Burlei

Site Name	Burlei		Pre-1974 County	Berkshire
Site Type	Doubtful		Present County	
Description	The name Burlei appears in Domesday Book to describe three small (1 hide) estates, all within Reading Hundred. The name is generally considered 'lost', [1] although Morris has suggested that the place name Burleigh, located on Ascot Heath with examples found in the parishes of Winkfield and Sunninghill, might be linked to the Domesday place. [2] There are however a number of reasons to doubt this identification, not least that the earliest occurrence of Burleigh occurs in the seventeenth century. [3] Moreover, although Domesday hundreds need not be strictly geographical, this identification would place the name in the heart of Ripplesmere Hundred, somewhat removed from Reading Hundred. In addition one of the three Domesday estates of Burlei possessed a fishery and meadow, which (unless they were detached resources) seem more likely to have belonged to a riverside location than one on the heaths of east Berkshire. Appears in the Gazetteer of Deserted Medieval Villages known in 1968.			
References	 [1] Gelling, M. 1973. The Place-Names of Berkshire, Part I. Nottingham: English Place-Name Society, Vol. 49: 149. [2] Morris, P. 1979. Domesday Book: Berkshire. Chichester: Phillimore. [3] Gelling, M. 1973. The Place-Names of Berkshire Part 1. Nottingham: English Place-Name Society: 89. 			
Domesday Reference BERK 21,21		. 65,16-7		
Domesday minimum 5 Grid_reference number of individuals		ence		