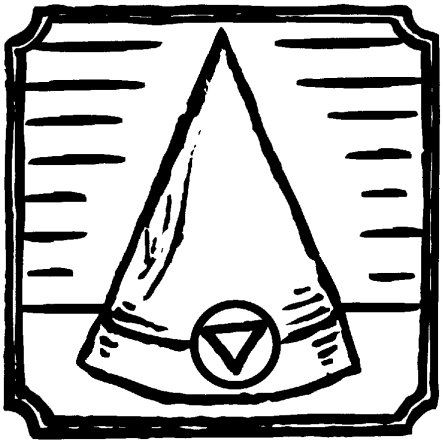
The Hermetic Census of 1220 – Part VIII: House Mercere –

A supplement for Ars Magica, 5th edition

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Preface

The main motivation for this series is that details on the Mythic Europe setting are distributed over a large number of books. This makes it hard to answer some questions, such as "Who are the members of the Cult of Heroes?", "Where are the Mercer Houses of a Tribunal?", or "Which places are linked by Hermes Portals?".

Of course, any troupe can answer any of these questions any way they want. Ars Magica books make a point of detailing some of the more important aspects and leaving the rest for the troupe to fill in. This makes the setting very flexible and easy to adapt to a variety of tastes. Still, I was curious to figure out how all the puzzle pieces might fit together, what a complete picture might look like.

Approach I compiled information from different books from the 3rd, 4th and 5th edition of Ars Magica. Where conflicts arose, the newer edition took precedence. I also preferred more specific points to more general information. For the Iberian Tribunal, I resorted to the excellent novel Shadow & Flame by Jason Tondro[1].

All twelve Mercere magi can be found in the books. When it comes to specifics like membership in a cult of society however, there is not a lot of information. I therefore had to extrapolate strong statements from thin evidence. The goal was to provide a complete picture that conforms to canon information.

Redcaps are usually companions and therefore less in the focus. I did not try to go much beyond what can be found in the books.

Notes In this document, "Mercere" is any memeber of House Mercere, "Mercere magus" will denot a magical Mercere, "Redcap" an unGifted Mercere.

Acknowledgements This work would not have been possible without the decision to put large portions of the Ars Magica content under an open license. I would like to thank Andrew Breese and Jason Tondro for their permission to use their ideas here.

[1] `https://forum.atlas-games.com/t/the-joan-stories-an-ars-magica-novel/175434`

Tribunal	Magi	Redcaps	Redcaps (min.)	Covenants	Mercer house(s)
Greater Alps	2	10	1	2	Rorschach chapter house
Hibernia	-	13	13	2	Leth Moga and Leth Cuinn
Iberia	-	22	2	1	Hospital Hermético
Levant	1	7	4	1	Venti Rosa
Loch Leglean	-	4	1	-	Taigh-Marsanta
Normandy	-	10	10	5	Cunfin and Dragon's rest
Novgorod	1	7	1	1	Three Lakes
Provençal	2	10	8	2	Coenobium Rhodanien
Rhine	1	10	2	3	Durenmar and Fengheld
Roman	2	21	9	1	Harco
Stonhenge	1	6	5	2	Mercer House (Coventry)
Theban	-	15	15	1	Alexandria
Transylvania	2	15*	15*	1*	Old Histria
Total	12	150	86	22	

Table 1: Merceres and covenants per Tribunal (*More unofficial Redcaps in the Transylvanian Tribunal)

1. Structure of House Mercere

1.1. Demography

There are twelve Gifted Merceres and 150 Redcaps in the Order of Hermes, with at least ten living in each Tribunal, except for the border Tribunals of Novgorod, Loch Leglean, Stonehenge, and the Levant.[2] In the Transylvanian Tribunal (14), there are large familie of unofficial "Redcaps".[3] About half of the Redcaps in a Tribunal usually belong to covenants.[4]

House Leadership

- Insatella of Herco, the Redcap Prima of House Mercere[5]
- Maria of Harco, Insatella's second-oldest daughter[6]
- Aldero of Harco, House elder
- Harstein of Harco, House elder

