



## **OPENING OF REDEVELOPED MACKAY COURTHOUSE – STAGE 2**

**Thursday, 9 December 2004,  
67 Victoria Street, Mackay**

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### **Chief Justice, Paul de Jersey AC**

Mr Mulherin, Mr Attorney, Your Honours, including the Chief Judge, Magistrates, Director-General, Parliamentarians, Mayor, Councillor, ladies and gentlemen...

I am very pleased to be present on this historic occasion, of such significance for the people of the region, and to the court system state-wide. Thank you, Mr Mooney, for your traditional welcome. Today we celebrate good and worthwhile tradition, and none as ancient as yours.

Those of us privileged to be present at the Attorney's opening of the new building in March this year can only marvel now at the brilliance of the restoration, indeed transformation, of its parent – or should I say grandparent, bearing in mind that this Georgian revival building dates from the 1930's.

It was completed in 1939, to the design of the government architect Andrew Levan. The construction formed part of the employment thrust driven by the Great Depression. The building has been used as a working courthouse ever since – until, that is, the commencement of the recent period of construction.

Now it is re-presented, as the very fine provincial building always intended.

It joins courthouses in Maryborough and Roma as fine examples of the government's commendable commitment to the preservation of worthwhile public buildings.



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Here, now, the people of the region have the best of both worlds: the architectural splendour of this wing, complemented by the up-to-date facilities of the other.

I congratulate and thank the government upon this achievement. I compliment the Director-General and her officers, for their extensive and willing consultation with the judiciary as to the detail of the redevelopment.

And I say finally, to the people of Mackay, how pleased I am that they now have a courthouse which undoubtedly will inspire admiration, and respect for the important process carried through within.