

In the past:

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*



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

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*

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 7⁷/₈' 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.