
Historical Society Website

Henry Hedden, Programming & Web Development



Why I Chose This

- To get practice in web development
- To put on my résumé
- To have work on a public website to show
- To learn how to use content management systems
- Good timing
- It was local



How is it Useful?

- Helps people learn about town history
- Helps people learn about the Historical Society
- People can order gifts and books
- People can join the society
- People can learn about upcoming events
- People can find out how to visit the collections



Old Website - Problems

- ❑ Inconsistent layout
- ❑ Bad formatting
- ❑ Sloppy HTML
- ❑ Background makes text hard to read
- ❑ Hard to update
 - ❑ Requires HTML editor/FTP software installed
- ❑ Last-century style (in a bad way)
- ❑ **Last updated 2007**
- ❑ **Webhosting service expired**

`<DIV>Q: HOW DO YOU ANNOY A WEB DEVELOPER?</SPAN>`



Files from Old Website



Planning & Preparation

- Get the old files
 - Decide on using a content management system
 - Learn to use WordPress
 - Get the Historical Society to sign up for a new webhosting service
 - Confirm domain name registration of www.carlislehistory.org
 - Discuss design and features with president of the Society
-



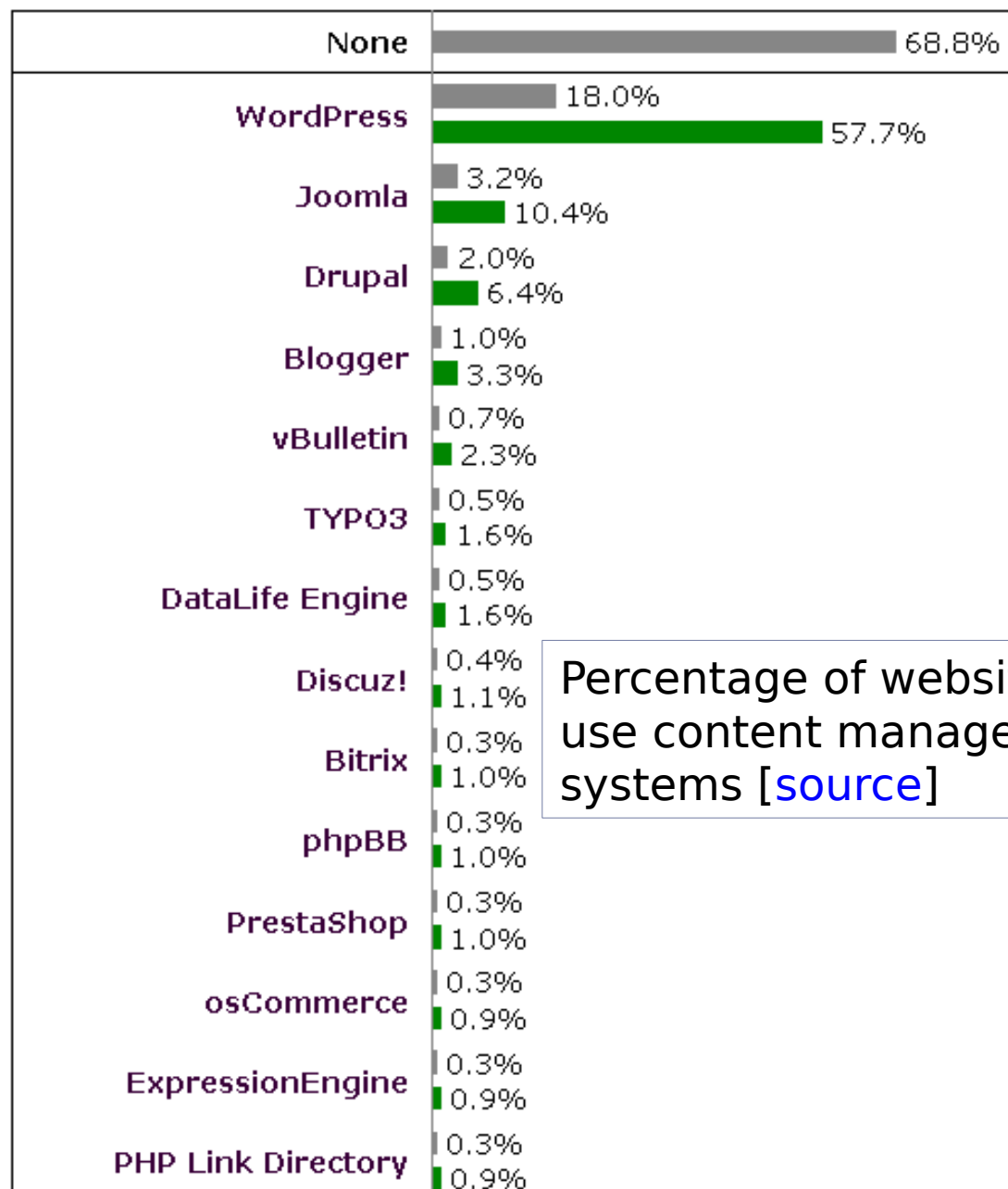
Improvements Desired for Website

- Modern style
- Consistent style
- Features:
 - Forms
 - Maps
 - E-commerce (maybe)
- Easy to update for Society
- Easy to add newsletter articles & notices



WordPress

- A free web Content Management System (CMS)
 - Installed on webhosting service's server
 - Accessed and used through a web browser
 - WYSIWYG and HTML editor
 - Creates both static pages and blog posts
 - Originally meant just for blogs
 - Includes:
 - Themes – for site design
 - Plugins – for additional features
- 



Percentage of websites that use content management systems [[source](#)]

Learning WordPress

- WordPress is easy to use for updating/maintaining sites.
- Creating a new site is more complicated.
- There are many features to learn.
- I registered for an online course through www.ed2go.com
- The course is a step-by-step guide through creating a WordPress website.



Creating WordPress Websites II: lessons: syllabus - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

https://www.ed2go.com/Classroom/LessonsOverview.aspx?classroom=X... Google

