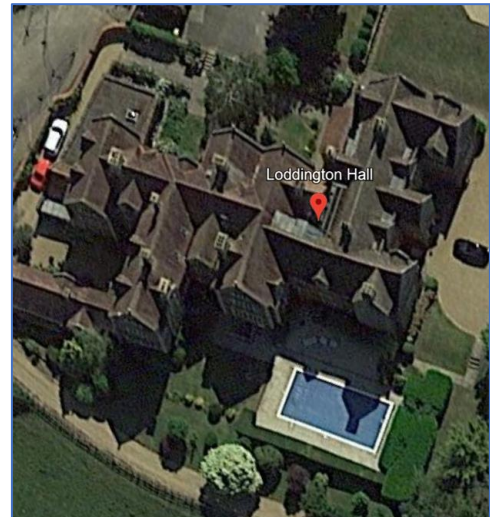


The Warren

Returning to Rowhills from The Copse House is just a few minutes walk along a shady track next to the spinney and the Army College cricket ground. We know that The Warren was rented out to senior officers from the Aldershot Garrison and their stay might be around three years. So, who will we find in this 1920s decade?

The first military resident in The Warren in the 1920s was Major Adam Rivers Steele (1877-1932). He was born in Potters Bar, Middlesex, son of a solicitor and by 1911 was lodging in London, serving as Captain of the 4th Hussars with the Essex Yeomanry.

It would probably be fair to say that Adam came from a well-polished background. In 1911, his widowed father Adam Rivers Steele was living at Loddington Hall, Kettering with three single daughters and 11 live-in servants, who were employed to take care of the family and the 35 main rooms.



<p>Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">35</p>	<p>I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p> <p>Signature <u>AR Steele</u></p> <p>Postal Address <u>Loddington Hall</u> <u>Kettering</u></p>
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In January 1912 a War Office notice read that Captain Adam Rivers Steele, 4th (Queen's Own) Hussars was appointed adjutant in the Essex Yeomanry, within the Territorial Force at Colchester.

That same year in 1912 at Kensington, Captain Steele married Muriel Gladys Hobbs (1886-1978) the daughter of Colonel George Radley Hobbs. Muriel was born in Mauritius and was equally used to a comfortable life-style.

The couple had a son Adam John Rivers Steele born in 1912 in Colchester and a daughter Pamela Muriel Evelyn Steele born three years later in Kensington. Captain Rivers served in France in 1914 and by 1919 was a Major based in Aldershot, as a Staff Officer.

In 1920, the Secretary of State for War, the Rt Hon Winston Churchill paid a visit to Aldershot for a tour of inspection. This visit included the inspection the 4th (Queen's Own) Hussars, a regiment Winston himself had served in Aldershot as a subaltern, prior to the South Africa Wars.

The regiment of 139 men were mounted, under the command of Major Steele, on the parade ground in Willems Barracks, facing Wellington Avenue. An exciting day for them all.

The 1921 census for The Warren showed the Steele family and servants in that 15 roomed property. Adam's occupation was stated as Late Major 4th Hussars on Retired Pay.

			years			
			born	month		
1	Adam Rivers Steele	Head	40	6	M	Married { Potter's Bar Middlesex Maritime 2026
2	Murielle Gladys Steele	wife	34	4	F	Married { Colchester
3	John Adam Rivers Steele	son	8	6	M	Bath alive { Kensington London
4	Patricia Murielle Gladys Steele	daughter	6	4	F	Married { Kensington London

There were four female servants and we can look at their details.

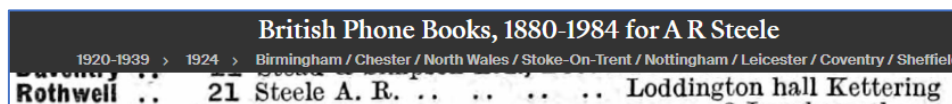
Daisy Sarah Hatch	Servant	31	4	F	Single	{ Ipswich
Emily May Attridge	Servant	30	0	F	Single	{ Farnborough Hants
Elizabeth Jane Bounce	Servant	24	4	F	Single	{ at sea
Agnes Page	Servant	15	9	F	Single	{ Hove London

The nurse was Daisy Sarah Hatch, born in Ipswich in 1890. In 1911 she had been working at Rockalls Hall, Polstead, Suffolk, one of six servants. Here she was an under-nurse so the move to The Warren was a step up the ladder.