[2]HoH:TL p.78; the lower numbers for the four named Tribunals are from the Tribunal books.
[3]AtD p75
[4]HoH:TL p.84
[5]In ToH:R p. 64, Insatella is described as a maga, but HoH:TL p. 79 clearly states that she is not Gifted.
[6]HoH:TL p. 79



Figure 1: Location of the Mercer Houses

Gifted Merceres

- Mary of Rorschach (Greater Alps), the senior maga, spends most of her time creating lesser enchanted devices, which are usually dispatched to redcaps in other tribunals. Her abilities lie toward illusion, and most of her devices assist disguise, grant invisibility or hasten travel.

- Rogitien of Rorschach (Greater Alps) is an alchemist, and brews the longevity potions for this tribunal's redcaps, and, through arrangement with House Guernicus, its long-serving hoplites. He also frequently travels between the covenants of the Alps, since he prefers active to laboratory duties. He has the Gentle Gift and a large mundane family, many of whom are non-magical redcaps.

- Simon of Venti Rosa (Levant) may usually be found at the covenant, crafting magical items to assist his fellow Redcaps in their travels. He has become an expert at setting up a functional lab in the most unhelpful of environments, while a how-dah on the back of one of his camels usually serves as a "fume cupboard" for projects that need time to come to fruition.

- Susan of Wicklow of Three Lakes (Novgorod) is one of the greatest travelers and explorers of the age. She accompanied Sadko the merchant on his great travels in

the 1160s and 1170s. Later she was a partner with Georgi Yurivich on his eastern expeditions. From Sweden to Constantinople, she has trekked, ridden, rafted, and, when necessary, flown or swum. Every year she aims to make a complete circuit of the Novgorodian covenants.

- Archimagus Ophilio of Aedes Mercurii (Provence) is one House Mercere's longevity specialists. He lives at the *Templum* and was the Priest of Mercury for many years, though he has since retired.[7]

- Guillermo of Ara Maxima Nova (Provence) recently became a member of the splinter cult of the Merinita faction of the Keepers of a Thousand Tales, which is taking on aspects of the Cult of Heroes. His research into Hannibal and Heracles through the Cult of Heroes led him to leave his home in Genoa. Shortly after his Gauntlet, Guillermo rescued a young Tremere named Sagitaire, who had been accosted by bandits. In gratitude, Sagittaire taught the Mercere the secrets of the Carvers' school of Certamen dueling and Guillermo has a reputation for freely acting as a champion for any Redcap in the Tribunal who asks.

- Xavier of Durenmar (Rhine) is the Rhine Tribunal's only Gifted Mercere and its archivist.

- Elegans of Harco (Roman) and

- Velox of Harco (Roman) are primarily responsible for creation of longevity potions for Covenant members, maintenance of the Covenant's magical defenses, and creation of magic items. Velox is the Quaesitor of House Mercere and sits on the outer council of Magvillus.[8]

- Viator of Ungulus (Stonehenge) is obsessed with developing a magical means of communication between covenants which will not compromise their magical defenses against each other.

- Volante Adiran of Old Histria (Transylvania) is the maga who turns up when something terrible has happened to a Redcap. She is the one characters will report to if they discover one slain. She is a mistress of flight magic, and is the effective controller of the (small) military elements in the Redcap fleet.

- Accursius Adiran of Old Histria (Transylvania) is an elderly magus who is, in a limited sense, the leader of the magi of Histria and the Redcaps in this Tribunal. He specializes in craftwork and illusions and makes weak longevity rituals, suitable for young magi.

[7]Due to his status as a former High Priest of Mercury and his proud age of 172, I made him an archmage.

[8]This determination was made by the author.

