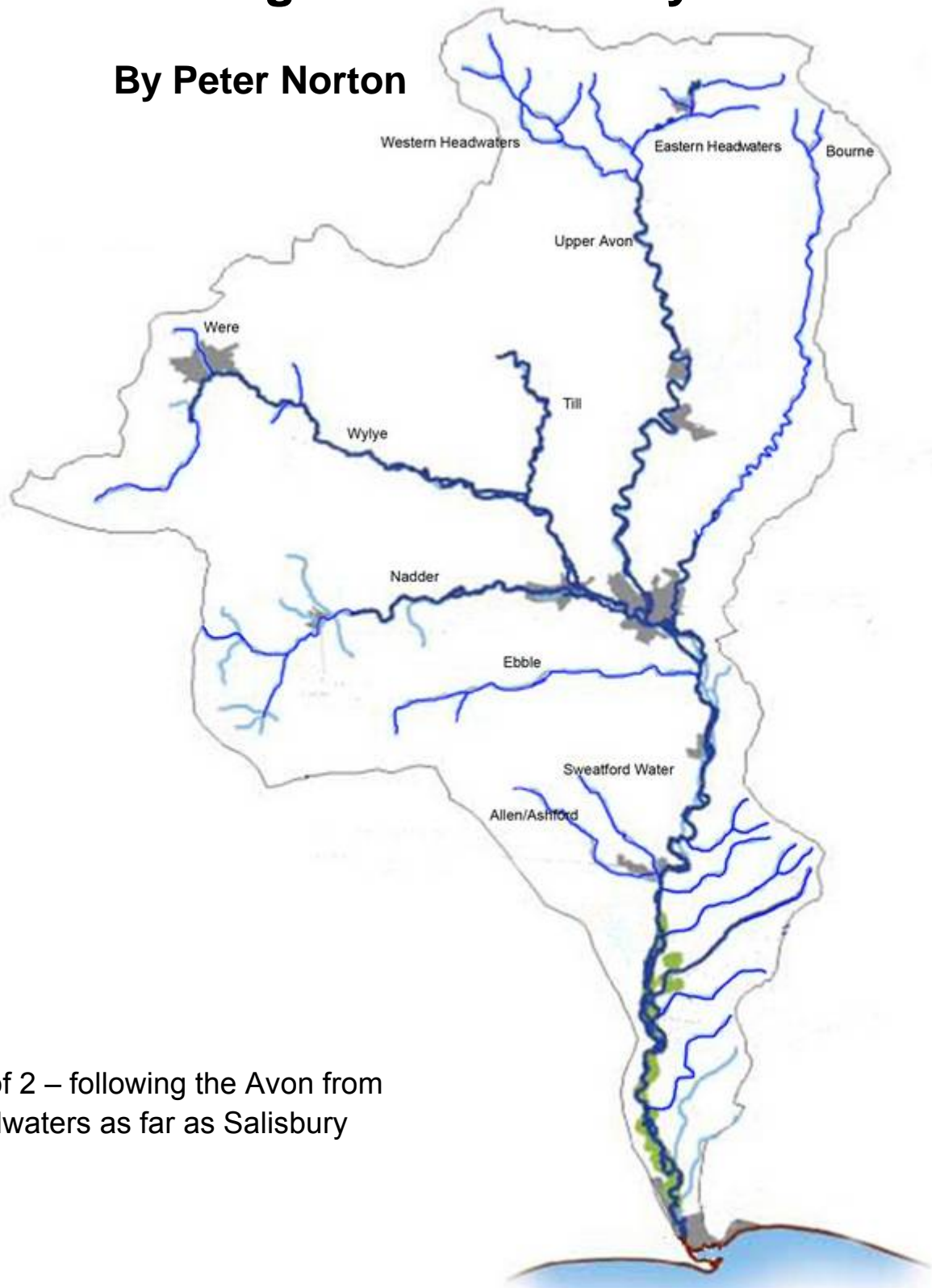


Wiltshire Yews

An Inventory of Churchyard Yews Along the Avon Valley

By Peter Norton



Part 1 of 2 – following the Avon from
its headwaters as far as Salisbury

Introduction:

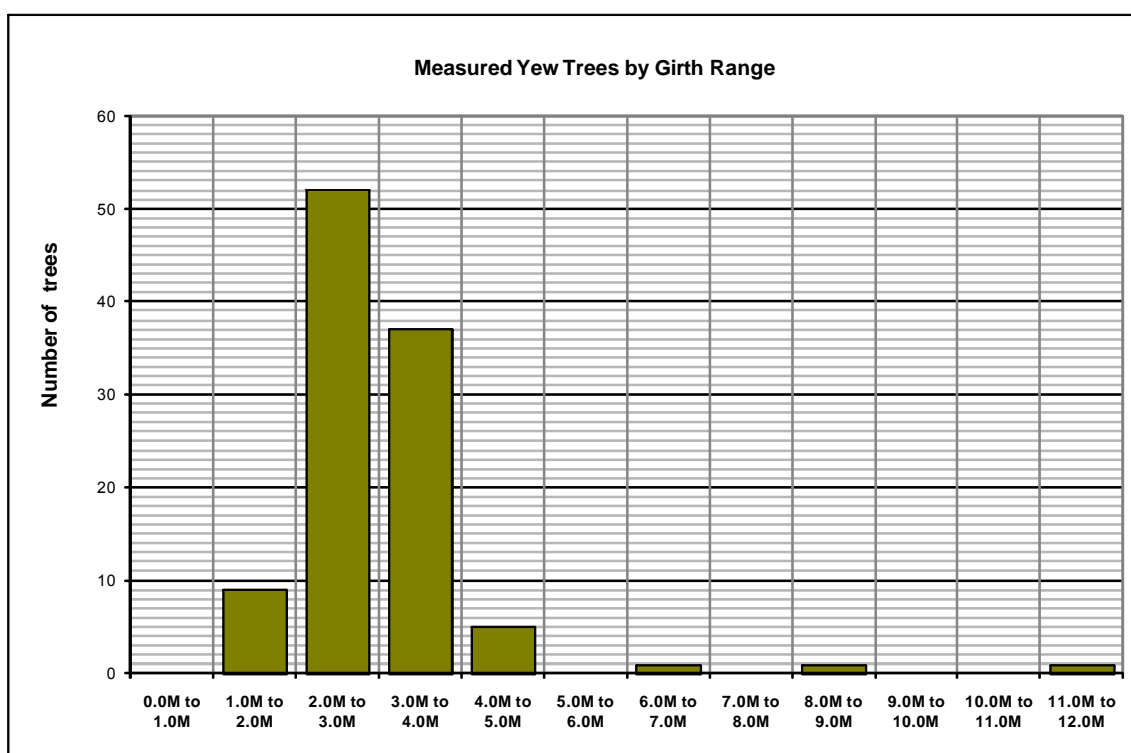
This report is the last of five observations of churchyard yews in and around the rivers Wylfe, Ebbel, Nadder and Bourne that converge with the Salisbury/Hampshire Avon as it flows through the Salisbury area.

The Upper Avon rises in the Pewsey Vale from a network of chalk springs and is one of the country's most biodiverse rivers. The many streams of the Pewsey Vale, in particular the eastern tributary, has its headwater at Milkhouse ponds, east of Pewsey and the western tributary which rises near Bourton at a marshy hollow known as Fishwater. Both then converge at Scales Bridge, (nr Rushall) and flow south through Salisbury Plain and close to Stonehenge, where a ceremonial pathway to the river has been recently discovered at Durrington Walls.

Flowing through the ancient City of Salisbury, (Wiltshire's only City) with its confluence with the rivers Nadder, Wylfe, Ebbel and Bourne, the increased flow causes the river to become deeper and wider. The Avon then flows past the New Forest, where it is further fed by many brooks, and then on to Christchurch where it merges with the rivers Stour and Mude. It flows out to sea between Mudeford Quay and Hengistbury Spit, some seventy miles from its dual source.

All of the towns and villages along this route were included, with eighty five churchyards visited. Of these, fifty three contained yew trees, and although many of those mentioned are small in stature compared to some of the giants already recorded within the Yew Gazetteer, it was felt that, as time progresses, these younger trees will become our future giants for the next generations of yew enthusiasts.

A total of three hundred and seventeen trees were noted at these sites of which one hundred and six had measurements recorded. (See graph below which has been grouped by girth and does not include any estimated* values.) Imperial measurements were taken during the recording exercise and converted to Metric. Please note that in multiple individual tree measurements only the lowest to the root/ground was used for this graph.



Where Irish Yews were significant in number at the documented churchyards, they are also included in this report.

