

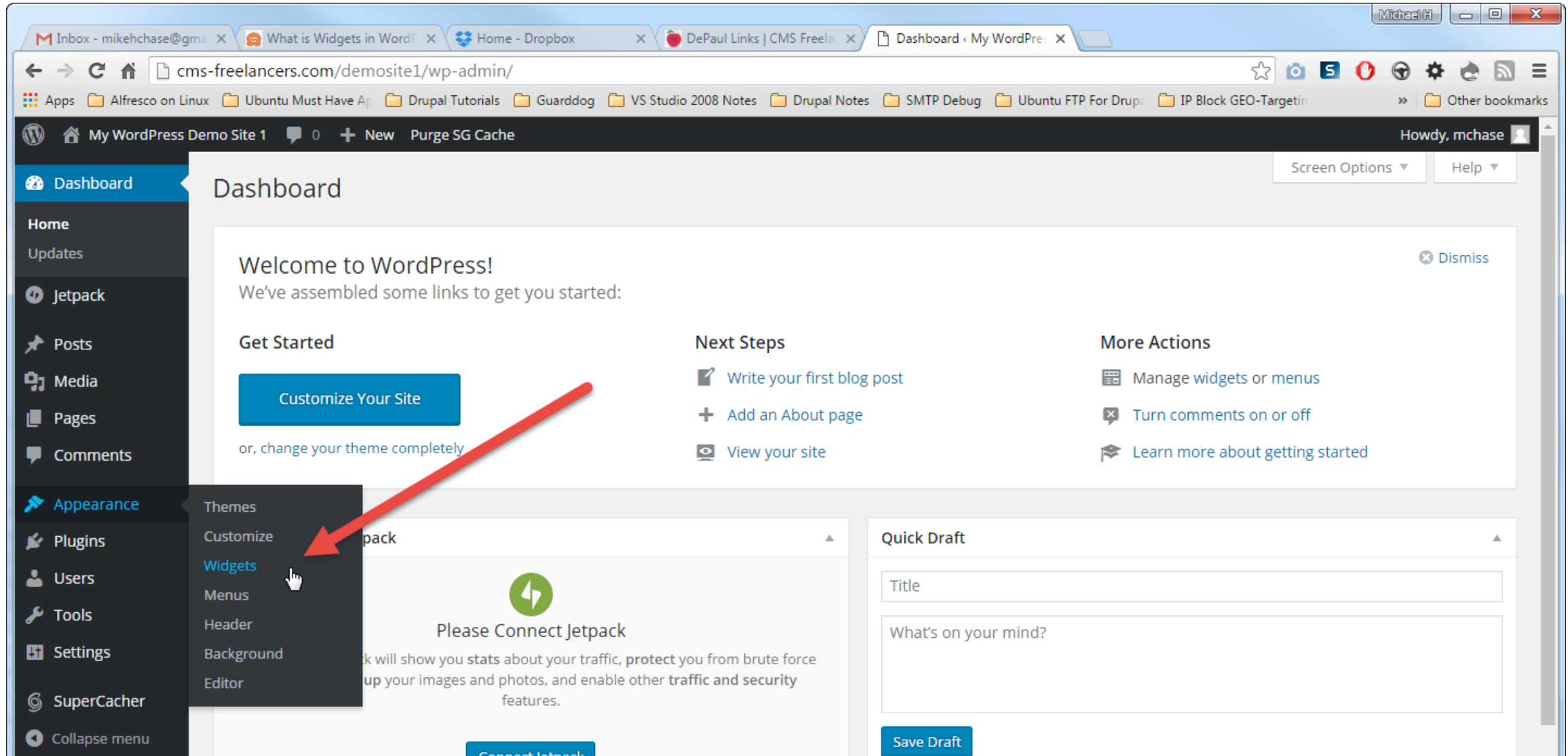
WordPress Widgets

How to add native and plugin widgets to your WordPress site

What is a Widget

- A WordPress Widget is a small block that performs a specific function.
- You can add these widgets in [sidebars](#) also known as widget-ready areas on your web page.
- WordPress widgets were originally created to provide a simple and easy-to-use way of giving design and structure control of the WordPress theme to the user. Widgets can be easily dragged and dropped into a specific widget area.
- You can find the list of available widgets and widget areas by going to the **Appearance » Widgets** section in your WordPress dashboard.

