Nov. 22, 1966 E. S. NEWMAN 3,286,382

WALL MOUNTED PLAQUE WITH INSERTABLE PANELS

Filed Feb. 17, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

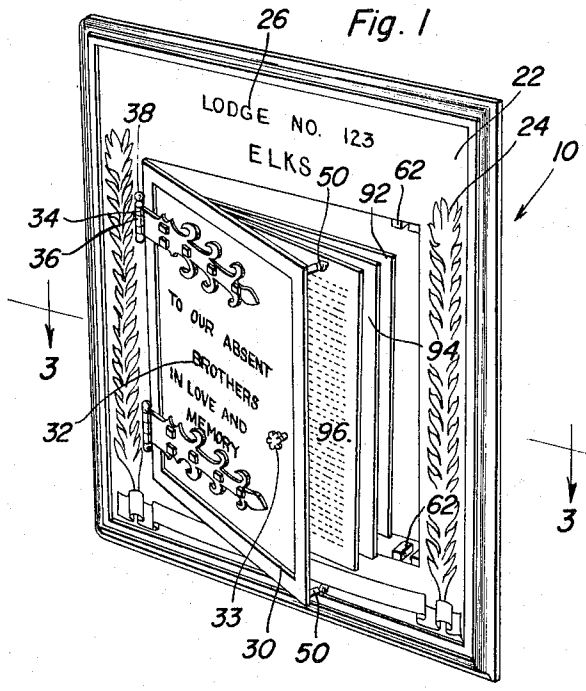


Fig. 2

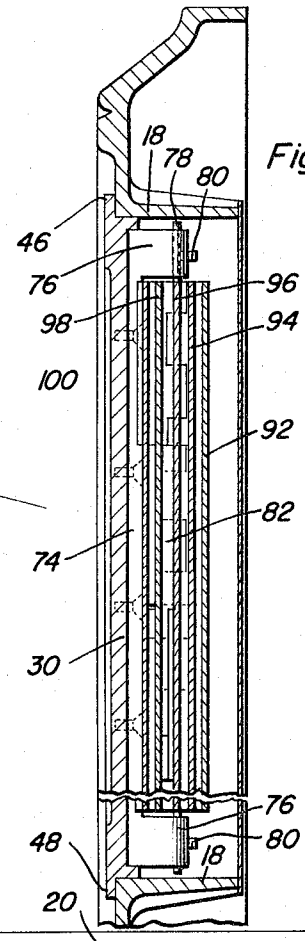


Fig. 3

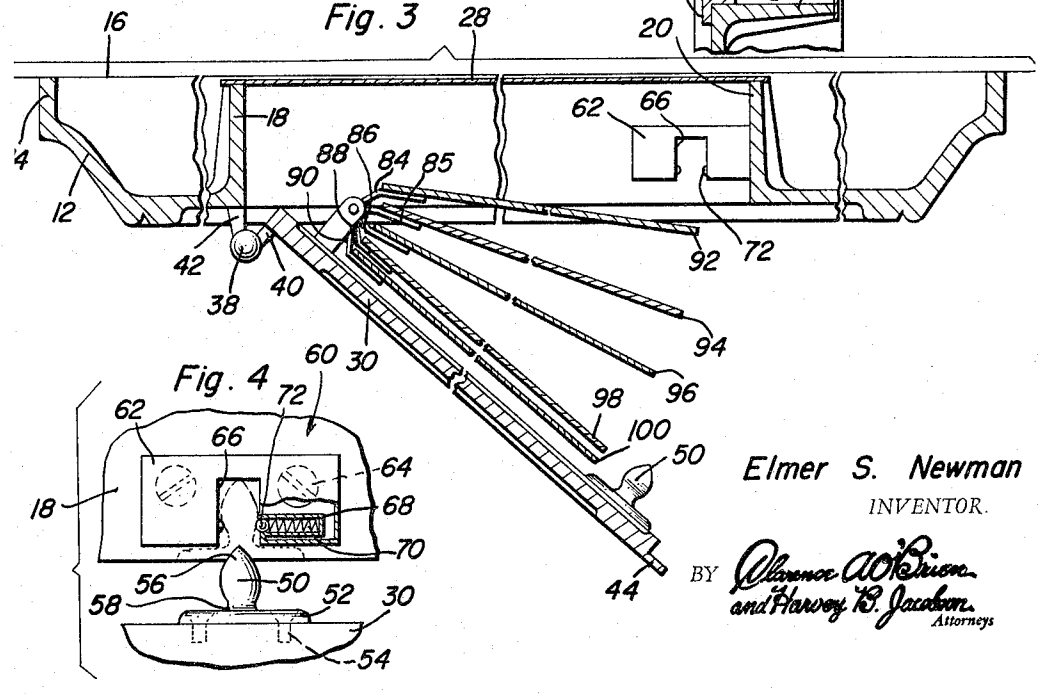


Fig. 4

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Nov. 22, 1966 E. S. NEWMAN 3,286,382

