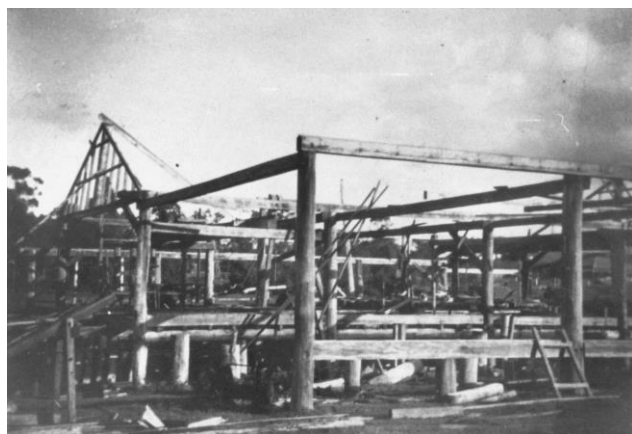


***Peter Carmichael* from 'Old Days, Old Ways'**

The Carmichael name came to the D'Aguilar district in 1912 when Archie, James and Charles Carmichael built a sawmill on 32 acres of land directly opposite the railway station. The steam driven mill was quite large, by country standards, with up to 72 workers from the D'Aguilar district employed. The opening of the Caboolture-Woodford branch line in 1909 enabled the mill to transport timber to the Carmichael sawmill on the south bank of the Brisbane River between the Victoria and Grey Street bridges.

Hardwoods, pines and cabinet timbers (particularly cedar) were milled with the majority of those logs coming from Portion V, a property owned by the mill on Mount Delaney. Such was the supply of cedar that children from the district would go to the mill and be given off-cuts from which they built their go-carts.

The depression and cutting out of the pine led to the closure of the mill in 1936.



The mill remained idle until the mid-forties when it was sold for removal to Hancock and Gore (sawmillers from Ipswich). During the 10 or so years it became one of the great big wonderful playgrounds for the D'Aguilar children.



Woodford Historical Society 2025

Compiled using information from:-

'Old Days, Old Ways' by WHS,

Trove Newspapers, local historian Ron Trim

Fact Sheet – D1



Sawmills of Durundur ...

Carmichael's Sawmill (1912 – 1936)



c1940: Carmichael's sawmill at D'Aguilar

By March 1912, A, J and C Carmichael had built a sawmill on Portion 13v, directly opposite the D'Aguilar railway station.

James Carmichael (Snr) (1841-1923)

D'Aguilar Sawmills



Carmichael's Sawmill *continued*

James Carmichael made the long journey to Brisbane in 1866 on board the ship 'Maryborough' to join his brother Archie, who had earlier emigrated in 1864.

Soon after their brother Charles Carmichael's arrival in Brisbane in 1874, the brothers went into the sawmilling business together.

Their interest in D'Aguilar began when James selected portion 8v, parish of Byron in 1897 and Archie selected portion 68v, parish of Byron in 1900.

After the coming of the railway in 1909, the brothers acquired 32 acres of portion 13v next to the D'Aguilar Station from Patrick Cash.



c1920: D'Aguilar Railway Station

Photo Courtesy of City of Moreton Bay Reference No: CLPC-P1900



Bullock team coming into Carmichael's sawmill

The large sawmill belonging to Messrs. A. J. and C. Carmichael is an index to the timber wealth, and provides employment for a large number of people. For the past 40 years timber has been hauled to D'Aguilar, and ample supplies are still available.

The mill, which is well equipped with latest appliances, has a capacity of about 7000 super feet of timber daily. Mr. J. Carmichael is in charge of operations, and the mill hands number 12 all told. Many teams are constantly employed bringing pine from Mount Mee, and hardwoods from Delaney's Creek.

From TROVE: *THE DAILY MAIL* 6 October 1924

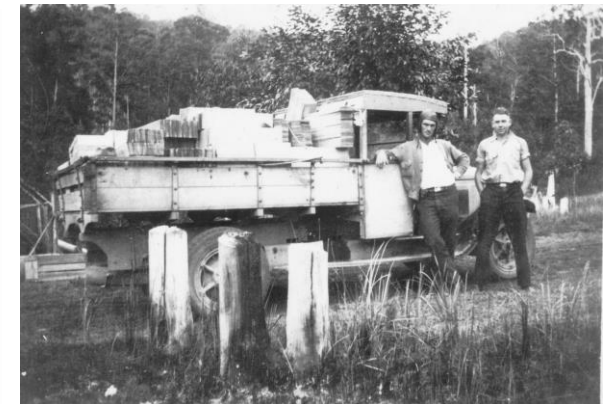


Mr Col Harris, 91years old, in Nov 2015:

Archie, James and Charlie Carmichael's sawmill at D'Aguilar had the biggest bandsaw in the southern hemisphere at the time.

Bob Tracey was the manager of the Mill and had a dining table over 3ft wide that was cut at the mill.

Timber from the D'Aguilar Mill was sent to their yard on the Brisbane River near the Queen Victoria Bridge to be dressed. They had a 150ft Gantry that unloaded the Bullock Wagons and put the logs straight onto the Band Saw Bench. The Mill cut all of the cross arms for the power poles from Strathpine/Bald Hills to Somerset Dam. When that order was completed, the Mill closed down.



1934: Ron Bateman and Ron Ferris with a load of banana cases from Carmichael's sawmill.



Local historian Ron Trim's recollections:

A large and modern mill was built at D'Aguilar Station by A, J and C Carmichael in 1912 and catered for timber hauled from Mt Mee and nearby. This mill was fitted with bandsaws and timber was railed to Brisbane yards. It closed during the depression years.