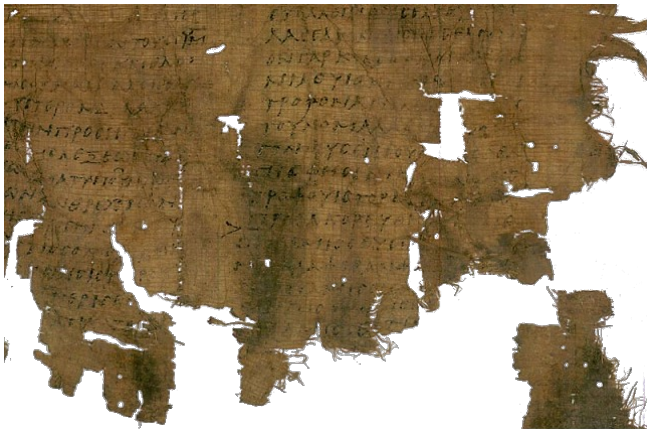
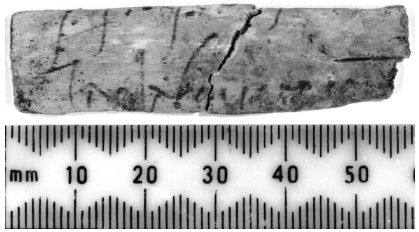
JISC

oerc

A Virtual Research Environment for the Study of Documents and Manuscripts





John Pybus, Ruth Kirkham, Pin Hu

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What is a Virtual Research Environment?

Definition of a VRE:

"The purpose of a VRE is to help researchers in all disciplines manage the increasingly complex range of tasks involved in carrying out research. A VRE will provide a framework of resources to support the underlying processes of research on both small and large scales, particularly for those disciplines which are not well catered for by the current infrastructure." (JISC)

"A set of online tools, systems and processes interoperating to facilitate or enhance the research process within and without institutional boundaries." (Mike Fraser – OUCS)

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Building a VRE for the Humanities

