

The church is approximately two miles north of Farway village.

1890/91: Before leaving Farway, perhaps I may incidentally remark that, in the churchyard, a few yards south of the church, there is an altar tomb, on the north side of which is the following inscription in old English or black letters,— Here lyeth ye body of Thomas Hendo of Poltimore who died the xiii. Sept., 1610. Near this tomb there is a fine yew; tree measuring 14 feet 2 inches in circumference near the ground, at the east of the churchyard there is another one still larger, which I made 19 feet 8 inches.

*The Western antiquary : or, Devon and Cornwall notebook / edited by W. H. K. Wright v.1 1881/82 Vol X July 1890/July 91 p138*

1946: Rev R.N.Douglas described 'two yews reputed to be over 800 years old'.

*The Churchyard Yew and Immortality* - Vaughan Cornish

May 1998: The most significant yew grows SE of the church and consists of several fluted branches rising from a bole of only a few feet. The tree seemed almost imprisoned in chains, no doubt considered necessary to prevent the weight of large and heavy branches causing the bole to split. We noted one branch to be 'bleeding'.

Girth

1890: 19' 8" near the ground

1998: 23' 9" at 1' - Tim Hills

2013: 23' 3" at about 6" with a slightly undulating tape - Peter Norton



The smaller yew, growing south of the church, might easily go unnoticed.

In 1890/91 it was given a girth of 14 feet 2 inches in circumference near the ground,

1998: A piece of stump on the south side is the only trace of another section of the tree which was removed close to the ground. Girth of 18' 10" (574cm) between the ground and 1' includes the portion of stump.



Photo - Peter Norton