

St Illtud's (or St Illtyd) church stands in the centre of a circular churchyard. The present church was founded in the 13th century.

In 1891 Lowe described 'two trees about same size; the tops have been broken, and they are evidently compound trees'. *Yew – Trees of Great Britain and Ireland*

The church guide states that there are no fewer than four ancient yew trees; I am more inclined to agree with the Rev. J.W.Jones who reported to Cornish (1946 *The Churchyard Yew and Immortality*) that there were only 'two ancient yews of about 21' in girth...also younger yews'.

I visited in 1998 and recorded two yews. This male yew grows NE of the church on a mound. It is a tree of many fragments, some upright, others stretching outwards away from the centre. Girth close to the ground was about 30'. In 1983 Reg Wheeler's recorded a girth of 25' 9" at the base.







The 2nd aged yew (below) is female and grows southeast of the church. In 1983 Reg Wheeler recorded a girth of 21' 4" at the ground. In 1998 I recorded a tree consisting of two huge trunks, one hollowed out and a girth of about 22', measured over twiggy growth.

