



3 yews

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These five yew trees grow to the east of the ruined east wall/window of the priory and close to walls leading from the ruin. Girth of the five were between 3m and 3.5m.

The largest girthed yew has an extensive supported branch.

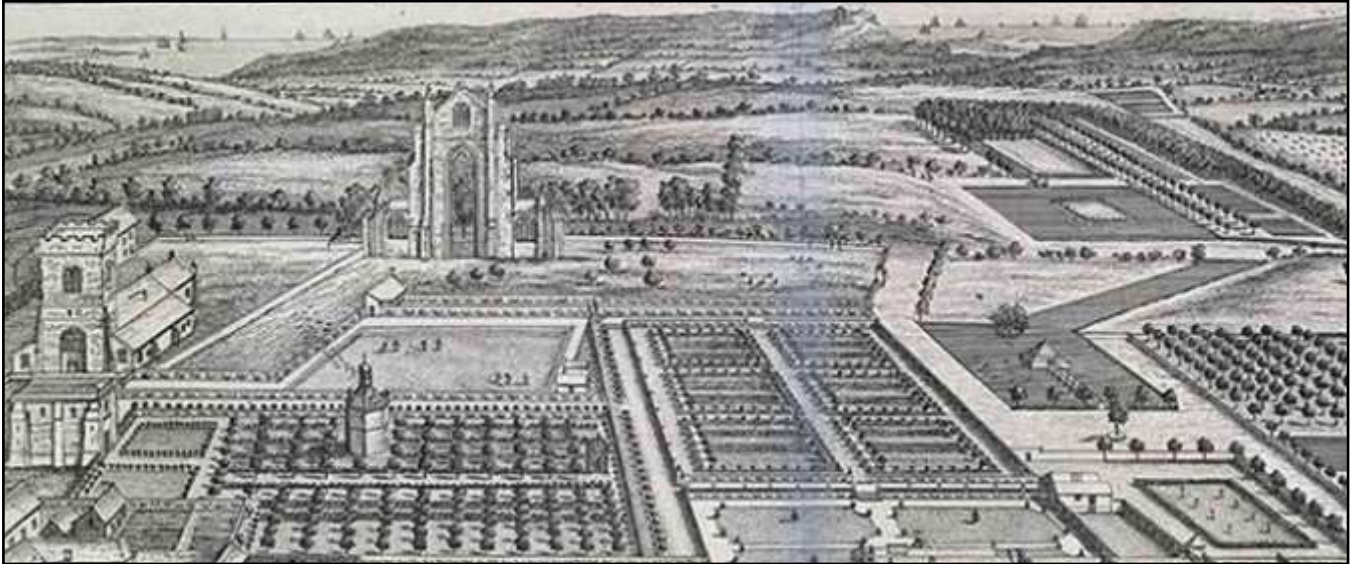




Yew Copse, with about ten yew trees, was fenced off. They all appeared to be of similar size to the yews east of the priory.



The priory was given to the Chaloner family in about 1550 and was left as a ruin for about 150 years. By 1709 all that remained of the priory buildings was the gatehouse, parts of the west range, and the east end. These were kept as landscape features for the Old Hall, and later integrated in the design of the garden. Fragments of stonework were reused in buildings in and around Guisborough. Around the year 1700 the Chaloner family made significant changes to the ruins, planted gardens, built walls, etc. They also planted the 'wood' which is south of the east wall and can be seen on the aerial photograph. Below is a section of a view of the priory made in c1709.



This prospect is probably not an exact rendering of the priory. However, there are a few small trees just beyond the east wall and to the south of it. Also there is some tree planting to the south of the dovecote and close to the pyramid shaped structure. I think it can be assumed that some of these trees were yews and that the majority of them were planted at about 1700 when the formal gardens and other tree planting was undertaken (they are all similar in size) and the large yew was probably a significantly older tree and extant at that time.