



Bear Wood Deputy Controller and Q.M.A.A.C. personnel being inspected by Queen Mary at Aldershot, June, 1918.

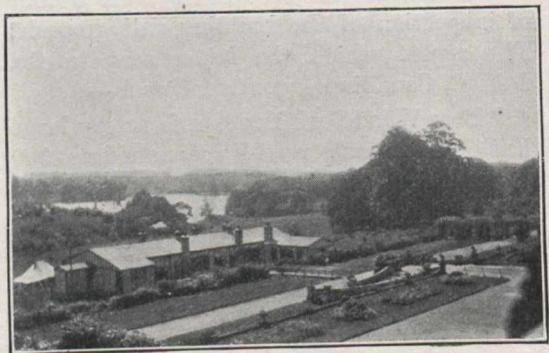
Sixth of Scotland became King James the First of England, he had these forests surveyed, and Norden's maps, prepared then at the King's Commission, show Bearewood Walke as extending from the Loddon River East, which is under the jurisdiction of Sir Francis Knowles and in which Fallow deer roamed in large numbers. Bear Wood Park, although there are many theories and anecdotes connected with the name, probably derives its spelling from the old name of the County of Berkshire in which it is situated. The ancient form of this County Title was Berroc Scyre, and in maps of no distant date Berroc Wood is shown around Wokingham, extending to the Loddon River. Captain Cooper King in his history of Berkshire says the name lives as modern Bear Wood. On maps prepared by Norden at the command of King James the First, the name is spelled Bearewood Walke.

This district has a great history extending over hundreds of years and dating back to Saxon times. The scenery of the district is wonderfully beautiful, with magnificent woodlands, long stretches of heather and bracken, giant oak and beech trees, firs and pine woods. The grounds known as Bear Wood Park and now devoted to the recuperation of Canadian soldiers were purchased in 1830 by Mr. John Walter, the second of that name, who built the first

house owned by that distinguished family, also the adjoining church at Bear Wood. He and his family lived there until 1865, when John Walter, the third of that name, erected the present mansion. It is a very large and imposing building, designed in the Elizabethan style. The principal interior feature is the large picture gallery and around this great central hall, the rest of the mansion was constructed.

The Mansion.

The Drive leading from the Main Lodge to the Hospital winds between two small covers of woodland and suddenly opens upon the vista of two stately rows of beautiful Wellingtonians, which impress one as a guard of



Looking South to Lake.