Creating WordPress Websites II: lessons: sy... +

Resources Lessons Quizzes Assignments Discussion Completion

[Log Out](#)

Creating WordPress Websites II

[Back](#)

instructor memos



John Agress

Welcome to my course! To get started with Lesson 1, please click the number **1** or the lesson title on this syllabus page. On the next page, click **Chapter 1**, and then simply use the navigation buttons to move through the lesson. I hope you enjoy learning about WordPress as much as I enjoy teaching it!

course syllabus

Lesson	Title	Date
	Course Pre-Test	
1	Getting Started With WordPress	Mar 20
2	Setting Up Your WordPress Website	Mar 22
3	WordPress Themes: Bringing Your Website to Life	Mar 27
4	Creating Pages, Posts, and Menus	Mar 29
5	Adding Images, Videos, and Other Digital Media	Apr 03
6	There's a Plugin for That	Apr 05
7	Customizing Your Website, Part 1	Apr 10
8	Customizing Your Website, Part 2	Apr 12
9	Monetizing Your Website	Apr 17
10	Site Work and Social Networking	Apr 19
11	WordPress SEO, Statistics, and Analysis	Apr 24
12	Digging Deeper Into WordPress: Tips, Tricks, and Hacks	Apr 26

Final Exam Released: Apr 26
Final Exam Due: May 10

[resources](#) | [lessons](#) | [quizzes](#) | [assignments](#) | [discussion](#) | [completion](#)

Screenshot
of course
outline

Steps in Creating Website

1. Installed WordPress on webhosting server
 2. Created new pages with content copied from old site
 3. Chose and installed WordPress theme (later changed)
 4. Created menu
 5. Uploaded and inserted images
 6. Copied text files of news articles them into new posts
 7. Updated information
 8. Created links to other sites
 9. Took new photos and uploaded them to site
 10. Added new features:
 1. Embedded Google Map
 2. Added contact form
 11. Wrote instructions for adding new posts
-



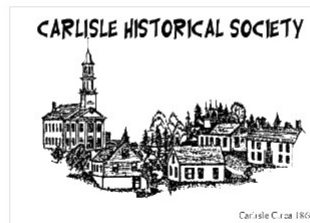
New Website

Carlisle Historical Society



[Home](#) [About the Society](#) [Books & Gifts](#) [Collections](#) [Links](#) [Programs](#) [Town History](#) [What's New](#)

Welcome to the Carlisle Historical Society



The Carlisle Historical Society of Carlisle, Massachusetts, was founded in 1933 to *gather historical and educational objects and information and to transmit to future generations all possible memorials of past and present times.*

