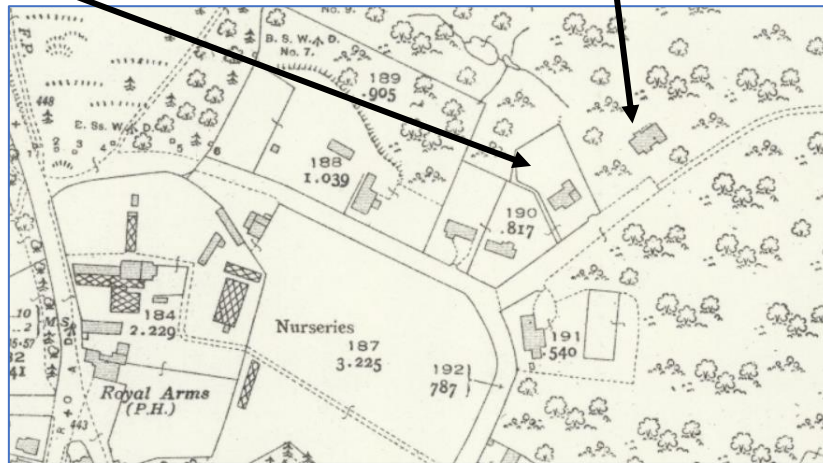


Rowhills Estate

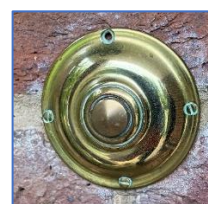
The Wells Estate led by architect Raymond Wells, continued their plan of building new properties in Rowhills for rental. Once Four Oaks and The Chestnuts were built, they were followed by Hazelwood and Firbank. All of this was on land that Raymond's father John Henry Wells had inherited in 1908 from his father Henry Wells.

The 25-inch Ordnance Survey map Surrey Sheet XXII.14, revised in 1934, published in 1935, shows Hazelwood adjacent to The Chestnuts with Firbank built well beyond.



Hazelwood, Rowhills Estate

Hazelwood was built around 1934. The kitchen bell indicator board and bell showed the property was initially three bedrooms but a further bedroom was added, possibly soon after.



An orchard was attached to this property, sold a while later to the adjoining property Firbank.

The new tenants living in Hazelwood were Major Richard Philip Eyre (1888-1982) and his wife Daphe Eyre née Brierley (1906-1969). Richard was born in Agra, India, son of Colonel Hastings Augustus Eyre, who was once Paymaster in the Army Pay Department, Norfolk Regiment.

1888	November 22	1888	November 2	Richard Philip Hastings	Male	Hastings, Augustus & Kathleen	Eyre	Agra	Capt. Norfolk Regiment
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EYRE		PO. 8 B	x Bapt
RP.H.	MBE		
Richard Philip Hastings	MBE	Page	Remarks
X	ASCO	DEF 1	9th
BUTTON			14/4624/10.99.21.11/15/77860
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in		B. Salonika	
Date of entry theatre		1.9.16	
Em/2/10731 V.4.5/Ed 14 30		EM/2/1073	

By 1911, the Eyre family had returned from India and were living in Wimbledon in a comfortable property. Twenty-two year old Richard had employment as an insurance clerk but by 1916 he had enlisted in the Royal Army Service Corps as 2nd Lieutenant, serving in Salonika, part of the Ottoman Empire (now Thessaloniki).

In 1919 Richard, now a Lieutenant serving in the Balkans, was awarded an MBE. On the 1921 census, Richard was in Bullers Barracks, Aldershot, in the Norfolk Regiment (9th Foot). Richard married Daphne Brierley in Kensington in 1933 and the couple moved to Woolwich for a brief stay.

Daphne Brierley was born in Wimbledon but spent her later school years in boarding school in Eastbourne. Her father Ronald Beswicke Brierley was a contractor and asphalt manufacturer. Ronald was also Hon. Secretary of the new branch of the Navy League which formed in 1909 in Wimbledon. This was a patriotic organisation that campaigned for greater public awareness of the role of the Royal Navy in safeguarding British interests at home and abroad.

