

Ednol

SO 235648
16136

Introduction

The ruins of Ednol church lie high up a valley that cuts into the south-eastern flank of Radnor Forest. The site has a northerly aspect set into the gentle southern face of the valley which is dry at this height. Presteigne is located some 9km to the east.

This brief report examines Ednol's emergence and development up to 1750. For the more recent history of the settlement, it will be necessary to look at other sources of information and particularly at the origins and nature of the buildings within it.

The accompanying map is offered as an indicative guide to the historic settlement. The continuous line defining the historic core offers a visual interpretation of the area within which the settlement developed, based on our interpretation of the evidence currently to hand. It is not an immutable boundary line, and may need to be modified as new discoveries are made. The map does not show those areas or buildings that are statutorily designated, nor does it pick out those sites or features that are specifically mentioned in the text.

We have not referenced the sources that have been examined to produce this report, but that information will be available in the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust. Numbers in brackets are primary record numbers used in the HER to provide information that is specific to individual sites and features. These can be accessed on-line through the Archwilio website (www.archwilio.org.uk).

History of development

Ednol was a chapel of ease in the parish of Old Radnor. It is not known when the first structure was erected, but it is perhaps more likely to be medieval than pre-Conquest. As Edenwalle the name appeared in a local manorial role of 1342, referring more to the manor and its farms than to the chapel. The name probably contains the Old English personal name Eada and the suffix wall or well, terms that are largely self-explanatory

There is no substantive evidence, now or in the past, that there has ever been a settlement around Ednol chapel. Ednol Farm and an associated cottage are the only dwellings in its vicinity, and that with other more dispersed farms in the neighbourhood, it is these that constitute the community of Ednol and probably always have.

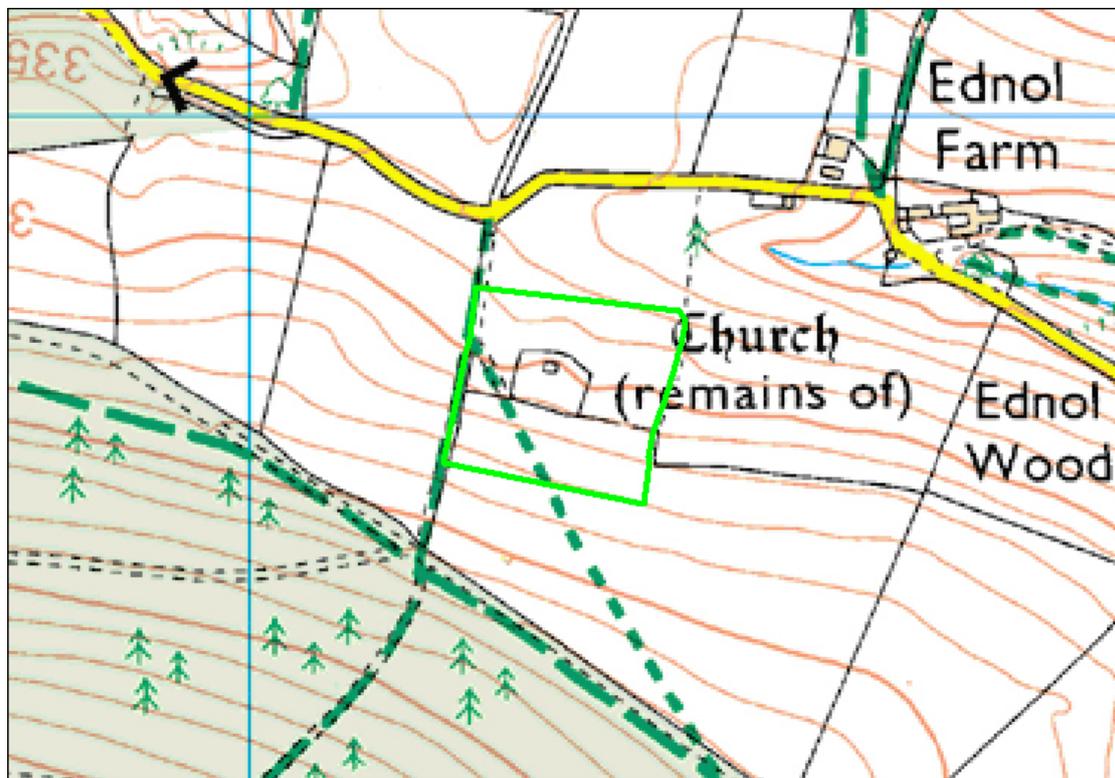
The heritage to 1750

Ednol Chapel ([1077](#)) is in ruins, its walls turfed over and about 1m high. The chapel was formally abandoned around 1830; it was still standing in c.1910 when part of the screen was visible. At least one service has been held here in the recent past.

The graveyard ([16295](#)) is rectangular and edged by a low bank. A hollow against the bank on the uphill south side suggests a terrace for a structure, and low banks near the north-west corner may point to the former presence of a small rectangular building. The last burial is said to have been in 1829.

The adjacent enclosure on the west (OS plot 67) has traces of a platform within it ([16296](#)). Undulations in the field to the west (OS plot 66) could be the remnants of much-eroded house terraces but overall do not present a particularly convincing picture

Ednol Farm has a barn containing re-used cruck blades, presumably of late medieval or Tudor origin.



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