In 1908 this was 'said to be the oldest living yew tree in England' according to a reference in the Sittingbourne, Milton and District Directory 1908/09.

In *The King's England* 1936, Mee described 'three old yews in the churchyard'.

I found only one that merited taking details. There are several possible explanations for the earlier references to several old yews: (1) that there were two further trees of similar stature to this one that have since been felled (2) that much younger yews have been described as old (3) that I was so busy recording this yew I failed to take sufficient note of the remaining trees in the churchyard!

This grand female grows NE of the church. Most of its growth is upwards from a bole which retains considerable girth to a height of about 10'. Significant portions of dead wood remain on this yew, including its original central branch which has been truncated at a height of about 20' (A). Numerous low branches have been systematically removed. Girth was exactly 23' between the ground and 1'.



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