

Andrew Morton in *Trees of Shropshire* (1986) described 'the ultimate sacred yew tree', having a pulpit for outdoor services. He considered that it was 'probably not benefitting from the old structure within it'.

1999: The tall male yew, in spite of the steps intruding into the very heart of the tree, looked fine and healthy, with more than an inch of fresh green leafy growth showing throughout the canopy. Its bole is very red and fluted and supports many branches around the hollow centre; the most noteworthy rising straight and tall immediately to the right of the steps and giving the tree its height. A large number of thick branches had been removed, especially those which might affect access along the path leading to the church. Girth was 24' 1" just above the height of the first step.



South from the 'pulpit yew' is a smaller girthed yew, seen in the photograph taken by Shaun Burkey in 2007 for the Ancient Tree Hunt. Measured at that time he recorded a girth of 15' 10" at 4'. In 1984 Reg Wheeler recorded a girth of 555cm (18' 2") at 75cm and noted that a medium sized branch had broken off in a recent storm. This has perhaps caused the tree to lose some of its girth.



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