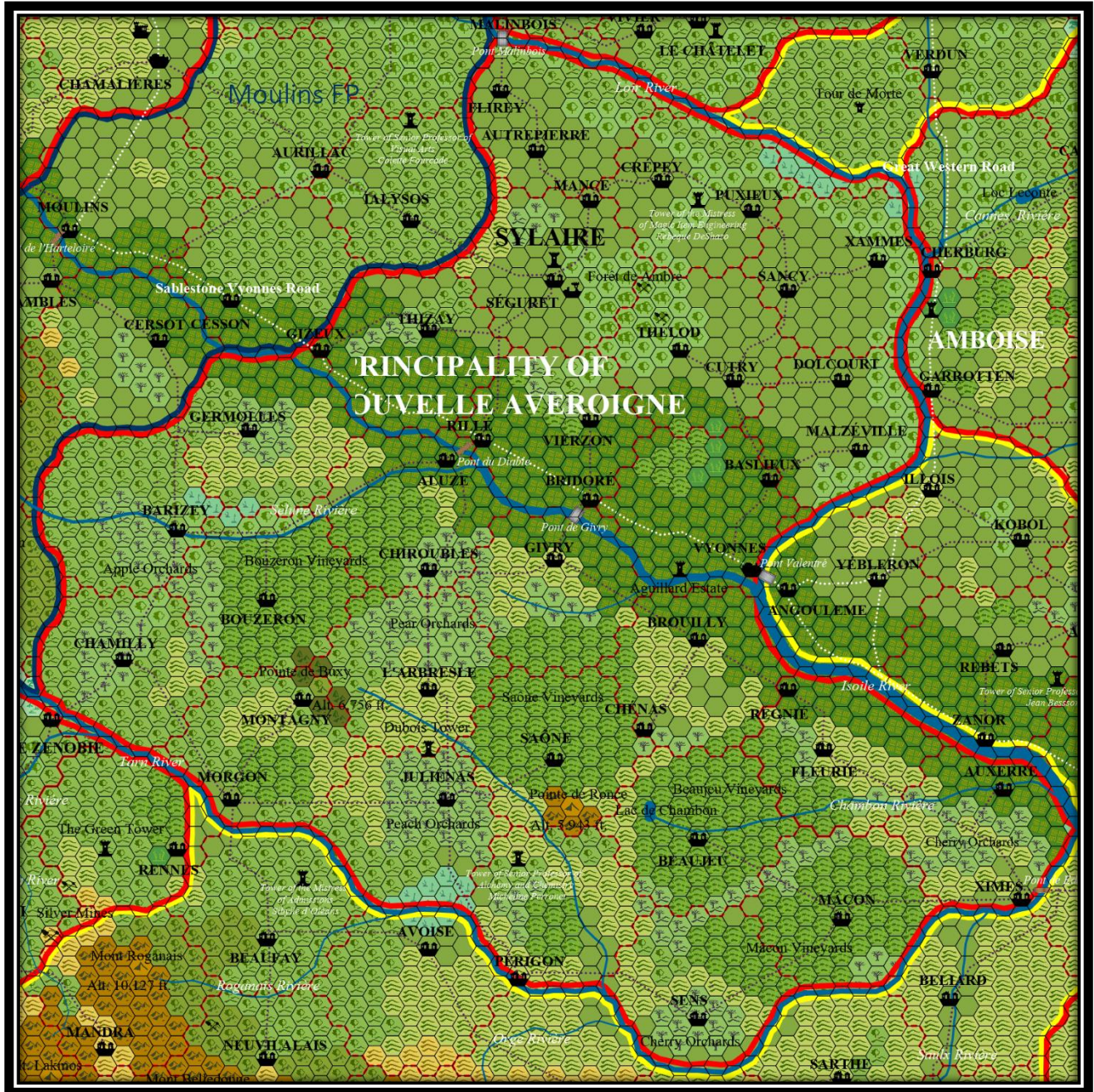


Nouvelle Averogne, Principality of

1014 AC



Area:
1,456 square miles

Population:

1000 AC - 28,990

1014 AC - 26,671

Towns/Large Villages: *(population values are given for 1000 AC and 1014 AC)*

Vyonnes (5200/7800)

Ximes (2500/2050)

Perigon (1200/1000)

Selected Villages: *(population values are given for 1000 AC and 1014 AC)*

Séguret (750/700): is a large village adjacent to the d'Ambreville estate.

Saône (500/450): is a village 16 miles southwest of Vyonnes famed throughout the world for its vineyards.

Bridoré (800/725): is a large farming village 8 miles southwest of Sylaire on the Isoile River.

Morgon (650/575): is a farming village 16 miles northwest of Perigon

Ethnic groups:

Averoignian 70%, Flaem 15%, Orkarians 13%, Other 2%

Languages:

Averoignian, Thyatian common

Ruler:

1000 AC

Prince Etienne d'Ambreville - Viscount of Sylaire, Grand Master of the Great School of Magic (985-1010)

Born 798, Died 1009?, M36, AL-Lawful

1014 AC

Princess Isidore d'Ambreville (nee: de Foret) - Viscount of Sylaire, Chamberlain of the Land (1012-)

Born 828, M14/WWO6, AL - Chaotic

House:

Sylaire

1000 AC – Voting Power **25** at the Council, **45** at the Parliament

Allies: Dame Genevieve de Sephora, Countess of Touraine; Dame Diane de Moriamis, Viscountess of Malinbois; Sire Gilles Grenier, Viscount of Fausseflammes; Sire Malachie du Marais, Baron of Morlay

