

2 Feb 1801 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

John Ibbetson Esqr

Newcastle 2d Februry 1801

Sir

By the Mail Coach of this Day from hence you will receive a Box containing a Plan of the Estates of Greenwich Hospital in Hexhamshire, including the several Allotments of Common made to the Hospital, in respect thereof, upon the Division of the Hexhamshire and Allendale Common, and as the Grounds at Turfhouse, lately purchased of John Dixon and Thomas Leach, are Copyhold, and the Hospitals original Estate is Freehold, it has been thought necessary, that a plan of Turfhouse alone, with the respective Properties delineated thereon, distinguishing the Freehold from the Copyhold, should accompany the general Plan. A Field or Survey Book is also sent therewith, which shews the Quantity of Ground contained in each Field or parcel of Ground belonging to Greenwich Hospital, and we beg leave to recommend, that the Plans and Field Book, may be deposited, with the Copy of the Award lately transmitted to you, in the Record Room, as collectively, they will distinctly shew the Hospital's Property in Hexhamshire. The House and Garth belonging to Thomas Leach and the Allotment of Thomas Roddam are Copyhold. It will be proper to let this Letter remain with the Plans. We are

Sir Your most obedt Servts
Walton & Turner

7 Sep 1802 Nicholas Walton

[Note: Report of Riding of Boundaries between Manors of Whitfield & East Coanwood and Alston Moor.]

1802 September 7th
Tuesday

This day pursuant to Notice in the Newcastle Newspapers and otherwise, William Ord Esquire Lord of the Manors of Whitfield and East Coanwood begun to ride or perambulate the Boundaries of the said Manors, at a place called Black Pool Bridge, and were met by Mr Nicholas Walton, one of the Receivers for Greenwich hospital, and Mr John Dickinson, the Hospital's Moor Master in the Manor of Alston Moor, at a Bounder mark or place well known by the name of Hard Rig End Currock, where the Boundaries of the Regality of Hexham, the Manor of Whitfield, and the Manor of Alston Moor meet in a Point. This having been agreed upon, Mr Walton observed to Mr Ord that he understood it was the intention of his Party, in the continuation of the Bounder riding, to go in a different Line from that which was considered to be the Bounder Line between Whitfield and Alston Moor, that he, Mr Walton, in case of its

being so, would proceed upon the Line which he considered to be the true Boundary, and that they might proceed upon that which they imagined to be theirs, and that in consequence of this being done, it would be seen how the respective Claims stood, and that after they had proceeded to that Part of the Boundary where they left the Manor of Alston Moor, he, Mr Walton would explain himself further to Mr Ord upon the occasion. On Mr Walton's getting to a Bounder mark of Mr Ord's called the Law, he addressed himself to Mr Ord, and Mr Clayton his Solicitor, to the following effect. Gentlemen, I beg leave to observe that from the time of your leaving the Hard Rig End Currock, you have been wholly in the Manor of Alston Moor till your coming to the top of Willyshaw Rig, it having been previously observed to Mr Ord and his Company that the Boundary of Alston Moor joining Whitfield extended from the Hard Rig End Currock in a direct Line to the head of Mere Sike from thence by the said Sike to the foot thereof, from thence in a direct Line to Long Cross Pool, from thence in a direct Line to Long Cleugh Hill, and from thence in a direct Line to the top of Willyshaw Rig; whereas Mr Ord and his Company said that the Boundary between Alston Moor and Whitfield extended in a direct Line from Hard Rig End Currock to Long Cross Hill, and from thence in a direct Line towards the Law, passing Willyshaw Rig and leaving it on the Right about the distance of One hundred yards. The Company then parted in perfect civility.

Nichos Walton John Dickinson John Fryer

6 Aug 1803 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

John Ibbetson Esqr

Newcastle 6th August 1803

Sir

On Monday the 25th Ulto, & on the three following Days the Boundaries of the Alston Moor Commons, intended to be divided, were perambulated, by the Commissioners appointed to divide the same, attended by many others, and we have the satisfaction to say, that we have every expectation, that the whole of these Boundaries, will be settled without litigation. The only matters in dispute, were with Mr Ricardson, William Ord Esqr, and Sir Chardin Musgrave Bart, and that part of the Boundary between Alston Moor & Wm Ord Esquires Manor of Whitfield was settled to the satisfaction of every one present, on the 25th Ulto, since which, the Commissioners have set out the Bounder Line, and cut a Ditch thereon, communicating with the Long Ditch. The Ground in dispute with Mr Ricardson, only consists of about 8 Acres, of very bad Ground, and a give and take Line was staked out, before we left Alston moor, which we trust will be satisfactory to Mr Ricardson, but if not, it is not worth contending about. With respect to the difference of Opinion, concerning the Alston Moor Boundary joining Sir John Chardin Musgrave Baronets Manor, the Ground in difference is about 17 or 18 Acres, & from what passed on the 26th Ulto, with Sir Johns

Agent, and several of his Tenants, we have reason to think, that we shall not have any trouble from that Quarter.

