

# 'Horseheath'

*edited by Dr. R. T. Gunther from Sir Roger Pratt's  
diaries  
1928*

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THE ARCHITECTURE OF  
SIR ROGER PRATT

CHARLES II's COMMISSIONER FOR THE RE-  
BUILDING OF LONDON AFTER THE GREAT  
FIRE: NOW PRINTED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
FROM HIS NOTE-BOOKS

EDITED BY

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*With Twelve Plates and Six Text Figures*



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## IX

### HORSEHEATH

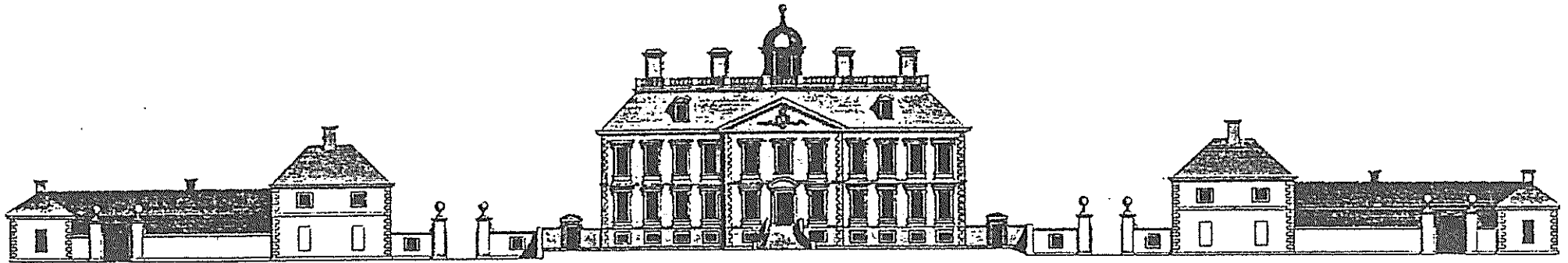
PRATT's next architectural adventure was the building of a large mansion for Lord Allington at Horseheath, about fourteen miles south-east of Cambridge. The Manor of Horseheath had been acquired by the Allingtons late in the fourteenth century, and their monuments may be seen in the parish church of All Saints.

The earliest entry in Pratt's diary which may refer to this building was made in November 1662. 'At my Ld. Allington's 7s.', and again 'to Ld. Allington's coachman 3s.' on 13 December, suggest two conferences. Several other entries follow as the work proceeded. On 14 May 1662 Pratt 'payed for ye goeing downe of three stonecutters upon ye account of my Lord Allington, £1. 0. 0.' On 13 August 1663 'yt I went from hence to my Ld Allington, Payed for horsemeate and to ye smith at my going from hence about £6. 0. 0.' 'August 22, 1665. Mem. yt I am to bee accountable to my Lord Allington for all ye remainder of ye seventy pounds left with me for his workemen, but what appeare by ye papers in yt bagge to have bin disbursed for him.'

At the conclusion of the work in June 1666 Pratt stood a 'treat' to my Lord Allington at a cost of £5 2s. 8d., and they may have had in their mind certain moneys due upon the completion of the building, for doubtless payments were made, and on 21 May 1667 Pratt 'received more from my Lord Allington £90' [MS. C], and again on 31 August 1668 'Yt I received ye £1000 due to me upon Bond from ye right honourable ye Ld Allington about Aug. 4, 1668. Allsoe afterwards for ye half years & 10 dayes interest of it from Jan. to ye 20th of July (as I take it) £31. 10s. This money I received of Mr. John Morris, scrivener neere ye French Church and Aug. Friars, in severall parcels of £500 at a time.'

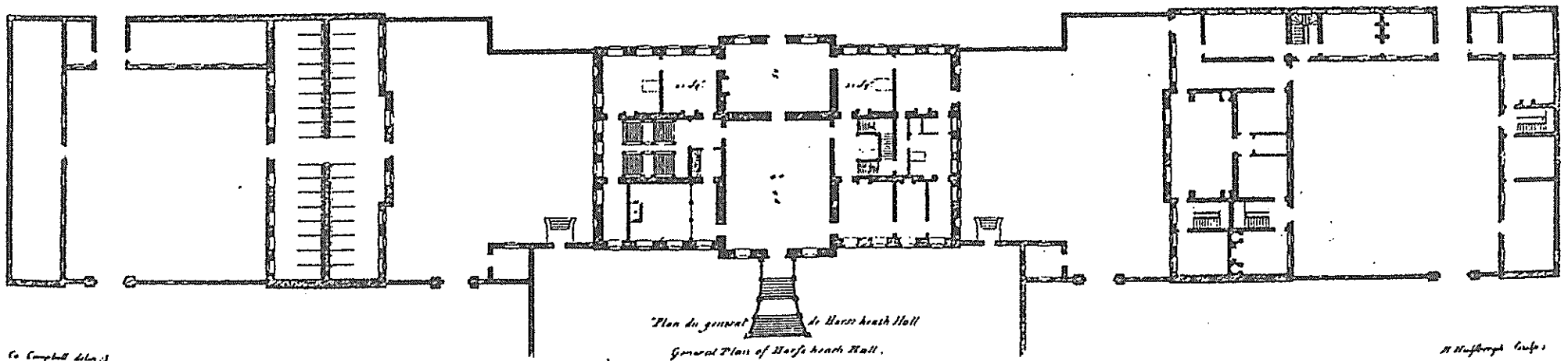
According to Pratt's notes, the foundation of Horseheath Hall was laid on 13 June 1663, and the greater part of the building was erected in about two years. It is mentioned by John Evelyn.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Diary*, June 20, 1670.



