Yews in Cumbria          Graham Wilkinson          1996/7

Borrowdale Yews. (GR: 235125 sheet 89)  29/10/1997

A. Female. 22' 4" at 3', 23' 7" at base, 21' 6" at 4'. A splendid, huge, gnarled and obviously ancient tree. Hollow from base to crown, branching properly from 10-12 feet, the larger branch also hollowing. A lower branch on s side is also hollowing.

B. Female. 14' 10" at 3' and base, 16' 4" at 4'. An old tree with marked hollowing. Branching at 7', with s branch grounding.

C. Female. 12' 11" at 3', 14' 3" at base, 12' at 4'. An impressive, gnarled old tree, the east trunk having fallen away, it remains, hollow and dead. The measure then, does not do justice to the tree, the dead trunk being at least of equal girth to the living one. A measure taken when intact would have been similar to that of tree A. (Which would still be the most impressive of the three.) Hollowing in the remaining trunk but to a lesser extent than its companion trees.

D. Female. 10' 9" at base. A gnarled, mature tree, branching from the base, one branch hanging over the river. No hollowing.

Notes: Wordsworth mentioned the Borrowdale Yews in a poem:

"Those fraternal four of Borrowdale,  
Joined in one solemn and capacious grove;  
Huge trunks! and each particular trunk a growth  
of intertwisted fibres serpentine  
Up-coiling and inveterately convolved...  
To lie, and listen to the mountain flood  
Murmuring from Glaramara's inmost caves."

There is some confusion as to which trees he was referring to. Both Hammond and Sands refer to the trees as long gone, whilst others give the existing trees as Wordsworth's subjects. Certainly he could not have overlooked these magnificent yews; but why the “fraternal four”, when at least three are female!?  

Martindale. St Martin. (GR: 434184 sheet 90)  10/12/1997

A. Female. 21' 5" at 3', 19' 2" at narrowest point (18").
A two branch split from 3'. Early hollowing to the E trunk, marked hollowing to 8' on the W trunk. Grounding hollow branch to the north. Other grounding branches to W and S. An impressive tree.  
Notes: A nice wee church in a nicer setting at the foot of the valley.
Lorton. Yew Tree Hall (GR: 165255 sheet 89) 1/10/1997

A. Female. 16' 8" at 3', 19' 8" at base, 16' 8" at 4'. An impressive and obviously old, gnarled tree, with marked hollowing to the base extending internally up the trunk to three or four feet. Solid above this. A branch hangs over the beck at 7’ then branches properly from 12’.

Notes: A fine, lone tree standing in a field on the Whit Beck, behind Yew Tree Hall. George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends preached under the tree in 1653. Dorothy Wordsworth refers to the tree in letters 7 & 10, 1804: "...A yew tree which is the patriarch of yew trees, growing and flourishing, in very old age - the largest tree I ever saw. We have very large ones in this country, but I have never yet seen one that would not be as a branch of this."

William himself penned the following lines to "The pride of Lorton Vale":

"a living thing
Produced too slowly ever to decay;
Of form and aspect too magnificent
to be destroyed." (1803.)

Pakenham refers to the tree as "half hidden behind the wall, on the edge of the Hope Beck, gaunt against the misty fields below Hobcarton Crag." Wrong tree it seems!

Muncaster. St Michael (GR: 104966 sheet 96) 10/7/1997

A. Female. 14’ 11” at 3’, 15’ 10” at 4’, 13’ 10” at base. Big tree on a small mound, splitting into several branches from around 5’. Hollow developing on north side.

B. Male. 10’ 4” at base. Mature tree with a two-trunk split at 1’. The larger trunk has a dead section on the east side.

C. Male. 8’ 6" at base. Nice, mature tree, heavily pruned.

D. Large, overgrown yew. Impossible measure.

E. Small yew regenerating from sawn off stump.


Notes: Nice church with "personality" in a pleasant setting by the castle. Walled-up north "Devil's" door. 1661 font stands aside from the Victorian replacement. 1735 monuments etc.


A. Female. 14’ 9” at 3' and 4’, 15’ 10” at base. Three trunks from around 6-7’, the northern with marked hollowing and "dead", is bound to the healthy south trunk at about 9' with a chain; the small western, also dead. An impressive old tree. (About 45’ high.)

B. Male, branching from ground level. Much smaller than A and obviously much younger.

C. Female. Smallest tree.

Pevsner: Roof beams are C16, the rest is 1866.

Mee: "It has a yew which has kept sentinel in this lonely place for about 500 years."

A. Male. 14' 8" at 3', smaller at 4', 14' 9" at base (18"). A battered old tree, virtually hollow with new growth and branching from 9'. (The top damaged, no doubt by storm and weathering.)

B. Female. 11' at 3'; 11' 1" at 4', 10' 3" at base. Branching from 7' into three main branches. In a better state. Solid, with a dead section to the east.

C. Female. 5' 7" at 3'.

Pevsner: 1166 with later additions.

Notes: Trees A & B appear contemporary and are obviously "old". Another large tree to the south by the Prior's House.

Watermillock. All Saints (GR: 432229 sheet 90) 8/11/1996

A. Male. 14' 6" at base. Two main trunks branching from 2'. A splendid, gnarled tree, but no hollowing.

B. Female. 12' 1" at base. Large mature tree with a basal split into four trunks.

C. Female. 9' at 3', 8' 8" at base. Large, "clean" tree, with 4' trunk split.

Pevsner: 1884. 1581 cup.

Notes: Nice mature trees. Tree A has a 1745 slab 4' away indicating earlier use of the site.


A. Female. 14' 3" at 3', 13' 8" at base, 16' 8" at 4'. Magnificent old yew with advanced hollowing. A central internal trunk of 2'-3' girth. Branch pruning to the south, east and west.

B. Female. 12' 1" at base. Large mature tree with a basal split into four trunks.

C. Female. 9' at 3', 8' 8" at base. Large, "clean" tree, with 4' trunk split.

Pevsner: 1870-1 rebuild, Norman parts re-used. C13 piscina and vestry doorway. Hog back fragments.

Notes: 1684 monument. Early font with indicative chipped rim. A nice church on an isolated site. Tree A is an important, top-ranking yew.
Grasmere. St Oswald  (GR: 337074 sheet 90)  22/5/1997

C. Male. 10’ 4” at 3’, 10’ 3” at 4’, 10’ 8” at base. Nicest tree, branching at 8’.
D. Male. 9’ 9” at 3’. Mature tree.
E. Male. 7’ 7” at 3’. Gnarled, mature tree.
F. Female. Two trunk split from ground level. Mature tree.
G. Female. Four-trunk split from base. Mature tree.

Pevsner: Medieval + C14, late Perp.
Notes: A fine collection of impressive yews, some of obvious age, in a kind and sheltered spot.


A. Female. 14’ at base. A large, mature tree, but twiggy and difficult to measure. The east trunk has been cut off at 3’ and the north at 5’.


Notes: An overly tidy site above the river. Mee’s ”fine old yew” has suffered from excessive and unnecessary surgery, the cut trunks seem to have been not only sound, but heading vertically anyway. the result is a sad looking tree.

Raughton head. Church  (GR: 379456 sheet 85)  22/8/1997

A. Female. 13’ 6” at 3’, 11’ 7” at base. Large, Ivy-covered, mature tree, splitting at 3.5’ into a large and small trunk.


Notes: The cup is engraved ”Raughton Head Chappell”. 1628 dated panel in the pulpit. Ruined, and rebuilt in 1678, restored in 1760 and 1881.

