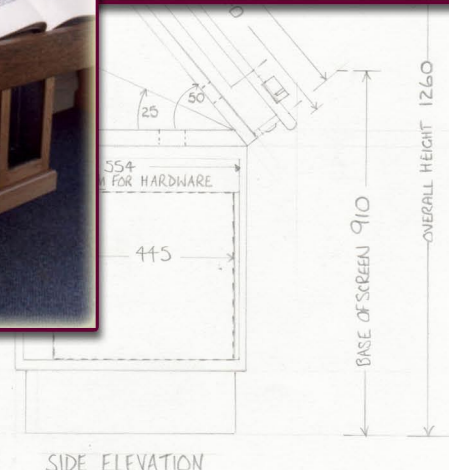
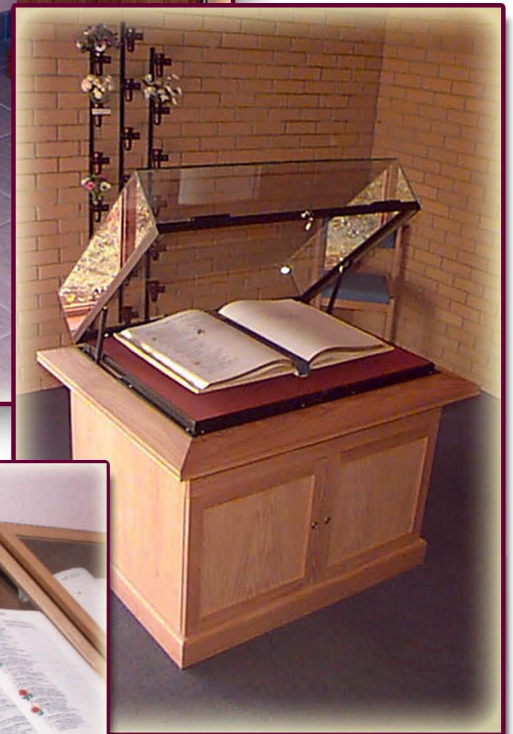




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Large Display Cabinets



SIDE ELEVATION

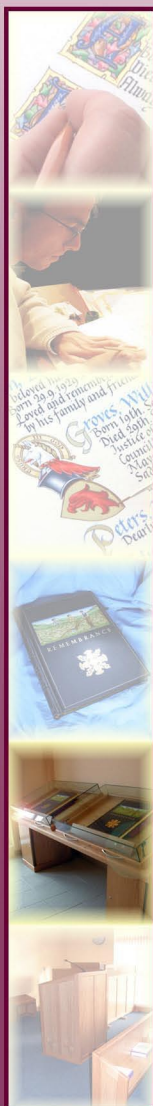


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Display Cabinets

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Display Cabinets



Presentation is everything

Each piece of artwork whether it be a Book of Remembrance, a Flat Bed Memorial, a Donations Book or some other form of recognition to people or places is a growing treasure of hand crafted work with a value far in excess of its monetary replacement cost.

The cabinet that houses these treasures, and the environment in which it is displayed are an integral part of the whole display and as such merit careful thought.

At Hilton Studio we believe that we lead the field in the specialist area of cabinet design specifically to display Books of Remembrance and other items of this nature, and over recent years have done much to raise consciousness of this important issue within the industry.



- From site surveys & conceptual sketches through to bespoke designs and installation
- Manufactured by hand by traditional craftsmen
- Materials include Veneered & Solid Timbers, Metal, Solid Surfacing materials, Plastics and Acrylics and Glass.

