

2017: The church today is largely a rebuild of 1867-68 but elements at the foot of the tower are believed to be 13th century. In recent time Dinedor and neighbouring Rotherwas have come under major archaeological investigation with some nationally and internationally important discoveries. It is thought from these discoveries that the church site may be a lot older than the church and its records suggest, strengthened by its raised circular original boundary which is still visible in places, on the edge of wet boggy ground. This sort of site is classic throughout the Welsh Marches.

Six yews grow in the churchyard with a 7th just outside. The three most significant are recorded here.



Yew B on the plan was measured at the ground level on the east side of the tree, 2' above the ground on the west side. A girth of 22' 6" (6.86m) was recorded. Though a well established healthy looking yew with deep green foliage, a considerable weight of ivy was noted throughout the tree. It appeared to be hollowing in places and has had a few lower limbs removed in the distant past. Bole height is about 8', above which it divides into two main upright branches.



Yew D on the plan grows SE of the church on the original curving bank of the churchyard, now found 5 to 6 metres inside the current boundary. In August the yew was hidden behind a curtain of elder and might easily go unnoticed. It is a squat male tree with many branches of no great age and with signs of much branch removal in the past. A girth of 14' 2" (4.32 m) was recorded at the ground, but within a foot the bole swells to over 19' (5.79m). Short twiggy growth covered most of the bole. There were signs that the tree was hollowing and the yellow chicken of the woods (*laetiporus sulphureus*) was visible in a number of places.

Yew C on the plan grows five metres east of yew B, close to the NE entrance gate on the churchyard boundary. It was covered in ivy and appears to have had all branches below a height of about 12' removed. Its upright bole divides into two at about 25', close to the top of the tree. Ivy has been cut at the ground level. The tree was measured where the ivy had been removed at a height of about 2' on the west side of the tree and a girth of 12' 5" (3.78m) was recorded.



© Paul Wood - Ancient Yew Group - 2019