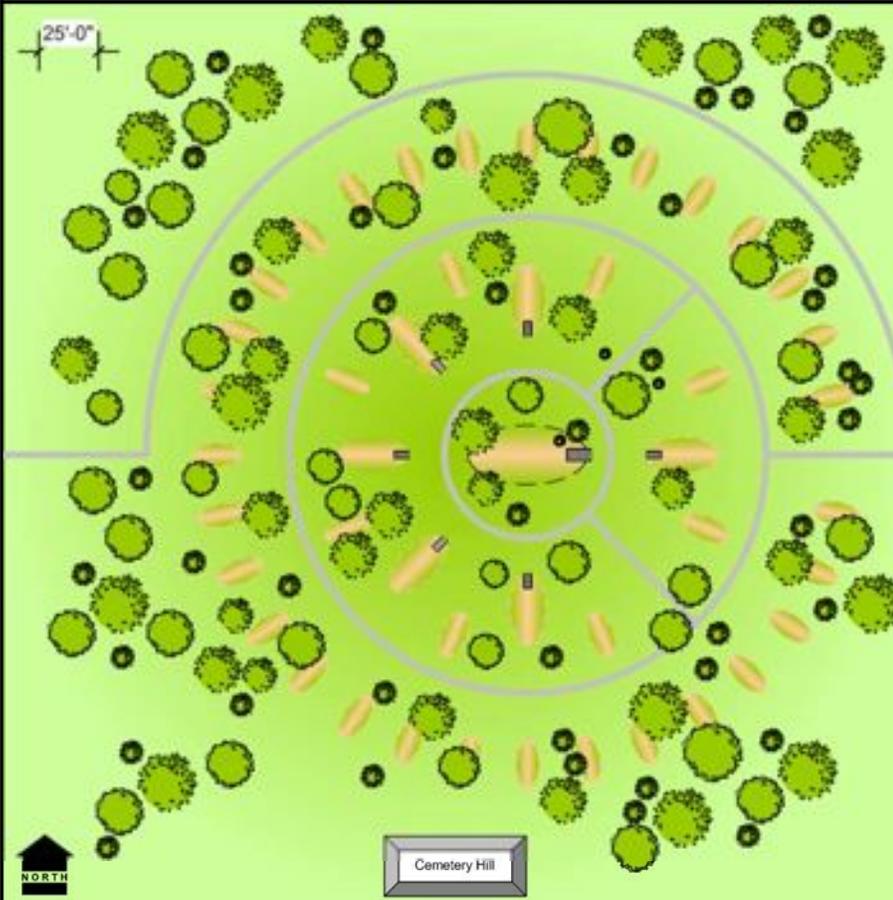


CEMETERY HILL

BY ANDREW C. DURSTON



BACKGROUND

North-west of a forest, near where a main road meets a lesser used coastal road; a lonely scrub-covered hill rises. Over 6 centuries ago, the royal family, in power in the region, began to bury its dead within the wind-swept grounds. The hill's original name is lost to time; the locals now call it Cemetery Hill.

Cemetery Hill rises perhaps 200 feet above the local roadway, covered by its sparse growth of trees, bushes and long grass. The main approach, on the west side, is still usable. Horses can also slowly pick their way overland from any direction. As they close, Horses and Steeds become nervous. There is power here, probably a Node of Magicks, but they are aligned with the Night. Darkness holds sway here, perhaps the Darkness of the Night or perhaps the Darkness of Evil.

ADVENTURE THREADS

- 1: The Dark Magician
He traffics in materials of evil. Something brings him to dig into these graves.
- 2: The Kidnapping
The daughter of a local Duke has disappeared. A seer suggests the barrows.
- 3: Two Evils
Foreign infiltrators seek to meet the magician for unknown purposes

ROOM KEY

1: Central Tomb

The entryway. Stairs descend into the earth to a landing, thence to a doorway. Inside a short landing and a 2nd set of stairs
A: The crypt chamber, 10 feet by 20 feet with an 8 foot ceiling. The tomb is 8 feet long, 3 feet wide and rises 4 feet off the ground. It is made of stone with the top lid elaborately carved in a likeness of the Emperor.
B: & C: Ceremonial chambers, waiting-meditation rooms

2-7: Lesser Tombs

The entryway is similar to that of central tomb. Stairs descend into the earth to a landing, thence to a doorway. Inside a short landing and a 2nd set of stairs leading to a crypt chamber of the same size as Central Tomb, 10 feet by 20 feet with an 8 foot ceiling. The tombs are the same size as the Central Tomb but not as elaborately made.

Underground

Over the years a small number of passageways have been dug, by thieves and grave robbers, to connect some of the larger barrows. Most of the tunnels begin in the central barrow and radiate outwards. One tunnel leads out of the site entirely, exiting the hillside several hundred feet away. All of the tunnels are narrow and low, dug through the earth and rarely reinforced. Hence they are subject to accidental and deliberate collapse