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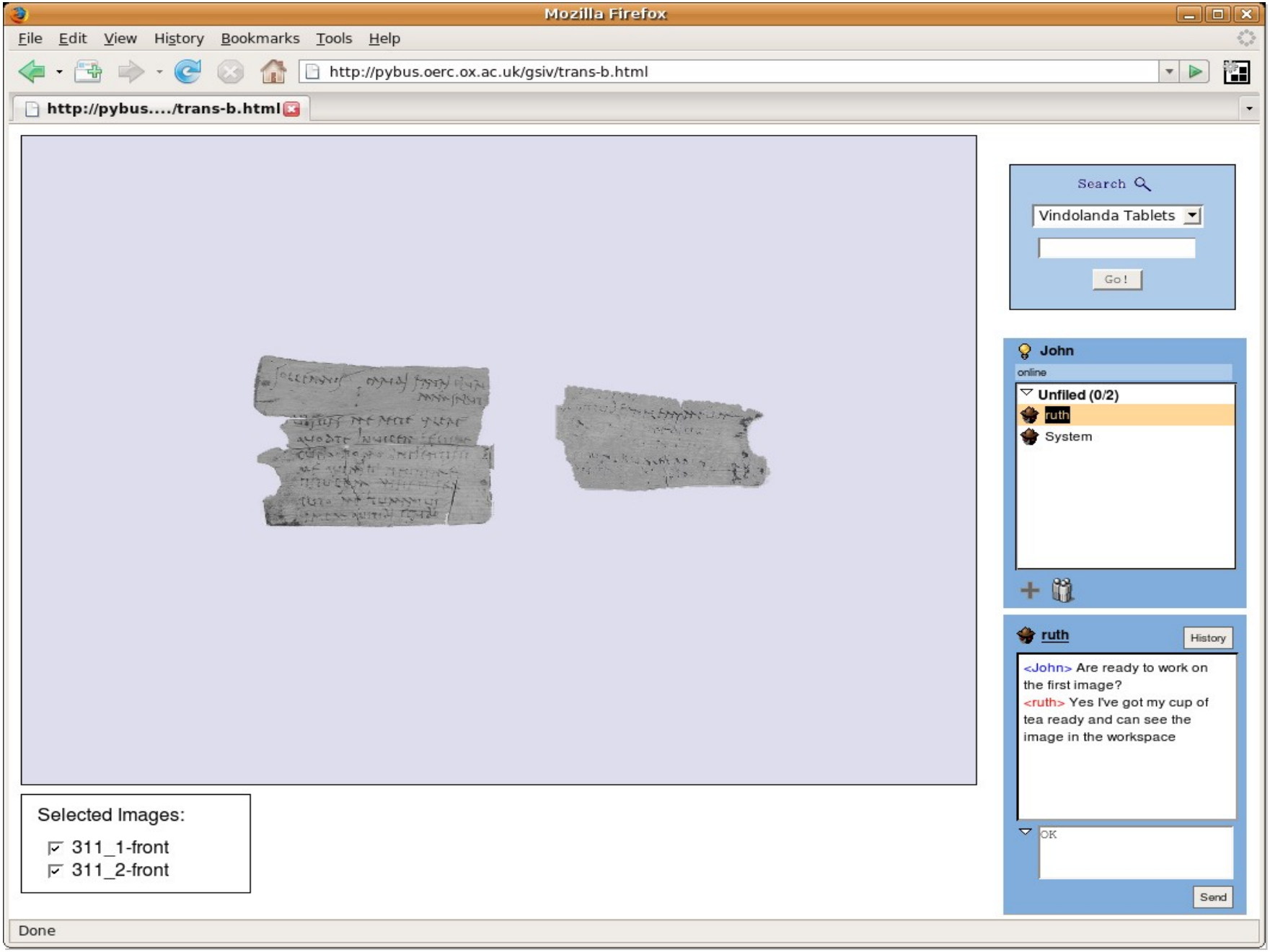
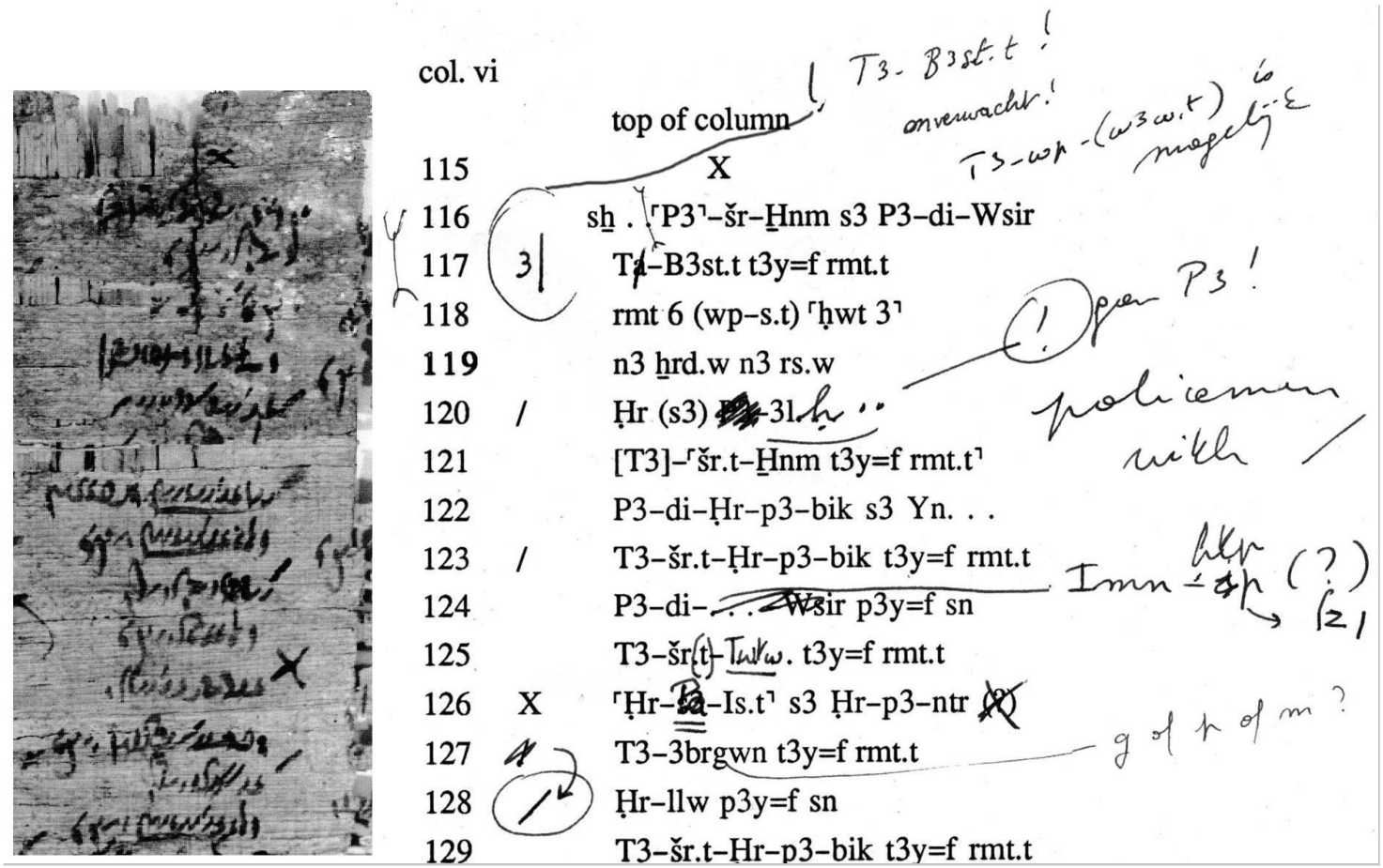
- 15 month project (started summer 2005)
- Capturing user requirements from researchers across the division
- How do the Humanities differ from large scale Science?
- No predefined technology (ground up approach)
- Build 3 to 4 prototypes/demonstrators