Appendix I lists all the churches visited and those indicated thus * are detailed within the body of this report. All recorded height measurements are taken above the root development if visible.

The eastern headwaters and tributaries:

Easton Royal – Holy Trinity

Map 174 SU 206 603

25 miles NE of Salisbury

Easton is south of Deane Water, a minor tributary of the Upper Avon, which converges at Milkhouse Water ponds and at the head of a still smaller stream which converges with the Avon at Pewsey.

A priory was founded here in 1245 and in 1377 the existing parish church was pulled down and the materials used to enlarge the priory church.

The Parish church at Easton was built in 1591 and the older priory church was demolished. The body of the church and its porch survive from 1591 and in 1852-3 the church was restored.



Two yews grow within the churchyard with the first (far left), female, at the north east corner, high above the road on raised ground.

A girth of 9' 5" at 3' was obtained by threading the tape behind thick stems of ivy.

To the south of the church is a male yew with a girth of 11' 8" at 1' and 11' 11" at 2'.

Eight Irish Yews lead the way to the church porch and on round the east perimeter.

Milton Lilbourne – St Peter

Map 173 SU 189 604

23.6 Mile NE of Salisbury

Some Saxon stones are incorporated into this building. The present church was probably built in the 12th century with additions and alterations during the 13th, 14th and 15th. Partial restoration followed in 1859 and 1875.

A female yew grows on the east perimeter and towers over the road below. The bank upon which it grows is retained by a substantial wall. About 2' of grass clippings were piled against the trunk. The heat being generated by this rotting mass must be considerable.

A girth of 10' 7" at the top of the grass pile was recorded.



Pewsey – St John the Baptist

Map 173 SU 163 599

21.3 miles NE of Salisbury

Earliest records indicate a Saxon church on this site. It was from its door that King Alfred, following his victory over the Danes (AD 878), is said to have announced on September 14th that this day – Holy Cross Day – should be a feast day forever. The 'Pewsey Feast' is now incorporated into its Carnival celebrations. The Saxon church was replaced by a Norman Church, with additions and alterations during the 13th, 14th, 16th and 17th centuries. Restoration followed in 1853 and 1861.

There are four young status yews within the churchyard, a male to the north east of the church and one male and two females to the west.

Alton Priors – All Saints

Map 173 SU 109 621

23.3 Miles NW of Salisbury

Two female yews grow within the churchyard, the most notable to the south of the church. This tree, split into two hollow fragments, is recorded in the Yew Gazetteer with a girth of 27' 5".

Towards the east of the church is a younger female yew with a girth of 8' 9" at 3'.



The current Norman church sits on a raised mound in the centre of a field and was probably built on a site of great antiquity. On entering the church a trapdoor on the right can be opened to reveal a large sarsen stone with a hole drilled into it. This is known locally as the maiden stone, although others think it could be an oath, or handfasting stone (a Celtic term for a trial marriage).

A second trapdoor, near the altar, covers a second sarsen stone, while one of the exterior buttresses of the church rests on a third.

Towards the north west of the churchyard, but still within the field, is a spring known as the laughing well, where water can be seen bubbling up through the sandy bed (SU108623). The water from the spring, known as the Alton stream, separates this site with the nearby Saxon church of St Mary's, only 10 minutes walk away and reached by a stone pathway.



Passing close to this site is the 250 mile long road known as the Greater Ridgeway. This is Britain's oldest road, in use in Neolithic times, and it linked Lyme Regis in Dorset with Hunstanton in Lincolnshire. Today it is known as the Ridgeway and 87 of its miles are a National Trail.

The church was declared redundant in 1972 and is now under the auspices of the Churches Conservation Trust. It is open to the public between April and October.

Alton Barnes – St Mary

Map 173 Su 107 620

23 Miles NW of Salisbury

Alton Barnes church is Saxon in origin and has one of the most complete Saxon naves in England (according to excavations notes during 1971-2). Alterations were carried out during the 14th century, with some restoration in the 17th and 18th centuries and major restoration during 1904.



A large female yew grows near the church's west wall and measured 15' 8" at the root crown and 17' 4" at 3' 6".



Maningford Abbots – No Dedication

Map 173 SU 143 587

20.3 miles NE of Salisbury

Unusually no dedication is recorded for this church. It was rebuilt during 1861-4 on the site of a 13th century building and contains features from both the 13th and 14th centuries.



