

In 1936 Mee described 'a gigantic yew' in *The King's England*. While Mee was prone to wax lyrical on occasions, there is nothing about this yew, seen in Geoff Garlick's 2005 photos, that suggests it has recently been gigantic. In 2003 I recorded a relatively small girthed female tree in the NW corner of the churchyard, above a vertical drop into what used to be the old dairy. At the time the area around the base of the tree was used as a dumping ground for heavy blocks of stone. A hole on the NW side of the tree reveals large hollow spaces, while on the SE side there is a suggestion that section (A) might have once been an internal stem. If this is the case the tree could have been larger in girth, but not gigantic, centuries ago. The tree was in vigorous good health.



Girth:

1988: approximately 18' at 3' Allen Meredith

2003: 17' 7" at 1': 17' 11" at 2': 18' 3" at 3' Tim Hills

2014: 18' at 1" and 18' 6" at 3' Peter Norton. He also recorded a young female yew at the northeast corner - used at the time of the visit as a place to store rotting grass clippings. Its girth was 9' 5" at 3'.