A Brief History of West Rock

The city-state of West Rock was founded in pre-recorded history, some time in the second age, by large and powerful families. They farmed and fished for sustenance. The removal of large stones for the founding walls and the felling of trees for pasture made a great horizon of the once-thick forests.

West Rock is presently governed by the youngest son of the late king Jurien, Marcel, and a council of Elves. It had been decreed in the year 912 in the third age that no elf would rule West Rock; the oldest elves live to be a millenia and, either in their hubris or fear, humans and other races believed one's mind to be more fallible after a century. The last elf king was removed from his throne and a compromise forced upon his kind: elves would not rule, but they would provide counsel.

Many elves were dissatisfied with the limits to their power and rebelled against the new human-led regime. The dissenters were soundly defeated. The Elven council advised their ruler not to martyr the remaining rebels and so they were spared, but chose self-exile rather than live in West Rock. They resettled in the Woods of Fornunfor and in the enclave of Leongatha.

Dwarves were content with their station as advisers, generals, and high priests. They commanded a different kind of power and autonomy though fewer lived in West Rock or its purview. By the beginning of the third age, humans dominated West Rock politics and many ethnic groups relocated to other kingdoms. Presently, West Rock's council has a mix of advisers including Elves, Dwarves, and humans. Appointments are extended by the current regime and exist for life, unless the ruler removes them from their post. Appointments have gone to powerful families and legacies in recent years, benefiting West Rock's wealthier residents.