Dashboard > Appearance > Widgets



What is a Widget – Only work on Themes that support them

- Widgets in WordPress allow you to add content and features in the **widgetized** areas of your theme which is mostly the sidebar.
- However these widget-ready areas can be in the header, footer, sidebar, below content, and basically any other area in your theme.
- The available widget areas that you have in your theme will vary from theme to theme.
- Most WordPress themes are widget ready and have multiple widget areas.
- However themes are NOT required to have widget areas.
 - If you do not see any widget areas, then it means that your theme does not support widgets.

What is a Widget – Native & Plugin

- Widgets are mostly standalone areas of code that perform a certain function.
- Plugins often add their own widgets to give users more control over the display of plugin functions.
- Examples of an native widget are:
 - Pages – a list of pages on your site
 - Recent Posts
 - RSS – Entries from any RSS or Atom feed
 - Search – a search of your site
 - Text - arbitrary text or HTML
- Examples of a plugin widget are:
 - OIO Publisher which allows you to add a specific banner ad zone in your widget areas by using the widget.
 - OSM Image Widget – allows you add pictures as widgets to the widget supported areas of your theme

Native Available WordPress Widgets

The screenshot shows the WordPress admin dashboard with the 'Appearance' menu highlighted. The 'Widgets' sub-menu is selected, displaying the 'Available Widgets' section. A 'Manage in Customizer' button is visible. The available widgets are listed in a grid: Archives, Calendar, Categories, Custom Menu, Meta, Pages, Recent Comments, Recent Posts, RSS, Search, Tag Cloud, and Text. Each widget has a brief description. On the right, the 'Sidebar' widget area is shown with a list of currently active widgets: Search, Recent Posts, Recent Comments, Archives, Categories, and Meta. Below the sidebar is the 'Content Bottom 1' widget area.

WordPress Dashboard: My WordPress Demo Site 1 | 0 | + New | Purge SG Cache

Appearance

- Themes
- Customize
- Widgets**
- Menus
- Header
- Background
- Editor

Plugins

- Users
- Tools
- Settings
- SuperCacher
- Collapse menu

Widgets [Manage in Customizer](#)

Available Widgets

To activate a widget drag it to a sidebar or click on it. To deactivate a widget and delete its settings, drag it back.

Archives A monthly archive of your site's Posts.	Calendar A calendar of your site's Posts.
Categories A list or dropdown of categories.	Custom Menu Add a custom menu to your sidebar.
Meta Login, RSS, & WordPress.org links.	Pages A list of your site's Pages.
Recent Comments Your site's most recent comments.	Recent Posts Your site's most recent Posts.
RSS Entries from any RSS or Atom feed.	Search A search form for your site.
Tag Cloud A cloud of your most used tags.	Text Arbitrary text or HTML.

