

Spec Sheet for Omeka Exhibit *RevWarDiaries* with a developed plugin *DCDiaries* for increasing the metadata collected and displayed for the items.

RevWarDiaries, in its present form, is a collection of diaries written by soldiers that served during the American Revolution (ca. 1775 – 1783) collected by, David Library for the American Revolution research fellow and doctoral candidate at the University of Maine, Daniel S. Soucier. He will also serve as the digital curator for this online exhibit.

The primary medium for objects in *RevWarDiaries* is text. Still images of diaries will be present where possible and applicable.

The purpose of this proposed exhibit is to catalog the location of the original manuscript copy of these diaries. Much like collections of primary sources that are printed in traditional forms, the purpose of this collection is to aid students of a variety of levels, as well as instructors and researchers to locate manuscript diaries in archive near them for assignments and publications. Hobbyists, amateur historians, and genealogists will also find this curated exhibit essential to their work regarding the American Revolution essential as well. Further, those simply interested in studying this time period will find this collection a starting point for engaging with historical documents.

The trial product of this exhibit consists of the diaries written during Benedict Arnold's wilderness march through the district of Maine during the Autumn of 1775. The exhibition may never be entirely comprehensive and perhaps will continue growing as more diaries are examined and collected from more campaigns. In the initial prototype there will be the single collection of diaries from Arnold's March consisting of fifteen items, or diaries. There will be a controlled vocabulary of 6 tags for this exhibit.

Link to trial exhibit: <http://danielssoucier.omeka.net> (not functional as the new metadata standard is not yet available/developed.)

Required Plugins for *RevWarDiaries*

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Exhibit Builder: | To create digital exhibits using Omeka |
| COinS: | To allow researchers to have records in the database be machine readable by Zotero |
| Geolocation: | To add maps to Omeka for individuals to view location of diaries |
| DCDiaries | This is a custom plugin to be developed for <i>RevWarDiaries</i> that will provide an enhanced metadata set that is based on Dublin Core but customized for historical diaries, specifically diaries as they are related to this project. |

Omeka Exhibit Overview

Header & Footer

Theme: Berlin

Logo File: Null

Header Image: Null

Footer Text: Copyright Daniel S. Soucier, 2016. All rights reserved.

Display Copyright in Footer: Unchecked

Use Advanced Site-wide Search: Checked

Homepage

Display Featured Item: Unchecked

Display Featured Collection: Checked

Display Featured Exhibit: Checked

Homepage Recent Items: Null

Homepage Text: Null

Items

Item File Gallery: Unchecked

Navigation

Browse Items: Checked

Browse Collections: Checked

Browse Exhibits: Checked

Add a Link to the Navigation: Null

Settings

Derivative Size Constraints

Fullsize Image Size: 800

Thumbnail Size: 200

Square Thumbnail Size: 200

Display Settings

Results per Page (admin): 25

Results per Page (public): 5

Show Empty Elements: Unchecked

Show Element Set Headings: Checked

Archive

Use standard archive/browse page that is automatically generated by Omeka. By default, the items in the exhibit are listed with the most-recently added appearing at the top.

Exhibits

The *RevWarDiaries* exhibit will be built using the Exhibit Builder plugin for Omeka. The trial product was developed using 3 Blocks, however, in future development, one will use different layouts to display content to users as necessary and intuitive.

Block 1 (Gallery) Contains 5 Items

When added, items have 'Public' and 'Feature' unchecked. A system administrator must check 'Public' to have the items be viewable outside of the administration and development team. Once items are public, administrator must chose a single item in the gallery to be the featured item for the gallery. The checkbox for 'Feature' should be checked for that item and remain unchecked for all others

Layout Options

Showcase File Position: Left

Gallery Position: Right

Gallery File Size: Thumbnail

Captions Position: Center

Block 2 (Gallery) Contains 5 Items

When added, items have 'Public' and 'Feature' unchecked. A system administrator must check 'Public' to have the items be viewable outside of the administration and development team. Once items are public, administrator must chose a single item in the gallery to be the featured item for the gallery. The checkbox for 'Feature' should be checked for that item and remain unchecked for all others

Layout Options

Showcase File Position: Left

Gallery Position: Right

Gallery File Size: Thumbnail

Captions Position: Center

Block 3 (Gallery) Contains 5 Items

When added, items have 'Public' and 'Feature' unchecked. A system administrator must check 'Public' to have the items be viewable outside of the administration and development team. Once items are public, administrator must chose a single item in the gallery to be the featured item for the gallery. The checkbox for 'Feature' should be checked for that item and remain unchecked for all others

Layout Options

Showcase File Position: Left

Gallery Position: Right

Gallery File Size: Thumbnail

Captions Position: Center

Exhibit Metadata

Title: RevWarDiaries (Dig540)

Slug: revwardiaries

Credits: Curated by Daniel S. Soucier

Description: This proposed exhibit is for the class DIG540 in the Digital Curation C.A.S. degree at the University of Maine. It is an example for educational purposes only.