Greystoke. St Andrew  (GR: 443307 sheet 90)  10/12/1997

A. Male. 11’ 8” at 3’, 11’ 5” at 4’, 10’ 7” at base. A large, mature tree, branching from 6’. Imposing tree with a feel of age about it, (reminds one of Goathland and Doddington.) but no hollowing.
B. Female. 13’ at base. Branching from around 2’, then again at 4’. “Dead” section beginning to appear in centre, but no hollowing. An impressive tree which must be contemporary with tree A.
C. Female. 10’ 1” at 3’. Mature tree.
D. Male. 9’ 8” at base. Large, mature tree, multi-branched at just under 3’.
E. Male. 7’ 10” at base. Mature tree branching at 3-4’, but much spray hinders other measures.

Pevsner: ? Late Perp. c13. 1645 chancel repairs. Misericords carved with St. Michael slaying the dragon etc. c1360 alabaster knight effigy.

Notes: Large building of cathedral proportions. Medieval glass in the east window, with the Greystoke ”Red Devil” being trodden on by a saint. Early piscina and triple sedilia. Early grotesque pew ends.
Abbeytown. St Mary  (GR: 176508 sheet 85)  20/8/1997

A. Female. 12' 8" at 3’. Multi-branched from 3’. A messy, twiggy tree and an awkward measure.
B. Female. 7' at base. Another twiggy tree branching from around 3-4’.
C. Female. 6' 11" at base. Twiggy mess branching from 6’.
D. Female. ? under 7' at base? No measure.

**Pevsner:** The major part of the nave of Holme Cultram Abbey. A Cistercian house of 1150.

Notes: Lots of stone fragments in the porch and ambulatory: cross-slabs, font bowls, figures, water stoops, urns etc. All the above trees are, at best, mature. (Nothing "old" on site.) They are swathed in ivy and elder, festooned in cobwebs, generally twiggy and unimpressive!

Isel. St Michael  (GR: 163334 sheet 89)  1/10/1997

A. Female. 12' 7" at base. Trunk split at base. Mature, and impressive in its way, one higher branch enfolding another.
B. Male. Multi-branched from ground level. Mature tree.
C. Male. Multi-branched from ground level. Mature.
E. Female. Another basal trunk-split. Mature tree.

**Pevsner:** Norman church c.1130 Anglo-Danish cross-shaft with triskele and a rounded swastika. Paten of 1570.

Notes: The Anglo-Danish cross-shaft was stolen in 1986.
An ancient British village is thought to have been nearby, on a hillock above the present roadway. Cross-fragments are from a pre-Norman church on the site, constructed of wood or dry stone. First clergy 1195. The Norman church had a tower, recorded to still exist in 1710, now demolished. Another mature tree lies to the east, outside the churchyard. All trees are mature and contemporary. The basal splits seem to be the result of multiple planting.


A. Male. 12' 6" at 18", then branching. Dead section near the base, with every sign of being an old tree.
B. Female. 8' 3” at base. Twiggy with multiple branches from the base.
C. Younger yews of small girth.
D. Smaller yews contemporary with the bridge which was built in 1904. (The suspension wires eating into the trees.)
E. Large ash.

**Pevsner:** 1776. 1640 patten. An impressive church of it's period, with small, domed tower. Skewed 45 degrees to put the altar in the north!
Morland. St Laurence (GR: 597226 sheet 91)  2/5/1997

A. Male. 12' 6" (approx) at base. A difficult, twiggy measure. Branching around the base level into two trunks, the larger of which branches at 5'. A mature tree.

B. Female. A tangled mass of branches from ground level. An impressive, gnarled tree, with five large branches. Appears contemporary with tree A and of similar size.

C. Male. Twiggy and smaller in girth. 8-9'.

Pevsner: The only AS tower in Cumberland or Westmorland. (The top storey a c17 addition.) The Saxon work of c11. Norman chancel arch.

Notes: The yews to the east on private land are impressive trees, seeming older and larger than those in the churchyard. Large, imposing church. Nice early carvings (c17) in the chancel of heads, some grotesque.


A. Female. 12' 2" at 2.5', then branching. An impressive, mature tree, surrounded by 18th & 19th century stones, one slab of 1715.

B. Female. 11' 5" at 3', 11' at base. (2') Trunk split from around 5'. A mature tree probably contemporay with tree A.

Pevsner: Norman parts + 13c, but largely 1897 rebuild. Campanile on the hill into which the church is almost built. Built 1897, replacing a wooden structure of 1747.

Notes: Early timbers to porch door. St. Oswald's Well adjoining the west wall from a hidden spring beneath the church, flowing west, complete with cup and chain. A nice spot in the lea of a hill, atop which is the camanile.


A. Female. 12' at 3'. Lopped off at around 5', the main trunk is dead and hollowing, but a mass of new, healthy growth is sprouting from ground level to the west.

B. Female. 10' at base. Mature, large tree, branching from 2.5' into three trunks.

C. Male. 9' 4" at base. Mature, but messier tree, branching from 2.5'.

D. Female. Twiggy and impossible measure, but of similar size to B & C.


Notes: The church originally served Bassenthwaite village, but a chapel of Ease was built here prior to 1478 due to St. Bega's being too far away. (It too was made redundant by the larger St. John's, in 1878.) The church still seems in use, and is well cared for and in good repair. The leaflet suggests that the site "probably stands on a former Druid place of worship...The churchyard is circular in shape, near running water." The site, it says, is typical of pagan origins. A set of mounting-steps stand outside the gate.

Tennyson wrote the Excalibur section of his "Mort d'Arthur" on the lakeside nearby.

A fine site, between the lake to the west and Skiddaw to the east.
Rydal. St Mary (GR: 364062 sheet 90) 22/5/1997

B. Male. 11’ 4” at 3’, 10’ 11” at base. Two trunk split from 1’. Mature tree but no signs of great age.
C. Male tree on private land. Similar size.

Pevsner: 1824. 1884. Cup of 1670-90.

Notes: Wordsworth association. Dora’s field to the west with a large oak: 16’ 4” at 5’. No evidence of earlier use of site.

Witherslack. St Paul (GR: 432842 sheet 97) 9/7/1997

A. Female. 11’ 9” at 3’, 11’ 2” at base. Large, mature tree. Twiggy and difficult over 3’.
B. Male. 10’ 10” at 3’, 10’ 7” at 4’, 10’ 5” at base. Nice mature tree branching from 10’. Some dead wood from 8’ to 16’ on NE side.
C. Male. 10’ 8” at 3’, 11’ 2” at 4’, 10’ 7” at base. Impressive, ivy-covered tree, branching properly from 20’.
D. Male. 9’ 10” at 3’, 8’ 3” at 4’, 9’ 2” at base. Nice mature tree, extremely bulbous at 3’, branching at about 25’.
E. Male. 9’ 6” at 3’, 9’ 2” at base. Mature tree branching from 9’. Pruned. Ink cap mushroom beneath.
F. Male. 8’ 10” at 3’, 8’ 7” at 4’, 9’ 5” at base. Mature, twiggy tree, pruned. Branches from around 20’.
G. Female. 8’ 8” at 3’, 9’ 7” at 4’, 7’ 10” at base. Nice, mature tree branching at 6’ and properly at 25’.
H. Female. 8’ 5” at 3’, 8’ 4” at 4’, 7’ 10” at base. Mature, ivy-hung tree branching at 10’.
I. Female. 7’ 11” at 3’, 8’ 4” at 4’, 7’ 9” at base. Mature, clean tree branching at 20’.
J. Female. 7’ 8” at 3’, 7’ 10” at 4’, 6’ 10” at base. Mature tree branching at 15’. Ivy above 5’. Bulbous at 3’: a sign of a good age.
K. Female. 7’ 7” at 3’, 7’ 11” at 4’, 8’ 3” at base. Mature.
L. Female. 6’ 10” at 3’, 7’ at 4’, 7’ 1” at base. Mature clean-looking tree, not looking it’s age.
M. Female. Large and mature, but twiggy and surrounded by elder, brambles, holly, a young sycamore. No measure possible. Branching into six trunks at 3’.

