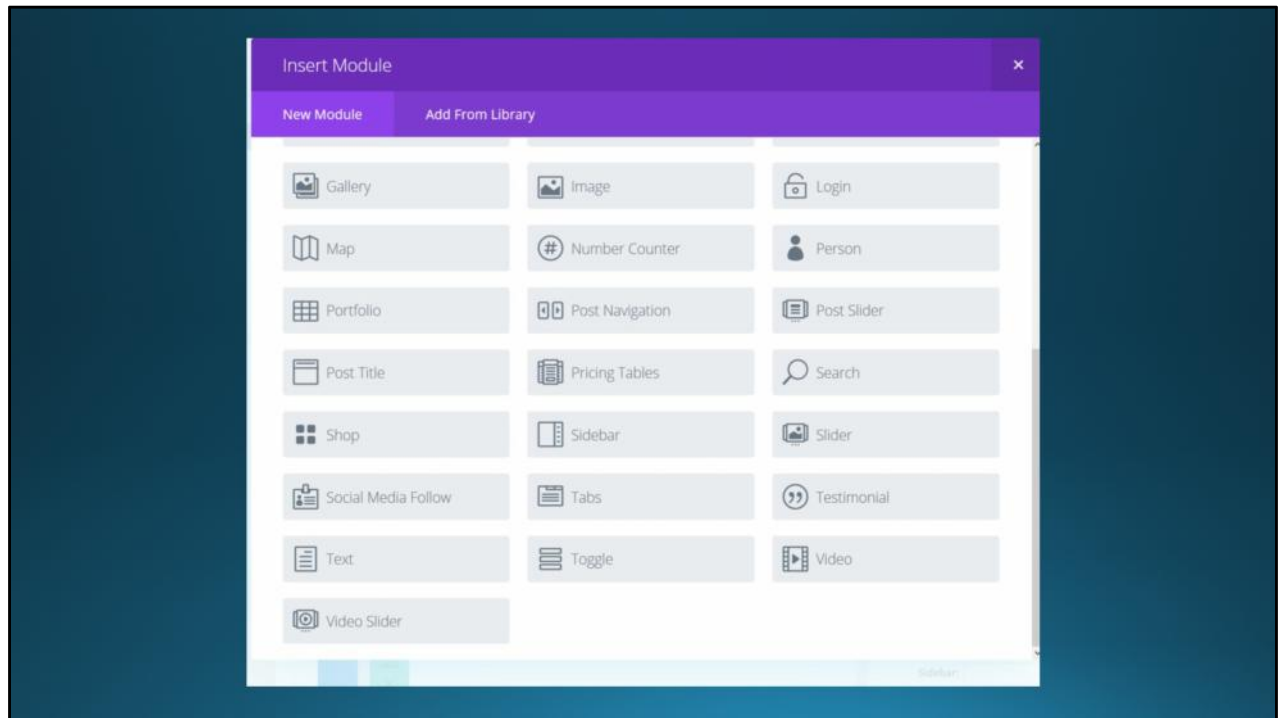
NEXT: advanced view



Lets you fine-tune many aspects of the presentation.

#### WARNING:

This can be a lot of fun, but also distracting. It's already configured right out of the box to look good. Don't worry about too much.



These are some of the kinds of blocks you can include.

Content is key.

Think carefully about what you've got to say and show, set a few basic parameters for design, and then just keep writing.

Other Builder style themes that are available include "Make," "Extra," "Vertex,"

## Portfolio Themes

Usually display feature images in a grid or masonry-style.



Other portfolio themes are “Shaken Grid,” “Surfarama,” “Origin” and “Twenty Fourteen.”

# Cancer Biology

[blogs.shu.edu/cancer](http://blogs.shu.edu/cancer)

## Theme

- Blog-style theme: Twenty Twelve

## Plugins

- Twitter Tools
- Microblog Poster
- Email Subscribers

A well-read blog that doesn't worry about its design. Just good content, cleanly presented.

Gather a subscriber list to push out notifications when new content goes up.

Ability to publish to social media sites right from the WP dashboard.

Ability to pull in feeds from those sites as well.

