

<http://www.aiusa.com/medsword/>

While the weaponry used to eviscerate and disembowel the most famous warriors of the medieval ages is an interesting and bountiful source of discussion on the internet, I have come across few sites that contribute significantly to the murky swamp of knowledge that is available. The Medieval Sword Resource Site, however, is an excellent example of useful facts that have been arranged in an easy-to-navigate and aesthetic manner.

In the site's navigation frame, there are links to all sorts of interesting facts and features of medieval swords. The one of primary importance to this research project is the bibliography, which is comprised of over five pages and at least a hundred different works that the author used to research his trade. With each source the author cites, he also provides a short synopsis of its information and any additional facts about it, such as whether or not the work is available online and when it was published.

The page seems to be dedicated most specifically to the collectors and scholars of medieval swords. The introduction page serves a different purpose, to provide the average visitor the important facts of sword components and main differences in type, such as the difference between a Viking or Flemish sword. In the collector's guide section, it gives a great deal of useful information to introductory collectors on evaluating which swords are fakes, "the bane of collectors of almost anything."

The most creatively innovative and useful attributes of the site are the online library and virtual museum. The online library provides more specific information that the author has selected as quality, on a wide range of sub-topics. The virtual museum is a

more detailed pictorial section of various types and styles of medieval swords. Though these are only the beginning of the resourcefulness of the site, they are both top-quality representations of factual information.

In my entire time evaluating this site, I cannot find a single punctuation or spelling error throughout. There are no broken links, and there are additional features such as a comprehensive search for material within the site. Logically, the author keeps a hyperlink copyright at the bottom of each page to a more descriptive paragraph on what he has copyrighted, warning readers that the linking pages are presumably copyrighted as well. Based on the wealth of information and the manner in which it is provided, I hope to be able to find a purpose to use this website as a research tool later during the semester.