*General front of Horseheath Hall in Cambridge since the Seat of Henry Bromley Esq.  
Elevation General de Horseheath Hall dans le Comté de Cambridge Maison de Henry Bromley Esq.*

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

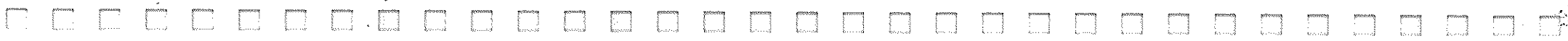


*Plan de general de Horseheath Hall  
General Plan of Horseheath Hall.*

G. Campbell delin.

J. H. Sturges sculp.

HORSEHEATH



'We went to dine at Lord Allingtons, who had newly built a house of greate cost, I believe little less than £20,000. His architect was Mr. Pratt. It is seated in a Parke with a sweete prospect and stately avenue, but water still defective.'

The history of this great house makes melancholy reading. It is generally stated to have been finished in 1665 at a cost of £70,000, 'after the design of Webb', but here again this attribution must be cancelled in favour of one to Pratt. After remaining for but little over another twenty years in the possession of the Allington family, the house and estates were sold for £42,000 to John Bromley, who expended a further £30,000 in additions to the building and died in 1707. Bromley's grandson, created Lord Mountford of Horseheath in 1741, having stripped the house of furniture and pictures (1775) sold the estate in 1776; the park was disparked, and in 1777 the 'magnificent mansion' was sold practically for the value of the materials, and the house was destroyed.

It is possible that that other great 'builder of palaces', Edmund Keene, Bishop of Ely, may have acquired some of the materials for the construction of the country house which he built at Catley, but this, too, has not survived the test of time.

The Horseheath site, which is still clearly marked, is some 400 yards north-east of the village on rising ground, having a distant view both north and south. The plan and elevation of the house are shown in *Vitruvius Britannicus*, vol. iii, pls. 91, 92.

It was an imposing four-storied pile with cupola, balustraded platform, and pediment, with a large entrance hall measuring 48 ft. by 40 ft. leading to a withdrawing room, 40 ft. by 25 ft., to two staircases and to a private chapel to the left of the main entrance. There were five other rooms, each 21 ft. square, three of which were bedrooms: they are marked with dotted rectangles, to indicate the position of the beds.

Pratt's original notes for the building of Horseheath are contained in a small quire of leaves measuring 4 by 5½ inches. They were of course not intended for publication, nor is the order in which they were jotted down strictly chronological. They mention the carpenter, Lock, and the mason, Page, by name.

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE HOUSE OF MY LORD ALLINGTON AT HORSEHEATH IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE, ANNO 1663. [A. 65v

It was founded June the 13th, 1663. The length of it was 140 feet. The breadth of it 76 ft. The height of it to the top of the walls only was 44 ft. The circumference of it with its projections was 444 ft. The court was layed out 25 ft. on a side broader than the house viz. 190 ft. the length was 237 ft. viz. un quadro e un 4to, the endes had two great stone doors in them.

[For the masonry Ketton stone was used for the groundbase, coins, base to the stools, architrave, freeze, cornishes and scroll stones. The work was begun by Anthony Dean who was paid at rates<sup>1</sup> specified in a schedule given on page 222: they were appreciably lower than those charged by Mr. Mathews of London, who completed the building.]

Mem: Stones wrought at my Lord All. at Horseheath before Mr. Mathewes Freemason undertook that work. [A. 65

- Inpr: 33 headstones.
- Item. 16 Returnestones.
- Item. 33 jambestones.
- Item. 36 Base-stones.
- Item. 37 Coinestones.
- Item. all the Ground-base and Plinth.

Stonework. Horseheath, Allington. [A. 48v

Mem. concerning the great doors at Horseheath of 6 ft. and 13. The length of the headstones was 8½ ft. and divided into 5 stones four whereof were 4 ft. 10 inches, the keystone 1 ft. 2 inches wrought, and about 2 inches allowed for the arch joint. Straight cornice into 5 stones viz. the 2 coin stones 3 ft. each, the two next stones 2 ft. each, the keystone 1 ft. 9 inches. The compass of the circular pedement was 15½ ft. divided into 5 stones viz. 4 stones 3 ft. 4 inches each, keystone 2 ft. 4 inches.

Scrollstones between 7 and 8 inches in front, 3 ft. in length 2 ft. 2 inches bed.

Mem. That the springstones of the cornice were forgotten here, so that at last it was divided into 7 other parts.

Walles. March 16, 1663.

Mem: Consider first how high they are to goe, & what to carry at last; alsoe what thicknesse to bee allowed for ye Architrave of stone without, what for ye baye boarde within, what for ye window frame between, what for ye retraction of each story &c. For ye middle walles, what chimnyes, how in them, or to them &c. & what to bee done with abateing ye thicknesse of ye walles between 2 chim: in range when it shall bee superfluous, or else what other use may bee made of it, or how to disguise it.

