

B/W Seacole, Mary

Major UK landmark named for Mary Seacole



British Paralympic champion, Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson and Dean of the Faculty of Health & Social Care, Rona Howard in front of the New Mary Seacole Building at the University of Salford. UK.

LONDON, (JIS)

As the campaign to build a permanent monument to Jamaican born heroine Mary Seacole gains momentum, a major landmark in Salford dedicated to inter-professional teaching and research in UK health and social care, has been named in her honour.

The £22 million building at the University of Salford in Greater Manchester was opened by British Paralympic champion, Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson, who officially unveiled a plaque commemorating the launch of the centre for health and social care teaching and research, and the life of the black Crimean war nurse.

The five-storey glass building houses subjects, such as Nursing, Exercise and Health, and Physiotherapy. The new building is part of a planned investment of over £130 million by the University of Salford in campus buildings and facilities over the next five years.

Dean of the Faculty of Health & Social Care, Rona Howard, said the building represented the pioneering spirit of Mary Seacole.

Largely ignored by the history books, Jamaican born Seacole rose to fame in 2004 when she was voted the Greatest Black Briton in an on-line poll. In January this year — the bicentenary of her birth — the only known portrait of her was discovered and exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery.

This month she will be among 10 Britons to be honoured in a new series of Royal Mail stamps,



Portrait of Mary Seacole

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which will commemorate the National Portrait Gallery's 150th anniversary.

Meanwhile, the Mary Seacole Memorial Statue Appeal needs to raise £475,000 to erect a monument to honour her life and work. A Commission brief for the memorial is being developed.