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Mirrodin Environments: Green

Magic Arcana

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Today we take our fifth look behind the scenes of the development of *Mirrodin's* look and feel: the green-aligned environments. See also our looks at [white](#), [blue](#), [black](#) and [red](#).

Central to the green locations is the Tangle, an enormous, sprawling "forest" made of copper structures. The greenish tint the Tangle bears comes from verdigris (no, not the card *Verdigris*; it's the crust of copper sulfate or copper chloride that forms on copper after being exposed to air for long periods). The Tangle's inhabitants call this "the Molder" (hence cards like *Molder Slug*).

Below: Here's an early concept illustration by Vance Krovacs of the upper canopy of the Tangle. Note how metallic the tree-analog structures are here. Note also the scale of the piece: the small figure on the extreme left is human-sized (probably an elf).



Left: The Tangle's structures resemble organic branches, foliage, and vines, but are not plants. Here's a detail sketch of one of the Tangle's "trees."

Deep within the Tangle is a huge tree-structure that the *Viridian elves* call Tel-Jilad, the *Tree of Tales*. The surface of Tel-Jilad is carved with runes *engraved* there by the *Tel-Jilad trolls* over hundreds of years.



Below: This is a later illustration of the Tangle by Mark Tedin. Note again the scale here - the cables connecting this structure to other "trees" are basically rope bridges used by Viridian elves.



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