1014 AC – Voting Power **19** at the Council, **38** at the Parliament

Allies: Dame Genevieve de Sephora, Countess of Touraine; Sire Michel Leconte, Viscount of Amboise; Sire Adik de Chevas, Baron of Sherlin, Dame Circe DeVille, Baroness of Leadyl

Family:

1000 AC

Dame Camile d'Ambreville: born 778, M15, AL - Neutral

Dame Catherine d'Ambreville: born 812, M13, AL - Chaotic

Sire Jean-Louis d'Ambreville: born 842, F12, AL - Chaotic

Sire Claude d'Ambreville: born 844, F10, AL - Neutral

Sire Richard d'Ambreville: born 796, F10/WWO7, AL - Chaotic

Dame Isidore d'Ambreville (nee: de Foret): born 828, M11/WWO5, AL - Chaotic
Sire Andre-David de Foret: born 835, F9, AL - Chaotic
Sire Charles d'Ambreville: born 801, M9, AL - Chaotic
Dame Isabelle d'Ambreville (nee: Gravelotte): born 805, M12, 3rd Circle Alchemist, AL - Chaotic
Sire Simon d'Ambreville: born 805, C35, AL - Chaotic
Dame Magdalene d'Ambreville: born 813, F8/WWO3, AL- Chaotic
Sire Henri d'Ambreville: born 816, M12, AL - Chaotic
Dame Marie-Helene d'Ambreville (nee: de Montagnevert): born 776, F15, AL - Chaotic
Sire Gaston d'Ambreville: born 809, M9, AL - Neutral
Sire Guillaume d'Ambreville: born 811, M10, 3rd Circle Alchemist, AL - Chaotic
Dame Janette d'Ambreville (nee: Toorden): born 819, M9, AL - Chaotic

1014 AC

Sire Andre-David de Foret: born 835, F13, AL - Chaotic
Sire Richard d'Ambreville: born 796, F16/WWO10, AL - Chaotic
Dame Catherine d'Ambreville: born 812, M16, AL - Chaotic
Dame Magdalene d'Ambreville: born 825, F9/WWO5, AL - Chaotic
Sire Jean-Louis d'Ambreville: born 842, F18, AL - Chaotic
Dame Claire d'Ambreville (nee: de Gubernatis): born 972, NM, AL - Neutral
Dame Monique d'Ambreville: born 1001, M6, 1st Circle Alchemist, AL - Neutral
Sire Georges d'Ambreville: born 1002, NM, AL - Chaotic
Sire Michel d'Ambreville: born 1005, NM, AL - Lawful
Sire Claude d'Ambreville: born 844, F10, AL - Neutral

Military:

Princess Isidore (and Prince Etienne before her) maintains an independent force of 150 F1 (leather, sword, riding horse), called the Gendarmerie Averoigne, which polices the Principality and enforces the laws and whims of the ruling Prince/Princess of Nouvelle Averoigne within its borders. Sylaire also has a personal guard force of 40 F5 which guard Sylaire and the Princess of Noevelle Averoigne. Yvonne is the current home base of the 12th Glantrian Infantry division under command of Prince Malachie.

Malachie's 12th Division

Malachie's 12th Division is a new division in the Glantrian army created in 1010 in the Glantrian Military Reorganization Act of AC 1010. The division is about 50% mounted and roughly half of the division consists of experienced veterans of the Great War who served in other now demobilized reserve divisions. The 12th is a largely (90%) ethnically Averoignian division as it was formed around a core of Averoignian veterans who served in the Great War and recruitment efforts to fill out the division was focused in the Averoignian lands.

Type of Unit: Infantry Division

BFR: 109 **Troop Class:** Excellent **BR:** 164

MV: 12 miles a day (2nd Banner can move up to 24 miles/day if alone), (1st Banner can move up to 18 miles/day if alone)

Combatants: 966 Soldiers and Officers

Total Division Strength (including staff and Support banner): 1175

The 1st and 4th banners of the division are based in Vyonnes and assist the Gendarmerie in patrolling Noevelle Averoine as well as patrolling the area around the principality. The banners also regularly train with the local militia.

1st Banner (Les Dogues): 180 Privates and 18 Deca Arcaner Cavalry (M3) armed with slings and staffs, 6 Sergeants (M5), 2 Lieutenants (M7), Captain Nanette le Besnerais (M9) all riding warhorses

Les Dogues are the main combat banner of the 12th Division. The banner is classified as an assault banner thus the mages tend to focus on offensive spells as well as training in how to attack and defeat both magical and non magical enemies. Soldiers ranked Deca and above have a 25% chance (+30% per rank above Deca) of having one or more magical items and/or magical weapons.

4th Banner (Les Forgerons): 270 Privates and 27 Deca Heavy Foot (F3) with sword, dagger, shield, and chain armor; 9 Sergeants (F5), 2 Lieutenants (F7), Captain Maxime Huard (F9)

Les Forgerons are the heavy line infantry of the division. Generally the banner acts as the main line of defense which the other banners thus support and on the attack the Forgerons tend to provide support for the main attack spearheaded by the Dogues. Soldiers ranked Deca and above have a 10% chance (+20% per rank above Deca) of having one or more magical items and/or magical weapons.