1.2. Lineages

Mercurians Six descendants of Priamitus still practice Mercurian magic.[9] They are concentrated in the Roman, Greater Alps and Provençal Tribunals. Some Mercurians are also members of the cult of Heroes.[10]

- Archimagus Ophilio of Aedes Mercurii (Provençal) was the Priest of Mercury for many years and is the senior Mercurian of House Mercere.
- Magus Guillermo of Ara Maxima Nova (Provençal) belongs to the Cult of Heroes.
- Elegans of Harco and Velox of Harco as well as Mary of Rorschach and Rogitien of Rorschach are Mercurians.[11]

Mutantes The six Mercere magi who are not descendents of Priamitus belong to the lineage of Triceres and Mutantus.[12] Some Mercurians are also members of the Milvi Antiquiti.[13]

1.3. Societates

Cult of Heroes Many Redcaps and three Mercere magi are members of the cult.[14]

- Magus Guillermo of Ara Maxima Nova (Provence). Together with three Merinita magi of Ara Maxima Nova, he is part of a splinter cult of Keepers of a Thousand Tales influenced by the Cult of Heroes.
- Elegans of Harco and Velox of Harco are members of the cult of Heroes.[15]
- The Mercer House of Leth Cuinn in Hibernia is a major center of the cult. Dáire Cú Ua Dáire, Dáire an Chogaidh mac Dáire, Elen Bhodhar inghean Dáire, and four other Redcaps of Leth Cuinn are members of the cult.

[9] "About half of all Mercere magi still practice Mercurian magic like their ancestors" [HoH:TL p. 95]

[10] "Magi who belong to the Hero-cult should have either Mythic Blood [...] or Mercurian Magic, and should also be Pagan." [HoH:TL p. 96]

[11] Mercurians greatly benefit from working together, so it makes sense to find them in the covenants with more than one Mercere magus. In addition, the Roman and Greater Alps Tribunals are centers of Roman culture and make good seats for the cult.

[12] Not a single Mutant is mentioned in the books. My reasoning is that Mercere had only two Gifted apprentices, so all magi of the House should belong to one of the two lineages. This is really just a guess, and some Mercere might well not belong to either.

[13] "the Milvi Antiquiti [...] consists of Mutantes and their companions" [HoH:TL p. 98]

[14] The qoute "only the most senior Merceres actually know these spells" [HoH:TL p. 96] implies there must be more than one mage in the cult.

[15] Members of the cult generally come from the Mercurians; Guillermo was trained in the Roman Tribunal and so I decided to make that a center of the cult.

Milvi Antiquiti Three magi are from the Mutantes lineage are Milvini.

- Susan of Wicklow of Three Lakes (Novgorod)[16]
- Xavier of Durenmar (Rhine)[17]
- Volante Adiran of Old Histria (Transylvania)[18]

Followers of Belin

Pawnbrokers

Bloodcaps

Goliards

- Renaud Fouinon of Cunfin (Normandy)

Mercer Houses "Every Tribunal has at least one covenant that supports the Redcaps, usually in a central location, from which they periodically travel to reach the other covenants. This place is usually where their records concerning the local Redcaps and the region are kept, and serves as a central point of administration and infrastructure for the entire Tribunal. These "support covenants", or parts of covenants, are referred to as Mercer Houses. Each Mercer House is run by a senior Redcap who sees to its needs and keeps track of the other Redcaps in the area."[19]

- Greater Alps: Rorschach chapter of the Icy North (Rorschach is a village and center of trade on Lake Constance. Near Rorschach is a palace belonging to the abbots of Saint Gallen.)
- Hibernia: Leth Moga (monastery of Cloyne in the kingdom of Desmond) and Leth Cuinn (on the shores of Lough Neagh in Ulster)
- Iberia: Hospital Hermético (León)[20]
- Levant: Venti Rosa (travelling caravan)
- Loch Leglean: The Tribunal has only a few Redcaps which are supported out of the Stonehenge Tribunal.

[16]Her proficiency as a great traveler and explorer and the fact that she aims to visit all Novgorodian covenants every year (carrying books) make her an excellent candidate.
[17]His work as an archivist is exactly what the Milvi are about.
[18]He rexpertise in flight magic fits well with the profile of a Milvus.
[19]HoH:TL p.84
[20]This Mercer House was added by the author.