General Options

Social Networks Accounts


\*\*Auto Publish Old Posts\*\*

Manual Auto Publishing


Logs/History

Configure Your Social Networks Accounts :


[Add New Account](#)




Twitter Accounts




Plurk Accounts




Delicious Accounts



Facebook Accounts



Diigo Accounts



Linkedin Accounts


jvg310

[Edit](#)


[Del](#)

Authorization is valid until 25-07-2015


[Refresh authorization now](#)




Tumblr Accounts




Blogger Accounts



Instapaper Accounts

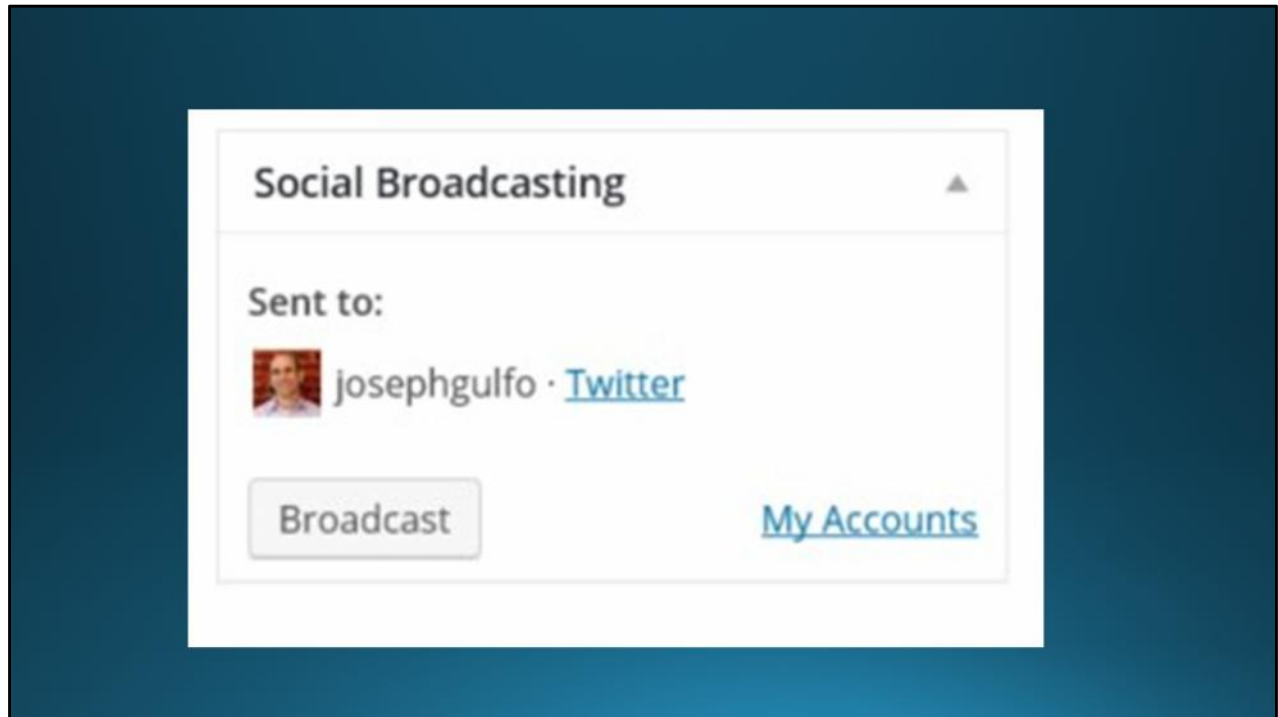


VKontakte Accounts



Xing Accounts

Setup screen for social media push.



This widget appears on your post edit screen, allowing you to publish to your blog and other sites from one place.