Pevsner: Built about 1669 under the will of John of Barwick, Dean of St. Paul’s, and his brother. An almost perfect example of a plain, Gothic church of that date.

Notes: Ancient font, probably from the chapel in Old Witherslack Hall. The mature yews in the churchyard, known as the ”Twelve Apostles” are thought to have been planted when the church was built. A 13th tree stands alone in the NE angle of the wall, the Apostles lie to the south. Sexing some of these trees proved difficult: high foliage!
**Underbarrow. All Saints** (GR: 463926 sheet 97)  25/11/1997

- **A.** Male. 11’ 8” at 3’, 11’ 1” at base. Trunk split just over 3’, branching properly at around 5’. Mature tree.
- **B.** Female. 10’ 4” at base. Twiggy and messy. Mature tree branching under 3’.
- **C.** Female. 9’ 10” at 3’. Large, mature tree.
- **D.** Female. 9’ at 3’ & 4’, 9’ 4” at base. Mature tree with a clean trunk. Nicest tree on site, to the eye at least.
- **E.** Female. 7’ 10” at 3’, 8’ 3” at base, 7’ 8” at 4’. Mature tree, covered in dead ivy. Nice tree.
- **F.** Male. 7’ 9” at 3’ & base, 8’ at 4’. Mature tree.
- **G.** Male. 7’ 7” at base. Mature tree.
- **H.** Male. 7’ 6” at 3’. Mature tree.
- **I.** Female. 7’ 1” at 3’. Mature tree.
- **J.** Female. 7’ at 3’. Mature tree.
- **K.** Female. 6’ 2” at base.
- **L.** Male. 4’ 9” at base.

**Pevsner:** 1869, with spirelet and polygonal apse. 1609 London Cup, 1742 London flagon.

**Notes:** There have been four churches on the site, the first almost certainly pre-dated the Norman Conquest. No internal evidence of previous buildings save an old oak library box (5’ x 3’ approx.) by the door. Part of the exterior of the porch may be from an earlier building. Yews abound on the site and earthworks of different levels hint at the earlier history of the place. A circular, flattened mound is suggested by a feature to the north of the church. The yews are mature and the ivy on them is being controlled.

**Ormside. St James** (GR: 702176 sheet 91)  9/5/1997

- **A.** Male. 11’ 7” at base. A twiggy tree, difficult to measure other than at base. Hollow at base at the north side, light showing through from the south, with dead wood to 9’.
- **B.** Male. Smaller, with a double trunk. 7’ 8’. Healthy and mature but obviously younger than it’s companion.

**Pevsner:** C11 south doorway. Late C12 tower. The Ormside bowl found in the early C19 is now in the York Museum.

**Notes:** The bowl is gilt bronze and is c.9. Large, square Norman font-bowl. Squint with stained glass now inserted. (C14.) Relics of pre-Christian burials found in the mound on which the church stands, one with a Viking sword, now in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle. Early oak beams, well tooled, in the chancel. Sub-circular site, perched above the River Eden.

**Preston Patrick. St Gregory** (GR: 536835 sheet 97)  9/7/1997

- **A.** Male. 11’ 6” at 3’, 15’ 3” at 4’, 10’ 6” at base. An impressive old tree with marked hollowing and internal rootlets, branching between six & seven feet. Dead section to NW side.
**Bridekirk. St Bridget** (GR: 116336 sheet 88) 13/8/1997

A. Male. 11' at base. Splits from 1' into two trunks. Mature tree.
B. Female. 9' 2" at 3', 7' 11" at base. Large, mature tree splitting from 6' into numerous branches.
C. Female. 9' 1" at 3', 7' 8" at base, 7' 8" at 4'. Ivy covered, mature tree.
D. Female. 8' at base. Trunk split from under 3'.
E. Male. 7' 6" at base. Split from 2'. Mature tree.
F. Stump, on it's side, 5' in length and approx. 11' in girth. Rings are visible for 202 years of its growth, from 1776 - 1978 when it was felled. The middle is rotted and hollowed. An estimated age of 320 - 360 years is indicated.

**Pevsner:** Has it as St. Bride. 1868-70, with parts of the old Norman church, the chancel of which stands to the east.

Notes: All of the above trees appear contemporary. All are planted in relation to the ruined chancel and are mature with no sign of great age.

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A. Male. 10' 9" at base (2'). Large, mature, gnarled tree, twiggy on the w side. Four-trunk split at around 3'.
B. Female. 10' 2" at 3', 9' at base. Gnarled and mature, splitting just above 3'. Twiggy but nice.
C. Male. Multi-branched from base and messy.
D. Female. Base-split with and ash growing next to it.
E. Female. Smaller yew.
F. (male) & G. (female) smaller trees, 7-8' at a guess. Twiggy from base upward.
H. Female. Mature tree, similar to F & G, but impossible to measure: covered in brambles and elder etc. Nice, mature tree of about 8' in girth.

Notes: Chapel. Rebuilt 1845. An early reference from Fountain's Abbey to "a house of St. John" may refer to a C13 building on the site. The earliest reference of any substance is of 1554. Sundial inscribed "St. John's Chapel 1635." Registers began in 1776. Chalice of 1659. Information inside: "The little well situated in the churchyard of St. John-in-the-Vale, is with one exception, all that remains of the original church of the Knights Hospitillers of the venerable order of St. John of Jerusalem, the exception being what is considered to be the remains of a pillar of the original church which stands nearby." The well, really a spring, has dried up at it's original location and now runs from a few feet north. A yew stands over the old well to the west, with holly and rhododendron. A small marble plaque bearing the inscription "sacred thorn" sits under a hawthorn to the SW. Mature yews to the south, the largest 10' 9" at base.

A really fine spot, nestling in the pass between High & Low Rigg.

A. Male. 10' 8" at base, branching at 2'.
B. Male. 9' 4" at 3'; then branching. Nicest tree on site.
C. Male. 9' 2" at 3', 10' 4" at 4'. (8' 9.5" at base.) Nice mature tree branching from 6'.
D. Female. 6' 11" at 3'; then branching.
E. Male. Smaller tree.

Pevsner: Liscenced in 1573. c17 communion rail. 1848 tower.

notes: A strange little church, the tower with large buttresses seeming too big for the job. 1573 carved into the eastern roof beam along with initials.

Bowness-on-Windermere.  St Martin  (GR: 402969 sheet 97)  3/12/1997

A. Female. 10' 4" at 3', 10' 10" at base, 9' 11" at 4'. Large, impressive, mature tree branching properly at about 15'. Clean single trunk up to this point, with some pruning at 10'.
B. Female. 7' 4.5" at 3', 7' 7" at base, 7' 4" at 4'. Mature tree branching from around 16'. Clean trunk up to this point.
C. Female. 6' 9" at base.

Other yews as shown, of smaller girth.

Pevsner: 1483, restored 1870.

Notes: A church was on the site as early as 1203 and was burnt down in 1480. An old font bowl on a new stem, "possibly 13th century", with crudely carved human heads at each alternate angle. Wooden 17th century carving of St. Martin & the beggar, probably of foreign origin, given to the church in 1915. The east window, mostly of 15th century glass, was damaged in Cromwell's time and has some additions of 1871. The glass is thought to have come from Cartmel Priory. The earliest part, the top of the third light from the left and representing the Virgin and Child, is believed to be of 1260.

"The yew trees are probably very old and many attempts have been made to guess their age. It is conceivable that the oldest of them was painted when the churchyard was consecrated over six hundred years ago."

