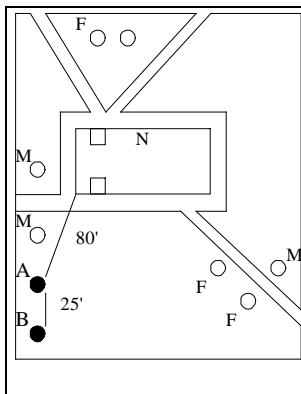


Yews in the West Riding of Yorkshire - Graham Wilkinson 1997-1998

1. Sedburgh. St Andrew (GR: 656921 sheet 97) 25/11/1997



A. Female. 12' 7" at base. A large, mature tree, with a three-trunk split one foot above the ground.

B. Female. 10' 5" at base. Two-trunk split at 2.5' above ground.

Nice, gnarled mature tree.

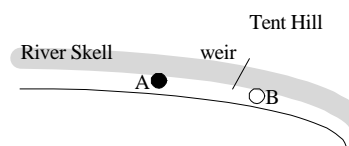
Notes: Seven other yews on site, all smaller than the above and perhaps 5' girth at best.

A date of 1130 has been suggested for the original building. Both doors of the north porch entrance have Norman arches. Almost all windows, including the Clerestory above the nave, suggest a 16th C completion. Tower of 14th century?

"...has yew trees in the churchyard. Beneath these yews George Fox (AD 1624 - 91), founder of the Society of Friends (The Quakers), preached his doctrine." Also "...in the churchyard of Lorton,

Cumberland, where people climbed up the ancient yew in order to obtain advantages for listening." (Cornish.) It seems Mr. Cornish never visited Lorton: the yew is nowhere near the church.

2. Fountains Abbey. (GR: 274683 sheet 99) 18/3/1998



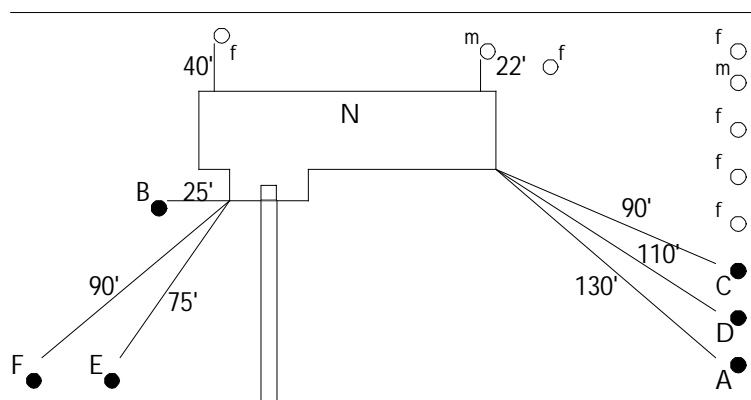
Tent Hill

A. Female. 12' 7" at 3', 13' 4" at base (1'). A gnarled, mature tree, splitting properly from 5', but composed of merging trunks: a small gap remains unclosed. A branch is attempting to ground to the west.

B. Male. A nice, mature tree, branching from ground level, with grounding branches to the north. Very like a Howick tree.

Notes: The above trees lie one quarter of a mile east of the Abbey, before the river bends into Half Moon pond. A moss-covered stump is all that remains of the old yew nearest the Abbey's south wall. The two surviving ancient trees lie to the SW on private land.

3. Baldersby St. James. St James (GR: 366769 sheet 99) 9/11/1999



A. Female. 9' 7" at base.

Multi-trunk split just above ground level.

B. Female. 9' at base. Split just above base.

C. Male. 8' 1" at base. Split at ground.

D. Female. 7' 8" at base. Three-trunk split just above base.

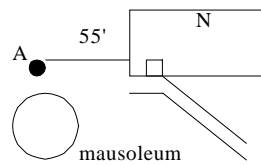
E. Male. 7' 8" at base. Splitting soon after.

F. Female. 7' 3" at base.

Pevsner: 1856-8. 1857 plate.

Notes: A large, imposing church, all of its period including the boundary walls of brick and stone. A newly-felled fir tree to the south of 78-80 years; its contemporary still stands near the church. Many yews on site, most give the impression of multiple plantings, thus invalidating table positions ??

