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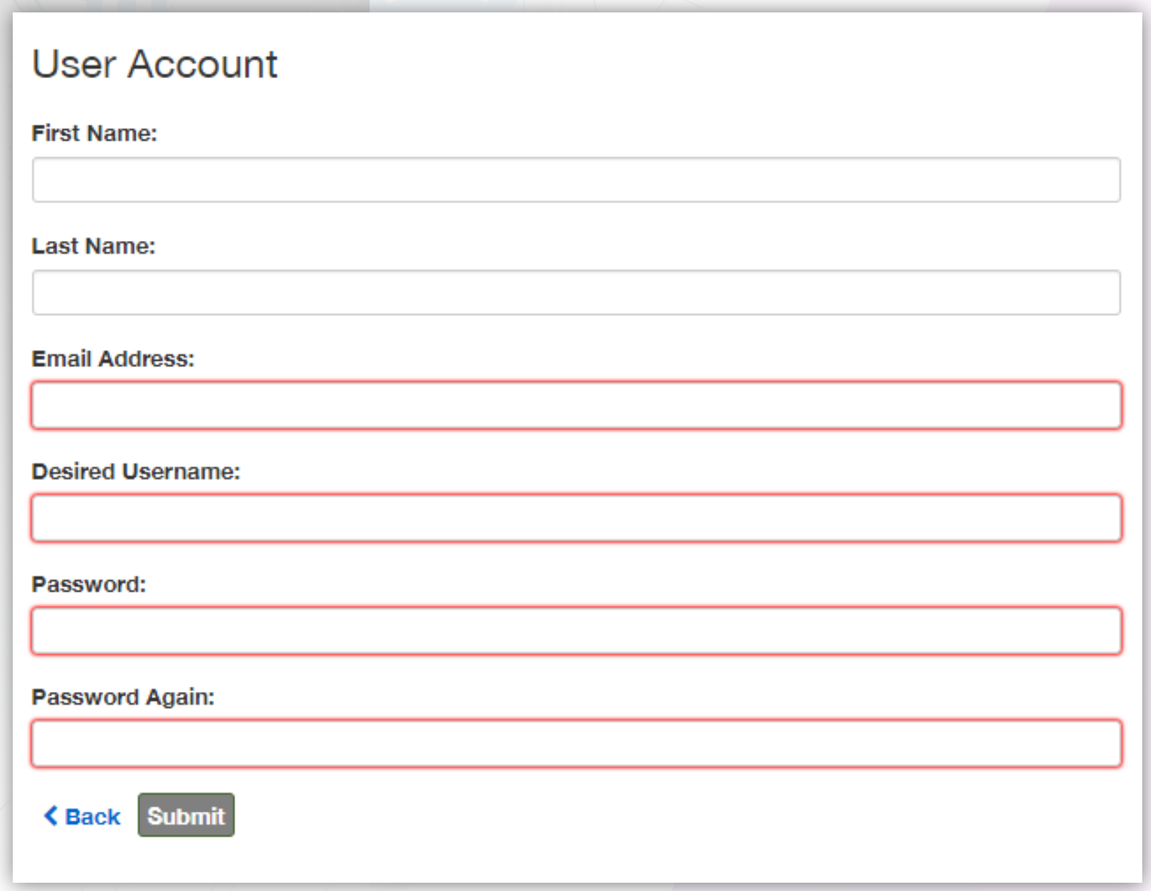

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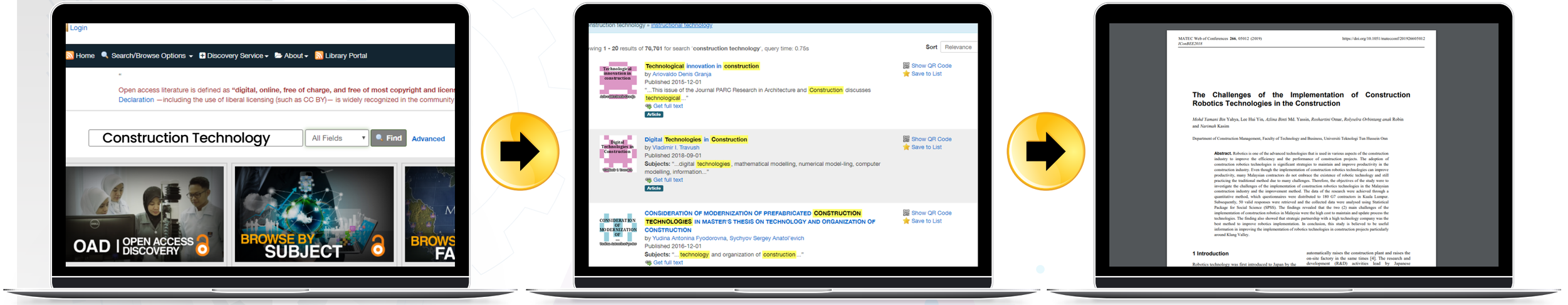

