



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 274/U/4

In the Matter of Hafod-y-Meirch Mountain,
Brithdir and Islawrdref, Meirionnydd D

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Hafod-y-Meirch Mountain, Brithdir and Islawrdref, Meirionnydd D being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL/137 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the former Merioneth 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 Mrs V.E. Lacey-Johnson 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 Dolgellau on 6th November 1975.

Mr A.M. Dancer of Messrs Griffith Adams and Williams appeared for Mrs Lacey-Johnson.

Mr Dancer accepted that Mrs Lacey-Johnson's title deeds were inconclusive and called her to give evidence.

Mrs Lacey-Johnson stated that she bought the mountain in 1945 and that while there was some fencing on the south side it was mainly unfenced. The mountain is now entirely fenced. The first fence was built in 1951, jointly with a neighbour Mr Edwards, in the East; the West and North fences were built in 1952 jointly with Mr Williams of Maes-coch and Mr Williams of Bwlch-coch. Mrs Lacey-Johnson and the neighbouring farmers shared the cost of the fencing 50/50. Mrs Lacey-Johnson's sheep were the only sheep which grazed the mountain till 1968 when she sold her flock. The mountain is now grazed under an agreement which she produced, the tenant being liable for the upkeep of the fences.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Mrs V.E. Lacey-Johnson is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Gwynedd County Council, as registration authority, to register Mrs V.E. Lacey-Johnson as the owner of the land under section 3(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 8th day of December 1975

Commons Commissioners