Glass bonded construction

Laminate & Toughened glass

Fibre Optic Lighting

Fire & Vandal resistance to storage areas

High Security Locks



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Reasons for Change

Whether you are providing brand new facilities or simply upgrading existing ones, the cabinet in which the book is housed and indeed the room or chapel in which the volumes are displayed deserve careful consideration. The environment in which the book resides is after all every bit as important as the overall ambience of a cemetery is to an individual stone

Other than completely new installations, the most common reason for changes to an existing Book of Remembrance cabinet is the requirement to house additional volumes when existing ones reach capacity. Other reasons given, in descending order of frequency, are :-

- Improved access for the disabled
- Improved security standards
- Improved conservation standards
- Health & Safety considerations
- Aesthetic considerations

In practice, change often results from a combination of the above factors, but even if it is triggered by a single requirement, a valuable opportunity exists to address all of these factors if sufficient consideration is given in advance.

Below is a brief list of issues most frequently requiring thought and our observations based upon many years experience in the design and development of cabinets.

Matters for Consideration

1.The Bookroom

The environment in which the book is presented is frequently overlooked and often leaves much to be desired. no matter how good the quality of the Book and the work contained therein, people are unlikely to be encouraged to use it if it is housed in a dark, poorly decorated and poorly cared for room. The ideal bookroom should

- Be separate from the Crematorium building - allowing free access at all times - preferably close to the entrance
- Be well sign posted from the entrance and car park
- Not be cramped
- Not be full of flowers and above all not be warm and humid
- Be accessible to the disabled
- Have the Book of Remembrance as a focal point





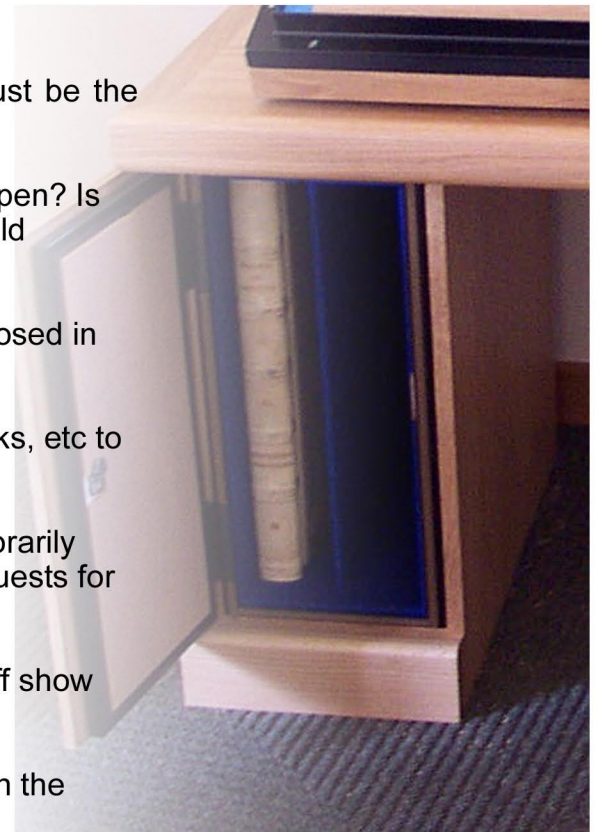
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Display Cabinets

2. Display & Storage Requirements

In designing a cabinet the first consideration must be the number of volumes to be housed

- How many volumes is it necessary to display open? Is this sufficient for the foreseeable future or should provision be made to show additional Books?
- Do you wish to display one or more volumes closed in order to show the bindings and Coats of Arms.
- Do you have other volumes i.e. Donations Books, etc to be housed?
- Do you need provision for somewhere to temporarily display Books not currently on show, when requests for individual viewings are made?
- Does the cabinet need to provide storage for off show volumes and if so, how many?
- Do Books need to be viewed from outside when the Bookroom is closed?



3. Security

The question of security becomes increasingly important. The replacement value of single volumes is routinely £25,000 and could, under some circumstances, exceed £60,000. Even with a single set of Books displayed/stored the financial implications of loss or damage merit serious consideration, and this takes no account of the other potential consequences of loss or damage such as the increased administrative time necessary to deal with visiting relatives.

With the incidence of wanton vandalism at cemeteries and crematoria increasing, it is prudent to take the opportunity to review the security of the Book of Remembrance.