The servant Emily May Attridge, born in Farnborough in 1891 had been a house parlourmaid in 1911 at Inglesby, Camberley. Emily Attridge married in 1922 in Hartley Wintley but sadly she was to die in Farnborough at the young age of 42.

The cook at The Warren was Elizabeth Jane Bourne. There is some uncertainty about her history so best not to speculate. The fourth servant was the young Agnes Page, born at Hornsey, London in 1905 and again difficult to track her identity. In both cases, there are women in the area with the same name and similar ages.

The stay of Major and Mrs Steele in The Warren from about 1919 was fairly brief because by 1923 the family had moved on. Adam Steele and his family were back in Loddington Hall, Kettering by 1924. With 35 rooms, there was presumably space for them.



After Adam Rivers Steele died in 1932, his widow re-married. Her husband was a retired Lieutenant-Colonel, a widower Hubert Peel Yates. In 1939, the register for the country showed Hubert Yates having a domestic servant Daisy Sarah Hatch, born 1890. So, she had been retained within the family and had moved from The Warren to Chesterton, Cambridgeshire.



In 1923, the next occupants at The Warren were Colonel Francis George West of the Royal Field Artillery and his wife Ida Evelyn West née Rowe. They were married in 1907 in Ireland.

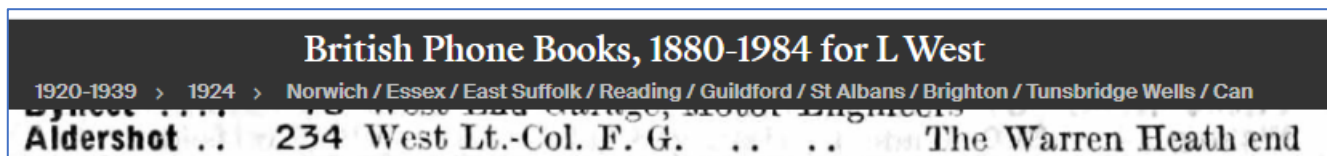
In the 1921 census, the Wests were guests at Hotel Burlington, Owls Road, Boscombe near Bournemouth. There were 11 guests and 29 servants/staff so guests were well cared for. The census showed that both Francis and Ida West had been born in Peru and that Francis was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army. Their 13-year-old daughter Evelyn Ida Frances West was a pupil at Grovelly Manor College, also in Boscombe hence the parental visit in 1911.

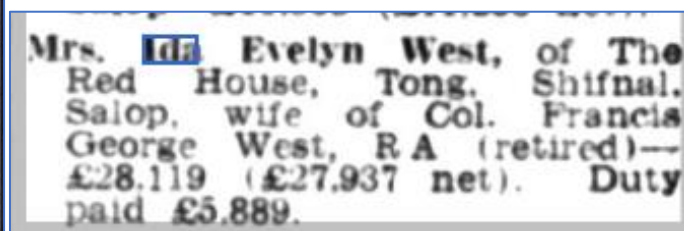
Francis George West	Visitor	42	4	M	Married	Peru	British Born	Army Officer (Lt Col Retired)
Ida Evelyn West	Visitor	38	10	F	Married	Peru	British Born	

30	Evelyn Ida Frances West	Pupil	13	6	F	Both alive	Yorkshire Sheffield
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Colonel Francis West (1879-1965) and Mrs Ida Evelyn West (1882-1965) resided in The Warren from 1923 to 1925, with a telephone number of Aldershot 234.

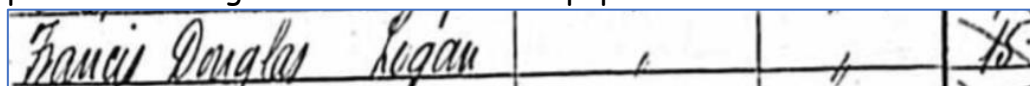
Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Francis George West						
Farnham > 1925 Spring						
2190	R	O	West, Francis George (Col.)	The Warren, Heath End		
2191	R	O	West, Henry	Chance Cottage, Hoghatch		
2192	H O	H O	West, Ida Evelyn	The Warren, Heath End		





A plaque was laid in 1965 in memory of Francis George West DSO, who served in India and was Officer Commanding (C.O.) 12th Brigade Royal Field Artillery at Aldershot.

Next coming to The Warren was Brigadier General Francis Douglas Logan (C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. [Companion of the Order of the Bath (C.B.), Companion, Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.), Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.)] Francis was born in India in 1875, one of a family of eight children. His father David Logan was a civil engineer. Francis was listed in 1891 at Godalming part of the long list of Charterhouse pupils.



