Toddington was probably built soon after 1562 by Henry Cheney who inherited the estate in that year and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth when she visited him there in 1564. He was summoned to Parliament as a baron from 1572 to 1584 and was one of the peers appointed to try Mary, Queen of Scots, in 1586. He died soon afterwards without issue, leaving Toddington to his widow, Lady Jane Cheney. Her nephew, Henry, Lord Wentworth, lived with her there and James I visited them in 1608. On the death of Lady Jane in 1614, Thomas, son of Lord Wentworth inherited. As Thorpe's sketch cannot be as early as the life-time of Henry, Lord Cheney, the use of 'Lord' instead of 'Lady' in the inscription is probably due to a misconception. The house does not now exist.

V.C.H., *Bedfordshire*, iii (1912), p. 440.

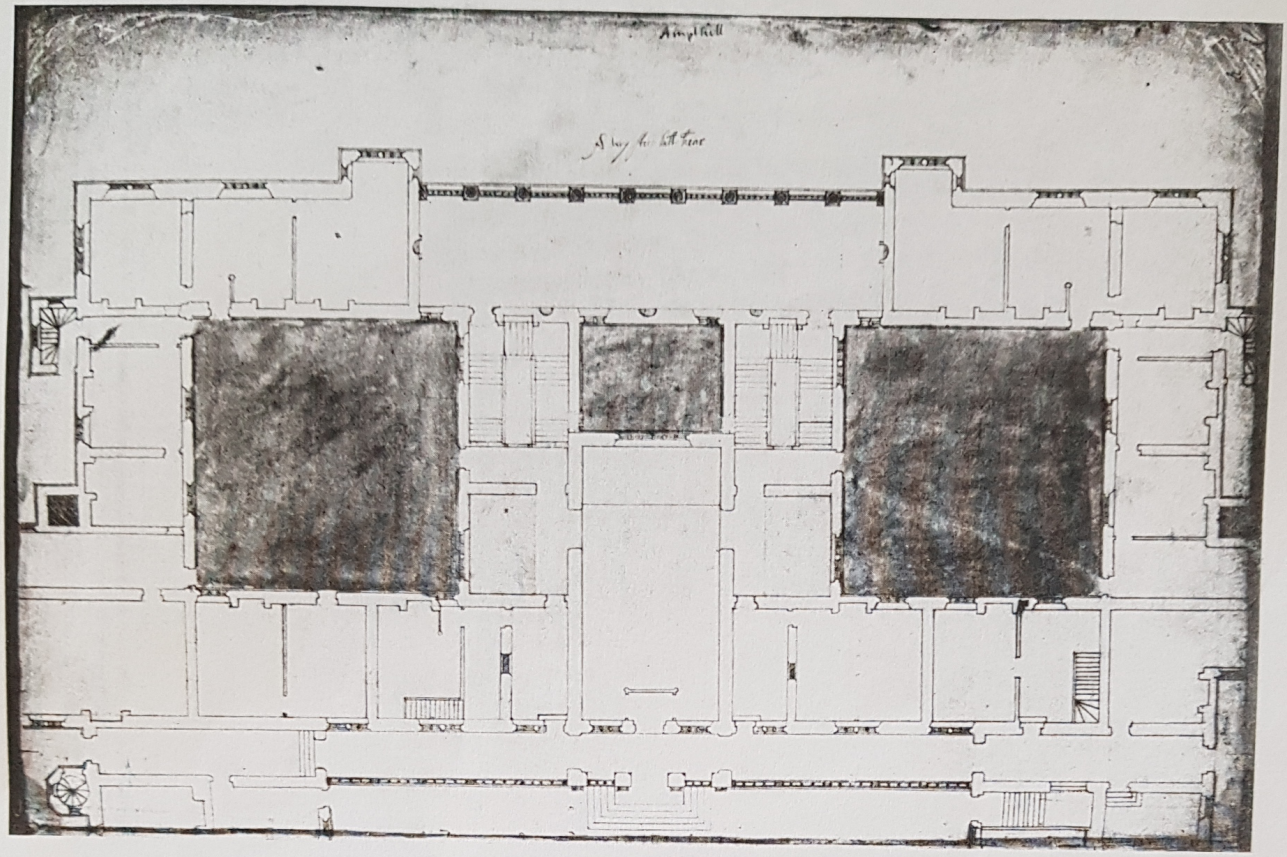
Plates 120 and 121

T 271–2 & 267–8 Ground and upper floor plans, being designs for the alteration and enlargement of Ampthill, Beds. Ink over pencil, with yellow wash to indicate inner courts. Drawn and figured scale (1 in.=16 ft.) on T 272. Below the scale: *Ampthill old howse enlardged / p J. Thorpe*. The only other original inscriptions on the ground-plan are *cort*, in pencil, on the small central court and, at the top, *A very steep hill hear*, in ink. At the top edge of the paper *Ampthill* is written in a later hand, possibly that of Horace Walpole. To this is added, in pencil, *Duke of Bedford*, by another late hand. The upper floor plan (T 267–8) has *Ampthill the upp plott* in the main courtyard and *Gallery Q^s syde* in the top l. gallery. On both plans, two staircases, to l. and r. of the hall have been deleted by the superimposition of paper slips.