The retraction outwardly is as much as ye proiecture of ye stooles of ye windowes, and that is as much as ye proiecture of its Architrave viz: about 3 inches.

The soyle of ye mouldes stands upon ye greate Ogee, ye first fascia of ye greate doores Architrave stands with ye wall draft not of ye grownd story, but of ye second, for I conceive it must stand, as all ye other Architraves of ye windowes.

The thickness then of this story will bee about 3½ bricke, viz. 9 in. for ye Arch; for ye window frame 6, for ye bayeboard 9. The brick remaining may be taken away from ye bayeboard of ye window, to afford ye better conveniencie of looking down outwards, wch otherwise will be much hindred.

The upper story after ye manner aforesaid is to be 3 bricke onely, viz. about 28 in, & may have about halfe a brick taken from under ye windowes.

<sup>1</sup> Among miscellaneous papers at Ryston is one with 'Anth. Deanes rates for stone work', also a detailed bill from a London stonemason for Lord Allington.

## Bricklayer.

What brick brought up for inside worke. What scaffolding Poles heere for standing. Bearers, & Halers. It: Hurdles, scaf: boardes &c., roapes, Ladders, hoddess, mortar boxes.

Of what thicknesse ye walles, Where to be diminished particularly & How much generally & What may well bee saved there.

How ye severall Tunnes of ye chimnyes are to be drawne soe as not to prejudice ye floores, nor walles neere ye doores. Item in what order to bee sett, of what bignesse; ye stackes, how adorned &c.

Where any Arching, Neeching in ye wall &c.

To see all doores, chymnies &c placed before my departure.

Mem: That an instrument be made like a Square of 6, 8, & 10; ye more acute angle whereof is to be sett up Perpend. on ye grownd, & ye Hypotenuse is taken for ye line shewing ye declination of ye chymnies, wch being divided into ye like number of feete as ye tunnes are to bee raised. In ye side 6, a Plummett is soe to bee placed as to shew ye draff.

## Freemason.

Inp: diligently to looke over all ye stone methodically of ye first story, to see what is wanting, & what holdeth its due dimention, & timely to give notice thereof to Page.

It: what scaff:, lime, sand, &c. is necessary for him. It: centers for ye window heades &c.

It: ye bases of ye last moule given to be only set in ye fronts.

It: directions to be given as for ye Shieldes, soe likewise for ye Coronets, & Labels.

It: for ye stone of ye chimney tunnes, both bases, & cornish. It: for yt of ye greate Peeres, ye two doores at ye upper ende of ye court to be wrought on both sides, ye Rayle baluster, & base with ye greate steppe of ye Hall staires. And if hee will undertake it, likewise ye staires to ye garden side &c., & all ye pavement both of court & Tarasse, with rayle & baluster &c.

Query what ye just circumference of ye base when trussed over to beare ye breadth of ye Cornish. And this will be thick enough for to holde ye weight of ye greate Sheilde, & for ye breadth of ye sidelong bodyes of ye statues lying on ye Frontispeece.

Query whither best weather stone, Ketton or Portland; whither best to haue ye stone brought hither in blockes from Ketton & wrought heere, or to haue Portland stone at London wrought there, & from whence brought downe hither. Who ye best Statuary. Of what dimention ye bodyes, how certainly to finde out their due appearance at such a hight. In how many stones to be made or onely in one.

Lett ye intended length of each roome be particularly measured in its chimney wall, & ye one halfe of it bee taken for ye center of ye chimney.

Query whither in ye inward roomes ye chimneys should stand thus, wch would be best, should they ever be layed in to one roome without any divisions, or in reference to ye roome as now divided but then would they in a direct line fall soe much ye more out of ye Platforme except much drawn.

## Quarryman.

Page to be sent to, to hasten in his stone in greater Proportions then formerly agreed upon, with an advantageous offer thereupon. It: for Scrole stones presently.

It: agreement to be presently made with him for ye stone of ye chimney stackes soe soone as ye dimention there of can be knowne, to bee delivered at ye middle of July at ye farthest.

It: that for ye two greate Peeres, & ye four great doores wch are to be double wrought with Frontispeece; on both sides of ye howse two.

It: for all ye Rayle, Baluster, halfpaces & steppe before ye greate doores.

It: that for ye Tarrasse rayle, baluster & steppe. It: pavement both for that, & ye greate walke of ye court.

It: stone doores for ye stable, &c. All this to bee wrought ye next winter.

It: presently to be sente to for ye Ashler under ye Pedement. Query how much, & of what scantlings?

It: stone for ye Architrave of ye Neeches in ye 3 story.

It: ye Scrole stones for ye two greate Sheildes.

Mem: It: care to be taken in raiseing ye brick worke with ye stone worke, soe yt when ye Brick[work] settles, ye stone may not crack.

## Mr. Lock.

Inpr: ye Halfpace of ye greate staires.

It: ye Pergolo rownde ye Hall how to bee framed.

Falli July ye 20. 1664.

Chimnyes misplaced, nor such as they should bee. The back doorecase too wide upon ye second Halfpace of ye back staires. The doore opposite to it forgotten.

The floores layed too low, & not even with ye Plinth by about 5 in.

The Roofe almost faulty in beeing not framed exactly to ye retraction of ye wall, whereof inquiry was first to haue bin made.