By the age of 25, Francis was a Lieutenant at Woolwich with the Royal Field Artillery. In 1902 in Kensington, he married Alice Maud Chitty (1877-1963). She had been born in Suez, Egypt in 1877 and her marriage certificate showed that her father was retired from the Indian Navy.

The magazine *Gentlewoman* in 1902 provided details for their readers:

Captain F. D. Logan to Miss A. Chitty.
 CAPTAIN F. D. LOGAN, R.F.A., West Yorkshire Regiment, son of the late David Logan, M. I. C. E., and Mrs. Logan, was married to Miss Alice Maud Chitty, daughter of Captain A. W. Chitty, C.I.E., and Mrs. Chitty, of 55, Holland Road, Kensington, at St. Jude's Church, Kensington, on June 11th. The Rev. E. Eardley Wilmot officiated, assisted by the Rev. G. Chitty. Captain A. W. Chitty gave his daughter away, and her wedding dress was of white duchesse satin with duchesse lace. She carried a bouquet, and wore a diamond ornament, the gifts of the bridegroom. The two bridesmaids were the little niece and cousin of the bride, Miss Doris Haskett-Smith and Miss Vere Brodie. They were prettily dressed in long white satin frocks, and white satin and pearl Dutch bonnets. The bridegroom, who was supported by Captain Maxwell Logan as best man, presented them with large lilies tied with white satin ribbon and gold locket and chains. The honeymoon is to be spent at Eastbourne, and the bride travelled in a dress of pale grey voile with a vieux rose hat. The wedding cake was supplied by Messrs. W. and G. Buszard.

Captain F D Logan RFA, West Yorkshire Regiment, son of the late David Logan, MICE and Mrs Logan, was married to Miss Alice Maud Chitty, daughter of Captain A W Chitty CIE and Mrs Chitty of Holland Road, Kensington at St Jude's Church, Kensington on June 11th

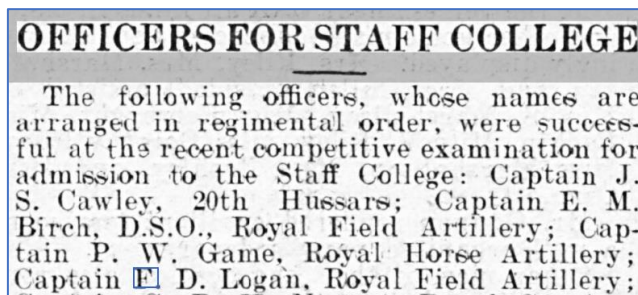
In 1904, the *Kentish Independent* provided an article on Captain Logan:

Captain Francis Douglas Logan, Royal Field Artillery, who has since December 1901, occupied the onerous position of adjutant to the 3rd Kent (Royal Arsenal), Royal Garrison Artillery Volunteers (Heavy Batteries) is about to relinquish that appointment, on fulfilment of his three years term of office. Captain Logan returns to his regiment and leaves shortly for India. Educated at Charterhouse, Major Logan passed thence into the Royal Military Academy.

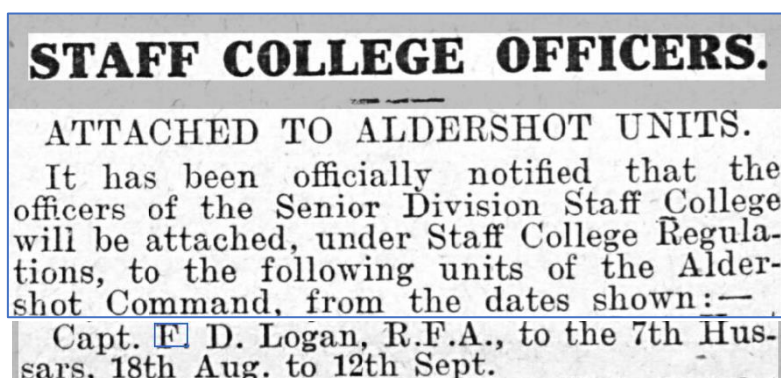
Captain Logan represented the RMA in Association football, cricket and athletics against RMC, Sandhurst. He received his first commission in 1896 and served in Egypt, the Sudan campaign and the battle of Omdurman in 1898.

The couple had three children. Margaret Dorothy was born in Eltham in 1905, Reginald Francis Arthur in Woolwich in 1907 and Barbara Hosken Logan in 1908 in Frimley/Camberley.