On the 1st Inst the Commissioners held their first Meeting for taking in Claims, and from appearances, we cannot help thinking that there will be no little difficulty, some Claims, having been made, and others talked of, which we are of Opinion must occasion delay, we however cannot sufficiently explain these matters till after the adjournment of the second Meeting. But in the mean Time shall endeavour to get the Best information we can; one thing however we cannot avoid mentioning. In the Town of Alston there are many Buildings, which small Rents and Fines are pd for, to Greenwich Hospital, and it is presumed, that most of these if no the whole have been erected upon the Lords Waste, in consequence of Agreements with the Derwentwater Family, & we are the more inclined to be of the Opinion, because we were shown an Agreemt of the kind signed by Lord Derwentwater, and have heard that there are several more of the kind, but we fear, that there are no Counter parts in the Hospitals Possession, & therefore are quite at a loss what to do, but as we observe from the Abstracts of the Hospitals Deeds & Papers wch are in the Record Room at Greenwich Hospital, that there are said to be, 62 useless Papers, belonging to Alstonmoor, It is not only our wish, that they shd be examined, but that we shd have Copies, without loss of Time of everything wch may be found to enable us to conduct ourselves in this Business in the best manner possible for the interest of Greenwich Hospital.

The Board will see that our Opinion is against the claimants for Common Right, who hold as above mentioned, and it is certainly so, but as the Hospital is not, as far as we know, or that any one for them, is possessed of. The necessary information, to substantiate objections, and the Claimants, in general, are poor persons, we beg leave, with the utmost deference to say, that, in our Opinion, the most perfect Delicacy shd be attended to, on the part of Greenwich Hospital, and rather that these shd be a trivial loss, than that its Affairs shd be in the least degree put to a difficulty, in consequence of objections, which may prove to be untenable.

We are Sir Your most obedt Servts
Nichos Walton Joseph Forster

PS We flatter ourselves there will not be the least occasion for the Bounder Roll. We have Copies plenty, and are easy as to disputes. The perambulating and setting out of the Boundaries took us six Days very hard Labour.

13 Aug 1804 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

John Ibbetson Esqr

Newcastle 13th August 1804

Sir

On Monday and Tuesday last the sixth and seventh Instant the Commissioners appointed by an Act of Parliament of the 44th Year of his present Majesties Reign for

inclosing Lands in the Parish of Simonburn pursuant to Notice given in the News Papers published at this Place proceeded to inquire into the Boaundaries of Thorneyburn Common, Greystead otherwise the Eals Common otherwise Stokoe Fell, and Stanners burn Common, being the several Commons, Moors, or Wastes by the said Act intended to be divided and allotted and on making this inquiry it appears that there are four pieces of Common in dispute containing by estimation 103 Acres vizt

	Acres	
Joining Redheugh	50 }	
High Field	30 }	Thorneyburn Common
Hawkup Fell	15 }	
Rough Side	8	Greystead Common
		103 Acres computed to be worth little more than £11p Ann

On Wednesday the eighth Instant, we attended by several of the Common Righters of Tarretburn otherwise Blackburn Common and others, rode or perambulated the Boundary thereof and soon after we begun we were overtaken by Mr Simon Dodd an Agent of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland who discharged us from proceeding in riding the Boundary saying that he had his Graces direction so to do and that His Grace claimed the Common as belonging to his Manor of North Tindale but we denied the Claim, insisted upon the Hospitals right of possession which the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital had been in & in the Use of and that we would not take a discharge immediately after which we proceeded and Mr Simon Dodd left us without any one of our Company joining him. We were afterwards interrupted by Foster Charlton Esqr who claims about 100 Acres of Ground joining the Combe otherwise the Kame Estate computed to be worth about £10 pAnnm but we had no discharge and proceeded. After this we were interrupted by Mr Thomas Crowe Agent of and James Thompson Tenant to John Davidson Esqr who claims about 70 Acres of Ground joining Garretshield Estate computed worth about £5.5.. p Annm? but we had no discharge and proceeded in the perambulation till we finished the same.

On the 9th Inst we caused a description of the Boundary or Bounder Roll to be engrossed and got it signed by the several of the Persons who attended us and as soon as the necessary number of Signatures are obtained we will transmit it to the Board in order that it may be safely lodged in the Record Room. We are

Sir Your most obedt Servts

Nichos Walton Joseph Forster