TAGGING AND FINDING YOUR FILES

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Disclaimer



We are NOT endorsing the use of any program or product!

Please be sure to consider your needs and do your own research before downloading a program or signing up for a service.

Presentation Overview

- Strategies
- What is metadata and why should I care
- Adding metadata to your file
- Embedded vs. separately stored metadata
- Typical schema and standards
- Reusing and sharing your metadata
- Tools and programs
- Demo

Strategies for Organizing & Finding Files

- File Tree
- File naming
- Full text searching
- Tagging
- Embedding
- Keeping external data

Metadata: What is it & Why is it Important

Data about Data = Information about your Files

- May be more important to add metadata to certain formats (photographs)
- If added thoughtfully metadata adds value and leverages subject expertise for discovery
 - More meaningful and precise searches
 - Multiple ways to organize and view your files
 - Repurpose and reuse your data

Types of Metadata

- Descriptive
- Technical
- Administrative
 - Rights
 - Provenance
- Structural
- Preservation

What Metadata Can I Add?

- Common
 - Creator
 - Dates
 - Rights information
 - Colors
 - Subjects
 - GPS
 - Purpose
 - Version

- Metadata may already accompany your files
 - Audio recordings
 - Digital photographs
 - Word processing

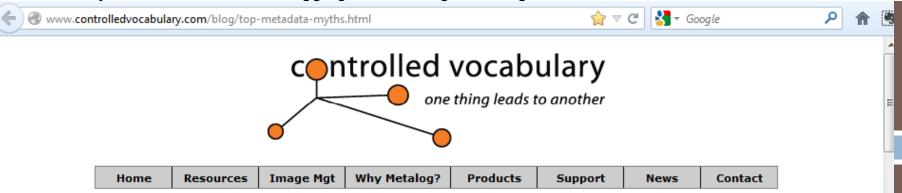
Consider what to Add

- Make it meaningful to you
- Your current needs & possible future needs
- File formats for which you may want to add metadata
- Will you share the files
- Discipline specific terminology
- Long-term needs

Embedded vs. Separately Stored

- Embedded metadata
- Sidecar metadata
- Catalog metadata





Looking for the Controlled Vocabulary Keyword Catalog?

The Top 12 Myths about Embedded Photo Metadata

There are a number of myths or misconceptions that surround the practice of embedding information such as <u>IPTC</u>, <u>IPTC-IIM</u>, <u>XMP</u> or even <u>Exif</u> into a digital image file — like JPEGs, TIFFs, Photoshop, DNG and other Raw files). There are a number of <u>applications or utilities</u> which can do this easily and safely, but first, let's take a look at the list.

- 1. Embedded photo metadata is something that is hard to read unless you have Photoshop or some other professional software application.
- 2. If I embed my copyright (or caption or keywords, or other metadata field) into my images it will always be there.
- 3. Embedding photo metadata adds a lot of disk space overhead to an image file.
- 4. If I embed photo metadata in the images I place on my website, then search engines will be able to spider them and use the caption and other information to rate/rank my images.
- 5. Images that I upload to my social media or photo sharing sites will still retain my embedded photo metadata.
- 6. Removing embedded photo metadata is against the law.
- 7. All embedded metadata is the same.
- 8. Picasa (or iPhoto) writes all my captions into my embedded metadata as soon as I enter them.
- 9. Adding copyright and contact information to images on the Internet makes websites load slowly.
- 10. Adding photo metadata, like copyright and contact information, is difficult to do and time consuming.
- 11. Metadata is always stored inside the image file (OR Metadata is always stored outside the image file).
- 12. The topic of metadata is beyond the competence of the everyday user.

Let me stress, if it wasn't clear before, that the above statements are common misunderstandings about photo metadata, meaning that **they are not correct**. If you want to understand why, read on for a short summary of each, as well as links to other resources that should help you understand.

