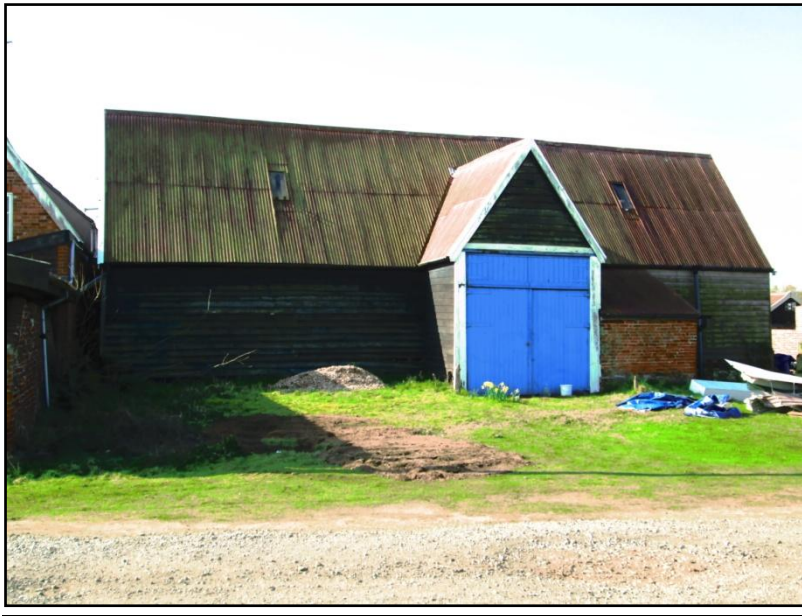


**Historic Building Recording:
Granary Barn
Church Common
Snape
Suffolk**

Grid reference: TM 394 591
Planning Application No.: C/10/0141
HER No.: SNP 104
Oasis No.: 174619



Prepared for:

Mr M Bacciottini

**Prepared By:
ARCHAEOSERV
(Dennis Payne Archaeological Services)**

May 2014

Cover picture: Granary Barn from the north

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Historic Building Recording: Granary Barn Church Common Snape Suffolk

Archaeological Record

Grid reference: TM 394 591

Summary

This report provides a written and photographic record (English Heritage, level 2) for Granary Barn Church Common Snape, Suffolk, prior to its conversion to a domestic dwelling.

1. Introduction

This report provides a written and photographic record at English Heritage (2006) level 2 of the barn at The Granary, Church Common, Snape. It has been prepared to a brief designed by the Archaeological service of Suffolk County Council (Richard Hoggett Archaeological Officer, ref: *Granary Barn, Church Common, Snape, Suffolk*, (dated the 21st of March 2014) and is intended to fulfil a condition of planning permission for conversion to a domestic dwelling/studios.

This report is accompanied by a CD containing a full photographic record in the form of 6 megapixel digital images (Appendix 1) and includes printed photographs of key features of the building and its environs (Appendix 2). Each digital and printed photograph is described in the appendices. The CD also contains this report in MS Word format. The building was inspected and recorded on the 10th of July 2013, when the accompanying photographs were taken – a scale has been used where possible, being a two metre scale staff.

2. Planning background

The planning application, C/10/0141, granted by Suffolk District Coastal for the conversion of an agricultural barn to a domestic dwelling/studios. In order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for the investigation, and recording of the site, its buildings and setting, and to comply with Policy of the Council's Local Plan, Condition 2 of the decision notice states “*No works to the building the subject of this permission shall be commenced until a programme of building recording and analysis (of that building) has been secured and implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have previously been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Reason - To secure the inspection and recording of any features or other matters that may be of historic interest or importance that may be lost in the course of the approved works.*”

3. Site Location

Grid Ref: TM 394 591



Figure 1. Location of Granary Barn Snape

Granary Barn lies within the grounds and to the north of Snape Hall. The site is off Church Road in Snape Suffolk, overlooking Church Common to the north.

