

Rossway Granary

What is it?

A granary, for storing grain such as wheat, barley or oats. It could hold up to 75 tons (76,200kg) of wheat – the same weight as 13 African elephants!

How old is it?

It was built in 1802 (we have a receipt from a builder for £73 10s 0d, or £73.50). The upper storey was added in 1850.

Where did it come from?

Rossway Home Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. The Hadden family had owned the farm since 1683.

What is it built from?

It's wood with a slate roof and is divided into small rooms for storage called bins. The granary was made bigger and taller in the middle of the nineteenth century.

Why is it here at the museum?

By 1976 the granary wasn't being used, because it was surrounded by much newer farm buildings.



Home Learning

Imagine

Rossway Granary has metal bars on the windows, this was to stop thieves stealing the grain as it was very valuable. Can you write a newspaper report with the headline '*The Great Grain Robbery*'? Use this guide to help you <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2yycdm/articles/z2gk9qt>

Create

Can you design and build a granary using natural or recyclable materials? Consider what would make your design a success. Have you considered how you will get the grain in and out? Is your design weather proof? Can you make sure that your design is thief proof (animal and human alike)?



Experiment

Mushroom-shaped saddle stones hold the granary up off the ground. This keeps the grain dry and stops sneaky rats and mice from getting in and eating the grain. Can you help the mice get inside by creating a rocket and finding about air pressure, air resistance and gravity along the way?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/443347/rocket-mice>