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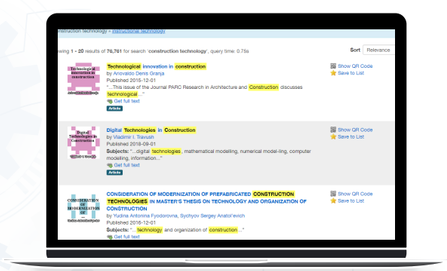

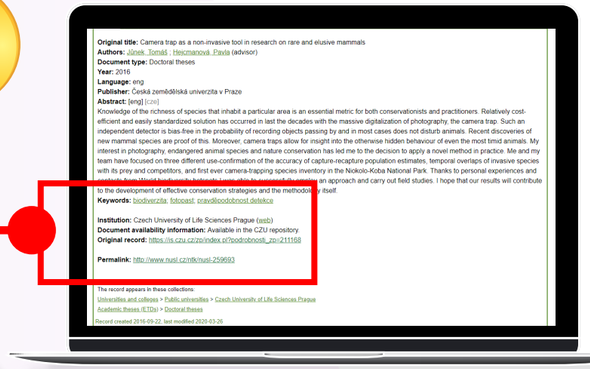

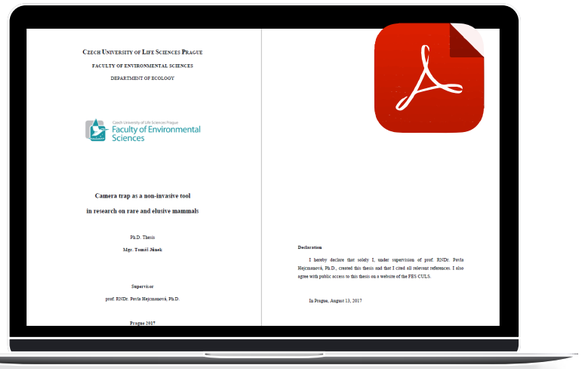

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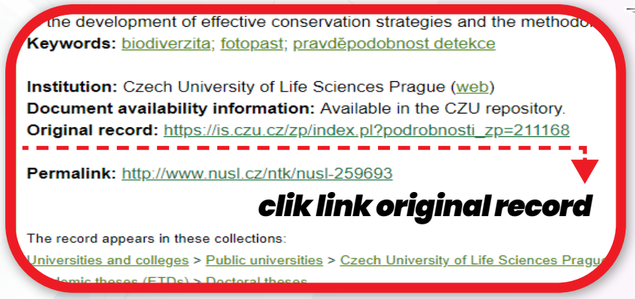

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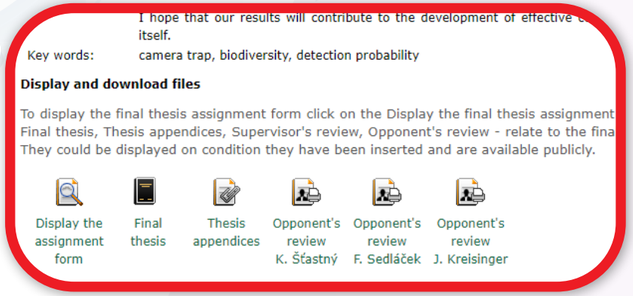

