



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 229/U/100

In the Matter of Clifton Heath, Clifton
Hampden, Oxfordshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Clifton Heath, Clifton Hampden, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL.90 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Oxfordshire 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 Mr D C L Gibbs 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 Oxford on 25 November 1982. At the hearing Mr Gibbs was represented by Mrs E McDougall, Solicitors.

The land in question is shown in a survey drawn up for Robert Hucks in 1794 as part of the farm of Clifton Hampden. The property passed to the Gibbs family by the marriage of Anthony Gibbs to Dorothea Hucks and since continued in the ownership of their descendants. Part of the farm, including the land in question, was conveyed to Mr Gibbs by a conveyance made 13 December 1971 between (1) Sir Geoffrey Cokayne Gibbs (2) David Charles Leslie Gibbs corrected by a deed made 6 July 1978 between (1) Stephen Cokayne Gibbs and Roger Geoffrey Gibbs (2) D C L Gibbs. Both Mr D C L Gibbs and his father, Sir Geoffrey Gibbs, have felled and planted trees on the land, used the shooting rights, and granted rights of way, easements, and wayleaves over it.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Mr D C L Gibbs is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Oxfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register him 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 2nd day of December 1982


Chief Commons Commissioner