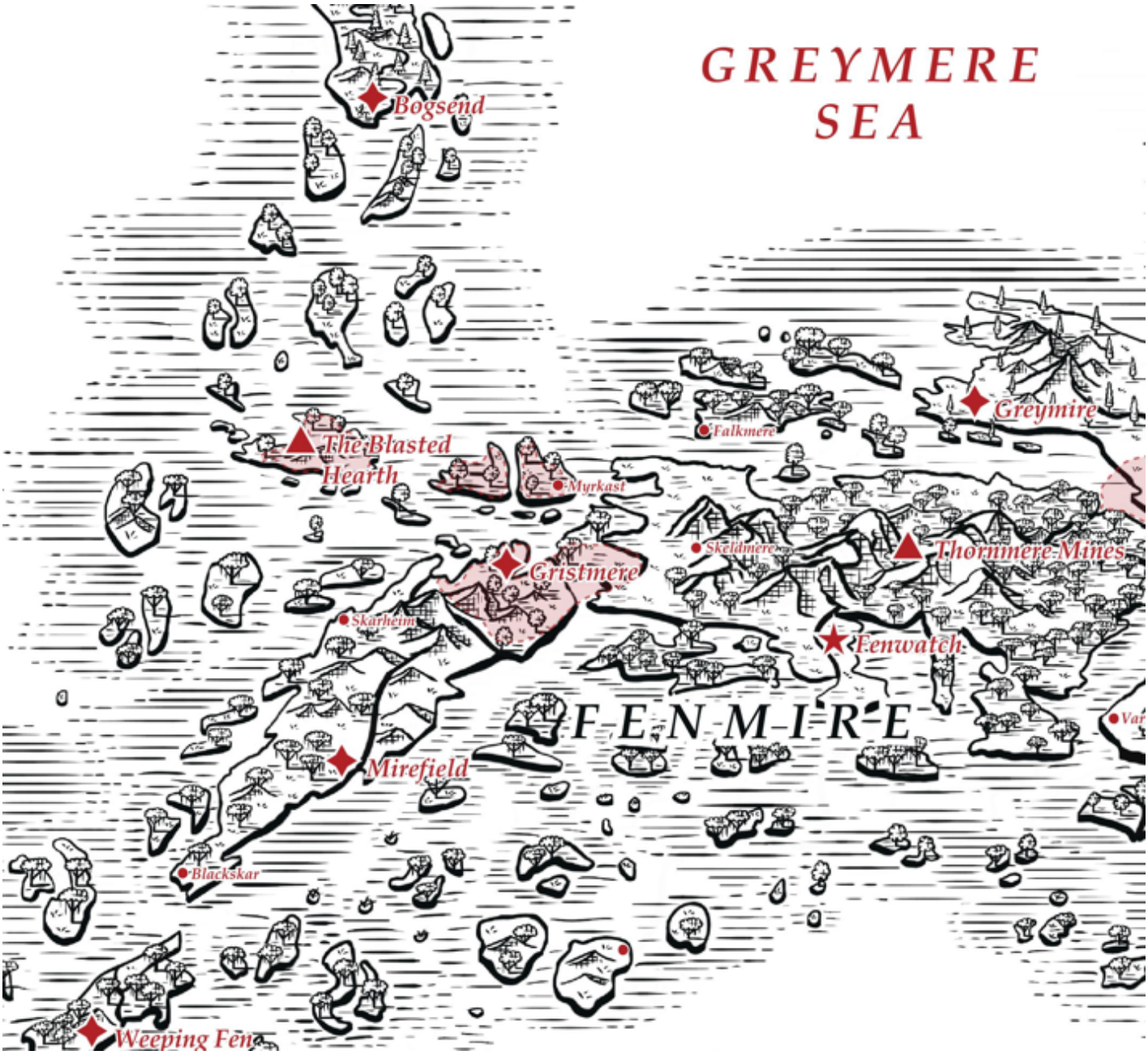
Thornmere Mines

> *“The deeper we go, the stranger the earth becomes.”*
> — Foreman Vren

Thornmere Mines are the principal silver workings of Fenmire and one of the most strategically important resource sites in Faulmoor. Their discovery transformed House Harrowden from a marginal marsh power into the controller of a resource made even more valuable by the Rotmire Blight.



Overview

The mines lie where the marsh gives way to ground firm enough to support shafts, carts, barracks, storehouses, forges, and defensive works. Reaching them still requires travel through difficult wetland and unreliable approaches.

A palisade, watchtowers, guards, and controlled access surround the principal workings. Security increased sharply after the Blight because silver became vital both as currency and as a material used against Blighted creatures.

Inside, damp shafts and tunnels descend through unstable rock. Flooding, collapses, gas pockets, and poor working conditions make mining dangerous even before the deeper rumors are considered.

History

The discovery of rich silver veins at Thornmere changed Fenmire's political position. Wealth from the mines strengthened House Harrowden, expanded Fenwatch, and made the region important to powers that had previously regarded the marsh as peripheral.

The Blight increased that importance dramatically. Security tightened, movement of silver became more closely controlled, and the mines became a source of both economic leverage and political resentment.

Present Day

Mining continues under heavy guard. Prisoners, debtors, laborers, and people with few alternatives are among those sent underground, and conditions are widely regarded as harsh.

Every ingot therefore carries two costs: the political value silver has acquired above ground and the bodies, debt, danger, and guarded labor required to pull it from below.

Rumors that the most accessible silver veins are failing circulate throughout Fenmire. Some miners claim crews are being pushed into deeper and more dangerous workings in search of new deposits. House Harrowden does not publicly confirm that Thornmere is nearing exhaustion.

Other stories concern tunnels or chambers that miners say were already present before modern excavation, along with old carvings, unexplained voices, and disappearances in the deeper workings. None of these stories establishes the original purpose of anything beneath Thornmere.

Notable Locations

The Deep Veins

The Deep Veins are the lower and more dangerous mine workings associated with the most persistent rumors of collapse, disappearance, and unfamiliar structures.

The Overseer's Post

The Overseer's Post is a fortified control point used to manage workers, security, and movement into the principal shafts.

The Chained Pit

The Chained Pit is a deep shaft whose lower extent is not publicly established.

See Also

- Fenmire
- Fenwatch
- House Harrowden
- Silver and its Importance
- Rotmire Blight

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