



Here is a largely Norman church on a site of worship that is older still. In 1877 the Worcestershire Naturalists Club visited and in their report noted that 'its weather-beaten square wooden tower, timber porch, and Norman doorway, has truly an ancient aspect, and an adorned Norman chancel arch, with unique arcades on either side. In the churchyard is a hollow yew tree of great bulk, and probably as old as the structure near which it stands. New wood partly re-cases its bole, as in many old yews'. In the 1938 *King's England*, one of Mee's researchers took the bold step of giving an age to this yew, describing 'a propped up yew perhaps 400 years old'. It is not known where this underestimate came from, since the 20ft girthed hollow tree is more likely to be coeval with the church. The male yew is propped on a single support to prevent it falling on the tomb which it now protects.