CLAIMS

1. A storage facility for objects of paying of respects comprising:

a plurality of storage sections each configured to store an object of paying of respects;

a respects-paying area which includes an area for a person, visiting to pay respects, to pay respects; and

a transport device configured to transport an object of paying of respects between any of the plurality of storage sections and a support position provided in the respects-paying area;

wherein a partition wall extending vertically is provided in the respects-paying area,

wherein the partition wall is so located to partition off the support position from the person visiting to pay respects, at a partition position along a first direction parallel to a horizontal plane,

wherein a window for allowing the person visiting to pay respects to view an object of paying of respects is formed in an area, of the partition wall, toward which the object of paying of respects faces along the first direction when supported in the support position,

wherein the plurality of storage sections include one or more reference storage sections each of which is defined to be a storage section that has an occupiable area at least a portion of which extends over a same positional range along the first direction as a portion of an occupiable area in the support position,

wherein the occupiable area of the support position is nearer to the partition wall

than the occupiable area of each of the reference storage section is to the partition wall along the first direction,

wherein the transport device includes a projecting and retracting mechanism configured to project and retract along the first direction a holding member configured to hold an object of paying of respects, wherein the transport device is configured to move the holding member toward a partition wall side along the first direction when moving an object of paying of respects to a reference storage section or to the support position by means of the projecting and retracting mechanism,

wherein an amount of projection of the holding member toward the partition wall side when moving an object of paying of respects to the support position is set to be greater than an amount of projection of the holding member toward the partition wall side when moving an object of paying of respects to a reference storage section; wherein the plurality of storage sections are arranged in a plurality of horizontal rows with one horizontal row located above another horizontal row along a vertical direction and in a plurality of vertical rows with one vertical row located next to another vertical row along a second direction which is a direction perpendicular to the first direction in a horizontal plane, and which the support position is provided in place of one of the plurality of storage sections.

2. The storage facility for objects of paying of respects as defined in claim 1, wherein

the holding member is a lower-end support portion which supports from below a bottom portion of an object of paying of respects, and

wherein a length, along the first direction, of the lower-end support portion is

less than a length, along the first direction, of the bottom portion of the object of paying of respects.

3. The storage facility for objects of paying of respects as defined in claim 1, wherein the transport device includes a first positioning portion configured to properly position an object of paying of respects along a horizontal direction,

wherein the first positioning portion is configured to contact the object of paying of respects when the object of paying of respects is displaced, along the horizontal direction, from a first set position on the transport device to correct a position of the object of paying of respects to place the object of paying of respect in the first set position.

4. The storage facility for objects of paying of respects as defined in claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of storage sections includes a second positioning portion configured to properly position an object of paying of respects along a horizontal direction, and

wherein the second positioning portion is configured to contact an object of paying of respects when the object of paying of respects is displaced, along the horizontal direction, from a second set position in the corresponding storage section to correct a position of the object of paying of respects to place the object of paying of respect in the second set position.

5. The storage facility for objects of paying of respects as defined in claim 1, wherein a side in the first direction on which the window is located with respect to the support position is defined as a first side, and a side opposite to the first side is defined

as a second side, and

wherein an object of paying of respects supported in the support position, excluding an end portion thereof on the first side, and an object of paying of respects stored in the reference storage section, excluding an end portion thereof on the second side, are located in the same positional range along the first direction.