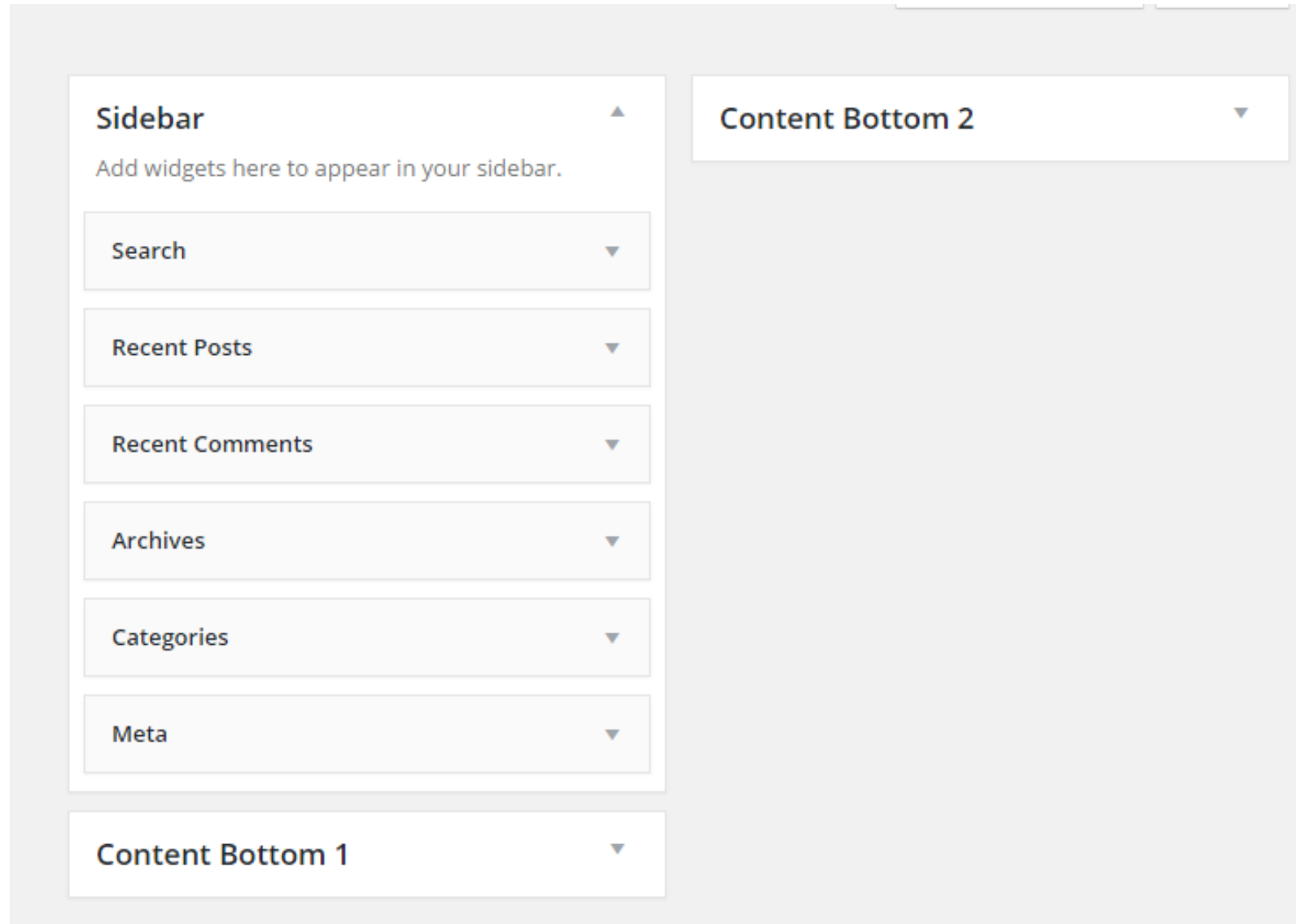
Sidebar

Add widgets here to appear in your sidebar.

