

The earliest reference to the Ibstone yew appears in *A History of the County of Buckingham* (1925), which describes it as 'a notably fine yew tree many centuries old' on the north side of the spacious churchyard.

A fuller description appeared in Swanton's 1954 *The Yew trees of England* : 'The church is in a very secluded spot high up on the hills; Mr Giltrow and I measured it on October 15th, 1954. The trunk is not hollow and there is much spray on it. Girth about 18' 6". The crown of 9 branches has an umbrage 61ft in diameter'.

2001: This striking male yew grows NW of the church. Small branches have been regularly clipped, with small circles of growth around the wounds gradually transforming the bole's appearance. The interior, though I could not tell to what extent, has at some time been filled with concrete. To one side of the bole a main branch has developed while on the opposite side 3 growth areas form at about 6'. On one of these, two branches can be clearly seen to coalesce.

The tree was photographed in the last rays of sunlight on a biting cold February afternoon.

Girth:

1954: 18' 6" at 3' - Swanton

2001: 21' 9" at the ground; 21' 7" at 1'; 19' 8" at 3'; 19' 10" at 5' - Tim Hills

2014: 19' 10" at 3' 6" - Peter Norton



Peter Norton photographed the yew in 2014