- How secure is the Bookroom?
- Is it overlooked during working hours, thus discouraging vandalism?
- If out of sight, how secure are the Books during evenings and weekends?
- Is the Bookroom alarmed?
- Is it desirable to alarm the cabinet? If this is a requirement it can usually be accomplished much more neatly if this is known at the design stage.
- If volumes are stored within the cabinet, is there a significant fire risk? If so, fire resistant storage cabinets may provide a solution.
- Are there any specific requirements imposed by insurers?

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4. Method of Display

Books are most frequently displayed horizontally in a gently sloping cabinet.

Another method sometimes employed is to show them supported nearly vertical. One advantage of this method is that the Book may be positioned lower, and hence is capable of being viewed from a seated position, a benefit to wheelchair users and able bodied alike. Also, because the Book is more visible than if displayed horizontally, it tends to become more of a focal point than would otherwise be the case. Against this must be set the necessity to adequately support the binding and the possibility that it may be necessary to restrain the pages with elasticated ribbons, particularly with new volumes.

Between these extremes any degree of slope is possible. A 45 degree slope for example, when combined with recessed plinth can ensure close access for those in wheelchairs. but attention should be paid to the possibility of reflections if glazing is to be sloped in this manner.

In confined areas, near vertical display can save a considerable amount of floor space.

5. Access for the Disabled

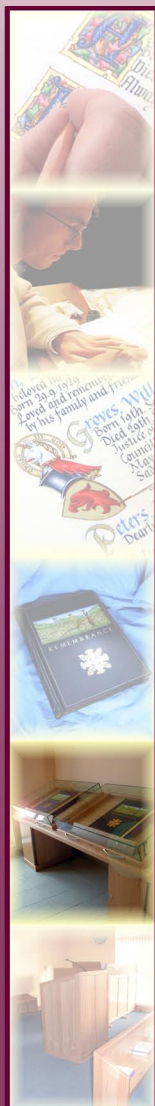
The location and layout of too many Book Rooms precludes access by the infirm or those using wheelchairs. Often minor modification such as the provision of ramps and wider doorways can provide a solution. However, having gained access to the room, the Book itself frequently remains inaccessible because the cabinet was not designed with seated viewing in mind.

Heights of 900-1000 mm., (2 ft 11 1/2" - 3 ft 3"), are not uncommon for older horizontal format cabinets, whereas a height of 720 - 800 mm., (2 ft 7 1/2" - 2 ft 9 1/2"), represents a suitable compromise to accommodate viewing from both seated and standing positions. Vertical display as described above offers an alternative solution.

It should be stressed however that the above statements are generalisations. No solution can exactly match the requirements of every individual.



This is worth bearing in mind even more so as changes to the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) came into force on 1st October 2004, which could mean you may have to make reasonable adjustments to any physical barriers that may prevent disabled people using your service. Or you may have to provide your service by a reasonable alternative means, like bringing goods to the disabled person or helping them find items.





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Display Cabinets

6. Conservation Requirements

Given the value of the items displayed and stored, the conditions in which many Books are kept continue to give the utmost cause for concern. The Archival Conservation Department of the College of Arms recommends that ideally paper be kept at a constant relative humidity of 60% and a constant temperature of 60 F, stating that fungal growth is likely to occur when relative humidity is allowed to rise above 70%.

The most dangerous conditions are therefore those where heat and moisture and darkness combine to produce a high level of humidity - i.e. precisely those conditions which prevail in a centrally heated room full of flowers.

Fungal attack manifests itself as areas of brown staining throughout the volume, accompanied by a musty smell. Previously it was possible to arrest the spread of fungal growth by Thymol fumigation. However, the provisions of current Health and Safety legislation renders this no longer practical. It is therefore vital that fungal attack is not allowed to become established.

For these reasons, the environment of the Book Room should be given careful consideration, and wherever possible, flowers should be excluded.