The churchyard, containing twelve yews, is reached by a footpath that leads alongside an adjoining property. The largest are found at the south east entrance, a female with a girth of 6' 6" at 1' and a male measuring 7' 3".

Manningford Bohune – St Peter

Map 173 SU 139 580

19.5 miles NE of Salisbury

A Roman mosaic pavement was recently uncovered under the churchyard indicating a Roman Settlement during the 2nd to 5th century. Is it possible that there was a Roman church on this site? Parts of the current church date from the 11th and 12th century with additions during the 13th and alterations during the 15th. Restoration followed in 1882.

Two yews grow in the churchyard, a male just to the south of the west entrance with a girth of 9' 7" at 1' (right), and a female to the south east of the church, with thick stemmed ivy covering many lower branches and also hanging from the tree's crown. It looked in poor shape.

One further female yew, growing outside of and close to the churchyard's west entrance, was not counted in this survey.



North Newton – St James

Map 173 SU 131 576

19 miles N of Salisbury

Early records indicate that the first church on this site was built in 963 making it one of the oldest in the country. The present church was built during the 13th century with additions during the 14th and 15th along with an extensive rebuild in 1862 and further repairs in 1952.



The church is sited close to the eastern headwaters and just north of its confluence with the Alton stream.

One female yew grows to the south west of the church and comprises three main branches rising from the trunk. Girth was 13' 2" at 1'



The western headwaters and tributaries:

Bishops Cannings – St Mary the Virgin

Map 173 SU 037 642

27.5 miles NW of Salisbury

Bishops Cannings sits near to the western headwater of the Avon, at Fishwater, near Bourton. The stream passes under the Kennet and Avon canal by three brick ducts. The church was built in the late 12th century with additions in the 13th, alterations during the 15th and restoration in 1883-4. An unusual piece of furniture in the church is a meditation pew, a part of which dates back to the 15th century.

Three yews are found within the churchyard. The first is female, growing near to the north west entrance. Four branches emerge from a central trunk with a girth of 8' 2" at 1'. A headstone is embedded in the trunk (left).

The second yew, male, grows midway along the east perimeter (right). A large branch is at the stage of advanced decay. Churchyard debris, including soil, plastic bags and flowerpots, had been scattered around the tree. Girth was recorded as 12' 11" at 1', 12' 8" at 2' and 13' at 3'.

The third yew, female, grows midway along the north perimeter and was of young status.



Etchilhampton – St Andrew

Map 173 SU 045 602

24.7 miles NW of Salisbury



The church was built in the 14th century and contains many original features. It was restored in 1868-9.

Two female yews grow within the churchyard, the first on a high bank at the west entrance (left). Girth of 10' 8" at the ground was recorded. The second, with a girth of 10' 6" at 1' (right), grows towards the south, close to the church porch.

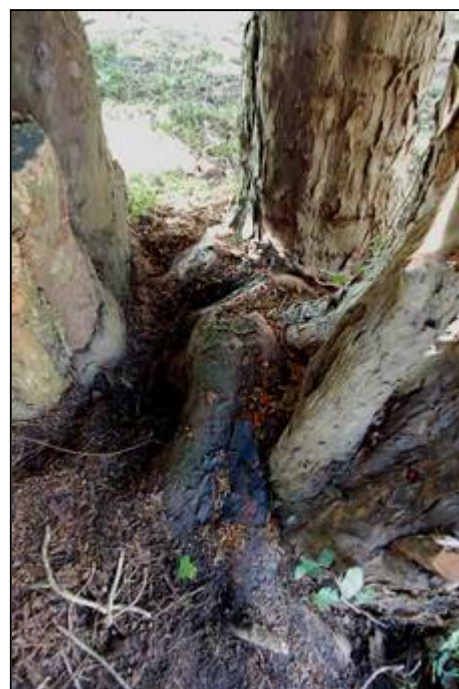


All Cannings – All Saints

Map 173 SU 069 615

24.8 miles NW of Salisbury

The church dates from the 13th century with alterations in the 14th and additions during the 15th. Various improvements were carried out during the 17th century, followed by restoration in 1843 and a partial rebuild in 1867. In that same year a new pulpit was erected as a memorial to the local priest who had served for sixty years.



