



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.1/U/33

In the Matter of The Public Chalk Quarry,
Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Public Chalk Quarry, Eaton Bray, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.C.L.34 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Bedfordshire County Council of which no person is registered under section 4 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 as the owner.

Following upon the public notice of this reference the National Trust claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no other person claimed to have information as to its ownership.

I held a hearing for the purpose of inquiring into the question of the ownership of the land at Bedford on 13th February 1974.

At the hearing the National Trust was represented by Mr.L.K. Peace, its Assistant Agent, and Mr. S.T. Morris, the Assistant Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association of Parish Councils, appeared for the Eaton Bray Parish Council.

There was no contest between Mr.Peace and Mr.Morris. The land in question was conveyed to the National Trust by a conveyance made 14th June 1935 between (1) Bernard Estates Ltd (2) The National Trust for preservation pursuant to the provisions of the National Trust Act 1907. This conveyance was recorded in the books of the Charity Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of section 29(4) of the Settled Land Act 1925 on 24th July 1935.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the National Trust is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Bedfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the National Trust as the owner of the land under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965.

I am required by regulation 30(1) of the Commons Commissioners Regulations 1971 to explain that a person aggrieved by this decision as being erroneous in point of law may, within 6 weeks from the date on which notice of the decision is sent to him, require me to state a case for the decision of the High Court.

Dated this 7th day of March 1974

Chief Commons Commissioner