If it is not possible to regulate the atmosphere within the room an alternative is to house the Book in its own micro-environment.

With the benefits of the latest technology adopted by museums we are now able to offer display cabinets which, when shut are completely sealed thus preventing ingress of moisture and dust.

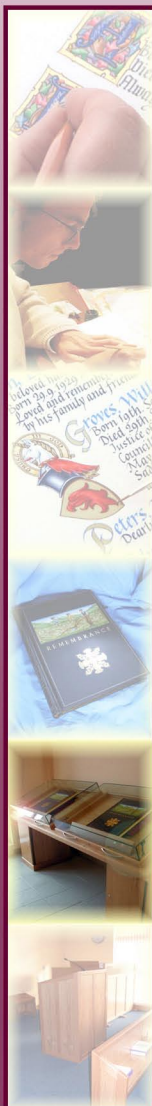
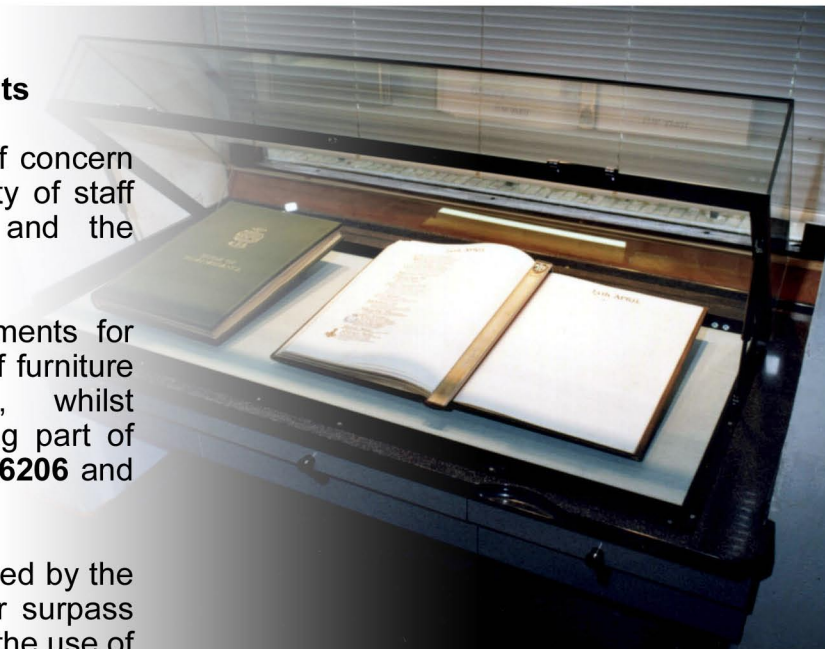
Unlike museum applications however, regular access for turning the pages will ensure that the air is changed at least daily. Depending on the level of humidity present, this may be combated either by use of silica gel, (which absorbs moisture but will need 'drying out' from time to time) or in more extreme cases by incorporation of a dehumidifier, either within the room or within the cabinet itself. Further details of both of these approaches are available on request.

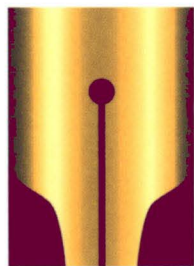
7. Health & Safety Requirements

There are two frequent areas of concern with regard to Health and Safety of staff and public, namely glazing and the support of open lids.

BS 7449 sets out the requirements for glass used in the construction of furniture such as display cabinets, whilst requirements for glazing forming part of the building are covered by **BS 6206** and the **Building Regulations**.

All cabinets designed and supplied by the Hilton Cabinet Co. Ltd. meet or surpass the requirements of BS 7449 by the use of





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Safety Glazing, (laminated or toughened). Further details are given below under 'Glazing'.

Many existing cabinets have heavy glazed lids, often metal framed. Historically these have relied on manual stays to hold them open, or worse, require that the lid be rested against the wall whilst accessing the Book.