4. Historical Background

4.1 The earliest written evidence concerning Snape comes from the Domesday Survey of 1086, which states: ‘Gilbert Blunt holds from Robert mallet; 21 free men under the patronage of Edric; 1 carucate of land; 30 acres. Then 6 ploughs. Now 3. Value then 20s, now 40s. 1 church, 8 acres; value 16d’. (Phillimore,1986). William White in his Directory and Gazetteer of Suffolk refers to Snape as ‘‘a small village, on a pleasant acclivity, north of the river Alde, 5 miles W.N.Y. of Aldeburgh, and 3 miles S. By E. Of Saxmundham, has in its parish 542 souls, and 1700 acres of land, including 300 A. of open common, and the hamlet of Snape Bridge,’’ (White, 1844).

4.2 The origins of Snape are unclear but it was certainly occupied during the Roman period; a scatter of pottery, etc was found in a field to the east of the church (SNP 024). Early medieval activity in the area is very strong with a number of finds relating to this period having been discovered around Church Common and immediately to the south of the common. Evidence of previous occupation around and respecting the common proves its antiquity. Granary Barn is one of a number of buildings on the southern edge of the common, probably occupying a site of great antiquity.

5. Cartographic Evidence

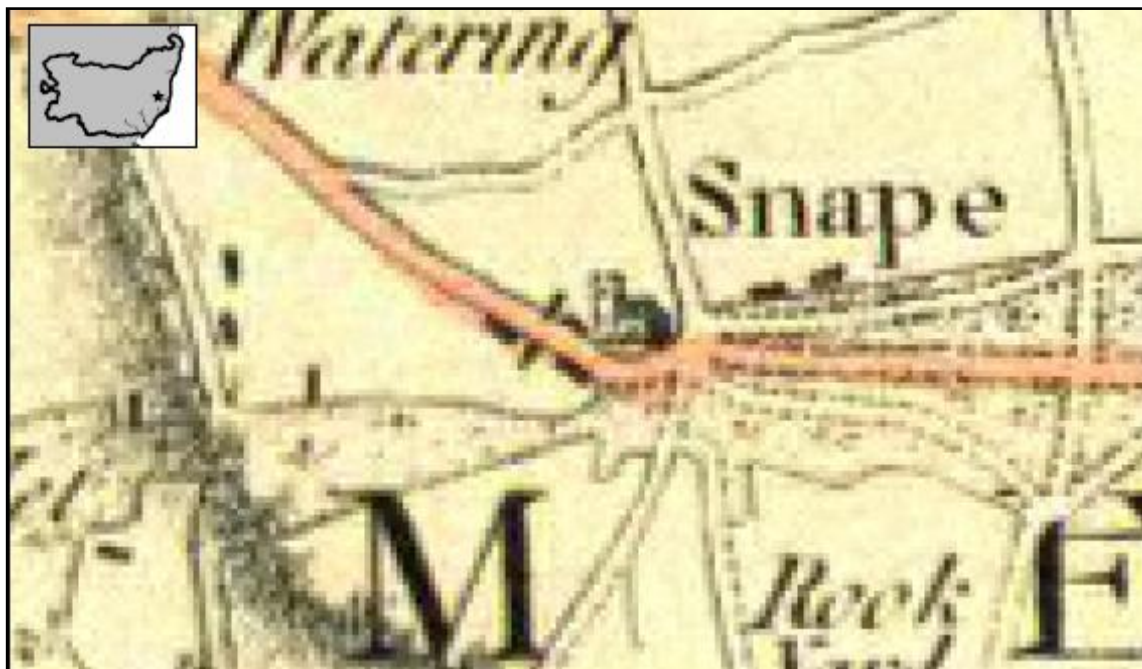


Figure 2. Hodkinson's map of Snape, 1783



Figure 3. The Tithe map(1848) of Granary Barn from 1848



Figure 4. Tithe map (1848) of Church Common with Granary Barn and Snape Hall to the south