Vyonnes is the assembly point for four reserve divisions: the 48th drawn from the Moulins Free Province and western Noevelle Averoine, and 49th drawn from Noevelle Averoine and Morlay-Malinbois, the 47th from Morlay-Malinbois, and the 50th Division from the Isoile Free Province. Vyonnes is home to a large depot, guarded by the 12th Division, with arms and supplies for the 4 reserve divisions in the event they were mobilized by the Glantrian High Command.

Trails:

In the last ten years caravan travel has increased substantially into and out of Noevelle Averoine as the new western baronies, as well as the new principalities of Sablestone and Morlay-Malinbois have made travel and trade much more profitable in the far west of Glantri. Accordingly trade with Sind has increased 75% and trade with Wendar up 500% from AC 1000 levels. The main trail through Noevelle Averoine itself is the Sablestone -Glantri City Road. It is one of the most heavily traveled in all of Glantri. Rated 'good' by Glantrian AAA, there has recently been talk at the Capital of paving it between Glantri City and Vyonnes. So far all attempts to fund the paving have failed at the Council of Princes. Noevelle Averoine also has numerous smaller poor trails connecting the numerous villages and towns of the principality as well as with those in the bordering free provinces of Moulins and Isoile.

The Isoile River is also navigable to large ship traffic from Glantri City to Vyonnes. River boat traffic can be handled on the Isoile River between Vyonnes and Moulins and on the Loir River between Vyonnes and Malinbois in the Principality of Morlay-Malinbois. The Tarn River is also navigable for river boats between Perigon and the Isoile River.

Food:

Surplus food, exported throughout Glantri

Economics:

Noevelle Averoine produces a substantial food surplus thanks to a large population, large amount of farming lands, and a good climate. Its many vineyards produce wines and spirits famous and in high demand not just in Glantri but throughout the region. Noevelle Averoine is also a leading producer of meat and animal furs due to its large game population. Some of the most famed hunters are to be found in and around Noevelle Averoine.

Nouvelle Averoine Monthly Financial Ledger (figures from 1000 AC)

Main resources: 1 vegetable (food), 2 animal (furs and meat)

6 hexes: clear, river; rural; pop. 10,080; tax 1008 dc

2 hexes: clear; rural; pop. 2240; tax 224 dc

1 hex: clear, river; suburban; pop. 1680; tax 504 dc

11 hexes: hill, river; rural; pop. 4620; tax 462 dc

4 hexes: hill; rural; pop. 1120; tax 112 dc

1 hex: forested hills, river; borderland; pop. 210; tax 10.5 dc

1 hex: forested hills; borderland; pop. 140; tax 7 dc

Vyonnes: large town; pop. 5200; tax 2080 dc

Ximes: small town; pop. 2500; tax 750 dc

Perigon: small town; pop. 1200; tax 360 dc

Total population: 5200 large towns, 5380 small towns/suburban, 18,060 villages/rural, 350 borderland

Tax Income: 5517.5 dc

Resource Income: 27,587.5 dc

Standard Income: 29,334 dc

As most trade with western Glantri and points beyond passes through Nouvelle Averoine, the Princess is able to collect substantial extra income based on fees and duties assessed on the caravans passing through her Principality in addition to riverboat traffic docking at ports along the Isoile, Loir, and Tarn Rivers . In addition, the Princess collects various fines assessed her subjects as well as collecting taxes on adventurers booty. As a result, the Princess collects an average of 5000 dc a month in extra income.

Council Tax: 13,487.8 dc

Net Cash: 24,617.2 dc

Overhead (65%): 16,001.2 dc

Available Cash: 8616 dc

With 457,254 XP/year, in 10 years (1001-1010) Etienne d'Ambreville could have gained up to 4,572,540 XP. In 3 years (1012-1014) Isidore d'Ambreville could gain up to 1,371,762 XP, rising from M11 to M20 on dominion XP alone (but by the rules M14 as she can gain no more than 1 level per year with just dominion XP).

Alternate (tax only): 66210 XP/year

Alternative (tax and extras): 126,219 XP/year

History:

Princes of Noevelle Averoigne:

Etienne d'Ambreville	875-881 Grand Master of the School 875-881	b.798 d.1009?
Henri d'Ambreville	881	b.816 d.1011
Pierre d'Ambreville	881-927 Grand Master of the School 881-896	b.848 d.927
Rebeque d'Ambreville	927-984	b.902 d.990
Etienne d'Ambreville	984-1010 Grand Master of the School 985-1010	b.798 d.1009?
Isidore d'Ambreville	1010	b.828 d.
Henri d'Ambreville	1010-1011	b.816 d.1011
Isidore d'Ambreville	1011- Chamberlain of the Land 1012 -	b.828

The area of present day Noevelle Averoigne was sparsely settled by the Flaem during their first centuries of living in the Highlands and was not considered a formal part of the Kingdom of the Highlands. Not until the invasion of the Overlord in 512 did the region see significant settlement. After the defeat of the Overlord most of the Outerworlders under his control were returned to their home worlds, however several groups were not able to return. The Orkarians, a blue skinned asexual human like race was one of them. Most Orkarians settled the region of present day Noevelle Averoigne. The Orkarians cultivated the land and led a peaceful agrarian life as farmers of the rich and bountiful lands, selling their surpluses to the Flaemish to the east at Braejr. The Orkarians established their main settlement, Uddesie, at the confluence of the Areste and Chanal Rivers which served as their center of economic and social life.

