



In the Matter of Chilgrove Hill and Chilgrove
Common, West Dean, West Sussex.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Chilgrove Hill and Chilgrove Common, West Dean, being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 31 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 Mr H P Renwick claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no other person claimed to have information as to its ownership.

Mr Commissioner Settle, QC, held a hearing for the purpose of inquiring into the question of the ownership of the land at Chichester on 5 October 1979.

At the hearing Mr R B Minton, Solicitor, appeared on behalf of Mrs D M Renwick, the widow of Mr H P Renwick.

The learned Commissioner was killed in a road accident on 28 November 1979 before he had written his decision, though he had made notes on the case. In pursuance of regulation 29 of the Commons Commissioners Regulations 1971 I hereby direct that the proceedings shall be continued by myself.

The land the subject of the reference was part of the Chilgrove Estate, which was conveyed to Mrs Renwick and her late husband as joint tenants by a deed of gift made 8 September 1961 between (1) Halbert Paterson Renwick (2) Diana Mary Renwick. Mr Renwick died on 12 September 1979.

An area of approximately 2040 sq. yds. to the east of the White Horse Inn was conveyed by Mr and Mrs Renwick to Tamplin's Brewery Ltd on 28 April 1967. This area was conveyed by Tamplin's Brewery Ltd to Watney Mann (London and Home Counties) Ltd on 7 November 1969. Watney Mann (London and Home Counties) Ltd changed its name to Watneys London Ltd on 4 October 1976.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Watneys London Ltd is the owner of the area of approximately 2040 sq. yds. and that Mrs Renwick is the owner of the remainder of the land the subject of the reference. I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex County Council, as registration authority, to register Watneys London Ltd and Mrs Renwick as the owners of those respective parts.

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

20th

day of

October

1980

Chief Commons Commissioner