Apart from the effort involved in lifting such lids, the potential for accident gives great cause for concern. To combat these problems we have, for some time now fitted gas stays to all but the smallest cabinets we supply.

8. Glazing

There are two main types of Safety Glazing - laminated and toughened; each has its own merits and applications; as detailed below.

Laminated (Saftigard laminated safety glass).

Laminated glass consists of two or more layers of ordinary float glass bonded together by a special interlayer. When broken the pieces are retained by the interlayer and if well supported the glass has an increased likelihood of staying in place. The interlayer also helps to absorb the energy of an impact reducing the danger of penetration. However, it should be noted that when subjected to sustained load it is less strong than float glass of the same thickness. Unprotected edges are also more vulnerable.

Toughened (Tempered safety glass)

This is float glass which has been heat treated after all cutting, sawing and drilling has been completed, and is 4 - 5 times stronger than untreated float glass of the same thickness. When broken the glass will shatter into small, relatively harmless particles which will no longer support a load.

Slight distortions are an inherent part of the toughening process, but these are generally not sufficiently pronounced to be a problem in the context of a display cabinet.

Film Backed Glass

There are a number of films available which may be applied to glass for a variety of purposes, including a clear safety film designed to retain glazing in position after breakage, and tinted or anti-UV films to reduce transmission of ultra violet radiation. In rooms with large areas of south facing glazing, fading (particularly of leathers), can be a problem, and in some instances the application of protective film may provide a solution. The quality of both the film and the application however can be variable, and in view of the close examination that

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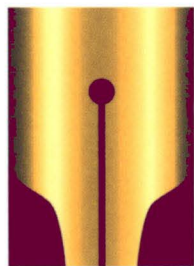
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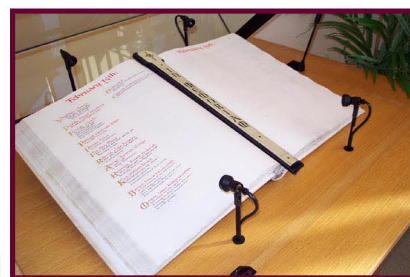
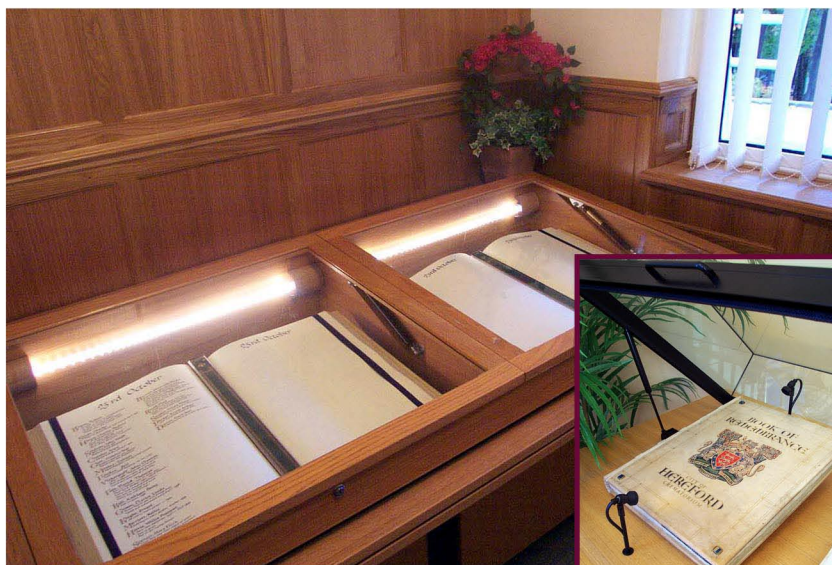
Display Cabinets

a display cabinet will receive it is more satisfactory to film the windows rather than the cabinet.

It is worth mentioning at this point that clear laminated glass cuts out a large proportion of ultra violet radiation, it may be sufficient to specify this.