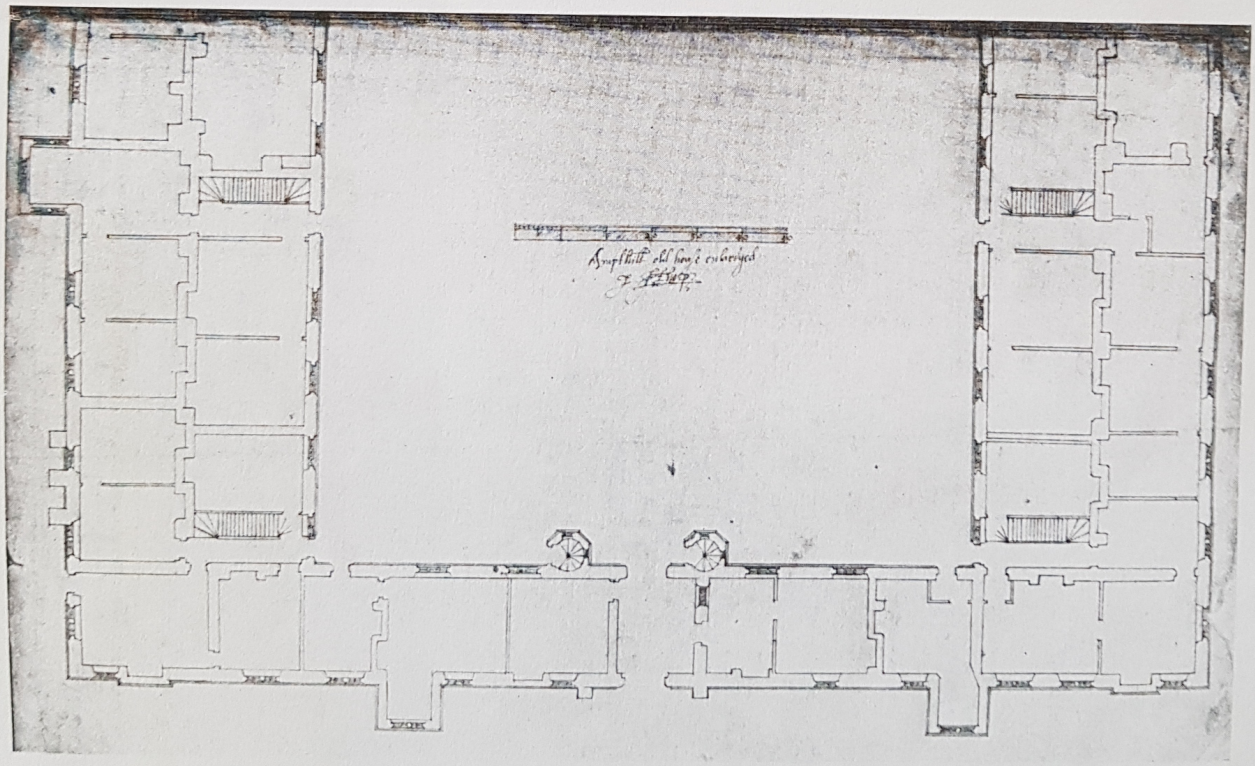
A warrant for moneys to erect a house on the Royal manor of Ampthill issued on 29 Sept., 1605 (*Cal. S. P. Dom, 1603–10*, p. 234) and John Thorpe was employed to survey the manor in or about 1606 (PRO, E 403/2726, f. 21). In 1608, £60 was spent on brickmaking and investigating the possibilities of water-supply (E 351/3244). Nothing more, however, was done. Thorpe's plans probably represent a project of c. 1605–6 for remodelling and greatly enlarging the old house. The latter is probably represented in the plans by the gatehouse, the blocks to l. and r. of it, the outer part of the block on the l. of the great court and parts of the corresponding block on the r.

