

In the Matter of West End Town, Freestone Quarry,
Bardon Mill, Northumberland.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as West End Town Freestone Quarry, Bardon Mills, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 111 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Northumberland 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 Hexham on 28 October 1981.

There was no appearance at the hearing, but Mr D Reay, a local resident, informed me that the land in question might be the property of Mr A Wancke.

The Clerk of the Commons Commissioners acted upon Mr Reay's suggestion, and Mr Wancke's solicitors have produced his title.

The land in question was conveyed to Mr Wancke as part of Green Mead Farm (otherwise Thorngrafton Farm) by a conveyance made 23 August 1963 between (1) John Herbert Harding (2) John Bernard Stont (3) Alan Hamilton Wancke. The vendors had a good root of title in a conveyance made 10 November 1928 between (1) William Smith the Younger (2) Robert William Harding and J E Harding. By a deed of gift made 10 April 1972 between (1) A H Wancke (2) Anne Cynthia Wancke wife of A H Wancke Mr and Mrs Wancke became seised of the land for an estate in fee simple as trustees for sale in trust for themselves as beneficial tenants in common in equal shares.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Mr and Mrs Wancke are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Northumberland County Council, as registration authority, to register them 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

4th

day of

March

1982


Chief Commons Commissioner