The church has Norman origins. A nearby plot of ground is thought to mark the site of an old plague pit.

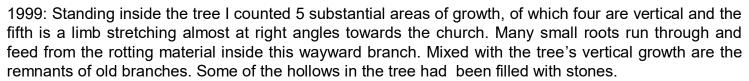
St Lawrence

In 1839 The History and Antiquities of Somersetshire by W. Phelps was first to report that 'a venerable yew tree stands on the east of the church'.

In 1941 The King's England described 'an ancient yew with a trunk 26' round'. Mee

The Somerset Village Book of the 1990s noted 'a large gnarled yew tree, reputed to be 800 years old'. The postcard states that

'the yew tree is said to be 900 years old', although the tree in the picture is clearly not the yew!

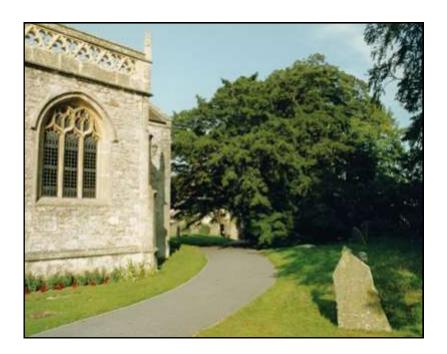


Mee's 26' girth reported in 1941 was presumably measured at what was then the traditional height of 5', and would have been swelled by the leaning branches. A more realistic girth just above the low wall was 19' 4".

In 2014 Peter Norton recorded a girth of 20' 3" close to the ground.

In 2015 I recorded 20' 1" keeping the tape as close to the ground as possible.





The only other yew in this churchyard is this female millennium yew, growing SW of the church. It divides into 3 stems at a height of 3 inches.







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