

Western Mail, 6 December 1988 — “Farmer fails in final eviction hearing”

Version 1.0.0 · 2026-10-23

Editors of the Great House Farm Legal Wiki

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Page 1328 of the Great House Farm Legal Wiki, carried over from the version last modified on 2026-10-21. The same page is published at 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 Legal Wiki page 1328 (last modified 2026-10-21 19:32:35 UTC). The page text, dates and references are as on the wiki. Links to wiki pages lead to the same page on research.bucklerfamily.estate; images are links to their files on the wiki.

1.2 Older versions

None yet.

2 Record

Page ID: 1328 · **Title:** Western Mail, 6 December 1988 — “Farmer fails in final eviction hearing” · **Evidence status:** Not yet labelled — see the [Editing Protocol](#) · **Version:** 1.0.0 · [Editing Protocol](#)

Primary evidence: The original newspaper clipping reproduced below is the evidence for this transcription. It is not a placeholder or illustrative image. The transcription is derived directly from this supplied clipping.

Western Mail newspaper clipping dated 6 December 1988, headed Farmer fails in final eviction hearing, concerning the Buckler family’s dispute over Great House Farm, Llandough.

Original evidence: Western Mail, 6 December 1988.

Source: Western Mail, 6 December 1988. The clipping was supplied for the Great House Farm archive. The transcription below follows the supplied image; line breaks and hyphenation are lightly normalised.

2.1 Farmer fails in final eviction hearing

A FAMILY'S long and bitter battle for an historic farmhouse appeared to be over last night after a High Court decision went against them and the Welsh historic monuments organisation decided to take no action.

Farmer Billy Buckler and his wife, Branwen, had been hoping to hang on to the reputedly 800-year-old Great House Farm at Llandough and its prime 10-acre estate overlooking Cardiff Bay so that the question of ownership could be decided by the European Court.

2.1.1 Destroying

But after a hearing in chambers a judge at Cardiff Crown Court dismissed an application by Mr and Mrs Buckler for an injunction to restrain BP Properties Ltd, the owners of the land, from destroying or damaging the fabric of the building.

Their solicitor, Mr Colin Jongman, said after the hearing: "There are no more steps that can be taken now that the building can be knocked down."

He added that if the building was knocked down, there was little point seeking a declaration from the European Court that they could occupy the building.

The couple then had their hopes dashed of help from Cadw. A spokesperson there told the Western Mail the house was not of sufficient architectural merit and the land on which it stands was not of sufficient archaeological interest.

Following the court hearing, Mrs Janet Harris, Mr Buckler's sister, said the house had been in the family for four generations. "It is reputed to be 800 years old and yet it seems they can destroy it on what is a whim."

She forecast that "they will have it down as fast as they can now" and said their only hope was that Cadw would accept it as a listed building.

2.1.2 Judge Norman Francis giving his judgment in open court said

that after the Bucklers's unsuccessfully sought leave to appeal to the House of Lords against an Appeal Committee ruling they had exhausted the remedies available to them under the laws of England and Wales.

Their case was that there was a triable issue for the Court of Human Rights to consider and that the status quo as to the building and fittings should be preserved until it had been decided.

2.1.3 Relief

The judge said there seemed doubt whether the plaintiffs had acted in time for the European Commission to consider the case.

The fact that somebody chooses at the eleventh hour to apply to the Commission could not set up a right to "injunctive relief". It would be novel for a court in this country to grant an injunction to hold up the effects of a judgment until the Court of Human Rights should rule on it, said the judge.

The battle for the farmhouse and estate has been waged for 33 years by the Buckler family.

Handwritten annotation on clipping: "Western Mail. 6 Dec 1988".

2.2 Transcription note

This page preserves the original clipping as the primary evidence and places the transcription alongside it. The printed sentence beginning "that after the Bucklers's..." is grammatically unclear in the supplied image and is therefore not silently corrected.

2.3 Page version & change log

Current version: 1.0.0

2 Record

Version	Date (UTC)	Editor (human or agent name)	Change	Source / evidence
1.0.0	2026-10-18T15:25Z	Sion's Tab agent	Footer standardised; no content change	Editing Protocol, 18 Oct 2026

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