



Providing an Innovative, Flexible and Configurable Solution

WORLD LEADING ARCHIVE ON HOLOCAUST AND NAZI ERA CHOOSE SOUTRON FOR COMBINED LIBRARY & ARCHIVE MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

CHALLENGE

The Wiener Library hosts the most extensive collection of archives from the Holocaust and Nazi era in the UK. Since 1933, they have been collecting material related to the Holocaust and now house over 17,000 photographs, 70,000 books and 2,000 document collections.

Each day the library answers historical enquiries from scholars, researchers or members of the public who are seeking information about particular books, documents or photographs that reside within the Wiener Library's collection.

In order to handle enquiries more effectively, document collections within the vast archive needed to be managed in a more 'relational manner' to provide one single solution to replace their many previous systems.

With their large collections and needs, the Wiener Library were unable to find a solution in the marketplace of current vendors to their library and archive management requirements.

They needed to be able to improve the capture of metadata, especially from their photo sources, into a flexible database system to ensure efficient and accurate retrieval of information.

The Wiener Library

for the study of the Holocaust & genocide

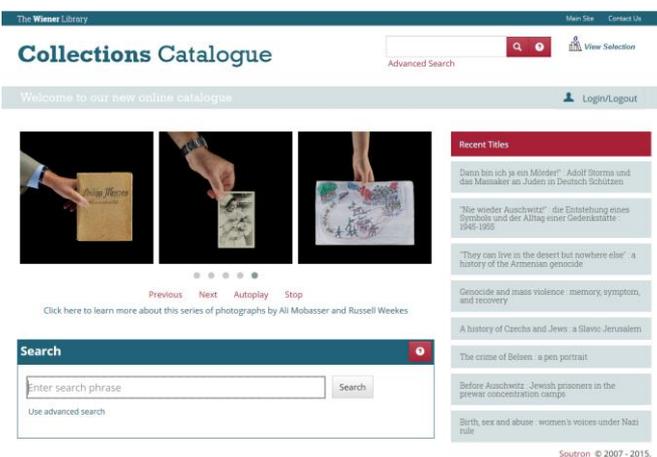
The workflow for managing photos was also a challenge and needed to be transformed into a seamless process which would allow the library to manage the metadata and therefore as a result create a hierarchical structure of photo collections, making it easier for staff to pinpoint specific photographs.



SOLUTION

By working closely with the Wiener Library, Soutron was able to develop an innovative, flexible and configurable solution, one that incorporates relational attributes to make it easy to cross reference materials.

The new Soutron Portal provides the Wiener Library with a series of functions to manage the relationships between records en masse and a hierarchical tree to provide easy navigation. Simple display of specific documents was also added into the new Soutron portal, in order to improve the end user experience.



RESULTS

With the new collections catalogue now live and accessible from the main Wiener Library website, users can find a single point of entry to the records (or descriptions) of thousands of books, pamphlets, documents, photographs, serials and audio-visual materials available online.

Kat Hübschmann, Head of Collections at the Wiener Library, says “It bridges the gap for both the public and scholars to access, it has made a big difference in how we manage our documents now that we are all connected and with a seamless flow from our site to the portal with end users not realising just how amazing it is”.

“It bridges the gap for both the public and scholars to access”
 Kat Hübschmann,
 Head of Collections

“All controlled vocabulary is now in one place, maximising consistency when cataloguing and indexing. It’s a great advantage to having one system. Also, we only have to deal with one – very

lovely – supplier, not having to coordinate different ones”.

Jessica Green, Digital Curator at the Wiener Library, goes on to add, “this is one of our greatest achievements to date”, referring to the Wiener Library and the new solution Soutron has provided them.

“this is one of our greatest achievements to date”
 Jessica Green,
 Digital Curator

Soutron is already developing stage two with a request facility where users can book to view documents, which is beneficial both for the Wiener Library and their visitors.

View the catalogue at: www.wienerlibrary.co.uk