Figure 5. The Enclosure map of 1860; Granary Barn in apportionment 70

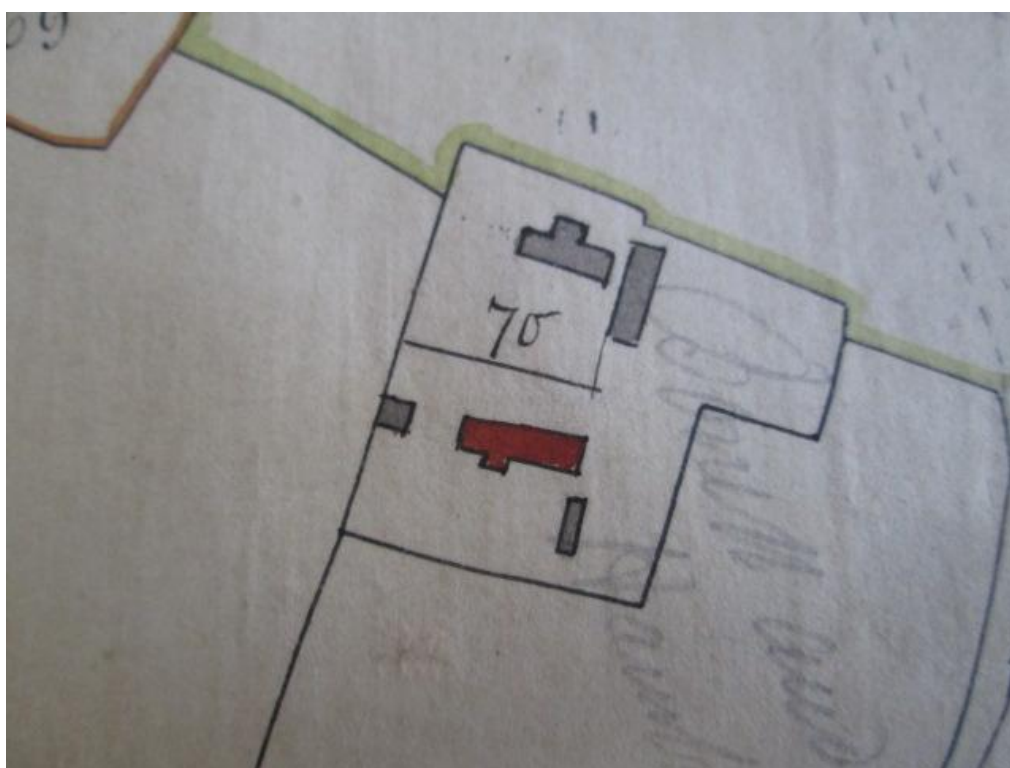


Figure 6. The Enclosure map of 1860; Granary Barn in apportionment 70 - detail

5.1. Discussion of Map Evidence

Granary barn and Snape hall do not appear on Hodskinson's map of 1783, however this does not mean that they did not exist at the time because this map it is not always detailed to the extent that would show all individual buildings. The Tithe map of 1848 is the earliest depiction of the Barn; the Granary and Snape Hall (plts. 3&4). The Enclosure map of 1860 shows the same detail of this group of buildings and therefore no changes within these dates except for a small building to the immediate north-east of the barn. This building appears to have been demolished by the time of the Enclosure map of 1860 to make way for the extension to the Granary. Under apportionment 70 on the Enclosures map the barn is listed as under the ownership of John Hambling (Suffolk Records ref: HD11:475).

6. Methodology

6.1 A level 2 (English Heritage 2006) photographic record was undertaken to a brief designed by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Dr Richard Hoggett).

6.2 A visual inspection was carried out and notes were taken on the features, construction and dimensions of the building. Measurements were taken externally and internally and a scale plan was drawn at 1:50. A series of photographs were taken externally and internally. The photographic record comprised of digital, black and white print and colour transparencies.

