Hampton Court - Great Hall, Oriel Window.

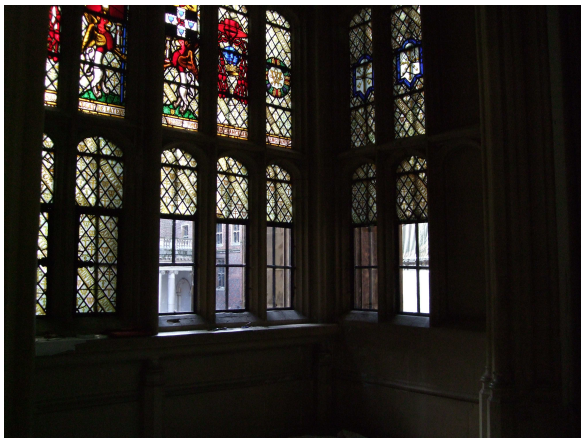
Date Glass Removed: -

South Elevation 1d, 1e, 1f. East Elevation 1a and 1b removed 16th January 2008.

Date of Reinstatement: -

South Elevation 1d, 1e, 1f. East Elevation 1a and 1b reinstated 16th September 2008.

Removal of side hung casements.



Additional site observations

Prior to the installation of temporary secure boarding, paper and hardboard templates were taken of all apertures.

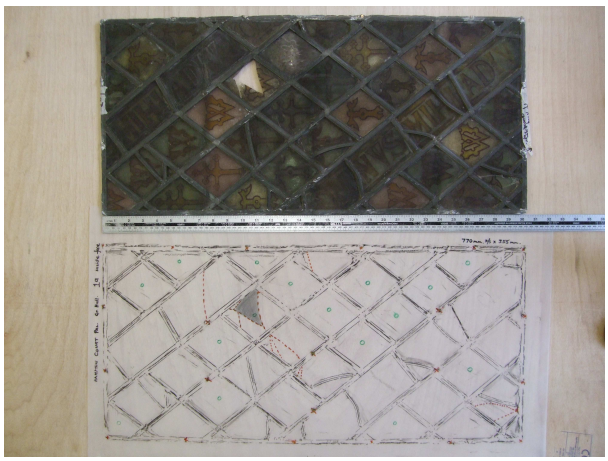
Iron casements lifted from pintels.

Temporary secure aperture infills installed with 6mm Makrolon clear polycarbonate – previously prepared at our studio. The polycarbonate was drilled and tied to existing ferramenta with clear acrylic ties and sealed with foam draught gasket. This ensured the boarding was secure without damaging the surrounding fabric of the building.

Purpose built timber creates were prepared at our studio to ensure the safe transportation of the ancient glass.

Workshop Condition Assessment/ Work Undertaken.

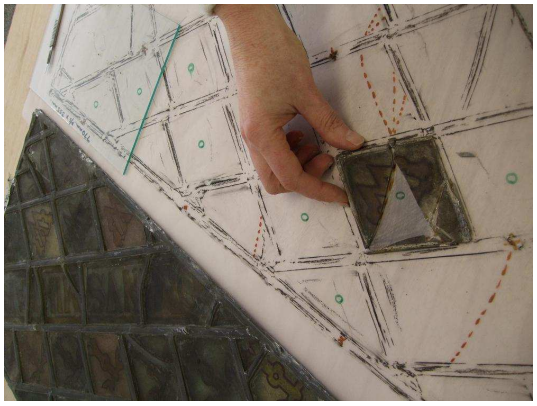
Before, during and after conservation a full photographic record of each panel was taken in reflected and transmitted light. This documentation provides details of any cracks or holes in the glass, the lead types and sizes, previous insertions, the painted detail and any other interesting marks and symbols.



- Two rubbings of each panel were taken recording the lead matrix prior to any work being undertaken.



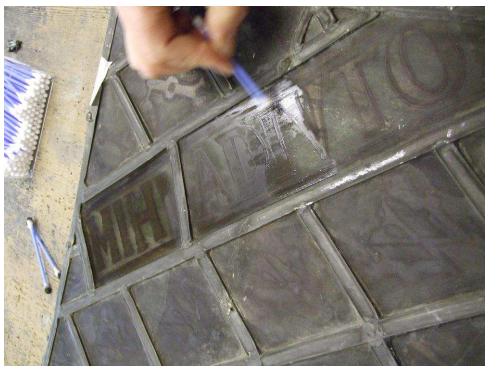
- Broken and cracked quarries were carefully removed from the lead matrix using scalpels to gently ease the glass from the hard weatherproof cement.