The largest tree on site, though a fine, mature yew, shows no sign of hollowing; nor do its clean lines and look give an impression of any great age. By the trees to the south are two grave slabs of 1731 and 1755.

Hayton.  St James  (GR: 107415 sheet 85)  20/8/1997

A. Female. 10' 3" at 3', 8' 8" at base, 11' at 4'. Large, mature tree.

Pevsner: 1868 by Travers of Manchester. Iron rood screen of 1870.

Notes: A church entirely of its period.
Dacre. St Andrew (GR: 460266 sheet 90) 25/4/1997

A. Female. 10’ 3” at base. Branching from 2.5’. Mature tree.

Notes: Nice spot near the castle, an early c14 pele tower. The four “Dacre Bears” thought to be boundary markers, were dug up in the churchyard. Two flank the path.

Brougham. St Wilfrid’s Chapel (GR: 527284 sheet 90)

A. Male. 10’ at 3’, 10’ 7” at base, 9’ 6” at 4’. Mature tree with a clean, gnarled trunk, branches at 6’, the crown developing further up.
B. Female. 10’ 4” at base. Three-trunk split at 2’. Mature tree. Some pruning evident.
C. Female. 10’ at base. Mature tree, splitting into three trunks at just under 3’. Twiggy spray at base and has suffered some pruning.
D. Female. 9’ 9” at 3’, 9’ 7” at base, 9’ 8” at 4’. Nice, mature, gnarled tree, splitting into two trunks at 5’.
E. Male. 9’ 3” at 3’, 9’ 4” at base, 9’ at 4’. Nice, mature tree. Clean, gnarled trunk splitting at 6’ into two main trunk which split further up.
F. Male. 8’ 7” at 3’, 8’ 5” at base. Mature tree, with branches at 2-3’. Leaning slightly to the north east.
G. Female. 7’ 9” at base. Mature tree with branching at 2.5’
H. Male. Large and mature branching from ground level into several trunks, therefore unable to measure.

I, J. Male. Mature trees, contemporary and of similar size with the largest on site, but twiggy and unable to measure.

Pevsner: By Brougham Hall, to which it is connected by a foot-bridge across the road. The hall was demolished in 1934 but the high walls and turrets remain here. Built in 1658, but the Rev. T.E.T. Burbury assumes that it is of C14 from mason's marks and consecration crosses. C17 font bowl, the stem could well be c.1660. Lord Brougham filled the chapel with Continental woodwork in the 1840s.
Notes: An interesting spot with lots of mature yews. A copy of the Durham Cathedral Sanctuary Knocker is on the Hall gate. (Which, despite Pevsner's assurance that it was demolished, has substantial buildings still in use.)

Cockermouth Cemetery. (GR: 127301 sheet 88) 13/8/1997

A. Female. 10’ at 3’, 9’ 3” at base. A nice mature tree, splitting from around 4’ into two trunks.

Notes: The earliest gravestone seen is of 1852, with other C19 stones, to the south and west of the chapel. A large site with other mature trees.
**Dalston. St Michael** (GR: 367497 sheet 85) 22/8/1997

A. Male. 10' at 3', 9' 10" at base. Nice mature tree, splitting from 6'. Awkward branches to north side hinder measuring.

**Pevsner:** C13 chancel. Norman capital in the porch. Partly medieval nave masonry. 1749 rebuild. 1661 cup and cover paten.

Notes: C18 stones.

**Mealsgate. Old All Hallows** (GR: 204418 sheet 85) 22/8/1997

A. Male. 9' 11" at 3', 8' 11" at base. Mature tree splitting around 4'.
B. Female. 7' 10" at 3', 8' 11" at base. Mature tree branching properly from around 9'.
C. Female. 7' 5" at 3', 8' 7" at base. Mature, twiggy tree splitting from 6-7'.

**Pevsner:** Norman.

Notes: A nicely-placed, partially ruined church on a wooded, isolated site. The chancel remains, the nave is ruined.

**Irton. St Paul** (GR: 005092 shhet 89)

A. Female. 9' 10" at 3', 8' 8" at base. Mature tree

**Pevsner:** 1856-7, Enlarged 1873. C9 cross shaft in churchyard.

Notes: Grand site, with views to Wasdale Head. The previous church was demolished in 1856, and a gravestone removed from beneath the altar, reputed to be that of Adam d'Yreton, a crusader. Stained glass windows in the north wall by Burne Jones & Wm. Morris.

**Wreay. St Mary** (GR: 435489 sheet 85) 22/8/1997

A. Female. 9' 10" at base. Mature tree in a raised, walled bed, splitting at 2'.

**Pevsner:** Consecrated in 1842. Built to commemorate Katherine Losh who died in 1835, by her sister Sara, intended to be a Romanesque basilica, but a mish-mash of styles and periods.

Notes: Intricately carved west doorway, gargoyles and all manner of strange and wonderful things. Katherine's mausoleum of massive blocks, lies to the north and houses her marble effigy, while the small family plot post-dating this has slabs carved with fossils. (Sara rests here.) A bizarre site! Two large beech trees on site, one 15' 9" at 5', the other 13' 4" at 5'.
**Troutbeck. Jesus Church (GR: 413028 sheet 90)**

A. Female. 9' 9" at 3', 10' 4" at 4'. Early trunk rot.
B. Female. 8' 8" at base, multi branched from 2'.
C. Female. Contemporary with tree A. Cut off at around 6'.
D. Male tree. Much smaller.

**Pevsner:** 1736 tower. 1584 cup & 1692 collecting shovels.
Notes: A nice site, dotted with large firs.

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**Gosforth. St Mary (GR: 073036 sheet 89) 23/7/1997**

A. Male. 9' 8" at base, splitting thereafter. Mature tree.
B. Male. 8' 6" at base. Twiggy & awkward thereafter. Mature.
C. Female. 7' 4.5" at 3', 7' 7" at 4', 7' 4" at base. Mature, impressive tree.
D. Male tree, multi-branched from ground level. Contemporary with A & B.

**Pevsner:** Re-used Norman doorway in s wall. Chancel arch probably C14, but stands on re-used Norman columns with figured capitals, on one a green-man's head. Gosforth Cross. 15' high and later C10. Other Saxon frags inside the church.

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**Low Lorton. St Cuthbert (GR: 155259 sheet 89) 1/10/1997**

A. Male. 9' 7" at base, branching thereafter. Mature tree.

**Pevsner:** Early C19.

Notes: 1762 stone and one of 1712 point to an earlier use of the site. Four smaller trees on site, not able to measure without pruning. An impressive beech 18' 3" at 3'. (Narrowest point.)

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**Chapel Stile. Holy Trinity (GR: 321055 sheet 90) 28/5/1997**

A. Female. 9' 5" at base. Multi-branch split from 5'. A gnarled, mature tree.
B. Male. 8' 7'5" at 3', 9' at 4', 7' 11" at base. Mature tree, with trunk split at 8'.
C. Looks contemporay with A & B, but measure not on: The tree is at the top of a steep slope and is fenced off above.
D. Smaller female tree. E. Smaller male tree.

**Pevsner:** 1857. Cup of 1571.
Notes: The present building replaced a chapel built in 1751, which itself replaced an earlier building. No early burials on this site.
Burneside. St Oswald (GR: 505957 sheet 97)  25/11/1997
A. Female. 9' 3" Multi-trunk split from 2'. Mature tree, two trunks cut off, two remain.
B. Male. 9' 2" at base. Multi-trunk split from about 1'. Mature, twiggy tree.
C. Female. 9' 1" at base. Triple-trunk split from just above ground level. Mature tree.
D. Male. Multi-branched, twiggy mess of similar size to the above, but covered in brambles, holly, elder etc.

