

1833: 'Many fine old specimens of yew trees occur in the neighbourhood of Dover; one in a churchyard by the side of the road to Deal, near Walmer, of which I had only a passing glimpse'. Rev W.T.Bree

1848: 'In the burial ground are two remarkably fine yew-trees'. *A Topographical Dictionary of England*

1890: 'How grand the two stand in all the majesty of a thousand years at least! This one near the church measuring in circumference, a man's height from the ground, full two and twenty feet and that, its twin brother, hollowed with age, exceeding it in girth by upwards of a yard'. *Record of Walmer* by Revd. Charles Erin.

1936: 'Through its Norman doorway Wellington often passed under the shade of two marvellous yews older than Walmer Castle'. Mee *The King's England*

We are fortunate to have this drawing from 1852 of the hollow yew, since all that remains in 1999 are these pieces of stump. Indications are that it was fire damaged.



The surviving Walmer Yew is a hollow female. Inside the irregular space much of the wood, particularly the internal stems, had been damaged by fire. Two large branches had been cut from its 7'8" bole. Youthful growth sprouted from the higher of these, while from the lower a new branch rises to the side of the cut. Foliage, some brown, was all carried on young branches. Girth was 19' 9" at 1' in 1999.