- Normandy: Cunfin (in the Champagnois village of Cunfin) and Dragon's rest (between Rouen and the mouth of the Seine)
- Novgorod: Three Lakes, linked by a Hermes Portal to Lecyzca
- Provence: Coenobium Rhodanien (St Cyprian's inn in Arles)
- Rhine: Durenmar and Fengheld
- Roman: Harco, the Domus Magna of House Mercere, sits in the hills of Piedmont, on a wooded hillside overlooking a village which bears the Covenant's name.
- Stonehenge: Mercer House, outside of Coventry
- Theban: Alexandria, sits atop Mt. Pagus, a small mountain to the south of Smyrna overlooking the city
- Transylvanian: Old Histria, on a mountain northeast of Pazin.

2. Greater Alps Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Ulrich[21]
- Mary of Rorschach (Gifted), enchanter
- Rogitien of Rorschach (Gifted), alchemist who brews longevity potions

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Rorschach chapter of the Icy North

The Copper Rooster, an inn in Basel, is owned by House Mercere, and is used as a message transfer point.[22] Some old Redcaps retire there.

The Rorschach Chapter of the Covenant of the Icy North has an extensive property in Vienna, held in the name of the trading house that hides the activities of House Mercere.[23]

Merceres:

- Mary of Rorschach (Gifted), enchanter
- Rogitien of Rorschach (Gifted), alchemist who brews longevity potions
- Two Redcaps at Rorschach

[21]The name was chosen by the author.
[22]SoI p. 97
[23]SoI p. 118

- Cymena of Tarragon Vale (Redcap)
- Ulrich, Chief Redcap at the Copper Rooster
- Six more Redcaps at the Copper Rooster

3. Hibernian Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- Diarmait mac Fergaile, leader of Leth Moga
- Dáire Cú Ua Dáire, leader of Leth Cuinn

Important covenants:

- **Mercer Houses:** Leth Moga and Leth Cuinn

The Hibernian Tribunal does not have any Mercere's Portals to speed the transport of Redcaps across the island. Instead, the Redcaps have learned to exploit the High Roads.[24]

Merceres:

- Diarmait mac Fergaile of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Gopstan mac Diarmata of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Ercc Cam of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Luathan of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Rónán of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Áine of Leth Moga (Redcap)
- Dáire Cú Ua Dáire Ua Mearcaire of Leth Cuinn (Redcap)
- Dáire an Chogaidh mac Dáire Cú Ua Mearcaire of Leth Cuinn (Redcap)
- Elen Bhodhar inghean Dáire Cú Ua Mearcaire of Leth Cuinn (Redcap)
- three children of Dáire Cú Ua Dáire (Redcaps)
- a nephew of Dáire Cú Ua Dáire (Redcap)

[24]TCI p124

4. Iberian Tribunal

The Iberian Tribunal is a center of House Mercere.[25]

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Yubal[26]

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Hospital Hermético[27] and the Mercer House at Málaga[28]

Merceres:

- Avira Cepheus (Redcap)
- Paolo (Redcap)[29]
- Yubal, the Chief Redcap[30]
- Umar of the Mercer House at Málaga[31]
- Yasin of the Mercer House at Málaga[31]
- Zaynab of the Mercer House at Málaga[31]
- 16 more Redcaps

5. Levant Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Thomasin of Venti Rosa (Redcap)[32]
- Simon of Venti Rosa (Gifted)

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Venti Rosa

[25] In ToH:I, House Mercere was all but absent. The Spanish Supplement Finis Terrae decided to give the Tribunal a Mercere Focus. As I do not own the book, I have almost no information about what's inside, but I try to be compatible by placing a lot of Redcaps in this Tribunal. I you do not use FT, you may want to redistribute Redcaps to other Tribunals to avoid this concentration.

[26] FT

[27] This Mercer House was added by the author

[28] Shadow & Flame p. 117

[29] from Shadow & Flame

[30] FT

[31] Shadow & Flame p. 117

[32] He is listed first, so it seems reasonable to assume that he is the oldest.