In 1935 Richard and Daphne moved into Hazelwood and had the telephone installed immediately.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Daphne Eyre	
Farnham > 1935	
Eyre, Richard Philip (Major)	Hazelwood, Heath End
Eyre, Daphne	Hazelwood, Heath End

Eyre Maj. R. P. H,
Hazlewood Heath end Farnham.....Aldershot 730

Daughter Susan Eyre was born in 1937. In 1938, Molly O'Neil joined the household; it is thought as a domestic live-in help since she had been living in various households in Surrey.

O'Neil, Molly	Hazelwood, Rowhills Estate, Heath End
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Molly stayed with the couple when they left Hazelwood and moved with them to Hillside End, Ash Hill Road, Ash Vale in 1939. In the 1939 Register, Major Eyre was living alone at this address, now serving as Command Barrack officer. His wife and daughter moved to Somerset.

EYRE	Richard P.H.	M	Nov. 2 88	M	Retired Army Officer R.A.S.C. En Command Barrack Officer
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In 1940 Richard Eyre was awarded an OBE, alongside his MBE.

Captain (Brevet Major) Richard Philip Hastings Eyre, M.B.E., Retired Pay, late Royal Army Service Corps.

Firbank, Rowhills Estate



Firbank appears to have been built in Rowhill Copse about 1935, on the land inherited by John Henry Wells in 1908, and rented out to tenants.

The first to live in the house were Eva Kelly and Ada Hart who were there solely in 1935 as domestic help for the new arrivals.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Eva Josephine Kelly	
<small>Farnham > 1935</small>	
Kelly, Eva Josephine	Firbank, Heath End

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Ada Evelyn Hart	
<small>Farnham > 1935</small>	
Hart, Ada Evelyn	Firbank, Heath End

The usual tenants were typically linked to the army in Aldershot. In 1935 Captain Arthur Francis Toogood (1902-1983) and his wife Elizabeth Helena née Cronin-Coltsman (1907-1984) moved in. Their domestic help Bridget McSweeney arrived in 1936. Elizabeth was Irish and Bridget McSweeney certainly may have been Irish but nothing more is known about her.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Elizabeth Helena Toogood	
<small>Farnham > 1935</small>	
Toogood, Arthur Francis (Capt.)	Firbank, Heath End
Toogood, Elizabeth Helena	Firbank, Heath End
McSweeney, Bridget	Firbank, Heath End

Arthur was born and baptised in Arrah, India in 1902 where his father John Henry Toogood was a superintending engineer with the Indian Public Works Department in the Indian Civil Service.

WHEN BAPTIZED			SAID TO BE BORN			Child's Christian Name	Sex	PARENTS' NAMES		Abode of Parents	Quality, Trade or Profession of Father
Year	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day			Christian	Surname		
1903	Feb	8	1902	Dec	1	Arthur Francis Long	M	John Henry	Toogood	Arrah	Superintending Engineer, I.C.S.
								Kate See			

By 1911 the family were back in England, living comfortably in Paignton, Devon. Arthur enlisted in the Corps of the Royal Engineers and by 1921, he was at the Royal Military Academy, Army Educational Establishment at Woolwich as a Gentleman Cadet, 2nd Lieutenant.

*Army.
Royal Military Academy.
Army Educational Establishment.
Woolwich, S.E. 18.*

Toogood, Gent. Cadet Arthur Francis (2nd Lt., R.E., from R. Mil. Acad.)