- Search
- Recent Posts
- Recent Comments
- Archives
- Categories
- Meta

Content Bottom 1

Theme Twenty Sixteen's widget supporting areas

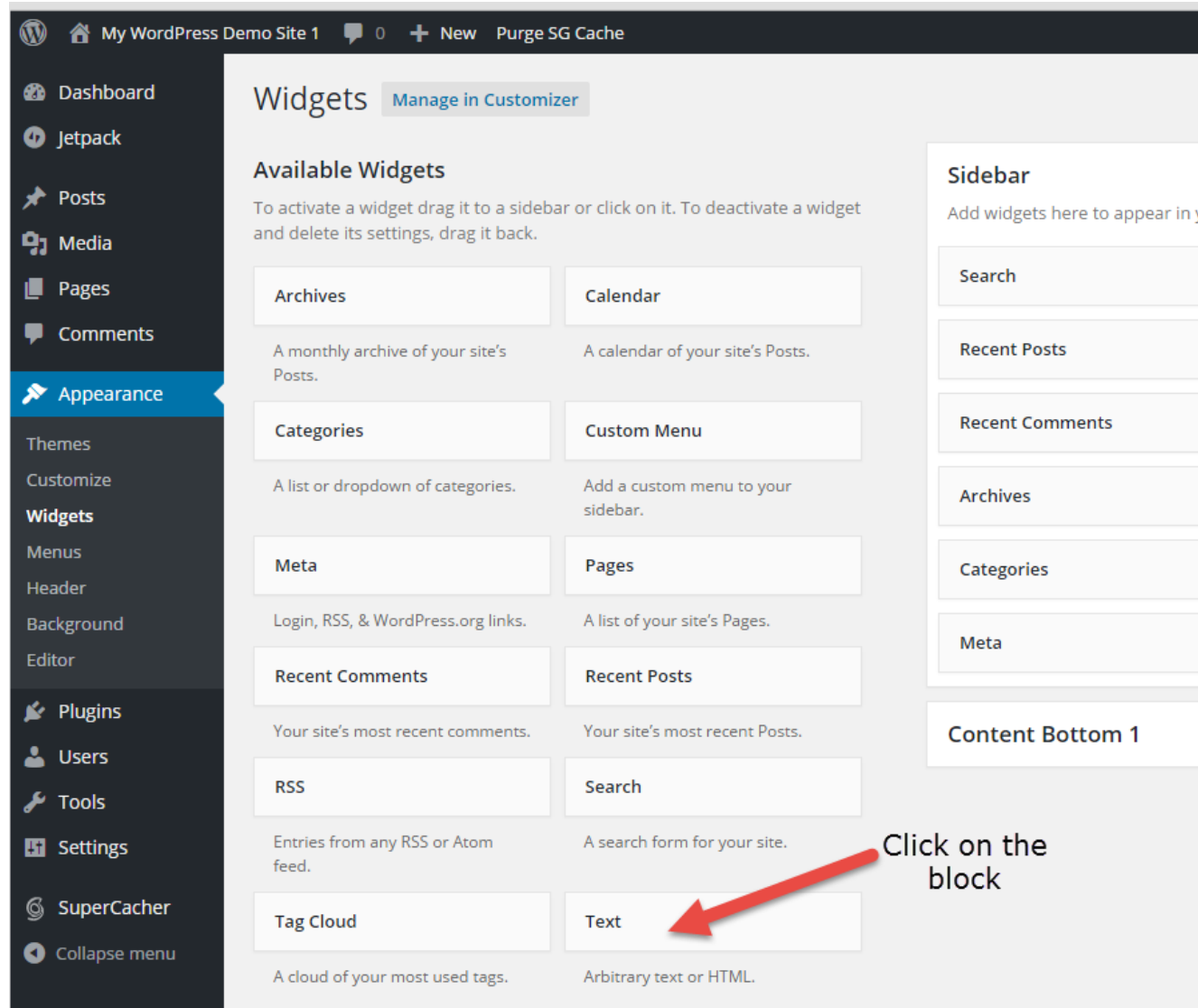


Adding a text widget to the sidebar

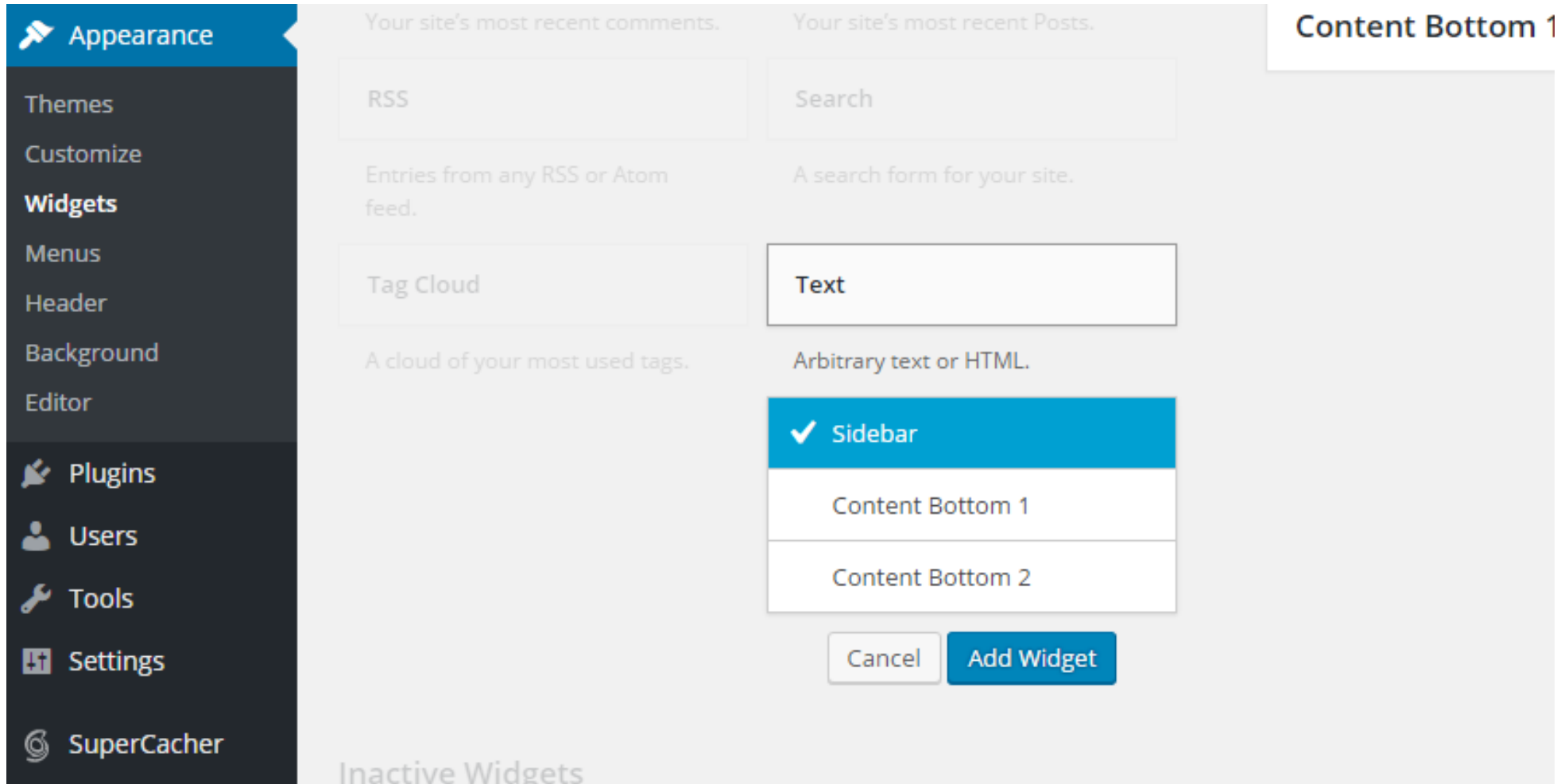
1. Compose your content in a document
2. Login to the WP site backend as the Site Administrator
3. Dashboard > Appearance > Widgets
4. Click on the Text Widget block you want to add
5. Scroll down (slightly) and select the theme supported area that the widget will display in and press the “Add Widget” button
 - on my WP site sidebar is selected by default
6. Enter the widget (1) title and (2) content, then (3) press the “Save” button and (4) then press the “Close” link to close the Widget window
7. Verify the widget displays on the Widget Summary page
8. Drag and drop the new widget to change its location within the theme area (change the order of the widgets)
9. Verify the widget displays on the front end

#4 Select the Widget to add.

In this case it's the text widget



#5 Select the theme area for the widget and press the “Add Widget” button



#6 Enter widget content, Save and Close

The image shows a WordPress dashboard sidebar with several widgets: 'Recent Posts', 'Search', and 'Text'. The 'Text' widget is selected, and its configuration panel is open. The panel contains the following elements:

- Title:** A text input field with a red arrow pointing to it from a blue box labeled '1'.
- Content:** A large text area with a red arrow pointing to it from a blue box labeled '2'.
- Save:** A blue button at the bottom right with a red arrow pointing to it from a blue box labeled '3'.