Four yews are found within the churchyard with the most interesting to the north west of the church. This female yew comprises four trunks in a circle, of which two split into further branches at about 2' from the ground. All appear to share the same root system. Measurement was difficult but one trunk which splits into three measured 7' 10" at 1'. The second, split into two branches, measured 6' 8" at the root crown, while the remaining two trunks measured 4' 4" and 6' 4" respectively. The three remaining yews are all male and of young status. Two grow to the south of the above, while the third grows midway along the north perimeter.

Stanton St Bernard – All Saints

Map 173 SU 091 623

23.5 miles NW of Salisbury

Originally known as Stanton Abbess, by the 16th century this had changed to Barnad, and by the 17th century Bernard was adopted. The earliest record of this church is 1267, with alterations carried out in the 15th and 16th centuries. The church was rebuilt in 1831 and refurbished in 1857.



Two yews are found within the churchyard, with the first growing at the south west corner. It appears to be one trunk which splits into two large branches at about 3'. Closer observation revealed that the branch nearest the south perimeter had fruits while the branch to the west was male. So we have to consider that this yew started life as two separate trees which have become fused together. Churchyard debris was piled high against the rear of the tree. A girth of 12' 2" at 2' 6" was recorded.

Growing near the north west gate a female yew measuring 6' 10" at 1' was noted.

Chirton – St John the Baptist

Map 173 SU 074 576

21.5 miles NW of Salisbury

Up to the 20th century Chirton was known as Cherington. A church on this site can be traced back to the early Saxon period and was replaced by a Norman church during 1170. Alterations and additions during the 13th, 14th and 16th centuries were followed by restoration in 1850. There is also a mention of the Knights Templar owning nearby land.

At the south west corner of the church adjacent to the perimeter is a group of three young looking female yews. There is also an old dead trunk and evidence of branch layering.

British History on-line indicates a 'well-grown yew' in the garden of Yew Tree Cottage, just to the east of the church and at the corner of Patney Rd. In 1609 this was the vicarage.

Beechingstoke – St Stephan

Map 173 SU 086 592

22 miles NW of Salisbury

Three of the Upper Avon streams converge just west of the church while to the south of the parish on the northern bank of the Avon is a late Neolithic henge, the largest known of its type. It originally contained a large bowl barrow which was destroyed in the early 19th century. The small road between Marden and Woodborough cuts through this enclosure.



The church, although first recorded in 1291, contains some earlier Norman features and some 14th century stonework. It was partially rebuilt in 1693 with further building work in 1791. A thorough restoration followed in 1861.

Two male yews grow within the churchyard. The first, near the south east entrance from the car park, measured 9' 10" at 1' and 10' at 2'. The tree at the north perimeter was not measured due to heavy twiggy growth but an estimate* of 7' to 9' could be given.

Wilsford – St Nicholas

Map 173 SU102 572

20 miles NW of Salisbury

A church has stood here since the 12th century, with additions and alterations in the 15th, 16th, 19th and 20th centuries. There is little evidence of a 19th restoration but records do show a partial repair in 1864 and a major restoration in 1963.

One female yew, with a girth of 10' 8" at 1' and 10' 5" at 2', grows south of the church porch and close to a large chest tomb.

Two Irish Yews flank the churchyard entrance.



Charlton – St Peter

Map 173 SU 117 560

18 miles NW of Salisbury



Although indicated as Charlton on maps it is also referred to as Charlton St Peter, after the church. Earliest records indicate a small priory in the area, but its location remains unknown. The church was built in the 12th century but apart from some 16th features nothing much remains and it was mostly rebuilt during 1857-8.

One male yew grows near to the south west perimeter, its girth 10' 3" at 1' and 10' 6" at 2'.

East and West rivers of the Avon converge at Scales Bridge:

Upavon – St Mary the Virgin

Map 173 SU 135 551

17.3 miles N of Salisbury

This Norman church, dating from 1175, was built on the site of an earlier Saxon structure. Extensive building work was carried out in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries and between 1875-6 the church was extensively restored.

During the 13th century a small priory was built between the church and the Avon but during 1378 following the expulsion of alien priories, it became a farm.



Eleven yews grow within the churchyard, with two male and eight female along the eastern perimeter and one young status male at the west perimeter to the rear of the public house. Two of the larger female trees grow at the far north east of the perimeter, their low sweeping branches hiding a shed. The largest of this pair, excluding a significant side limb, had a girth of 11' at 3'.



