

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 Tim Hills: Both yews are male and grow on the south side of the church. The largest, SW, had a girth of 20' 1" around the base, but above bulging roots. I recorded the same girth in 2014.

In 2005 Russell Cleaver recorded a girth of 574 cm (18' 10") at the ground.

Geoff Garlick - 2006



Tim Hills - 2001



2017: Paul Wood took the photos below and noted the yew's striking dark green foliage in the strong sunlight. There was much dying white wood, including a sawn off limb at ground level, and when these decay there will be a reduction in girth size. The tree's position on the bank will perhaps make it more vulnerable if there comes a time when there is less churchyard maintenance. The shaded side of the bole appeared yellow and the side in the sun a deep red. Girth at the ground level from the west side was 19' 11".





The smaller girthed yew grows on a bank above a stream SE of the church. In 2001 I recorded a girth of 16' 9" at the base of the tree.

In 2005 Russell Cleaver recorded a girth of 544cm (17' 10") at the ground.

In 2014 I recorded about 17'.

In 2017 Paul Wood recorded 17' 0½" (5.19m) as the tree's lowest girth.



Above 2006 Geoff Garlick  
Below 2017 Paul Wood

