

FamilySearch – TWO Catalogs

FamilySearch has had two catalogs since around September 2022 when the “old” catalog reached capacity due to the technology platform on which it is based. At that time the library created a second catalog to use for new library materials being added to the library’s collection that could not be included in the old catalog.

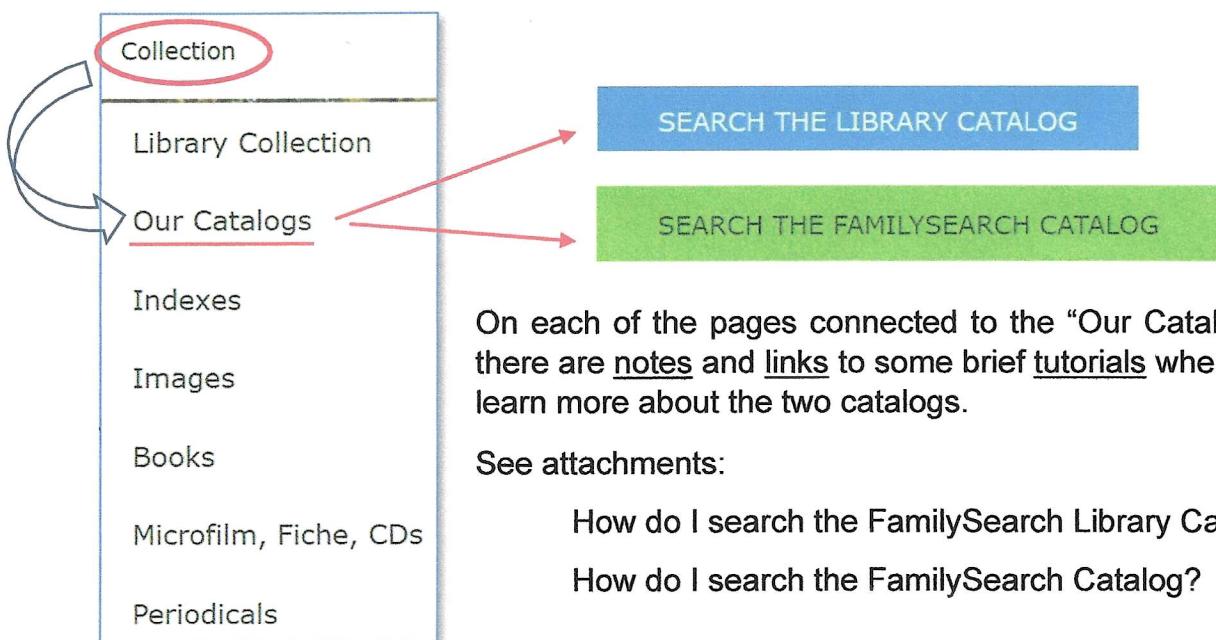
Eventually the content of the two catalogs will be merged. However, in the meantime, there are two catalogs for access to materials in the FamilySearch Library and each one operates independently. The traditional or “old” catalog, which is frozen in content since September 2022, is found here: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog> and is referred to as the FamilySearch Catalog. For information about this version of the catalog, see the Wiki article “Introduction to the FamilySearch Catalog” here: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Introduction_to_the_FamilySearch_Catalog.

The new catalog is referred to as the FamilySearch Library Catalog and can be found at a different website than the “old” catalog. To access the new library catalog directly, use this link: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/our-catalogs> and click on the “SEARCH THE LIBRARY CATALOG” button:



That is where you will find the “New Books” button and get access to the new books and other library materials added to the collection since September 2022.

You can get to the catalogs directly at the links shown above. You can also get to the catalogs by starting on the Library homepage: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/> > then click on Collection > and select Our Catalogs. This opens a page where you will find separate information for the FamilySearch Library Catalog (new catalog) and the FamilySearch Catalog (old catalog) each with its own search button as follows:



When you click on the Library Catalog (blue) button you will open a page where the new books are listed. (Click on “New Books”) You can browse through the list and click on an individual item for information about the book. If it has completed cataloging it will show the call number and will be available on the bookshelf and will show this icon in the display for that book:

Available

Some of the books listed are so new they are still being processed by the library staff and not yet available on the shelf, or not currently available for some other reason. Books in this category will not show the call number, and will have one of these icons in the display for that book:

In Processing

Currently Unavailable

The library staff informed me recently that they are currently Beta-testing the new catalog which may be in operation by the time of our next Salt Lake City trip in April 2024. In the meantime, we need to be properly prepared to make full use of the existing two catalogs.

Prepared by David Flint

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FamilySearch Library Catalog

- How do I search the FamilySearch Library Catalog?

There are four main ways to search the FamilySearch Library Catalog:

By Keyword	Search our collection using words or phrases likely to be in a Catalog entry.
By Title	Locate a specific item by searching for its title.
By Author	Find the works of an author by his or her name (individual or corporate).
By Subject	Discover works based on the topics they cover.
• The results page gives you a few additional filters, including the following:	
Format	Filter by the item type (book, map, digital, film, etc.).
Locality	Search for items associated with a specific locality.
Surname	Filter results to include only surnames that are applicable to your search.
Topic	Narrow your results by the type of record (cemetery, history, genealogy, etc.).

Source: FamilySearch - <https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/our-catalogs#how-do-i-search-the-familysearch-catalog-3f>

FamilySearch Catalog

- How do I search the FamilySearch Catalog?

There are eight ways to search the FamilySearch Catalog:

Place Search

Look for a record by the name of a place (locality) where an ancestor lived.

Surnames Search

Find family histories (and more) by a particular family name.

Titles Search

Locate a record by searching for its title.

Author Search

Find the works of an author by his or her name (individual or corporate).

Subjects Search

Discover works based on the topics they cover.

Keywords Search

Search for collections using words or phrases likely to be in a Catalog entry.

Call Number Search

See Catalog entries by searching for their book, compact disc, or pedigree call number.

Film/Fiche/Image Group Number (DGS) Search

Search for a microfilm, microfiche, or DGS number.

Each of the blue links above will connect you to a dedicated page in the FamilySearch Research Wiki for that topic.

Source: FamilySearch - <https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/our-catalogs#how-do-i-search-the-familysearch-catalog-3f>