Non Reflective Glass

A recent innovation is Amiran - a non-reflective glass, similar to picture glass, but thicker. Currently this is relatively expensive, but it may be worth considering in circumstances where reflections are a potential problem.



9. Lighting

Lighting is another area which is generally not afforded sufficient consideration. This is a pity as, used well, it can considerably enhance the whole room.

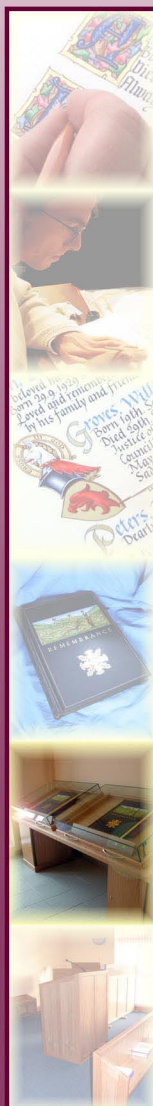
The rooms in which the Books of Remembrance are displayed tend to fall into one of two categories; those with large windows, (in which typically the cabinet is placed against a backdrop of the Garden of Remembrance) and those with few windows.

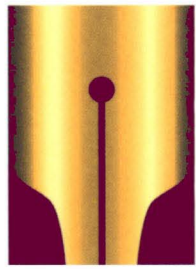
To date the solutions to low light levels have been to light the Book externally - i.e.: by ceiling mounted spot lamps shining on to the cabinet, or internally, usually by means of a fluorescent fitting.

Neither of these solution is ideal. External lighting brings with it problems of distracting glare and reflections, whilst any form of conventional internal lighting carries the danger of heat build-up within the cabinet possibly promoting fungal attack, and of heat distortion to the volumes.

The recent development of fibre optics has, however, opened up possibilities which did not previously exist. The main advantage of fibre optic lighting for Book of Remembrance Cabinets is that the light source, (and hence the source of heat), can be positioned remotely from the volumes themselves. Typically the projector is housed in the plinth or on the underside of the cabinet and is vented into the room.

Light is conveyed from the projector via optical fibres to a number of light heads or acrylic lighting rods within the cabinet itself. Because there are no bulbs there is no heat build up within the display area. Although this technology is not cheap, it does offer the possibility of lighting which is safe, discreet and extremely subtle. Done well it can turn to advantage a poorly lit room.