# mphda.org

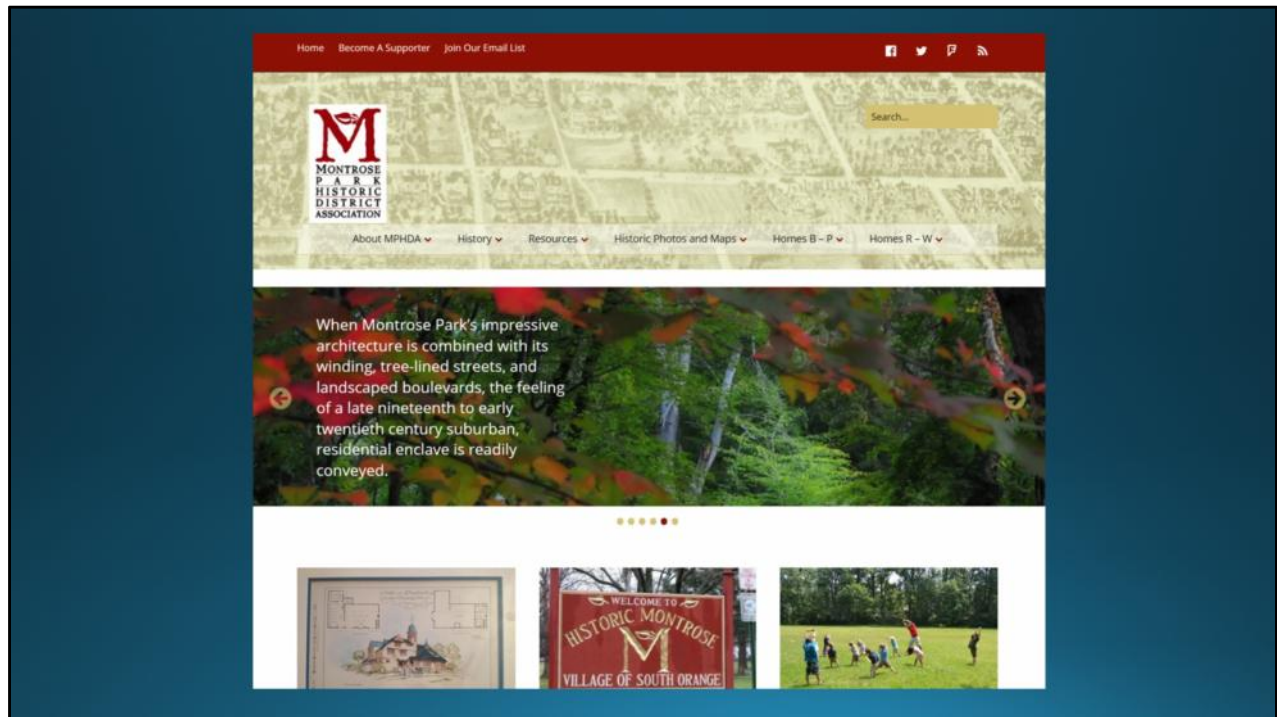
## Theme

- Builder-style theme: Make

## Plugins

- “Make Plus”
- Max Galleria
- Custom Field Widget
- WP Geo

This site uses a drag-and-drop page building interface via the “Make” theme.




Not an SHU site, but for a local civic organization.

Demonstrates some important options.

Drag-and-drop for the separate bands – a full width slider, then three columns.

WP Geo Location



Search for location

Co-ordinates

Marker Title (optional)

Marker Image

Map Settings

- ☐ Save custom map zoom for this post
- ☐ Save custom map type for this post
- ☐ Save map centre point for this post

WP Geo is the mapping component. Lat/Long were sourced out for each property, and assigned to categories. WP Geo overlays them onto a Google map.

Custom Fields

Name	Value
Block	606
<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	
Contributing Outbuildings	
<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	
Key Outbuildings	
<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	
Lot	4
<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	
Non-Contributing Outbuildings	1 detached garage (N/C)
<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	

Setting up custom fields for the type of object we're using – a residential property.

Home » News Archive » 470 Berkeley Avenue



## 470 Berkeley Avenue

470 Berkeley Avenue is a 2 1/2 story, 5 bay, rectangular plan, brick, Neoclassical-influenced, residential building.

Constructed c. 1920, the slate-clad, side gambrel roofed house is articulated by a colossal order, fluted Ionic column-supported full front porch with mutule-supported entablature and balustrade above. Three round-arched, pilastered dormers with lancet upper sashes ornament the slate roofline. The fenestration on the facade consists of 9/1 windows with brick lintels featuring stone keystones and sills. The projecting enclosed portico features a segmentally arched brick surround, with a leaded fanlight and matching sidelights. Above the portico entablature is a wrought iron balcony. At one side of the house is a one story, set back sun porch, and at the back of the house, is a cross gambrel wing.

### About This Property

Block: 506

Lot: 1

Contributing Outbuildings:

Non-Contributing Outbuildings:

Key Outbuildings: 1 stylistically similar detached carriage house (C)

### Properties On This Street



### Streets and Homes

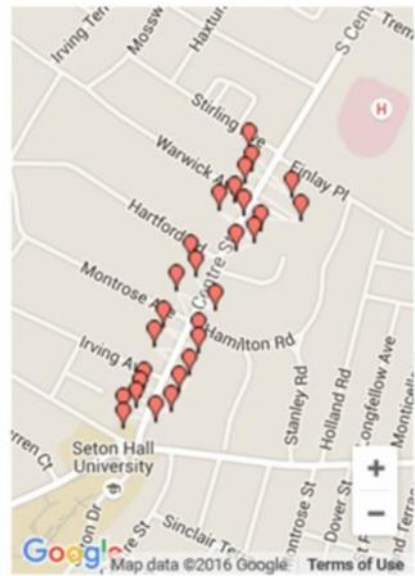
These bits of metadata show top right

Featured image

Map showing other properties in this “category” – aka street name.

NEXT: enlargement of map

### Properties On This Street



Each pin is clickable.

## Streets and Homes



Girl with pram on Vose Ave.



