

The church, founded in the 12th century, is set in a very large churchyard. The church guide considers that 'The famous old yew tree, some 22' in girth, may go back to the founding of the church', and this is indeed a possibility. The tree is first noted in Vaughan Cornish's 1946 *Churchyard Yew and Immortality* as a 'yew near the north wall of the church'. The 1953 *History of the County of Sussex* described an 'ancient yew tree'.

May 1999: This male yew has a particularly fine fluted and knobbly bole which develops many wide spreading branches at a height of about 10'. These carried much healthy growth. One substantial dead section of trunk facing the church door has fine sculptural features.

The pencil drawing, on sale as a postcard in the church, did not acknowledge the artist.



Girth:

1946: 21' *The Churchyard Yew and Immortality* - Cornish

1997: 16m tall x 207 cm diameter at 1.5m *The Sussex Tree Book* - Owen Johnson

1999: 22' 1" at 18" and 21' 7" at 5' - Tim Hills

2014: 22' 5" at about 6" from the ground (side furthest from the church) - Peter Norton

The photographs below were taken by Peter Norton in 2012



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