Merceres:

- Thomasin of Venti Rosa (Redcap)
- Ibrahim of Venti Rosa (Redcap)
- Simon of Venti Rosa (Gifted)
- Sarah of Venti Rosa (Redcap)
- Khayzuran of Venti Rosa (Redcap)
- Three wandering Redcaps[33]

6. Loch Leglean Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Thomas Verus of Taigh-Marsanta[34]

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Taigh-Marsanta[35]

Merceres:

- Thomas Verus of Taigh-Marsanta (Redcap)[36]
- Three more Redcaps at Taigh-Marsanta[37]

7. Normandy Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Senior Redcap:** Évrard de Tours of Cunfin (Redcap)
- Myrina of Dragon‘s Rest (Redcap), the current Evangelium, who travels to each covenant to report the results of Tourneys

Important covenants:

[33]To bring the number of Redcaps closer to the usual ten and account for the fact that in most Tribunals, about half of the Redcaps belong to a covenant. [HoH:TL p. 84]

[34]LotN p. 152; the Mercer House of Taigh-Marsanta was added by the author.

[35]This Mercer House was added by tha author to reflect that "Every Tribunal has at least one covenant that supports the Redcaps [. . . ,] referred to as Mercer Houses." [HoH:TL p. 82]

[36]"Thomas Verus, a wandering Redcap, is the only member of House Mercere who makes Scotland part of his route." [LotN p. 152]

[37]It seems extremely unrealistic that a Tribunal with 100 magi can be served by a single Redcap. I kept the number low to emphasize the remoteness of the Tribunal.

- **Mercer Houses:** Cunfin and Dragon's rest, which are connected by a Mercere Portal[38]
- an inn in Tours, secretly run by Redcaps, has a portal to Harco[39]

Merceres:

- A Redcap at Montverte
- Marcus of Paris (Redcap)
- A visiting Redcap at Conventio Florum
- Évrard de Tours of Cunfin (Senior Redcap)
- Renaud Fouinon of Cunfin (Redcap), a Goliard
- Hervé le Brun of Cunfin (Redcap), runs the temporary Mercer House at the Champagne cycle fairs
- Myrina of Dragon‘s Rest (Redcap)
- Two more Redcaps at Dragon‘s Rest
- A Redcap running the inn in Tours[40]

8. Novgorod Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Susan of Wicklow of Three Lakes, a Mercere maga

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Three Lakes, linked by a Hermes Portal to Lecyzca

Merceres:

- Susan of Wicklow of Three Lakes (Gifted)
- Two more Redcaps at Three Lakes
- Barchek Ocowski of Lecyzca
- Four wandering Redcaps[41]

[38] LaL p. 107
[39] ToH:R p. 66
[40] ToH:R p. 66
[41] Added to bring the Redcaps to a reasonable number. Although Barchek Ocowski and the Gifted Susan of Wicklow are the only members of House Mercere in the Novgorod Tribunal according to [DaB p. 143], [DaB p. 110] talks about a Redcap network.

9. Provençal Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Alazais of Coenobium Rhodanien
- Archimagus Ophilio of Aedes Mercurii (Gifted), former High Priest of Mercury[42]
- Guillermo of Ara Maxima Nova (Gifted), member of the Cult of Heroes

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Coenobium Rhodanien (St Cyprian's in Arles)

Merceres:

- Alazais of Coenobium Rhodanien, the Chief Redcap (59)
- Archimagus Ophilio of Aedes Mercurii (172, Gifted), former High Priest of Mercury
- Guillermo of Ara Maxima Nova (56, Gifted), member of the Cult of Heroes
- Argentius of the Coenobium Rhodanien (46, Redcap)
- Six more Redcaps at the Coenobium Rhodanien
- Embeth, a wandering Redcap[43]

10. Rhine Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Magister Horst of Fengheld
- Magister Xavier of Durenmar (Gifted)

Important covenants:

- **Mercer Houses:** Durenmar and Fengheld
- The Copper Rooster Inn at Basel[44]
- The Novgorod Inn at Lübeck (Oculus Septemtrionalis)[45]

Merceres:

[42]He was named an archmage (he only one of the House) by the author.
[43]FaF p. 87
[44]GotF p. 41
[45]GotF p. 74

- Magister Xavier of Durenmar (Gifted)
- A visiting Redcap at Durenmar[46]
- Magister Horst of Fengheld (68), the Chief Redcap
- A journeyman Redcap at Fengheld
- Tyro Boris of Novgorod (37) at Oculus Septentrionalis
- Another journeyman Redcap at Oculus Septentrionalis
- Five Redcap Peregrinatores

11. Roman Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- Insatella of Herco, the Redcap Prima of House Mercere
- Maria of Harco (Redcap), Insatella's second-oldest daughter[47]
- **Chief Redcap:** two elder members of Harco, currently Aldero and Harstein, who are responsible for overseeing Harco's mercantile activities and the day-to-day operations of the Covenant
- Elegans of Harco (Gifted), a member of the Cult of Heroes
- Velox of Harco (Gifted), a member of the Cult of Heroes

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Harco, the Domus Magna

Harco also has a small fleet of four magical ships. These sailing vessels are enchanted so that they need never fear for lack of wind (or too much wind). Additionally, they cannot sink, and can always find the way back to their home port. Harco has had these wondrous ships for several centuries, and has made excellent use of them, both in the delivery of messages and in mercantile activities.[48]

Merceres:

- Insatella of Harco (Redcap), the Prima

[46] One or more Redcaps may also be found here at any given time – a well-traveled route is south to the Tribunal of the Greater Alps and to Harco in the Roman Tribunal, either via the Rorschach chapter on Lake Constance, the Copper Rooster inn in Basel, the covenant of Sinews of Knowledge, which has close and friendly relations with Durenmar, or directly by use of the Mercere Portal to Harco. [GotF p. 57]

[47] HoH:TL p. 79

[48] ToH:R

- Maria of Harco (Redcap), Insatella's second-oldest daughter
- Aldero of Harco (Redcap), House Elder
- Harstein of Harco (Redcap), House Elder
- Elegans of Harco (Gifted), a member of the Cult of Heroes
- Velox of Harco (Gifted), a member of the Cult of Heroes
- Pipio of Harco (Redcap), House Scribe
- Spica of Harco (Redcap), House Scribe
- Tentare of Harco (Redcap), House Scribe
- Antho of Harco (Redcap), junior Redcap
- Frederick of Harco (Redcap), junior Redcap
- Iris of Harco (Redcap), junior Redcap
- Eleven wandering Redcaps

12. Stonehenge Tribunal

There are six Redcaps and one Gifted Mercere in Stonehenge.[49]

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Perceval
- Viator of Ungulus (Gifted)

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Mercer House, outside of Coventry[50]

Merceres:

- Viator of Ungulus (Gifted)
- Perceval, Chief Redcap
- Great William
- Little William

[49] HtM p. 115 mentions five Redcaps explixitly, and DI p. 83 adds Józef. I think six is a good number for a Tribunal of this size.

[50] This is not a covenant; unGifted Redcaps have no covenant affiliation. [HtM p. 117]

- Jocelin
- Edgar
- Józef of Cad Gadu (30):[51] Caught and convicted stealing vis, his punishment is to serve Hellix of Tytalus for a year.