WESTCOUNTRY ESTATES.
MR. J. H. TOOGOOD OF PAIGNTON,
LEAVES £6,000
 Mr. John Henry Toogood of Newstead, Totnes-road, Paignton, late Public Works Department (India), who died on November 1, left estate of the gross value of £8,792, with net personalty £8,732. Probate has been granted to his sons, Captain Harry Toogood of Unthank-road, Norwich, and Lieutenant Arthur Eranol Toogood of Riverdale, South Brent, and Christian Tindall, of Riverdale, South Brent.
 The testator left one-half of his property to his daughter, Nest Jennetta Toogood, and one-half to his children, Elsie Kate Tindall, Dulcie Olive Sykes, Harry Charles Toogood, and Arthur Eranol Toogood.

Arthur's father died in 1927 and left a substantial amount of money to be shared amongst his adult children. Arthur was by now a Lieutenant at Tidworth camp and perhaps was thinking of his prospects in looking for a wife?

The engagement is announced between Arthur Francis Toogood, Royal Engineers, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toogood, and Lela Cronin-Coltsman, only daughter of Francis Cronin-Coltsman, of Mallow.



Flesk Castle (Buildings of Ireland)

Following their engagement, Arthur Toogood married Elizabeth Helena Cronin-Coltsman in 1932 at Mourne Abbey Church, Mallow, Co. Cork in Ireland. Her father was Francis Cronin-Coltsman who was born in Flesk Castle, Co. Kerry, the family home. Lela's mother was Elizabeth Marion de Blaquiére.

Aug. 15, 1932, Arthur Francis Toogood, full age, bachelor, Lt. R.E., Tidworth Camp, Hayts. father, John Henry Toogood, Indian Civil service, to Elizabeth Helena Cronin Colstmann, full age, spinster, National Bank House, Mallow, father, Francis Joseph Cronin Coltsman, bank manager, married in the said church by licence of S.W.D. Herman, Canon, Rector, W. L.C. Colstmann, and J.W. Cronin.

Daughter Elizabeth Kate Evelyn Toogood was born in Cork in 1933 and was part of the family settling in to Firbank. However, settling in never happened because Arthur was by then in India on the North West Frontier with the Royal Engineers from 1936 to 1937. By 1939, Mrs Toogood and her daughter were back in Devon with Arthur's family. Arthur had become a Lieutenant-Colonel.

However Firbank did not stay empty. In 1937 widowed Mrs Brenda Ellwood and her widowed daughter Mrs Brenda Muriel West moved in. Brenda Ellwood née Graham (1866-1957) had been a widow for five years. Her late husband George Elland was a fur dyer and wholesale fur merchant. They had married in 1884 in "the House of Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy in Paris".

MARRIAGES solemnized in the House of Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy at Paris, in the Year 1884

George Ellwood, Bachelor of the Parish of Raynwater in the county of Middlesex
 and Brenda Graham, Spinster of the Parish of Kensington in the county of Middlesex
 were married in this church with the consent of Her Majesty's Ministers
 this twenty sixth Day of August
 in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty four
 By me, *Arthur James* Vicar, Assistant Chaplain
 This marriage was solemnized between us, *George Ellwood* and *Brenda Graham*
 In the presence of *Edwin Wicker*
Arthur James
Edwin Wicker
 25 Dec. 11. 11. 1904

The couple had three daughters - Dorothy Clarissa, Brenda Muriel and Evelyn Dulcia. Between 1885 and 1925 the Ellwood family lived in various locations - Dorking, Kensington, Balham, Clapham, Wandsworth.

Mrs Ellwood's daughter Brenda Muriel West née Ellwood (1889-1977) had been widowed in 1933, leaving her with a 13 year-old son Rupert Philip Joynson-West. Her husband Albert Percy Joynson West had been a Captain in the Army and they had married in Madras, India in 1915.

Albert Percy Joynson	West	35	Bachelor	3 rd Carnatic S. P. A.	Madras	Joseph Robert Orr West	License
Brenda Muriel	Ellwood	26	Spinster	—	Madras	George Ellwood	

When Captain West retired, the family lived in Kensington but when he died in San Remo, Italy in 1933, his address was given as Bladensburg House, Badajos Barracks, Aldershot.