Pevsner: 1880-81 by Ferguson. 1726 London paten.
Notes: Six smaller yews on site. A barn of a building in Lakeland slate, the north aisle lost to a children's play area. A small pinnacle-base (?) by the door and an old brass jug by the font hint at an earlier building. We were told by the caretaker that two earlier churches have been on site.

A. Male. 9' 2" at 3', 8' 9" at base, 9' 11" at 4'. Large, impressive, mature tree with trunk split at 6', merging above and splitting at 10'.
B. Male. 7' 4" at 3', 7' 7" at base, 7' 6" at 4'. Mature tree, with trunk split at 5'. Pruning evident.

Pevsner: C 14 defensive tower. Norman doorway. EE. Stones from the nearby Roman Wall used in the building, with a "pagan Celtic head" built into the east wall od the chancel.

Notes: A splendid, chunky, castellated wee church with much of interest. The Celtic head is a nice example, not as crude as many, with beard and elongated moustache.

A. Female. 9' 1" at base. Branching from 2.5', messily. Mature and quite imposing tree.
B. Female. 8' 4" at base. Messy too, branching from base.
C. Female. 7' 4" at base.
D. Male twiggy tree. ? 8'.

Pevsner: Norman + 13c, 14c, 17c tower.

Borrowdale. Church (GR: 258139 sheet 89)  29/10/1997
A. Female. 9' 1" at 4'. A mature tree with a dead w trunk, against the farm wall, hence only 4' measure possible. Trunk split from 7'.
B. Female. 8' 2" at 3', 7' 9.5" at base. A tall, mature tree branching from just over 3'.
C. Smaller female tree.
Another smaller yew grows approx 200' to the SE.

Pevsner: Early C19, lower chancel and the tracery of 1873. Late Georgian pulpit.
Notes: Consecrated 1687, almost rebuilt 1766, enlarged and rebuilt 1825. The first curate, John Harrison, 1750. Nothing of the earlier church visible.
Ivegill. Christ Church (GR: 419433 sheet 85) 22/8/1997

A. Female. 9' at base. Branch split under 3'. Mature tree.
C. Female. 8' 6" at 3', 7' 11" at base. Nice mature tree.
D. Male. 8' 3" at base. Twiggy and awkward.
E. Male. 6' 11" at base. Twiggy.

Pevsner: 1868 by R. J. Withers and Putney. Cup of 1679
Notes: Mature trees but not of any great age.

Thornthwaite. St Mary (GR: 226254 sheet 89) 3/12/1997

A. Female. 9' at base. Mature, twiggy tree, intertwining with tree B to form an arch.
B. Female. Much smaller.

Pevsner: Originally built c.1760, remodelled in 1831 and 1853.
Notes: Two smaller yews by the gate, male & female. Small windows, some with stained glass, give a dark interior.

Cliburn. St Cuthbert (GR: 587245 sheet 91) 3/12/1997

A. Female. 8' 11" at base, trunk split thereafter. Large, mature tree.
B. Male. 8' 7" at 3', 8' 3" at base. Large, mature tree, branching properly at 6'.
C. Messy, twiggy tree, of similar size, but with churchyard rubbish piled on the north side, so no measure.

Pevsner: The nave and chancel masonry is Norman. Cup of c.1565.
12th century font, parish chest of 1696 with date. Chalice of 1571.
Notes: Mature trees with no sign of hollowing. Irish yews on site.

Nether Wasdale (Strands). St Michael & All Angels (GR: 125041 sheet 89) 23/7/1997

A. Female. 8' 10" at base. Branch at just under 3' impedes further measures. Branches properly at 8'. Large, mature tree,
B. Female. 8' 1" at 3', 7' 10" at 4', 8' 10" at base. Another large, mature tree, branching from 10'.

Pevsner: Cup pf 1597. C17 altar panelling,pulpit & lecturn from York Minster. George III arms. (1816 onwards.)
Notes: 1768 stone in churchyard and one of 1815.
Calder Bridge. St Bridget (GR: 043060 sheet 89) 30/7/1997

A. Female. 8' 10" at 3'. Mature tree. Branch split from 6', but twiggy and difficult to measure.

Pevsner: 1842 by E. Sharpe. 1877 stained glass.
Notes: A cramped site on the corner of two busy roads, with little to recommend it.


A. Male. 8' 10" at base. Two-trunk split from 2'. Large, mature tree.
B. Female. 8' 8" at 3', 8" at base. A nice, mature tree.
C. Irish yews.
D. Gosforth Cross replica.

Pevsner: Re-used Norman arch to the vestry. Rebuilt 1846-8. Early to mid C13 font. Anglo-Danish fragments and 5' cross-shaft.
Notes: Nice, crisp replica of the Gosforth Cross. A large, wooded site.

Wythburn Chapel. (GR: 324136 sheet 90)

A. Female. 8' 9" at 3'. Nice mature tree, branching from 5'.

Pevsner: 1640, restored 1872. 1640 side windows.
Notes: Apse chancel seemingly added in the restoration.
Nice, welcoming, plain interior. A familiar building en route to Helvellyn.

Whitbeck. St Mary (GR: 119839 sheet 96) 16/7/1997

A. Male. 8' 8" at base. Mature, twiggy tree up against the churchyard wall, in competition with hawthorn.


A. Male. 8' 8" at base. Branching from 2'.
B. Male. 8' 2" at base. Splitting from 3'. Twiggy.
C. Female. 7' 7" at base. Twiggy and splitting from around 4'.
D. Male. 6' 10" at base. Branch split under 3'.
E. Mature yew of similar size. Impossible measure.

Notes: 1080 nave. "Lords & Ladies" (Cuckoo-pint.) fruiting beneath the yews, all of which are mature, contemporary trees.

A. Male. 8' 4" at 3'. 7' 10" at base, 8' 3" at 4'. Mature, gnarled tree, splitting at 4' into two remaining branches, a central one having been cut out.
B. Female. 6' 8" at 3', 7' 4" at base. Twiggy and a difficult measure.

Pevsner: Built in 1860. Spikes and triangles: "The architect must have been an aggressive man."

Notes: All of it's period with no sign of previous use of the site. Five smaller yews lie east of the church, and one next to B is twiggy and of similar size. Tree A is of a different character, seeming to have nothing to do with his companions.

Beckermet. St John (GR: 018060 sheet 89) 30/7/1997

A. Male. 8' at 3', 8' at base. Mature tree.

Pevsner: 1878-9 by J. Birtley of Kendal. Anglo-Danish fragments in the church, including a half socket stone and a cross head.

Notes: "It has been suggested by some antiquarians that a small Celtic monastery was built on the present church site as early as 650."
During a visit of the Chester Diocese in 1578 the church was described as: "The chancel is fallen down to the ground and so hath been for seven years." Discarded ornate Victorian font outside and a silly new one within. Exposed internal brick-work, which, strangely, seems to fit.

Wasdale Head. St Olaf (GR: 188086 sheet 89) 23/7/1997

A. Male. 7' 11" at 3', 8' 10.5" at 4', 8' 10" at base. Nice, mature tree, twiggy from 6', branching from 9'.
B. Male. 7' 7" at base. (2'.) Then twiggy, branching from approx 9'.
C & D. Mature trees under 7' in girth.
E. Large mature, twiggy tree.

Pevsner: Victorian Iron brackets for oil-lamps. Cup of 1565.

Notes: Welcoming wee church on a strange, skewed site. Pews look Victorian. Old beams to roof under attack from woodworm.
Twenty-eight yews on site, by all of the boundary walls.
Severe "pruning" to several trees, especially those to the north. (Tops sawn off!) Two trees are dead and a couple of stumps of others remain. Tree A is the nicest on site. A grand spot, dominated by the surrounding fells.