In October 1907, the Aldershot News published the following:



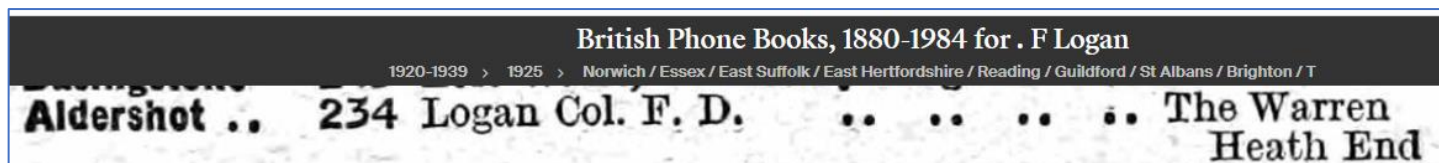
A similar article was published in 1909:



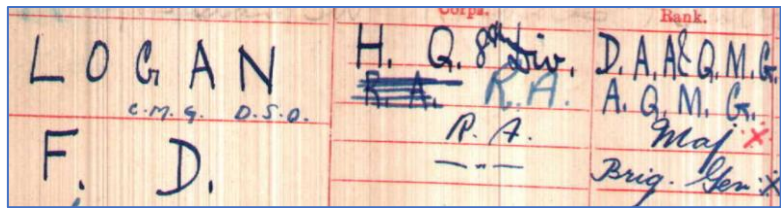
In 1917 the Woolwich Gazette printed a section called Legion of Honour showing Lieutenant-Colonel Logan of the Royal Artillery receiving the Croix d'Officier, an honour for distinguished services during campaigns. Honours were conferred by the President of the French Republic. (The French Order of Merit are for both military personnel and civilians and the Order is grouped as Chevalier, Officier, Commandeur, Grand Officier and Grand Croix.)



By the time Colonel Logan was in Aldershot, he was in his fifties with grown-up children. The family stayed in The Warren for about three years (with the same telephone number).



Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Alice Maud Logan					
Farnham > 1925 Autumn					
1244	R	O	Logan, Francis Douglas	The Warren, Heath End	
1245	H O	H O	Logan, Alice Maud	The Warren, Heath End	



In December 1926, the newspaper called The Truth published the following article:

Colonel **Francis Douglas Logan**, who has been A.A. and Q.M.G. with the 1st Division at Aldershot since April, will, on completion of his three years, go to Egypt as Colonel-in-Charge of Administration in succession to Colonel J. B. Wells. As a subaltern of artillery he served in the Nile Expedition of 1898. During the war he held a succession of "Q" appointments in France and at home, ending up as Commandant of the Calais base. He often exposed himself fearlessly on shell-swept routes to make sure that supplies were being got up and communications well maintained with the front line, and received the C.M.G. and D.S.O., also the Legion of Honour.

The British Army had three disciplines for staff officers. One called "Q" was for staff officers to take responsibility for administration of supplies.

In 1927, Mrs Logan and her daughters aged 22 and 19 travelled to Port Said, Egypt giving their address as Queens Gate, London. They were joining their husband who was then Colonel in Charge of Administration (of supplies).

UK and Ireland, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960 for Alice Maud Logan				
London > 1927 > Aug				
Logan	Mrs. Alice Maud,	85 Queens Gate	2	Pt. Sd.
	Miss Margaret	S.W.7	2	-
	Miss Barbara		2	-

The Logan family returned from Alexandria, Egypt to Southampton and gave an address in Kent.

ALEXANDRIA	2	DO	LOGAN	FRANCIS	2 KENTON APT	DO	HIL	OP-10-2-26	55
DO	3	DO	LOGAN	ALICE	DO	DO	HIL		52
DO	4	DO	LOGAN	MARGARET	DO	DO	HIL		
DO	5	DO	LOGAN	BARBARA	DO	DO	HIL		

Sadly, their son Lieutenant Reginald Francis Arthur Logan died in January 1928 in the Lahore district of Punjab, in what is now Pakistan and was buried at Gora Kabristan at Nishat Colony, a Christian cemetery.

It was not long before the telephone number Aldershot 234 had a new subscriber at The Warren. This was Colonel Venning. Colonel Walter King Venning (1882-1964) and his wife Marcia Violet Venning née Dorman (1887-1946) were in The Warren from 1927 to 1929.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962					
Farnham > 1927					
R	O	Venning, Walter King		The Warren, Heath End	
HO	HO	Venning, Maria Violet		The Warren, Heath End	

Who was General Sir Walter King Venning? Wikipedia gives a summary:

General Sir Walter King Venning GCB CMG CBE MC (17 January 1882 - 19 June 1964) was a British Army officer and administrator who served in both World Wars. Known for his excellency as an administrator, he served as Quartermaster-General to the Forces from 1939 to 1942 and Director General of the British Supply Mission in Washington, D.C. from 1942 to 1945.

