

The Ring of the Loch

Cockburn's Grave and the Dow Linn



Cockburns's Grave - copyright David Bethune

Cockburn's stronghold, Henderland Tower, has now all but vanished under the cloak of history but there is a tombstone on a mound – Chapel Knowe, all that remains of an early chapel.

Dow Linn, where Cockburn's wife fled, is well worth the short walk from the grave. You can still see the Lady's Seat, the stone where she sat and mourned.

By following the road to Megget for a kilometre you will come to Cockburn's Grave.

This marks the stronghold of the Cockburns, a notorious Border Reiver family in early part of the 16th century. According to tradition, Cockburn of Henderland was hanged at his own doorway by James V and his wife fled to the waterfalls in the nearby Dow Linn so she could not hear the sounds of her husband's execution over the rush of the water. The harrowing tale is told in Walter Scott's 'The Border Widow's Lament'.



The Upper Falls of the Dow Linn