



Christopher Clarke Antiques

Dealers in Campaign Furniture
& Travel Items

Secrétaire Antique Campaign Chest by Hill & Millard

SOLD

REF:- 82340

AUTHOR LABEL : Hill & Millard

Height: 109.5 cm (43")

Width: 99.5 cm (39 1/4")

Depth: 48 cm (18 1/1")



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<https://campaignfurniture.com/secretaire-antique-campaign-chest-by-hill-millard>

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Short Description

A figured walnut, brass bound Secretaire Campaign Chest by Hill & Millard.

It was common with walnut military chests to use solid, straight grain wood to the carcass, which would take much more wear as it was slid in and out of its packing cases. The better, figured walnut was applied in book matched veneers to the drawer fronts as the show timber. What is unusual about this walnut chest is that the maker, Hill & Millard, painted figuring onto the solid walnut edges of the drawer dividers. When first done it would have hardly been noticeable. It is more so now due to the aging of the wood. This same method of painting the timber is evident to the walnut chest by the same maker, opposite.

The clever design of the secretaire, with its hidden drawers behind the hinged document carrier, was patented by Hill & Millard in January 1873. The document carrier is released by depressing a button accessed by opening the top right-hand drawer of the secretaire. This button also has additional security and can be locked by a slide to the underside of the top, accessed from a short drawer.

The use of walnut, a patent secretaire and a very good maker all add up to making this an exceptional campaign chest. It was likely to have been owned by a wealthy officer who could afford the best. Circa 1880.

More Information

Year	Circa 1880
Medium	Figured Walnut
Origin	England
Signed	Hill & Millard Jan. 1873
Style	Military Chest
Exhibitions	Departure of the 6th
Condition	Good