6.3 From the evidence presented, an interpretation of the building's function, form and date was made.

6.4 Within the report, all image references refer to the digital images as listed in appendix IV.

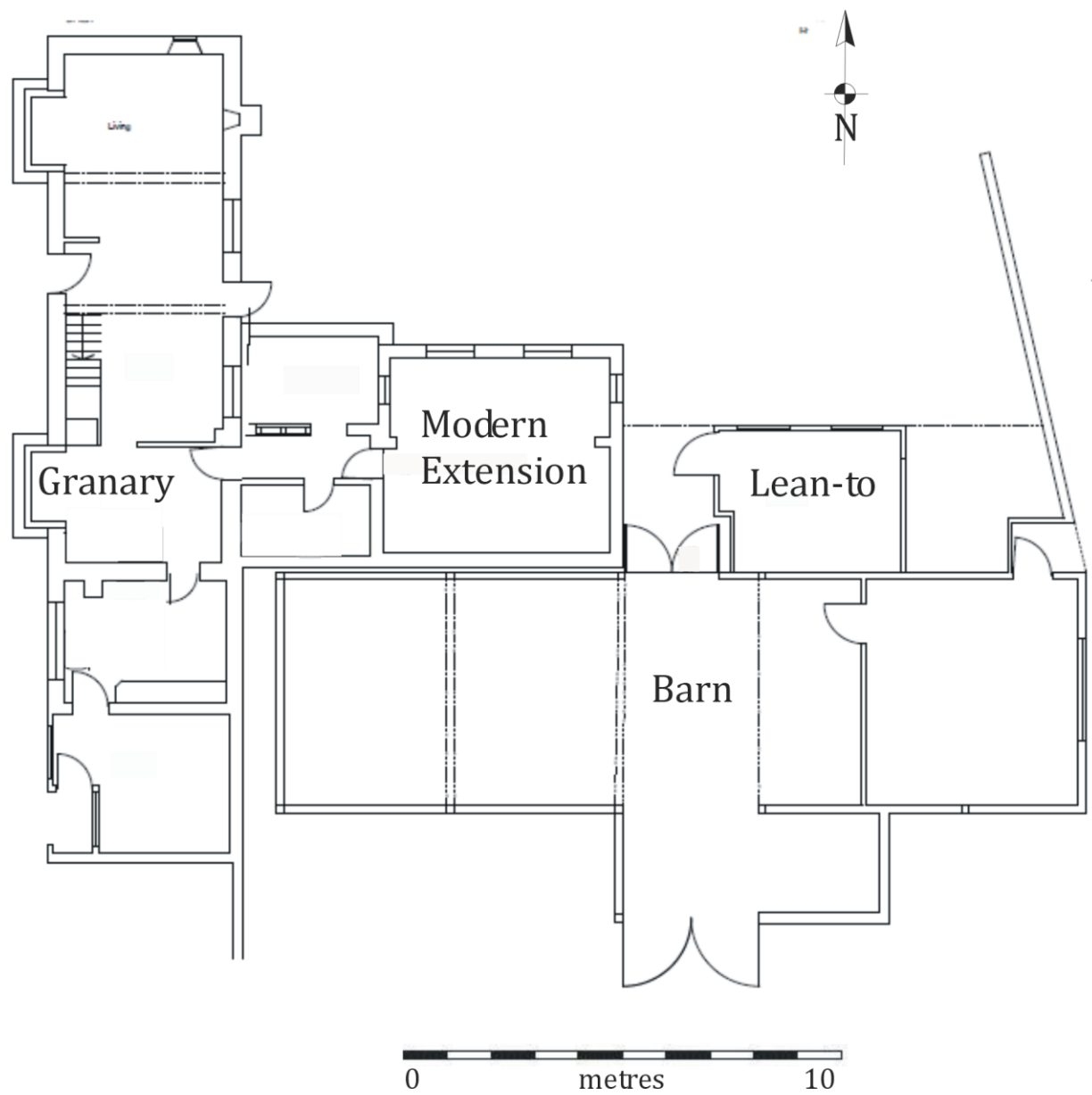


Figure 8. Current Plan of Granary Barn

7. Building Analysis

7.1 Granary Barn

Granary Barn is a five bay structure, now converted to four with a modern studio created by an inserted partition wall and ceiling. The five bays represents a larger than normal arrangement, which are usually three or four bays. The central bay is the threshing floor, which has a slighter wider door at 2.92m to the rear door (south-facing) at 2.12m wide to allow access to heavily laden carts. The barn measures 17.60m in length by 5.60m in width; the height to the roof plate is 2.87m. Construction is timber-framed upon a brick plinth of red hand-made bricks. The central bay (slightly offset, as is usual) consists of the threshing floor with opening doors to the north and south, which would have opened on the former farmyard area. To the east side of the north-facing doors is a lean-to, brick-built construction adjacent to the porch, which appears to be later than the main structure. The external walls are wooden-cladded as is the traditional method for Suffolk barns. To the rear of the barn are modern extensions for storage and office with an open lean-to. The roof covering is corrugated iron and would have originally been thatched as the pitch of the roof is less than a 45 degrees angle.

