
Drake Hold

Creator Name: Ron Swartzendruber and Whitney Ware;
currently owned by Whitney Ware

Hold Contact: weyrlingmaster@kadanzer.org

Current Holder: Lord Gibran

Badge and Colors: A black dragon biting its tail in a serpentine figure eight, against a yellow field.

Minor Holds Beholden to Drake Hold: Minor holds include Greenleaf, Calendryl, Long Road and Red Path Holds as well as many others; named cotholds include Autumnrill, Black Mare, Feverease, Greenvine, and Wide Valley.

Minor Craft halls: Calendryl Hold houses the Calendryl Harperhall, as well as a small healercraft, minercraft, and smithcraft hall. Drake Hold itself houses minor woodcraft and printercraft halls, as well as a recently expanded vintercraft hall. Also, there are several miner craftholds scattered through the territory, including Diamond, Sapphire, Quartz, Emerald, Ruby, and Amethyst craftholds. None of these names necessarily reflect the production of those mines, but were rather wishful thinking of the miners who first established them. Diamond Crafthold, for instance, produces mostly firestone; Sapphire and Quartz both produce quantities of opals and other gemstones.

Last updated: December 2004

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(badge art by Holly Hutchison)

CLIMATE & ECONOMICS

Drake Hold is well within the temperate zone, but is rather cool in its southeast region due to higher elevations. The hilly region to the southeast of the territory has a deep strip of firestone, blackstone, and mineral deposits including gemstones, while the southwestern hills are thickly forested. Drake's economically significant exports are blackstone, firestone, precious minerals, and wood products (the printercraft hall in Drake specializes in the production of paper in varying qualities). Drake Hold it is also known for producing many excellent varieties of beer (with many cotholds in the middle valleys of the hold producing high quality hops).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Drake Hold is hilly in the east and flatter in the west. Principal crops are timber and vegetables, as well as some grapes, hops, herdbeasts, and fish (from Drake's Lake.) A fair amount of grain is also grown on the western plains, but mostly goes into the breweries. The hill country to the east is too stony for much farming, but is a rich mining area and a source of timber. The main hold is located in the southeasterly region close to the lake, and looks much like a northern hold, being partially delved into an east-facing cliff by Landing-era colonists and reclaimed by the settlers who returned in the Ninth Pass. As a rule, the Lord Holders of Drake have been conservative traditionalists.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Drake Hold is known far and wide for having some of the best breweries in the south. Though its wines are generally considered substandard, its beers (in all their varieties: ales, stouts, bocks, porters, and so on) are well respected and highly sought after. Some connoisseurs claim the ales brewed in Fishhook Hold at Cibola and the Sunstone harvest ale are superior, but the matter is one for much argument (and, of course, much sampling of the brews to confirm opinion).

SPECIAL EVENTS

An autumn gather is held yearly at the main hold, featuring boat races on the lake and the unveiling of new varieties of beer and hunting through the forested hills. The date of the Drake Harvest festival is commonly around the end of the fourth month.

IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Lord Gibran -- M, HT=5'11", H=blond, E=blue. The bastard son of Lord Gilhran, Gibran is an intelligent man with a Macheviallian mind. Became Lord Holder in 2855. For many years prior, Gibran resented that the circumstance of his birth kept him from any real status in the Hold, and that Lord Gilhran denied him a chance to apprentice in the Harper Craft. A skilled musician with a talent for composition, but his main job at the Hold, prior to inheriting the Lordship, was as the steward's assistant, outriding throughout the territory on inspection tours and negotiating on his brother Novran's behalf with the resident craft halls.

Married unhappily to the Lady Cevana; firelizards Marius (bronze) and Gabi (green). (Persona of Whitney Ware)

Lady Cevana -- F, HT= 5'8", H=blonde, E=grey. The daughter of Lord Mendius of Dawn Sisters, Cevana is a proper lady who resented having been married to a third-ranked son. Her only child with Gibran died stillborn, and their marriage has never recovered from that blow. Now that Gibran is Lord of Drake, she is showing more favor towards him. (Persona of Smitty)

Heir Elrial -- M, H=brown, E=brown, A=8. Elrial is a spoiled, generally happy-go-lucky kid. He has an excellent grasp of just how to get away with things, and will whine like a sissy-baby to get his way. Happiest in the company of family, his dog, and the Hold Guard, whom he adores as a whole. Heir of Drake Hold; son of former Lady Jerial, nephew of Gibran, half-brother of Naralion; owner of Grunion, a brindled mastiff. (Adoptible NPC)

Lady Jazelle -- F, H=red, E=brown. Lady Jazelle is still a spoiled child in many ways. She loves to be the center of attention, whether it is positive or negative. She will often feign sickness to get attention. She tends to flirt, another way to gain attention. She masquerades as being blind, but secretly can see; a spy for Lord Morgav. Younger sister of Cevana. (Persona of Cherie Wren)

Watchrider Kelara -- F, A=73, H=grey, E=hazel, HT=5'2". Kelara is a feisty old wench, and would take offense if she were told otherwise. She's no old harridan though: she's got a healthy sense of the absurd and can often surprise people with her wry wit. Retired dragonhealer. Rider of green Blareth. (Adoptible NPC)

Lord Novran (deceased) -- M, HT=5'11", H=brown, E=blue. Novran was more concerned with his own pleasure than governing his hold, though he did a passable job. His principal leisure activity was hunting in the hills of his hold. Novran didn't like the Weyr, but grudgingly admitted the necessity of protection from Thread.

