

Titanic Quarter continued...

- The 24-acre Northern Ireland Science Park project that has already attracted investors such as Microsoft and GE Healthcare.
- Campus style educational facilities – work on a new 16,000 student campus, Belfast Metropolitan College, has already begun.
- A dedicated cruise liner berth to support Belfast's growing reputation as a major northern European port of call.

Phase One

Phase One of the development is already underway. Queen's Road has been realigned to maximise space and the initial batch of apartments is being built, along with the 150,000 sq ft Gateway Office, the scheme's first commercial development.

The first phase of residential development is 'The Arc' at Abercorn Basin comprising 475 apartment homes ranging from one-bedroom apartments to penthouses.

Belfast Metropolitan College decided to relocate its new campus plus

18,000 full and part-time students to a new bespoke facility by 2010 and the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) will move to a new £30m development beside the Gateway building.

Phase Two

Northern Ireland's Environment Minister announced in October 2007 that outline planning permission had been granted for Phase Two of Titanic Quarter. The scheme is the largest application ever dealt with by the Northern Ireland Planning Service and will provide approximately three million sq ft of new floor-space in the centre of Belfast. Phase Two will incorporate a landmark Titanic Signature Project, as well as additional residential, office, leisure and public realm space.

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Environment Minister Arlene Foster said:

"The development of this 16.5 acre site, including the restoration of the Titanic and Olympic slipways, represents a further step in the development of the City. It is a major confidence boost for the economy and the building industry which will provide long term economic benefits to the whole of Northern Ireland."

Maritime Heritage

To harness Belfast's pride in its maritime past, Titanic Quarter Ltd, Belfast Harbour Commissioners and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) are pursuing a major project to construct a landmark Titanic Signature building at the head of the Titanic slipway.

The project will be a major international tourist attraction and focal point for leisure activities – a concept not unfamiliar to Queen's Island. Before the arrival of the shipyards the area was Belfast's pleasure park, a public space complete with a Crystal Palace exhibition and Belfast's first zoo.