The Orkarians were undisturbed for over 200 years until a large group of humans suddenly appeared right in the midst of their lands. The new arrivals were the Averoignians of Count Edoard d'Ambreville that had opened a gate from their world of Laterre and came through it to the Highlands. Quickly overcoming language difficulties through d'Ambreville magic permission was sought of the Orkarians to settle among them. The Orkarian chieftain, seeing little choice, warmly received the Averoignians and gave them permission to settle in the Orkarian lands. The Averoignians at first established new

settlements of their own close to the still functioning gate, but as more and more Averoignians continued to arrive, they began to expand outward and settle alongside the Orkarians.

Soon after arrival Edoard received an envoy of the King of the Flaem who welcomed the Averoignians to the Highlands and invited Count Edoard to Braejr to meet with the King of the Flaem. Edoard and the King of the Flaem immediately hit it off personally and since the Flaem saw no threat in the Averoignians they were officially welcomed to the Highlands and given permission to establish their own dominion. Edoard returned to his people and spent the next year exploring the surrounding area, leading trips back into Old Averoigne on Laterre to bring back still more followers and settlers and overseeing the settling of his people in this new land. Edoard also made use of the time to learn about the Orkarians and their chieftain named Grraahi. Edoard quickly learned of the prior history of the Orkarians, and their special nature as long lived, asexual yet pacifistic race. In 729 Edoard invited Grraahi to special meeting where he asked his opinions on whether the Orkarian would accept Edoard as their King. Grraahi told Edoard that the Orkarian had two things that were important to them, to live in peace and never be a party to violence again as they were under the Overlord. If Edoard could guarantee that and work toward the continued prosperity of the Orkarians, Grraahi told him, he was quite sure that the Orkarians could accept him as their King. Edoard shook Grraahi's hand and told him that was a pledge he would be proud to make and would swear on his own life to not break. Soon after Count Edoard declared himself King of Noevelle Averoigne and made Grraah his head advisor and a Grand Duke answerable only to the King himself. With the support of Grraahi the Orkarians happily accepted Edoard as their new King and the Kingdom of Nouvelle Averoigne was established.

Soon the populations of the Averoignian matched, and then overtook those of the longer lived but slow to reproduce Orkarians. King Edoard's new palatial mansion, Châteaux d'Ambreville, was completed in 734 and became the seat of power in the new kingdom. In AC 743 a second wave of Averoignian settlers arrived. Unlike the first wave which consisted of the d'Ambreville family and many of their followers, this much larger 2nd wave consisted of Averoignians who were previously unassociated directly with the d'Ambreville family. While most of the 2nd wave settled lower in the lower Areste River valley closer to Braejr and founded the town of Les Hiboux. The village of Ximes was founded by Averoignian settlers in 750. The Areste River was renamed to the Isoile River with permission of the King of the Flame in 752 along with the Chanal River which was renamed the Loir River. In 752 the original gate between Laterre and Mystara collapsed whose loss was blamed on the Klantrians, who were using it to also escape from a different region of Laterre to the Highlands. The gate that brought the Averoignians to the Highlands had functioned for nearly 25 years and by the time it closed it was estimated that nearly 10,000 Averoignians moved from Averoigne on Laterre to Noevelle Averoigne on Mystara. The loss of the gate is held against the Klantrians by Averoignians still to this day.

The region the Averoignians settled an area that was blessed with rich soil, warm, dry summers and with mild winters. The Orkarians had learned over the past two centuries which crops grew best and shared that knowledge and expertise with the Averoignians who had come from a more forested and livestock driven land. Over the first decades in their new home the Averoignians learned how to cultivate the many grapes, vegetables, and fruits. As they did, they began working those ingredients, along with their own traditional ingredients, into their native cooking and before long Averoignian cuisine and wines became famous throughout the Highlands. Chefs from Noevelle Averoigne, Orkarian in particular, also became famous and highly in demand throughout the Highlands.

In 767 King Edoard passed away in his sleep and after a day of mourning throughout Noevelle Averoigne his eldest son Michel became the next King of Noevelle Averoigne. Michel was a keen and observant

student of the way his father ruled his Kingdom and continued his father's policies toward the Orkarian and continued to show great honor to Grand Duke Grraahi and relied heavily on his council. Not long after becoming King, Michel's leadership was tested as the northwestern Noevelle Averoigne was struck by a strong humanoid attack in 775. Drawing upon his Averoignian forces King Michel took the field and pushed the humanoids back into the mountains. On the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Averoignians, in 779, the main Orkarian settlement of Uddesie, now almost 70% Averoignian, was renamed Vyennes in honor of Averoigne's main city back on Laterre. The anniversary was marked by a week of celebration by both Averoignian and Orkarian and was topped off by a state visit by the Flaemish king who took the opportunity to explore Vyennes, already now famed throughout the Highlands, theater district where he took in two shows. Michel had his greatest crisis as a King when war soon broke out in the river valleys to the east where simmering tensions between the Flaem and other arriving groups of settlers finally exploded into war in 784.

Both sides, Flaem and Settler both called upon King Michel and asked him to join the conflict on their respective sides. Michel was advised by his brother Matthieu, his ambassador to the Highlands, to join the side of the settlers, as a mage Matthieu had studied with the Flaem and was well aware of their disparaging views on other races and believed in the cause of the Settlers. However Grand Duke Grraahi recommended staying neutral and out of the war. He reminded King Michel that the Flaem had always been friendly to him and his father as well as welcoming to not just the Averoignian but the Orkarian before them. Michel decided to stay neutral which infuriated his brother who left Noevelle Averoigne and joined the forces of the Settlers. The Settlers defeated the Flaem four years later at the Battle of Braastar and the new Republic of the Highlands was established. Noevelle Averoigne was invited to join the new Republic but again King Michel refused, against the advice of his brother who leaves the Highlands in a rage for Traladara and never returned.