A Virtual Research Environment for the Study of Documents and Manuscripts



The Task



Reading the Lycopolite census from Rifeh

Vindolanda Tablets Online | Welcome - Tiscali 10.0

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Search Favorites Media

Address http://vindolanda.csad.ox.ac.uk/ Go

Vindolanda Tablets Online Tablets Exhibition Reference Help

Vindolanda Tablets Online

Search database

View tablet number (118-573):

go

View all Tablets

Search Tablets

Browse Tablets

General search
(Excluding Tablets database)

Text:

search

Images:

search

Site map

This online edition of the Vindolanda writing tablets, excavated from the Roman fort at Vindolanda in northern England, includes the following elements:

Tablets - a searchable online edition of the tablets (volumes I and II)

Exhibition - an introduction to the tablets and their context

Reference - a guide to aspects of the tablets' content

Help - navigation and using the site

Also available are highlights from the tablets.

The website is part of the Script, Image and the Culture of Writing in the Ancient World programme, supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. It is a collaborative project between the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents and the Academic Computing Development Team, Oxford University.

Scholarly publications should refer to this site as:

Vindolanda Tablets Online http://vindolanda.csad.ox.ac.uk/

Feedback: if you are using Vindolanda Tablets Online for teaching, research or general interest, please send us your comments on the site.

