



Clan HARKNESS

ARMS	A shield divided gyronny of eight gold and ermine, each piece with a crescent, overall a black lion.
CREST	Not available
MOTTO	Hope in God

HARKNESS. Harrison explains this name as "dweller at the Temple-Headland" (from OE. *h(e)arg* + *ness*), a place name unknown to the author. Up to the end of the sixteenth century the notices of this name connect it with Annandale and subsequently with Nithsdale. In the churchyard of Dalgarnock, near Thornhill, are several tombstones of persons of this name, who were mostly tenants of the farms of Locherben and Mitchellsacks in the parish of Closeburn, and Holestane in that of Durrisdeer. James Harkness of Locherben was leader of the band of Covenanters who rescued some Covenanters from the royal troops in the Pass of Enterkin while being convoyed to Edinburgh for trial, 1684. Thomas Harkness, brother of James, was subsequently executed in the Grassmarket of Edinburgh in 1685 for having taken part in the affair. Jennet Herknesse in Tinwald was examined for the Test in 1685, and James Harkness was at a conventicle at Polgavin Muir in the following year. Alexander Harkness was schoolmaster at Dumes, 1820-30. A branch of the family went from Dumfriesshire to Ulster in the seventeenth century, and settled finally in the county of Limerick, where the family of Harkness of Garryfine still possess lands. James Harkness was mason in Hawick, 1809. Edward Stephen Harkness (born in Cleveland, Ohio, 1874), founder of the Pilgrim Trust, was descended from Harknesses of Dumfriesshire. He died in 1940.

Taken from "Surnames of Scotland", by Black, The New York Public Library.

Clan HARKNESS Septs

HARKNESS
HARNESSE
MAC HARNESSE

This clan information sheet has been prepared by
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