“Narrative,” offer ways into the site. “Space” leads to a map with sites in France and Great Brain, on which crosses identify churches. The “Time” button takes one to a dynamic map purporting to show the growth of Gothic France. Although available content only goes up to the year 1223 (the death of Philip Augustus), future development will build out the later Gothic. The link to “Narrative” leads to subsections or subchapters on individual essay themes. Future development will fill out all of the sections as well as that of the Kings of France. Across the top left are four small icons. The one with the S is “Stories and Essays”: a three part subdivision, one of which relinks to the “Narrative” section, and a second, “Stories of France,” contains some book excerpts of interpretations of how France became France. More development will flesh out the criteria for selection as well as the criteria for scholars of the Gothic. The “Comparison” icon leads to a fun little feature with varying sets of tiles that can be stacked or capered in many different ways. In sum, the site is lovely to look at, and the visuals give insight into the space and size of Gothic France.—Susan L. Malbin, American Jewish Historical Society

1914–1918 Online: International Encyclopedia of the First World War
www.1914-1918-online.net

The second web site appearing during the one-hundredth anniversary of World War I’s opening days, 1914–1918 Online is an “English-language virtual reference work on the First World War.” This open access project claims more than one thousand participants from over fifty countries. The encyclopedia provides tabs for “Themes,” “Regions,” “Articles A–Z,” “Index,” “Bibliography,” “Contributors,” “Timeline,” and “About.” “Themes” and “Regions” display thumbnails of articles broken into categories for “Survey Articles,” “Regional Thematic Articles,” “Encyclopedia Entries,” and “See Also” for additional related items. Articles are lengthy and contain their own hyperlinked tables of contents, notes, and bibliographies. The writing is informative, objective, and at a level appropriate for a reference source with wide appeal. The “Timeline” is interactive and rather complex, with links to articles on the topics that appear. The primary flaw is that a number of items the timeline links to are listed as “In preparation” and are therefore not yet available. The substantial bibliography provides over four thousand items in a number of different languages. A useful site covering a broad range of themes, this is a welcome reference source on World War I.—Matthew J. Wayman, Penn State Schuylkill

Lowcountry Digital History Initiative
http://ldhi.library.cofc.edu

The Lowcountry Digital History Initiative is a digital public history project that consists of a series of high-quality online exhibitions folded into scholarly contextual narratives. Launched in 2014, the project is hosted by the College of Charleston’s Lowcountry Digital Library, in partnership with the College of Charleston’s Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture and the Program for the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World (CLAW). Exhibitions cover a range of topics and time periods, from the origins of the trans-Atlantic slave trade in “African Laborers for a New Empire: Iberia, Slavery, and the Atlantic World” to coverage of race and labor in the twentieth century in “Charleston’s Cigar Factory Strike, 1945-1946 and The Charleston Hospital Workers Movement, 1968–1969.” Across all exhibitions, there is prominent emphasis on exploring underrepresented histories of race, class, gender, and labor within the Lowcountry region. Each exhibition is authored and receives additional editorial input by scholars and graduate students from multiple institutions. Each exhibition includes a bibliography of source material, many of which cite and link to recorded oral histories in addition to textual sources. As readers move through exhibitions, they encounter high-quality scans of archival documents, images, and photographs with detailed captions and credits. The narrative essays are organized into chapters, which are conducive to use in undergraduate and high school courses. In addition to the essays and digitized documents, some exhibitions also include interactive features, such as maps. The organizational structure of the site is quite easy to navigate, both within and among exhibitions. Taken together, the range of archives consulted for each exhibition is impressive, as is the level of collaboration demonstrated by scholars from various institutions. In its production, the site is an excellent model for the collaboration and outreach opportunities afforded by digital history while in its presentation the site shows excellent potential for learning and teaching at multiple levels.—Alexa L. Pearce, University of Michigan

Darwin Online
http://darwin-online.org.uk

Imagine going on a scientific voyage for five years and knowing that the books you bring along are the only ones you will have access to during the trip. What books would you bring? Darwin Online brings together in one place Charles Darwin’s complete publications, private papers, and manuscripts, along with reviews of his works and works about him. With the recent completion of the Beagle Library Project (2012–14), one can see on Darwin Online the works that Darwin could not do without on his voyage. Invaluable reference works, such as Werner’s Nomenclature of Colours, and those he brought for his own pleasure, such as Milton’s Paradise Lost, are available through Darwin Online. According to the website’s “What’s New” section, the Beagle Library Project doubled the searchable text on Darwin Online. While the site’s aesthetics seem dated, it is easy to navigate. Additionally, as the intent is to “assemble a complete collection of every edition and variation of Darwin’s published works in English and translations in 30 languages in both electronic text and scanned image forms,” the site is still expanding. A must for anyone studying Darwin or evolutionary biology or whose imagination is captured by the idea of the Beagle’s voyage, Darwin Online is an enjoyable journey into Darwin’s work.—Mary Willke, Center for Research Libraries