Mem: ye Modigliions soe soon as framed, to bee againe howsed.

## Doores. Chap. 1.

Lett all doores intended to haue Architrave frames only, be soe sett as to haue about 1 ft. from ye corner of ye walls, whereof ye breadth of their Architrave to be part, as I suppose, 7, 8 or 9 inches &c.

Doores with Cornishes 2 ft., with scrooles 2½ ft. at least, that every thing may haue its full proiecture & stand cleen of ye rest of ye worke, & so pro rata.

Query. Doeth ye doorecase stand cleere of ye brick wall within side, & if soe, then is ye lesse splaye necessarie? Yeas, & more sightly.

Query. What to bee done to make ye splayes of a doore handsome, wch appeare inward into a roome, because ye breadth there will appeare too greate for its hight. Viz. to make ye doore it selfe 2 sq[uares] & 9 inches.

Mem: That where two doores doe come neere to ye Angule in two different walles, then greater space is to bee given for ye proiecture of each cornish, least they meete; & when more distance cannot bee

allowed, then ye inferiour doore may haue ye Ornament of Architr: onely, or else one of them a Cornish goeing back, & proiecting noe farther, then ye Perpendicular of ye Architrave. Or else ye doore to bee made higher than ye other.

Mem: Modiglions of ye Roofe.

They must bee 18 inches long, wch is there full proiecture & as much besides as ye proiecture of ye three bedding mouldings wch are therefore to bee looked after, before they begin to be Tenanted into ye outward wallplates from whence they are to be halfed, ye whole breadth of ye wall, if they lye through it, viz. 3 br in length, but Query here whither to be halfed or noe in regard of ye weight of ye roses wch lye iust at ye endes of them; & if wholly layed under ye wallplates, then what if ye wallplates be pinned downe upon them &c. It: whither noe planke layed for them to bee ranged upon. It: what inconueniencie of ye wallplates lyeing quite above them &c. They are 10 inches in there breadth but 1 in. more is allowed to them for ye Relieve of ye siderose & 9 in. deepe cappe & all. I conceive they are to lye at there full lengthes distance one from ye other, between ye proiectures of there cappes, & not at there bottomes. viz 22 in.

The Angule of ye Frontisp: I conceive will beare only one Rose, & one Modiglian. These Roses I conceive must lye 18 in. square betweene ye proiecture of ye cappes, soe yt ye Plankes for them must bee 32 in. long from halfe Modigl. to halfe Modigl.; broad at ye least 20 in. Query whither these must not bee soe framed into ye Modiglian that they can noe wayes slippe. It: what to bee done to lighten them in their framing from bearing soe hard upon ye Modig: to these must ye Plansser bee fastned &c.

The Tyleing of ye greate Modiglian not to bee above 2 ft. at most in ye front walls. They are 4½ ft. wrought in lengths; in breadth 12 in., & 1 in. more allowed for ye side rose; in depth 20 in. whereof ye cappe is 4 in.

On each side of ye Hall will bee 7 modiglions, & 8 spaces, of about 5 ft. 4 in. each. At ye endes 7 spaces of about 5 ft. each, & 6 Modiglions, but heere being about 1 ft. too much for ye breadth of ye Hall, yts to bee taken equally out of ye 7 divisions, in all 26 Modiglions.

I finde 3 severall cases in divideing a length into Modiglian, & space

1. Where any outward line wch lyeth directly is to bee divided, & heere there is alwayes one more Modiglian then space, they being ye includers.

2. Where any inward line is to be divided wch hath ye end walls for its bounds, & heere is one more space then Modiglian.

3. Where any frontispiece &c., breaks before a direct line, heere ye space & modiglian are even.

Doores. Chap. 2.

Doore-cases to bee considered not onely how on ye one side of ye wall, but also on ye other. Alsoe how when splayes lined &c. How when 2 paire of doores.

I finde yt doorecases ought not to bee sett close to any front wall, for then will it looke on ye inside without any particular bound belonging to it, wch will be verry unhansome, as I haue observed it in severall

places. It ought therefore to haue a bounde though of but 3 or 4 in., but if an Architrave frame bee likewise intended there for better adorne-ment, then a breadth must bee left answerable for it rownde about, otherwise it will looke as but wth one jamb.

Mem. that if ye doorecase, as to ye inside of it, stand free of ye wall, both head, & sides, then when ye walls are thick, there must be one Architrave on this side of ye doorecase, & another also on ye wall in ye roome, & ye opening there must bee verry ungracefull, when to doores of but 4 ft. wide & 8 ft. high. if ye walles bee but splayed 6 in. in to ye roome, there will bee with ye breadth of these splayes a breadth of 6½ ft. to a hight of 8 ft., or if wee yett raise ye place higher for ye head of ye doores, yett still remaines ye disproportion of 6 ft. to 8 ft. What therefore wee doe in these two cases is verry materiall, & what if doores on both sides in soe greate a thickness of wall, doores on ye same line forward are to bee ranged with these.

Carpenter. Mem.

Inpr: all worke already done to bee examined, espetially ye floores, wherein is cheifely to bee looked after how ye summers, girders &c. are placed in reference to ye chimnyes, partitions &c.

It: most particular order to bee given for sawing out ye Modiglions for ye Pergolo in ye Hall, there cappe, number, & frameing, & an absolute bargaine to bee made for them.