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Filed Feb. 17, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5

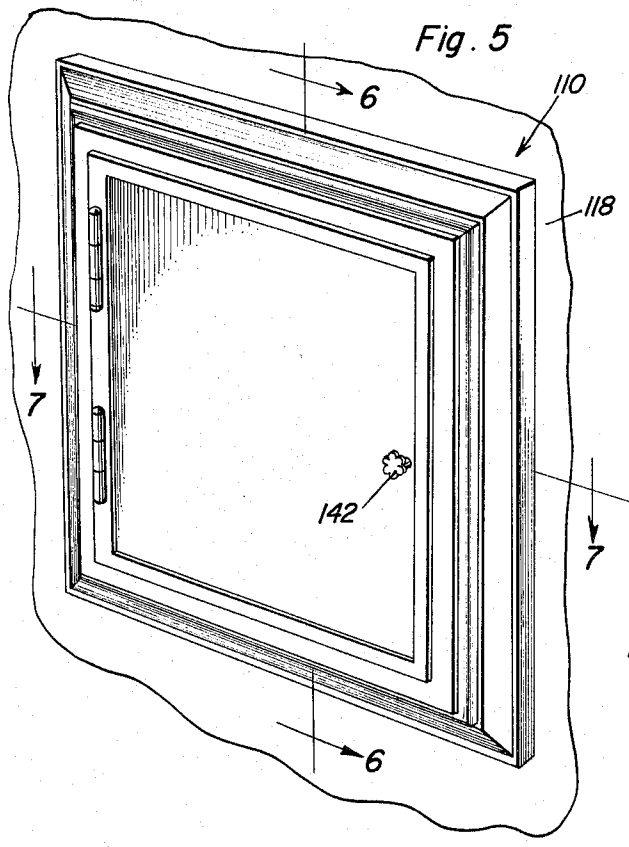


Fig. 6

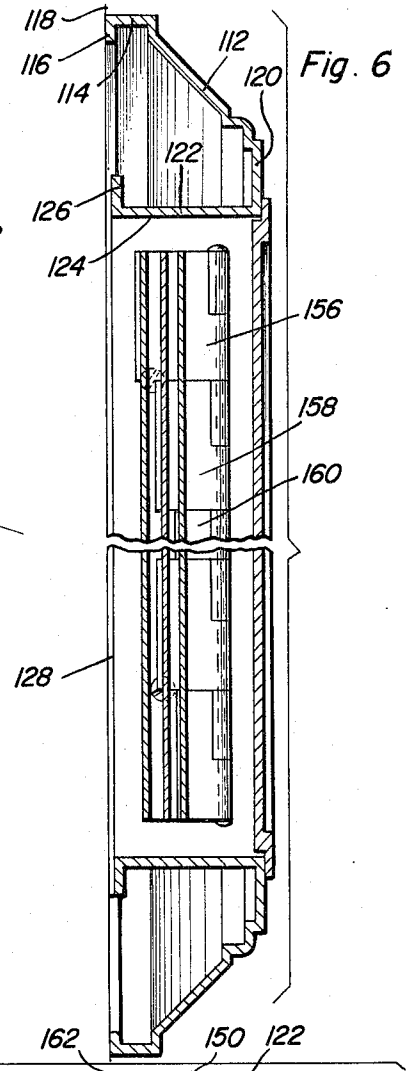
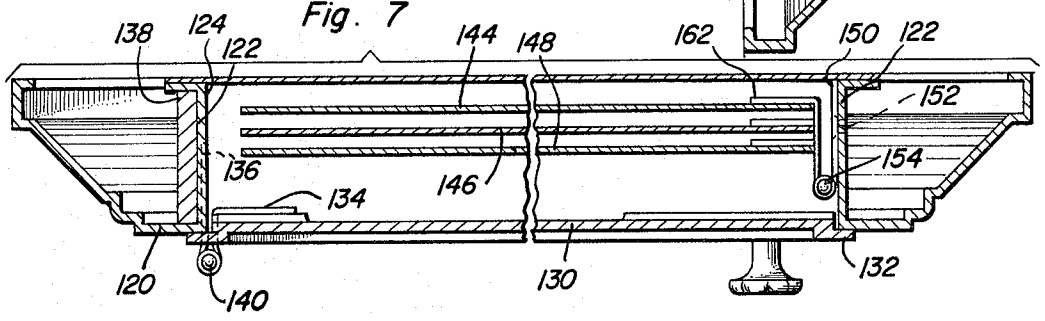


