

The church was built as a replacement for an ancient church whose location was over a quarter of a mile away by the Manor House. Since it was not built until 1841 it raises the question of why there might be an ancient yew here. One possibility is its elevated position, and that it might have been a marker yew showing the way to the original church in the next valley. Or perhaps it was land already used as a burial ground.

March 2016: The most significant of Stoke Trister's three yews grows SSW of the church, close to the wall separating churchyard from the road. The tree is male and was measured close to the ground but above root material. A girth of about 17' 10" was recorded, but adjusted for the many ivy stems would be closer to 17' 6". It has a good solid looking bole, though holes are beginning to appear on the east side. Bole height is about 6' and from here grow thick branches both round the edges and in the centre. Thick twiggy growth hides a fine tree.



Tree 2 grows south of the church at its east end and is also close to the road. Its twin stems from low down appear to rejoin into one before dividing properly at a height of about 6'. Girth was 11' 6" at 2'.



Tree 3, east of the church, had a solid bole branching from 6'. Girth was 8' 10½" at 3'.