13. Theban Tribunal

Important Merceres:

- **Logothete (Chief Redcap):** Leontius of Alexandria

Important covenants:

- **Mercer House:** Alexandria

Merceres (all of Alexandria):[52]

- Leontius (132), the Logothete (Chief Redcap)
- Lysandros, an expert in Hermetic law (very old)
- Three other Redcaps above 130
- Proximios (91)
- Diantha, a diplomat (middle-aged)
- Three other Redcaps betwwen 60 and 100
- Niko, the son of a magus
- Aristides (almost 60), a member of the Cult of Heroes
- Three other young Redcaps

[51] DI p. 83

[52] "Five of the 15 unGifted members are over 130 years old, and considerably twisted from accumulated the Warping of their Longevity Rituals. [...] Five of the members are considered middle aged by their sodales, ranging from sixty to a hundred years old with Warping scores from 3 to 5. [...] The five youngest members don't actually live at the covenant, preferring houses in Smyrna or other towns altogether. They perform their duties as messengers and heralds [...] [TSE p. 113]

14. Transylvanian Tribunal

In the Transylvanian Tribunal, there are formally only fifteen Redcaps, but House Tremere thinks there should be at least 45; there are now whole families of "Redcaps" in the Tribunal. Retired "Redcaps" run businesses in most of the significant towns.[53] The current solution is that the heads of families of "Redcaps" are accepted as members by the Roman leadership of House Mercere. The House leadership accepts that they may have agents acting on their behalf. Transylvanian magi treat these "closest agents" just like, and informally call them, Redcaps.[54] The vampire-blooded Redcaps are not recognized as proper members of the House.[55]

The House maintains a network of mansiones in the Tribunal, places where magi can stay. These are placed one day apart on the major roads between covenants.[56] One such mansio is the Estate of the Wizards in Esztergorm, the capital of Hungary, another in Vrhbosna in Bosnia.

Important Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Accursius Adiran of Old Histria (Gifted)
- Volante Adiran (Gifted)

Important oppida:

- **Mercer House:** Old Histria

A *mansio* is a rest stop like a coaching house, operated by a member of House Mercere. These are placed one day apart on the major roads between covenants. Some mansiones are secret, and only used by members of the Order. Others are semi-public, and also accept custom from traders and priests who travel.

Merceres:

- **Chief Redcap:** Accursius Adiran of Old Histria (Gifted)
- Volante Adiran (Gifted)
- Fifteen Redcaps at Old Histria, the Mansiones or wandering the Tribunal

15. Unknown Tribunal

Redcaps:

- Victor of Semita Errabunda (24)

[53] AtD p. 75
[54] AtD p. 75
[55] AtD p. 76
[56] AtD p. 75

A. Mercere Portals

The number of Mercere Portals is up to the troupe. Earlier editions had more Portals than the current 5th edition, which is why the known Portals are grouped by edition.

5th edition A small number of the most powerful covenants throughout Europe maintain a permanent link with the use of Mercere Portals; the two hubs of this network are Harco and Durenmar.[57]

Durenmar used to be linked to all other Domus Magnae,[58] but many Portals were closed as a result of the the Schism war.[59] Portals built after the Schism War always include special passwords, and many of them have linked triggers that only permit a member of House Mercere to activate them.[60]

- Durenmar and Harco[61]
- Durenmar and Verdi[62]
- Harco and Lycaneon[63]
- Harco to Dragon's rest[64]
- Confluensis to Dragon's rest[65]
- Cunfin to Dragon's rest[66]
- more Portals at Dragon's rest[67]
- (Durenmar to Fudarus)
- (Durenmar to Valnastium)
- (Durenmar to Cave of Twisting Shadows)
- (Durenmar to Lycaneon)
- (Durenmar to Crintera)

[57] GotF p26
[58] "he built several of these, linking Harco and the other Founders' covenants to Durenmar" HoH:TL p80
[59] HoH:TL p80
[60] HoH:TL p101
[61] GotF p26
[62] GotF p26
[63] AtD p.89
[64] LaL p138
[65] LaL p138
[66] LaL p138
[67] LaL p138

- (Durenmar to Magvillus)
- (A magical river acting as a natural Mercere Portal from Meiander to Alfeios in Thebes[68]

4th edition

- Harco and a cottage with stables, near Coventry, in the Stonehenge Tribunal[69]
- Three Lakes to Leczyca[70]
- The Icy North motherhouse to Rorschach chapter and several other chapters[71]
- (Valnastium to Vienna)
- (Valnastium to Constance)
- (Magvillus to The Icy North)

