

2018 Feb 2

Blogging Offline Using Markdown and Brackets

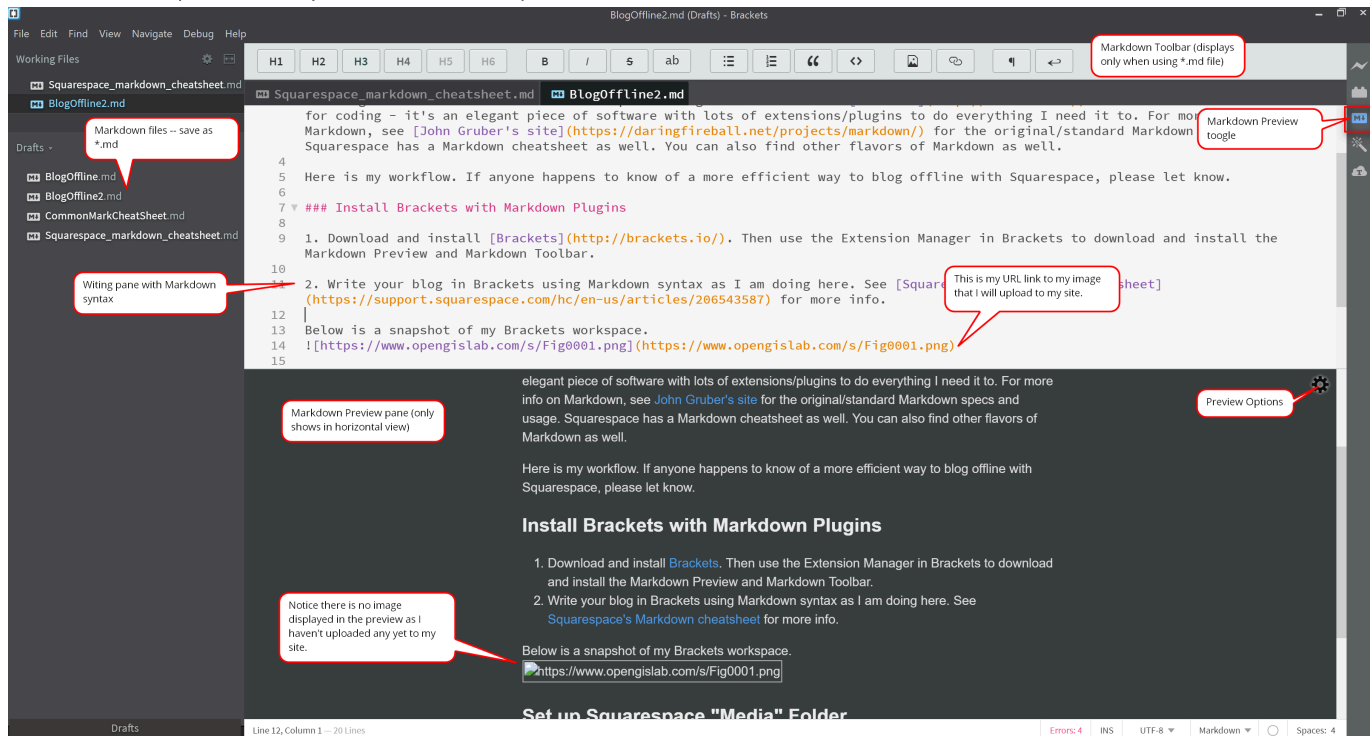
This post is not GIS related, but I thought I'd write about it. I'm using Squarespace for this website, and it can be a pain to write blog posts in the online editor. I want to be able to write when I'm offline and post when I'm done. So, I've been thinking of a workflow to do this. I'm experimenting with Markdown and [Brackets](#) to do this. I love Brackets for coding - it's an elegant piece of software with lots of extensions/plugins to do everything I need it to. For more info on Markdown, see [John Gruber's site](#) for the original/standard Markdown specs and usage. Squarespace has a Markdown cheatsheet as well. You can also find other flavors of Markdown as well. Note that you don't have to use Brackets to write your blog post in Markdown - any text editor (e.g. Wordpad, notepad, Word, etc) as long as you use the Markdown syntax.

Here is my workflow. If anyone happens to know of a more efficient way to blog offline with Squarespace, please let know.

Install Brackets with Markdown Plugins

1. Download and install [Brackets](#). Then use the Extension Manager in Brackets to download and install the Markdown Preview and Markdown Toolbar plugins.
2. Write your blog post in Brackets using Markdown syntax as I am doing here. See [Squarespace's Markdown cheatsheet](#) for more info.

Below is a snapshot of my Brackets workspace.