It: ye grand Cornish of ye howse to bee examined according to ye Mouldes, & espetiall order to bee given for ye Modiglian cappes &c. & its frameing.

It: ye Windowes to bee examined as to there number, division, & frameing.

It: order to bee given for all ye Lucarnes.

It: all ye remaineing floores to bee drawne out.

It: ye roofe. It: ye Cupolo with its trusses an Octogone. It: its boardes for ye Platforme. It: Baluster Rayle, base.

It: all Staires both little, & greate with Bal[usters] &c.

It: steppes for all ye Staires. It: Balusters &c. for ye Pergolo of ye Hall.

Mem: yt all good worke should bee twice wrought, first roughly, then if ye tymber be greene to bee throwne into some water, & at last to be wrought cleane.

What boardes to bee sent for as to quanti- & qualitie.

It: Tymber to bee designed for ye 4 outward doores of ye howse. Query whither glasse doores, or whole ones?

Mem: yt ye Girders bee all trussed up by ye Partitions for they are verry weake, both from below & above.

It: Lead at 12 per Fodder.

Mem: yt all ye Partitions stand one over ye other, soe yt ye Girders must bee ye more strongly supported espetially when ye greate modiglions of ye Hall are boorne up.

Mem: In frameing is to bee cheifely regarded

1. yt ye Tymbers bee layed most free from all places of firing. zly yt they bee layed most conveniently to support of Partitioning & all extraordinary weight upon them.

3ly yt they bee soe putt together, as most strongly to keepe their position.

4ly by their weight, & bond to keepe ye walles in their right station.

How goe ye partitions of Hall, noe girders being there &c.

Query at what distance ye Principall rafters are to be framed & how they can goe, ye floores beeing ordered after ye Draft. Lock.

#### Carver.

Inpr: yt ye length & breadth of ye howse bee exactly divided, soe as to know how many Modiglions & Roses, there will bee, wch are to bee counted from ye proiecture of ye cappe. It: their natural position, dimentions, number, & framing.

Roses are to lye at 13 inches distance from ye proiecture of ye capo, first they are to haue a margent of 3 inches. Their whole holoweing ought to bee 5 inches, inpr: 1 in. for a fillet,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  for ye ouvol,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  for ye square edge above. Ye whole depth of ye rose is to be 5 in., its breadth 6 in. Ye whole Plank is to bee thick 6 in. & to rest upon each modiglion about 3 in. on a side soe yt these peeces must bee about 2 ft. in length & 6 in. broad, 20 in. at ye least.

It: how they are cutt, what time each in doeing.

#### Smith.

Inpr: ye Smith to bee presently spoken to concerning twelve greate Hookes for ye two greate doores.

#### Walls.

Lett ye wall parting ye Hall from ye greate Parlour be 3 bricks in thickness onely for ye better support of ye grand Modiglions, & lett two whole Neeches be made in it opposite to ye two windowes: in ye second story, it neede only be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  brick or 2.

Mem: that ye middle walles on each side of ye greate stairecase, espetially yt to ye Chappel be arched in several places to take off ye greatnesse of ye weight from ye foundations there.

It: that ye spaces between ye chimnyes in ranke bee either, arched, or rather neched, though to bee under a Hanging to lighten ye wall, safe stuffe &c. In ye garrotts, if wee please, the spaces betweene ye chimney tunnes in ranke, may bee but 2 br: thick, where matter of uniformitie is not soe considerable, or it may bee hollowed there for presses, cupboards &c.

#### Great Staires.

Are 22 ft. in breadth, 44 ft. in length, and I suppose that they may yet be set back about 18 inches or 2 feet in regard that ye partition there from the Hall cannot range with ye other two walles, which are about 4 bricks thick. If so, then may ye two head half paces be  $6\frac{1}{2}$  broad and ye middle one 5 ft., in all 18 ft., and have 18 ft. yet allowed for ye staires, in all 36 feet from ye perpendicular of ye wall before ye Pergolo.

#### Greate back staires.

Ob[jection] if ye staires stand placed as now they are.

1. The entrance at bottome into them will not bee soe gracefull, nor convenient at ye sides as it will be in front, though perhappes warmer.

2. ye halfpace of ye staires being altered above, ye bottome of ye second flight lying iust against ye Pergolo of ye Hall, will through ye doore there bee seene to bee almost pendant to that floore.

3. ye doores upon that Halfpace cannot but looke ill, when ye one is at ye declining ende of ye 3d returning flight, & ye other at ye mounted.

4. five foote of ye back roome must heere be sett back, to give passage into yt, & ye two adjoyning to it.

The 2d, & 3 ob[jection] will bee helped by putting ye false halfpace iust over against ye Pergolo of ye Hall; ye 4th is not to be helped in nature. These staires with their rayle shall be beetweene 11 & 12 ft., ye open Nuell beetweene 10 & 11.

#### Advantages of ye new designed backstaires.

1. First somewhat cheaper then ye two paire at ye endes formerly designed.

2. More secure than those wch would haue layen iust to ye side of ye windowes, & besides would haue somewhat appeared through ye glasse.

3. More convenient, in regard that those gentlemen who alight in ye stable yard, must either goe back again to ye greate gate of ye court, or else bee led up quite ye length of ye entry, & carryed up those staires where is ye usuall intercourse of all ye servants in ye howse.