3rd edition Harco's single most valuable magical resource is a set of Hermes Portals. Harco has at least one Hermes Portal leading to each of the other Tribunals of the Order. In some cases, such as in the Roman Tribunal itself, there are several. The Portals are all located within a single large subterranean room of the Covenant. For the most part, the Portals lead to neutral locations maintained by House Mercere, near the center of each Tribunal. In a few cases powerful Covenants in Tribunals (Doissetep, for example) have secured Portals within their own locales. House Mercere usually tries to avoid such favoritism, fearing others will interfere with Mercere's distribution of information.[72]

A few of the locations to which Harco has Hermes Portals are: Harco's townhouse in Venice; the outer sanctum of the Covenant of Magvillus; a merchant's house in Tunis; the Covenant of Al Arama in the Levant Tribunal; the Covenant of Doissetep in the Provençal Tribunal; the Covenant of Circulus Ruber in Hibernia Tribunal; the Covenant of Durenmar in the Rhine Tribunal; a small tower north of Madrid, in the Iberian Tribunal; an inn, secretly run by Redcaps, in Tours (Normandy Tribunal); a cottage with stables, near Coventry, in the Stonehenge Tribunal; and a cabin near Kiev, in the Novgorod Tribunal.[73]

- Harco and Harco's townhouse in Venice[74]
- Harco and Magvillus[75]

[68]TSE p. 109
[69]ToH:R, HtM p114
[70]DaB p111
[71]SoI p50
[72]ToH:R
[73]ToH:R
[74]ToH:R
[75]ToH:R

- Harco and a merchant's house in Tunis[76]
- Harco and the Covenant of Al Arama in the Levant Tribunal[77]
- Harco and the Covenant of Doissetep in the Provençal Tribunal[78]
- Harco and the Covenant of Circulus Ruber in Hibernia Tribunal[79]
- Harco and a small tower north of Madrid, in the Iberian Tribunal[80]
- Harco and an inn, secretly run by Redcaps, in Tours (Normandy Tribunal)[81]
- Harco and and a cabin near Kiev, in the Novgorod Tribunal[82]
- A portal links the two Rellantali sites at Asinara and Venice[83]
- A portal connects the main site of Verdi to Verdi's townhouse in Venice[84]
- By 1218 the Covenants of Duresca, Barcelona, and Estánciaes-Karida are connected by Hermes Portals.[85]
- (Val Negra to Barcelona)

[76]ToH:R
[77]ToH:R
[78]ToH:R
[79]ToH:R
[80]ToH:R
[81]ToH:R
[82]ToH:R
[83]ToH:R
[84]ToH:R
[85]ToH:I

B. Abbreviations

Ant	Antgonists
AtD	Against the Dark (Transylvanian Tribunal)
BaS	Blood and Sand (Levant Tribunal, 4th ed.)
DaB	The Dragon and the Bear (Novgorod Tribunal, 4th ed.)
FaF	Faith & Flame: The Provençal Tribunal
FT	Finis Terrae (Iberian Tribunal, an unofficial supplement)
GotF	Guardians of the Forest (Rhine Tribunal)
HoH:MC	Houses of Hermes: Mystery Cults
HoH:S	Houses of Hermes: Societates
HoH:TL	Houses of Hermes: True Lineages
HtM	Heirs to Merlin (Stonehenge Tribunal, 4th ed.)
LaL	The lion and the Lily (Normandy Tribunal)
LoM	Lords of Men
LotN	Lion of the North (Loch Leglean Tribunal, 3rd ed.)
MoH	Magi of Hermes
SoI	Sanctuary of Ice (Greater Alps Tribunal, 4th ed.)
TCI	The Contested Isle: The Hibernian Tribunal
ToH:I	Tribunals of Hermes: Iberia (3rd ed.)
ToH:R	Tribunals of Hermes: Rome (3rd ed.)
TSE	The Sundered Eagle (Theban Tribunal)
TtA	Through the Aegis
TTT	Thrice-Told Tales