

From **SAWMILLS AND TRAMWAYS** by John Kerr 1998



The settlement of West Bellthorpe around the mill.



Woodford Historical Society 2025

Compiled using information from:-

Trove Newspapers, local historian Ron Trim

'Sawmills and Tramways' by John Kerr, 'Timberman' (1999)

'Milestones' by WHS, Australian Forest Industries Journal (1979)

Fact Sheet – B1



Sawmills of Durundur ...

Brandon, Lovf's Sawmill (c1940 – c1967)



*c1998: Brandon Sawmill
Photos courtesy of John Kerr*

In about 1940, a large mill was built in the Bellthorpe area by Brandon, Lovf & Co Pty Ltd.



Bellthorpe Sawmills

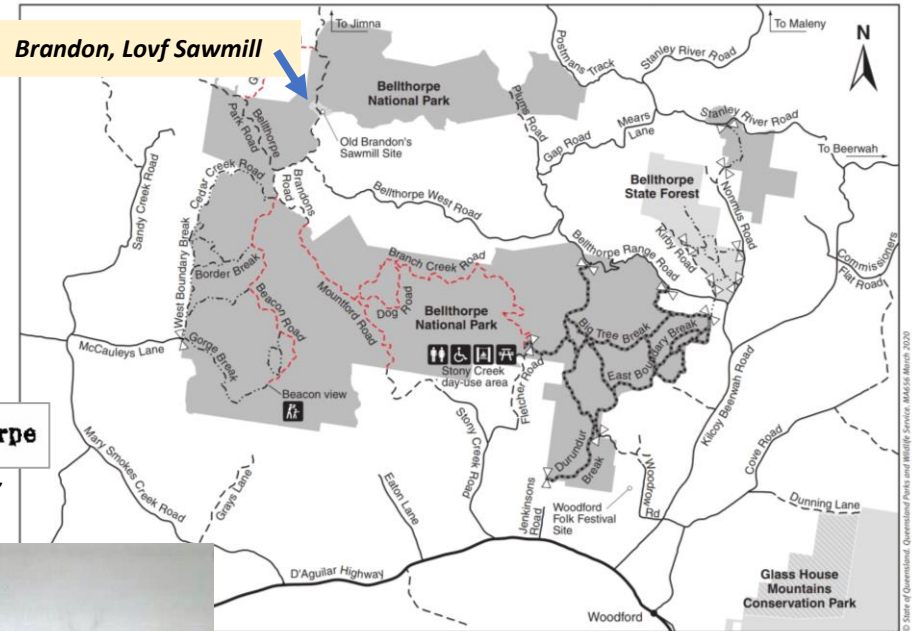
Brandon, Lovf's Sawmill *continued*

Thomas William Brandon's business began from small beginnings, with him buying a firewood depot at Eagle Junction in 1924.

From 1939, it traded as T W Brandon and Sons Pty Ltd.

The resumption of the site of Olsen's mill at suburban Nundah provided an opportunity in partnership with Lovf, to acquire the plant and erect the sawmill at Bellthorpe.

Brandon, Lovf Sawmill



Local historian Ron Trim's recollections:



During the 1940s, Lovf's mill was enlarged when Brandon Timbers came on the scene. They employed a lot of people and Bellthorpe felt the pinch when they left the district.

Brandons Lovf Pty Ltd, Belthorpe

From *QUEENSLAND PO DIRECTORY* 1947



c1953: Brandon Sawmill



Workers at Brandon Sawmill



c1998: Brandon gantry

A substantial milling complex was established with a shed, gantry, houses for employed workers and a school building.

It was a very modern mill, which later became Brandon Timbers, with Andy Russell carting timber to the rail yard in Woodford for transport to Brisbane.

BRANDON TIMBERS LTD, South Brisbane sawmillers and hardware merchants, report a net profit of £17,675 after tax for the year to June 30—the first as a public company.

From TROVE: *THE COURIER MAIL* 23 September 1953

A new plant was installed at the mill in 1954.

In 1967, disaster struck in the form of a fire that 'stripped the guts' out of the mill. Brandons were not of the mind to rebuild.

It was purchased by Grant Timbers for the quota and added to their Woodford mill.