

Some Place-names in and around the Fleet Valley

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Jenoch

Jenoch Wood, overlooking Anwoth kirkton, and north of High Ardwall, takes its name from a farm recorded on the 1st edition OS map and the 1851 census, but now no longer extant. Maxwell thought it 'probably a corruption of Genoch', a name found on the sands around Luce Bay, in the parishes of Inch and Old Luce; in those places, Gaelic *gaineach* or *gainmheach* 'sandy' is very appropriate, but it hardly suits Jenoch. In any case, while a change from Genoch to Jenoch might arise from misconstruing the written form, it would not be a likely 'corruption' in Scots speech. In terms of pronunciation, *dìonach* 'sheltered, secure', especially 'wind- and water-tight' would be closest to 'jeenoch', perhaps it was a partial adoption into Scots of **tigh dìonach*, 'a sheltered house'.