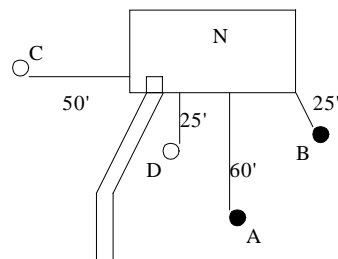
4. Little Ouseburn. Holy Trinity (GR: 453612 sheet 99) 25/3/1998



A. Male. 9' 3" at base. A nice, mature, gnarled tree. A branch at 2' on the N side prevents other measures. Pruning to S and E. Branches properly at 6'.
Pevsner: Norman tower, Perp battlements and pinnacles.

Notes: A 7C church dedicated to St. Bega, a nun from Whitby Abbey, is thought to have stood here. The lower part of the tower and the chancel walls including two windows on the N side, are Norman 12C. 14C east window and arcades. Damaged in March 1945 when a bomber crashed into an adjoining field. A huge mausoleum lies to the SW. Both it and the church undergoing substantial renovation on our visit. Lots of Irish yews.

5. Dunsforth. St Mary (GR: 443648 sheet 99) 25/3/1998



A. Male. 9' 2" at 3', 10' 11" at base, 9' 8" at 4'. A nice, mature tree of the Goathland, Doddington, stamp. Clean trunk, branching at 8'. An impressive, tall tree.

B. Female. 9' 3" at 3', 8' 9" at base. Branching at 3'. A nice, mature tree.

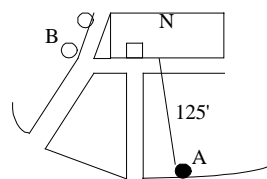
C. Female. 6' 2" at base, then branching.

D. Dead yew of mature girth, smothered in ivy.

Pevsner: 1860 by Mallinson & Healey. Chalice & Paten 1623

Notes: tree A is far and away the most impressive tree on site, dominating the churchyard with its fine crown and trunk.

6. Sharow. St John (GR: 327722 sheet 99) 18/3/1998



A. Male. 9' 2" at base. Trunk split from base, but upright, clean trunk. Mature.

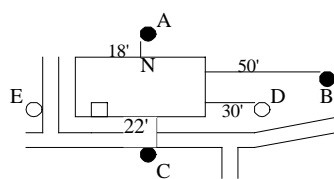
B. Male trees of smaller girth.

Pevsner: George Knowles, 1825. Chancel 1874.

Notes: Other smaller yews by the wall, to the east of tree A.

Ripley stone dated MDCCLXIX (1769) points to earlier use.

7. Pateley Bridge. Old Chapel of St Mary (GR: 163655 sheet 99) 25/3/1998



A. Male. 9' at base. Seven branch split from 2'. Mature tree.

B. Male 7' 9" at base. Branch split from 18", but appears to be of two merged trunks from ground level. Mature.

C. Male. 7' 2" at base, 6' 5" at 3'. Mature tree splitting properly at 5.5'.

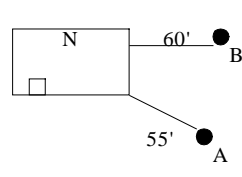
D. Male. 6' 7" at 3', 6' 11" at base. Mature tree with a clean trunk.

E. Mature yew enveloping a 1760 stone.

Pevsner: Tower dated 1691. Nave, aisles, E window probably C18.

Notes: A 1684 stone and many well-preserved 18C stones: more than I recall seeing anywhere. 1714 sundial base.

8. Boroughbridge. St James (GR: 396665 sheet 99) 25/3/1998

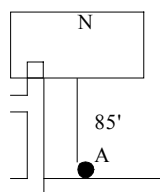


A. Male. 8' 3" at base. Trunk split under 3', branching properly at 7'. Clean mature tree.

B. Male. 8' 2" at 3', 7' 9" at base. Mature tree branching at 4'. Surrounded by discarded masonry and old headstones.

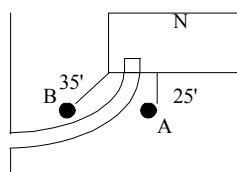
Notes: Built in 1843 on this new site, the old church having stood in the town square.