4. It affords a ready passage from all ye strangers' chambers to goe to see their horses, or to goe about their private occasions, without being forced to goe through servants cham[b]ers &c. Hall.

5. Whereas ye side Cupolo would only haue afforded light to ye passage over wch it was, it will now throw downe light to ye bottome of these staires, wch reach to ye verry toppe.

6. There will bee saved at ye least 12 roomes of 10 ft. square each of them, most whereof will bee employed to verry good advantages.

7. The roome where ye greate staires are to stand will seeme more proportionable when it is reduced from 44 ft. to 34 ft., as it will bee after this manner.

The roomes here saved, may thus bee to greate pourpose made use of.

1. The roomes on grownde at ye ende of ye Chappell, one of them for a Vestry &c. ye other a small wine seller, or chamber for a buttler, porter, or some others; or a small staire may bee carried up there to ye first story, to come at ye study or chamber next ye court; or for ye better conveniencie of ye chamber on ye side of ye greate Parlour.

The upper roomes there will serve to make ye ende chamber next ye garden an appartement, wch will then lye thus, Greate Parlour, Bed-chamber, inner roomes &c. a great conveniencie, in ye Ladyes distempers, or lying in. Or if you should at any time thinke your Chappell too little, by taking away ye partition you might thus easily enlarge it.

The corner roome next ye garden below may be made, either a large winseller, Buttler's chamber for to holde his Plate Linnen &c., or rather a most light & usefull Still-howse for my Lady.

The room on ye Parlour floore bee either layed all into one roome, &



soe will then bee gréate Parlour, Withdrawing roome, Bedchamber & inward roomes, all in greate state; Or else ye roomes stand divided as they now are, only where ye back staires came up, that to be ye servant's chamber, & ye other ye dressing-roome to it.

Roomes on ye second story, ye corner roomes had best stand divided as they now are, but either ye greater division of [it] may stand free of a bedde, and so be dressing room, ye servant lying in place of ye former staires; or else ye now closet may bee a dressing room, and that within it a Closet.

The roomes in corners of ye garrott would haue bin but 10 ft. square whereas now they will be 20.

The roome under ye Cupolo was before wast: it now serves for a generall landing, & ye expense of ye cupolo is much more to ye pourpose.

#### Inconueniencie.

1. Part of ye light taken out of ye long entrie below.
2. No back staires to ye servants' chambers without coming through ye masters.
3. No makeing use of ye servants chambers for ordinary strangers, when no masters in ye fore chambers, as might haue bin done in ye ende back staires.

#### Doores, 3 Chap.

I conceive a doorecase of about 8 in. square &c. ought to be set 1 bricke's length (in case of our Frontispeece) from ye front wall, & on ye inside of it to leave only ye breadth of 1 inch for ye rabbits & 1 in. more for lineing of ye splayes, & soe bring ye wall before ye six inches remaineing, all wch at ye last doe loose themselves in ye splayes, wch thing so done, will first leave a iambe for an Architrave &c. of about 9 in. to ye front wall, inward.

2ly, it will take away ye Architrave from ye inside of ye doorecase. 3dly, ye head-wall of ye doore beeing carried somewhat better then 1 foote above ye opening of ye doores, will in its figure appeare more proportionable into ye roome into wch it goes, all wch thinges were sought for in chap: 2.

I conceive double paires of doores, ought onely to be used in those thicknesses, wch will carry them soe, yt opening at ye least they will not touch one ye other, for otherwise they will be troublesome &c.

The doores still inwards must stand ranging with ye front of ye first doores, & not with its splayes. Query. Where ye inside of ye doorecases stand cleere of ye wall, are they not afterwarde splayed out by ye Ioyners?

#### Chymnies.

Where they stand directly back to back, I conceive  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bricks are ye least that can be allowed for ye thickness, viz.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  brick for ye back between them, wch falls back afterwarde halfe a brick on each side of it to give a smoake draft, 2 br. for ye tunnes, & ye 2 br. remaining for ye breast of each chimney, &  $\frac{1}{2}$  br. more should be allowed to make ye fire-place quite 20 inches: in all 6 bricks.

Where they stand upon ye breast then I thinke about 5 br: to be absolutely necessary, viz. for fireplace 2, for back 1 br., half whereof falls back for ye smoake, one brick for ye tunne behind, & one more

for ye back: in all 5 br. but I suppose halfe a brick more would doe well for an inlargeing of ye fireplace.

I conceive ye chimnyes in ye winges more dangerous for smoakeing, because if not carefully gathered below, they may make some angule &c.

Mem: ye walles to bee well arched, as may be when ye stackes stand over.

I conceive [that] if yet  $\frac{1}{2}$  a br: more be needefull, ye walles may bee made overhang[ing] &c.

I thinke that ye ende stackes will come forward into ye Platforme between 16 & 17 ft. from ye inside of ye wall, wch I thus count:—viz. that ye Perpendicular of ye ende of ye rafter will bee at about 10 ft. in ye cleere, ye base of ye rayle & Baluster upon ye Platform will bee 1 ft., ye stackes in length in their naked 5 ft., viz ye breadth of 3 tunnes 14 in. each,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft., ye two withes with ye two outside 2 bricks more, in all 5 ft. But that they may stand free with their mouldes from ye rayles &c., 1 ft. more may bee allowed to them, in all 17 ft., if ye Tunnes are but 9 inches in their depth, then ye thickness of ye two tunnes, with ye two outsides will be in all about 3 ft., soe yt after this manner it will appear that ye circumference of 16 ft. of stone will be enough for ye stack of each chimney but then a greater allowance must be given for ye mitering in each corner so that ye whole may chance to take up 20 feet in circumference.

