



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.13/U/48

In the Matter of The Village Green,
Sapperton, Gloucestershire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Sapperton, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.VG.44 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Gloucestershire 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 Gloucester on 10th July 1974.

At the hearing the Sapperton Parish Council was represented by Sir Ian Campbell, its Chairman. Sir Ian informed me that the Parish Council had looked after the land in question since 1894, but merely looking after a piece of land is not, in my view, sufficiently adverse to the interests of the true owner to found a claim to a possessory title.

In the absence of evidence upon which I could find that the Parish Council has acquired a possessory title I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Gloucestershire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Sapperton Parish Council as the owner of the land under section 8(3) 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 19th day of July 1974

Chief Commons Commissioner