The Library of Drummond of Hawthornden

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Douglas family

Sir William Drummond of Hawthornden. Materials. Pink. Hawthornden Castle is located on the River North Esk in Midlothian, Scotland. It was owned by the Drummonds until the early 1970s. It was left to the butler when the last Drummond died, then sold to Douglas Adamson, a well known and respected fine art and antiques dealer from Edinburgh, and his family, who turned it back into a home. The house was also open to the public. Around 8m square, the tower is ruined, although the recent renovation included the installation of a library in the tower basement. There is also a rib-vaulted pit prison beneath the tower. Windows on the south curtain wall show that a range of buildings once stood here, although these are now all gone. Drummond was born at Hawthornden Castle, Midlothian, to John Drummond, the first laird of Hawthornden, and Susannah Fowler, sister of the poet and courtier William Fowler. Sir Robert Drummond of Carnock, one-time Master of Work to the Crown of Scotland, was his grandfather. Drummond received his early education at the Royal High School of Edinburgh, and graduated in July 1605 as M.A. of the recently founded University of Edinburgh. His collection (now in the library of the University of Edinburgh) contains many first editions of the most famous productions of the age. The son of John Drummond, first Laird of Hawthornden, and his wife, Susannah Fowler Drummond, William Drummond was born at Hawthornden on 13 December 1585. In 1590 John Drummond was appointed Gentleman-Usher to King James VI of Scotland, to whom the Drummonds were distantly related, and about the same time Drummond's uncle William Fowler was made private secretary to Queen Anne. Based on Drummond's lists and on surviving volumes, MacDonald reconstructed a catalogue of Drummond's library, The Library of William Drummond of Hawthornden (1971). Because Drummond continued to add to his collection and to give away books, the titles in McDonald's list were not all on Drummond's shelves at the same time.