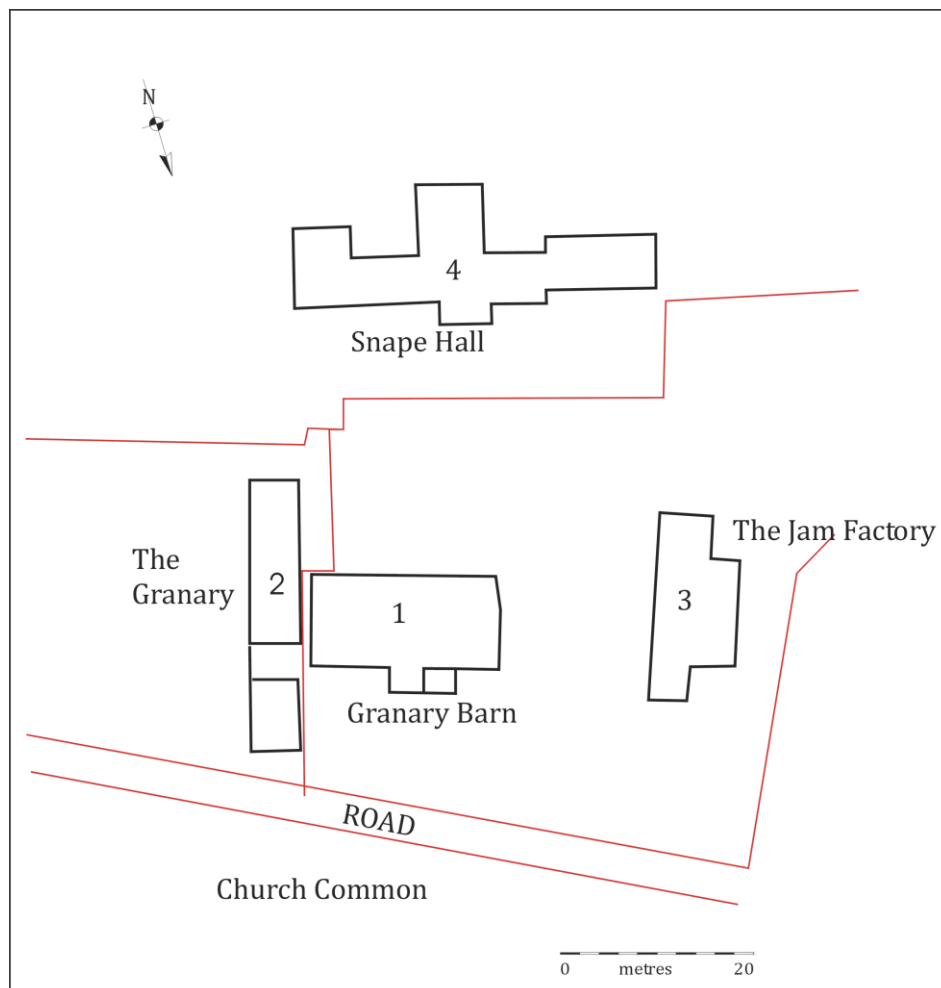


Figure 7. Block Plan of Buildings Group

7.2 Wall Construction

The north-facing wall, infill-framing has been completely replaced recently along with the east-facing gable end wall; the south and east-facing walls still retaining their original in-fill framing; all of the original main story posts are retained. The framing of the walls is of light framing with diagonal and vertical framing in the typical form with no outer covering which normally consist of lathe and plaster. The timber-framing rests upon a brick plinth (plt. 21) varying from eight-ten visible courses, laid in *English Bond* (header - stretcher courses alternating).

7.3 Roof Construction

The construction method of the roof is a standard A-frame with tie beams spanning the top plates to principal rafters and collars retaining near the apex. Jointing is mostly with nails and with peg joints used from the main storey posts to the roof plate and sole plate. There is no longitudinal ridge pole and the purlins are irregularly placed and spaced using Tenoned joints while some are nailed to the rafters (plt. 13). The whole roof appears to be very rustic with its awkwardly placed short purlins retained with nails (plt. 13) supporting the rafters, which are a mix of sawn and un-sawn timbers (plt.14) and does not seem contemporary with the quality of the structure from the tie beam level to the floor, or the main frame of the walls. Sometimes masonry or timber-framed farm buildings have completely lost their historic roof structure as a result of fire or years of neglect. In many instances the historic roof has been replaced with lightweight softwood, which appears to be the case here. The tie beams in each bay set are supported by bolted knee braces. These have been inserted as a later improvement of the earlier arch-braces that have been removed to facilitate the newer braces. The earlier arch-brace positions can be seen from their blind tenons, having been simply sawn off (plats 9,10, 12, 20) .

7.4 Attached Buildings

There are a number of additions to the original barn such as a modern lean-to containing a store room and an extension, both on the south-facing elevation wall. The modern extension (fig. 8) is in turn attached to the house known as the Granary.