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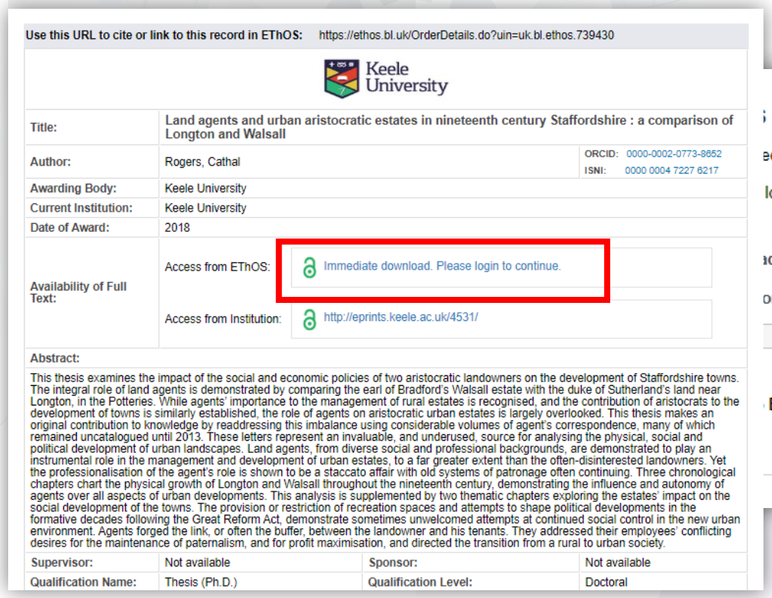

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Title:	Land agents and urban aristocratic estates in nineteenth century Staffordshire : a comparison of Longton and Walsall
Author:	Rogers, Cathal ORCID: 0000-0002-0773-8652 ISNI: 0000 0004 7227 6217
Awarding Body:	Keele University
Current Institution:	Keele University
Date of Award:	2018
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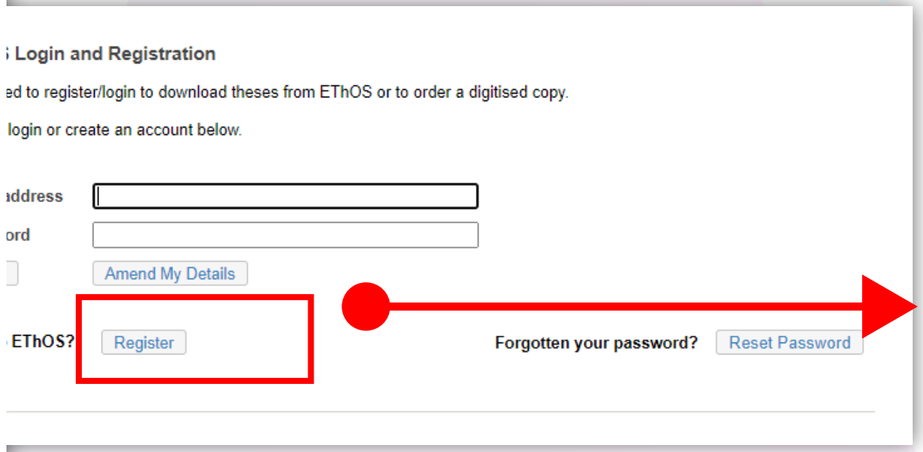
Abstract:

This thesis examines the impact of the social and economic policies of two aristocratic landowners on the development of Staffordshire towns. The integral role of land agents is demonstrated by comparing the earl of Bradford's Walsall estate with the duke of Sutherland's land near Longton, in the Potteries. While agents' importance to the management of rural estates is recognised, and the contribution of aristocrats to the development of towns is similarly established, the role of agents on aristocratic urban estates is largely overlooked. This thesis makes an original contribution to knowledge by readdressing this imbalance using considerable volumes of agent's correspondence, many of which remained uncatalogued until 2013. These letters represent an invaluable, and underused, source for analysing the physical, social and political development of urban landscapes. Land agents, from diverse social and professional backgrounds, are demonstrated to play an instrumental role in the management and development of urban estates, to a far greater extent than the often-disinterested landowners. Yet the professionalisation of the agent's role is shown to be a staccato affair with old systems of patronage often continuing. Three chronological chapters chart the physical growth of Longton and Walsall throughout the nineteenth century, demonstrating the influence and autonomy of agents over all aspects of urban developments. This analysis is supplemented by two thematic chapters exploring the estates' impact on the social development of the towns. The provision or restriction of recreation spaces and attempts to shape political developments in the formative decades following the Great Reform Act, demonstrate sometimes unwelcomed attempts at continued social control in the new urban environment. Agents forged the link, or often the buffer, between the landowner and his tenants. They addressed their employees' conflicting desires for the maintenance of paternalism, and for profit maximisation, and directed the transition from a rural to urban society.

