

POWYS - churchyard sites with younger yews

CPAT refers to the Clwyd/Powys Archaeological Trust

BEGUILDY St Michael SO194797 25/4/2004 Tim Hills

In 1995 CPAT noted 'a line of 3 yews west of the church, only one survives, the others have stumps only. Another yew S of the porch'. In 2004 I found several pieces of yew stump in a thicket of elder south of the church. One of the smaller pieces supported large amounts of new growth. It seemed to me that pieces of the felled yews west of the church had also been dumped with the remains of the yew south of the church.

BETTWS CEDEWAIN St Cedewain SO1227396827 1995 CPAT

In 1995 CPAT noted a 'group of four yew bushes on northern edge of the graveyard, and the stumps of two others south of them. A slightly older yew tree located near east end of church'.

BETTWS DISSERTH St Mary SO1162256934 1996 CPAT

In 1996 CPAT noted 'one yew tree of no great age on north side of church'.

BOUGHROOD St Cynog SO1278839290 1995 CPAT

In 1995 CPAT noted 'a couple of yews but not of any great age'.

BRECON PRIORY (Brecon Cathedral) 28/6/2004 Steve Waters

A smallish yew at the Cathedral churchyard - 3.37m girth at 1.50m but with distinct hollowing both of branches and trunk.

BUILTH WELLS St Mary SO0396051037 1996 CPAT

In 1996 CPAT noted 'some yews scattered through yard with a few other species. None appears to be of any great age'.

BWLCH-Y-CIBAU Christ Church SJ17881745 2018 Paul Wood

Two young yews.

CRICKADARN non-conformist chapel 1/4/2016 Paul Wood

Young yews.

CRICKHOWELL St Edmund SO2164718431 21/2/2000 Tim Hills

In 1946 Vaughan Cornish (*Churchyard Yews and Immortality*) recorded 'very large and ancient yews'. The description almost certainly applied to the yews at nearby Llanbedr Ystradwy. CPAT more reasonably described 'a few immature yew trees on south and west sides'.

CRIGGION St Michael and All Angels SJ296152 3/10/2007 Tim Hills

A new church, consecrated in 1770. One yew stump + several living trees. If the yews date from 1770 they have been growing very slowly.

CWM-DU St Michael the Archangel SO18052383 21/2/2000 Tim Hills

In the 1970 Brecon Yew Survey a girth of 17' 6" was recorded for a yew at this location. Although there are 28 yews ringing the churchyard nothing of this size could be found. At a 2nd visit in 2012 it seemed possible that one or two of the yews might be 12' in girth. These grow on the east perimeter, an area that was being used as a storage place for old tombstones etc, and was so overgrown the yews were inaccessible.

DAROWEN St Tudor SH830018 15/1/2005 Tim Hills

A site of early medieval foundation. A yew SE was filled with ivy and holly. It consists of 5 tall trunks joined near the ground. Girth 15' but no signs of this being an old tree. CPAT noted that 'the 19thC trees in the churchyard were planted by Rev. Thomas Richards to replace the old yews that were withering'.

GWENDDWR St Dubricius SO065433 1995 CPAT

In 1995 CPAT noted 'numerous yew trees, none very ancient, around whole perimeter except North'.

KINNERTON St Mary SO244631 10/9/2004 Tim Hills

In 1996 CPAT noted 'some yews, the one to north-east of church of some age'. This yew is a jumble of young stems. It is only of some age if it can be shown to be regrowth from an old stump.

LLANDULAS St Cynbryd SN8797841296 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'two yews of no great age immediately to the north-east of the church'.

LLANANNO St Anno SO0956974346 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'two yews of no great age to south of church; two more to north together with other evergreen bushes and solitary deciduous tree'.

LLANFAES St Catherine SO0379328313 CPAT

CPAT noted 'some yews though not of any great age around the perimeter of the northern half of the yard. A few other trees further south'.

LLANFAIR CAEREINION St Mary SJ1036206465 2017 Paul Wood

In the churchyard a majority of the grave stones now stand side by side in two regimented lines at the lowest point near the western boundary. This leaves the rest of the churchyard looking more like a landscaped garden. A number of common yews grow within and on the boundary of the church, all appearing to be of an age of no more than 200 years. One, however, is more interesting. It grows on the southern boundary and at first glance looks little more than 70/80 years old. It seemed to me that what is growing is possibly young internal stems, and the west side of the tree looks like two more established internal stems that have fused together. A girth of just over five feet was recorded for the two main growing living parts but a few slithers of dead white wood cling to this and the slight large raised area that is pitch black made me wonder whether this is new growth from an ancient tree. It seemed to me that the amount of work that has gone into cleaning up the rest of the churchyard perhaps included removal of parts of the original tree, of which this is now all that remains.

LLANFIHANGEL-YNG-NYWYNFA St Michael SJ0803016944 1995 CPAT

CPAT noted 'four pairs of yew trees form an entrance arch over the south path. A single yew is located east of the entrance path on the sloping burial ground'.