7.5 The Granary

The Granary (building 2 on fig.7) is a relatively rare example of a completely brick-built type in East Anglia and may well be contemporary with the barn or slightly later. Certainly, the normal arrangement for the storage of grain was above ground or on a first floor. The Granary is of brick-built construction, originally of three or possibly four bays. A short internal inspection was carried out within this building with the following observations. The primary joists in the ceiling are exposed, showing a chamfered finish with plain stops carved into the ends, suggesting a more domestic use such as accommodation for farm members. This style of finish to the joists dates from the seventeenth century to the early eighteenth century. *‘Detached granaries are generally of 18th- and 19thcentury date, any earlier examples being of great rarity. Grain needed to be kept in dry, secure and well ventilated conditions. Granaries were often built over stables and cart-sheds, and combined cart-shed/granary ranges are found from the 18th and even the late 17th centuries in parts of the south and east’*. (English Heritage 2012) This building with its sturdy, nicely carved ceiling joists would suggest that the grain was stored on the first floor (a loading door can be seen on the south-facing gable end wall at first floor level) and the ground floor was either for farm labourer’s quarters.

In this instance no evidence for altered doors could be seen in the brickwork for it having been used as a stable so this leads one to suggest that the ground floor was for farm labourer's accommodation.

7.6 Storeroom adjacent to the porch

Attached to the north-facing elevation wall of the barn, adjacent to the porch is a brick-built storeroom (plts. 5, 22) with a corrugated roof, originally tiled and appears to be contemporary, judging by the brickwork, with the Granary, both of which are *English Bond* brickwork. This type of brickwork was in use until the end of the seventeenth century but was used well into the eighteenth century. The storeroom would have been an addition and not part of the original structure of the barn and probably dates to the mid-late eighteenth century.

