



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference no. 3/U/11

In the Matter of Land by Chawley Green
Farm, West Wycombe, Wycombe District

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as land by Chawley Green Farm, West Wycombe, Wycombe District being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit no. CL.110 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Buckinghamshire 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 Sir Francis Dashwood Bt. 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 Aylesbury on 14th October 1975.

Mr McCaw appeared for Sir Francis Dashwood and Mr A. J. Plumridge a member of the West Wycombe Parish Council appeared on its behalf.

Sir Francis Dashwood claimed the land in question as Lord of the Manor of West Wycombe.

In order to establish his claim Sir Francis Dashwood has to establish first that he is the Lord of the Manor and secondly that the land in question lies within the Manor of West Wycombe. Mr McCaw produced a certified copy of a conveyance dated 5th September 1974 whereby the personal representatives and the late Sir J. L. Dashwood conveyed the manor or lordship of West Wycombe to Sir Francis. Quite apart from this conclusive evidence from what was said at the hearing I formed the impression that it is common knowledge in the locality that Sir Francis is the Lord of the Manor.

Mr McCaw then produced a photostat copy of a map of the Manor of West Wycombe deposited in the Bodleian Library, Oxford and identified the land in question on that map to my satisfaction as lying within the Manor of West Wycombe.

There was at the hearing some debate as to whether or not the Manor was conterminous with the Parish. In my view this question has no relevance but the Victoria History of the County of Buckinghamshire does state that the Manor and the Parish were conterminous at Vol.III p.137.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Sir Francis Dashwood Bt. is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Buckinghamshire County Council, as registration authority, to register Sir Francis Dashwood Bt. 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 20th day of October 1975

G. A. Le H. G.

Commons Commissioner