Fig. 7



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WALL MOUNTED PLAQUE WITH INSERTABLE PANELS

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6 Claims. (Cl. 40—102)

The present invention generally relates to a wall mounted plaque which is constructed somewhat in the nature of a book with an essential feature of the invention residing in the provision of insertable panels which are in the form of the pages of a book.

An object of the invention is to provide a memorial plaque or the like in two different embodiments with the larger embodiment being known as a "Book of Memory" and the smaller embodiment being known as a "Book of Appreciation." These plaques enable inscription of names, gifts, donations or the like for posterity in a permanent metallic plaque of bronze or aluminum. One of the primary features of the invention is to enable the addition of more names from time to time and the insertion of additional panels or pages. The cover of the book is cast bronze or aluminum and may bear any desired inscription and the cover which is in the form of a door is hung on sturdy hinges. The inside pages or panels may be constructed of rigid copper or aluminum and the names may be inscribed thereon in bold relief or relatively small etched plates may be added to the panels from time to time as required.

A very important object of the present invention is to provide a wall mounted plaque generally in the form of a book having a door forming cover therefor together with a novel latch and hinge mechanism for enabling the door to be easily opened to reveal the names on the various pages and also enabling additional leaves or panels to be added up to a predetermined maximum thereby enabling the memorial plaque to be kept up to date thereby reducing the over-all cost of memorial plaques and at the same time enabling names, gifts or donations to be honored in memoriam at anytime without requiring the casting of separate plaques from time to time. Such an arrangement as in the present invention is especially desirable when an organization has a considerable number of members and has reason to honor various of its members from time to time.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a wall mounted book-type plaque having insertable panels or pages which is quite simple in construction, easy to mount, easy to operate, simple in adding pages and names and relatively inexpensive to manufacture and install.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the wall mounted plaque having a larger number of panels therein simulating a page of a book in which the panels are mounted on the inner surface of the pivotal door;

FIGURE 2 is a vertical sectional view of the construction of FIGURE 1 illustrating the structural arrangement of the components thereof;

FIGURE 3 is a transverse, sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 3—3 of FIGURE 1 with the door open illustrating the manner in which the leaves are hingedly attached to the door;

FIGURE 4 is a detailed plan view of one of the catch mechanisms with portions thereof broken away illustrating the spring detents for retaining the door or cover in closed position;

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of the form of the invention having a lesser number of leaves with the leaves mounted on the frame thereof;

FIGURE 6 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 6—6 of FIGURE 5 illustrating further structural details of the invention; and

FIGURE 7 is a transverse, plan sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 7—7 of FIGURE 5 illustrating further structural details of the hinge mounting for the pages or panels.

Referring now specifically to FIGURES 1–4, the numeral **10** generally designates the wall mounted book-type plaque of the present invention which is mounted on any suitable wall surface and secured thereto in any suitable manner, the details of which are not illustrated.

The wall plaque **10** includes a peripheral hollow frame **12** having an outer flange **14** engaging a wall surface **16** and an inner wall or flange **18** defining an enlarged open central area **20**. The exterior surface of the frame **12** may be provided with any suitable curved, concavo-convex or decorative ornamentation as desired. This is also true of the portion of the outer plate **22** which extends from the outer edge of the wall **18** to the inwardly inclined and curved frame **12**. The plate **22** may be provided with various scroll work **24** and indicia **26** designating the organization or the like with which the plaque **10** is concerned.

A closure plate **28** is provided for the enlarged central area **20** and the closure plate **28** is attached to the inner edge of the peripheral wall or flange **18** by any suitable means.

A closure door which forms a book cover is provided for the space **20** and is designated by numeral **30** and is in the form of a rectangular flat plate having indicia **32**, scroll work or the like on the outer surface thereof designating further information concerning the plaque. The door **32** is provided with a knob or handle **33** adjacent the free edge thereof and is pivotally mounted by interdigitated hinge barrels **34** and **36** which are interconnected by a removable hinge pin **38**. The hinge barrels **34** and **36** are offset by virtue of a bridging portion **40** connected with the closure door **30** and a bridging portion **42** forming an extension of a portion of the wall **18** thereby enabling the closure door to be orientated within the space **20** when closed with only a flange **44** at the free edge thereof, a flange **46** at the upper edge and a flange **48** at the lower edge thereof engaging the face of the plate **22**.

