

Local Heritage Register: Chaseley House



Chaseley House, 1938

Building Name:	Chaseley House
Street Address:	7 Sydney Street
Property Description:	Lot 4 on RP747348
Land Area:	685m ²



Description

Completed in December 1937, Chaseley House is a valuable contribution to the Sydney Street streetscape and the Mackay Art Deco collection.

Chaseley House is a good, representative and intact example of an interwar functionalist style building with Art Deco detailing, retaining key features of the style including:

- Symmetrical design with stepped skyline
- Roof concealed by a parapet
- Simple, geometric shapes

- Concentration of ornament on upper part of building
- Vertical fins
- Stylised lettering; and
- Parallel line motif.

History

The building was developed by J. Michelmores & Co Pty Ltd and opened as a department store just before Christmas in 1937. The firm dominated Mackay retail and trading business in the city along with other well-known "emporiums" of the time: Marsh and Webster, Charles Porter and Son, Lamberts and James Croker & Sons to name a few.

Chaseley House initially advertised crockery, china and glassware, but included auto departments and electrical in later years.

The Building

Chaseley House was constructed in 1937 by builder, Archie McDonald to a design by notable Mackay architect, Harold Vivian Marsh Brown. The building is significant historically for its association with the Interwar redevelopment of Mackay and in providing evidence of the development and nature of Art Deco buildings in Mackay.

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Chaseley House has its name on the facade in letters of a period style. It is two storeys, which was originally exclusively for Michelmores display purposes. It now contains three ground floor shop tenancies and offices above. A door to the upper floors occupies the right hand corner, with panelled timber doors in a polished moulded red granite architrave and step.



Statement of Historical Significance

Chaseley House, 1992, Mackay Regional Council

Criteria	Significance
A: Historical significance	Chaseley House was constructed in 1937 by builder, Archie McDonald to a design by notable Mackay architect, Harold Vivian Brown. The building is significant historically for its association with the Interwar redevelopment of Mackay and in providing evidence of the development and nature of Art Deco buildings in Mackay.
B: All aspects of heritage significance	Does not meet this criterion.
C: Scientific significance	Does not meet this criterion.
D: Architectural significance	Chaseley House is a good, representative and intact example of an interwar functionalist style hotel with Art Deco detailing, retaining key features of the style
E: Aesthetic / architectural significance	The building makes a strong contribution to the Sydney Street streetscape through the largely intact external form as a two storey commercial building with Art Deco detailing.
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, Advertisement, 18 Dec. 1937,
- Kennedy, K.H., 2002, 'Mackay Revisited', Mackay City Council

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