- Delete | Close:** Links at the bottom left with a red arrow pointing to them from a blue box labeled '4'.
- Automatically add paragraphs:** A checkbox option below the content area.

Added content, now Save and Close

Text

Title:

My First Widget

Content:

Widgets are mostly standalone areas of code that perform a certain function. Plugins often add their own widgets to give users more control over the display of plugin functions. An example of a plugin widget would be OIO Publisher which allows you to add a specific banner ad zone in your widget areas by using the widget.

☐ Automatically add paragraphs

[Delete](#) | [Close](#)

Save

Verify Widget exists on Widgets Summary Page

The screenshot displays the WordPress admin interface for a site named "My WordPress Demo Site 1". The left sidebar menu is open, with the "Appearance" section highlighted. Under "Appearance", the "Widgets" option is selected. The main content area is titled "Widgets" and includes a "Manage in Customizer" link. Below this, the "Available Widgets" section lists various widgets that can be activated. To the right, two widget areas are shown: "Sidebar" and "Content Bottom". The "Sidebar" area contains several widgets, including "Search", "Recent Posts", "Recent Comments", "Archives", "Categories", "Meta", and "Text: My First Widget". The "Content Bottom" area contains a widget labeled "Content Bottom 1". Red arrows point from the "Text: My First Widget" in the available list to its placement in the sidebar, and from the "Content Bottom 1" widget in the content bottom area to the "Text: My First Widget" in the sidebar.