Montrose House for sale



July 4th, 1911



Graves Ballroom



Charlton Avenue



Charlton Avenue



Drinking Fountain, Ridgewood Road



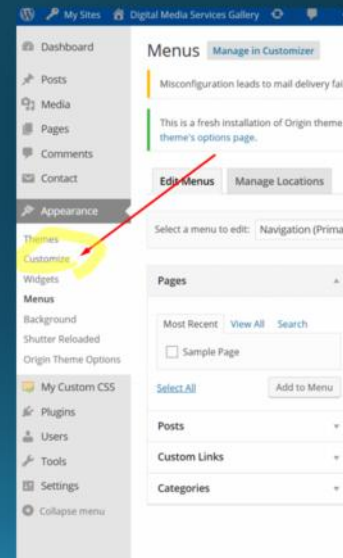
Durand House



Eugene V. Connett Home

Max Galleria lets you group images together, caption them, control layouts, include metadata.

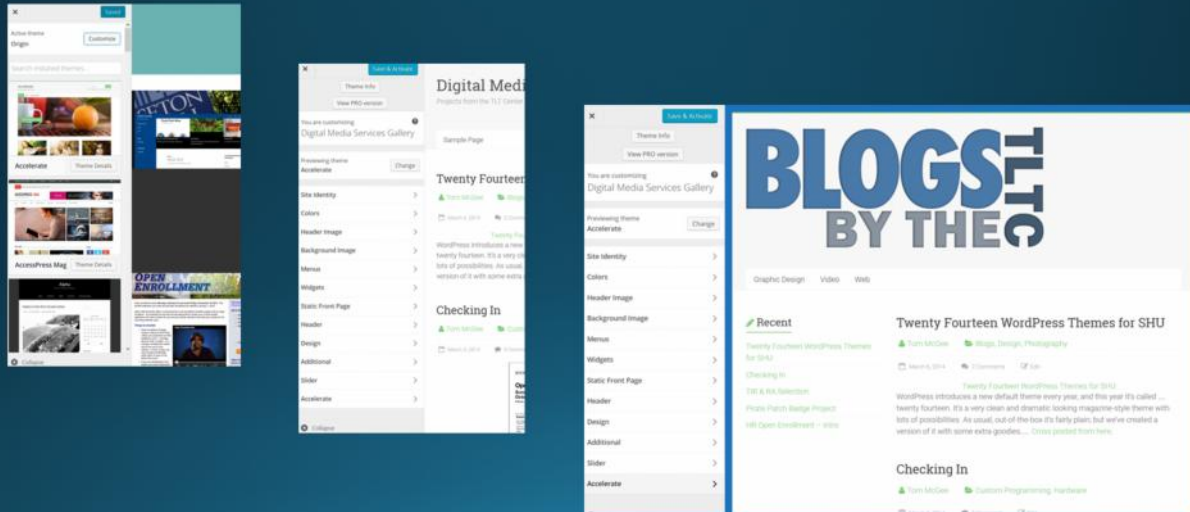
# Testing and Configuring Themes with the Customizer



Look for the “Customize” link at the top or on the left.



# Take One For A Spin



Not all features are available in the customizer  
Mandated for future themes by wordpress.org  
Page-builders aren't clear

Some things to try

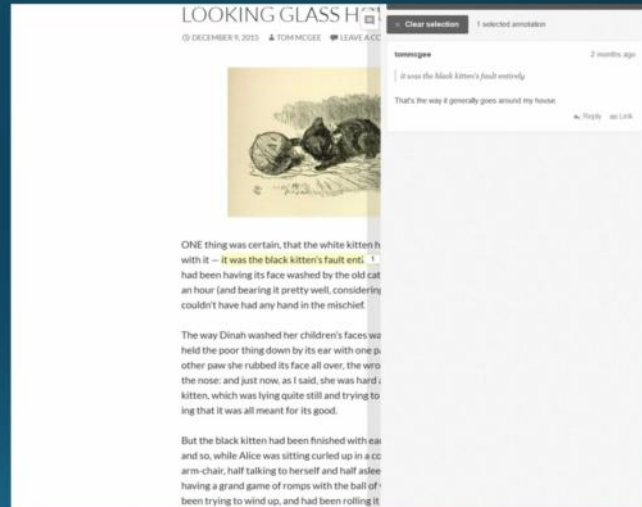
# DHToolkit

Some of the more DH-specific tools.

## hypothes.is

Works with the hypothes.is service to provide crowd-sourced annotations.

Activate the plugin and sign up for a free account.



Works with a free outside source to add annotations to any part of your text.

They're very nice and engaged people – as soon as I started playing around with it they replied with some good-humored messages about cats.

## TablePress

Sortable and searchable tables for your data.

Click on the headers to sort and reverse-sort.

