



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 227/U/51

In the Matter of Thorngrifton Peat Moss and Way,
Bardon Mill, Northumberland

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Thorngrifton Peat Moss and Way, Bardon Mill, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 112 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.

There was no appearance at the hearing but Mr D Reay, a local resident, informed me that he believed that the executors of the late Major-Gen. Sir James Bowes-Lyon were the owners of the land in question.

Since there was no other person claiming to be the owner, I do not consider it necessary to re-open the hearing. I have been furnished with documentary evidence that the land in question forms part of Crow Hall Farm, which was conveyed to the late Sir James Bowes-Lyon by a conveyance made 31 May 1973 between (1) Edith Marion Woodman, William Woodman, and John Edward Woodman, (2) Francis James Cecil Bowes-Lyon. The vendors had a good root of title in a conveyance made 10 May 1947 between (1) Mary Anna Harding, Grace Cathcart Woodman, Emily Jane Scott, and Margaret Isabel Proctor (2) John Hutton Woodman, E M Woodman, W Woodman and J E Woodman. Sir James Bowes-Lyon died 18 December 1977, and his will with two codicils was proved on 22 February 1978 by Lady Mary (sic) Bowes-Lyon, John Francis Bowes-Lyon and Wilfred Martin Vernon Dean. Under the will and codicils Lady Bowes-Lyon became entitled to receive during her life-time the whole of the income of Crow Hall Farm and Mr J F Bowes-Lyon became absolutely entitled to the freehold of the property subject to Lady Bowes-Lyon's life interest. By an assent^{assent} made 17 July 1980 the personal representatives assented to the vesting of Crow Hall Farm in themselves.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Lady Bowes-Lyon, Mr J F Bowes-Lyon and Mr W M V Dean are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Northumberland County Council, as registration authority, to register them as the owners of the land under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965.



- 2 -

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

27th

day of

January

1982.

Chief Commons Commissioner.