Apps | Alfresco on Linux | Ubuntu Must Have Ap | Drupal Tutorials | Guarddog | VS Studio 2008 Notes | Drupal Notes | SMTP Debug | Ubuntu FTP For Drup | IP Block GEO-Targetin

My WordPress Demo Site 1 | 0 | + New | Purge SG Cache

Dashboard | Jetpack | Posts | Media | Pages | Comments | **Appearance** | Themes | Customize | **Widgets** | Menus | Header | Background | Editor | Plugins | Users | Tools | Settings | SuperCacher | Collapse menu

Widgets

[Manage in Customizer](#)

Available Widgets

To activate a widget drag it to a sidebar or click on it. To deactivate a widget and delete its settings, drag it back.

Archives A monthly archive of your site's Posts.	Calendar A calendar of your site's Posts.
Categories A list or dropdown of categories.	Custom Menu Add a custom menu to your sidebar.
Meta Login, RSS, & WordPress.org links.	Pages A list of your site's Pages.
Recent Comments Your site's most recent comments.	Recent Posts Your site's most recent Posts.
RSS Entries from any RSS or Atom feed.	Search A search form for your site.
Tag Cloud	Text

Sidebar

Add widgets here to appear in your sidebar.

- Search
- Recent Posts
- Recent Comments
- Archives
- Categories
- Meta
- Text: My First Widget**

Content Bottom

- Content Bottom 1**

Move widget display order

The screenshot shows the WordPress dashboard with the 'Appearance' menu selected. The 'Widgets' section is active, displaying a grid of available widgets and a sidebar with currently active widgets. A green arrow points from the 'Text: My First Widget' in the 'Available Widgets' list to the same widget in the 'Sidebar' list, indicating the process of moving it to the active sidebar.

Available Widgets

- Archives: A monthly archive of your site's Posts.
- Calendar: A calendar of your site's Posts.
- Categories: A list or dropdown of categories.
- Custom Menu: Add a custom menu to your sidebar.
- Meta: Login, RSS, & WordPress.org links.
- Pages: A list of your site's Pages.
- Recent Comments: Your site's most recent comments.
- Recent Posts: Your site's most recent Posts.
- RSS: Entries from any RSS or Atom feed.
- Search: A search form for your site.
- Tag Cloud: A cloud of tags for your site's Posts.
- Text: A text area for your sidebar.

Sidebar

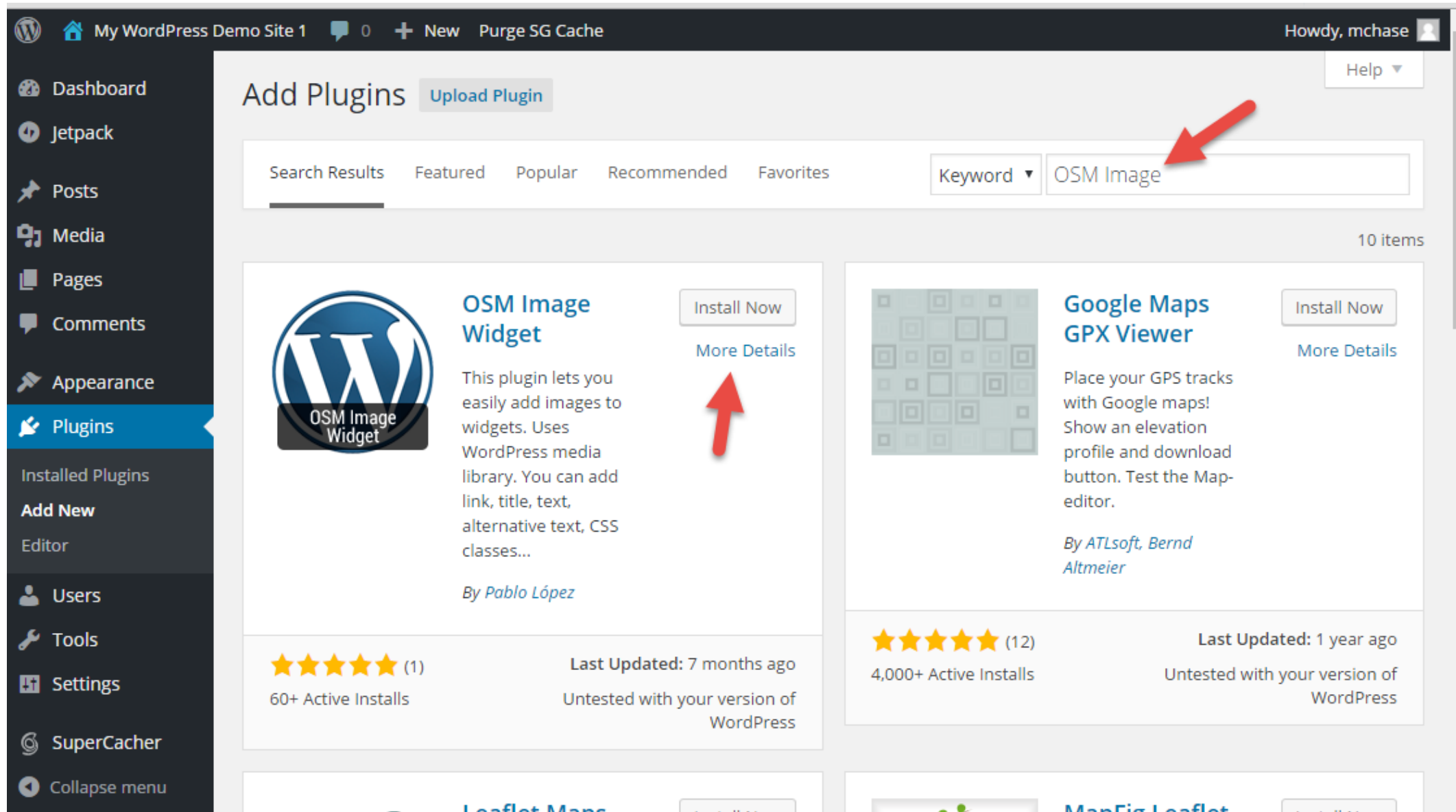
Add widgets here to appear in your sidebar.

