

In 1897 the yew was recorded in Lowe's *The Yew-Trees of Britain and Ireland*. It was described as 'showing 3 distinct zones of growth. The central one dead; the second of great thickness, with large buttresses towards the interior, which have probably been roots originally. Many recently formed roots are still spreading out in this form'.

In 1940 *The King's England* considered the possibility of it being 1,000 years old.

The 1997 photos show a tree whose bole is hidden behind twiggy growth, described sometimes as spray, adventitious or epicormic growth. This will have exaggerated all recent measurements, including my own. Through a gap in the bole I was able to climb onto a platform in the heart of the tree, from where many branches radiate outwards. The most significant growth is seen either side of the gap, a mixture of new branches and the sawn off remnants of old branches. The adventitious growth provided a home for thousands of woodlice, the only time I have seen this on a yew.

Girth has been recorded as follows:

1897: Lowe - 31' at 3'

1940: Mee - 11 yards round

1954: Swanton was given a girth of 35' at 3' by EW Burnell. Swanton argued that this figure must have included 'spray'.

1992: Baxter recorded the yew as 52' high x 30' 11" in girth.

1999: 29' 6" at the ground over adventitious growth - Tim Hills



In 2016 a 2nd yew was recorded, a young spreading male growing on the west side of the ancient yew.