

## Acol – St Nicholas - U3 / 278

The ancient parish of St Nicholas at Acol – or Woodchurch, as it was known in earliest times – had a church, but it ceased to be used by its parishioners in 1563 and the church was no longer standing by 1659. By then the stones from the unused building had been robbed by the local people, including the owner of Quex Park, who sent his steward to do the deed for him. The man was then brought before the Court in Canterbury, where he simply said he had been ordered to take the stones by his employer.

Acol was attached to Birchington and its jurisdiction in about 1575, by which time services at the church had ceased to be celebrated.

The acreage of the village is given as 1,434  
Domesday gives no references to Acol or Woodchurch, but we know there was a chapel there from very early on. Monkton is listed as having two chapels in 1066.

The population of the village of Acol is given as follows –

1801 = 145

1851 = 254

1901 = 341