



In the Matter of The Mount Tree, Little Tew,
Oxfordshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Mount Tree, Little Tew, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 125 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the former 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 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 Oxford on 20 July 1978.

At the hearing the Little Tew Parish Meeting was represented by Mr H Catling, its Chairman.

The land in question is a small area at a road junction. The tree from which it gets its name is said to have been planted by a benefactor to commemorate the marriage of King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales. It is recorded in the Parish Meeting minute book that in 1901 the relief of Mafeking was celebrated by eight parishioners singing the National Anthem round the Mount Tree. The tree is surrounded by railings 3 ft high, though it does not appear by whom they were erected.

It does not appear that the Parish Trustees have been in adverse possession of the land so as to acquire a possessory title to it.

On this evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and it will therefore remain subject to protection under section 9 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

3rd

day of

August

1978

CHIEF COMMONS COMMISSIONER