National Waterfront Museum

Background information
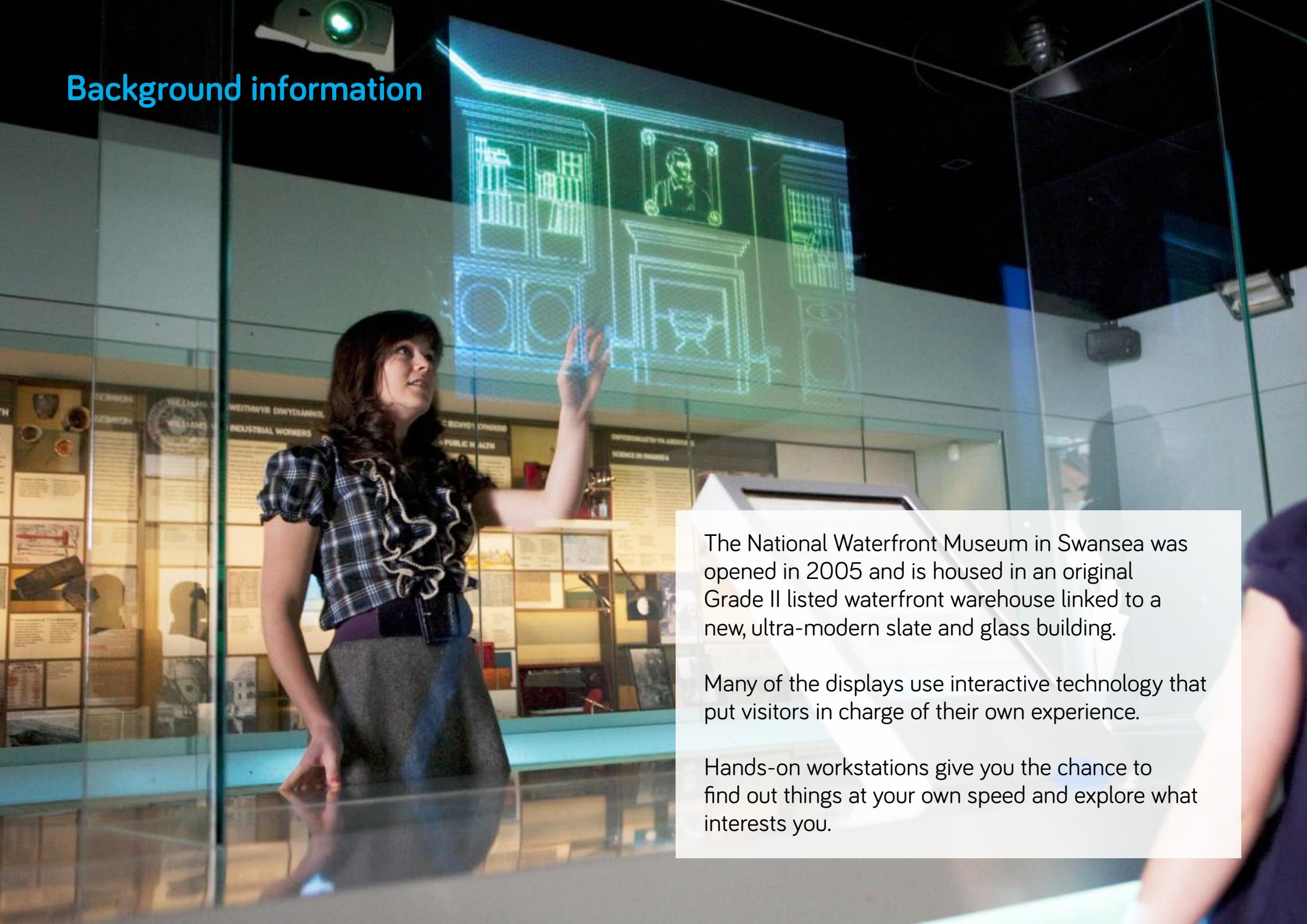
The National Waterfront Museum in Swansea was opened in 2005 and is housed in an original Grade II listed waterfront warehouse linked to a new, ultra-modern slate and glass building.

Many of the displays use interactive technology that put visitors in charge of their own experience.

Hands-on workstations give you the chance to find out things at your own speed and explore what interests you.

What will I find there?

The National Waterfront Museum uses themes and stories about people to show how industry affected the way we used to live.

It looks at the causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution in Wales and its impact on Welsh people, communities and organizations as well as on the rest of the world.

What stories do we tell?

The Museum looks at how your lifestyle was affected by the amount you earned and whether you had a job or not.

For example, if lots of people were in work and had money to spend, what sort of things did they buy?

It looks at the growth of different communities around industrial towns. For example, how did tight-knit mining and quarrying communities respond to outsiders or new people coming into their community?

How did people help each other in times of need if there was injury, unemployment or death in a family? It investigates how Wales was connected to the world. For example, what were the worldwide effects of the coal trade?

At the National Waterfront Museum you can:

Look at the history of Welsh communities who went abroad to work, as well as the stories of immigrants who came to work in Wales.

Follow the changes in transport. For example, in 1800 horseback was the fastest way to travel on land. A century later, most of the world had rail networks and trains travelling up to sixty miles per hour. This transformation in world history started in south Wales.

Discover how industry affected the landscape. For example, look at the development of towns and the different types of industries that grew up around them. What happened to these towns when the industry and jobs disappeared? What were the environmental effects of industry and how did they clean up later?

For more information please follow this link
www.museumwales.ac.uk/swansea