Now ye Center of some of these ende chimnyes being about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. & ye outmost draft of them about 17 ft. from ye cleere of ye ende walles, its manifest that ye declination of some of them will be beetweene 8 & 9 feet.

And ye center of ye chimney of ye next 22 ft. room being between ye points of eleven,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. being taken out for halfe that chimney & its iambe, ye remainder then will be between ye 2 solid walles of ye chimnyes, takeing in ye 5 ft. Portal which leades into ye inner roome,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  ft. out of which three bricks thickness may well be subtracted, & ye wall still left at 2 br: in thickness, but then vide whither this is to bee taken out from one side alone, or equally from both, & then how that cavetie is to be disguised &c.

Mem: All chimnyes to be arched that are in ye thickness of any wall.

It: Whither ye manteltrees are to be made after ye ordinary manner. Where chimnyes are to be either of Marble, or stone.

Mem: Ye chimnystackes ought to begin to be trussed on their sides, just above ye seeling of ye Garrotts, ye better to beare ye breadth & weight of ye great Cornish upon them.

Let ye stone for ye heades of ye chimney Tunnes be in two peeces, viz. 6 inches for ye two bedding mouldes, & 12 beddes. The Planseere mouldes for ye Gola dritta, Goccalatoio, & small modiglions 10 in. thick 2 ft. 2 inches bedde; ye members to bee divided after ye manner of those of ye Rotundo, where I finde ye whole members divided into 6 parts, but we heere want ye dentells.

Mem: that this stone be not only left full bedde, but thicker backward to give it its due tayloring, to wch yett ye mantling of them afterwarde, will give a greater counterpoise, for wch mantling it will doe best to sende us in 2 tunne of stone at ye least, to bee cutt out according to occasion.

Mem: yt ye Brickworke of ye Tunnes be so ordered as to its thick-

nesse, as that it may well beare ye bedding of ye base stones, cornishes &c.

Query. What back, what fireplace, what Tunne? to increase ye wch if it bee necessary, ye iambes may bee trussed out into ye roomes  $\frac{1}{2}$  br &c.

Mem: ye Chimny-stacks are to be just 4 ft. 1 in. thick, viz.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bricks; long 7 ft., viz. 9 br.

The Tunnes are to be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  br. one way, 2 br. ye other way.

Mem: July ye 19, [1664].

Tis to bee considered how high ye middle walles are to be carried up into ye Garrots, where ye entrance into them &c.

Where ye Lucarnes to stand, that illuminate ye roomes beehinde ye Frontispeece. How ye two lesser to bee framed, & formed. How ye Hippes to bee dressed with Lead &c.

What theire mouldes.

What mouldes fastned to ye curbe.

What floore over ye Garrotts. to fast ye rooffe,

How is ye middle part of ye rooffe to bee framed,

How, & of what substance is ye Platforme to bee made,

How ye grand Cupolo to bee ordered soe as to give some light as wee approach.

[End of MS. M on Horseheath]

[An error in the thickness of the walls is noted on page 82.

A special ornament on the front was the huge stone coronet and shield of Lord Allington, six ft. in height and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in breadth. The pearls of the coronet were 6 in. in diameter. A similar heraldic decoration was added to Pratt's other houses. See p. 222. A note on the lime used is on p. 225.

The floor of a stable was pitched with best Holland brick at 3s. per yd. all materials etc. found (p. 224).

By 28 August 1665 such progress had been made that Pratt was able to formulate detailed orders for the platform (p. 253) and for dressing the lead for the roof on 31 August (p. 279). The sheets were cast 25 ft. long (p. 280).]

Lead. July 18, 1664.

[A. 65

Mem: agreed with the Cambridge Plumbers to cast it at 18d. per lb. To have the like waste allowed, as should appear to be fit, upon the casting of the first 2000 weight, for every hundred after proportionately. To find all things fit for the casting, save only the frame, and sand. For laying, to have 2sh. 6d. per diem for themselves, and men.

On 12 September 1665 Pratt reported upon the dimensions of the Great Staircase (see p. 250). By a system of diagonal bracing, of which he gives a diagram, the 'Stairs as to all parts seemed very strong and massy'.

It is therefore clear that the interior of the house would have been finished by the end of 1665, and that all that remained was to survey the work and to pass the bills for payment—a transaction that does not appear to have passed without friction.

MEM. OF ALL THE WORKMENS BILLS FOR THE HOUSE OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILL: LORD ALLINGTON AT HORSEHEATH.

March 26, 1666.

Carpenter Lock.

All his Pretensions upon the rack came to about 1500*li*. as may be seen by the particular accounts.

Mem: that his quantities of Lintelling were most easy to have been disproved by the circumference of the building.

His agreement for slabs with my Lord payed the sawing of his great timber.

The price for his Rail and Baluster in all places most excessive.

