

1818: A 'large yew-tree' was noted by Thomas Walford in *The scientific tourist through England, Wales, & Scotland*

1830: James Savage in *History of the Hundred of Carhampton* described 'a fine yew-tree with wide spreading branches'.

1869: John Murray in *A handbook for travellers in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire and Somersetshire* described the churchyard with 'its cross and venerable yew-tree'.

1946: Vaughan Cornish described 'a fine yew with a beautiful spread of branches'.

I visited in 2000, 2012 and 2016. The male yew grows south of the church on a mound close to a path. In 2000 I recorded a girth of 16' at 3', noting a solid looking fluted tree that maintains its large girth for several feet. At that time there was much ivy on the bole and it was also beginning to fill some of the branches.

Branching begins at a height of 7'8" and continues in great profusion high into the tree around a dominant central branch. Many lower branches, including some that are very substantial, have been lopped, with concrete poured into some of these. The tree had a pleasing, regular shape and appeared very green and healthy.

In 2012 I recorded a girth of 15' 10" at 2'. On this occasion I noted a small space at ground level, inside of which could be seen some internal growth.

In 2016, as the photo shows, a large quantity of soil had been unnecessarily piled up against one side of the tree. Girth was 16' 2" at 2' and 16' 6" at 3' above the lower ground level with a horizontal tape.



On the east perimeter are three yews (below left) that appear to have been planted to form a hedge that was not properly maintained. They now look a bit denuded and unattractive.

On the north perimeter is this millennium male yew with a girth of 2' 4" close to the ground. It branches just above the ground.