King Michel's decision proved to be a wise one for Noevelle Averoigne as the ruling Council of the new Republic was almost immediately kidnapped by the leader of the Alphatian faction and the Republic was dissolved. The Highlands was declared an Alphatian Protectorate and a new civil war, one that would last 40 years, would consume the central Highlands. King Michel continued to refuse entreaties from both sides to join the fighting and since neither side wished to push Noevelle Averoigne into the camp of the other, both sides respected Noevelle Averoigne's neutrality and his kingdom became enriched by supplying both armies with food and provision for gold. As the war raged for years and as his kingdom grew richer and more powerful, King Michel grew older and in 826 King Michel died of a sudden heart attack.

After a bitter succession battle among Michel's sons, his second son Etienne emerged as the new King of New Averoigne. Two years later the 40 Year War ended with the defeat of the Alphatians and their allies. Etienne again like his father and grandfather refused repeated offers to have Noevelle Averoigne become a part of the Republic of the Highlands. However, as the years passed and the Republic of Glantri took root after the assassination of Alexander Glantri and peace and prosperity grew for those in the Republic King Etienne started considering the benefits to joining Noevelle Averoigne to the new nation.

After months of intense negotiations, the Kingdom of Noevelle Averoigne became a Viscounty of the Republic of Glantri with Etienne its Viscount. As part of the deal Etienne arranged with the ruling Council of Princes for giving up his Kingdom an additional dominion was created, Fausseflammas, to the south of Noevelle Averoigne and Etienne would be able to choose its ruler. The largely Averoignian/Orkarian populated areas outside the two new dominions which were once lands of the Averoignian Kingdom

were to become part of the Isoile and Moulins Free Provinces. As a condition to giving up large amounts of his Kingdom Etienne would have choices of his own appointed to administer the Free Provinces. The most important condition however was the agreement by the Council to subsidize and construct a new School of Magic in the heart of Glantri City. As part of the agreement Etienne would supervise its construction, and then become its Grand Master upon completion.

After construction of the Great School of Magic was completed in 875 Etienne became its Grand Master and also was rewarded by the Council of Princes for his service to the new Magocracy and by order of Council of the Princes Noevelle Averoigne was enfeoffed and made the 8th Principality of Glantri with Etienne its prince. The borders of the new Principality of Noevelle Averoigne were established as the lands between the Loire, Isoile and Tarn Rivers. The area of the new Principality was roughly about a fifth of the old Kingdom used to be and but at least was much larger than the old Viscounty had been.

Several years later, in 881, Noevelle Averoigne was the place of perhaps the strangest and most mind-boggling series of events in the whole of the history of the Highlands. Noevelle Averoigne, along with the rest of Glantri, was shocked to hear that Prince Etienne was dead, killed by his brother Henri in self-defense. Henri was eventually confirmed by the Council of Princes as the new Prince of Noevelle Averoigne after an investigation and interviews of family members whom all collaborated Henri's story and Etienne's death. However, his reign as Princes lasted all of two days before the entire Châteaux d'Ambreville and most of the d'Ambreville family disappeared the night of his private coronation celebration. The site of the Châteaux was surrounded by a grey mist that either killed or horribly sickened those fortunate to get out in the nick of time. After a week of investigation, the Council of Princes confirmed Henri's cousin Pierre d'Ambreville as the new Prince of Noevelle Averoigne.

The Grey Mist proved to be quite an attraction for Noevelle Averoigne, drawing the curious and incredulous to come to Noevelle Averoigne to see it which proved quite a nice tourism boost for the principality. The site of the former Châteaux d'Ambreville grew to such freak show proportions that even though it brought in loads of gold the residents of the area petitioned Prince Pierre to do something about this for it was disturbing the peace of the normally tranquil Averoignian countryside. Prince Pierre soon had guards posted with ordered to arrest anyone who got within 50m of the mist. After some time, the novelty wore off and life returned to normal for the people of Noevelle Averoigne.

Pierre himself had no interest in ruling Noevelle Averoigne so he called upon the elderly but still mentally sharp Grraahi, who had skipped Henri's coronation thus was not at the Châteaux that fateful night, to administer Noevelle Averoigne while Prince Pierre attended to his duties in Glantri City. Grraahi accepted and administered Noevelle Averoigne for the Prince, keeping the principality running smoothly until Grraahi passed away in 902 at the ripe old age (for an Orkarian) of 350. He was replaced by his Orkarian protégée Esteeqi, who continued to run Noevelle Averoigne for Prince Pierre. Pierre lived in Glantri City and spent his days in magical research for the rest of his life and passed away in 927. Prince Pierre was succeeded by his 25 yr old daughter Rebeque d'Ambreville.

An elderly Rebeque was still Princess of Noevelle Averoigne when insanity returned again upon Noevelle Averoigne in 984 when suddenly one day the Grey Mist disappeared revealing a pile of stone and a large group of people emerging from the ruins of Châteaux d'Ambreville. Some were adventurers but more importantly and unbelievably, others were the long missing and presumed dead members of the d'Ambreville family who had disappeared 103 years earlier. Immediately before anyone could ask questions of the adventurers or d'Ambrevilles the reclusive and seldom seen mysterious Count of Touraine, Thierry Tulasne, appeared from nowhere and teleported everyone away. In the days that

followed a whole new wave of Averoignian immigrants from Laterre entered Noevelle Averoigne through some sort of dimensional portal near the ruins of the former Châteaux d'Ambreville.