DATE	NAME	SION	SION	VENDOR	COMMENTS
02/11/2015	Events Made Easy		1.5.22		
02/12/2015	Events Made Easy	1.5.22	1.5.23		
02/12/2015	Wptouch Pro	3.6.5	3.7	WPTouch	
02/16/2015	Contact Form DB	2.8.30	2.8.31		
02/17/2015	List Category Posts	0.55	0.56		
02/18/2015	BuddyPress	2.2.0	2.2.1		
02/18/2015	WP Smush Pro	1.01	1.02	WPMU	
02/19/2015	Recent Facebook Posts	2.0.3	2.0.4		
02/20/2015	Floating Social Media Icon	1.3.8	1.3.9		

Uses a JavaScript that pulls in all of your table data and sorts it on the fly, or filters it according to the terms you enter.

# TablePress

Paginated.

Specify how many rows to show.

Instantaneous filtering.

Show	10	▼	entries	Search:	WP
DATE	NAME	OLD VER- SION	NEW VER- SION	VENDOR	COMMENTS
02/12/2015	Wptouch Pro	3.6.5	3.7	Wptouch	
02/18/2015	WP Smush Pro	1.01	1.02	WPMU	
02/24/2015	Wptouch Pro	3.7	3.7.1		
02/27/2015	WP Smush Pro	1.0.2	1.0.3		
03/03/2015	WP-Optimize	1.8.9.7	1.8.9.8		
03/09/2015	New Blog Tem- plates	2.7.4	2.7.5	WPMU	
03/09/2015	Wptouch Pro	3.7.1	3.7.4.1		
03/26/2015	Subscribe by Email	3.0.1	3.0.2	WPMU	
03/18/2015	WP-Optimize	1.8.9.8	1.8.9.10		
03/24/2015	Wptouch Pro	3.7.4.1	3.7.4.5		
<a href="#">Edit</a>					
Showing 1 to 10 of 73 entries (filtered from 698 total entries)					
<a href="#">Previous</a> <a href="#">Next</a>					

You can show as many lines as you need to for easier reading.

Dynamic presentations.



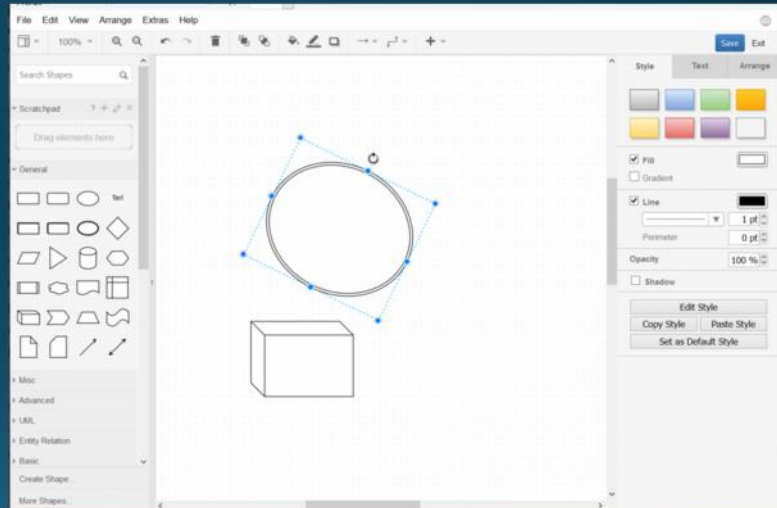
If you have your own hosting you can circumvent that. At your own risk.

# DrawIt

Create diagrams.

Export as PNG or

SVG (in development)



You can do flowcharts – Visio-style diagrams.

Generate as PNG or SVG (SVG not well-supported yet) and embed them in your pages or posts.

## Your theme can help

"Chosen," for example, offers live-video headers.



Here's a YouTube video embedded where a featured image might usually go. Click and play in a large view. This is the "Chosen" theme, as used on [blogs.shu.edu/magazine](https://blogs.shu.edu/magazine).





Last but not least...