For holding the closure door **30** in closed position, there is a pair of retaining posts **50** with the posts **50** being disposed adjacent the upper and lower corners of the free edge of the door **30**. Each of the posts **50** includes a base plate **52** secured to the door **30** by any suitable means such as by fasteners **54**. Also, the post **50** is provided with a circular cross-sectional configuration with the outer end thereof being tapered or pointed in a rounded manner as indicated by numeral **56** and the inner end thereof being of reduced diameter as indicated by numeral **58** for engagement with a latch mechanism generally designated by numeral **60** whereby the latch mechanism will engage the reduced cross-sectional area **58** to retain the door **30** in closed position and yet the latch mechanism **60** will enable the door to be opened when sufficient pulling force is exerted on the pull knob **33** to overcome the frictional resistance of the latch **60**. Due to the rounded tapered end **56** of the posts **50**, the closure door may be closed by exerting pushing force on the knob **33** so that the post will enter the frictional latch structure and be retained in closed position thereby.

FIGURE 4 illustrates in more detail the construction of the latch **60** which includes a latch body **62** secured on the bottom and top surface of the space **20** by fasteners **64** and which includes a notch **66** opening to the outer surface of the plaque for receiving the posts **50** therein. Each side of the notch **66** is provided with a laterally extending socket **68** having a spring **70** therein together with a ball detent **72** which is spring biased outwardly but held captive within the lateral pocket **68** so that a portion of the periphery thereof extends into the notch **66** for frictionally engaging the periphery of the post **50** so that as the larger belly portion thereof moves into the notch **66**, the spring detent will serve not only to retain the posts within the notch **66** but will also serve as cam means for urging the door **30** to closed position with the flanges **44**, **46** and **48** resting flush against the surface of the plate **22** peripherally of three sides of the space **20**. The butt end of the plate **30** is disposed adjacent to the other peripheral wall portion of the space **20**.

Attached to the inner surface of the closure door **30** is a vertical mounting member **74** having a plurality of laterally extending lugs **76** projecting therefrom with one of the lugs being at each end of the mounting plate **74**. The lugs **76** are apertured and releasably receive an elongated mounting rod **78** retained in place by setscrews **80** which extend into the aperture for releasably clamping the mounting rod **78** in place. The mounting rod extends through the hinge barrels **82** on hinge brackets **84**, **85**, **86**, **88** and **90** on panels **92**, **94**, **96**, **98** and **100** respectively and the hinge brackets are all offset in a manner whereby the panels **92–100** may be disposed in overlying superimposed relation and with the hinge barrels **82** being all in alignment and mounted on the rod **78** for pivotal movement thereon from a position illustrated in FIGURE 3 to a position parallel to each other so that they may be received within the space **20**.

When the panels **92–100** are disposed in superposed relation to each other, they will quite easily fit within the space **20** as illustrated in FIGURE 2. Then when the door **30** is opened, the panels may be pivoted somewhat in the nature of the pages of a book so that the names appearing on both faces thereof may be observed. As previously pointed out, the frame **12** may be secured to the wall surface **16** in any suitable manner such as by light bolts, screws or the like. The panels may have the names inscribed thereon in any suitable manner or the names may be incorporated onto small metal clips which may be attached to the panels in any suitable manner.

Referring now specifically to FIGURES 5–7, a modified form of plaque is generally designated by the numeral **110** and this structure includes a hollow peripheral frame **112** havnig an outer peripheral flange **114** terminating in an inturned edge **116** engaging a wall surface **118**. The frame **112** includes a facing plate **120** and an inner peripheral wall **122** defining a space **124**. An outturned flange **126** is provided on the periphery of the wall **122** and a closure plate **128** is provided for the space **124** and extends across the rear thereof. The particular configuration of the frame may vary as may the curvature and contour thereof and the materials from which the frame is constructed may also vary. The manner in which the frame is attached to the wall surface may be any conventional means and forms no particular part of the present invention.

A closure door **130** is provided for the space **124** and the door **130** includes a peripheral flange **132** for engaging the surface of the plate **120** immediately adjacent the space **124**. A hinge bracket of generally L-shaped configuration designated by numeral **134** is attached to the plate **128** and a hinge plate **136** is received in a recess in the wall member **122** and is secured thereto in any suitable manner. A reinforcing member **138** is provided for the wall member **122** where the hinge plate **136** is attached. A hinge pin **140** interconnects the barrels on the hinge plate **134** and **136** in a conventional manner to enable the door **130** to swing from a closed to an open position. A knob **142** is provided on the free edge of the door for pivoting the door from its closed to its open position. Any desired latch mechanism may be provided for the door or the door may be set so that gravity retains it in closed position or friction may be provided between the door and the periphery of the space **124** for retaining the door **130** in closed position.

