

Viewing digital assets as list

⚠ Has to be revisited

★ Distinction between asset and rendition too strong

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Story

Magnolia offers me a list of all digital assets used on all sites or one site in particular. It shows all assets in all folders at once. I can search the list using a text, but can also apply additional filters to e.g. restrict the list to only show assets which are currently published.

I may also retrieve infos on all renditions defined for a particular asset. For every rendition, I get a preview and meta data such as the format it uses. Of course, I may directly select one of the renditions and start working with it. I can edit a rendition, if I have the necessary rights, and remove it. I can also add new renditions to an asset right from here.

By default, the list shows all digital assets and reveals their renditions on request. Alternatively, I may switch the list to show me the all renditions of all assets instead. This is great for sorting and getting an overview over all elements I can actually place on pages.

Description of desired behavior

The list of assets

The **list view** shows all assets of a particular asset set as a flat list. Thus, if this asset set supports folders, the **list** ignores the hierarchy set up by them and shows all assets of all levels at the same time. Note that the list view only shows the assets in a single asset set, since every [asset is at least contained in one asset set](#). You may not obtain a list of all assets in all asset sets at once.

The screenshot shows the Magnolia CMS interface. The main content area displays a table of assets in 'List' view. The selected asset is 'Writing and Forgetting'.

Asset name	Type	Locked	Deprec.	Renditions	Last modified	Published	Workflow
▶ All team	image		X	0	Sep 1 2008 18:00	✔	
▶ Core figures	image	🔒		14	May 2 2011 11:42	✔	🔵
▶ Landscape from Palace	image	🔒		3	May 9 2011 11:51	🟡	
▶ Late last night	image	🔒	X	2	Oct 28 2009 14:38	✔	
▶ New product line	image			4	Apr 24 2011 10:12	✔	
▶ Repetitive behavior in Basel	image			0	Feb 28 2010 14:53	✔	
▶ River in the Mist	image	🔒		2	May 5 2011 9:20	🔴	
▶ Ruins, all but ruins	image			1	May 2 2011 18:42	🟡	
▶ Writing and Forgetting	image			1	May 13 2011 9:34	✔	🔵

The right-hand panel shows 'Asset Actions' (Add rendition, Add folder, Edit asset properties, Show usages of renditions, Download asset, Copy asset and renditions, Paste, Delete asset and renditions) and 'Asset Preview' (a thumbnail image of a group of people).

Bottom left: Giacomo Guilizzoni, Editor, Logout

The list view is very convenient to sort all existing assets using one of the criteria shown by columns. The columns shown typically also contain the asset's status (published, changed and published, unpublished) and an indicator if the asset is currently in a work flow.

Display all renditions of an asset

Every asset with at least one rendition features a little triangle (or similar element), which can be clicked to view its [renditions](#). The renditions of an asset are shown in-place inside the tree - the panel showing them moves down the other entries below when it appears.

The screenshot shows the Magnolia CMS interface with the 'Renditions' view selected for the asset 'Writing and Forgetting'.

Asset name	Type	Locked	Deprec.	Renditions	Last modified	Published	Workflow
▶ All team	image		X	0	Sep 1 2008 18:00	✔	
▶ Core figures	image	🔒		14	May 2 2011 11:42	✔	🔵
▶ Landscape from Palace	image	🔒		3	May 9 2011 11:51	🟡	
▶ Late last night	image	🔒	X	2	Oct 28 2009 14:38	✔	
▶ New product line	image			4	Apr 24 2011 10:12	✔	
▶ Repetitive behavior in Basel	image			0	Feb 28 2010 14:53	✔	
▶ River in the Mist	image	🔒		2	May 5 2011 9:20	🔴	
▶ Ruins, all but ruins	image			1	May 2 2011 18:42	🟡	
▼ Writing and Forgetting	image			1	May 14 2011 9:34	✔	🔵
For the web	PNG 800x600 b/w				May 14 2011 10:01	✔	

The right-hand panel shows 'Asset Actions' and 'Asset Preview' (a thumbnail image of a group of people).

Bottom left: Pascal Mangold, Editor, Logout

Renditions are shown along their typical characterizing data set allowing to easily identify one specific rendition. Such data could include a format string combining both their format, resolution, and color info (or whatever is appropriate for the asset type). It should also be obvious if a rendition is currently published or not, and whether it is being currently worked on in a work flow. For rows showing renditions, the column layout of the surrounding tree does not apply, but information should nevertheless appear well aligned and ordered to ease reading.

	Asset name	Type	Locked	Deprec.	Renditions	Last modified	Published	Workflow
<input type="checkbox"/>	▶ All team	image		(X)	0	Sep 1 2008 18:00	🟢	
<input type="checkbox"/>	▼ River in the Mist	image	🔒		2	Oct 28 2009 14:41	🔴	
<input type="checkbox"/>	River	PNG 800x600 24-bit				Oct 28 2009 14:38	🔴	
<input type="checkbox"/>	River 2	PNG 800x600 b/w				Oct 28 2009 14:41	🔴	

Another example of an asset showing its renditions

Selecting a rendition

Rendition rows must be selectable. Selecting a rendition shows a preview and the list of actions applicable to it in the sidebar. The information shown by the preview is similar to [UX:details shown on an asset](#), but focuses on rendition information instead.

