

## **DEVON RECORD OFFICE HISTORY**

- c. 1908 Exeter City Library collecting documents throughout Devon
- c. 1946 Exeter City Record Office established
- 1952 Devon Record Office established in the Castle
- 1963 move to County Hall
- 1971 move to Concord House
- 1974 Exeter City Record Office and Plymouth City Record Office join county
- 1977 move to Castle Street and Marsh Barton, DRO and EDRO amalgamate
- 1988 North Devon Record Office opened  
Torquay Service Point opened, followed by others
- c. 1993 move from Chief Executive's and County Solicitor's to Education
- 1998 incorporation in Lifelong Learning branch of Education, Arts and Libraries  
Local Government Reorganization – Plymouth and West Devon Record Office leaves county

## NEW DEVON RECORD OFFICE - KEY DATES

Jan 1992	Committee decision to look for new premises for the Devon Record Office
Mar 1998	Great Moor House purchased
Apr 1998	Local Government Re-organization in Devon
Jul 1998	<i>Information and Systems Strategy for the Devon Record Office</i> (British Library Consultancy Services)
26 Mar 1999	Stage I application to Heritage Lottery Fund submitted
24 Mar 2000	acceptance by HLF Trustees of Stage I application
Nov 2000	Initial approach from the Met. Office
12 Apr 2001	Stage II application to HLF submitted
26 Jun 2001	<i>Spreading the Word</i> revenue application submitted to HLF (subsequently withdrawn)
13 Nov 2001	Stage II to Trustees
28 Nov 2001	Grant of £3,246,000 announced
9 Dec 2002	Building work started
17 Feb 2003	Foundation stone laid
26 Nov 2004	Building handed over
6 Dec 2004	DRO move started
12 Dec 2004	Royal visit
16 Feb 2005	DRO moved completed
14 Mar 2005	New Devon Record Office opened to the public
21 Mar 2005	Official opening

## **NEW DEVON RECORD OFFICE**

### **DIMENSIONS**

<b>Strongrooms</b>	<b>1784 m<sup>2</sup> (on two floors)</b>
<b>Photographic repository</b>	<b>21 m<sup>2</sup> (plus 3 m<sup>2</sup> lobby)</b>
<b>Conservation studio</b>	<b>190 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Conservation office</b>	<b>6 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Chemical room</b>	<b>16 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Document reception</b>	<b>15 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Sorting area</b>	<b>21 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Drying room</b>	<b>15 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Bulk cleaning room</b>	<b>15 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Dark room</b>	<b>15 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Searchroom</b>	<b>309 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Archivists' office</b>	<b>126 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>County Archivist's office</b>	<b>16 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Locker room</b>	<b>12 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Admin office/registration</b>	<b>19 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Entrance area/display</b>	<b>20 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Public refreshments/ICT</b>	<b>61 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Education and outreach office</b>	<b>16 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Exhibition cabinets</b>	<b>7.5 m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,687.5 m<sup>2</sup></b>

## PLUS

External funds as catalyst for landmark project

Higher profile within parent body

External standards

Influence of national advisory bodies

Opportunity to include conditions

## MINUS

Long application process

Uncertainty of success/availability of funds

External priorities

Moving goalposts

Monitoring and bureaucracy

## KEY FACTORS IN SUCCESS

Alignment of HLF goals and DCC priorities

Support of CEO

Alignment of DRO needs with  
Education/DCC agenda (property  
rationalization and transport plan)

In-house external funding team

Support from HMC, PRO, and HLF

Availability of building

Opportunity – LGR

## OTHER FACTORS

Development of M5 junction and A30 dualling

Move of Met Office to Exeter

# GREAT MOOR HOUSE OCCUPANTS

Devon Record Office

National Meteorological Archive

Devon Library Headquarters

Devon School Library Service

Devon Learning Resources

Devon Music Service

SCOMIS

ICT Training

Devon Youth Service

Devon Curriculum Services

DAISI

SWGfL