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 DISERTH**  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’.

**TRETOVER**  St John the Evangelist   SO186213   29/4/2004   Tim Hills
A young yew - 150/200 years SSW on perimeter of churchyard.
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’.