Crostwaite. St Mary, Church Town (GR: 446912 sheet 97) 25/11/1997

A. Male. 7' 10.5" at 3', 7' 4.5" at base. Mature tree, branching at about 8'. One trunk sawn off at this point, on the west side.

Pevsner: 1878. 1567 cup & cover paten.

Notes: Old font bowl just left of the porch door points to possible earlier use. All of its period with earlier monuments in the north and south walls, one with dates between 1764 and 1803. Yews on site, all mature, the largest by the lych gate. Gargoyles to the tower.

Yew Tree Farm is just over the road to the west of the church.

Church Town has quite a few yews dotted about.
Barbon.  St Bartholemew  (GR: 631825 sheet 97)  9/7/1997

A. Male. 7' 10" at base. Large, and twiggy from 1', branching from 5'5'.
B. Twiggy tree of similar size.

Pevsner: Paley & Austin 1893. Perp style with crossing tower.
Notes: Built on a chapel of 1600, which itself replaced an earlier building. Five more smaller yews by the north wall. Lots of Irish yews on site.

Winster.  Holy Trinity  (GR: 416931 sheet 97)  16/7/1997

A. Male. 7' 8" at base. Mature tree branching from 2'.
B. Female.
C. Male.
D. Female.

Pevsner: 1875.
Notes: 1756 monument, otherwise no evidence of earlier site use.

Camerton.  St Peter  (GR: 036300 sheet 89)  7/8/1997

A. Female. 7' 8" at base. Mature tree, with basal branch split.

Pevsner: 1885 on the River Derwent. 1571 chalice, blackened knight effigy, known as "Black Tom Curwen".
Notes: An isolated church at the end of an unmetalled road. One yew, 7' 8" at base. More impressive trees are to be glimpsed over the walls of nearby Camerton Hall. (Georgian, but the lodge in the grounds has Gothic windows.)

Caldbeck.  St Kentigern  (GR: 326399 sheet)  1/10/1997

A. Female. 7' 7.5" at 3', 8' 2" at base. Impressive old tree, despite its disappointing girth. Clean up to around 4', twiggy thereafter. Multi-branched from seven feet.

Pevsner: Tower dated 1727, but is medieval. Nave arch looks Norman, as do some windows. The s porch entrance is Norman, with beak-heads outside and stylised beak-heads within. It is suggested that this was the chancel arch, a very narrow one. C13 porch, with pointed, vaulted-arched ceiling. Alterations made in 1512 by John de Wychdale, rector.
Notes: The Perp font, with large octagonal bowl, looks top-heavy! Norman church built in 1118, in connection with a hospice for distressed travellers which stood on the site of the old rectory next to the church. A thick piece of wall behind the choir seats on the north side of the chancel is all that remains. Well-preserved cross-slab in the chancel, of Thomas de Bray of Kirkby Thore, c.1250.

A nice church with a feel of "age" about it, next to the Caldbeck. A total absence of stained glass detracts slightly, but a minor quibble only.
High Hesket. St. Mary (GR: 476445 sheet 86) 1/10/1997

A. Male. 7' 5" at base. Mature tree, missing a sawn-off trunk on its west side.
(Two remain.)


A. Male. 7' 2" at 3', 7' 1" at base. Mature tree.


Notes: Massive horse chestnut to SE, 17' 4" at 4'. Much more imposing than the above yew!

The most significant Cumbrian Yews in order of girth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>site no.</th>
<th>tree no.</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>sex</th>
<th>3' GIRTH</th>
<th>OTHER MEASURES</th>
<th>GRID REF &amp; NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Borrowdale Yews</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>22' 4&quot;</td>
<td>23' 7&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 235125 sheet 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Old Church</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>22' 4&quot;</td>
<td>21' 6&quot; at 4'</td>
<td>GR: 443212 sheet 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Martindale</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>21' 5&quot;</td>
<td>19' at base</td>
<td>GR: 434184 sheet 90</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lorton</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>16' 8&quot;</td>
<td>19' 8&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 163255 sheet 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Borrowdale Yews</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>14' 10&quot;</td>
<td>also at base</td>
<td>16' 4&quot; at 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Muncaster</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>14' 11&quot;</td>
<td>13' 10&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 104966 sheet 96</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kentmere</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14' 9&quot;</td>
<td>15' 10&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 456041 sheet 90</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lanercost</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14' 8&quot;</td>
<td>14' 9&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 556637 sheet 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Watermillock</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14' 6&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>GR: 432229 sheet 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Plumbland</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14' 3&quot;</td>
<td>13' 8&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 142392 sheet 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Grasmere</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14'</td>
<td>11' 11&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 337074 sheet 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Wetheral</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>14'</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>GR: 467544 sheet 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Raughton head</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13' 6&quot;</td>
<td>11' 7&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 379456 sheet 85</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Greystoke</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13'</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>GR: 443307 sheet 90</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Borrowdale Yews</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12' 11&quot;</td>
<td>14' 3&quot; at base</td>
<td>12' at 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Grasmere</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12' 9&quot;</td>
<td>11' 10&quot; at base</td>
<td>80' NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Grasmere</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12' 9&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>120' NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Abbeytown</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12' 8&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>GR: 176508 sheet 85</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Isel</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12' 7&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>GR: 163334 sheet 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Kirkandrews</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12' 6&quot;</td>
<td>at 18'</td>
<td>GR: 391720 sheet 85</td>
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<td>Morland</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12' 6&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Kirkoswald</td>
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<td>12' 2&quot;</td>
<td>at 2.5'</td>
<td>GR: 555409 sheet 86</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Watermillock</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12' 1&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
<td>30' NW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbland</td>
<td>Bassenthwaite</td>
<td>Rydal</td>
<td>Witherslack</td>
<td>Greystoke</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Cuthbert</td>
<td>St. Bega</td>
<td>St. Mary</td>
<td>St. Paul</td>
<td>St. Andrew</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>12' 1&quot; at base</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>11' 10&quot; at base</td>
<td>11' 9&quot; 11' 2&quot; at base</td>
<td>11' 8&quot; 11' 5&quot; at 4'</td>
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<tr>
<td>GR: 226287 sheet 88</td>
<td>GR: 364062 sheet 90</td>
<td>GR: 432842 sheet 97</td>
<td>GR: 702176 sheet 91</td>
<td>50' N</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| 22 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| Underbarrow | All Saints | Ormside | Preston Patrick | Kirkoswald |
| St. James. | M | St. James | M | St. Oswald |
| F | M | M | M | F |
| 11' 8" 11' 1" at base | 11' 7" at base | 11' 5" at base | 11' 6" 10' 6" at base | 11' 5" 11' at 2' |
| GR: 463926 sheet 97 | GR: 702176 sheet 91 | GR: 432842 sheet 97 | GR: 536835 sheet 97 | 100' NNW |

| 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| Witherslack | Troutbeck | Lanercost | Bridekirk | Rydal |
| St. Paul | Jesus Church | Priory | St. Bridget | St. Mary |
| M | F | F | M | F |
| 10' 10" 10' 5" at base | 11' 1" at base | 11' 1" 11' 4" at 4' | 11" at base | 10' 4" 10' 10" at base |
| GR: 402969 sheet 97 | GR: 413024 sheet 88 | GR: 116336 sheet 88 | GR: 416336 sheet 88 | 100' S |

| 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 |
| St. John's-in-the-Vale | Borrowdale Yews | Matterdale | Troutbeck | Bowness-on-Windermere |
| St. John | Borrowdale | church | Jesus Church | F |
| M | F | M | F | M |
| 10' 9" 10' 10" at base | 10' 9" at base | 10' 8" at base | 10' 4" 10' 3" at base | 10' 8" at base |
| GR: 536835 sheet 97 | GR: 2000 NE | GR: 402969 sheet 97 | GR: 413024 sheet 88 | 100' S |