Internet

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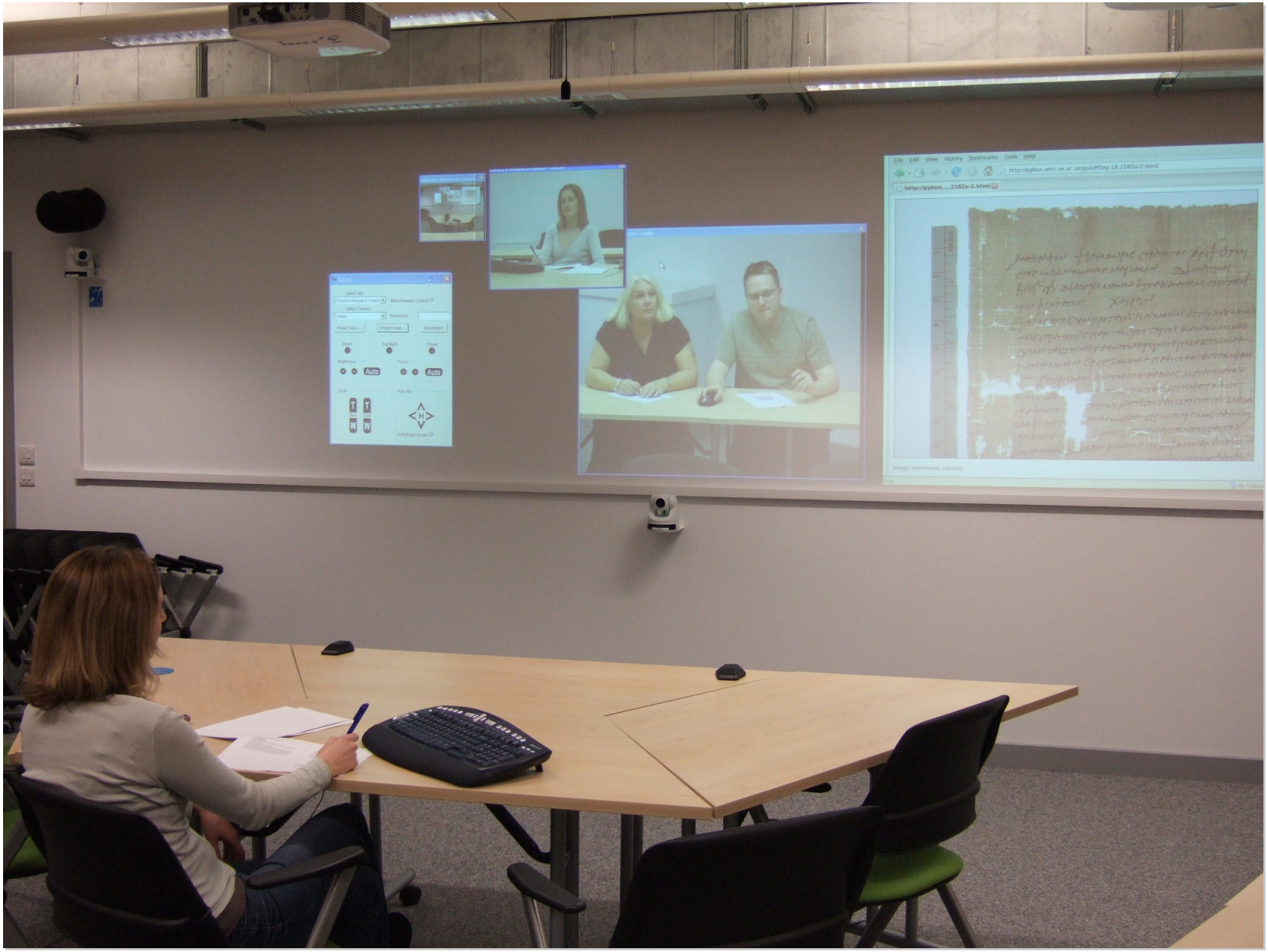