Tags: American history, American Revolution, War of Independence (United States), eighteenth century

Use Summary Page?: Unchecked

Page Metadata

Title: Invasion of Canada, 1775 (Arnold)

Slug: arnolds-march

Plugins

Exhibit Builder

Select Exhibit Page Navigation Style: Full-width

COinS

DCDiaries

Metadata for DCDiaries

Omeka has a standard installation of Dublin Core with a variety of plugins to expand the metadata used by the software. However, none of these are perfect for the exhibition of historical diaries for research purposes. Thus, the plugin *DCDiaries* will be developed using the base of Dublin Core and expanding the fields.

Identifier: A unique id number for objects. Begin with 0001 and

Title: Title as listed in the archive catalog where the original manuscript is located

Description: A description of the contents of the diary

Creator: The author if the diary

Subject: The war and campaign(s) covered by the resource

Date: Period of time covered by the resource

Relation: Link diaries from the same expedition or from the same diarist

Format: The physical description of the resource

Language: The language the resource was written in. Typically this will be English, French, or German

Type: In the prototype everything will be text. However, in a more sophisticated exhibit manuscript maps should be included as well.

Coverage: The named period or expedition covered by the contents of the resource

Publishing History: The publishing history of the manuscript diary. Citation governed by Chicago Manual of Style.

Archive: The location of the original manuscript

Hometown: The hometown of the author when the manuscript was written

Rank: The rank of the creator of the manuscript when the expedition took place.
Please note that this could be different from when the diary was written

Dates Served: Length of military service of the creator of the resource.

Occupation: Occupation of the creator before enlisting as an officer or soldier.

Image: Photograph of the cover of the diary.

New Plugin: DCDiaries

At present Omeka.net (free hosted version) comes equipped with Dublin Core metadata standard as the default. There are also plugins to expand the metadata fields for coverage of different materials. However, none of these plugins are great for metadata regarding historical diaries. To better promote expanded research of these resources, a new plugin will be designed.

DCDiaries Changes to Omeka Functionality

By adding the variety of fields listed above to Dublin Core making a customized metadata standard the user interface and functionality of the exhibit and collection in Omeka will change in meaningful ways for the researcher. The first, and arguably most important, is that by creating fields that expand upon the data collected about the author of the manuscript discovery and retrieval of resources will increase. Researchers interested in soldiers writing from Pennsylvania will be able to find all diaries written by Pennsylvanians. A study also could be researched comparing urban and rural soldiers and their ideas about their military experience. By giving a field for occupation one could research a social history comparing elites and merchants to farmers and artisans. Publishing history and archive fields allow researchers to discover where they can access the materials once they have researched which resources they would like to study. The list can go on and on concerning the comparative possibilities for military historians that this customized metadata schema can facilitate.

A more nuanced research methodology is possible for the historian with this schema. One can track the diaries of certain individuals throughout the war and eventually into other war with future collections and exhibits. This can reveal trends such as who and what companies served in which conflicts. How a soldier's career progressed over time? Did the soldier move his hometown after serving in a particular campaign? Did invasion facilitate land speculation causing the soldier to relocate? Thus this schema facilitates the ability to easily track trends in military service members through time elucidating the big picture of all military matters.

Under Development: DCDiaries

Description: DCDiaries provides a unique metadata standard, based on Dublin Core for use with historical military diaries in Omeka.

Bug Tracker: <http://dcdiaries.org/bugs>

Code Repository: <http://dcdiaries.org/code>

Mailing List: <http://dcdiaries.org/maillinglist>

dcdiaries/

plugin.ini

```
[info]
name = "dcdiaries"
author = Daniel S. Soucier
```

description = “This plugin provides a unique metadata standard, based on Dublin Core, for use with historical military diaries in Omeka.”

license = GPLv3

link = <http://dcdiaries.org/>

support_link = “http://dcdiaries.org/bugs

version = “1.0”

omeka_minimum_version = “2.0”

omeka_tested_through = “2.3”

plugin.php

New Metadata Standard Possible Code

```
<?php if ($identifier = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'Identifier'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Identifier: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $identifier; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($title = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'title'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Title: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $title; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($description = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'description'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Description: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $description; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($creator = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'creator'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Creator: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $creator; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($subject = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'subject'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Subject: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $subject; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>
```



```
<?php if ($date = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'date'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Date: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $date; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($relation = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'relation'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Relation: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $relation; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($format = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'format'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Format: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $format; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($language = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'language'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Language: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $language; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($type = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'type'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Type: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $type; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($coverage = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'coverage'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Coverage: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $coverage; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($publishinghistory = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'publishing history'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Publishing History: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $publishinghistory; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>
```

```

<?php if ($archive = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'archive'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Archive: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $preparedby; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($hometown = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'hometown'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Hometown: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $hometown; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($rank = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'rank'),
array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Rank: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $rank; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($datesserved = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata', 'dates
served'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Dates Served: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $datesserved; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

<?php if ($occupation = metadata('item', array('Item Type Metadata',
'occupation'), array('snippet'=>250))): ?>
    <div style ="margin-top: 10px" >
        <?php echo "<font color='#D89966'>Occupation: </font>";?>
        <?php echo $occupation; ?>
    </div>
<?php endif; ?>

```

Availability

01/01/2016: **Release 0.1:** Do not try to use this in production. Please report how this plugin works within your Omeka exhibit.

Version Expectations

Zero point _

There are no performance guarantees, however, most features should be operational

_point Zero

We guarantee that these will not change:

The metadata standard will not change