

The Yews of Boughton Monchelsea, Kent

by Cliff Hansford

Embankment Yew 2/3

Grid Ref: TQ 77097 49783

Boughton Monchelsea Place 4/5

Grid Ref: TQ 77010 50495

Field Yews 6/8

St Peter's Church 9

Grid Ref: TQ 77135 49834



Embankment Yew at Boughton Monchelsea

Grid Ref: TQ7709749783

As can be seen from this aerial view the yew is located very close to the churchyard of St Peter's Church.



Microsoft Virtual Earth. For information only. Not to be used for publication.

The embankment to which this female yew is attached is on land belonging to the owners of Boughton Monchelsea Place. Although on private property it can be clearly viewed from the road, as the boundary fencing is now virtually non-existent. I was grateful to Mrs Marice Kendrick for allowing me access to this and other yews on the estate.



Southern aspect viewed from the road, with its bole is hidden from view. The yew has a very healthy canopy.



The steep drop to the road made it too dangerous to measure the girth without the aid of a ladder. I would estimate between 17 ft and 21 ft.



The Yew at Boughton Monchelsea Place

Grid Ref: TQ7701050495



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This yew grows very close to the road, in the private grounds of Boughton Monchelsea Place. Its girth was 17 ft measured just above the roots.

In this aerial photo it can be seen as the last of a line of 5 yews, separated from the other 4 by the road.



On the left the NE aspect of the tree., on the right the southern aspect - showing that the yew appears to be growing on a small mound. The trees that can be seen in the background give an indication of the woodland shared with this yew.

Western aspect of yew as view from the road. Some of the limbs of this yew are layering.



Field Yews, Boughton Monchelsea



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It can be seen from the aerial view that the four yews recorded below align with the yew recorded at Boughton Monchelsea Place, separated from it by the road which leads to the church. The largest two, standing side by side and numbered 1 and 2, are female, each girthing 21 feet. Please note that these yews are also on private land.



Field yew 1: Girth of 21 feet just above the roots. This yew has a number of dead lower branches.



Field yew 2: Girth of 21 feet, 2 feet from the ground. This yew also has a number of dead lower branches.



St Peter's Church, Boughton Monchelsea

Grid Ref: TQ 77135 49834

This charming churchyard offers the most spectacular views of the Weald and the adjacent deer park of Boughton Monchelsea Place.

Certain aspects of the church date from the 13th century, with both 14th and 15th century work visible.

West Kent and the Weald, Newman/Pevsner

Note: tower is at the east and not the west end of this church.

The male yew growing west of the church has a girth of 14 ft at ground level. [15 ft 10 ins, 5 ft from ground]. Girth increases to a height of 10 feet, where the single bole separates into two limbs. There is no ivy encroachment.

