



1936: Survey Map of Woodford



Workers at Fredin's Sawmill



Woodford Historical Society 2025

Compiled using information from:-
Trove Newspapers, local historian Ron Trim,
'Milestones' by WHS

Fact Sheet – W4



Fredin's Sawmill (c1910 – 1959)



Fredin's sawmill at the One Mile Creek. Water for the steam engine to drive machinery was pumped from the creek.

In 1910, Anders Anderson Fredin erected a sawmill beside the One Mile Creek at Woodford.

Anders Anderson Fredin (1872-1958)



Woodford Sawmills

Fredin's Sawmill *continued*

Anders Anderson Fredin was born in Sweden, studied engineering in Lapland, and later migrated to Queensland.

He came to Woodford in 1910 and built a sawmill up from One Mile Creek, just above the old bridge in Durundur St in partnership with Peter Neilson Lovf.

This township will soon have a sawmill at work again, as Mr. Fredin, a recent arrival from Yandina, has secured a good site and now has the shed erected. The machinery is to arrive this week, and the mill is expected to be at work within a couple of months. It will be a great boon to this locality, as a local sawmill is a long-felt want.

From TROVE: NORTH COAST ADVERTISER 3 September 1910

The mill was up and running by 13 November 1910. After a few years, Peter Lovf sold out of the business.

By 1913, it became the company, Fredin & Co.



1910: First staff at Fredin's Sawmill

A SAWMILL DESTROYED.

WOODFORD, April 21.

A fire occurred early on Saturday evening in Fredin and Co.'s sawmill. Employees and others formed a bucket brigade, and succeeded in confining the blaze to the building where it originated, thus saving a large quantity of log and sawn timber which was stacked in the yards. The building was completely destroyed, but it may be possible to utilise some of the plant. An estimate of the loss cannot be made until the debris has been overhauled. The mill was insured with the Manchester and Patriotic Insurance Companies for £5000. The cause of the fire is unknown.

From TROVE: THE BRISBANE COURIER 25 April 1922

Remains of Fredin's Sawmill



c1930 One Mile Ck at Woodford under flood. Photo courtesy of SLQ

Fredin & Co then built a large mill on land fronting the railway, north of George Street.

Fredin by now was buying up land with timber on it and he set up a mill alongside the railway with a siding across from where the railway station had been built. It had the longest life of any of the mills in the district. The Railway books show that a siding was provided for Fredin in about 1921 and sold to Grant & Son in 1959.

c1925 Milling a large log at Fredin's Mill, Woodford
Photo courtesy of SLQ



Local historian Ron Trim's recollections:



At Woodford, Anders Fredin was an Engineer on the building of the Railway to Woodford, so he set about setting up a mill in partnership with a local man, Lovf. They set up a mill overlooking the One Mile Creek and ran for years until it burnt down in the 1920s.