

# Realizing Benefits for Scholars and the Digital Library Community through DLF Aquifer

Katherine Kott, Susan Harum, Chick Markley DLF Fall Forum, November 2007

# Focus on American Social History Online

- Mellon funded project within DLF Aquifer initiative
- Outcome to make digital collections in American culture and life easier for scholars to find and use
  - Aggregate content to enable multiple collections to be used as one
  - Deliver content through multiple channels

### Who's who

- American Social History Online relies on Aquifer working groups, collaborative infrastructure in place
- Core team focused on development and assessment, coordination with working groups
  - Susan Harum (UIUC) business analyst/assessment expert
  - Kat Hagedorn (Michigan) data analyst
  - Chick Markley (Freewheeling contractor) systems architect/developer
  - Tom Habing (UIUC) developer

# Overview of accomplishments

- Architecture
- Portal with Zotero—initial SEO analysis
- MODS
  - Guidelines
  - Levels of adoption
  - MARC to MODS transform
- Harvesting workflow
- Agile development process

### What's next

- Add collections—attend open discussion session to find out more
  - Workflow, including asset actions
  - Support for static repositories
- Develop "local implementations"
  - Sakai @ Indiana
  - Federated search @ UIUC
- More SEO
- Assessment planning
- Sustainability planning

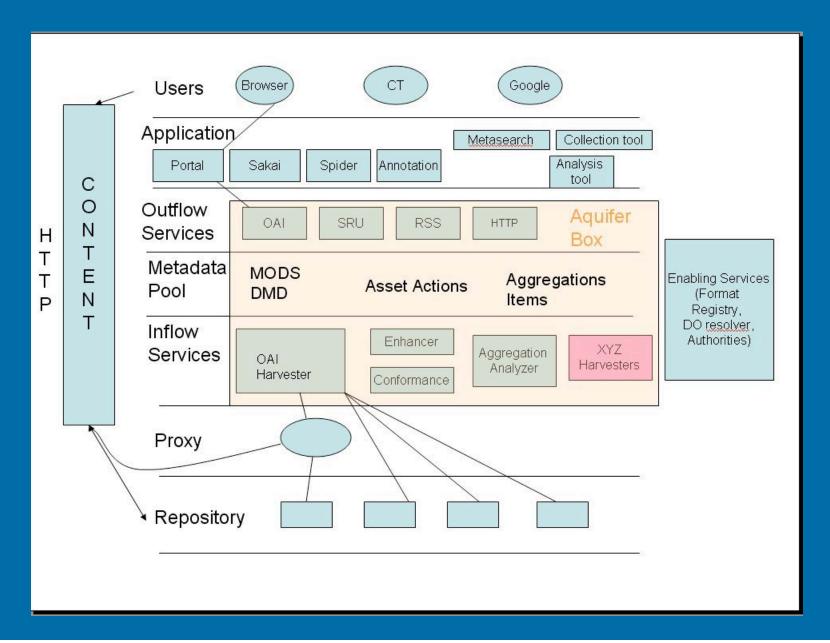
# Beyond *American Social History*Online

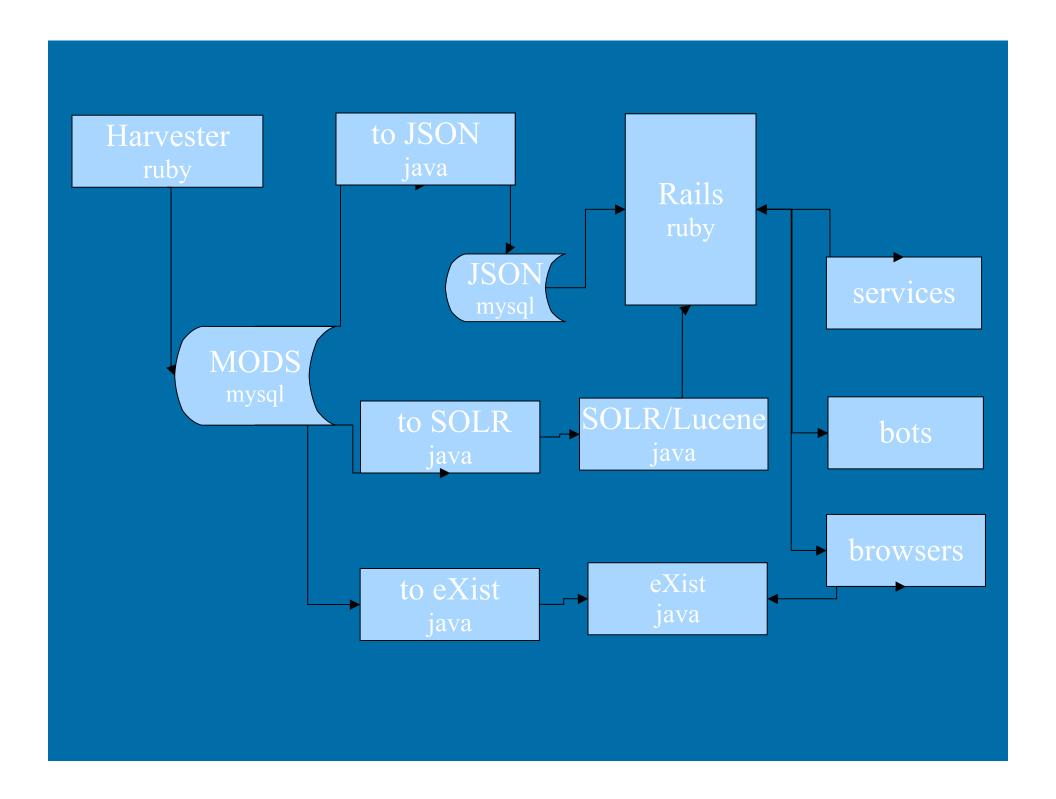
- More metadata remediation and enhancement
- More tools integration
  - Workflow
  - End user