Disposed within the space **124** is a plurality of panels **144**, **146** and **148** which are in spaced parallel relationship to each other when they are disposed within the space **124**. The panels **144**, **146** and **148** may have a plurality of names inscribed thereon or may be provided with name plates attachable thereto.

A hinge plate **150** is mounted against the wall **122** opposite to the wall **122** which receives the hinge plates **136** and is secured thereto by suitable fasteners **152**. A hinge pine **154** secures the outer edge of the hinge plate **150** to a plurality of hinge plates **156**, **158** and **160** which are secured to the panels **144**, **146** and **148** respectively by laterally offset terminal ends **162** secured to the panels in any suitable manner. As illustrated in FIGURES 6 and 7, the hinge plate **156** is longer than the hinge plate **158** which in turn is longer than the hinge plate **160** thus mounting the panels **144**, **146** and **148** in the spatial relationship illustrated in FIGURE 7 when the panels are parallel to each other. The panels **144**, **146** and **148** may be detachable from the hinge plates or the hinge plate **150** may be removed for ease of addition of plates or addition of names on the plates or panels. As will be appreciated, various associations of hinges may be provided whereby additional panels **144**, **146** and **148** may be added or a lesser number of panels may be employed depending upon the requirements. For example, the plaque may be installed with only a single panel in place and as requirements exist, additional panels may be added thereto.

In this form of the invention, the door is opened in one direction and the panels **144**, **146** and **148** are pivoted outwardly about the opposite edge thereof and the fact that the hinge pin **154** is set inwardly from the facing plate **120** will provide an arrangement in which the hinge plates **156**, **158** and **160** will be limited in their outward swinging movement by virtue of engagement of the hinge plate with the wall **122** adjacent the outer plate **120**.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A memorial plaque comprising a frame adapted to be supported from a supporting member, said frame including a hollow central space, a closure door for said space, said closure door being movable from a closed position to a position exposing the interior of the space, and a plurality of panels normally received in said space and being pivotally supported in relation thereto for movement to a position projecting from the space for enabling the panels to be observed, said panels adapted to receive a plurality of groups of indicia designating certain information relating to the plaque, said door being pivotally attached to said frame at one side of said space, said panels being pivotally attached to said frame within said space at the edge thereof opposite to the pivotal axis of said door whereby the door is swung open in one direction and the panels swung outwardly of the space in the opposite direction.

2. The structure as defined in claim 1 together with hinge means mounting said panels on said frame for movement in relation to the frame independent of the door, said hinge means including variable offset means for orienting the panels in spaced parallel relation when disposed in said space.

3. A memorial plaque comprising a frame including a hollow central space defined by a peripheral frame member having a substantial depth, a plurality of rigid panels stored in said space in substantially parallel relation with each panel adapted to receive indicia, a door hinged to the outer edge of said frame member, each of said panels being pivotally supported for pivotal movement about a common pivot axis by a plurality of rigid hinge brackets having variable offset arrangements so that the panels may be orientated in substantial parallel relation when disposed in adjacent position, the inner edge of said frame member being provided with a closure panel forming a closure for the space defined by the frame member, said frame including an ornamental peripheral wall extending outer the front edge of said frame member rearwardly and outwardly to a position substantially coplanar with the inner edge of the frame member for mounting against a supporting surface.

4. The structure as defined in claim 3 wherein said door is pivoted to the frame member at one side thereof, said panels being pivotally attached to the frame member at the opposite side thereof and inwardly of but adjacent the outer edge thereof with the offset arrangement of the hinge brackets enabling the panels pivoted to the frame member to be swung in an arc approximately 270° to enable observation of both sides of the panels.

5. The structure as defined in claim 3 wherein said panels are supported from the inner surface of said door, said hinge brackets for the panels being pivotally attached to said door adjacent the edge thereof that is pivotally attached to the frame member by a support bracket spacing the pivot axis inwardly of the inner surface of the door with the offset of the hinge brackets extending both inwardly and outwardly of the pivot axis.

6. The structure as defined in claim 5 wherein said door is provided with a projecting post at the free edge thereof, latch means on said frame member for engaging the post when the door is moved to a closed position thereby releasably retaining the door in closed position.

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