

Making History Local, Digital, and Relevant: The GeoHistorian Project



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Origins

- We started investigating the use of cell phones for video conferencing in 2005 as an alternative to traditional forms of video conferencing.
- It was asynchronous, with predetermined interview questions, and roving student reporters who videotaped answers with a mobile phone.
- We played around with live video-streaming, and a couple of years ago we started experimenting with QR codes.



The GeoHistorian Project

The GeoHistorian project was created to:

- Give students the opportunity to become local historians and create digital resources for their communities;
- Demonstrate how resource sites near and far (in this case a local historical society and historical sites) can be valuable learning resources;
- Investigate cell phones as an educational tool outside of the classroom;
- Demonstrate how digital content can be used to amplify learning on location.

Partnerships



Honors College



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



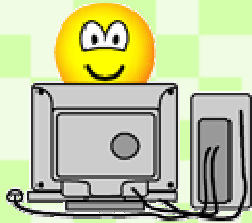
Creating Digital Stories about Local History



1. The Importance of Stories



2. Historical Research



3. Story Writing



4. Audio/Video Editing



Your Digital Story



QR Code

What Happens to the QR Codes (and the Stories)?



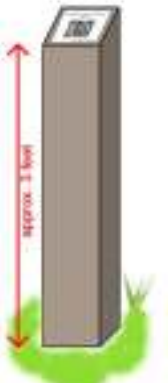
A tourist visits the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Depot in Kent, Ohio



He scans a QR code from a marker at the depot with his mobile phone



Student-created, historical digital content is downloaded to the phone



QR or 2D Codes

A **QR Code** is a matrix barcode (or two-dimensional code) with embedded information such as text, an email address or phone number, or a URL (multimedia!!). The codes can be read by camera phones with a QR code reader.



Bar Codes Come in Many Shapes and Sizes ...

Aztec



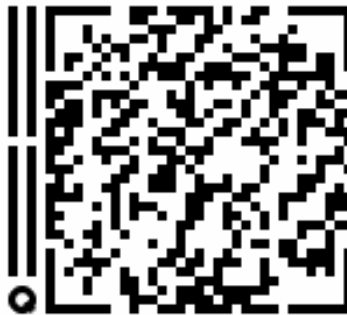
QR Code



Sema Code
(Data Matrix)



EZcode



QuickMark



Shotcode

Using QR Codes in Education



2010 SIGML
video contest winner



2009 SIGML
mobile learning event



Creating QR Codes: What Do You Need?

- Digital content and a place to upload it to (e.g. flickr, YouTube or a mobile website such as wirenode).
 - QR code generator
 - QR codes
 - Smart Phone with QR code reader

Digital Content Considerations

- Link to existing content or make your own.
- Smart phones from different carriers all have different operating systems and require different video and audio formats.
- Formats for video and audio clips
 - Windows mobile - **Windows Media Video (WMV)**
 - iPhone - **QuickTime (MOV)**
 - Android – **Mpeg4 (mp4)**
 - Audio - **WAV**, short for **Waveform Audio File Format**
 - Or upload to **YouTube** or similar site

QR Code Generators

delivr

<http://delivr.com/qr-code-generator>



<http://qrcode.kaywa.com/>

i-nigma

<http://www.i-nigma.com/CreateBarcodes.html>



<http://invx.com/>

<http://www.mobile-barcodes.com/qr-code-generator/>

QR Stuff

<http://www.qrstuff.com/>

QR Code Readers



<http://www.i-nigma.mobi>



<http://reader.kaywa.com/>



<http://www.mobile-barcodes.com/qr-code-software/>

(great list here)

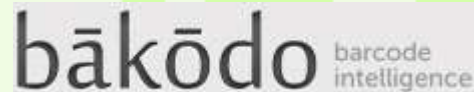


<http://www.getscanlife.com/>



Tapmedia

<http://itunes.apple.com/app/id368494609?mt=8>



<http://bako.do/features/>

(does regular bar codes too)

Readers can usually be downloaded directly from the Internet to your phone and should be free.

Try It Out!

- Any of the QR codes you see here can be scanned.
- Download a QR code reader to your phone if you haven't done so yet:
 - Go to www.i-nigma.mobi on your mobile phone.
 - I-nigma will automatically identify your handset type.
- Use your phone or iPod Touch to scan the codes to see the embedded content.

Questions?

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<http://www.rcet.org>

<http://www.rcet.org/geohistorian>

Links

- DVC Project: <http://www.rcet.org/dvcproject/index.html>
- GeoHistorian Project: <http://www.rcet.org/geohistorian>
- Google Goggles: <http://www.google.com/mobile/goggles/-text>
- Kent City Schools: <http://www.kentschools.net>
- Kent Historical Society: <http://www.kentohiohistory.net>
- Kent Parks and Rec: <http://www.kentparksandrec.com/>
- Mobile Barcodes: <http://www.mobile-barcodes.com/qr-code-software/>
- SIGML 2010 Contest Video:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayW032sKtj8>
- Wirenode: <http://www.wirenode.com/>
- WWII Memorial video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M70AtILy_ns