Former Lady Jerial -- F, HT=5'4", H=black, E=brown. A younger sister of Lord Kabur, Jerial is a traditional holder's lady. She is fiercely protective of her only surviving child, Elrial, and spoils the Heir rotten. Keeps a firm hand with the servants, and is a keen keeper of the Hold accounts. She is convinced that Gibran is to blame for the deaths of Novran and Galim, and fears her son Elrial's life is at risk. (Adoptible NPC)

Holder Galim (deceased) -- M HT=5'9", H=brown, E=blue-grey. Galim was a clever, hard-working man who had always covered for his older brother's preference of the hunt to business in the Hold. An excellent administrator. His wife and four children died at the Thornblaze Quake, and Galim himself was buried in the rubble with their bodies for two

days. He never quite recovered from the trauma, and showed symptoms of profound post-traumatic stress. The night after his brother Novran had died, making him the Lord, he hanged himself.

Forester Taserun: -- M, A=34, H=black, E=gray. Lord Gibran's top hunter and tracker, sometimes employed as a spy or scout. Taserun is quiet, resourceful, and soft-spoken. He has spent most of his life either in the wilds, or in the company of rough sorts; extremely ill-at-ease in polite society. Bronze firelizard Farscout; hunting hound Chance. (Persona of Ellen Million & Whitney Ware)



CONNECTIONS AT THE WEYR

Naralion -- F, A=25 (in 2859), H=black, E=blue, HT=5'4". A bastard daughter of Novran, Naralion has an easily ignited temper, and likes to have jobs done in a no-nonsense manner. She was a journywoman harper before she Impressed Spioth. Two firelizards, bronze Nelex and blue Tralis. Rider of green Spioth. (Persona of Sass Collard)



RECENT TIMELINE

- 2823.01.** Young lady Calendryl of Drake Hold is seduced by a fosterling, young Morgav of Cibola.
- 2823.03.??** Lord Gilhran finds out about his daughter's pregnancy; her betrothal to Izmir is cancelled, and Gilhran scrambles to hide the truth, ultimately calling for the deaths of a small cothold and several of his own household servants.
- 2823.10.16** Birth of Gibran; publically, he is the son of Lord Gilhran and a serving maid, who died in childbirth.
- 2825.12.28** Novran marries Jerial.
- 2825.13.01** Death of Calendryl by drowning.
- 2832.** Naylim born to Novran & Jerial
- 2840** Gibran and Cevana are married.
- 2845** Death of Lord Gilhran; Novran becomes Lord of Drake Hold.
- 2850.07.20** Elrial born to Novran & Jerial
- 2853.** Naylim dies of injuries taken during a hunting accident. Elrial named Heir.

- blatant nonsense (Dead Man's Tale, W. Ware)
- 2853.13.18** Galim's wife and daughters are killed in the great earthquake at Thornblaze Hold. He falls into a profound depression.
- 2854.08.25** Gibran meets Lady Audri for the first time (Guests At A Hatching, W. Ware)
- 2854.09.02** Gibran begins correspondence the Lady Audri. (Passages, W. Ware)
- 2855.03.04** Naralion, a harper and bastard daughter of Lord Novran, manages to make trouble for herself and arrangements are made to send her off to Kadanzer Weyr as a candidate, where she later Impresses.
- 2855.08.16** Death of Lord Novran in a fall; Steward Galim commits suicide later that night, rather than face his inheritance. Gibran becomes Lord of Drake Hold, and gives up his campaign for Audri's hand in marriage. (The Pirate's Bride, W. Ware)
- 2858.08.28** Gibran is confirmed by Conclave as Lord Holder of Drake Hold (Motions Made, W. Ware); late that same night, he learns his real father was Lord Morgav, and of his grandfather's subterfuge. (Bring on the Night; W. Ware)
- 2857.03.11** Lady Jazelle, youngest wife of Lord Kabur and younger sister of Cevana, appeals to Gibran for refuge after Lord Korys accuses her of treachery; the beginning of the Drake-Maori feud (Blind Luck; W. Ware & C. Wren)
- 2857.06.11** The minor harper hall at Drake Hold burns to the ground; Gibran campaigns with Masterharper Forelen to rebuild the hall at Calendryl Hold, and ends up largely funding the effort. (Calendryl Hold; T. Machat, Y. Velez & W. Ware)
- 2857.11.28** A raider tries to bargain for his life, telling Lord Gibran that Lord Andlin of Windsong Hold was once a raider who went by the name Maythern. Gibran dismisses the information as



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