

have sat at a table from 4 in the morning till 9 at night, only taking the meal times between, making draughts and designs. And these he would please himself with, and particularly in mortifying the artist, showing gross failings, and when I went about to opinionate and maintaine them, he would laugh heartily and call the company a judg and so wee went to [de]fending & proving against them, but I allwais came off by the worst and those who knew little of the matter, would then take his part as was fitt, and then I must as was fitt knuckle, and goe to the work again...

The onely building he raised after this [i.e. the stables] was a with drawing room and a back stairs to the largest rooms. This was made after the order of the old house, without appealing to the present mode, and that being an order very great, succeeded better than the other would have done; the baulking of mode pleased him well, for he had in some measure the humour of an old man, a pique of new fashions. He raised also a sumer house and designed another but life gave him no time. He wainscoted his parade rooms, about which we had much [*illeg.*], for there was a Gothick border of plaister a yard deep, being barbarous representations of horses, bucks and does and I know not what, with a diminutive litle cornice aloft, he was loath to part with this ornament, and besides the rooms were like bird cages all window. I designed the wainscote to the top, with a cornish answerable to the height which was 18 feet, and put out 2.3ds of the windo, making a competent shew of a peer between 2 lights when it might be done. And for this model I fought in dispute with that vehemence and opinionate, that I carried my point, & so it stands most ready to justify itself...

When he would have the wing of his house built, and in order to it I had made an exact mapp of the front in orthography, and disposed the wing conformable to the rest, but being for family use, it was broken into more storys; but yet, as the front was agreed well enough, & he would most earnestly study these models but the lease still kept him under. Once the steward came and told him his kitchen (the old low building then shifted with) was falling downe, this was a great shok to him, but upon inspection and consideration, he found it was but one part of the harmonious endeavours, of all about him, he drew him in to new build it, and he never was absolutely determined, tho' he was very well inclined to doe it. Thus were his amusements carried on, which were very pleasant while he was Chief Justice...

*BL AddMS 32510 ff.136r ff.*