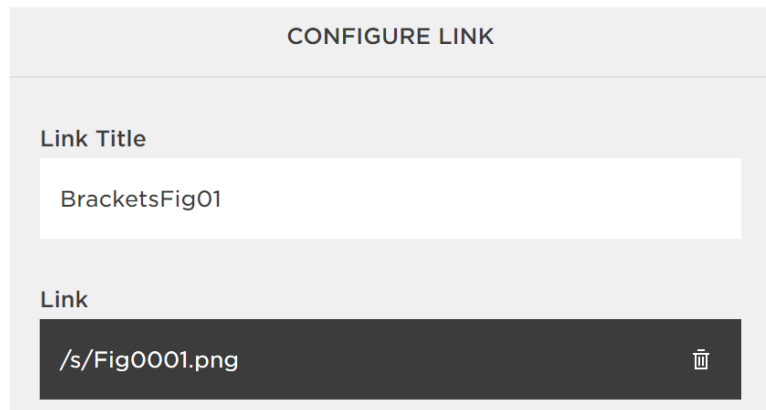
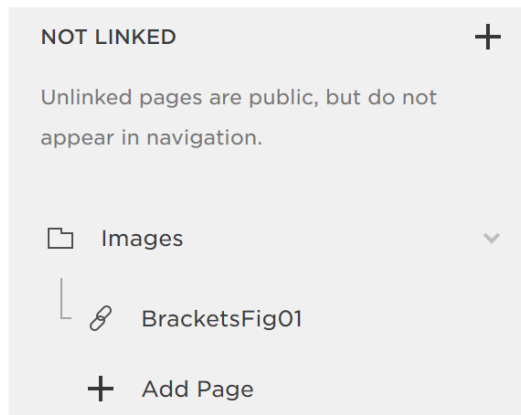


