

Covenanters in West Lothian

192. Blackness Castle. Many covenanters were imprisoned here including John Welsh and Lady Caldwell.

193. Linlithgow. There is a plaque on the Town Chambers wall commemorating James Stuart, Earl of Morton who was assassinated here by the Duke of Hamilton. The Town hall is on the main street.

194. Old Pentland Kirkyard. Accessed from the A702 on the Biggar road south of Edinburgh. The church is a ruin but is the burial place of Beatrix Umpherston, who as a young girl of about ten or twelve was largely responsible for introducing the 'Children's Bond,' 1683. The stone is an upright one although there is another one with the same name, which is broken in two lying against the wall of the old building.

194a. Colinton Memorial. This memorial which is as tall as a chimney stack with a large block of inscribed stone beside it, is near to the Redford barracks in the suburbs of south Edinburgh. Colinton is midway between the A702 and the A70. Follow the A702, road from the city and then branch right on to Colinton Road. Watch out for the Monument on the left hand side as you come near the Barracks and the city by-pass.

195. Rullion Green. Rullion Green is on the south slopes of the Pentland hills off the A702 Lanark Road. The farm track to the monument is more easily notice coming from the Edinburgh side. It is 3 miles from the junction of the A702 and the A703 and at the top of the brae past the Wild Life Out Door Centre. The Martyrs' Grave is within a railed off enclosure at the end of the woods directly up the hill from the Croft at the top of the field.

195a. Bathgate Old Kirkyard. The old Kirk is on the right hand side of the A89 about 3 miles east of Bathgate. The keys for the yard have normally been kept at the gatehouse across the road. The stone commemorating James Davie is a flat stone at ground-level located at the east end of the Kirk.

195c. Hunter's Stone on the Bathgate hills. Reaching this stone necessitates a walk or car ride up the Bathgate Hills, which is very nice on a lovely day and well worth the effort. The walk commences at the top of Bridge Street continuing up the hill till out of the town. Directly after passing the standing stone in the field turn left and along the top of the hills, taking in the old quarry where there are disarticulated fossil Sea Anemones and Corals in the rock face. The hill opposite is called the 'Knock,' from which there is a nice all round view with a mounted disc showing all the hills round about. Further along the road on the left is the ancient burial ground called Cairnpapple with crypts that the bones of some 'Beaker People' were buried in, 2000 BC. Continue to the end of this road to the junction, and cross over into the field which leads up the hill by the dykeside where a large stone bearing a Lorraine cross will be seen. This stone was one of four marker stones which fixed the bounds of the 'City of Refuge' in direct connection with a central stone with a crown and cross in the cemetery of the Preceptory at Torphichen. Hunter's stone is a few hundred yards further on towards the other side of the hill. It is an inscribed boulder in a grass banking by a dyke. The stone has an eastward facing prospect. Hunter was possibly a Seceder from the time of the disruption. David Roy.



**Martyrs' Grave
Rullion Green**