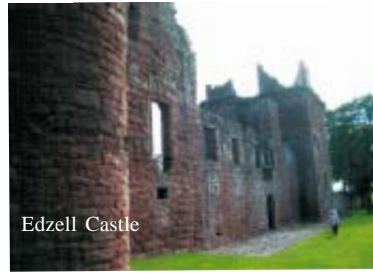


THE GARDENS OF EDZELL CASTLE, SCOTLAND



P i c t o r i a l



Edzell Castle

Edzell, Scotland, lies in the middle of the Highlands about 20 miles northwest of Aberdeen, Scotland's fourth largest city. Around the town lay fields of grain and pine and hardwood forests. One-half mile out of town is the ruin of town's historic past, Edzell Castle (now administered by Historic Scotland).

Edzell Castle's history begins in the 1100s when a family named Abbott built a castle about 300 meters from the present castle. As the first earth-and-timber castle, known as a motte (the Norman word for a mound), deteriorated, the new stone castle took shape in its present location in the early 16th Century. It's around this castle and parish church that the village grew up. The abbott's were succeeded as Lairds of Edzell by the Crawford Lindsays in 1358. Edzell's most famous visitors were Mary Queen of Scots in 1562 and her son and successor James VI of Scotland (James I of England) in 1580. King James VI revisited Edzell in 1589 and at this time the new Laird, Sir David Lindsay the tenth Earl of Crawford, so impressed James that he was made a Lord of Session and eventually became a member of Privy Council in 1598. It is Sir David Lindsay and his garden that prompts this missive.

My wife Anne and I have spent the last three Septembers driving (on the other side) throughout Scotland. In those visits we've seen several dozen castles, abbeys, priories, cathedrals, and kirks, Several of these historic sites have their special callings -- Melrose Abbey has its red and cream sandstone, St. Andrews Cathedral has its spectacular view over city, castle and golf course, and Dunblane Cathedral has its memorial to the kindergarten class gun down by a local crazy. But none have a garden like Edzell Castle.

The garden was laid out in 1604 by Sir David Lindsay in his later years. He planned it to be stimulus both for the mind and the senses. To that end, Sir David ordered thought-provoking carved panels created by copying the work (1528-9) of famed Nuremberg engraver Klienmaster. The Edzell masons copied the engravings and set them into the walls of the



Garden of Edzell Castle
Carvings mounted on the south wall represent
Grammar, Rhetoric, & Dialectic

walled-garden to the south side of Edzell Castle. Set into the east wall are the seven Planetary Deities (Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, the Sun, Venus, Mercury, and the Moon). On the west wall are carvings honoring the three Christian Virtues (Faith, Hope, and Charity) and the four Moral Virtues (Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude, and Justice). Then into the south wall are placed monuments to the Liberal Arts (Grammar, Rhetoric, Dialectic, Arithmetic, Music, Geometry, and Astronomy).

It was to these carvings mounted in the south wall that Anne and I were drawn, especially the first three. Grammar, the art of construing words, was succeeded by Rhetoric, the art of connected discourse, and in its turn was followed by Dialectic, the art of argument. As we stood pondering the carvings of 1604, far away from our friends in the competitive speech community, how fortuitous to find such an artistic connection between past and present.



Mounted Carving
"Rhetoric", the art of con-
nected discourse

As educators coach students, and as students compete with their peers, we should all remember that we do

not speak or argue in a vacuum. Instead, we teach and deliberate in the context of a history which honors the qualities of words and arguments well thought out and ably delivered.

*(Thank you to Bob and Anne Jones,
Canby High School (OR).*



"Danger Slippery Slope". Sign found on Isle Arran, Scotland. Possible warning to debaters.

Submit pictures of
events
and activities to:
Attn: Sandy
NFL
125 Watson St
Ripon, WI 54971
nflrostrum@centurytel.net