

The old yew at Baschurch was already a substantial tree when it was included in this 1803 drawing.



In 1939 a 'poor hollow trunk' was described in *The King's England* - Mee. By 1999 it has been reduced to these fragments.

A novel solution to provide support for the living fragment (A) has been to embed the dead fragments in concrete (B). This has made it possible to stretch a metal band around the whole tree and help prevent the living fragment from leaning outwards any further. This can only be a temporary measure and it will probably be necessary at some time to provide a prop.

It seemed somewhat bizarre to have gone to such lengths to help a tree, while at the same time putting it at high risk of fire damage by allowing its hollow space to be used as a store for drying pine needles. Girth at 3' was 15' 4", but when the rotten sections finally succumb this will be reduced to about 9'.