Plates 122 and 123

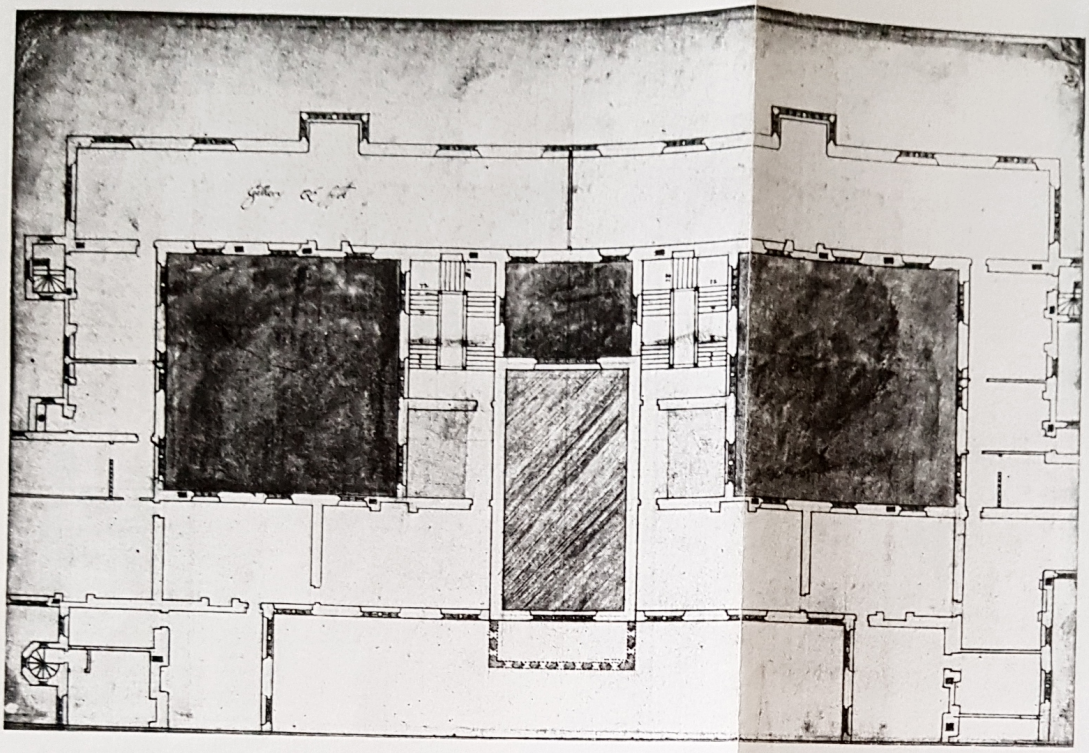
T 279–80 & 275–6 Ground and upper floor plans of a house identifiable as Northumberland House, Strand, London. Both plans are inset, T 275–6 being stuck to T 281 along the gutter and the right half of T 279–80 being laid with adhesive on T 282. T 275–6 measures 16½ in. × 14 in. approx. T 279–80, badly torn, seems to have been of the same dimensions. Ink, with faint traces of pencil. The plans are drawn in a thin line and have been altered in a coarser style. Inscriptions on the ground plan (T 279–80) are as follows. In the lower l.h. corner, *Hall* and *pler*. These two spaces, separated by a partition, were originally one with an inscription, *the hall*, where the partition occurs, probably in the hand of the original draughtsman. Above the hall are *pantry* and *but & pant / lodg*. In the lower r.h. corner, *gr^t chamb^r above*, with wall crossed out. To l. of this *Antecamera*, with wall crossed out. A pointed window in the top range is inscribed *trussed*. Similar windows in the lower range are inscribed *dore under* and *dore*, while *dore* occurs again below the canted bay between them. In the upper floor plan



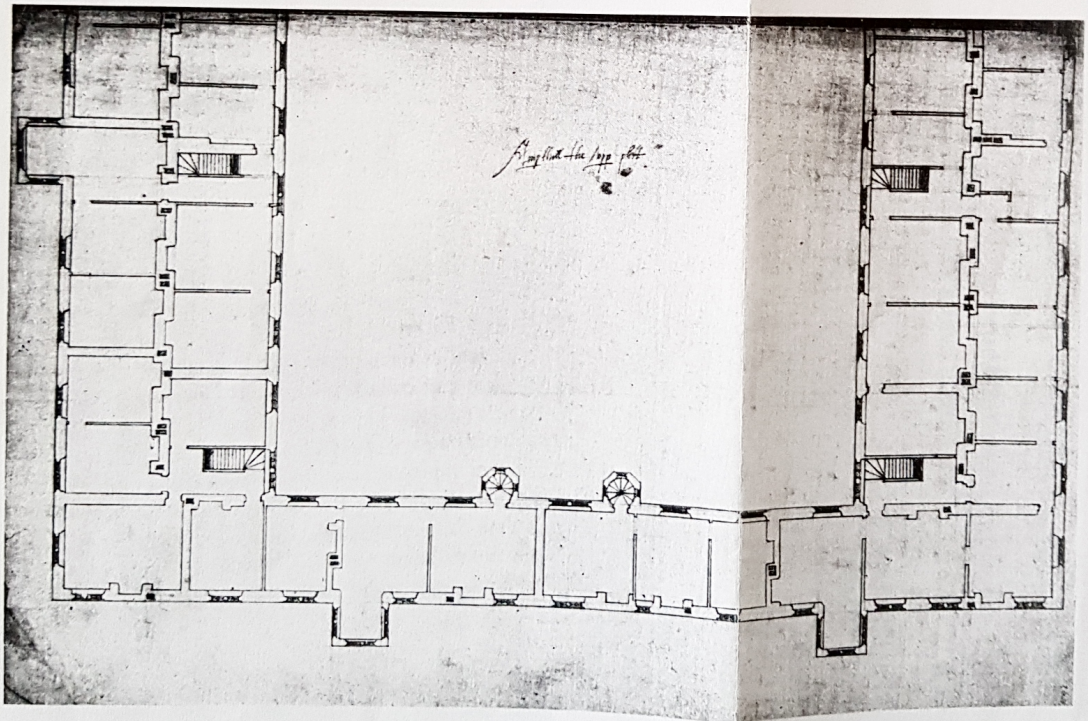
T 271



T 272



T 267



T 268

Plate 121