

Local Heritage Register: AMP Building



1940s Sydney Street, note the original ornate entablature and name “Australian Mutual Provident Society”, Copyright Mackay Regional Council Library Image No. 05505

Building Name:	AMP Building
Street Address:	10 Sydney Street
Property Description:	Lot 2 on RP700833
Land Area:	499m ²

Description

Completed in 1926, the AMP Building was an imposing structure with a remarkable entablature, contributing significantly to the business community and the ‘modernisation’ of the Sydney Street streetscape at the time.

As reported on 20 December 1924, a decision was made by a group of local policy holders to construct a permanent district office for the AMP Society in Mackay.

The Society was operating from temporary office space in the Dalrymple Building in Victoria Street, while the land in Sydney Street was purchased and plans finalised for the new building.

Two timber buildings were demolished in 1926, and the new two storey reinforced concrete building was constructed by local builder, William Guthrie and handed to the AMP Society on 1 September of that year.

The building is historically important in demonstrating the building boom of the interwar period in Mackay.

The Building

While the building has been subject to a degree of alteration, but retains original pilasters and arched window detailing which contributes to the aesthetics of the place.

Alterations to the building include the removal of the original pediment and entablature (see above). This was a distinct feature of the building in 1926. The building also featured the “Australian Mutual Provident Society” on the facade which has been removed.

The building now features a new

Local Heritage Register: AMP Building

awning and shopfront which, in the 80's covered the three identical arched windows. These have recently been exposed (see plates this page).

The building is important in contributing to the streetscape values of Sydney Street. In recent decades the building was occupied by Toon Tong Thai which closed its doors in 2016.



AMP Building, 2004 (left) and 2016 (right) - Mackay Regional Council

Statement of Historical Significance

Criteria	Significance
A: Historical significance	In 1924 a decision was made to construct a permanent district office for the AMP Society in Mackay. Two timber buildings were demolished in 1926, and a new two storey reinforced concrete building constructed by local builder, William Guthrie. It is historically important in demonstrating the building boom of the Interwar period in Mackay.
B: All aspects of heritage significance	Does not meet this criterion.
C: Scientific significance	Does not meet this criterion.
D: Architectural significance	Does not meet this criterion.
E: Aesthetic / architectural significance	While the building has been subject to a degree of alteration, including removal of the original pediment and entablature, new awning and shopfront, it retains original pilasters and arched window details which is important to the streetscape values of Sydney Street.
F: Aesthetic or other significance	Does not meet this criterion.
G: Social significance	Does not meet this criterion.
H: Historical significance	Does not meet this criterion.

References:

- Woods, R., 1995, 'Heritage Places Criteria', Mackay Regional Council (ID30)
- Daily Mercury, 20 Dec. 1924, p.11 'A.M.P. Society'
- Kennedy, K.H., 2002, 'Mackay Revisited', Mackay City Council

For more information phone strategic planning on 1300 MACKAY (1300 622 529)