

In the Matter of High Meadow Woods, Staunton, Gloucestershire (No. 2)

DECISION

This dispute relates to the registrations at Entry Nos 1 and 2 in the Rights section of Register Unit No. CL 325 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the former Gloucestershire County Council and is occasioned by Objection No 0b 143 made by the Forestry Commission and noted in the Register on

I held a hearing for the purpose of inquiring into the dispute at Gloucester on 9 February 1977. The hearing was attended by Mr C Nicholls, solicitor, on behalf of Mr V S Haines, the applicant for the registration at Entry No. 1 and the Staunton Parish Council, the applicant, as trustee for the parishioners of Staunton, for the registration at Entry No. 2, and by Mr Ungoed-Thomas, of counsel, on behalf of the Objector.

For the reasons given in my decision in <u>In the Matter of High Meadow Woods</u>, <u>Staunton</u> (No. 1) (1977), Ref. No. 213/D/14, I do not consider that either of the rights claimed has been proved to exist. Therefore I refuse to confirm both registrations.

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 26th day of March 1977

Chief Commons Commissioner



brushwood and peasticks. These permits are issued for the asking, but the holders are never asked to show them. The only people who are ever challenged are those seen taking larger timber. The evidence taken as a whole leads me to the conclusion that the Forestry Commission and its predecessors has never recognised the right of anyone to take wood from the land in question, but has acquiesced in the taking of sticks by inhabitants of the locality. This is insufficient to establish a right of common.

For these reasons I refuse to confirm the registration.

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