Set up Squarespace "Media" Folder

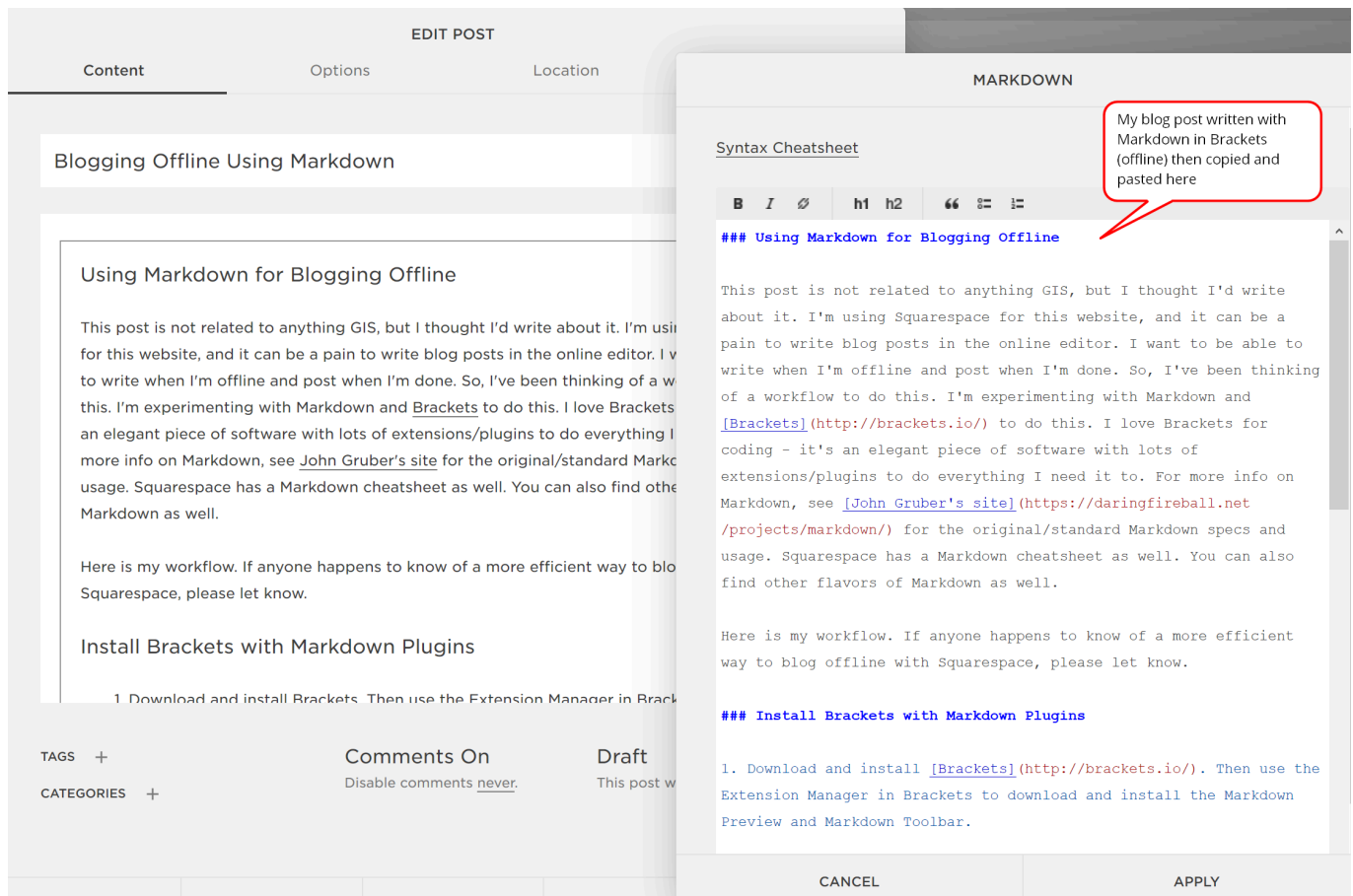
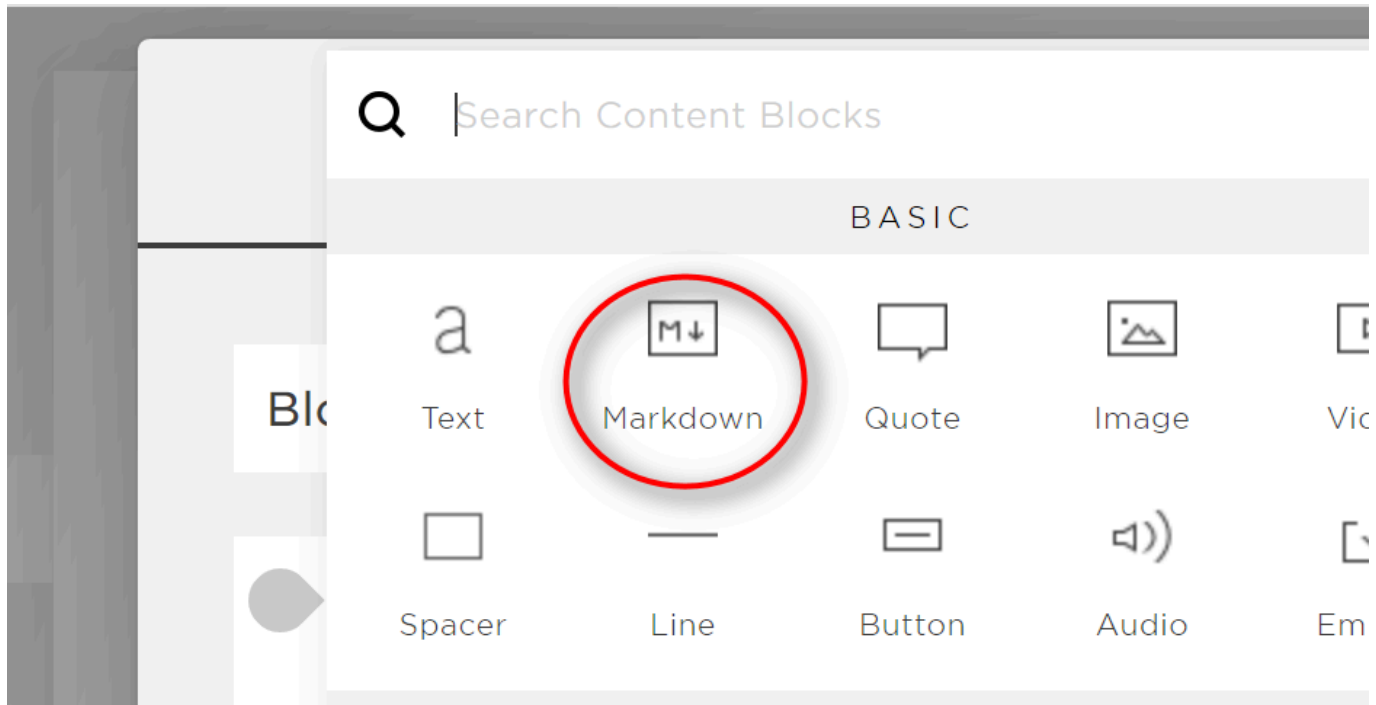
1. In my Squarespace Pages directory, I've created a folder in the "Not Linked" section to upload and organize my images. I save my images in the order that I will insert them into my blog page (e.g. Fig0001.png, Fig00002.png). Each image is added as a "Link" page in the folder.

To access the URL of the images, click the linkname and see the properties. You'll see that it begin with "/s/filename.xxx". Just append the URL of your site in front of that - e.g.

<https://www.yoursite.com/s/filename.xxx>



2.. When you're done writing, just copy and paste the Markdown text into your blog page using [Squarespace's Markdown Block](#)



That's it. And for anyone who is interested, I used a software called [FastStone Capture](#) to capture my screenshots - I've been using this for years and like it a lot. You can't beat \$20 for a lifetime license. It's not as

fancy as something like Snagit but has a low learning curve and does everything I need.

Hope you enjoy this post. Until next time...

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Example

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