

BERKSHIRE - some churchyard sites with younger yews

BEENHAM St Mary SU590684 2011 Peter Norton

Originally a 13th century church from which little remains. Major fires in 1794 and 1856 from which only the tower survived. The remainder of the church dates from 1859. Two young females grow close together south of the porch and so form a natural arbour. No measurements taken.

BRIGHTWALTON All Saints SU4270479301 1995/97 Linda Carter

Tree divides near ground level. SE near boundary. 12' 9". Female.

BURGHFIELD St Mary the Virgin SU670684 2012 Peter Norton

A church was recorded here in the Domesday Book from which nothing remains of the old fabric. Totally rebuilt in 1853. One young female grows to the north of the church and has sparse foliage and looks in terminal decline. No measurements taken.

CATMORE St Margaret SU4538980163 1995/97 Linda Carter

Single stem, divides near ground level. S, near boundary. 13' 6". Female.

CHIEVELEY St Margaret SU474741 2011 Peter Norton

A Saxon site of which nothing remains along with the late Norman 12th-13th century replacement. The church was much altered and rebuilt in 1872-73. Eleven young yews are scattered about the perimeters with the first at the main east gate, three along the west and a group of seven close to the south east gate. No measurements taken.

CLEWER VILLAGE St Andrew the Apostle SU9559677197 1988:Windsor Ranger Guides

In 1988 the yew was measured for the Conservation Foundation's Country Living Yew Tree survey. Girths of 11' 2" at 3' (340cm) and 13' 2" (401cm) at 4' were recorded.

COMPTON BEAUCHAMP St Swithun SU27908692

A History of the County of Berkshire: Volume 4. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1924.

"To the south-west of the church is a yew tree". There are no details of its size and it is not known whether the tree is still in situ today.

EAST GARSTON

SU36177012

All Saints

2010

Peter Norton

A 12th century church with extensive restoration in 1876. Twelve yews grow within the churchyard with the first three (two males and one female) along the east perimeter. Northeast of the church is the largest yew, a male girthing 10' 6" at 2' while just to the west a female girthing 9' 2" at 1'. Three younger yews, one male and two female grow along the western perimeter. To the south of the church a further two females and one male can be found. Most of the yews have had major crown reductions at some time. Adjacent to the path leading to the church is a small millennium yew which seems to be struggling.



EASTBURY

SU345771

St James the Greater

2010

Peter Norton

Here is a very small church dating from 1851, with four young yews growing along the north east perimeter.

GRAZELEY

SU699669

Holy Trinity

2010

Peter Norton

The church, built in 1850, was closed in January 2006. Two young yews grow to the south and east of the church. No measurements were taken.

GREENHAM

SU486656

St Mary

2011

Peter Norton

The original 13th century church was pulled down and the new church erected in 1875. Four yews grow east of the church, three female and one male. The largest, female, girthed 9' 8" at the root crown.



HAMSTEAD MARSHALL SU420667 St Mary Peter Norton 2011

The church was built in the 12th century and renovated during 1893 and again in 1929. One male yew grows south east of the church and girthed 11' at 1'.

HUNGERFORD SU334686 St Lawrence Peter Norton 2010

St Lawrence was rebuilt in 1816 on the site of an earlier church that had collapsed. Four yews, two male and one female grow adjacent to the south east boundary. The largest and furthest south is male with a girth of 9' at 1', measured from the top of a small mound. A younger female is found just to the west of the church.



HURLEY St Mary the Virgin SU826840 2013 Peter Norton

The first church on this site is recorded in the 700's. It was rebuilt in 1086 as a partially moated Benedictine priory and then dissolved in 1536, leaving just the nave of the priory church which we see today as the parish church. Major restoration took place in 1852.

A female yew grows on a significant mound south of the church. Girth was 11' 2" at the root crown.



There is also a younger twin trunked male growing against the west perimeter wall.

LAMBOURN St Michael and all Angels SU326789 2010 Peter Norton

Lambourn Church was a Saxon Minster, and Lambourn Minster is still its official title. Seven yews are to be found in the churchyard, three female and one male are on the western perimeter, one female to the west of the church, one female close to the church at the south west and one female, comprising four stems emerging from the top of a small mound, at the north west. This yew girthed 10' 10" at 1' (over a slight covering of ivy). The final yew, female, is found at the south east corner of the churchyard and had heavy lower growth.

LITTLEWICK GREEN St John the Evangelist SU842803 1995/97 Linda Carter

Distant from church, rotted bole, two stems. WSW. 11' 11" female.

SHAW St Mary the Virgin SU47496831 2011 Peter Norton

Nothing remains of the old church, which was totally rebuilt in 1841. Six young yews grow here with three on the east perimeter, one to the south west of the church and a further two close to the main west gate. No measurements taken.

SHINFIELD St Mary SU72996821 1995/97 Linda Carter

3 major stems, connected underground. NE near boundary. 12' 10" male.

SONNING St Andrew SU7558575573 1995/97 Linda Carter

Very short main stem. ESE near boundary. 12' 1". Female

STRATFIELD MORTIMER St Mary the Virgin SU668641 2012 Peter Norton

The current church was built in 1869 on the site of a much earlier church. When the tower was dismantled in 1866 a Saxon tombstone was found in two pieces underneath.

Two yews are found here with the first at the south east of the church, male girthing 10' 1" at 1'. The second grows west of the church close to the gap in the wall that leads into the new graveyard, female and not measured.



THEALE The Most Holy Trinity SU640713 2011 Peter Norton

A new church that was completed in 1832. One young female grows south of the church. No measurements taken.

UPPER BASILDON St Stephen SU60107597 20/9/2009 Tim Hills

A modern church with no fencing between church grounds and the road. A male yew grows NW of the church. Girth was 9' 10" at 1' over some burry growth, 9' 9" at 4' and 10' 7" at 5' – affected by branch removal.

WEST WOODHAY St Laurence SU390631 2011 Peter Norton

St Laurence church was erected in 1882-3 to replace an older church which stood in the grounds of West Woodhay House before being demolished in 1882. Two young yews grow at the lychgate with a further five young trees west of the church.

WINDSOR St John the Baptist SU96887680 2008 Lin Carter

South of the church at the west end - 1 stem of 2 remaining. Girth of 14' 6".

WINTERBOURNE St James the Less SU450719 2011 Peter Norton

Three young male yews grow close to the gate. No measurements taken..

WOOLHAMPTON St Peter SU577677 2011 Peter Norton

A 13th century church, fully restored in 1861. One substantial male yew grows northeast of the church and is well hidden by dense vegetation. The photo below was taken by Lin Carter in 1996.



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