LLANFILO St Bilo SO118993325 29/4/2004 Tim Hills

CPAT noted 'three yews of some age around south perimeter'. I recorded a male SE with a girth of 9' 8" at 2', a very young female to the south and a male to the west, the finest of the three with a girth between 10' and 12'.

LLANFYLLIN St Myllin SJ142196 29/6/2002 Tim Hills

Four young + Irish yews.

LLANGEDWYN St Cedwyn SJ1882524143 1997 CPAT

CPAT noted 'yew bushes of no great age on the south, older ones though not ancient on the earlier eastern boundary'.

LLANGURIG St Curig SN9078479909 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'several yew trees of no great age are established within the churchyard. A line of yews are located along the western boundary, one off the south-east corner and one by the south porch. Four yews on the roadside boundary. An Irish yew stands alongside the chancel east wall by a railed grave'.

LLANGYNIDR St Cynidr and St Mary SO155194 28/6/2004 Tim Hills

In 1995 CPAT noted 'a few yews are scattered around the north side of the yard. None are of great size though that beside the path close to the porch is bound with an iron hoop'. I visited in 2004 before I knew of CPAT and recorded as follows: The only significant yew is SW and close to the (west) porch. At 4' it divides into 2 main branches. These are severely restricted by metal banding which eats right into the tree. Girth of about 9' 6" where tree divides into two. Also SW but on the perimeter is an unusual looking female yew. Further investigation is needed.

LLANIDLOES St Idloes SN9538284682 CPAT

CPAT noted 'five Irish yews on south side of church. A single older yew, though of no great age, stands near the south-east gate'.

LLANLLWCHAIARN St Llwchaiarn SO124925 25/4/2004 Tim Hills

CPAT noted 'mature yews along north entrance from lychgate'. There was one yew of note, a female growing west of the church with a girth of 11' 10" at 2'.

LLANSANTFFRAED CWMDEUDDWR St Winifrid SN9677567677 24/4/2004 Tim Hills

CPAT noted 'occasional yews'. There was nothing I considered noteworthy at a time when I was only recording yews with a girth above 16'.

LLANWYDDELAN St Gwyddelan SJ0824501187 23/11/2005 Tim Hills

CPAT noted 'two yew trees, the oldest located near chest tombs on the west, the other to the south-east'. I recorded them as 2 young yews.

LLYSWEN St Gwendoline SO133380 24/04/2004 Tim Hills

Here is a male yew growing SE of the church, 2 garden yews that clearly once grew inside the churchyard, and a yew to the NW with a girth of 8' 10" at 2' over ivy.

LOWER CHAPEL St Michael SO0278735838 1995 CPAT

CPAT noted 'two yews in west corners of churchyard'.

MONTGOMERY St Nicholas SO2236296518 17/4/2001 Tim Hills

I recorded one yew here with a girth of 325cm. Pictures show there are more and this is confirmed by CPAT who note 'several mature yews located on all sides of the churchyard; the largest near the south porch'.

NANT-GLAS St Mark SN99056447 2016 Paul Wood

Lost and young yews

NEWBRIDGE-ON-WYE All Saints SO01625808 2016 Paul Wood

Young yews

NEWBRIDGE-ON-WYE Baptist Chapel SO01475835 2016 Paul Wood

Many young yews

PENMYARTH PARK CHAPEL SO18641985 2016 Paul Wood

The chapel is situated within a landscape park, with many yews visible in the landscape (private land).

RHAYADER St Clement SN9693268157 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'a yew hedge to west of tower, and five yew bushes on the aforementioned earlier boundary'.

RHOS-Y-BRITHDIR St Mary SJ13792269 2018 Paul Wood

One younger yew.

SNEAD St Mary the Virgin SO3160591889 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'several yew trees, of no great age, but a mature yew at the east end of the church'.

TIRABAD St David SN880414 31/8/2006 Tim Hills

Church built in 1716 and dedicated in 1726. Its two yews were probably planted at that time. A fine male with a fluted trunk that becomes twin stemmed at 5' had a girth of 10' 10" at 3'. A female yew has a fluted central branch and other branches radiating from 5' upwards. Its girth was 9' 9" at 2'.

TRALLONG St David SN9660129586 1995 CPAT

CPAT noted 'two yews in west corners of churchyard'.

TREGYNON St Cynon SO0958898723 1995 CPAT

CPAT noted 'several yew trees, mostly immature. A 1791 terrier refers to eleven fir and four yews planted in the churchyard'.

TRETOWER St John the Evangelist SO186213 29/4/2004 Tim Hills

A young yew - 150/200 years SSW on perimeter of churchyard.

WELSHPOOL St Mary SJ2255607659 1996 CPAT

CPAT noted 'older yew trees surrounding the paths on all sides of the church are numerous, although none appear to be more than a couple of centuries old'.