- The removed glass quarries were laid out on a rubbing pattern so that each quarry would be replaced into its original position in the panel.

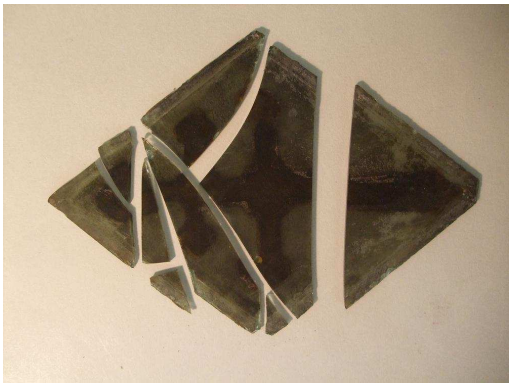
Prior to any cleaning of all the glass, each panel was thoroughly examined to assess the stability of the glass paint. This inspection work carried out under a binocular microscope. The glass paint was found to be stable - it was decided that the cleaning would be of minimal intervention.

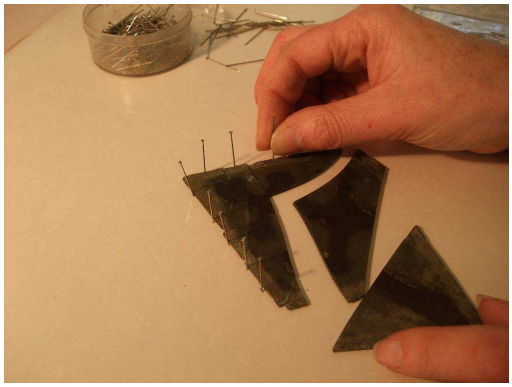
After the stability of the glass paint was ascertained the glass surfaces were gently cleaned with soft squirrel mops to remove any loose deposits.
The glass was then treated with regular applications of 70:30 mix of ethanol and de-ionised water thus destroying any microbial infestation.



- Each piece of glass was cleaned with cotton wool swabs dipped into the 70:30 mix of ethanol and de-ionised water. The swabs were rolled gently across the surface, only attempting to lift loose surface accretions and not firm corrosion deposits.

No further cleaning was deemed necessary.
Where necessary, old glazing cement was carefully removed from the edges of the glass with scalpels – the compound being softened with deionised water swabs. This would enable successful edge bonding later if required.





After cleaning the glass the nature of breakages became much clearer. Some thicker pieces of glass with simple fractures were mended successfully with edge bonding the glass with Araldite 20:20 epoxy resin.

Studio observations.

South Elevation

Panel 1d.



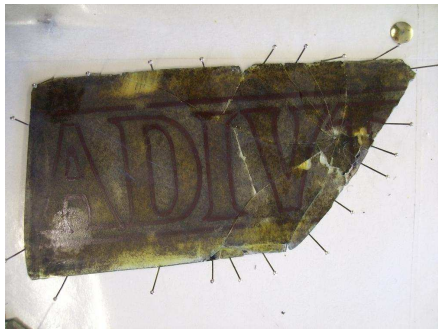




- Edge bonded cracked inscription and lozenge quarries “ADVITO”; “DOMINUS”; “T”; “W”
- Casement overhauled to facilitate improved closure.
- Replacement iron “stay” manufactured.

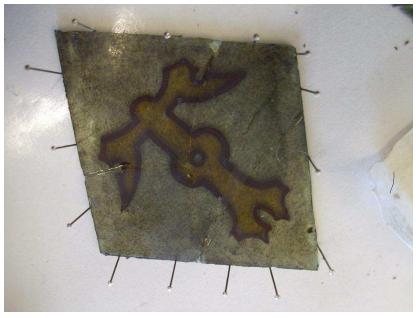
Panel 1e.

- Edge bonded cracked inscription “ADIVT” and “T”.
- Casement overhauled to facilitate improved closure.



