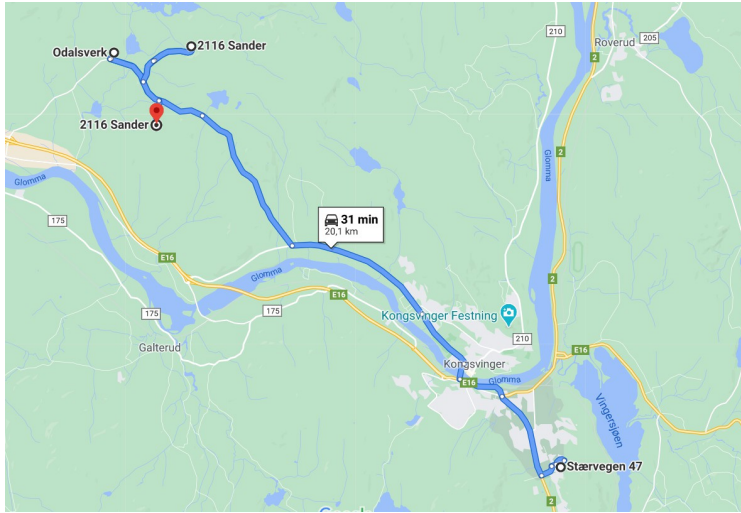


ODALS VERK DEN 6. OKTOBER 2020



Driving route this day.



We had detours to here and to Brattbakken.



Here we have driven past Melby and look down the Odals Verk road towards Odals Verk.



Further down.



We drove in this road.



Not much leaves left on these trees.



Here it is called Piksrud.



The neighboring farm to Piksrud.



Pictures of the vegetation.



Brattbakken.
These have been two homesteads.



This is where Ivar Bratbakken grew up.



The way forward. The road grader had just gone past here before we arrived, so the gravel road was smooth and nice.



Then we came to Odals Verk. We drove in to the plant here.

The water wheel was the drive unit.

Odals Verk was started at the end of the 17th century when iron ore was found in the area. In 1723, the operation was stopped because the ore was so difficult to melt. In 1739 it got a fresh start due to economic upswings and state privileges. Stoves, pots, nails and much more were made.



The stream is here called Verkensåa.



A bridge across the stream.



Above the bridge is the dam in Fløyta. Fløyta has a main supply from two other lakes, Vallsjøen and Gøralsjøen, which are also regulated. Verkensåa flows further down to Grimslandsvatnet and then out into Glomma.



This is Fløyta.



The wheelhouse with the water wheel.

At Verket, a completely separate society developed with independent finances, its own supply system, its own legal rules and its own school and poverty system. The work owner was authorized to impose fines for drunkenness, fights and other offenses. A poverty tax was paid annually by everyone who worked at the plant. In 1782, the number of paying workers was 111.



This little house stands by the bridge.



The wheelhouse seen from the other side.



This has probably been a kind of farm building or barn.



This is the main house that was built in 1767.

The building has Norway's longest corridor, a high vaulted roof and colonnades on both floors towards the courtyard.

On the second floor there is a magnificent ballroom equipped with chest panel, beautiful doors, fittings and painted tops for the doors.

The house was designed by Brede Rantzau, and is considered one of the main works in 18th century Rococo architecture in Norway.



The main building seen from the courtyard.



One of the wing building.



This picture of the main building and the two wing buildings is cut from the [website of Odals Verk](#).
[Link](#) to description on Wikipedia.

One was an office building with a large hall on the second floor. The other included brewery houses, country stores, dairies and housing for employees.



The other wing building.

The building at the back was used as a storage, grain store and grain dryer until 1981.



A statue in the courtyard.

In addition to the ironworks, there have been sawmills, a mill, a brickworks, a brewery and a seed dryer. In all cases, water-powered machinery was used. Most of the employees lived on labor farms and homesteads that were scattered around in the forests at Verket. There were a total of 65 such places at Odals Verk. The depopulation started before 1900, but most were inhabited until after 1945.

Odals Verk is today a pure agricultural property with 90 Hectare of cultivated land and 20 Hectares of pasture. The cultivated land was leased out in 2003. The forest consists of 4100 Hectares of forest and other outfields.



Another statue in the courtyard.



As we drove from there, a couple of goats greeted us.



In the park east of the main building is the Verket's most distinctive building - a Chinese-inspired pavilion.



Finally we took another picture of this house.