

# EV-0288 — SNIPPETS ONLY: press on the 1968–69 takeover battle for Western Ground Rents Ltd, ended by British Petroleum’s agreed bid of 15 Feb 1969 to take WGR’s properties “for their pension fund”

**Version 1.0.0 · 2026-10-23**

Editors of the Great House Farm Legal Wiki

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Catalogue entry **EV-0288** of the Great House Farm evidence register, carried over from the Legal Wiki evidence page last modified on 2026-10-21. The same record is published at [research.bucklerfamily.estate](https://research.bucklerfamily.estate), and this version is also a [PDF](#) in the wayback archive.

## 1 Release notes

### 1.1 This release (version 1.0.0)

- **2026-Oct-23** - Carried over to the docs library from the Legal Wiki evidence page for EV-0288 (wiki page 7190, last modified 2026-10-21 21:26:56 UTC). The record text, dates and references are as on the wiki. Links to wiki pages lead to the same page on [research.bucklerfamily.estate](https://research.bucklerfamily.estate); images are links to their files on the wiki.

### 1.2 Older versions

None yet.

## 2 Record

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EV ID            | EV-0288                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Title            | Press search snippets, Nov 1968 – Feb 1969: Amalgamated Investment & Property bids for Western Ground Rents (Nov 1968); a counter-bid (Jan 1969); the WGR board favours Great Portland Estates (8 Feb 1969); British Petroleum makes an agreed cash bid of 17s a share, about £18–19 million, on 15 Feb 1969, to pass WGR’s properties “on to the” BP pension fund; Amalgamated’s offer lapses (18 Feb 1969) |
| Date of document | 19 November 1968 – 18 February 1969                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Type             | newspaper search snippets (set)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Evidence label   | SNIPPET ONLY (British Newspaper Archive free search results; pages not read)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Repository / reference | British Newspaper Archive free search results: The Scotsman 19 Nov 1968 p.3, 4 Jan 1969 p.3, 15 Feb 1969 p.3; Dundee Courier 4 Jan 1969 p.2, 7 Jan 1969 p.4, 15 Feb 1969 p.2, 18 Feb 1969 p.10; Newcastle Journal 8 Feb 1969 p.4; Daily Express 15 Feb 1969 p.13 (search “western ground rents” Llandough, 1960–1969) |
| Status                 | SOURCE PENDING (snippets read 21 Oct 2026)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Provenance             | Free BNA search, decade sweep, 21 Oct 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Related evidence       | <a href="#">EV-0249</a> and <a href="#">EV-0277</a> (WGR wound up in the BP group, 1996–97) · <a href="#">EV-0251</a> (BP Properties Ltd, incorporated 1961)                                                                                                                                                          |

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**Quotation (verbatim):** “Surprise bid by BP accepted by the Ground Rents directors, who will recommend their shareholders to follow them. British Petroleum want the assets—shops, offices, houses in London and South Wales—for their pension fund.” (The Scotsman, 15 Feb 1969). “... around £19 million for Western Ground Rents. The bid — of 17s. cash a share will be made by the British Petroleum oil giant itself. But if successful ... B.P. will pass the Western Ground Rents properties on to the ...” (Daily Express, 15 Feb 1969). “Directors of Amalgamated Investment & Property announce that their offer [for] Western Ground Rents has been [allowed] to lapse in view of the higher [offer] from the British Petroleum Co.” (square brackets: words the OCR garbles) (Dundee Courier, 18 Feb 1969). OCR slips corrected.

**Fits with:** This is how Western Ground Rents came into the BP group in 1969: BP bought the whole company for its pension fund. The December 1969 sale of Great House Farm by WGR to BP Pension Trust Ltd (recorded in the 1987 judgment) then most likely moved the farm within the BP group after the takeover, not between strangers.

**Cuts against:** Snippets only. None names Llandough or Great House Farm; the link to the December 1969 conveyance is by parties and dates.

**Notes:** The full articles, and the offer document for WGR shareholders (Feb–Mar 1969), would list the South Wales property; free route: a library BNA terminal.

*Catalogued by Sion’s Tab agent, 21 Oct 2026, in the decade-by-decade gap sweep (free online sources only).*

## 2.1 Page version & change log

**Current version:** 1.0.0

| Version | Date (UTC)        | Editor (human or agent name) | Change                                                      | Source / evidence                                                |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.0.0   | 2026-10-21T06:27Z | Sion’s Tab agent             | Page created in the 21 Oct 2026 decade-by-decade gap sweep. | Owner’s instruction, 21 Oct 2026 06:50 BST; sources linked above |

Agents and editors: follow the [Editing Protocol](#).