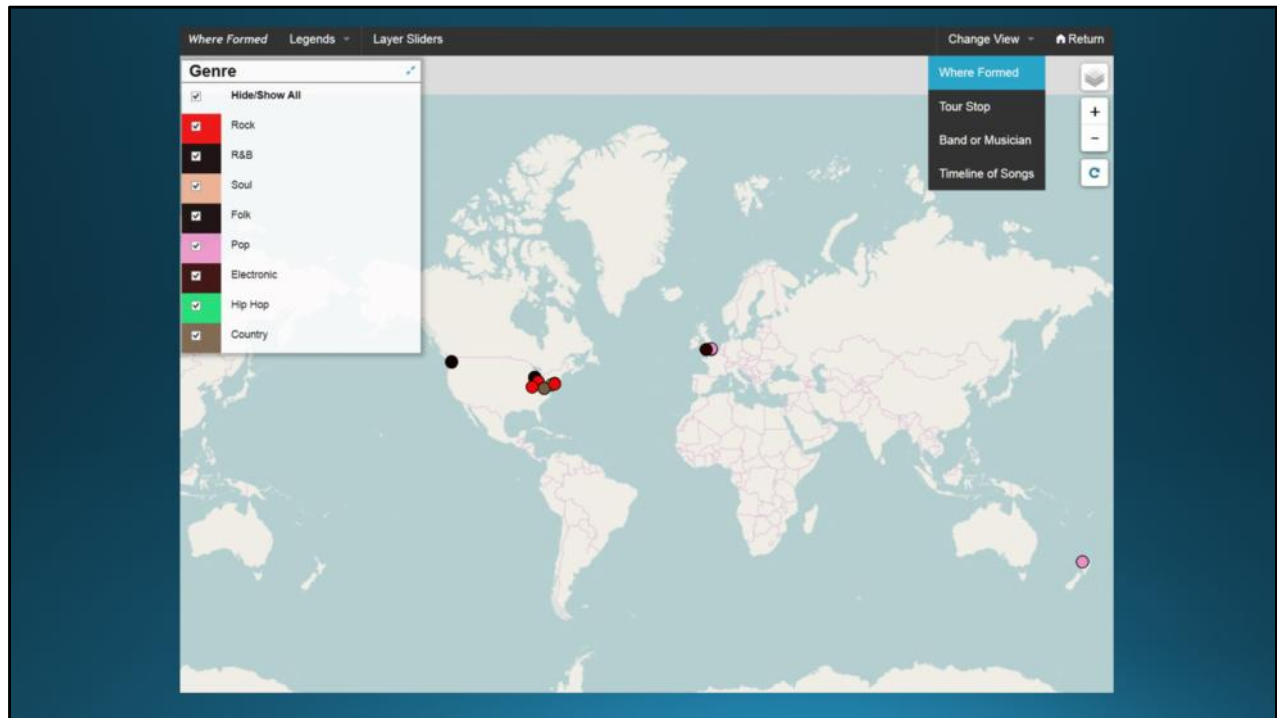
DH Press

Developed by the University of North Carolina Digital Innovation Lab.

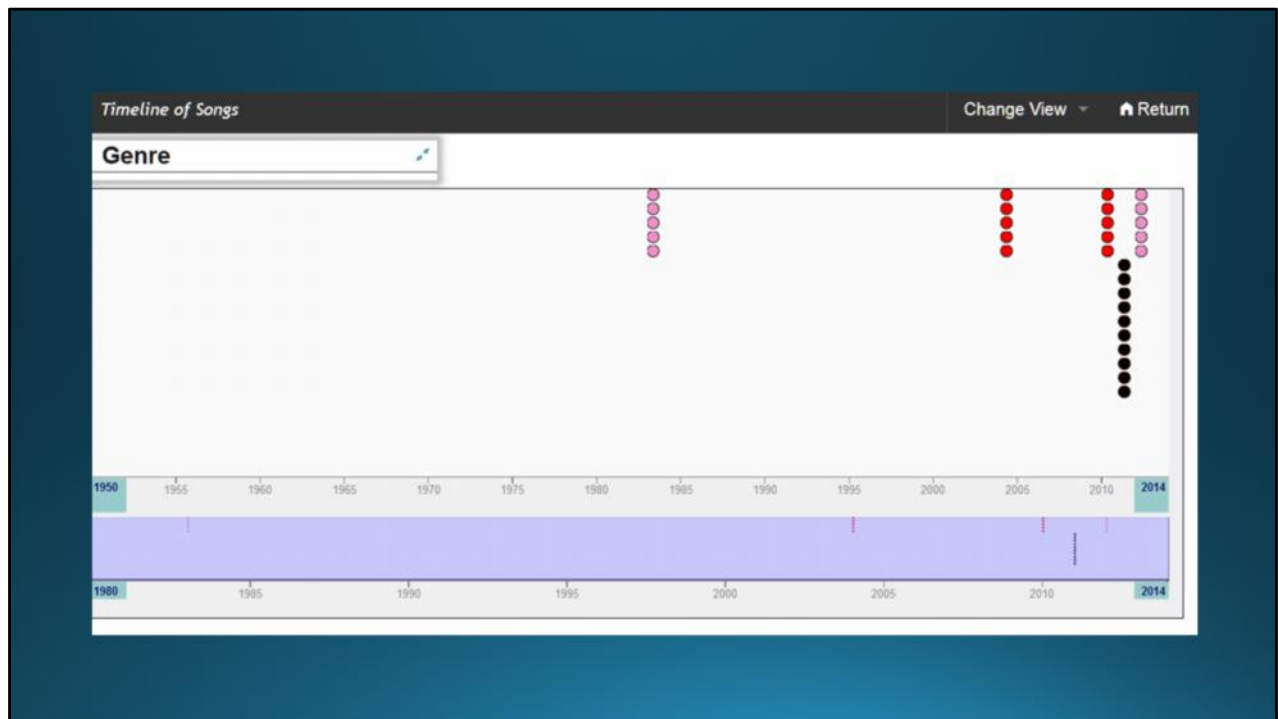
I've set up a demo using their "cookbook" of a sample project with sample data.