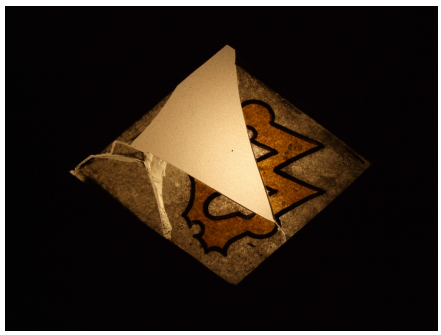
Panel 1f.

- Redressed lead matrix.
- Edge bonded cracked inscription “T”.

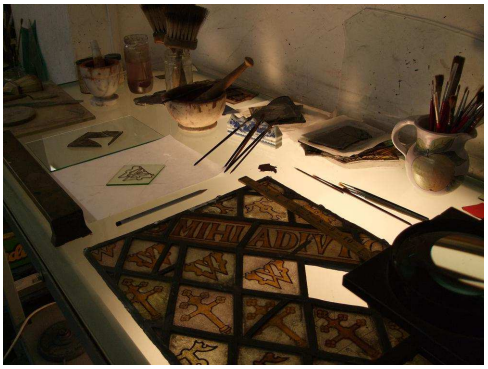


East Elevation.

Panel 1a.



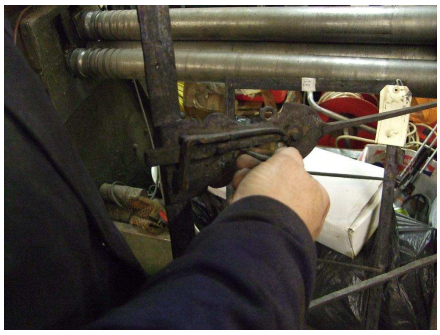


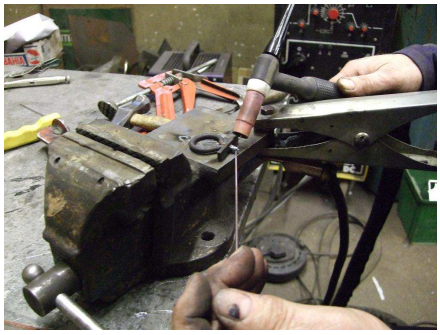




- Casement overhauled to facilitate improved closure.
- Edge bonded cracked inscription “T” (2 no.); “T” half quarry.
- Cut, painted and silver stained and kiln fire replacement missing section “W” on Lamberts mouthblown antique glass. New piece signed and dated.

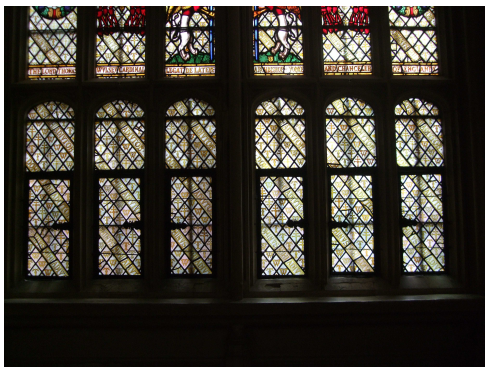
Panel 1b.





- Iron casement frame “binding” and required easing.
- Replacement iron “stay” manufactured.
- Edge bonded cracked inscription “T”.

Reinstatement



The restored leaded panels and iron casements were crated and returned to the Great Hall.
The restored iron casements hung on their original pintels.
The stonework repointed as required with lime mortar.

Casements restored in situ to the south elevation windows: -

Panel 1a.

- Minor weatherproofing “cement putty”.
- Fixed section of iron casement required areas of stonework pointing.

Panel 1b.

- Lead strapped cracked inscription piece “T O”.

Panel 1c.

- Manufactured and fitted replacement iron “stay”, included redrilling and cutting tapped thread to original ironwork.

General note: -

During the conservation of the panels at our studio we retained as much of the original fabric and other subsequent glass and lead as we possibly could. We made a conscious decision not to over clean or over work the panels so that they retained their historical integrity.

At all times we considered, whilst undertaking the conservation work at our studio, on site and when preparing this report, it will enable future generations to be aware of the work carried out in 2008 to prolong the life of this historic glass.

Signed:

Dated: