

American Antiquarian Society
Searching the AAS Catalog: Foundations
July 8, 2020

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83056923805?pwd=UmNtd2QzNnMyUHc0eVQ0NFNnS0JOZz09>

Password: 392825

Link to reference sheet: <https://bit.ly/FoundationsJuly8>

The AAS Catalog

- <http://catalog.mwa.org>
- Successor to the card catalog (<http://bit.ly/AASCatalogCards>)
- Searches exactly for what you tell it to
- Searches the information the cataloger gave it

Search results

Search: Sally Smith

Default is to show 10 records per page; can also show 25, 50, or 75

Can order search results by:

- Default (relevancy ranked, based on backend decisions)
- Author
 - o Titles without an identified author will be first, followed by titles with an author, A-Z
- Title
 - o Alphabetical by title
 - o Disregards articles (A, An, The)
 - Result 2: The American lady's pocket book, for the year 1817
- Publication date
 - o Titles from earliest to most recent
- Publication date descending
 - o Titles from most recent to earliest

If there are undated titles:

Search: Bailey

- Publication date
 - o Undated titles will be first, followed by titles from earliest to most recent
- Publication date descending
 - o Titles from most recent to earliest, followed by undated titles

Call number: Missing

- We use this when we can't locate an item
- 25 miles of shelving – sometimes items are misplaced
 - o When we find it, we take the Missing call number off and put in the call number

Note: use navigation buttons and links at the top of the search results: “Prev”, “Next”, “Edit search”, and “Back To Titles”.

In the record

Search: Sally Smith

Result 2: Pretty Sally.

Bibliographic information

- Taken from the item
- If in square brackets [], information was supplied by the cataloger

More About This Item

- Notes about the item that were made by the cataloger

Find Similar Items

- Hyperlinks that you can follow to find materials that have the same terms in them

Box on the right:

- Online version
 - o A lock indicates that it's to a website that require a subscription
- Action
- Page Display
 - o Display with Static URL (permalink)
 - o Record View (default)
 - o MARC View (behind the scenes; this is the cataloger's view)

Keyword searching

Keyword anywhere – searches for your search terms anywhere in the record

All of these (default search)

- Sally Smith, all of these, keyword anywhere
 - o Sally AND Smith
 - o 23 results
 - o Result 2: Pretty Sally.
 - Sally is in title
 - Smith is in Notes
 - o Result 5: Bardwell, David McGee. Letter
 - Smith and Sally are in Historical Background

Any of these

- Sally Smith, any of these, keyword anywhere
 - o Sally OR Smith
 - o >10000 search results, so search truncated
 - o Result 1: 100 years of diversified manufacture ...
 - Smith in title and in subjects
 - No Sally
 - o Result 37: An Acrostic on Sally Brewer Taylor
 - Sally in title and Notes
 - No Smith

As a phrase

- Use instead of quotation marks
- Sally Smith, as a phrase, keyword anywhere
 - o 4 results
 - o Result 2: Hung, strung & potted
 - By Sally Smith Booth

Title keyword

- Searches in titles
- Sally Smith, as a phrase, title keyword
 - o 1 result
 - A sermon, preached at the funeral of Miss Sally Smith

Name keyword

- Searches for people in creator roles and in provenance roles
 - o Sally Smith, all of these, name keyword
 - Result 4
 - Carol Goodspeed Smith as a donor
 - Sally Shurtleff as a former owner

Subject keyword

- Concepts and topics are usually plural
- Searches what a cataloger has identified a title as being about
 - o Sally Smith, any of these, subject keyword
 - Result 1: 100 years of diversified manufacture
 - Subject: Thomas Smith Company
 - Result 2: A. Lincoln
 - Subject: Smith, Caleb B. (Caleb Blood), 1808-1864
 - Result 5: An Acrostic on Sally Brewer Taylor
 - Subject: Taylor, Sally Brewer, 1803-
 - o Cats, any of these, subject keyword

Note: capitalization, punctuation, and accents do not have to be included in the search

- Sally Smith has the same search results as sally smith

- children's has the same search results as childrens
- générale has the same search results as generale

Quick search bar

Available from:

- <https://catalog.mwa.org>
- On the navigation bar when you're in the catalog
- On the website – search bar in upper right, click Catalog tab

This is an “all of these, keyword anywhere” search

Quick search: Sally Smith

- 23 results

Searching for something I know

Title keyword

Cherokee hymn book (1866) (<https://bit.ly/CherokeeHymnBook>)

Cherokee hymn book, as a phrase, Title keyword

- 3 results

The best results are when you search for what's exactly on the title page.

The discovery, settlement, and present state of Kentucke (1784) (<https://bit.ly/Kentucke1784>)

- Discovery settlement and present state of Kentucky, as a phrase, Title keyword
 - o 2 results, but not the 1784 edition
- Discovery settlement and present state of Kentucke, as a phrase, Title keyword
 - o 7 results, including 1784 edition

Reynolds pamphlet (<https://bit.ly/ReynoldsPamphlet>)

- Reynolds pamphlet, all of these, Title keyword
 - o 0 results
- Reynolds pamphlet, all of these, Subject keyword
 - o 0 results
- Wikipedia – Hamilton-Reynolds affair
- The title is:
 - o Observations on certain documents contained in no. V & VI of "The history of the United States for the year 1796," in which the charge of speculation against Alexander Hamilton, late secretary of the Treasury, is fully refuted. Written by himself.
- Observations on Certain Documents Contained in No, as a phrase, title keyword
 - o 2 results

Tip: search just enough in a Title keyword to get what you need

Tip: if searching for a longer title, use “all of these” instead of “as a phrase”

- discovery, settlement and present state of Kentucke: and an essay towards the topography, and natural history of that important country: to which is added, as a phrase, Title keyword
 - o 0 results
- discovery, settlement and present state of Kentucke: and an essay towards the topography, and natural history of that important country: to which is added, all of these, title keyword
 - o 3 results
- Why?
 - o The information is entered in the catalog as Title : Subtitle / Authorship statement. An ‘as a phrase’ search doesn’t search across the different sections – it searches for the phrase in the Title or the Subtitle, but not from the Title into the Subtitle.

Searching for something yet unknown to me

Links in records:

- Authors in the bibliographic information area
- Subjects, contributors, and provenance in the Find Similar Items area

In The discovery, settlement and present state of Kentucke

- Filson, John, approximately 1747-1788
 - o To the alphabetical index of contributors in the catalog
 - o Click to get other titles where Filson is a contributor
- Kentucky—Description and travel
 - o Subject (what something is about)
 - o To the alphabetical index of subjects and genre in the catalog
 - o Click to get other titles where Kentucky—Description and travel is the subject
- Maps—Kentucky
 - o Genre (what something is or has)
 - o To the alphabetical index of subjects and genre in the catalog
 - o Click to get other materials that are or contain maps of Kentucky

Find something like what you’re interested in using a keyword anywhere search, and then use the hyperlinks

- Immigrants, all of these, Title keyword
 - o Sort by publication date
 - o Result 2: Information for immigrants to the New-England states
 - Subject: Emigration and immigration
 - To the alphabetical index of subjects and genres in the catalog
 - Subject: New England—Emigration and immigration
 - To the alphabetical index of subjects and genres in the catalog
 - o Result 4: Education of immigrants

- Subject: Immigrants—Ohio--Cincinnati
 - To the alphabetical index of subjects and genres in the catalog

MARC View

Tip: If you're getting a puzzling search result, look at MARC view.

Sally Smith, all of these, keyword anywhere

- Result 1: The American lady's pocket book, for the year 1817
 - MARC view
 - At bottom, Sally Smith

Robert Gordon, all of these, keyword anywhere

- Result 1: Address and reply, on the presentation of a testimonial ...
 - MARC view
 - At the bottom, a note about Robert Gordon