The screenshot shows the Magnolia CMS interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with 'Website', 'Assets', and 'Data' sections. The main content area displays a table of assets and their renditions. The 'River in the Mist' asset is expanded, showing two renditions: 'River' and 'River 2'. The 'River 2' rendition is selected and highlighted in blue. To the right of the table is a sidebar with 'Rendition Actions' (Edit rendition, Duplicate & edit rendition, Show usages, Download rendition, Delete rendition) and a 'Rendition Preview' showing a photograph of people walking in a snowy landscape. The user's name 'Pascal Mangold' and a 'Logout' link are visible in the bottom left corner.

It's ok to allow a user to select both renditions and assets at the same time, even though the actions and preview view may then not show much of interest and mostly disabled actions only.

Showing the renditions only

By default, the list view shows the list of assets. You may [UX:open an asset to show its renditions](#). A switch in the toolbar allows to switch the list to **show the (flat) list of all renditions** instead. This comes in handy if you would like to sort renditions by one of the criteria offered by the table columns or if you'd like to restrict the list to only show items you may actually place on a page (that's what renditions are for).

The screenshot shows the Magnolia CMS interface. At the top right is the Magnolia logo with the tagline "Simple is beautiful". Below the logo are navigation tabs: "Images", "Images on Stradivari", "Movies/Interactive", and "Other". A sidebar on the left contains "Website", "Assets", and "Data" sections. The main area displays a table of renditions with columns for Rendition, Of, Type, Format, Locked, Deprec., Modified, Publ., and WorkF. The "River 2" rendition is selected. To the right of the table is a "Rendition Actions" panel with options like "Edit rendition", "Duplicate & edit rendition", "Show usages", "Download rendition", and "Delete rendition". Below this is a "Rendition Preview" pane showing a landscape image with a "larger" link. At the bottom left, the user "Pascal Mangold" is logged in as "Editor".

Rendition	Of	Type	Format	Locked	Deprec.	Modified	Publ.	WorkF
Nice...	Writing & Forget...	image	PNG 600x800 24-bit			Jan 3 2008 6:34	✔	
River	River in the Mist	image	PNG 800x600 24-bit	🔒		Oct 28 2009 14:38	❌	
River 2	River in the Mist	image	PNG 800x600 b/w			Oct 28 2009 14:41	❌	
Pallantine	Ruins, all but ruins	image	PNG 2000x400 pan			Jul 15 2010 15:03	✔	
TX-15	New product line	image	TIFF 3000x5000 24-bit			May 14 2011	✔	
TX-15 gov	New product line	image	TIFF 3000x5000 24-bit			May 14 2011	✔	
TX-15 mil	New product line	image	TIFF 3000x5000 24-bit			May 14 2011	✔	
TX-20 II	New product line	image	TIFF 3000x5000 24-bit			May 28 2011	✔	
TX-20 basic	New product line	image	TIFF 3000x5000 24-bit	🔒	✖	May 28 2011 11:28	✔	
Late (OMG)	Late last night	image	JPG 400x250 8-bit	🔒	✖	May 2 2011 11:42	✔	
Late zoom	Late last night	image	JPG 400x250 8-bit			May 2 2011 11:44	✔	
Landscape	Landscape from P...	image	PNG 1200x800 24-			Sep 1 2008 18:00	✔	
Black&White	Landscape from P...	image	PNG 1200x800 b/w			Sep 1 2008 18:05	✔	
Black&White small	Landscape from P...	image	PNG 600x400 b/w	🔒		Sep 1 2008 18:08	✔	
Core Dep 1 Q1	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		Feb 28 2010 14:53	✔	🔗
Core Dep 2 Q1	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		Feb 28 2010 14:53	✔	🔗
Core Dep 3 Q1	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		Feb 28 2010 14:53	✔	🔗
Core Dep 1	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		May 2 2010 7:03	✔	🔗
Core Dep 2 Q2	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		May 2 2010 7:03	✔	🔗
Core Dep 3 Q2	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-	🔒		May 2 2010 7:04	✔	🔗
Core Dep 1	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-			Aug 5 2010 9:02	✔	🔗
Core Dep 2 Q3	Core figures	image	GIF 600x400 16-			Aug 5 2010 9:02	✔	🔗

A separate column textually links back to the asset a rendition belongs to, but there's no direct way to select an asset or view its details. However, if you select a rendition, that **rendition stays selected when you switch back to the list of assets** so you may easily retrieve additional details on the asset from there. Likewise, if I select an asset, then switch to the list of renditions, **all renditions of that asset are being selected**.

Search and filter the list of assets

A search function [similar to the one available for pages](#) is existing for digital assets as well. A simple text filter searches on the name of the asset in case the list shows mainly assets, and on rendition names if it shows renditions. Advanced search queries can be constructed as well, allowing to filter by type, format and various other attributes defined in the [meta data of an asset](#).

Note that since [assets are grouped by asset sets](#), a search is always only run on the assets (or renditions) in one particular asset set. You may not search all assets or renditions of all asset sets in one go.

Filter list by site

The advanced search settings of the asset list allow to restrict the list to only include assets or renditions of a particular site. This largely depends on how multi-sites are configured in a setup; if site definitions exist, such a filter shall be available as well.