LLANTRITHYD PARK St Illtyd Diocese of Llandaff ST04397280

In 1834 Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* described 'a remarkable yew tree, which at 6' measures 26' in girth, and near the root, little less than 40'.' This yew is either a lost tree, or lives on, much altered, as one of the two yews found today in this churchyard.

In 1840 *The Cambrian traveller's guide, and pocket companion* [by G. Nicholson] gave the following description: 'In the churchyard is a yew tree, in perfect health, girth 18 ft. 6 in. In 1803 it was large and branching; in 1806 it was stripped of its venerable arms, and left a naked trunk, robbed and dishonoured'.

1999: In the churchyard are two yews. The largest, seen here, is male, with very green though rather sparse foliage. It was well protected behind a good quality fence. The redness of new outer bark growth had been stripped away from about half of the trunk, so that the lustrous white sapwood showed through in large quantities. The yew has a hollowing bole to about 8'/9' with many branches, including several that are dead and hang down from the tree. A large elder grows next to it and is probably not helping a tree that is struggling. Girth was about 17' at 3' (beneath the bulge) and 19' 6" at 5'. The photo right was taken in 1999, those below are from Tom Seymour in 2007 and Peter Norton in 2018.







A second, younger female tree also grows here, similarly enclosed behind a fence.

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