| 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| Grasmere | Muncaster | Underbarrow | Brougham | Hayton |
| St. Oswald | St. Michael | All Saints | St. Wilfrid | St. James |
| M | M | M | F | F |
| 10' 4" 10' 3" at 4' | 10' 4" 10' 3" at base | 10' 4" 10' 5" at base | 10' 4" 10' 3" at base | 10' 3" 8' 8" at base |
| GR: 460266 sheet 90 | GR: 500 NE | GR: 306225 sheet 90 | GR: 500 NE | GR: 107415 sheet 85 |

| 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 |
| Dacre | St. John's-in-the-Vale | Greystoke | Brougham | Dalston |
| St. Andrew | St. John | St. Andrew | St. Wilfrid | St. Michael |
| F | F | F | F | M |
| 10' 3" at base | 10' 2" 9' at base | 10' 9" 8' 8" at base | 10' 10" 9' 7" at base | 10' 9" 10' 10" at base |
| GR: 460266 sheet 90 | GR: 454 S | GR: 200 NW | GR: 500 S | GR: 367497 sheet 85 |

| 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 |
| Cockermouth | Bassenthwaite | Brougham | Mealsgate | Irton |
| Cemetery | St. Bega | St. Wilfrid | Old All Hallows | St. Paul |
| F | F | F | M | F |
| 10' 9" 9' 3" at base | 10' 10" at base | 10' 9" 8' 8" at base | 9' 11" " at base | 9' 10" 8' 8" at base |
| GR: 127301 sheet 85 | GR: 500 S | GR: 204418 sheet 85 | GR: 500 NE | GR: 005092 sheet 89 |

| 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 |
| Witherslack | Underbarrow | Wray | Troutbeck | Brougham |
| St. Paul | All Saints | St. Mary | Jesus Church | St. Wilfrid |
| M | F | F | F | F |
| 9' 10" 9' 2" at base | 9' 7" 9' 9" at base | 9' 10" 9' 10" at base | 9' 9" 9' 4" at base | 9" 10" 9' 10" at base |

| 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 |
| Grasmere | Gosforth | Greystoke | Low Lorton | Witherslack |
| St. Oswald | St. Mary | St. Andrew | St. Cuthbert | St. Paul |
| M | M | M | M | M |
| 9' 9" 9' 4" at base | 9' 8" at base | 9' 8" at base | 9' 7" 9' 9" at base | 9' 6" 9' 2" at base |

| 68 | 69 | 70 | 71 | 72 |
| Chapel Stile | Matterdale | Bassenthwaite | Preston Patrick | Plumbland |
| Holy Trinity | church | St. Bega | St. Gregory | St. Cuthbert |
| F | M | F | M | F |
| 9' 5" at base | 9' 4" 9' 1" at base | 9' 4" at base | 11' 6" 10' 6" at base | 12' 1" at base |
| GR: 321055 sheet 90 | GR: 102255 sheet 90 | GR: 702176 sheet 91 | GR: 536835 sheet 97 | 100' NNW |

<p>| 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 77 |
| Low Lorton | Witherslack | Greystoke | Burneside | Rydal |
| St. Cuthbert | St. Paul | St. Andrew | St. Oswald | St. Mary |
| M | M | M | F | F |
| 9' 7&quot; at base | 9' 6&quot; 9' 2&quot; at base | 9' 8&quot; at base | 9' 3&quot; at base | 9' 10&quot; at base |
| GR: 155259 sheet 89 | GR: 364062 sheet 90 | GR: 073036 sheet 89 | GR: 413024 sheet 88 | 100' S |</p>
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<td>73</td>
<td>Matterdale church</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>9' 2&quot;</td>
<td>10' 4&quot; at 4'</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>Burgh-by-Sands St. Michael</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>9' 2&quot;</td>
<td>8' 9&quot; at base</td>
<td>GR: 328591 sheet 85 9' 11&quot; at 4'</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>9' 2&quot;</td>
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<td>45 E</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Burneside St. Oswald</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>Barton St. Michael</td>
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<td>9' 1&quot;</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>Underbarrow All Saints</td>
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<td>9'</td>
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<td>9' at 4'</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>Plumbland St. Cuthbert</td>
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<td>83</td>
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<td>84</td>
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<td>85</td>
<td>Cliburn St. Cuthbert</td>
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<tr>
<td>94</td>
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<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Brougham St. Wilfrid</td>
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<td>8' 5&quot; at base</td>
<td>32 N</td>
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<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Cliburn St. Cuthbert</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>8' 3&quot; at base</td>
<td>45' NNE</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>8' 6&quot;</td>
<td>7' 11 at base</td>
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<td>101</td>
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<td>at base</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>Gosforth St. Mary</td>
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<td>104</td>
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<td>8' 4&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td>Grange Holy Trinity</td>
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<td>GR: 253175 sheet 89 8' 3&quot; at 4'</td>
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<td>106</td>
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<td>107</td>
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<td>109</td>
<td>Borrowdale Church</td>
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<td>7' 9.5&quot; at base</td>
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<td>Nether Wasdale St. Michael</td>
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<td>111</td>
<td>Beckermet St. John</td>
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<tr>
<td>112</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>Wasdale Head St. Olaf</td>
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<td>114</td>
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<td>7' 9&quot; at base</td>
<td>8' 4&quot; at 4'</td>
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<td>115</td>
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<td>117</td>
<td>Underbarrow All Saints</td>
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<td>8' 3&quot; at base</td>
<td>7' 8&quot; at 4'</td>
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<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Preston Patrick St. Gregory</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>119</td>
<td>Barbon St. Bartholomew</td>
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<td>at base</td>
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<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>Underbarrow All Saints</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>7' 9&quot;</td>
<td>and at base</td>
<td>8' at 4'</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>Brougham St. Wilfrid</td>
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<td>7' 9&quot;</td>
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<td>70 NE</td>
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<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Witherslack St. Paul.</td>
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<td>6' 10&quot; at base</td>
<td>7' 10&quot; at 4'</td>
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<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>Winster Holy Trinity</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>7' 8&quot;</td>
<td>at base</td>
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</table>
**Notes:** 1838 by Salvin. Enlarged in 1862 and a north aisle added. South aisle added in 1882. Present chancel built in 1889 by moving the east wall back. The puzzle then: We are assured by the present vicar, Brian Smith, that no church was on site prior to this one. A painting, done soon after the church was built, shows, trees both to the west, and south east where the largest yews grow today. They look anything but yew-like, but the artist’s inclination and forte was obviously architectural and not arboreal!
More Cumbrian sites where yews are found