However as if things were not strange enough, the strangest part was yet to come, for as the Council waited the answering of their summons for the d'Ambrevilles and the adventurers to appear before them they received a visit, but not from anyone they might not have expected nor would have summoned. For most all had only heard only stories about him. Though none had met him, all knew him immediately upon his entering the Council chamber. His portraits were all over the Great School of Magic where they had been educated. It was none other than he former Prince of Noevelle Averoigne, founder of the Great School of Magic, and thought to be dead for 103 years, Etienne d'Ambreville. After a series of sessions at the Council of Princes Rebeque d'Ambreville stepped down and Etienne was reconfirmed as Prince of Noevelle Averoigne. Rebeque's daughter and supposed heir vehemently protested her decision to step down and ended up leaving Glantri altogether, never to return, as Etienne and all of Etienne's immediate family reemerged into Glantrian politics and society.

Over the next two years the ruins of Châteaux d'Ambreville were cleared and a new residence was constructed for the d'Ambreville family. The new residence for the family was the tower Sylaire which was carried stone by stone through the portal from old Averoigne to Noevelle Averoigne and was gifted to the d'Ambreville family. The gift came from Genevieve de Sephora, a powerful wizard in Old Averoigne who was one of the many who used the portal to come to Noevelle Averoigne from old Averoigne on Laterre. The gate remained open for over 5 years before finally closing, in the years it remained open nearly ten thousand more Averoignians came to Mystara and settled in the lands around Noevelle Averoigne, in particular many settled the sparsely inhabited heavily wooded foothills of the Black Mountains north of Noevelle Averoigne known as the Valley of the Wolves.

Outside of a large outbreak of wolf lycanthropy in the woods and hills in and around Noevelle Averoigne that coincided with the arrival of the second wave of Averoignian settlers Noevelle Averoigne settled into a period of relative quiet and prosperity which lasted for the next 20 years until relations between Glantri and Alphatia went sour very quickly in 1004 and was culminated by a group of Glantrians accidentally destroying most Alphatia's skyship navy and triggering an immense firestorm that killed half the population in one of Alphatia's largest cities. Soon after, in 1005, Alphatia declared war on Glantri. Given time to prepare thanks to Glantri's allies, Heldann and Thyatis, the Council of Princes decided to call for a partial mobilization and expanded the Grand Army of Glantri from 8 to 62 divisions. Of the 62 divisions four were mobilized with recruits from Noevelle Averoigne: the 46th (Yvonne) Division, the 48th (Ximes) Division, the 50th (Perigon) Division, and the 55th (d'Ambreville) Division. The 46th and 55th Divisions were assembled and assigned to the 1st Army under General Erik von Kluge and stationed at Fort Nordling. The 48th and 50th Divisions were assigned to the 8th Army under Prince Brannart and stationed at Fort Sablestone.

While the armies of Alphatia were heavily engaged with the Thyatians in the first years of the war on the Isle of Dawn, the Alphatians still brought the war to Noevelle Averoigne by having squads of wizards summon monsters and set them loose to terrorize Glantri. In defense Glantri deployed Hunter-Killer (H-K) units, usually made of teams of adventurers, to track down and destroy the monsters and the Alphatian agents behind them. Noevelle Averoigne though plagued by monsters was fairly well guarded by several H-K units which did much to protect its population from the worst of attacks. One of the most famed units was led by a wizard who later would become one of Glantri's most famed war-heroes, native of Yvonne, Michel Leconte. In 1007 Thar invaded Glantri and while Noevelle Averoigne was not directly affected by Thar it did feel the impact as all four of the Noevelle Averoigne divisions saw heavy

action against Thar. The Great Plague of 1008 that followed Thar's invasion killed upwards of 15% of Noevelle Averoigne's population before the plague, with some help from clerics, finally ran its course.

The end of the Great War brought a change in rulership to Noevelle Averoigne as Prince Etienne was declared missing in early 1010 not having been seen prior to the attack of the 1000 wizards of Alpathia on Glantri at the end of 1009. What followed was a year long struggle between Henri and Isidore d'Ambreville to succeed Etienne. In 1011 Isidore defeated Henri in a duel and become the new Princess of Noevelle Averoigne. In the years since Isidore become Princess, Noevelle Averoigne has moved past the scars of the Great War and the plague. While the population is still down from pre-war totals it has started to grow again and the land itself remains as rich and bountiful as it always has been and Noevelle Averoigne remains one of the wealthy and most productive of all the principalities.

Cultural Curiosities:

FOOD

The Piazza Food Network is pleased to welcome back after a long vacation our beloved by readers and feared by chefs, food critic. You might remember his award winning culinary reviews for Glantri's BETTER TOWERS AND DUNGEONS magazine: Micky the Mage.. So without further adieu... HERES....MICKY!!

Thanks Ed! You do need to lose that suit though man. Hey folks! Micky here reporting from Vyonnes; a lively town with many five star eating establishments. Averoignian cuisine boasts hearty, tasty and varied food, as well as local gourmet products . With its traditional *Potee Averoignate* and the well-known Averoigne Blue cheese, the typical gastronomy of this region of Glantri can satisfy both meat and cheese lovers!

