



1853

The Great Western Railway opens for passenger and freight traffic between Niagara Falls and Windsor-Detroit, passing through Hamilton, Woodstock, Ingersoll, and London. With rail access to outside markets, Ingersoll Village booms.

1855

James Noxon (1833-1906) and Samuel Noxon, Jr. (1835-1912), sons of a large Quaker family in Bloomfield, Prince Edward County, arrive in Ingersoll to clerk in Willard Eastwood's hardware store and foundry.

1856

With the backing of their father in Bloomfield, the brothers establish Noxons Agricultural Works on Thames Street South near Canterbury, opposite the Central School.

1872

Noxons, Ingersoll's largest manufactory with 103 employees, incorporates as a joint-stock company with James Noxon, President; Samuel Noxon, Treasurer; and Freeman Noxon (1832-1917) as plant superintendent.

1873

Noxons builds a \$32,000 plant on a five acre site located on the west side of Thames Street on the south bank of the Thames River. The new location brought it close to the Great Western Railway, thereby reducing teaming costs and furnishing river water for industrial purposes and fire protection.

1878

James Noxon starts construction of a \$20,000 mansion, situated on an 11.5 acre lot (the Company's former lumberyard) on the northeast corner of Thames and Noxon Streets and overlooking Smith's millpond.

1880

In his capacity as Deputy Reeve, James Noxon champions a second railway for Ingersoll and the Noxon Company. The Credit Valley Railway (C.V.R.) reaches Ingersoll from Woodstock in 1878 and opens to Toronto in 1880. The C.V.R. tracks along the south bank of the Thames River pass by Noxon plant on its south side. Thus Noxon Bros. is ideally situated, on the river and between two competing rail lines.

1887

James Noxon's brothers – Samuel, Jr. (1835-1912), Stephen (1843-1920), Freeman (1832-1917), and Thomas (1849-1902) – oust him from the Company. James resigns as president and removes to Woodstock. In 1892 Dr. Angus McKay purchases the vacant Noxon mansion, which becomes Alexandra Hospital in 1909.

1898

William Watterworth, other shareholders, and the bank oust the Noxon brothers from the company. This ends Noxon-family ownership of Noxon Bros.

1916

Noxon Bros. receives large orders from Imperial Russia, but fire destroys the blacksmith shop and shutsters the company.

1918

The John Morrow Screw & Nut purchases the derelict plant, divides it into three blocks, and leases it to the Town which sublets the blocks to tenants, none of whom survived the 1920s.

1934

New Idea Furnace Company occupies one block. The rest of the plant is razed.