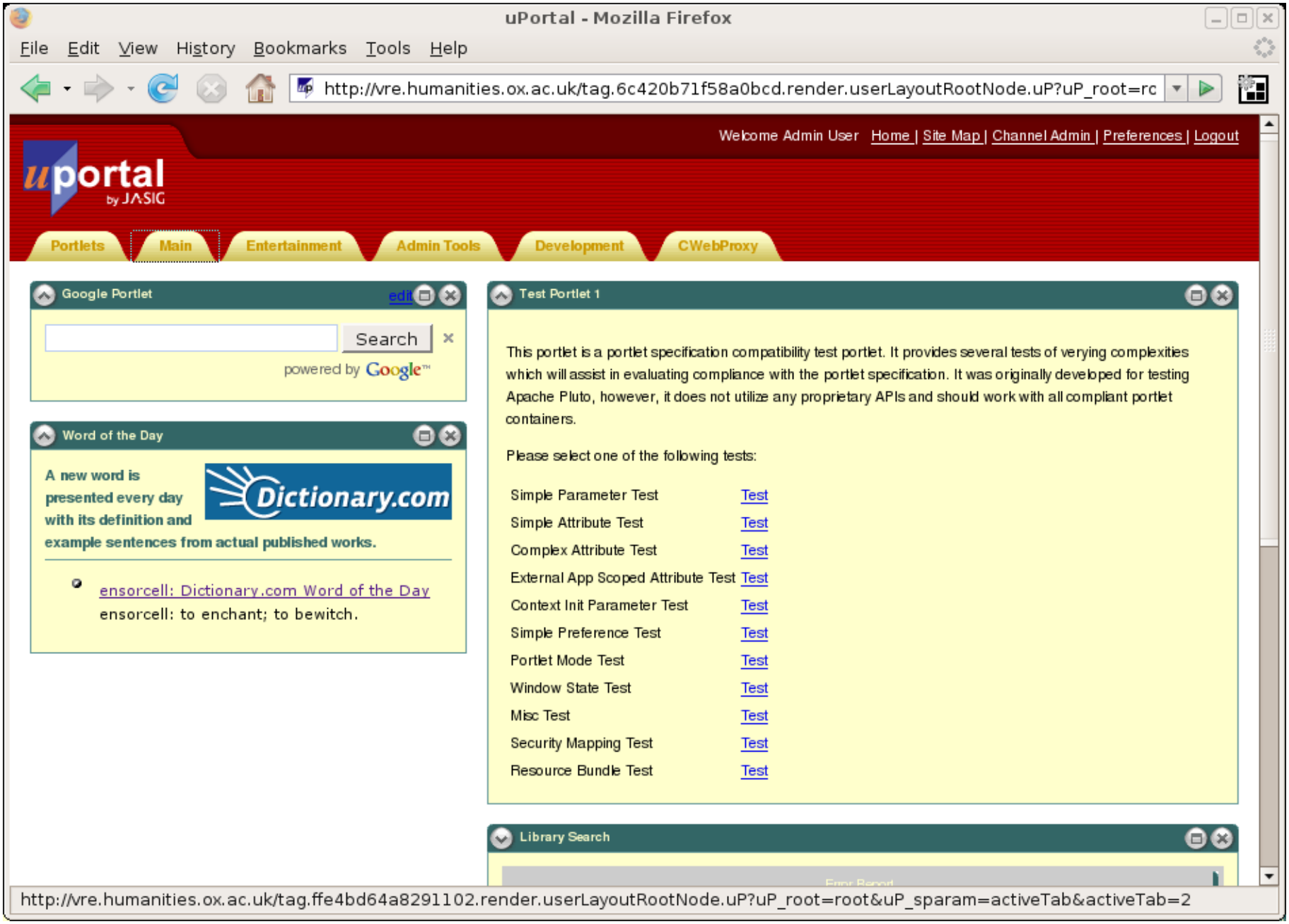
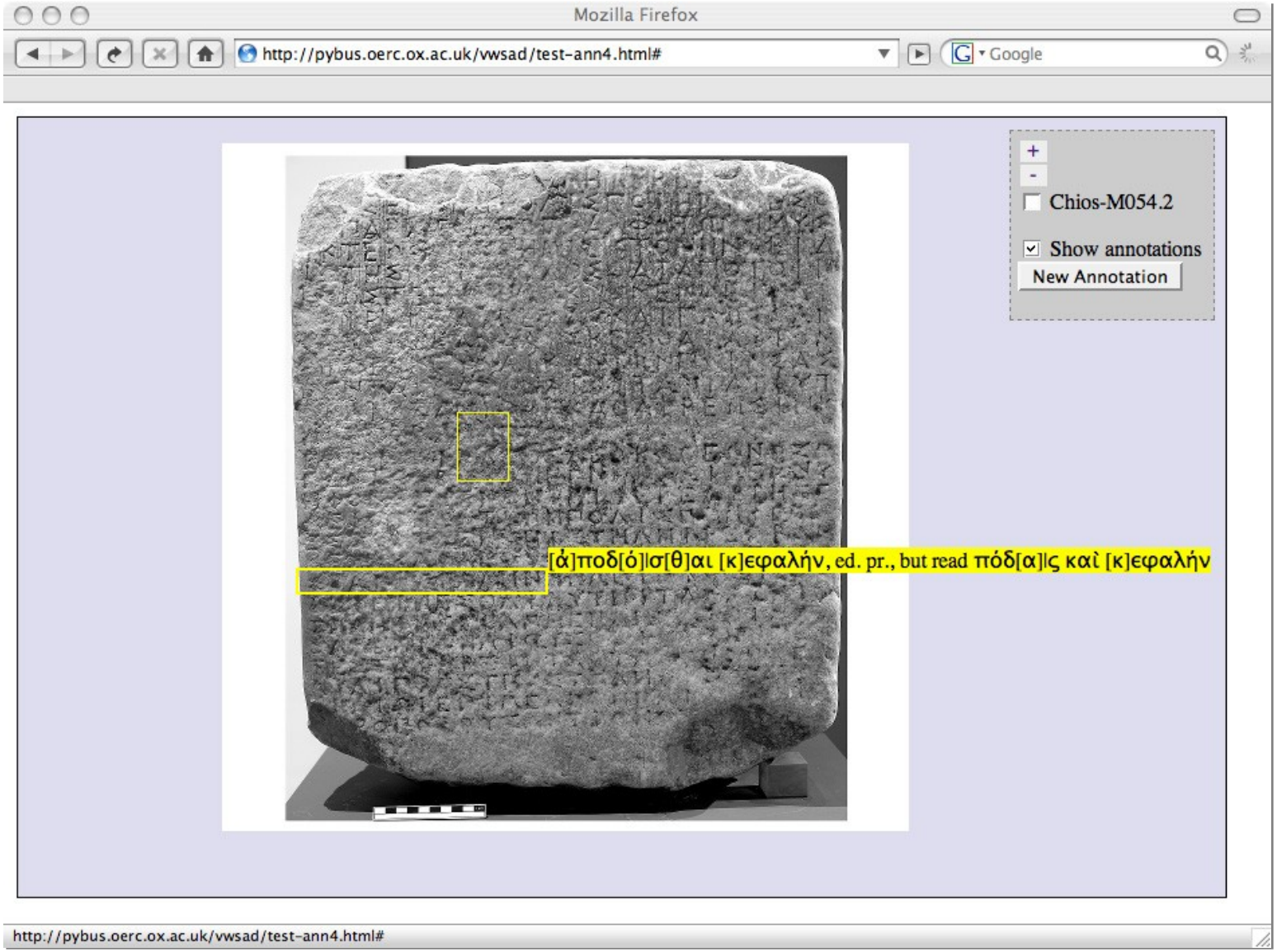
Data Sources