Supervisor:	Not available	Sponsor:	Not available
Qualification Name:	Thesis (Ph.D.)	Qualification Level:	Doctoral



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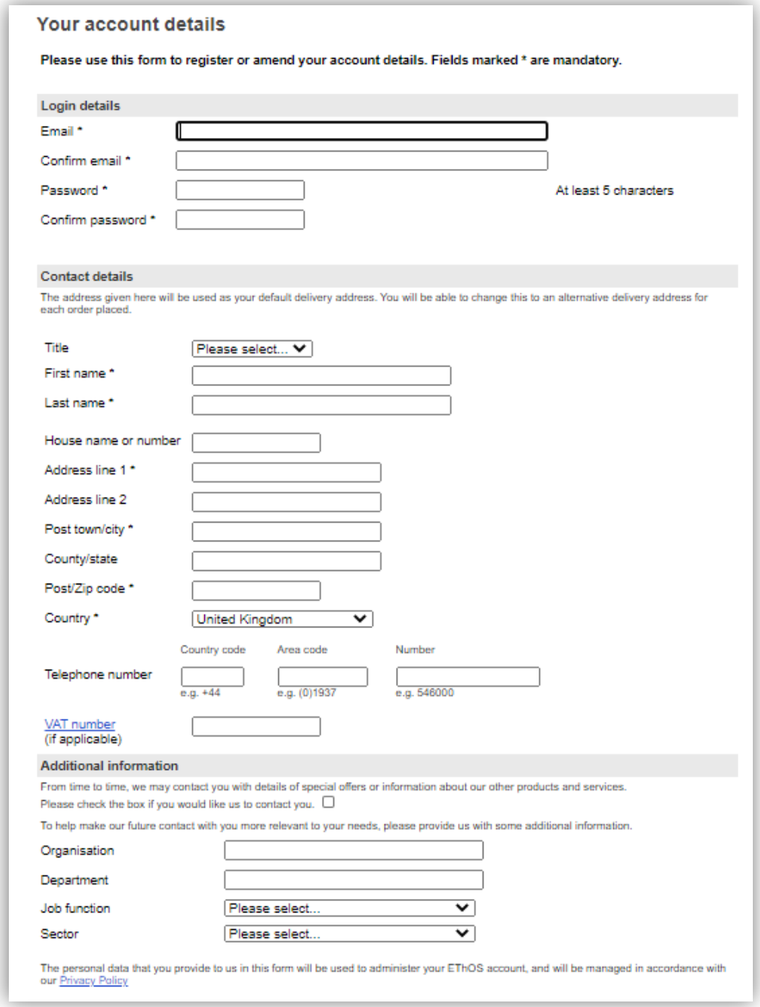

