

The church is Saxon in origin.

1874: The yew was first reported in *Nature*, when it was noted for its 'remarkable' internal stem.

1915: *An Introduction to Field Archaeology as Illustrated by Hampshire* by John Peere Williams-Freeman tells us that '...the yew in the churchyard is gigantic and of beautiful shape. It is no less than 20ft. 9in. in girth at 3 feet from the ground - nearly the biggest yew we have seen'.

1939: 'How like a touch of history it is, especially with the hollow oak in the field and the old yew in the churchyard'. *The King's England*

1952: 'The hollow trunk had 2 openings, and a stem 2' in girth is growing in its centre. The crown is intact and the trunk is 7' high. It is in vigorous growth'. *The Yew Trees of England* Swanton

December 1998: A male yew growing south of the church. Its fluted bole is one of the finest to be seen on such a large girthed tree, on which all branches below a height of about 20 feet have been removed. I found 3 openings at the ground and in one it was possible to see its internal stem, resembling a twisted skein of wet wool. Girth of this internal stem was 2' 10" at 1' in 1998 and 3' at the same height in 2011.

The tree's main branch rises vertically from the bole and appears to be very old; it is horse shoe shaped and hollowed out. Next to it, a second large branch shows similar, but less defined characteristics. These branches once gave the yew a height of 62' (Baxter *The Eternal Yew*) but they have been truncated and height is now closer to 45'.

Girth:

1915: 20' 9" at 3' - Williams-Freeman

1952: 21' 9" at 3' - Swanton

1998: 24' 3" at 1'; 22' 7" at 3'; 20' 10" at 5' - Tim Hills

2006: 6.48 at 1.1m (21' 3") - Russell Cleaver

2011: 24' 2" at 1', 23' 6" at 2', 23' 1" at 3' and 22' at 4' - Peter Norton