- Search
- Text: My First Widget
- Recent Posts
- Recent Comments
- Archives
- Categories
- Meta
- Content Bottom 1

Verify Widget displays on WP Frontend



Find, Install, and Activate a Widget Plugin



The screenshot shows the WordPress dashboard for 'My WordPress Demo Site 1'. The left sidebar has the 'Plugins' menu item highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Add Plugins' and includes a search bar with the text 'OSM Image' and a red arrow pointing to it. Below the search bar, the 'OSM Image Widget' plugin is featured, with a red arrow pointing to its 'More Details' link. The plugin description states: 'This plugin lets you easily add images to widgets. Uses WordPress media library. You can add link, title, text, alternative text, CSS classes...'. It is by Pablo López, has 60+ active installs, and was last updated 7 months ago. To the right, the 'Google Maps GPX Viewer' plugin is also listed, with a description: 'Place your GPS tracks with Google maps! Show an elevation profile and download button. Test the Map-editor.' It is by ATLsoft, Bernd Altmeier, has 4,000+ active installs, and was last updated 1 year ago. Both plugins have a 'More Details' link and an 'Install Now' button.

Dashboard

Jetpack

Posts

Media

Pages

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Installed Plugins

Add New

Editor

Users

Tools

Settings

SuperCacher

Collapse menu

Howdy, mchase

Help

Add Plugins

Upload Plugin

Search Results

Featured

Popular

Recommended

Favorites

Keyword

OSM Image

10 items

OSM Image Widget

This plugin lets you easily add images to widgets. Uses WordPress media library. You can add link, title, text, alternative text, CSS classes...

By Pablo López

Install Now

More Details

★★★★★ (1)

60+ Active Installs

Last Updated: 7 months ago

Untested with your version of WordPress

Google Maps GPX Viewer

Place your GPS tracks with Google maps! Show an elevation profile and download button. Test the Map-editor.

By ATLsoft, Bernd Altmeier

Install Now

More Details

★★★★★ (12)

