

'A gnarled monster.... grappling the steep bank, full of years and vigour'. This was how Mee recorded this remarkable tree in *The King's England* 1939. Perhaps the lack of earlier references is due to the remoteness of this site.

In 1986 Morton's *Trees of Shropshire* described 'a tree over 7m (23') in girth, with huge branches spreading over the lane - a majestic specimen'. Morton also noted that there was a 'holy well in the bank directly below the tree. A spring is also located across the road. An old track leading to Clee Hill from the churchyard was once apparently lined with yews which have been felled'.

1999: In Revd Williams 1791 watercolour, the route to the yew is seen across a grassy churchyard. Two hundred years later the yew has spread its branches to the ground where many have layered and created new trees. Access to the tree is now a path cut through these dipping branches. In 2004 I recorded a girth of about 24' 2" at 1'.



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