

A NEW GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE

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NEW HOME FOR THE REGION'S HISTORIC ARCHIVES

After 70 years in the basement of the Glamorgan Building in Cathays Park the Glamorgan Record Office is moving to a new home. Six local authorities have come together to provide the region's historic archives with a purpose built, state of the art facility as part of the Leckwith development.

When its doors open in 2009 the public will be able to access on demand the GRO's Collection of over 1 million documents, some of which date back as far as the 12th century. Readers will be accommodated in well equipped, comfortable surroundings with staff always on hand to provide assistance. There will also be conference space for workshops, lectures and school groups.

The building will also house the GRO's Conservation Department. This will be the leading paper conservation facility in south Wales where documents will be repaired and specialist advice given to the public on the care of their own archives.

The Collection, which currently occupies around 8 km of shelves in numerous stores, will all be brought together in a single repository block. One of the key features of the new building is the stable environment it provides for the storage of these unique archives. In order to achieve this in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way the building uses thick walls and a series of buffer cells to insulate the repositories against changes in external conditions.

Meanwhile the Record Office will remain open to the public in Cathays Park until the new building is completed.