Combines geo-mapping, embeds, images, calendar information, text and data into a flowing view from different start points.

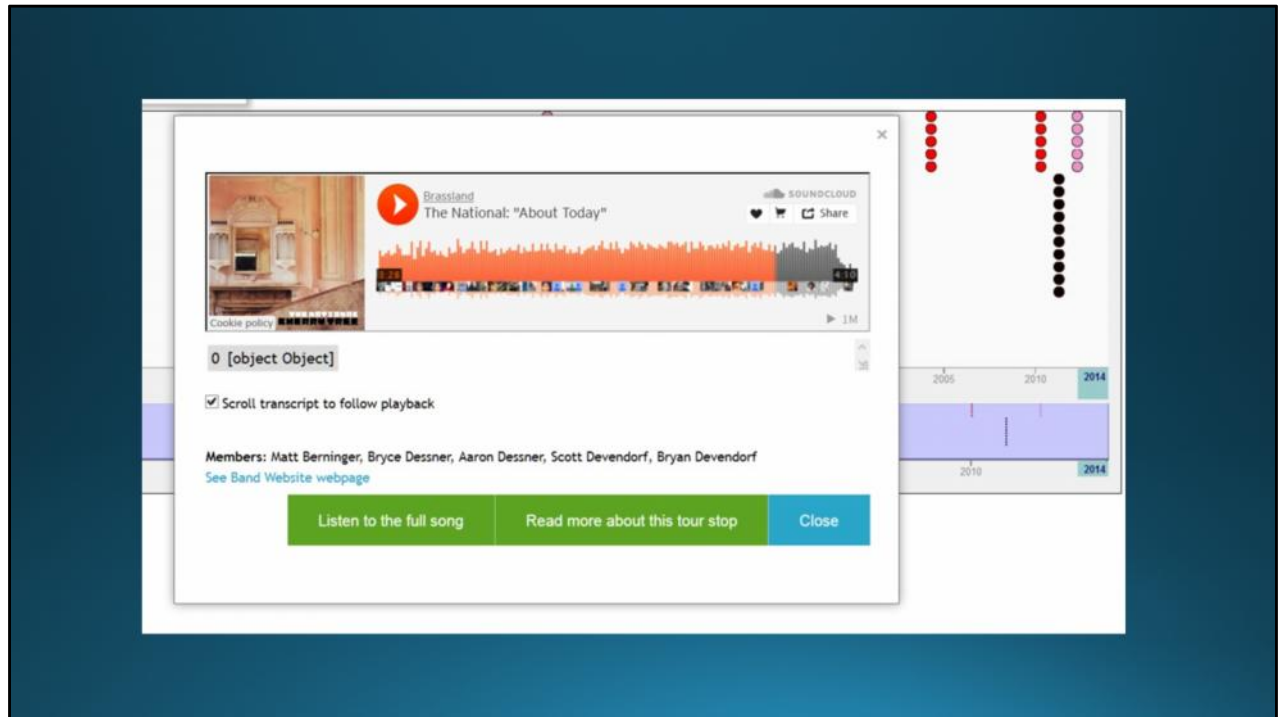
This demo uses the authors' favorite rock bands – their bios, tour stops, songs performed and other information.



Imported data has the genres, locations with their geo-data.



Dates associated with the songs.



Where available, a link to a SoundCloud player for the song.

# General Settings

Button labels, marker labels

Project Details

DH Press version 2.7.4 Project ID 1080

[Category Manager](#)

[Save Settings](#) [Test Settings for Errors](#)

▼ General Settings

Label for Home Button:

Home URL:

Marker Labels:  ▼

Primary Key (unique identifier used only for Pointers):  ▼

► Notes

► Entry Points

► Views

► Custom Field Utilities

► Testing and Error-checking

A view of some of the settings.