Enford – All Saints

Map 184 SU 140 516

14.5 miles N of Salisbury

The area around Enford is littered with barrows, earthworks, two Iron Age enclosures and a native Romano British village. The present church stands on the site of an earlier Saxon church which was added to during the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th centuries. A partial reconstruction was carried out during 1779, but major damage occurred in 1817 when the spire was struck by lightning. The church was reopened in 1831 and a thorough restoration carried out in 1893.

No fewer than fifty yew trees sweep round from the north west corner and down to the far south east corner of the churchyard perimeter. No measurements were taken but estimations* of girths between 5' and 8' could be given.

Fittleton – All Saints

Map 184 SU 146 495

13.7 miles north of Salisbury



The church was first recorded in 1291. It was enlarged in the 14th century with alterations during the 15th and 16th centuries. Repairs were carried out in 1841 and 1878 with further restorative work in 1903.

Four yews are found on this site. The first is male with a girth of 9' 5" at 1' growing at the perimeter east of the church. Following the perimeter and a hedge a second male (left) grows at the far south end of the hedge. Its girth was 9' 8" at 1' and 9' 10" at 2'.

Towards the west of the last tree two smaller yews grow at the perimeter with the larger, male, measuring 8' 9" at 1'. The remaining tree, female was of young status.

Netheravon – St Mary the Virgin

Map 184 SU 147 484

12.8 miles N of Salisbury

The church stands in parkland and can be reached by a fenced drive. It is on high ground surrounded by water meadows, and early records indicate this might have been the site of a Saxon minster of high status, which by 1086 was recorded as ruined. The present church was partially rebuilt in the 13th century, with additions in the 14th and 15th, repairs in the 17th and restoration in 1839.



Within the churchyard are five female yews, while along its western perimeter, but outside of the churchyard, are ten yews (not counted in the survey) possibly planted to act as a screen to hide the church from the large house. Also outside of the churchyard at the eastern perimeter is a large yew grove stretching down to the banks of the Avon.

Of the five female yews noted in the churchyard the first grows near to the north west perimeter and measured 6' 9" at 3'. The second (left) grows near to the west porch, measuring 10' 7" at 1' and 9' 6" at 3'. Towards the south east a smaller tree measured 7' 3" at 1' and 7' 2" at 2', with the remaining two are at the east of the church, the larger of which measured 6' 6" at 1'.

Figheledean – St Michael and All Angels

Map 184 SU 152 475

12 miles N of Salisbury

The church was first mentioned in 1115. It was altered in the 13th and 15th centuries, with repairs carried out in the 17th and 18th, and restoration in 1859-60. It sits high above the village road and looks over the Avon valley.



Ten yews grow here, of which the most notable (left) is female, found near the southwest corner as you enter the churchyard. The tape was threaded through some thick stemmed ivy to record a girth of 11' 5" at 1'. The remaining yews scattered around the perimeter are of young status with the exception of one near to the church's south east corner. Holly, ivy and much twiggly growth did not allow for measurement but I estimated* between 6' and 8'.

Durrington – All Saints

Map 184 SU 157 458

9 miles N of Salisbury

Just to the south of modern Durrington lie the earthworks of Durrington Walls. It is larger than Avebury and has been reclassified as Europe's largest Henge, incorporating Woodhenge and the newly discovered ceremonial pathway to Stonehenge.

The church was first mentioned in 1179 and had no dedication until 1851. It was enlarged in the 13th century with some rebuilding in the 16th and 17th centuries, followed by extensive restoration in 1851.

One male yew grows on a steep sided bank towards the north east corner of the perimeter but due to heavy lower growth and the steep bank it was not measured.

Amesbury – St Mary and St Melor

Map 184 SU 153 414

8 miles N of Salisbury

Amesbury and its surrounding area has always been an important river crossing of major highways from the Neolithic (early earthworks) and Stone Age (Stonehenge) through to the Iron Age (Vespasian's camp). There was a parish church at Amesbury before the building of an Abbey in 979 which was replaced by a Priory as part of Henry II's penance for the murder of Thomas Becket during the 12th century. It is thought that the parish church survived the priory church and is where the current church now stands. Parts of the 12th century Norman structure still remain. There were further additions and alterations during the 13th and 15th centuries and restoration in 1852-3.

Amesbury - cont



Six yews are found within this churchyard. At the churchyard's south west entrance the first (left), is female, measuring 9' 8" at 2'.

Moving east are two males, one (right) measuring 11' 4" at 1', the other 9' 5" at 1'. Opposite this last tree is an unmeasured ivy covered female.