4,000+ Active Installs

Last Updated: 1 year ago

Untested with your version of WordPress

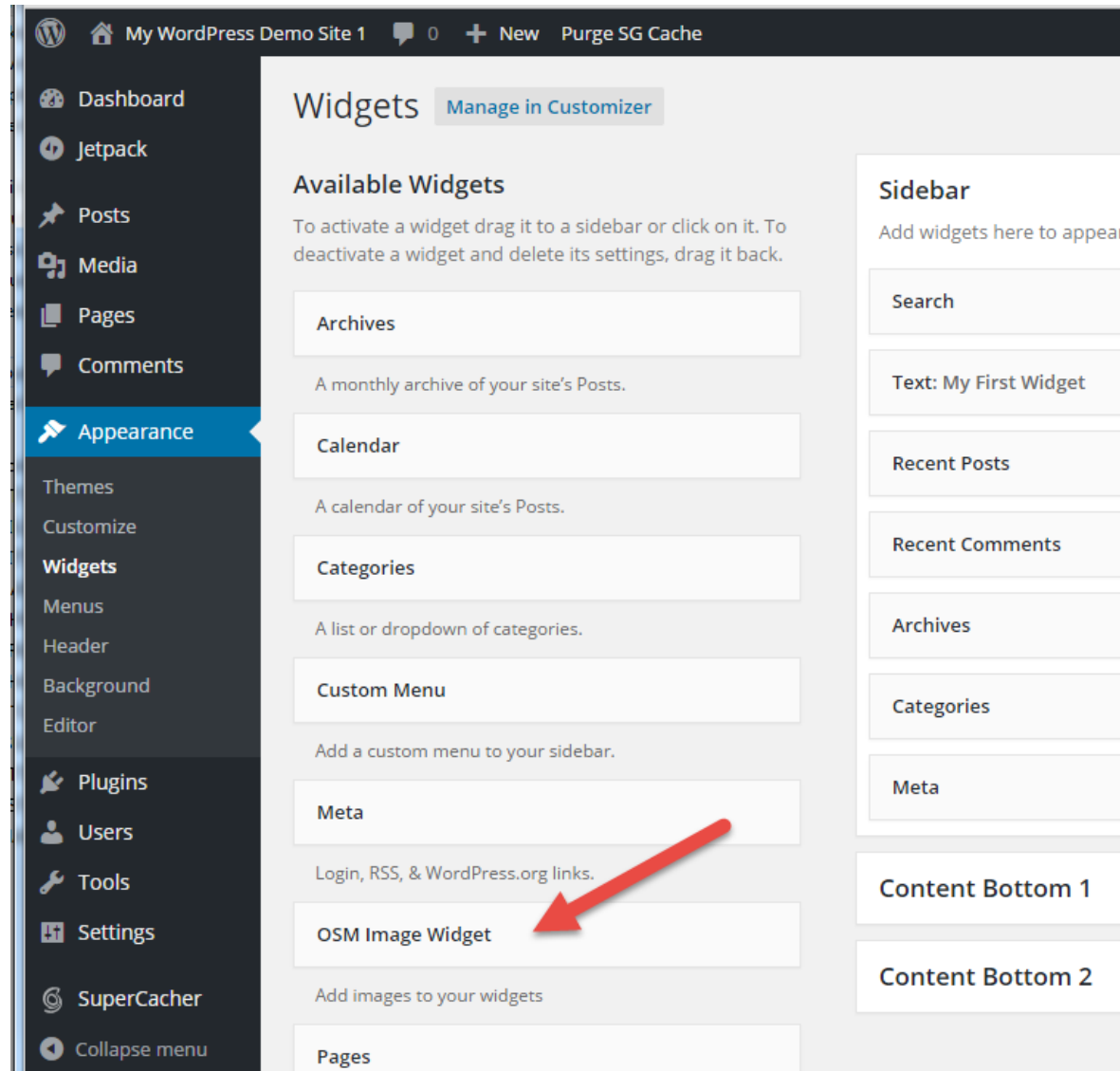
Leaflet Maps

ManEig Leaflet

Adding a Plugin widget

1. Research the type of widget plugin you want – What do you want it to do?
 - Google search and use plugin best practices when selecting the plugin
2. Login to the WP site backend as the Site Administrator
3. Dashboard > Plugins
4. Add New Widget Plugin
5. Dashboard > Appearance > Widgets
6. Click on the Text Widget block you want to add
7. Scroll down (slightly) and select the theme supported area that the widget will display in and press the “Add Widget” button
 - on my WP site sidebar is selected by default
8. Enter the widget content (different for each widget), then (3) press the “Save” button and (4) then press the “Close” link to close the Widget window
9. Verify the widget displays on the Widget Summary page
10. Drag and drop the new widget to change its location within the theme area (change the order of the widgets)
11. Verify the widget displays on the front end

OSM Image Widget Has been Added Successfully



OSM Image Widget Added Successfully

