



The Duke of Norfolk's Estates



Arundel Castle

The Duke of Norfolk's Estates include Arundel Castle in West Sussex and range from Yorkshire to Sussex. The estates are varied and include industrial land, farmland with cottages and residential properties. The registration of the Duke's unregistered property began in spring 2005.

Solicitor to the estate Peter Liptrott of Brabners Chaffe Street says that the Land Registration Act 2002 prompted the Duchy's decision to register.

"If you read the Land Registration Act and think forward a bit, it's essential to protect your estate," says Mr Liptrott. "We were in the process of tidying up what the estate owned. We had gone through that process in a number of areas of land. Land Registry came to us and enabled us to do the job more efficiently.

"To have a certificate and a title number and to have the boundaries defined is a very useful exercise. There are always bits of land you think you own. When you have done the exercise you will know precisely where you have any problems.

"Where you have lost the deeds you can still register. Without that you have a difficult title and only a statutory declaration to support it.

"Certainly we have not been disappointed by the response we have had from the Land Registry. It has been extremely helpful."



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Land Registry allocated a member of staff to stay in close contact with the Duke's land agent, working to his desired timescale.

Regular meetings allowed Land Registry to use the agent's extensive knowledge to resolve queries speedily and informally.

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