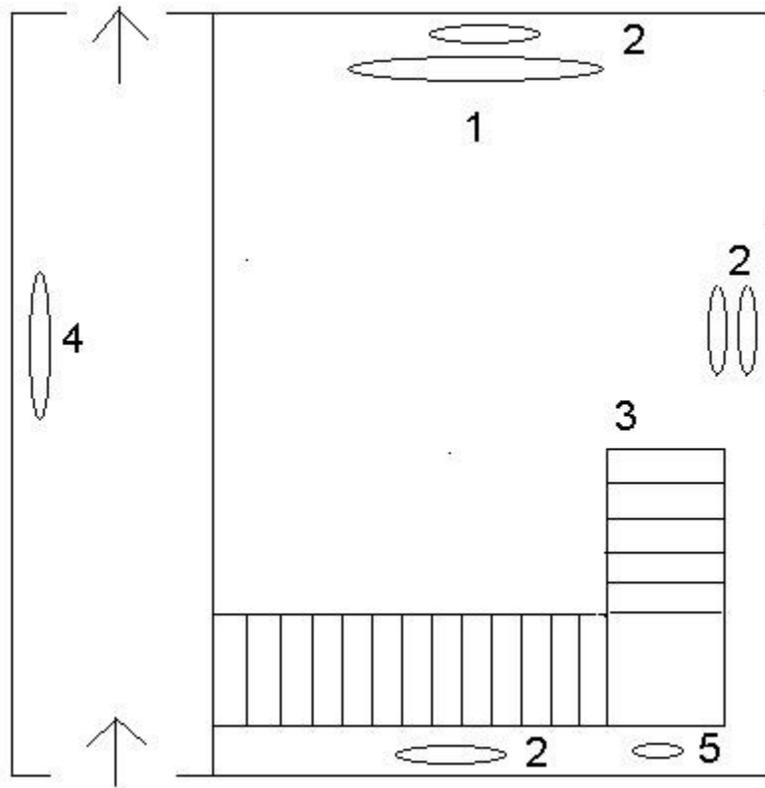


THE CHAPEL VESTIBULE (14 E)



This hall was converted in the late 18th century by removing the ceiling between two rooms, one on the ground floor and the other on the first floor. So this provided direct access to the guests' quarters that you have just left

- (1) On the ground floor there is a large landscape painting (16th century) that tells of the ill-fated meeting of the Goddess Artemis and the daring hunter, Acteon. He had the misfortune of meeting the eyes of the Goddess as she was bathing. She was furious to be caught naked and changed Acteon into a stag on the spot. He was then devoured by his own dogs, which were unable to recognize him.

The canvas is in 2 pieces. In the 18th century, in order to decorate the Great Hall that you will see later, the canvas was cut in two then painted over again to hide the nudity of the people behind the décor of leaves and birds (5).

- (2) A series of four gallant parties in the rococo style. Do not fall into the trap: they are not tapestries but tempera on burlap, water-based paint applied to jute cloth that absorbs the pigments. It gives this tapestry effect thanks to its natural raised surface. These canvases form a sort of comic strip: a man gives his final advice to his wife before leaving on a journey. As soon as the husband leaves, her lover carries the beauty away and treats her very well. The husband comes back, sets the house of his rival on fire and energetically takes his beauty back.

- (3) The staircase: the lion on the handrail carries the Beaufort-Spontin coat of arms. The first step is made of stone to prevent dampness.
- (4) A painting of the Franz Floris de Vriendt school (16th century.): *The Grieving over Abel*, the first murder of mankind, but sadly not the last. You will discover Adam, Eve and their two daughters mourning Abel. Meanwhile Cain (in the upper right corner) hides from God's look: "Cain, what have you done with your brother?"

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