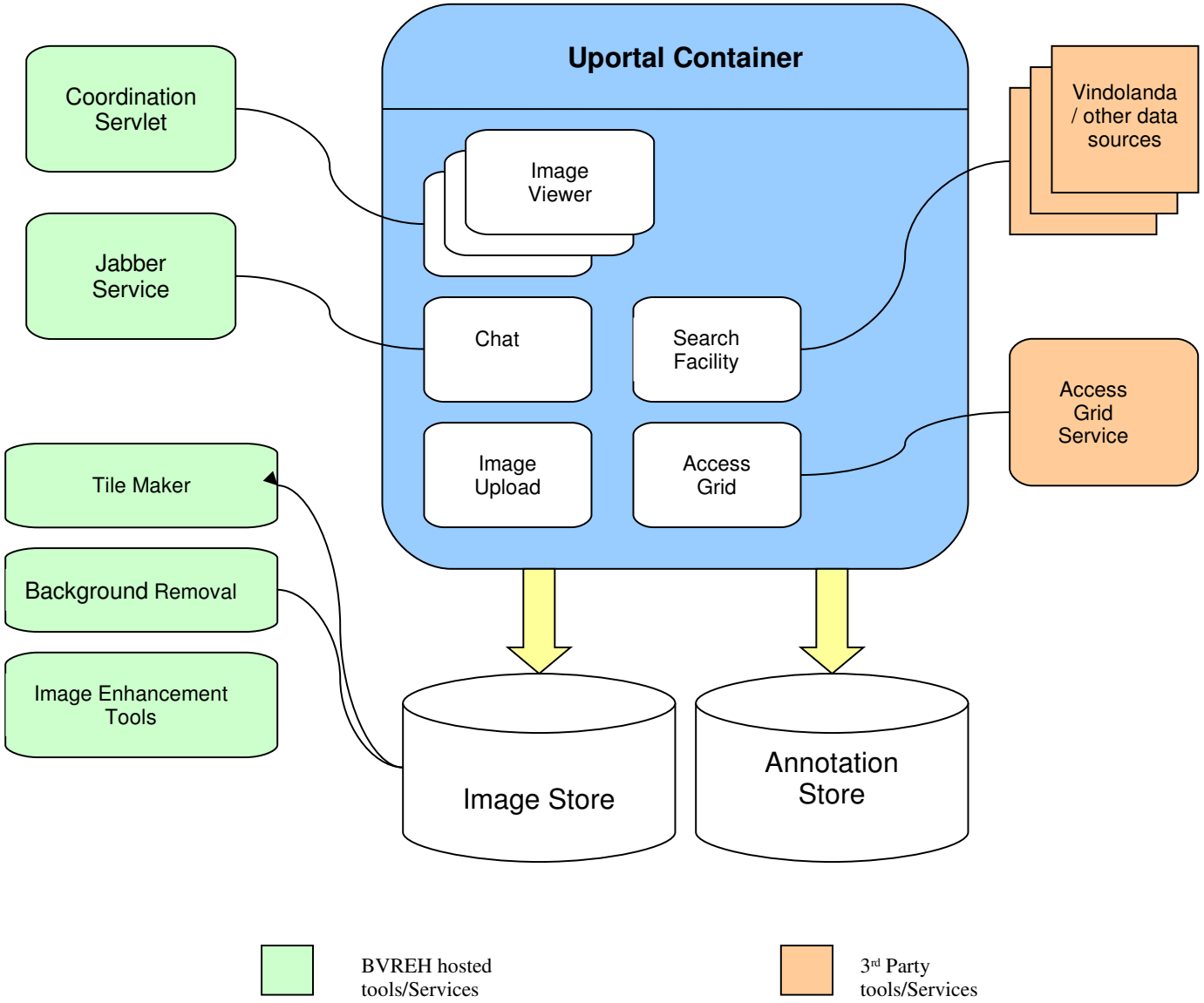
- Integrated searches across databanks of texts and images, e.g.
  - Duke Databank of Documentary Papyri
  - Heidelberger Gesamtverzeichnis
  - APIS
  - Vindolanda Tablets Online
  - databases of Greek and Latin inscriptions
  - on-line reference resources, dictionaries
    - Lexicon of Greek Personal Names
    - LDAB
    - Fayum Villages Database
    - etc.



