Embed an Interactive Timeline in an Omeka website

Using Simple Pages and the Tiki-Toki Web Based Timeline, I embedded an interactive timeline into Omeka. The example I'm using is an Omeka.org website that I set up through a hosting service, but this also works on the Omeka.net websites. The most significant difference between using the hosted site vs omeka.net site is in being able to use images. The Omeka.net site item image urls have an expiration date so they disappear after a day, but the Omeka.org hosted site item urls are static, meaning they won't change. The timeline example I've used is mostly text, and will work on the Omeka.net site wonderfully, though I've also included images and video in the wildlife section to see how it looks.

The reason I chose to do the hosted Omeka.org site is because I already have a hosting setup that supports Omeka install and configuration, so it didn't make sense to pay to upgrade Omeka.net, and I get unlimited potential in configuring my site. I was able to use an API plugin on the hosted site to pull my files from the .net site, which was really cool! Though it did miss a few items, it still saved me a ton of work to get more items added.

I also discovered a few additional plugins that where helpful and fun, such as Bulk Metadata Editor and Geolocation. The bulk metadata editor was great for adding the Creative Commons Licence embed code to all the records at once, while the Geolocation map is just cool, which would be great for something like mapping heritage trees.

Embedding Tiki-Toki is supported by Omeka, as are several other third-party websites such as Google Maps and Youtube. TikiToki allows adding local images as opposed to other timeline sites that require uploading images to their site. They also allow link outs, which can be set to connect to item records, but again, the Omeka.net url's expire, so it will only work in a hosted site. In order to embed the timeline in another site, I had to choose a $7.50 a month paid version. I decided the benefits outweigh the cost for me, but that's an individual decision. I looked at Neatline, as part of the hosted .org options, which is extremely robust and right up my geo-spatial alley, but the timeline is connected to a map, and I was looking to do simple garden planning timeline. So Tiki-Toki was my choice.

The steps to get a timeline up and running are:

Activate the Omeka Simple Pages Plugin.
Go to the Simple Pages link on bottom left of the admin menu.
Set up a page with a title and slug for the timeline.
(I named mine "Gardening Timeline".)
Sign up for a Tiki-Toki account. In account settings, upgrade to "Bronze". Create a timeline and add content.

Select the "Embed" option in the Tiki-Toki dashboard, and the code will pop-up.

Highlight and copy all of the embed code. Uncheck HTML editor bar option and paste it into the simple page you set up. Check "Publish this page" and save.

And Voila!!