



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.29/U/39

In the Matter of The Old Pound,  
Stratton Audley, Oxfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Old Pound, Stratton Audley, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.V.G.6 in the Register of Town or Village Greens 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 Miss E.B. Rigden and Mrs. J.M. Elworthy claimed to be the freehold owners 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 22nd November 1973.

At the hearing Miss Rigden and Mrs. Elworthy were represented by Mr. E.K. Truman, solicitor.

The land the subject of this reference was conveyed to Mr. Charles Rigden, the father of Miss Rigden and Mrs. Elworthy by a conveyance made 15th December 1922 between (1) Kathleen Prudence Eirene Blackett-Sweny and (2) Charles Rigden.

Mr. Rigden died on 27th July 1932 and his will was proved 7th October 1932. On 16th October 1934 the Stratton Audley Estate, including the land in question, was assented to the trustees of Mr. Rigden's will and was subsequently assented to Miss Rigden and Mrs. Elworthy when the latter attained her majority on 10th November 1937. Since then Miss Rigden and Mrs. Elworthy have been in uninterrupted occupation of the land in question.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Miss Rigden and Mrs. Elworthy are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Oxfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register them as the owners 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 21st day of December 1973

Chief Commons Commissioner