Using the WordPress Dashboard

The screenshot shows the WordPress Dashboard for the 'Carlisle Historical Society' site. The top navigation bar includes the site name, a refresh button, a comment icon, a '+ New' button, and a user profile 'Howdy, chistory'. The left sidebar contains a 'Dashboard' menu item and a list of site management tools: Home, Updates (1), Posts, Media, Pages, Comments, Appearance, Plugins, Users, Tools, Settings, and BWS Plugins. The main content area is titled 'Dashboard' and features a 'Welcome to WordPress!' message with a 'Dismiss' link. Below this, there are three sections: 'Get Started' with a 'Customize Your Site' button and a link to 'change your theme completely'; 'Next Steps' with links to 'Edit your front page', 'Add additional pages', 'Add a blog post', and 'View your site'; and 'More Actions' with links to 'Manage widgets or menus', 'Turn comments on or off', and 'Learn more about getting started'. The dashboard is divided into several widget areas. The 'Right Now' widget shows site statistics: 5 Posts, 11 Pages, 4 Categories, and 13 Tags. It also indicates the theme is 'Twenty Eleven with 3 Widgets', search engines are discouraged, and the version is 'WordPress 3.5.1'. The 'Incoming Links' widget shows no incoming links. The 'Recent Comments' widget shows no comments. The 'Plugins' widget lists 'Jetpack by WordPress.com' as the most popular plugin. The 'QuickPress' widget provides a form to create a new post, including fields for title, media, tags, and buttons for 'Save Draft', 'Reset', and 'Publish'. The 'Recent Drafts' widget shows a draft titled 'Sample' dated June 3, 2013. The 'WordPress Blog' widget displays two recent blog posts: 'Ten Good Years' and 'The Next 10 Starts Now'.

Carlisle Historical Society 1 + New Howdy, chistory

Dashboard

Home Updates 1

Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Plugins Users Tools Settings BWS Plugins Collapse menu

Welcome to WordPress! We've assembled some links to get you started:

Get Started

Customize Your Site

or, [change your theme completely](#)

Next Steps

[Edit your front page](#)

[Add additional pages](#)

[Add a blog post](#)

[View your site](#)

More Actions

[Manage widgets or menus](#)

[Turn comments on or off](#)

[Learn more about getting started](#)

Dismiss

Right Now

Content

5 Posts

11 Pages

4 Categories

13 Tags

Discussion

0 Comments

0 Approved

0 Pending

0 Spam

Theme Twenty Eleven with 3 Widgets

Search Engines Discouraged

You are using WordPress 3.5.1.

Incoming Links

This dashboard widget queries Google Blog Search so that when another blog links to your site it will show up here. It has found no incoming links... yet. It's okay — there is no rush.

Recent Comments

No comments yet.

Plugins

Most Popular

Jetpack by WordPress.com (install)

Supercharge your WordPress site with powerful features previously only available to WordPress.com users.

Newest Plugins

QuickPress

Enter title here

Add Media

Tags (separate with commas)

Save Draft Reset Publish

Recent Drafts

Sample June 3, 2013

Duis lacinia nisl sit amet sapien faucibus congue? Proin at...

View all

WordPress Blog

Ten Good Years May 31, 2013

It's been ten years since we started this thing, and what a long way we've come. From a discussion between myself and Mike Little about forking our favorite blogging software, to powering 18% of the web. It's been a crazy, exciting, journey, and one that won't stop any time soon. At ten years, it's fun [...]

The Next 10 Starts Now May 27, 2013

All around the globe today, people are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the first WordPress release, affectionately known as #wp10. Watching the feed of photos, tweets, and posts from Auckland to Zambia is incredible, from first-time bloggers to successful WordPress-based business owners, people are coming out in droves to raise a glass and share the [...]

Features I Would Like to Have Added

- Option for ordering gifts and books online
 - Members were hesitant to set up a PayPal account.
- Gallery of photos from exhibits
 - Not enough photos
- Embed video of a talk
 - Don't have any videos



What I Liked/Disliked

□ What I enjoyed:

- Learning about WordPress
- Adding cool features

□ What I did not enjoy:

- Rushing to finish the WordPress course before the deadline



What I Learned

- How to use WordPress
- Content management systems still allow for editing HTML directly
- I need to communicate with people to create a website



Questions?