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Display Cabinets

10. Materials

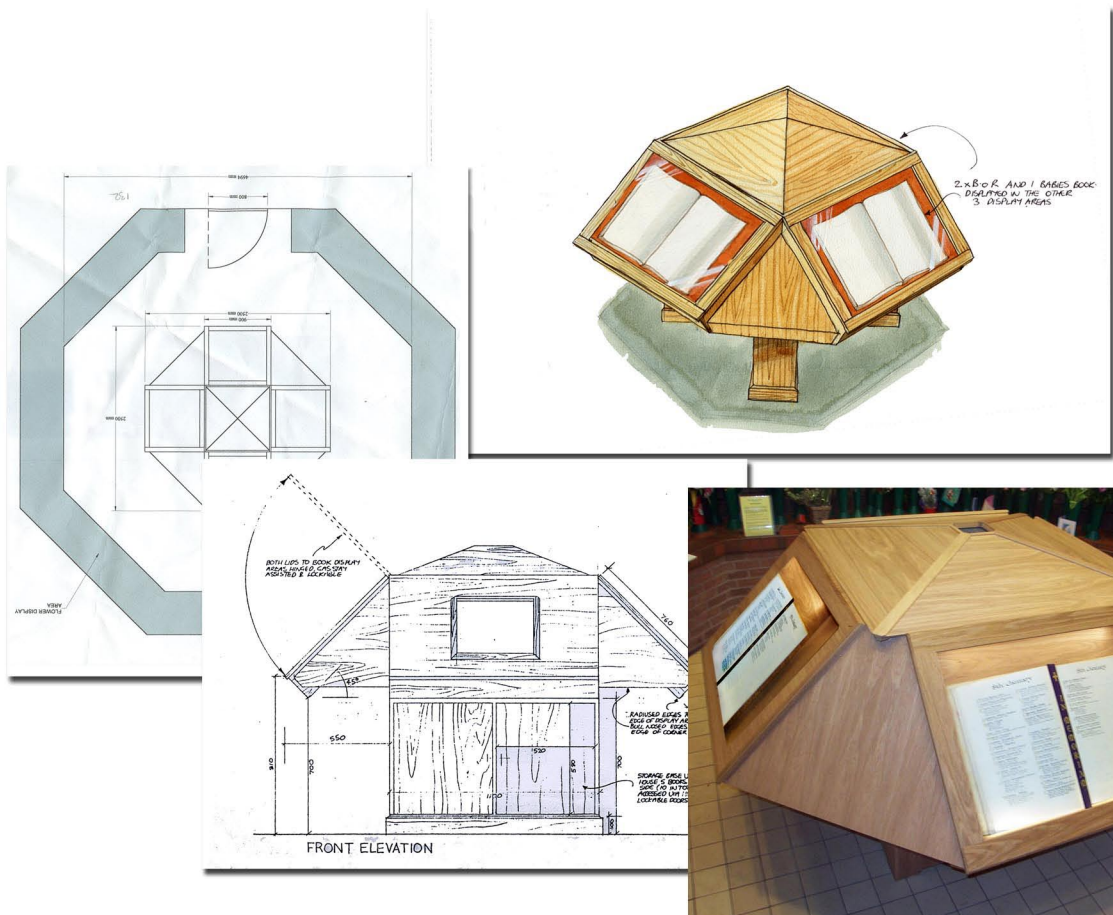
A cabinet should not be at odds with its surroundings. For this reason each project undertaken is treated as a 'one off', whilst using and building upon previous experience.

Traditionally timber has been the main medium for building cabinets and this remains so today. Preferred timbers are those hardwoods available from sustainable sources, hence oak, ash and cherry have tended to take the place of previously popular timbers such as mahogany.

However in designing cabinets to meet specific requirements we are not confined to timber alone. The need for fire protection has seen the development of steel storage cupboards, usually housed within a plinth of conventional appearance, and modern designs built to meet museum specifications for conservation requirements use a high glass and metal content. Similarly, should the location require it, other materials, (e.g. stone clad plinths and solid surfacing materials like 'Corian') can be designed and supplied.

Conclusion.

The above notes are not exhaustive, but have been compiled as a "prompt" to assist in focusing thought when considering the issues of display and storage of the Book of Remembrance. They draw upon our many years of experience in this type of work, and are offered in the hope of drawing attention to this often neglected aspect of the memorial. As in other areas of the Studio's work, we are committed to a programme of constant development and improvement. If you have a possible cabinet project in mind please contact us to discuss your ideas and requirements further.





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Glass Box Cabinets



South Lanarkshire

Constructed in Light Oak, with provision for displaying 2 open books. Off show books are stored below in the fire & vandal resistant storage pedestals.



Salisbury

Constructed in Light Oak & Walnut, provision for 3 open books, storage for 2 books in each pedestal.



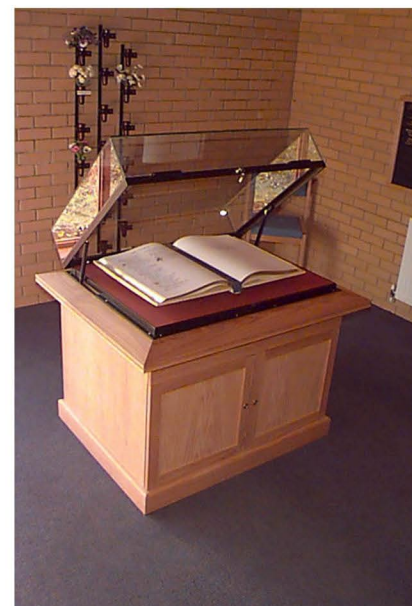
Harwood Park

Single glass box display area housing 1 open book, storage for 4 volumes built in to cupboard below.



