

Covenanters of Dalveen and Sanquhar

90. Crawford Old Kirkyard. The old churchyard is on the East Side of the A74 at Kirkton half way between Abington and Crawford. Not visible because of the trees. There is a stone to John Wilson of Glenguth, who suffered but survived. Stone difficult to find.

91. Leadhills Village. In the churchyard a stone to a boy called Alexander Laidlaw. The stone is difficult to find. The Clark of Leadhills hanged in Edinburgh Grassmarket, 1684.

92. Wintercleuch Burn. Follow the Minor road from the A702 leading to the Daer Valley Reservoir. The Conventicle site is near the Wintercleuch burn flowing by the old school.

93. Dalveen Farm. The farm is on the West Side of the A702 two miles north of Durisdeer Mill. The Monument commemorating Daniel McMichael is within an iron railing up behind the Farm.

94. Durisdeer Parish Kirk. The Grave of Daniel McMichael, shot at Dalveen is almost directly opposite the Gate. There are two stones by the church wall, one a tabletop and the other an upright one behind it with a bold engraving, THE MARTYRS GRAVE.

95 Crawick. On the B740 near the junction with the A76 west of Sanquhar. The Monument commemorating the poet, James Hislop, is up and off at the West Side of the road near the Railway Bridge. He wrote poems about the Covenanters.

95a Blackgannoch. Follow the same route as described in 95b to Friarminnan till you come to Blackgannoch farm. Conventicle site used by James Renwick. New Monument erected 2002 behind the farm.

95b. Friarminnan. The Crawick Monument stands between the railway and a minor road, which takes off from the B740 in a North Westerly direction. Follow this road to the end of the tarmac at Fingland cottage about 6 miles and then further proceed another mile along the rough track till a signpost and a reasonable parking area is reached. The sign points to Friarminnan. Break off from the road in the direction indicated (West) for about a mile over the moor. Look out for a ruined shepherd's house. When it comes into view you will see a banking and a small stream flowing beside it. One the East face of the banking there is a boulder flush with the ground. If you look carefully you will see the inscription PEDEN 1681. This is one of Alexander Peden's Conventicle sites .

96. Sanquhar. A Monument stands by the North side of the Main Street commemorating the two declarations made at Sanquhar by Richard Cameron in 1680, and James Renwick in 1685.

97. Kirkbride An old Covenanting Kirk accessed by a farm track passing North under the railway beside the A76, five miles South of Sanquhar.

98. Enterkin Pass. Accessed at its South end at the same place as the track to Kirkbride. Kirkbride branches left and the Enterkin Pass branches right. This is where a daring feat was performed in rescuing 9 Covenanting prisoners who were being taken from Dumfries to Edinburgh. The actual place is unknown. The man instrumental in planning and executing this rescue was James Harkness who is buried at Dalgarnock near Thornhill.

David Roy

The Sanquhar Declaration Monument



Cameron - 22nd June 1680
Renwick - 25th May 1685