Some Schemas & Standards

- XMP (Extensible Metadata Platform)
 - ISO standard for the creation, processing, and exchange of standardized and custom metadata for all types of resources
- IPTC Core (International Press and Telecommunications Council)
 - Description and rights information for photographs
- Exif (Exchangeable Image File Format)
 - Technical metadata about image capture and characteristics
- BWF (Broadcast WAVE Format)
 - Import, edit, embed, and export specified metadata elements in WAVE audio files

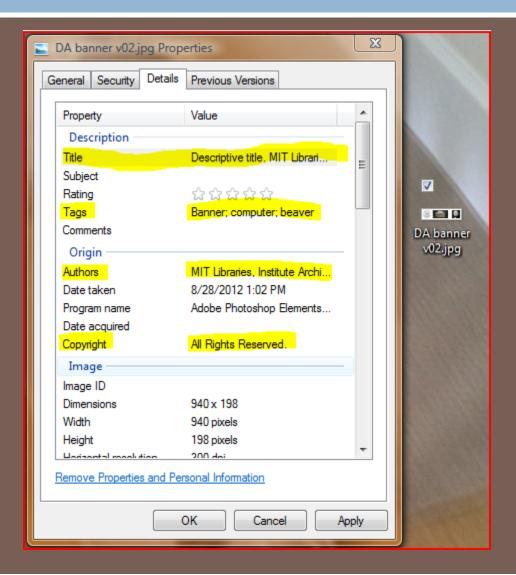
Reusing / Exporting your Metadata

- Considering reuse outside original software or organization
 - Embedded metadata travels with files
 - Sidecar data can be reused within software
 - Databases can be shared and data cross-walked
- Not all metadata travels well or into new software programs

Other considerations

- Embedded metadata is generally not permanent – can be changed by others
- Updating metadata may require planning and diligence
- Know what embedded metadata will display externally, i.e. Flickr
- Does not need to be elaborate or difficult

Viewing Embedded Metadata



File Metadata Tools

Platform agnostic

Adobe Bridge

Picasa (Google)

