

Covenanter Memorials around Shotts

141. Kirk O' Shotts. Kirk O Shotts stands prominent on the south side of the M8 almost mid way between Glasgow and Edinburgh. It is accessed from the old A8 either from the west at exit 6, Newhouse, or from the east at the exit 5, Shotts. Once at the Kirk go up round to the south side to a small gate. The stone commemorating William Smith is just inside the gate.

142. Peden's Stone, Benhar. Peden's Stone is located within a mile south of the village of Eastfield, Harthill. Eastfield is at the west end of the village and the church stands prominent on the hill. Go up past the church and turn left into Covenanter road; follow the road to its end and continue on to the moor. At the top of the farm track the road turns right but no vehicle access is allowed. Park by the gate and follow the road round till the Memorial is seen in the hollow. The alternative route described inside has recently been blocked off by a locked gate due to 'fly tipping', but it is a pleasant walk up to the stone. Park up at the Cottage called the Glue pot.

143. Fortissat Stone. The Boulder of Whin stone is prominent at the side of the road and now-a-days planted round with flowers by the householder of the house adjacent. A lovely neck of the woods and makes a fine walk in the summer.

144. Starryshaw Monument. The site of the Monument was on the Shotts moors accessed from White's Road which runs from the east end of Harthill to the neighbouring village of Fauldhouse. At the top of the hill a forest track leads you to what was once called the 'Deer Slunk', but the memorial which was built in the 1980s to replace the original was badly vandalised and is now swept away into the woods.

145. Darnead Memorial. The Darnead stone is accessed from the Shotts to Forth road, (B715). The forest track is at the top of the hill and identified by a single bar gate which is usually locked, but the walk out to the memorial is very pleasant. Approximately half way along the track forks; take the left track and it will bring you out to the memorial which is down on the left.

David Roy.



Peden's Stone

Harthill

Where Alexander Peden preached to the Covenanters