Edinburgh

2 sloping glass box display areas between columns.





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Revolving Glass Box Cabinets



Peterborough - 3 Units, Constructed in Light Oak, fire proof storage for 4 books in plinths below each unit. Each unit has a 360 revolving display area for outdoors out of hours viewing.



Portchester - Four 360 degree revolving display units mounted to a curved top surface around the perimeter of a semi circular bookroom, construction in Cherry timber.



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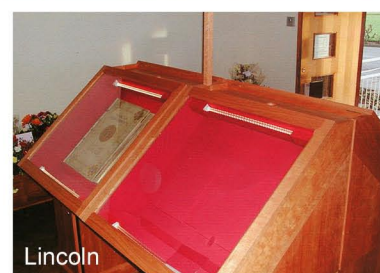
Sloping Top Timber Cabinets



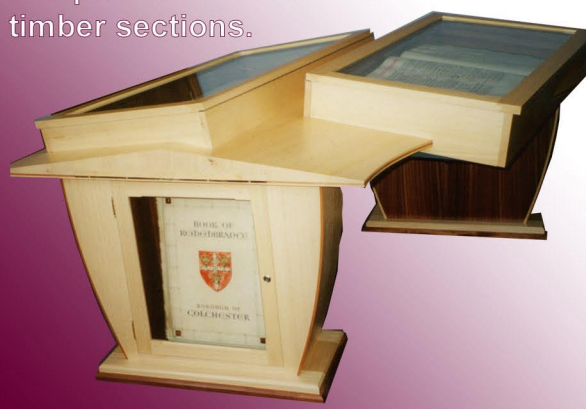
Masonhill
Constructed in
Light Oak
Storage for
off show books
in plinths
beneath main
cabinet
Fibre optic
lighting using
acrylic rods to
the display
areas



Stafford
Book
display areas
all housed in
one unit,
seated on
one central
plinth



The beautifully curved
Colchester cabinet ,
sculpted from solid
timber sections.



On the right
hand side are
just a few
installations of
sloping top
timber cabinets
supplied by
Hilton Studio
over the years.
Some with light-
ing, some with
storage and
some in two
tone timbers.

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Flat Timber Cabinets



Kirkcaldy

Flat Timber Cabinets

Contained on this page are just a small number of the various cabinets Hilton Studio has installed over a number of years around the country.

All are what we term as 'Flat' timber cabinets as the books on display rest at a near horizontal angle.



Dudley



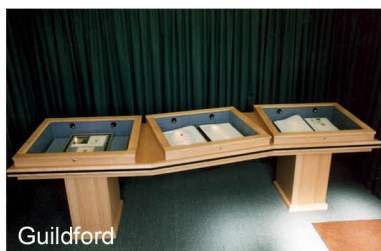
Perth



Nottingham



Swindon



Guildford



Glasgow



Derby



Bedford



Cottingley Hall, Leeds
Recently refurbished
external timber + new
internal linings





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Other Cabinets



Redditch

Solid Surfacing materials offer a hardwearing and diverse alternative to the traditional materials of timber and metal for cabinet construction.



Solid Surfacing Materials

Timber and metal are not the only materials we have manufactured cabinets in. At Redditch the whole of the cabinet was built in 'Corian'



Chester

Fire & Vandal Resistant Storage

Storage for off show books is standard on most Book of Remembrance cabinets. Over a period of years we have developed an enhanced storage system providing fire and vandal resistance for the storage of off show books. This can be a free standing unit or built in to the Book of Remembrance cabinets.



Stand alone storage unit



Peterborough