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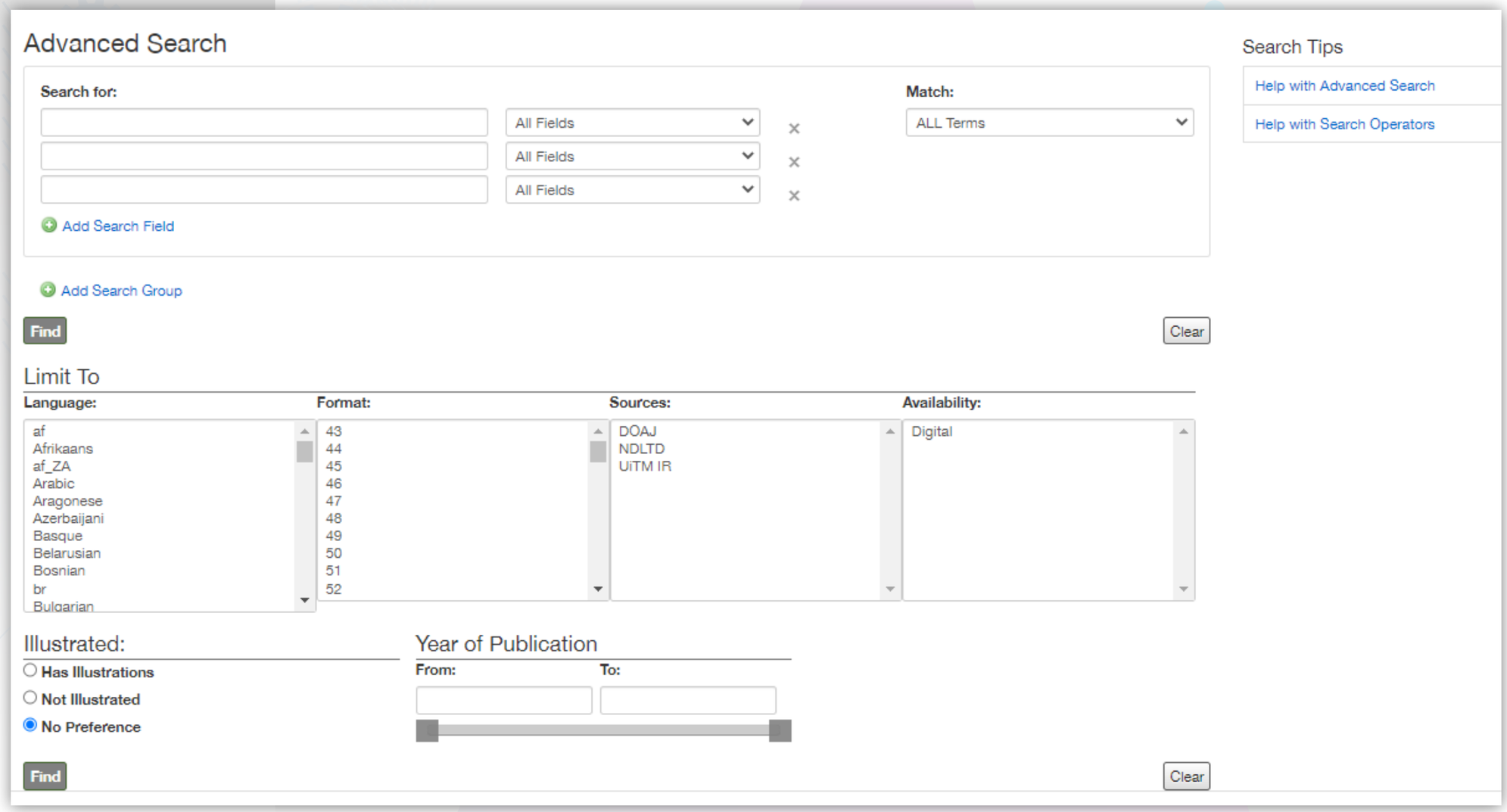

OPEN ACCESS DISCOVERY

ADVANCE SEARCH

Search Fields

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Each field is accompanied by a drop-down that lets you specify the type of data (title, author, etc.) you are searching for. You can mix and match search types however you like.

The "Match" setting lets you specify how multiple search fields should be handled.

ALL Terms - Return only records that match every search field.
ANY Terms - Return any records that match at least one search field.
NO Terms -- Return all records EXCEPT those that match search fields.
The "Add Search Field" button may be used to add additional search fields to the form. You may use as many search fields as you wish.

Search Groups

For certain complex searches, a single set of search fields may not be enough. For example, suppose you want to find books about the history of China or India. If you did an ALL Terms search for China, India, and History, you would only get books about China AND India. If you did an ANY Terms search, you would get books about history that had nothing to do with China or India.

Search Groups provide a way to build searches from multiple groups of search fields. Every time you click the "Add Search Group" button, a new group of fields is added. Once you have multiple search groups, you can remove unwanted groups with the "Remove Search Group" button, and you can specify whether you want to match on ANY or ALL search groups.

In the history of China or India example described above, you could solve the problem using search groups like this:

In the first search group, enter "India" and "China" and make sure that the "Match" setting is "ANY Terms."
Add a second search group and enter "history."
Make sure the match setting next to the Search Groups header is set to "ALL Groups."