Every time I come to Vyonnes I always go to my favorite restaurant, La Bergerie, located at 24 rue de la Tour d'Averoigne. I took advantage of the beautiful weather and managed to secure a table on the roof overlooking the scenic Isoile River. I ordered my favorite bottle of Averoignian wine, a bottle of pre-war red Chanturgue. I started with a personal favorite of mine, Soupe aux Choux au Cantal a combination of cabbage and the superb Averoignian Cantal cheese. Next I proceeded to order the Melon Fraîcheur et son Jambon d'Averoigne. A wonderfully tasty dish with chilled melon and cured Averoignian ham. HEAVENLY! For my main course I ordered Truite Sauvage, a freshly caught trout from the Isoile grilled over a wood fire and served with carrots. What good Averoignian meal at La Bergerie is complete without having their signature desert, Tarte de les Perles Noires et Perles Rouge de l'Averoigne. The 'pearls' of this delicious tart are the blackberries and raspberries picked fresh from the hills and mountain slopes of southwestern Averoigne. I left my table at the end of a wonderful dining experience completely satisfied with the extremely high quality of the service and the food, but also significantly lighter, to the total of 20 ducats in the coin purse. (excluding the 15 ducat bottle of wine and a 3 ducat tip to Bernard, the actual meal was a *much* more reasonable 2 ducats). However, take it from me, it was worth every ducat of the Piazza's gold it cost them once they got my expense report.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Other than for its food and wine Noevelle Averoigne is probably most famous in Glantri for the quality

and passion of its people for the theater. Every child in Averoigne, who is not dreaming of being a powerful wizard, or playing striker for AC Vyonnes, dreams of being a talented famous stage actor. Next to Bergdhoven Noevelle Averoigne boasts the highest literacy rate in all Glantri. Nearly all Averoignians are well versed in the literary classics, as well as most contemporary works, and are madly passionate and enthusiastic audiences for stage presentations of the literary works of Glantri. Vyonnes' entertainment quarter is home to the largest number of theaters in all Glantri, even more than Glantri City itself.

ARCHITECTURE

Perhaps due to their outer worldly origins the architecture of the Averoignian lands is distinctly different from other areas of Glantri, even of anything found in Klantyre. Averoignian architecture is distinguished primarily by richly sculpted surfaces used to achieve three-dimensional sculpted classicism. While the surface of a typical Glantrian building is typically neatly divided into sections (in accordance with classical clarity and order), an Averoignian surface is treated as a continuous whole. For example, facade in the Glantrian architectural style often consists of many similar sections, such that one's eye is not drawn to any particular part of the building. A façade in the Averoignian style, on the other hand, often features an attention-grabbing concentration of rich elements (e.g. curved walls, columns, blind arches, statues, relief sculpture) around a central entrance. Some examples of Averoignian architecture are the old Chateaux d'Ambreville, which though long gone, lives today still through many paintings and other artwork. A current example is the stunning mansion of the Viscount of Amboise, on the Loir River opposite Noevelle Averoigne.

EDUCATION/MAGIC

One of the defining aspects of Nouvelle Averoigne is the level of education of its population. Nearly 75% of those who live in Noevelle Averoigne can read and write and is only second to Bergdhoven in terms of overall literacy in Glantri. In addition to the world-famous university, Beaux Arts de Vyonnes, the Principality has several other smaller institutions of higher learning where one can get an advanced education and receive a quality magical education. As Averoignians have a high degree of magical affinity its population is rigorously tested for magical ability with the most talented either to Glantri City or Vyonnes. The d'Ambreville family also provides scholarship opportunities for those with great talent for magic but without sufficient means to pay for a quality education thus a large percentage of Averoignians who have the ability to become spellcasters receive the training and education to become one and today only Bergdhoven surpasses Noevelle Averoigne in the ratio of Arcaners to Mundaners in its population.

SOCIAL CUSTOMS

The Averoignians have developed quite a well-earned reputation with other Glantrians for seeing themselves as superior to most of the other ethnicities of Glantri. Only the Flaem, who rival the Averoignians in literary, culture, and predisposition to magic are seen as equals socially. The long lived Orkarians that still live in Noevelle Averoigne tend to keep to themselves, but the friendly relationship cultivated early with the Averoignians continues to this day. Nouvelle Averoigne has several holidays and festivals that exemplify some of these traits found here as well as their Averoignian heritage.

Nouvel An: (1 Nuwmont) First day of the year celebrated with feasts and dances throughout Noevelle Averoigne.

Fête des Fleurs: (5 Thaumont) An annual celebration of Spring. Larger villages host flower parades, horse races, and livestock markets. Everyone dresses in their most colorful clothes and adorn themselves with flower wreaths.

Arrivée: (12 Flaurmont) The anniversary of the day the Averoignians first arrived on Mystara. Celebrations are not held publicly but privately with a special evening meal shared with family members. It is a great honor to be a non-family member, *especially* if non-Averoignian, and be invited to a family's Arrivée dinner.

Fête des Feux: (18 Yarthmont) A celebration of late spring, in which villages light tremendous bonfires to burn throughout the night.

Vyonnese Carnival: (15 Fyrmont) The national holiday of the Averoignian people dating back to their original homeland.

Fête des Vignes: (28 Ambyrmont) An annual of the year's grape harvest. Wine tasting contests are held all throughout the Principality and wine merchants from all over Glantri attend and make their selections.

Notable sites:

Vyennes

Ruler: Constable of Vyennes Joséphine de Beauharnais (born 961, F17, AL- L) Joséphine was appointed to be Constable of Vyennes in 1006 replacing Gaston d'Ambreville who was slain by an Iron Gargoyle in the streets of Vyennes during the Great War. Joséphine was a noted adventurer in her youth and was known to be one of the adventurers who helped with the return of the Prince and his family in 984.