9. Aldborough. St Andrew (GR: 405664 sheet 99) 25/3/1998



A. Male. 8' at base. Multi-branch split from 2'. Mature tree from a single root-stock.
Pevsner: Perp W tower, c. 1360 aisles. S aisle rebuilt 1827. Perp clerestory & chancel.

10. Grewelthorpe. St James (GR: 230764 sheet 99) 18/3/1998



A. Female. 7' 7" at 3', 7' 3" at base. Clean, mature tree, splitting at 4.5'
B. Male. 7' 4" at base. Mature tree with trunk split at 2'

Notes. Mid-Victorian. First vicar listed as 1847.

The most significant Yews in the West Riding in order of girth

site no.	tree no.	LOCATION	sex	3' GIRTH	OTHER MEASURES	GRID REF & NOTES	POSITION
1	1	Sedburgh	St. Andrew	F	12' 7"	at base	GR: 656921 sheet 97 80' S
2	2	Fountains Abbey	—	F	12' 7"	13' 4" at 1'	GR: 280684 sheet 99 .25 m E
	3	Sedburgh	St. Andrew	F	10' 5"	at base	100' S
3	4	Baldersby St. James	St. James	F	9' 7"	at base	GR: 366769 sheet 99 130' SE
4	5	Little Ouseburn	Holy trinity	M	9' 3"	at base	GR: 453612 sheet 99 55' W
	6	Dunsforth	St. Mary	F	9' 3"	8' 9" at base	25' SE
5	7	Dunsforth	St. Mary	M	9' 2"	10' 11" at base	GR: 443648 sheet 99 60' S
6	8	Sharow	St. John	M	9' 2"	at base	GR: 327722 sheet 99 125' S
7	9	Pateley Bridge	St. Mary	M	9'	at base	GR: 163655 sheet 99 18' N
	10	Baldersby St James	St. James	F	9'	at base	25' W
8	11	Boroughbridge	St. James	M	8' 3"	at base	GR: 396665 sheet 99 55' SE
	12	Boroughbridge	St. James	M	8' 2"	7' 9" at base	60' E
	13	Baldersby St James	St. James	M	8' 1"	at base	90'ESE
9	14	Aldborough	St. Andrew	M	8'	at base	GR: 405664 sheet 99 85' S
	15	Pateley Bridge	St. Mary	M	7' 9"	at base	50' E
	16	Baldersby St James	St. James	F	7' 8"	at base	110' SE
	17	Baldersby St James	St. James	M	7' 8"	at base	75' SW
10	18	Grewelthorpe	St. James	F	7' 7"	7' 3" at base	GR: 230764 sheet 99 25' S
	19	Grewelthorpe	St. James	M	7' 4"	at base	35' SE
	20	Baldersby St James	St. James	M	7' 3"	at base	75' SW

More West Riding sites where yews are found

Baldersby St. James. St. James - many yews on site, most give the impression of multiple planting.

Copgrove. St. Michael - small yews and a huge sycamore.

Dacre Banks. Holy Trinity - large yew to the SE branching from base and unable to measure. Another NW around 6'.

Great Ouseburn. St. Mary - two yews to the east of the church and more beyond. Irish yews too.

Marton-cum-Grafton. Christ Church Graveyard - one yew ? 6' and 2 Irish yews.

Minskip. St. John - surrounded by yews, one 7' 6" at base.

Pateley Bridge. St. Cuthbert - yews, male and female, 6' 11" & 6' 10" at base, not quite making our yew tables.

Roecliffe. St. Mary 1843 - an impressive yew avenue leads to the church door.

Staveley. All Saints - small yews to the SE.

Wath. Chapel - fairly mature yew by the gate, but unable to measure.

West Riding sites with no common yews

Arkendale. Brick church.

Burnt Yates. St. Andrew - Victorian.

Carlton Miniott. St. Lawrence 1896 - Irish yews.

Deighton. All Saints - 1715 date above the porch. Irish yews.

Dishforth. Two chapels, one brick, one stone.

Farnham. St. Oswald - Norman church.

Glasshouses. Methodist.

Greenhow. Victorian church.

Marton-cum-Grafton. Christ Church - late Victorian, replacing a Norman church.

Mickley. St. John - late Victorian.

Middlesmoor. St. Chad

Ramsgill. St. Mary - Victorian. Irish yews.

Summerbridge. Methodist.