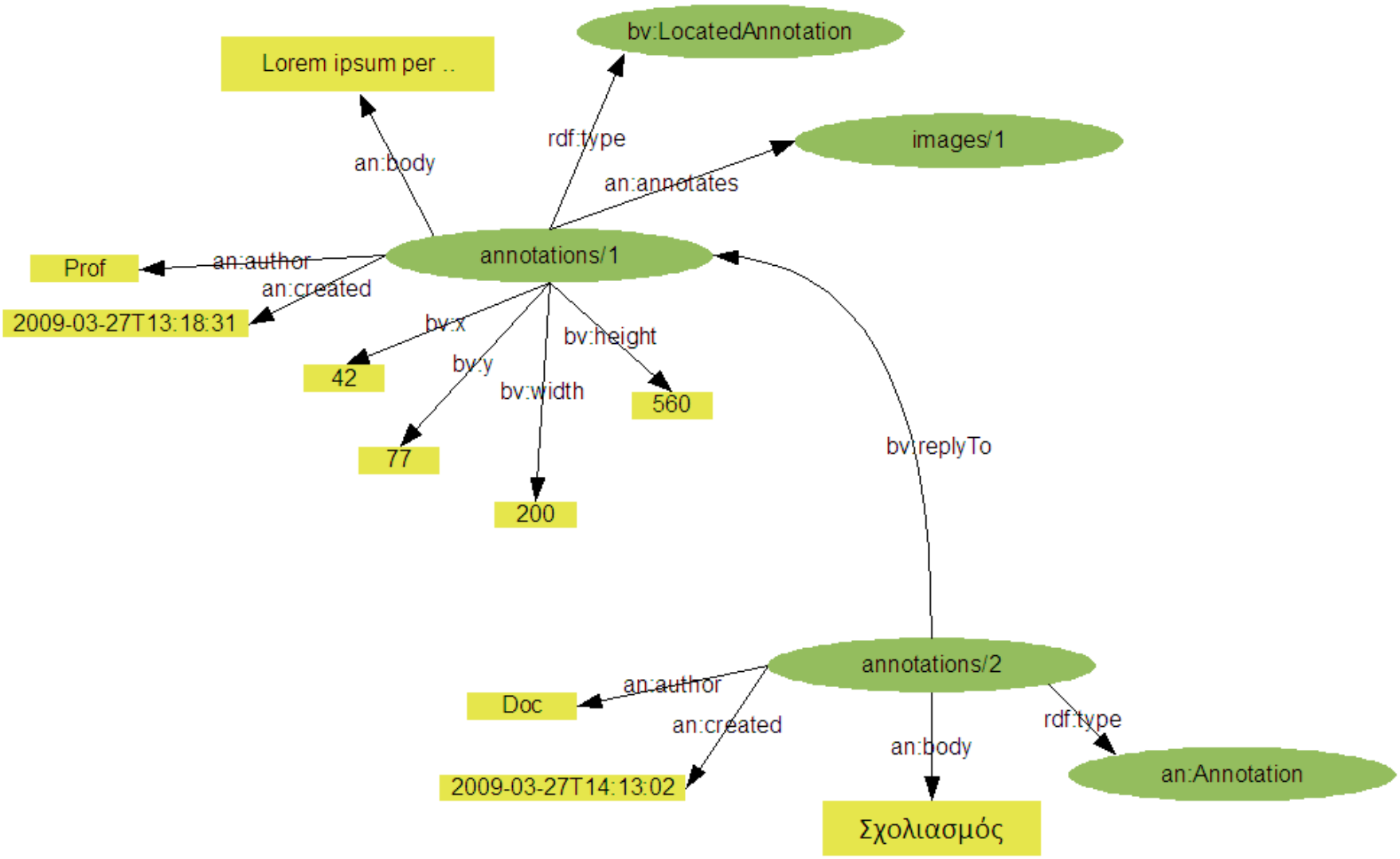
Architecture


uPortal - Mozilla Firefox
File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
http://vre.humanities.ox.ac.uk/tag.6c420b71f58a0bcd.render.userLayoutRootNode.uP?uP_root=rc
Welcome Admin User Home | Site Map | Channel Admin | Preferences | Logout
uportal by JASIG
Portlets Main Entertainment Admin Tools Development CWebProxy
Google Portlet edit
Search
powered by Google™
Word of the Day
A new word is presented every day with its definition and example sentences from actual published works.
Dictionary.com
ensorcell: Dictionary.com Word of the Day
ensorcell: to enchant; to bewitch.
Test Portlet 1
This portlet is a portlet specification compatibility test portlet. It provides several tests of verying complexities which will assist in evaluating compliance with the portlet specification. It was originally developed for testing Apache Pluto, however, it does not utilize any proprietary APIs and should work with all compliant portlet containers.
Please select one of the following tests:
Simple Parameter Test Test
Simple Attribute Test Test
Complex Attribute Test Test
External App Scoped Attribute Test Test
Context Init Parameter Test Test
Simple Preference Test Test
Portlet Mode Test Test
Window State Test Test
Misc Test Test
Security Mapping Test Test
Resource Bundle Test Test
Library Search
http://vre.humanities.ox.ac.uk/tag.ffe4bd64a8291102.render.userLayoutRootNode.uP?uP_root=root&uP_sparam=activeTab&activeTab=2


Mozilla Firefox
http://pybus.oerc.ox.ac.uk/vwsad/test-ann4.html#
Google
+
-
Chios-M054.2
Show annotations
New Annotation
[ἀ]ποδ[ό]ισ[θ]αι [κ]εφαλήν, ed. pr., but read πόδ[α]ις καὶ [κ]εφαλήν
http://pybus.oerc.ox.ac.uk/vwsad/test-ann4.html#


Uportal Container
Coordination Servlet
Jabber Service
Image Viewer
Chat
Search Facility
Image Upload
Access Grid
Vindolanda / other data sources
Access Grid Service
Tile Maker
Background Removal
Image Enhancement Tools
Image Store
Annotation Store
BVREH hosted tools/Services
3rd Party tools/Services

BVREH RDF Annotation Data Model Example Data KP 27th March 09



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bv = http://bvreh.humanities.ox.ac.uk/vocab/1.0#
rdf = http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type

- Technology moves on:
  - Portal standards → web gadgets
- Improve look and feel

- Links to Interpretation Support System
  - More complex workflows
- Allow user to control image processing from web browser
  - ENGAGE project

Over to Pin