Adjacent to the east wall of the church are one male (below left) 9' 11" at 2', and one female 9' at 2' 6"



Wilsford – St Michael

Map SU 184 135 398

8 Miles N of Salisbury

A church in Wilsford was first mentioned in the 11th century. Apart from the Norman tower it was completely rebuilt in 1852.

One young male yew grows to the west of the church, its girth 5' 6" at 1' 6"

All Saints was originally built in the 12th century and enlarged in the 13th. When the present church, with the exception of the tower, was rebuilt in 1845 many aspects of the earlier building styles were copied. .

Six yews found within the churchyard are recorded here. A further three near south perimeter, as well as two young status yews south west of the church, are not included as part of this survey since they appear to grow on the adjacent property.

At the north east perimeter entrance grows a multi trunk female with a girth of 8' 6" at 1', excluding the protruding branch. Moving south along the eastern perimeter the second yew, female, was not measured. The third, male, measured 7' 4" at 1' and 7' 6" at 3', while the fourth measured 7' 4" at 1' and 7' 5" at 3'.



The fifth grows near to and south east of the church porch. The female tree shows signs of advanced regeneration within the trunk. Along with fungi growing on the internal dead wood are small internal roots spreading outwards and downwards. Although some of the outer trunk is missing it does not affect the measurements and 9' 8" at 1' and 10' 6" at 3' were recorded.

The final yew, female, grows nearer to the church porch and measured 11' 1" at 1' and 11' 3" at 3'.



Stratford sub Castle sits under the shadow of the earthwork of Old Sarum with its great ramparts raised in about 500 BC during the Iron Age and then occupied by the Romans, the Saxons and then the Normans.

With the aid of Saxon treasure, William the Conqueror paid off his army here in 1070 and in 1086 summoned all the great Barons and landowners of England here to swear an oath of fealty on August 1st (Domesday). A Norman castle was built on the inner mound, followed soon afterwards by a royal palace. By the middle of the 12th century a new town, which was completed with a cathedral, occupied much of the great earthwork.

Sarum was not destined to continue and life on the waterless hilltop became intolerable. The solution was a move downhill to the new settlement now known as Salisbury, where a new cathedral was founded in 1220.

Note: There are some seventy yews growing within the steep castle ditches and these are not counted within this report.

A Chapel at Stratford is known to have existed in 1228 but whether this was enlarged or rebuilt as a church is not known. It is thought that some of the pieces of stone in the present building could have come from the Old Sarum Cathedral when it was demolished. The church was altered and repaired during the 14th, 15th, 16th and 18th centuries, and restoration took place during 1904-5.



Four yews grow within the churchyard with the largest two, female, at the head of an avenue of sixteen lime trees that stretch from the churchyard's most southerly entrance. The larger (r/h yew) measured 11' 11" at 1' and 11' 3" at 3' while the smaller (l/h yew) measured 8' 4" at 1' and 8' 1" at 3'.

To the north of the church the third yew, male, splits into three main branches near to the ground, its branches measuring 4' 10", 4' 10" and 5' 1" respectively, and 10' 7" at the root crown. The last yew, female, grows near to the south west entrance and is of young status.

'The Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Salisbury' is the Mother Church to hundreds of parishes throughout Wiltshire and parts of Dorset. Building started in 1220 and it was ready for worship in 1258, although it took approximately fifty years more to reach what we see today. There are no large yews within the churchyard, though a few grow in the close and in the gardens of private residences. From the Cathedral's west porch and moving south towards Harnham (south) Gate, some twenty four yew trees line the route. The largest, measuring 6' 10" at 1', is shown below with a large fungus suggesting that hollow spaces are already developing.



On the south side of the Kings House (Salisbury Museum) garden and very close to the road is a male yew with a girth of 10' 8" at 1' (right).



Along the West Walk, yews can be seen at the entrance to Walton Canonry, with a male tree overhanging the road and another closer to the house.



Moving northwards to Arundells (former house of ex Prime Minister, Sir Edward Heath) three yews are seen from the gateway at the garden's south perimeter. The grounds are open to the public between April and October and I recorded the two male yews shown here (left) as 8' 9" and 10' 2" at 1'. The third was not measured due to summer vegetation but like the other two had a clean trunk and was of a similar girth.

There is a further yew on the North Walk, close to Sarum College and at the entrance to the Cathedral School, which was once the Bishops Palace, three yews can be observed within the private grounds.

