

\$10m museum of transport

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A \$10 million Queensland Transport and Technology Museum will be built on the Pacific Highway opposite Dreamworld.

The State Government-funded museum will have nine buildings scattered around the 34 hectare site, and the emphasis will be on "live" machinery...

... Old planes whose engines work, old steam engines that run, operating vintage cars, and electrical equipment that splashed sparks before the silicon chip was a sparkle in an inventor's eye.

The State Mines Minister, Mr Gibbs, will today seek Cabinet permission to prepare legislation to establish the museum.

He and the Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, have been working on the project for two years, and it will be part of the State's Bicentennial program, should be finished by 1988, and will be controlled by the Premier's Department.

"One of the museum's central themes will be aircraft, and we have been negotiating with Mr Malcolm Long, a Victorian who lives on the Gold Coast, and who has a big collection of World War 11 aircraft," Mr Gibbs said.

"And the Gold Coast Restoration Society has machinery, steam engines, and old cars, there is heaps of electrical equipment we can obtain, and the Queensland Museum has some important aircraft items that will go to the new museum.

"A lot of the gear will be on perma-

nent loan, and a lot donated, but some will be purchased," Mr Gibbs said.

He would recommend to Cabinet that legislation be very similar to the Queensland Museum Act, and it would work closely with the Museum.

"Most of the stuff is working, and will be kept working. It will be a very mobile museum. It will be a real family centre".

Queensland had a unique history in aircraft. There was Qantas, and Bert Hinkler, and the flying doctor service, and the Premier had been a pioneer of the crop dusting industry.

The recommended board for the Transport and Technology Museum was: Sir William Allen, grazier, businessman and National Party identity; Mr Bill Heck, sugar industry personality; Mr Mike Seymour, former Federal Transport Department regional director; Dr Alan Bartholomai, Queensland Museum director; Mr Malcolm Long, the aircraft enthusiast; Mr R. Schuster, of the Gold Coast Restoration Society; Ms Beryl Young, the Premier's pilot; and Mr Gibbs.