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| Asset Ref No. | Clonleigh Ecclesiastical site: Edenmore – Enclosure (DG071-002001); Church (DG071-002002); Architectural Fragment (DG071-002003); Cross-Slab (DG071-002004); Graveyard (DG071-002005) and Ecclesiastical Site (DG071-002006) | |
| Heritage Type | Built | |
| | <i>Early Medieval Site</i> | |
| Location | OS 6-inch map sheet | 071 |
| | Townland | Edenmore |
| | Parish | Clonleigh |
| | LCA | River Deelee to Lifford |
| | ITM Coordinates | 633201, 900076; 633220, 900079 |
| | NG Coordinates | 233256, 400085; 233275, 400088 |
| Protection Status | RMPs | |
| Condition | Fair/Good | |
| Ownership (if known) | | |
| Site Description | <p>Description: Clonleigh graveyard (DG071-002005-) is believed to be the site of an early ecclesiastical settlement founded in the 6th century (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 377). The graveyard contains fragmentary sections of the N and S walls of a church (DG071-002002-) 6.8m wide internally. Built of rubble, the N wall is 6.1m long by 4.15m high by .93m thick; the lower courses, 1.1m high, of the interior central section are set out .27m from the wall face. W of this is a blocked-up opening with segmental rear-arch, probably a window. No visible trace of this opening survives on the exterior; the masonry indicates that this area was refaced. The S wall, 4.75m long by 4.5m high by 1.2m thick, contains an opposing blocked-up window with segment-headed rear-arch. The splayed ingoings are partially blocked by a bricked-in memorial; traces of wicker centering survive on the rear-arch soffit. This S wall forms part of the graveyard boundary. A sub-rectangular projection of the graveyard wall some 9.7m to the E might have been associated with the church. No visible trace of the E or W gables remains. Recent work at the graveyard by Donegal County Council (after the completion of the survey) has revealed three fragments of medieval carved mouldings (DG071-002003-) partially buried in the soil. In addition a recumbent slab (DG071-002004-), 1.68m x 0.38m at top, .32m at bottom, has been revealed. Near the wider end of the slab is a deeply carved Maltese cross .32m x 0.32m with a raised boss 9 cms in diameter at the centre. The slab, which is also still partially buried, and the mouldings are located on the E side of the graveyard in the general area of the ruined church. The site is located on a low drumlin-like hill surrounded by level marshy (now much reclaimed) land in the flood plain near the junction of the Rivers Deelee and Foyle.</p> | |
| Landscape Context (setting) | Sited on a low drumlin-like hill surrounded by level marshy (now much reclaimed) land in the flood plain near the junction of the Rivers Deelee and Foyle. Forestry surrounds hillock today as per modern mapping. | |
| Site Appraisal | In fair condition, this site is near to the confluence of the rivers Foyle and Deelee, a strategic location, particularly in relation to its early 6 th century origins. A significant site, within a parish of the same name. | |
| Sensitivity | The site may be subject to decay / in need of conservation works. Donegal Co Council has been involved in works on the graveyard. | |
| Associations | Early origins – indicated as ‘Old Friary’ on 1 st ed OS | |
| Recommendations | This site is in fair/good condition, this site has excellent access and has excellent tourist potential in terms of individual and/or group experience as well as demonstration qualities for training purposes to groups, schools etc. The landscape setting of this site is also significant, and pleasantly secluded today in terms of amenity value. | |

Appendix 1: St. Johnston ~ Lifford

Clonleigh Ecclesiastical site: (DG071-002001); (DG071-002002); (DG071-002003); (DG071-002004); (DG071-002005) & (DG071-002006)

Mapping



Present-day mapping extract (www.osi.ie)



Present-day aerial view extract (www.osi.ie)

Appendix 1: St. Johnston ~ Lifford

Clonleigh Ecclesiastical site: (DG071-002001); (DG071-002002); (DG071-002003); (DG071-002004); (DG071-002005) & (DG071-002006)



Extract from 1st edition OS map (1820-1840)



Extract from 2nd OS map (1890s - 1900s)

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| References | http://www.archaeology.ie |
| Plates | |
| Additional Notes | |

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Clonleagh Ecclesiastical site: (DG071-002001); (DG071-002002); (DG071-002003); (DG071-002004); (DG071-002005) & (DG071-002006)