Alston. St. Augustine - small yew.
Ambleside. St. Mary - 6'-7' yews.
Ankerton Castle. Now a farm. Two spray-covered mature yews flank the gate.
Arthuret. St. Michael - rebuilt 1609. Irish yews, also young yews across the road.
Burneside. St. Oswald - several mature yews.
Burton-in-Kendal. St. James - yews but max girths of 5'-6'.
Cleator. St. Leonard - yews 4'-5' in girth.
Clifton. St. Cuthbert - Irish yews and one young common yew.
Cotehill. St. John the Evangelist - Irish yews and a tiny common yew.
Crosby Ravensworth. St. Lawrence - Yews, Irish yews and firs. The largest yew to the nw is 6' 5" at 3'. Large yews on private land beyond the stream to the east.
Cross Canonby. St. John - yew to the east, 5' 6" at base.
Crosthwaite. St. Mary - mature yews, the largest by the lych gate. Yew Tree Farm is just over the road to the west of the church. Church Town has quite a few yews dotted about.
Dean. St. Oswald - a female yew to the south, 6' 6" at base.
Dearham. St. Mungo - small yews north of the church and Irish yews.
Ennerdale Bridge. St. Mary - yews 4'-5' on site.
Field Broughton. St. Peter - wee yews.
Gilsland. St. Mary Magdalene - 1852-4. A female yew grows 40' east of the church, a misleading 8' 3" at base (exaggerated by a basal trunk split), splitting properly at under 3', the main branch - more indicative - is 5' 10" at 3'.
High Hesket. St. Mary - a mature yew lies outside the wall to the NW.
Holme Eden. St. Paul - a mature yew to the south on the boundary with the old rectory. Must be 7-8' in girth.
Holme St. Cuthbert. St. Cuthbert - young yews and a solitary Irish to the north.
Ings. (Hugill) St. Anne - small yews flank the east and west gates.
Kendal. Holy Trinity - mature yews but around the 6' mark.
Kirkbampton. St. Peter - three mature yews, two west and one east of the church. They straddle the churchyard boundary, half in and half out, a fence running right up to the trunks and therefor an impossible measure. ?7'-8'
Kirklington. St. Cuthbert - young yews 5'-6'.
Lamplugh. St. Michael - Irish yews & two wee common yews. Yews (4'-5') flank the drive of the hall opposite, the gate dated 1595.
Mealstgate. New All Hallows - yew 6' 5" at base which could not have been planted before the church was built, this being a new site: a good indication then of growth of around 100 years.
Millom. Holy Trinity - four mature yews to the south, the largest 6' 7".
Natland. St. Mark - small yews.
Rockcliffe. St. Mary - 1848. Yew to the north east corner 6'-7'.
Rusland. St. Paul - mature yews on site, the largest 6' 11" at base, to the north of the church by the gate. Irish yews.
Seatoller. A shop - the yew tree, which is just outside appears to be 8'4'.
Setmurthy. St. Barnabas - lots of yews to the west on private land. 6' at best.
Stapleton. St. Mary - small yew with attendant holly near south wall.
Stavely. St. James - yews on site.
St. Catherine. Small yews.
Talkin. Church - a spindly multi-branched yew east of the porch door is 5' 6" at base and may well be contemporary with the church. A large, mature yew lies in private garden east of the church: at least 8 or 9 feet in girth.
Tarn Howes Hotel. (GR: 338994) In passing we noticed the apparently new name of Yewfield, and a brief look revealed three mature trees, one large and east of the hotel.
Thornthwaite. St. Mary - two gnarled female yews intertwine, arching over the path to the door.
Threlkeld. St. Mary - four yews, none more than 7' girth.
Thwaites. St. Anne - yew of 6' 6" girth to the SE, with ten mature trees on site plus some Irish.
Warcop. St. Columba - lots of mature yews to the south and west, none of great age or size, and an avenue of Irish yews along the west path.
Warwick. St. Leonard - tiny yew to the north and Irish yews.
West Newton. St. Matthew - 1857. Yew at the north side of around 5'.
Wetheral. Holy Trinity & St. Constantine - sizeable yew to south side, but twiggy, with basal trunk split.

Cumbrian sites with no common yews

Aikton. Church - Norman chancel arch.
Armathwaite. Chapel of Christ & Mary - original chapel built in 1402. Irish yews.
Askham. St. Peter - 1832 rebuild.
Banks. Primitive Methodist - 1874.
Bassenthwaite. Chapel of Ease - in use for more than four hundred years.
Beaumont. St. Mary - 12c.
Beckstone Gate. Wesleyan chapel of 1882.
Beethoven. St. Michael - late 12c.
Bewcastle. St. Cuthbert - 12c east wall.
Bolton Gate. All Saints
Boot. St. Catherine.
Bowness-on-Solway. St. Michael - late Norman
Braithwaite. St. Herbert - modern.
Brampton. Old Church - Norman - 1 mile west by a farm.
Brampton. St. Martin - Victorian.
Brough. St. Michael
Buttermere. Church 1841.
Calder Abbey. Founded 1134.
Carlisle Cathedral.
Carlisle. Holy Trinity - modern replacement of old building.
Carlisle. St. Cuthbert - principal Parish Church, next to the cathedral.
Castle Carrock. Church a Victorian rebuild. Irish yews.
Castle Sowerby. St. Kentigern
Cockermouth. All Saints - 1852-4.
Cockermouth. Christ Church - 1865.
Corney. St. John the Baptist
Cumwhitton. St. Mary - Norman.
Cumrew. St. Mary
Croglin. St. John the Baptist - 1878.
Crosby Garret. St. Andrew - 1175 chancel arch.
Crosscrake. St. Thomas - 1875.
Culgaith. All Saints - 1858.
Eaglesfield. (Mosser) John Dalton Memorial church of 1891.
Edenhall. St. Cuthbert - Norman/Perp.
Embleton. St. Cuthbert
Garrigill. St. John the Evangelist - 1790 restored 1890.
Garrigill. Chapel. (Old) alone and deteriorating.
Gilcrux. St. Mary
Grayrigg. St. John - 1837
Haile. Church - Georgian.
Harrington. St. Mary - 1885.
Hayton. St. Mary - 1870.
Heversham. St. Peter
High Head. Chapel - 1682, now a dwelling house.
Ireby. Old Church. Late Norman and now disused.
Killingdon. All Saints - 14c.
Kintray Hill. Chapel 1855. Formerly a ruin, now restored as Clouds Cottage.
Kirkambeck. St. Kentigern - 1885. Original old church is in the field to the east.
Kirkby Lonsdale. St. Mary - Norman.
Kirkland. Two modern churches here.
Kirkland. St. Lawrence
Mallerstang. St. Mary (Outhgill) 1663. Irish yew.
Mansergh. St. Peter. 1765 slab under Irish yews (lots on site) at SE corner of the graveyard.
Maryport. St. Mary - 1847.
Melmerby. St. John the Baptist
Millbeck. (near Applethwaite) Crosthwaite parish church
Musgrave. (Great) St. Theobald
Nether Denton. St. Cuthbert (near Chapelburn)1868-70.
Newbiggin. St. Edmund. Norman-16C.
Newlands. Church - 1843.
Newton Arlosh. St. John the Baptist
Old Hutton. St. John the Baptist - 1837
Orton. All Saints - 13c.
Ousby. St. Luke
Penrith. St. Andrew - 1720, earliest record of a church here in 1133.
Plumpton. New site.
Ponsonby. Parish Church - 1840.
Ravenstonedale. St. Oswald - Irish yews.
Renwick. All Saints - 1845 rebuild of 1733 original.
Rosley. Holy Trinity (Carwath) - 1840.
Satterthwaite. All Saints - Victorian.
Scalesby. All Saints - EE throughout. Irish yews.
St. Bees. St. Mary & St. Bega - the church of a Benedictine nunnery.
St. Catherine ‘Old Church’. One quarter of a mile south on a hill.
Stavely. St. Margaret - the 1388 tower is all that remains. Irish yews to the east.
Thursby. St. Andrew - 1846.
Ulcath Row Chapel. A small chapel, now a private residence.
Uldale. St. James (Uldale Mill)
Waberthwaite. St. John
Waverton. Christ Church - 1865.
Welton. St. James - 1874.
West Hill. Methodist - late 18c.
Wetheral Priory. Only the gatehouse remains.
Whicham. St. Mary - Norman arch to S doorway. Wee Irish yews.
Wigton. St. Mary - 1788.
Wythop. St. Margaret - 1865-6. Replaced the ruined chapel ¾ mile SE.

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