



Speech By Hon. Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

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SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Parliament House, Artwork

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, in 1977 the then Speaker, the Hon. James Houghton, invited Queensland's councils and shires to contribute paintings by artists from their regions for display in the newly constructed Parliamentary Annexe. A total of 129 artworks were received. That artwork now comprises a distinct collection within the parliament's artworks. Age has made it a unique collection, capturing glimpses of Queensland at a relatively short window of time in its history. The paintings include landscapes, town and city buildings or scenes and, in rarer instances, people and animals.

Today, I am pleased to introduce a rotating display of this artwork in the Legislative Assembly chamber. To showcase the breadth and diversity of that collection, two different items from the collection will now be displayed in the chamber on a rotating basis each sitting week. Many works from the collection representing regional Queensland have been hung in ministerial and members' offices and dining rooms. This rotation brings them, for the first time, into the chamber.

Our first featured artworks are two oil-on-board works. The first is Bundaberg City Council's contribution by artist Charles Hazzard, depicting a view to Bundaberg's city buildings from Anzac Park. Charles Hazzard was one of the founding members of the Bundaberg Art Society. The second is Mackay City Council's contribution by artist Del Newport, a painting of the Civic Centre Administration Building. The artist was a teacher and exhibition artist. As each work is featured in the chamber, it will also be available to view in our online Heritage Collection via our website.