Ordinary boarding without Nails let to workmen at London at 2sh. per square, the best sort at 3sh. as Mr. Sowersbee informed me he had let it out to workmen. The ordinary floors upon the survey found only to contain 30 feet of square timber, so that each square boarded, valued at about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  4sh. without waste, Partit: 15 feet of Timber, ashlering, ceiling goise, lintelling, mantels and tassels, generally counted, to be taken out of one load, allowed to each square of flooring and roofing.

Timber	£. s
Work	1. 10
Boards	15
Work	12
Nails	7

The out-walls and garden would then have been undertaken. The ornamental piers were doubtless of varied design, as were those at Coleshill, and like them were embellished with recessed niches. Each pier stood up high above the wall, but 'a great stone scroll came and joined these most gracefully together', as is described in the detailed account.

Piers. [at Horseheath.]

[A. 69-70

These were in thickness  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. and were niched on both sides. Dowell 3 in. and 6 in. They were in breadth  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ft., which was taken from the breadth of the niche, viz. 2 ft. 3 in. Architrave mouldings 6 in. on each side, mouldings of the seat 8 in. both corners of the pier 18 in.

Height 16 ft. 4 in. Viz. for the seat 20 ins. viz. for the mouldings of soyle and base  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. each, space between 7 ins. Niche in the clear 5 ft. Architrave 6 in. spaces on each side of the oval 1 ft., in all 2 ft. Oval in height 4 ft. Cornice 16 ins.

These piers in front seemed somewhat squat, though otherwise well composed.

Post with neck-stone, base, and coves and in height: this looked well, vide the design with its particular measures.

These were about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in breadth and 10 ft. in height: between the base and the cornice and looked so very well neither can any be gracefully made at the coming in of any court, which are narrower, or lower.

Kingst:
Dorset,
Horse-
heath,
Oct. 25.

For they must be on each corner 9 ins. at the least for the margin, and its ogee; 4 ins. round at the least for the revail, and the rest for the panel.

The height between the base, and its capital, ought at the least to be double the squares and perhaps better yet, if  $\frac{1}{4}$  more, but in this some reference is to be had to the wall to which they are set, where it

<sup>1</sup> *Country Life*, 26 July 1919, pp. 110-11.

will not do well that they stand above 3 ft. at the most from the top of it, to the bottom of its cornice.

A great stone scroll came and joined these most gracefully together; on each side of the piers came out some of the same pier-work about 2 br: lengths in projecture, upon this laid a stone about 14 ins. broad viz. the thickness of the wall and the just height of the coping wrought with a small ogee, as a base for the scroll; this was at the least 2 ft. in length, 14 ins. in breadth and in its lower volute at least 18 ins. its upper head was contracted so close as could be the better to fall under its cornice, its breast was wrought like a carved modillion, and its sides had a stalk with the pods most gracefully wrought.

The thickness of these piers were about 3 ft. so that they projected on each side about 9 ins. from the wall.

The dowill was the thickness of the wall viz.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  br., and its projecture 9 ins. finished at the top with a small scroll. The distance of the piers was 10 ft. The base was 1 ft. the cornice 14 ins. the plinth 6 ins. the neck-stone 18 ins. the ball  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. all well.

A stray note dated 13 March 1665, relating to Portland stone brought by Pierce of Bredhamson, may relate to these piers.

Among other miscellaneous papers at Ryston are:

A Bill for Mason's work.—*£*101. 3. 4, and the following letter from Edward Pearce as to Mouldings:

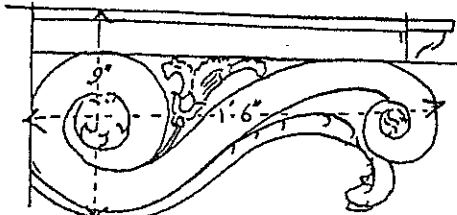
For the Worshipfull Roger Pratt Esqr. in ye Inner Temple these pret.  
London.

Sir, According to yr direction I have sent ye Molds of ye Great & lesser scroles; those for Modelions cannot be found. I have measured both ye square ones & ye rakeing ones for ye pediments & find ye square ones to be sawed at 11 inches & 9 inches, ye length that is carved just 18 inches to ye extreeme of ye smaller scrole ye cap exceeding that neare upon an inch &  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Ye rakeing Modelions was cutt 12 inches & 10 inches, ye length that was carved ye same with ye other. I suppose this slite draught at bottome will better explaine my meaning, & hope it will be to your Worsps. sattisfaction.

I am Sr, Yr. most humble servant at yr command

EDW PEARCE.

Horseheth this  
24th of Aprell 1665.



From a copy by Mrs. E. R. Pratt.

The front just 11 inches,  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inche of a side to rose ye Roses.

Anth. Deane and Pinaker, Rates of Carpenters Work to be done at Lord Allingtons. Dated from Hamstead Marshall May 27, 1662.

Leo. Gurle's Bill for Fruit Trees for Lord Allington.

The Carpenter's Worke at the Lord Allington's house in Bloomsbury, based on Mr. Darvill's measurement.

[Note on fol. 1 of Vol. A.]

Richard Grumell a Freemason neare Wellden in Northamptonshire 40 miles from Horseheath.

Al primo si fanno luoghi communi.  
Deinde questioni la disopra particolare.  
Poi observationi sopra la materia.  
It: questioni sopra il modo di lavorare.  
It: observat: sopra il lavoro.