

GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

Reference code: GB 0214 DCAV
Title: Records of Cardiff International Airport
Dates : 1970-2001
Level of description: Item
Extent and medium: [To be confirmed]
Name of creator(s): Cardiff International Airport

Administrative/biographical history

The Air Ministry began construction work in 1941 on a wartime satellite aerodrome and training base for RAF Spitfire pilots based on requisitioned land in the Vale of Glamorgan. The airfield became operational on 7 April 1942 when it was taken over by No 53 Operational Training Unit. The commercial potential of the runway was recognised in 1952 when Aer Lingus starting a service to Dublin, and subsequently a new terminal building was constructed, and flights were set-up to France, Belfast and Cork. Holiday charter business also escalated by 1962.

In 1965 control of the airport was transferred from the Ministry of Defence to Glamorgan County Council, and was named Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport. With the first transatlantic flight in 1971, further investment led to the development of the current terminal building and control tower. The main runway was doubled in length to 7,000 ft, which enabled the airport to accommodate wide bodied aircraft.

Local government reorganisation in 1974 resulted in the transfer of the airport's ownership to the three County Councils of South, Mid and West Glamorgan, the successors of the former Glamorgan County Council. The name of the airport changed on 1 February 1978 to Cardiff Wales Airport. In the early 1980s the growth in the popularity of charter traffic to the Mediterranean saw passenger levels soar, and new links were also established between Cardiff and Canada.

1986 saw a further extension of the runway, which attracted more business to the airport in the form of new generation jet aircraft, including 747 jumbo jets. Further developments in transatlantic links were made with charter flights to Florida. The runway extension attracted the British Airways Maintenance facility to Cardiff International Airport, one of the largest maintenance facilities in the world.

The early 1990s saw a significant boost in the airport's scheduled services when Manx Airlines established their European Air Route Hub at Cardiff, offering daily services to key business destinations within Europe and the UK. Additional charter and scheduled services and increases in aircraft capacity contributed to a further rise in passenger numbers. The airport's Golden Jubilee Anniversary was celebrated in 1992 and a programme of special

events to mark 50 years of flying from Cardiff culminated in a royal visit, with HRH Princess Alexandra unveiling a commemorative plaque.

A series of major expansion projects commenced in early 1993. The projects included redevelopment of the landside forecourt area, expansion and modernisation of the International Departures Lounge, plus modification of the roadway access to the terminal, and construction of a new security access point. In August 1994 the airport celebrated attaining the 1 million passenger mark.

In April 1995, due to planned Local Government re-organisation in Wales, the Airport Company was privatised, with shares being sold to Welsh property and development firm, TBI Plc. The name of the airport was subsequently changed to Cardiff International Airport.

Archival history

Prior to 1972 the Department of Industry was responsible for airport log books, but it is unconfirmed whether the early records under their responsibility have been destroyed. Deposit of these records was negotiated by the Civil Aviation Authority, and later by National Air Traffic Services, after the Public Record Office confirmed that it did not wish to retain log books.

Immediate source of acquisition

Deposited at Glamorgan Record Office by Cardiff International Airport and its predecessor bodies on various dates from 1979.

Scope and content

The majority of the records consist of aircraft movement log books, detailing movements into and out of Cardiff International Airport. Also represented are International Civil Aviation Organisation (I.C.A.O.) publications.

Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information

All records which meet the collection policy of the Glamorgan Record Office have been retained.

Accruals

Accruals are possible

System of arrangement

Chronological

Conditions governing access

These records are subject to the Public Records Act 1958.

Conditions governing reproduction

Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply.

Language/scripts of material

English

Physical characteristics and technical requirements

Good condition

Finding aids

Detailed list available.

Existence and location of originals

Existence and location of copies

Related units of description

DX871, DX766/1, DX443/1-6: Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport Records
1992/164 & 2000/38: Cardiff-Wales Airport Records

Publication note

Note

Archivist's note

Compiled by Joanne Jones for the Glamorgan Record Office, with reference to the website of Cardiff International Airport.

Rules or conventions

This description follows Glamorgan Record Office guidelines based on ISAD(G) compatible cataloguing guidelines for fonds level descriptions used by the Archives Network Wales.

Date of description

14 Dec 2001, modified 22 December 2004

GLAMORGAN (RHOOSE) AIRPORT

DCAV/3/1	Aircraft Movement Log Book, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 31 Jan-11 Mar [1 vol.; carbon paper]	1970
DCAV/1/1	I.C.A.O. publication 'Aircraft Type Designators', [1 vol.; multi-reproduced]	1972
DCAV/1/2	I.C.A.O. publication 'Location Indicators', [1 vol.; multi-reproduced]	1973
DCAV/1/3	I.C.A.O. publication 'Designators for Aircraft Operating Agencies, Aeronautical Authorities and Services', [1 vol.; multi-reproduced]	1974
DCAV/2/1-24	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 23 March 1972-31 Jan 1974 [24 vols.; carbon paper]	1972-74
DCAV/2/25-38	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 31 Jan 1974-24 Jan 1975 [14 vols.; carbon paper]	1974-75
DCAV/2/39-54	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 24 Jan 1975-7 Jan 1976 [16 vols.]	1975-76
DCAV/2/55-72	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 8 Jan 1976-22 Jan 1977 [18 vols.]	1976-77

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DCAV/2/73-89	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport, 23 Jan 1977-13 Jan 1978 [17 vols.]	1977-78
DCAV/2/90-107	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 13 Jan 1978-19 Jan 1979 [18 vols.]	1978-79
DCAV/2/108-125	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 20 Jan 1979-3 Jan 1980 [18 vols.]	1979-1980
DCAV/2/126-144	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 4 Jan 1980-31 Dec 1980 [19 vols.]	1980
DCAV/2/145-162	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 14 Feb 1981-6 June 1982 [18 vols.]	1981-82
DCAV/2/163-262	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 7 Jan 1982-30 June 1987 [99 vols.]	1982-87
DCAV/2/263-267	Aircraft Movement Log Books, Cardiff-Wales Airport, 29 May 1987-31 Aug 1989 [5 files]	1987-89
	Further log books have been deposited up to 2001, but have not been catalogued to item level.	1989-2001, with gaps