



In the Matter of Knowe Road Watering Place,
Bardon Mill, Northumberland

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Knowe Road Watering Place, Bardon Mill, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 108 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Northumberland 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 no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no one 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 Hexham on 28 October 1981.

At the hearing Mr D Reay, a local resident, drew my attention to the provisions of the Thorngrafton Common Inclosure Award made on 21 December 1797 under the Thorngrafton Inclosure Act of 1793 (33 Geo. III, c 62 (private)).

By the Award the land the subject of the reference was set out, assigned, and appointed a public watering place and common well. The land was not, however, allotted to anyone, so it remained in the ownership of the previous owner, probably the lord of the manor. In the absence of any evidence as to the identity of the present successor in title of the pre-award owner, I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and it will therefore remain subject to protection under section 9 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 25th day of November 1981

Chief Commons Commissioner