The town of Vyennes is much different today than it was in 1000 AC. Due to the opening of the western frontier, the creation of Sablestone and the other new western dominions as well as the resulting expanded trade with both Sind and Wendar, the town has experienced rapid growth and is expected to reach city status in the next decade. Vyennes has become a major economic, logistical, and military center of western Glantri. Even in the midst of the population loss in Noevelle Averoigne due to the war and the plague its population has increased by 50% in the last decade.

Théâtre de Guénégaud is perhaps the most famed theater in all Glantri and is only rivaled by the Metropolitan in Glantri City. Constructed in 832 it is the center of the entertainment quarter of Vyennes which was built around it. The greatest of Averoignian actors can often be seen performing here as well. The theater is subsidized by the d'Ambreville family and entrance is free to citizens of Noevelle Averoigne.

Beaux Arts de Vyennes is a university famed throughout the world for the quality of its education and its renowned faculty. Here students can learn from the masters of the arts, both visual and performance. Much like the Théâtre de Guénégaud the university is completely subsidized by the d'Ambreville family, but Grandmaster Alexandre Deschappelles (age 89, M34, AL - Lawful) only selects the most talented of

students, less than 4% of the annual applicants to the school are selected to study here at the d'Ambreville family's expense. In addition to the arts, students also can take traditional academic classes and receive magical instruction and training under the school's masters of spellcraft.

La Place Beauvau is the central square of old Vyonnes and today is the center of the new Business Quarter. It is a bustling area where local farmers bring their goods, and caravans passing both east and west stop to sell their goods as well as purchasing Averoignian goods. Place Beauvau is dominated by a 50-foot statue of Edoard d'Ambreville carved from a single block of solid amber.

Ximes

Ruler: Constable François Cortot (born 971, M9) François recently retired from the Glantrian Government after serving as a constable in the Isoile Free Province. Upon retiring he moved to Ximes and after the death of the former Constable of Ximes in 1011 he applied to Princess Isidore to take over administration of the town. He is a fair administrator and strives to keep the sleepy peaceful town just that.

Ximes is a small town on the Tarn River just upriver from where it meets the Isoile River. Ximes is renowned for its sour cherry orchards which are used in Ximes famed maraschino liqueur. The town is the commercial center of southern Noevelle Averoigne and has a good-sized port area where river boat traffic to and from Glantri City can dock. Ximes is also home to Ximes Université which is famed for its culinary school. The stone Pont de Edoard spans the Tarn River and helps connect Ximes and the southern half of Noevelle Averoigne with Touraine and Glantri City via the Pont des Artes over the Isoile River. The bridge is decorated with busts of all the d'Ambreville heads of family since their days back on Laterre. The most recent addition was a bust of Princess Isidore which was finished just last year by the famed Averoignian sculptor Jules Dalou. The town itself has a bustling market quarter as well as an entertainment quarter that while not as grand as Vyonnes is still quite lively and with a number of theaters to see music and stage productions.

Perigon

Ruler: Constable Jean-Christophe Gaumont (born 977, F6) Jean-Christophe is an ex-adventurer who served in the Gendarmerie Averoigne as well as with the 50th Division in the Great War. After the end of the Great War Gaumont decided to settle down in Perigon and married a local woman and started a family. He took a job as blacksmith but when the position of Constable came upon in 1013 upon the retirement of the old one, he applied for the position and was selected by the Princess. Jean-Christophe is a no-nonsense constable and strictly applies and enforces the laws of Noevelle Averoigne. Gaumont has no love however for Kaelics and any obvious Kaelic visitors to Perigon are apt to having the constable breathing down their necks and tossed into the town jail for the slightest infractions of the law.

Perigon sits upon a large group of hills overlooking the Tarn River. The town is the furthest upriver that river boats can travel up the Tarn River, so the town sees a great deal of activity from local farmers and especially loggers and miners from Fausseflammas to the west. Perigon is home to the famous Perigon brewery which produces a famed sparkling wine which is traditionally drank throughout Noevelle Averoigne on Nouvel An. The Collège de Perigon is famed within Glantri for the quality of its Chemistry department. The hills surrounding Perigon are home to the famed vineyards of Perigon whose grapes are used for the sparkling wines of Perigon. Also the hills are home to a large cherry orchard which produces Morello cherries which are used in many Averoignian recipes.

Séguret

Séguret was the first settlement of the Averoignians when they arrived on Mystara. It had longed served the needs of the large family estate of the d'Ambrevilles. After the disappearance of the Châteaux, it became a tourist destination for those who wanted to see the mist. The new estate of the d'Ambreville family, Sylaire, lies just to the north of the village. The center tower of the estate was once the tower of the Countess of Touraine in Old Averoine and was carried over stone by stone and reconstructed over a period of two years. In the following years a large châteaux was built encompassing the tower and was modeled on the original Châteaux d'Ambreville. In addition to serving the needs of the d'Ambreville estate the village also serves the miners who continue to explore the Forêt de Ambre for lodes of amber which occasional are still found today. Séguret is also home to the d'Ambreville Academy which provides a free education to economically challenged Averoignians selected by the Princess to receive a quality undergraduate education.

Coat of Arms:



Useful links:

Glantrian Political History 828-884 - Harri Mäki and Giovanni Porpora

The Economy of Sylaire by Aleksei Andrievski

The d'Ambreville family tree, and the Okarians by Michael Berry