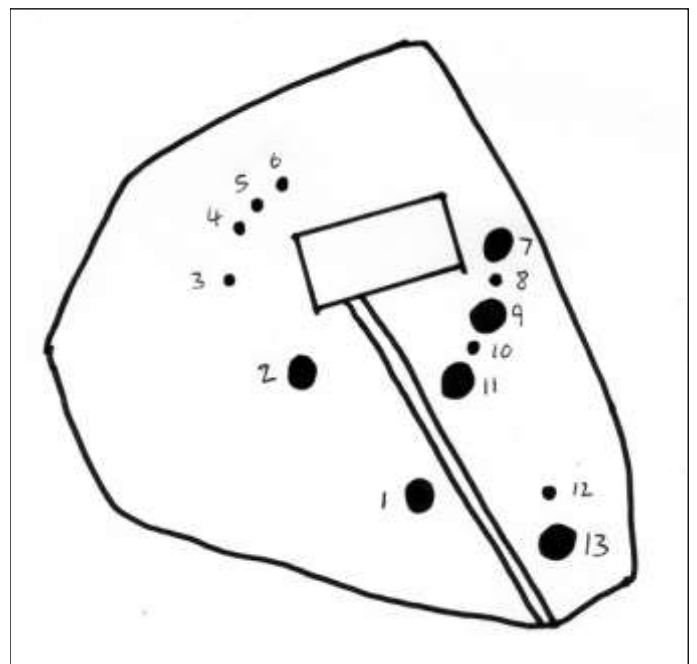
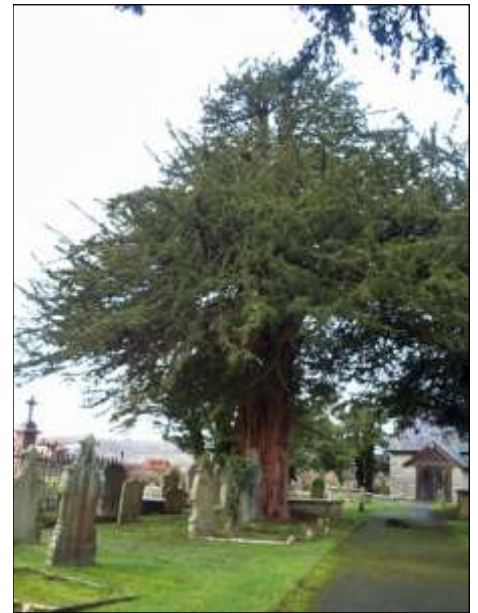
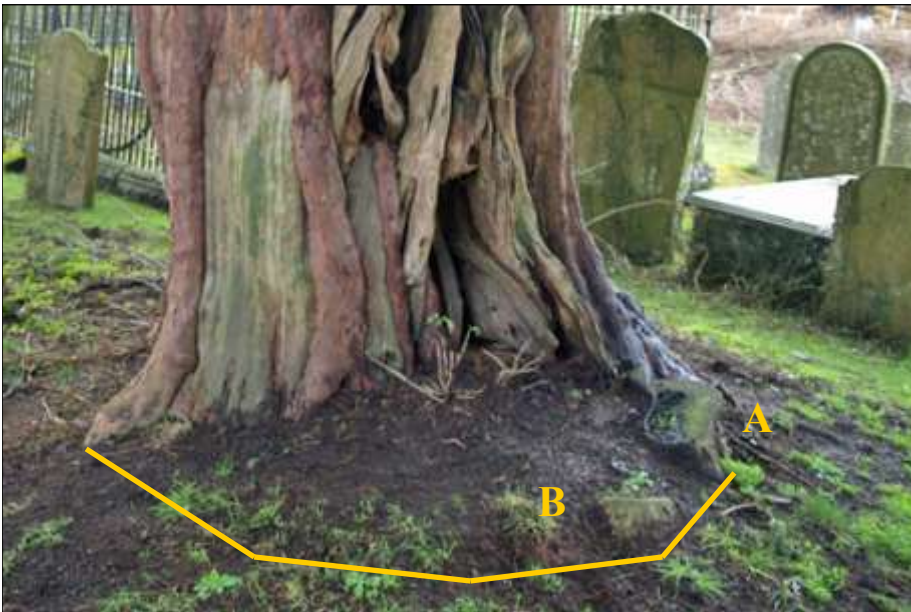


1834: Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* noted a 'churchyard which contains some fine old yew trees'.

The site was visited in 1998, 2001 and 2014. The photos were taken in 2014. Of many yews in this churchyard, six are of particular significance:- trees 1, 2, 7, 9, 11 and 13.

Tree 1, male, is now only half a tree, revealing innards of decaying old wood and slithers of new growth. Girth around the base including the pieces of stump at A and B was approximately 19', so this is a fragment of a veteran yew. In 100 or more years the pieces of stump will have decayed and the new wood being laid down at (C) will meet, creating what will appear to be a relatively small girthed cylindrical tree. Girth of 13' 1" at 2' was recorded by Russell Cleaver in 2008, and in 2014 I recorded 13' 3" at 3' and 13' 2" at 5'.



Tree 2 is an ancient male growing on a mound. It consists of 6 trunks, one central and five peripheral, with a combined girth of 25' 3" around the base in 2001 and 25' 7" in 2014. Ivy has established itself in parts of the tree. One slab of decaying wood on the outside of these trunks is possibly part of the long lost original tree, which has been replaced by these new trunks rising from the ancient root system.



Tree 3: A notable female yew (left) with a girth in 2001 of 13' 7" at the ground, which included a piece of stump. By 2014 the bole has been completely covered in ivy. A girth of 13' 6" was recorded between the ground and 1'.



Tree 4 (right) is an unusual male, which looks like a fragment of a once much larger yew, complete with internal stems. If this was the case, there is no trace remaining of what it might have developed from. It grows very close to tree 5. Girth was about 8'.



Tree 5 is a twin trunked female, joined for about 4'. The trunks are hollowing and at least one has internal stems. Girth in 2014 was 14' 6" between the ground and 6" and 12' 11" at 3'.





Tree 6 (left) a hollow female, girth about 10'.

Tree 7 (right) a female yew that has all but disappeared behind ivy. Girth was 15' 3" at the ground in 2014. Some of the trunk features suggest they might have once been internal growth; if that is the case this would have once been a larger girthed tree.



There are no photos of tree 8, which had a girth of 7' 4" at 3' in both 2001 and 2014.



Tree 9 is a columnar hollow female with a single opening 1' wide at the ground that closes over by a height of about 4'. Bark was particularly red.

Girth in 2014 was 15' 1" at the ground and 13' 9" at 3' above the lower ground. In 2001 this was 13' 6".

There are no photos of tree 10. It is female and unmeasurable behind thick twiggy growth on the lower bole. Girth estimate 10/12'.



Tree 11: male, twin trunked above a height of about 5'. Girth, recorded between the ground and 2', avoiding bulging roots, was 18' 2" in 2001 and 18' 8" in 2014.



Tree 12, a tuft of growth at the top of a shattered trunk in 1998 was dead in 2001 and had become an ivy tree by 2014.



The base of tree 13 was hidden behind thick twigs in 2001. Removal of these basal shoots has revealed an intriguing tree. On the right is seen what was once an internal stem, hidden partly behind the sapwood that once encased it. Girth in 2014, close to the ground with the tape riding above the most bulging sections of root, was 21' 9". By 5' this had narrowed to 11' 10".