# Chick Markley

- Systems Architect and Developer
- Technorati
- Personal Bee
- Innovative Interfaces (23 years)

### Inherited

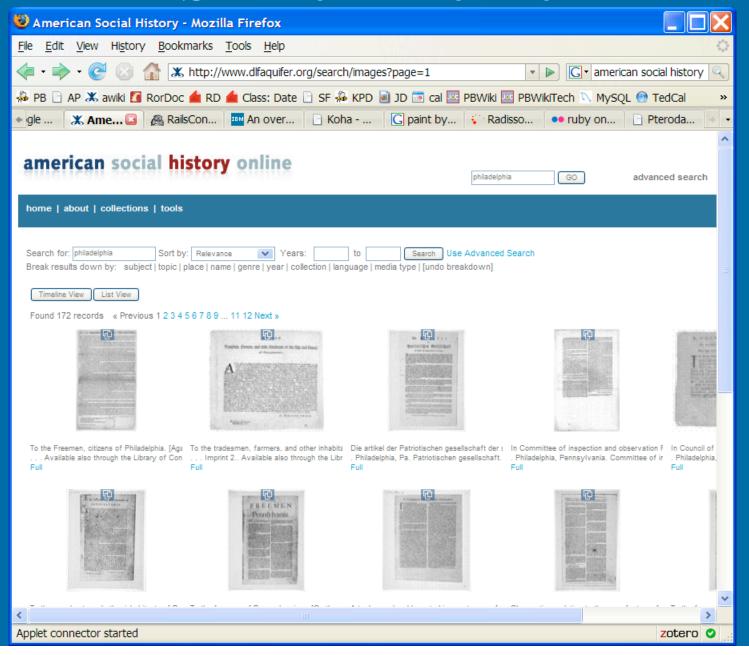


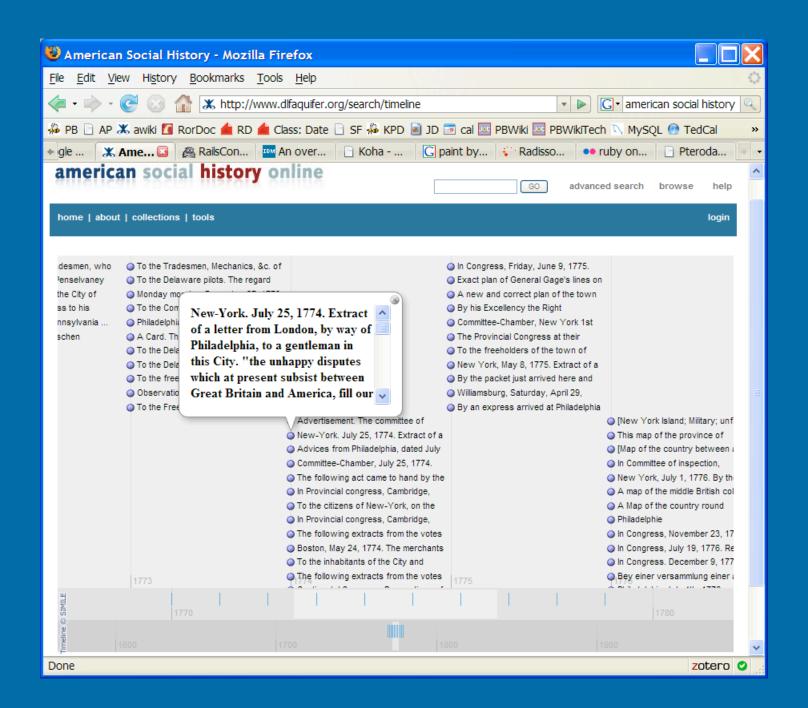


### Asset Actions

- Collectus Tool
- Service call
- Ask Tom

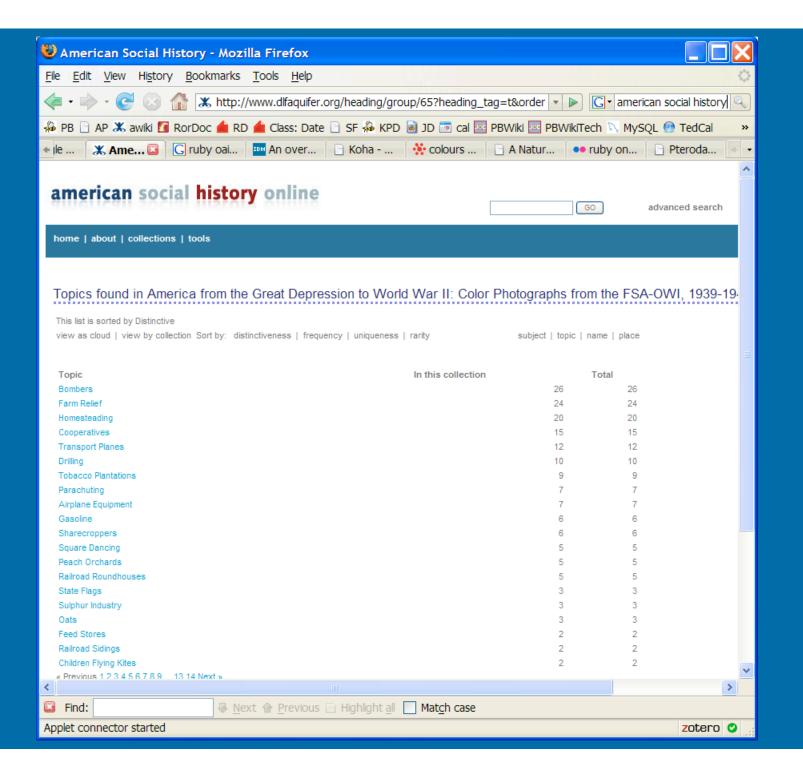
### Simile Timeline

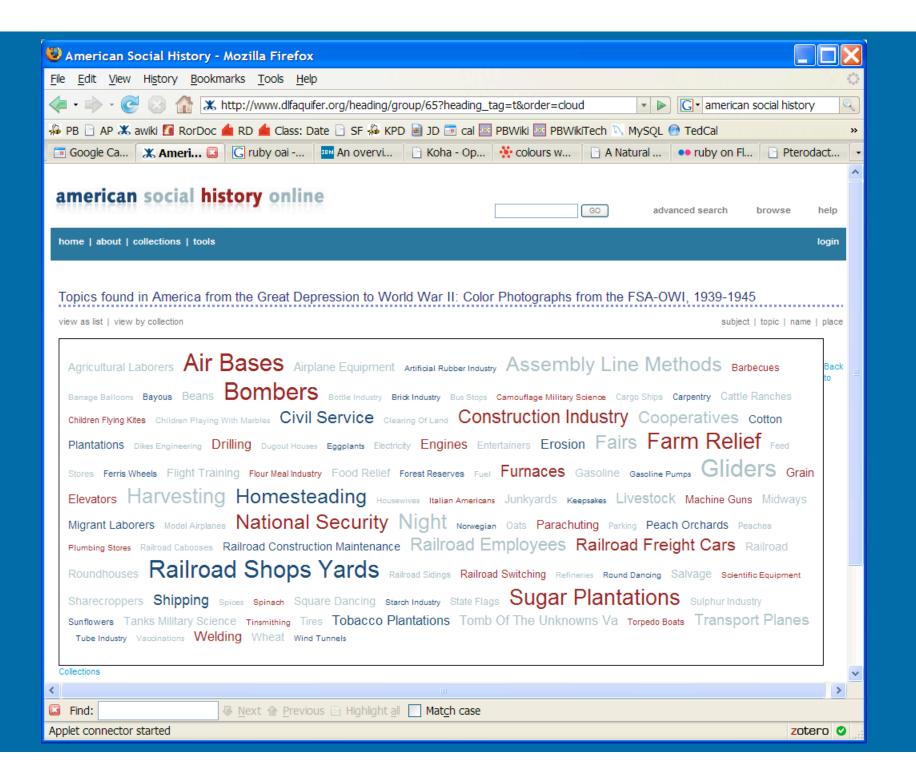




#### SEO

- bot friendly
- shallow tree to relevant information
- urls reflect relevance
- distinctive headings
- Success? Too early to tell
- There's more to do





# Other things I'm supposed to mention

- OpenID
- Zotero integration
- unAPI
- SRU/SRW
- Collections
- eXist Xquery
- Transparent process -- XSLT

# Why RoR is just too Great

- It's the framework
- DRY (don't repeat yourself)
- Tightly coupled testing harness
- Exuberant and dedicated community

### Refactotum

- Community spirit
- Towards more robust code
- Using the test harness
- flog and heckle

## Code Example

```
class User < ActiveRecord::Base
  acts_as_solr
end</pre>
```

# Code Example

class User < ActiveRecord::Base
end</pre>

## Significant Resources

- rubyonrails.org/
- simile.mit.edu/
- lucene.apache.org/solr/
- exist.sourceforge.net/
- www.cdlib.org/inside/diglib/datenorm/

### Ruby Resources

#### Gems

- capistrano
- htmlentities
- json
- oai
- ruby-openid

#### Plug-ins

- acts as solr
- cql\_to\_solr (soon)
- mdd
- will paginate

# Questions? Comments?

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