# Motes

Creating different types of data points

Mote Name:

Custom Field:

Mote Type:

Value delimiter:

**Currently Defined Motes:**

**Genre** of type *Short Text* from *genre*, delimiter [ , ]

**Members** of type *Long Text* from *band\_members*, delimiter [ , ]

**Where Formed** of type *Lat/Lon Coordinates* from *formed\_latlong*, delimiter [ ]

**Albums** of type *Long Text* from *album\_names*, delimiter [ ; ]

**Record Label** of type *Short Text* from *record\_label*, delimiter [ , ]

# Entry Points

Maps

Cards

Timelines

Trees

Pinboards

Browsers

Facets

### Map Entry Point

Delete Map

Map short label: Tour Stop

Map Center (Lat): 38.95940 -30.6152 Initial Zoom: 2 Cluster Markers ☐

Marker Radius: Medium Marker Note (for Lat/Lon): Where Formed

Base Layer: Map Quest OSM Base Opacity 1.0

Add Layer

Legend: Genre Delete

Legend: Band or Musician Delete

Add Legend

### Cards Entry Point

Delete Cards

Card short label: Band or Musician

Width: Wide Height: Medium Show marker title at top of card ☒

Card Color (must be configured for colors): Genre Default Color

#00BFFF

Background Color (CSS color name, #hexvalue, or blank for default)

Content mote: Band or Musician Delete

Content mote: Thumbnail Left Delete

Add Content Mote

Filter mote: Genre Delete

Filter mote: When Formed Delete

Add Filter Mote

Add Sort Mote

### Timeline Entry Point

Delete Timeline

## Views

Set up modal windows, markers, taxonomies, widgets.

Views

▼ Select Modal windows (item selected from visualization)

Modal size: Medium ▼

Link 1: marker ▼ Label: Read more abc Open new tab: ☒

Link 2: Band or Musician ▼ Label: Listen to the ft Open new tab: ☒

Widgets to show: Add this widget: SoundCloud ▼

Widget: scloud Delete

Modal content mote: Members ▼ Delete

Modal content mote: Band Website ▼ Delete

Add Content Mote to Select Modal

► Post view (Marker pages)

► Taxonomy/Archive/Category view

► Playback Widgets



# Markers

Paragraph

Bruce Frederick Joseph Springsteen (born September 23, 1949) is an American musician and singer-songwriter. He is best known for his work with the E Street Band. Nicknamed "The Boss", Springsteen is widely known for his brand of poetic lyrics, American working class, sometimes political sentiments centered on his native New Jersey and his lengthy and energetic stage performances, with concerts from the 1970s to the present decade running over three hours in length. Springsteen's recordings have included both commercially accessible rock albums and more somber folk-oriented works. His most successful studio albums, born in the U.S.A. and Born to Run, showcased a talent for finding grandeur in the struggles of daily American life. He has sold more than 64 million albums in the United States (making him the fifteenth highest selling artist of all time) and more than 120 million records worldwide, making him one of the world's best-selling artists of all time. Springsteen has

band | update

band\_link

band\_members

band\_name

formed, setting

tour | update

tour\_stop\_city

tour\_stop\_country

tour\_stop\_latitude

tour\_stop\_state

## Like A Post

Structured with title, text and category

## Custom Fields

Are everything

## Connections

Obvious connections to other data types – locations, songs, links.

[illegible]

## Data-Intensive

This is not a task to be taken lightly.

But lots of data of widely varied types can be combined pretty neatly.

# Sites and Pages We've Referenced

- Newsletter/Magazine theme:  
<http://www.museumethics.org>
- Builder theme:  
<http://blogs.shu.edu>
- Social Media outreach:  
<http://blogs.shu.edu/cancer>
- Mapping and custom metadata:  
<http://www.mphda.org>
- hypothes.is demonstration:  
<https://blogs.shu.edu/tomstest/2014/05/looking-glass-house/>
- DHPress demonstration:  
<http://blogs.shu.edu/tomstest/dhp-projects/musicians-test-project/>
- TablePress demonstration:  
<https://blogs.shu.edu/tomstest/2016/02/tablepress-demo/>
- DrawIt demo:  
<https://blogs.shu.edu/tomstest/2015/09/svg-as-svg-code/>
- iFrame embed demo:  
<http://blogs.shu.edu/unstudies/2014/05/08/global-public-opinion-and-climate-change/>

Some of the tools we have used, and where to see them in action.

## Other Possible Resources

- [www.wordpress.org/themes](http://www.wordpress.org/themes)
- [www.wordpress.org/plugins](http://www.wordpress.org/plugins)

Other things to experiment with

- <https://wordpress.org/plugins/visualizer/>
- <https://wordpress.org/plugins/venngage/>
- <https://wordpress.org/plugins/draw-attention/>
- <https://wordpress.org/plugins/data-visualizer/>
- <https://wordpress.org/plugins/nvd3-visualisations/>

Some external resources that we haven't covered.

# To start a blog of your own

Visit <http://blogs.shu.edu/request-a-blog/>

If you want to get started, visit this page and submit a request.