A church was first built at this site in 1680. It was replaced in 1865/6 by the building seen today, constructed a little to the north of the first church and aligned SW/NE. The yews in its churchyard appear to be considerably older than c1680 plantings, yet there is no definite evidence of earlier occupation of this site.

It is however close to the ruin (150/200m) of an important Cistercian Monastery founded in 1176, where Llywelyn ap Gruffud, the last of the Welsh native princes, was buried in 1282. By the time of the Dissolution in 1537 its numbers had dwindled to only 3 monks and what was left of the building was finally destroyed in 1644.

The age of the yews suggests that the present site was in some way connected with activity at the Monastery.

2001: Both yews are male and grow on the south side of the church. The largest, SW, girthed about 20'.
The smaller girthed yew grows on a bank above a stream SE of the church. In 2001 I recorded a girth of approximately 17'. In 2017 Paul Wood recorded 17' 0½" (5.19m) as the tree’s lowest girth.