



National Waterfront Museum, Swansea

by WilkinsonEyre

Forming a focus for the regeneration of Swansea's Maritime Quarter, this scheme includes the renovation of an existing Grade II listed warehouse building and the creation of new galleries to house objects telling the story of Wales' industrial and maritime past.

There is a powerful narrative to the design, which is inspired by the unique history and context of the site. The curves of old railway tracks running across the site offered a strong sense of movement, and their lines have been reinstated into the new buildings and landscape in an abstract form. The new gallery spaces have clear connections to the refurbished museum space, enabling the scheme to be viewed as a single entity. However, they have a strong identity of their own, with the striking use of Welsh slate in a series of overlapping wall planes.



Details

Location: Swansea, UK
 Client: National Museums and Galleries of Wales / City & County of Swansea
 Architect: WilkinsonEyre
 Structural Engineer: Arup
 M&E Engineer: McCann & Partners
 Exhibition Designer: Land Design Studio
 Area: 6,085m² (building); 50,000m² (landscape works)
 Value: £15m
 Completed: August 2005

Awards

RIBA Award 2006
 Regeneration Award 2006 (Best Design-Led Regeneration Project)
 Museum & Heritage Awards for Excellence 2006
 National Eisteddford/RSAA Award 2006 (Exhibit)
 Structural Steel Design Award 2006 (Commendation)
 Civic Trust Award 2006
 Lord Mayor's Design Award (for City & County of Swansea) 2005