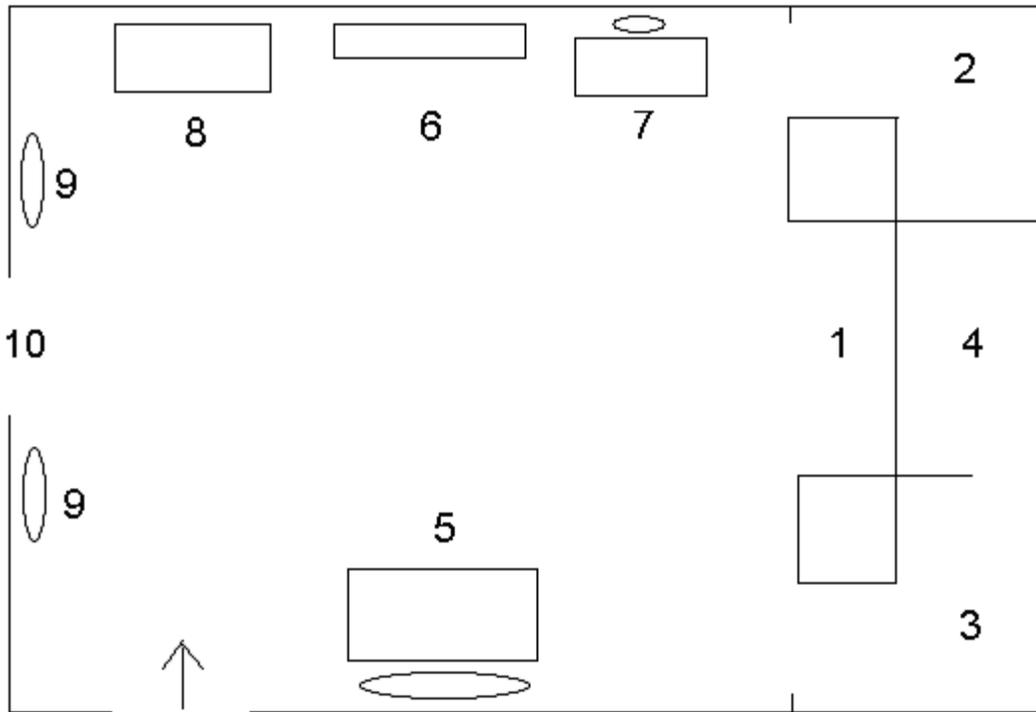


The DUKE's BEDROOM (11 E)



You are in the wing between the castle courtyard and the farm. It housed the barn. At the end of the 18th century the wing was converted into guests' quarters and a new barn was built above the farm.

The Dukes of Beaufort-Spontin stayed in this room during their visits to Freyr, after they moved to Florennes in the middle of the 19th century.

The walls are covered with printed Jouy cottons, the name of the royal manufacture founded by Christophe-Philippe Oberkampf, a German emigrated to France in the late 18th century.

The early canvases of Jouy were modelled on the printed calicoes used for clothing and for furniture. Oberkampf's celebrity came later with his vignettes of individual figures and landscapes printed mostly in red but also in green, blue or grey on white cotton.

These motifs introduced on the continent the romantic trend, which had already started in Britain

This room and the following four are all built on the same plan:

- (1) an alcove bed,
- (2) a hanging wardrobe on the left,
- (3) a bathroom on the right that communicates with a small room located behind the bed,
- (4) this latter is lit by windows that look onto the corridor; this was the bed of a servant.

These three small rooms have the particularity of having retained their original wallpaper from the late 18th century. At that time the paper was printed on carved wooden plates of

about 40 cm by 60 cm. The wallpaper rolls appeared later in the 19th century when printing was done on cylinders.

- (5) Above the Louis XVI chest of drawers you will discover a quality painting, a cavalcade on a beautiful landscape background, a work of the circle of Salvator Rosa (Naples 1615-Rome 1673). In the 17th century battle scenes of the Neapolitan school had a lot of success with collectors.

Look also at the delightful model of the Frederic-Salle, the pavilion that overlooks the garden. The model was made during the Napoleonic period.

Opposite,

- (6) on the right-hand side of the marble mantelpiece,

- (7) a portrait of Mary of Saint-Simon Courtemer, the spouse of Peter of Avesgo of Coulonges, forefathers of Louise, who married Theodule Count of Laubespain. It hangs over a Louis XVI chiffonier.

- (8) On the other side of the mantelpiece, a Louis XVI chest of drawers.

- (9) The engravings hanging on either side of the window depict the Schoonenbergh Palace, the summer residence of Maria-Christina, as seen from the entrance and from the garden. The architects Montoyer and Payen built it.

Léopold II incorporated this building in the central part of the current Laeken Palace. The same king had the Japanese tower built where there used to be a pagoda, visible on the right at the back of the engraving of the garden side.

- (10) Through the window you can see the central part of the East wing, the Renaissance country house (1571) that succeeded the keep destroyed by the French in 1554. The yard was repaved in 1770 in the pattern of a wind rose (an 8-pointed star with the longest ones showing the 4 cardinal points).

The chairs and the table date from the end of the 18th century.

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