So where to live next, once widowed? Sister Dorothy Clarissa Ellwood had married Rev. Charles Siphthorp, Rector of Blankney in Lincolnshire and had two children. Her other sister Evelyn Dulcia was travelling with husband Alexander Hood. Brenda Ellwood and her daughter Brenda West, wanted to stay in the Aldershot area. Firbank was available to rent.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Brenda Ellwood	
Farnham > 1937	
Ellwood, Brenda	Firbank, Heath End
West, Brenda Muriel—J	Firbank, Heath End

Mother, daughter and grandson settled in and remained in Firbank. In 1939, they were joined by another family member Lady Evelyn Dulcia Hood.

1939 England and Wales Register for Evelyn D Hood	
Surrey > Farnham Ud > Dml	
Firbank, Heath End	1 Ellwood, Brenda
Devhills Estate, Dou	2 JOYNSON- West, Brenda M.
	3 Hood, Evelyn D.

Evelyn Dulcia Ellwood had married Captain Alexander Hood in 1918 at Christ Church, Rawalpindi, India (now Pakistan).

Alexander	Hood	✓	Full	Bachelor	Captain R.A.M.C	Rawalpindi	Alexander Hood.	
Evelyn Dulcia	Ellwood	✓	Full	Spinster.		Murree.	George Ellwood.	Dennis.

Alexander Hood was a physician and Army Medical Officer in the Royal Army Medical Corps, serving in France, Belgium, India and Afghanistan. He had been deputy assistant district pathologist in Madras and conducted research on dysentery, cerebrospinal meningitis and pneumonic plague.



Alexander became the assistant district pathologist to Sothern Command, which was initially based at Tidworth Camp, Wiltshire. Evelyn Wood moved, following her husband and so their three children were probably away at boarding school. In 1936 she was in Egypt and then by 1939, she was with her mother and sister at Firbank, Rowhills.

(2) NAMES OF PASSENGERS.	(3) Last Address in the United Kingdom.	(4) CLASS (Whether 1st, 2nd or 3rd)	(6) Port at which Passengers have contracted to land.	(6) Profession, Occupation or Calling of Passengers.	(7) AGES OF PASSENGERS.							(8) Country of last Permanent Residence.*						(9) Country of Intended Future Permanent Residence.*
					Adults of 15 years and upwards.		Children between 1 and 12.		Infants			England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Irish Free State	Other parts of the British Empire (the British Colonies and Foreign Countries)	
					Accompanied by husband or wife.	Not accompanied by husband or wife.	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males							
(Mrs) HOOD, Evelyn Dulcia	28, Sutherland Av., Bexhill on Sea.	1st	Port Said	-						46			1					Egypt

Alexander Hood had become Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Hood GBE KCB KCVO FRCP FRCSE with his wife becoming Lady Hood. In 1949 Alexander became Governor of Bermuda.

The Queen in Bermuda



Alexander Hood



Alexander Hood had his tenure in Bermuda extended twice then in 1955 he suddenly resigned. He obtained a "divorce" in Reno, Nevada, USA and had a form of marriage there the same day to Mrs Helena Wilkinson. He was unable to return to England in case of prosecution for bigamy.

By 1939, Hazelwood, Littlecott and The Chestnuts in Rowhills Estate were now empty with the family of Brenda Ellwood in Firbank.

1939 England and Wales Register			
Surrey > Farnham Ud > Dmii			
✓	The Chestnuts Rowhills Estate	350	-
✓	Rowhills Estate	301	-
✓	Littlecott Rowhills Estate	302	-
✓	Hazelwood Rowhills Estate	303	-

Piece by piece, the Wells Estate was building on plots of Rowhill Copse land, mostly controlled by the architect Raymond Lionel Wells. What did they build next? It is a brief walk around to the end of the cul-de-sac of Rowhills to find out.