

In the Matter of Puck Street, Sutton,
West Sussex

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Puck Street, Sutton, being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 252 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the West Sussex 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 Chichester on 7 May 1982.

At the hearing I gave leave under reg. 20 of the Commons Commissioners Regulations 1971 for the Trustees of ^{the} Somerset Hospital Charity to be represented by Mr A R Dickinson, chartered surveyor.

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The Somerset Hospital Charity was founded by an indenture made 5 January 1746 between (i) Charles, Duke of Somerset (2) Matthias Mawson, Lord Bishop of Chichester and others for an almshouse for 12 poor widows at Petworth. The property conveyed to the Trustees as an endowment for the Charity included "Clattin Farm" in the parishes of Sutton and Burton. Clattin Farm is now known as Glatting Farm. There is no plan of the farm on the 1746 indenture, but there has been let with the farm and treated as forming part of it for upwards of twelve years last past a narrow strip of land at the north-eastern extremity of the Register Unit which is ~~part of~~ the land the subject of the reference. This strip is now included in the tenancy of part of Glatting Farm held by Mr J R Tupper and Mr T R Tupper.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the present Trustees of the Somerset Hospital Charity are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex County Council, as registration authority, to register the Trustees 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

25th

day of

May

1982

[Signature]

Chief Commons Commissioner