iTunes

ACDSee

ExifTool

Lightroom

Apple

iPhoto

PC

ThumbsPlus

Windows Photo Gallery

Linux

Shotwell

F-Spot

Image / Audio / Video

Image Audio

Image

Image Image

Sidecar

Embed

Sidecar

Embed Embed

External

Image Embed

Any Files

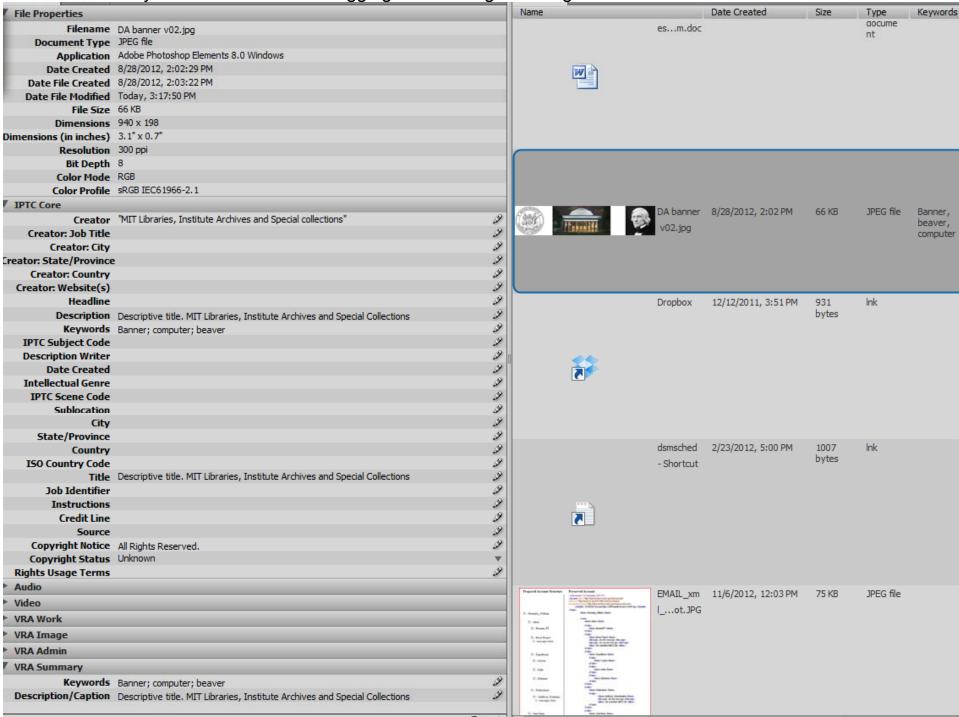
Image

Sidecar / Embed

Embed

Image Sidecar

Image Sidecar/ Embed



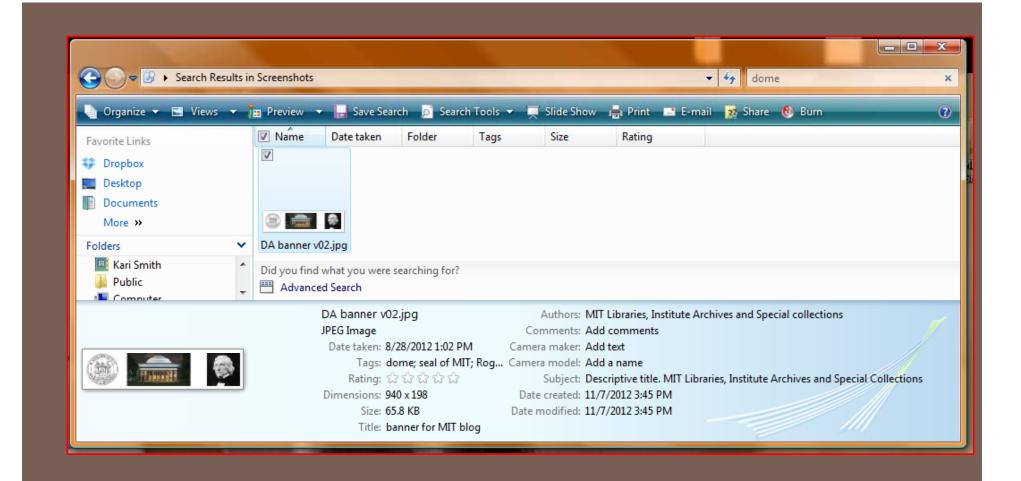
Discipline Specific Tools

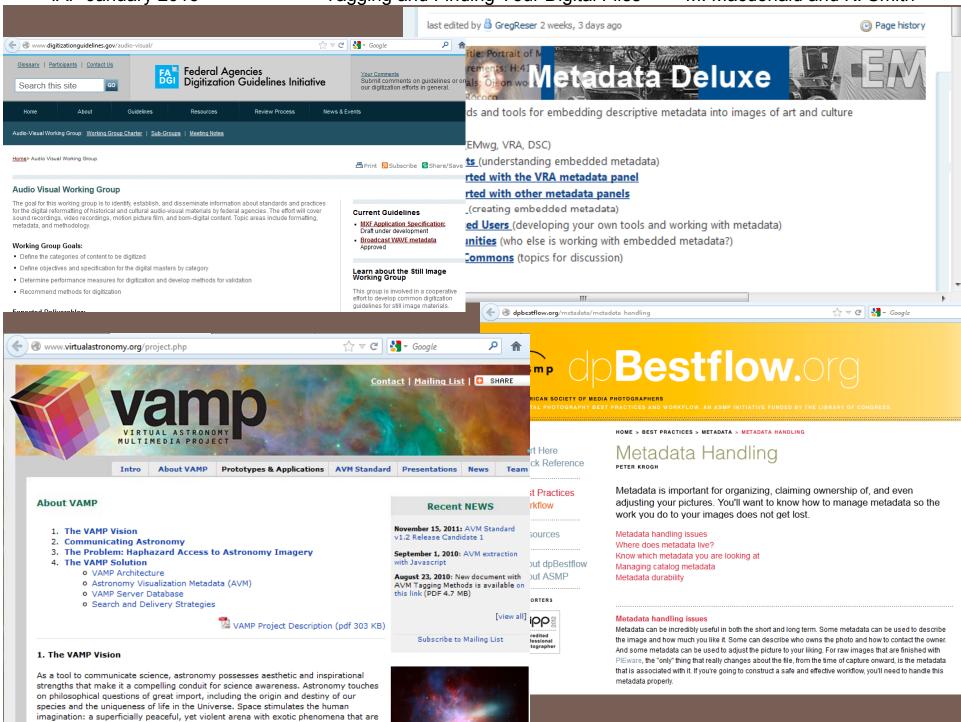
- Astronomy Visualization Metadata Web Tool -VAMP (Virtual Astronomy Multimedia Project)
 - Astronomy Visualization Metadata (AVM) (maps to IPTC and XMP tags)
 - http://www.virtualastronomy.org/avmwebtool/index.php5
- IRIS image cataloging database Created for the Art History / Visual Image community.
 Uses VRA Core metadata.

Search Tools/Programs

- Using your operating system to search your files (full-text and tags)
 - Windows Explorer
 - Mac Spotlight
- Found
- Copernic Desktop Search
- Alfred
- Locate32

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Demo

- Adobe Bridge
- Picasa
- ExifTool
- Metadata Deluxe Bridge Plug-in

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MIT Institute Archives and Special Collections http://libraries.mit.edu/archives/