Salisbury – St Thomas Beckett

Map 184 SU 143 299

The church sits within its own square just 10 minutes walk from Salisbury Cathedral. It was built prior to 1220 as a place of worship for those who were building the new cathedral and can therefore be considered as New Sarum's first church. It was rebuilt in 1450 and is considered to have one of the most wonderful wall paintings in England. The churchyard, which was a plague pit during those troubled times, contains three unmeasured young yews. Two are heavily trimmed and grow along the south perimeter and the third grows on the north perimeter adjacent to an old pathway leading from Minster Street and behind the shops.

Salisbury – St Edmund (Arts Centre)

Map 184 SU 146 303

The church was originally built in about 1269, at the same time as the priest's college of St Edmund which stood to the east in adjacent grounds. In about 1543 the college was dissolved and sold into private hands where it remained until 1927 when the corporation bought the house and grounds to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the foundation of the city. It has since been used as the local council offices, though this is now under review.

The original church was demolished in 1407 and rebuilt. During 1653 the tower collapsed and took most of the building with it. Alterations followed in the 17th century and restoration during 1865-7. The church was closed for worship in 1974 and re-opened in 1975 as an Arts Centre and remains as such to-day. During 2004 a decision to fell one of the yew trees was taken which allowed for additional space to build new workshops and offices.



There are currently seven yews within the churchyard. The first, a young status female grows midway along the north perimeter. Adjacent to the old church porch grows a female (above left) with a girth of 8' 5" at 2', and further along the pathway towards the north west gate is an unmeasured male. Moving back along the west perimeter is a young unmeasured female tree with a bulbous base. Near the south west corner gate is a male measuring 8' 6" at the root crown and 8' 9" at 3'. Moving eastwards is a female (above right), measuring 9' 7" at the root crown, and finally near the south east entrance is a male measuring 7' 5" at 2'.

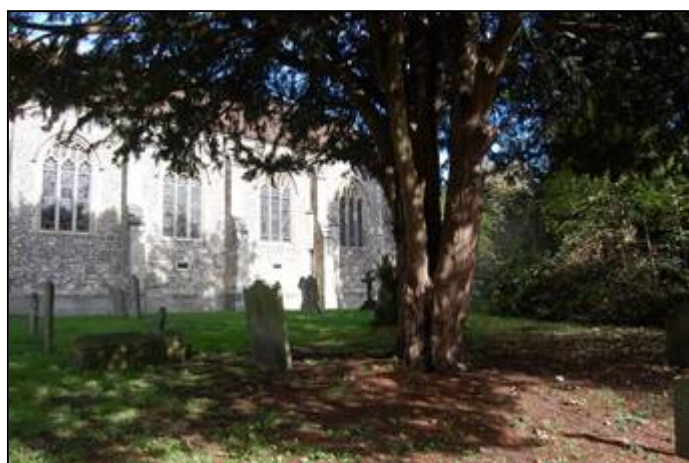


In the public gardens east of the church, on the site of the old college, a significant yew grows midway along the east perimeter. Girth at its narrowest point just above the root crown was 15'. This girth could indicate a yew planted around the time of the dissolution, or some fifty years later in 1611 when a formal garden was laid out. There are many other yews at this site but these are not counted within this report.

St Martin's was already the parish church of Milford when Old Sarum and its cathedral were still in use. Since the boundaries of Salisbury (New Sarum) have expanded and engulfed this area, the church lays claim to being the oldest building in Salisbury. It was rebuilt in 1220, at the same time that work began on the Cathedral, and still retains some parts of its 13th century architecture. Additions and alterations during the 15th century were followed by a major restoration in 1885. During 1792 an avenue of lime trees was planted, of which thirty nine can still be seen, although many are young replacement trees.



Six yews grow within the churchyard with the first (above left), female, at the north east corner, measuring 9' 7" at 1' and 2'. Moving south is a male, comprising two main limbs of which the largest was 5' 4" at 2'. Next is a female (right), measuring 10' 4" at 1' and 10' 9" at 3'. Nearby grows a young male with an estimated* girth between 4' to 6'.



On the south side are two female yews. The first (above left), is midway along the church's south side and measured 8' 6" at 1', the second, to the south west (right), measured 8' 8" at the root crown.

This report is continued in Wiltshire Yews – An inventory of churchyard yews along the Avon Valley – part 2