Walter Venning was born in Hampstead, London in 1882; his father Edward Venning had served in the Ceylon Civil Service. He went to school at Allhallows and Clifton College and then chose a military life.

Age 19 in 1901, Walter was at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst and commissioned into the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, followed with service with the West African Frontier Force. By 1911 he was stationed in Gravesend Barracks, Kent, as a Lieutenant. His regiment here was 1st Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

In January 1912, Walter married Marcia Violet Dorman at St Pauls, Knightsbridge. Her father was John Cotter Dorman, a Surgeon-General. Marcia had been born in India. A son, Walter Reginald Venning was born in Kensington in December the same year and another son Edward John Dorman Venning born six years later, after the war, in Cork, Ireland.

During the First World War, Walter saw active service and was awarded the Military Cross in the King's 1915 Birthday Honours.

His military career progressed: 1916 temporary Lieutenant-Colonel, 1917 Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, 1919 temporary Colonel and 1922 Colonel, dated back to June 1921. Walter was deputy Assistant Adjutant General at the General Headquarters of the British Expeditionary Force, and then in 1922 Assistant Adjutant General at the War Office, London.

In 1922, the Venning family were at Tamar Lodge, Garfield Road, Camberley where Colonel Venning was an instructor at Staff College, Camberley.

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)			
1	Walter Venning	Head	39	5	M	Married	London Hampstead	—	—	Lieut- Colonel Duke of Cornwall's Lt Infy.	Regular Army	701	Staff College Camberley
2	Marcia Venning	Wife	35	—	F	Married	India N.W.P. Bishnupur	Resident	—	Home Duties	—	—	—
3	Walter Venning	Son	8	6	M	Both Alive	London Kensington	—	Whole- -time	—	—	—	—
4	John Venning	Son	2	9	M	Both Alive	Co. Cork Cork	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Kate Pickett	Servant	23	7	F	Single	Hampshire Cove	—	—	House - Parlormaid	Private	760	— 664
6	Ella Tooley	Servant	25	9	F	Married	Derbyshire Matlock	—	—	Cook	Private	760	— 664

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Marcia Venning					
Farnham > 1922 Autumn					
900	R	O	Venning, Walter		Tamar Lodge
901	HO	HO	Venning, Marcia		Tamar Lodge

The family moved to The Warren when Walter was appointed Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General at Aldershot Command in 1927.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Maria Violet Venning					
Farnham > 1927					
791	R	O	Venning, Walter King	The Warren, Heath End	
792	H O	H O	Venning, Maria Violet	The Warren, Heath End	

By 1929, there was another move for the family, this time to India. Colonel Venning was now Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster General at Eastern Command in India.

UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960 for Marcia Venning						
London, England > 1933 > Dec						
BOMBAY	"	66	VENNING Walter	"Whitecock"	1st.	Army Officer
"	"	67	VENNING Marcia	"Streatley, Berks"	1st.	H.D.

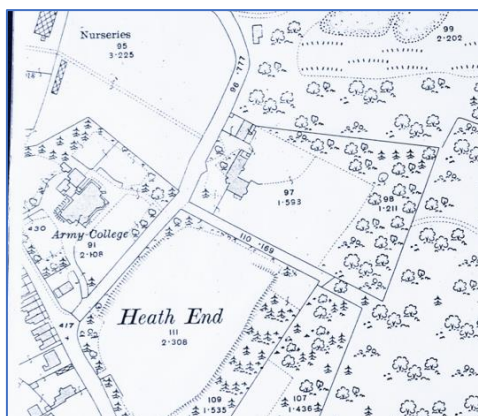
Major-General Venning and his wife returned from Bombay in 1933 with an address of Streatley, Berkshire.

Walter's career continued: 1929 temporary Brigadier, 1933 Major-General, 1938 Lieutenant-General and 1940 General. He was appointed Commander, Order of the British Empire (C.B.E.) and received the Military Cross (M.C.). He was appointed Knight Grand Cross, Order of the Bath (G.C.B.) and Companion, Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.)

The National Portrait Gallery and other photographs show General Sir Walter King Venning in uniform.



By the end of the 1920s, The Warren had become empty. Who will be the next residents?



Just a short stroll away from The Warren past the cricket ground takes us to the Army College. Let us see what is happening there now?