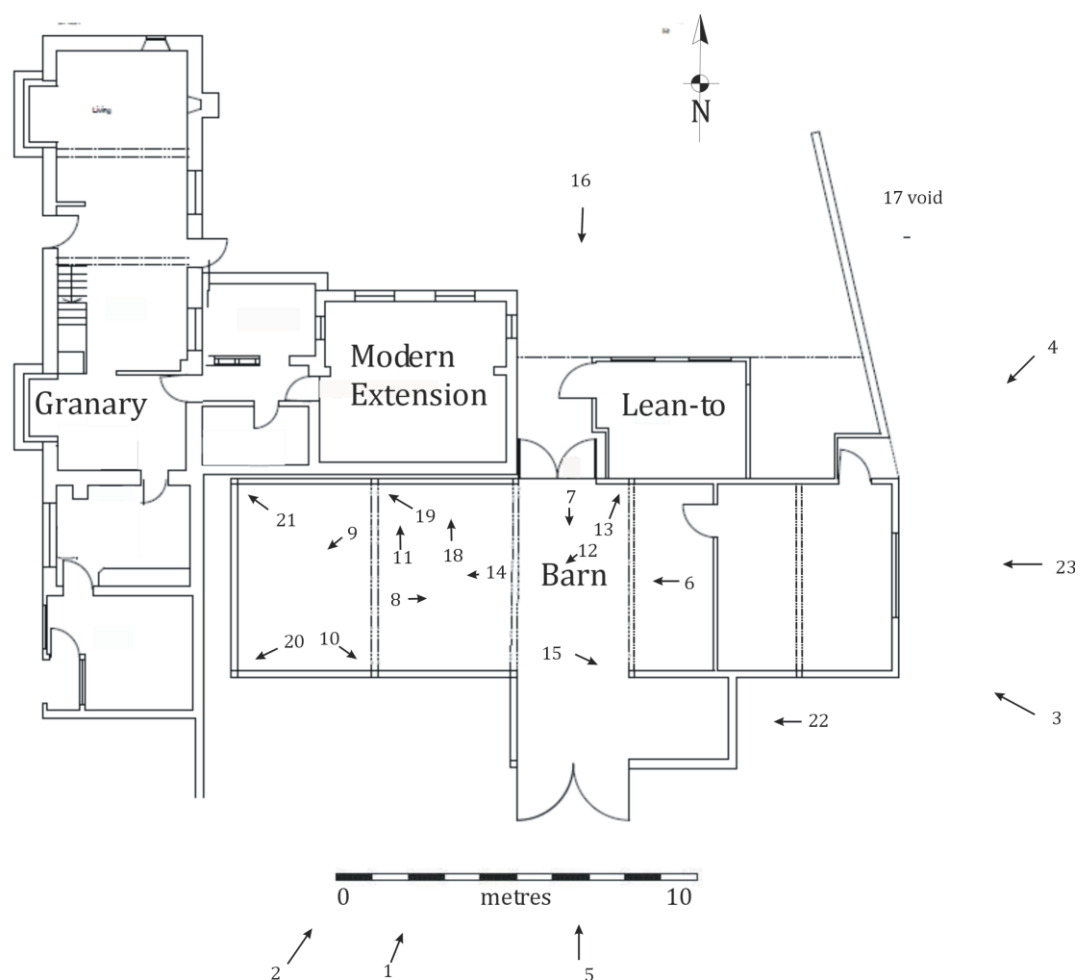


Figure 9. Photographic key to Granary Barn

8. Context and Setting of Building

Granary barn is a single phase construction consisting, originally, of five bays. It is typical of many Suffolk barns except that it has more bays than the average barn, normally consisting of three or four. Locally, this probably reflects higher yields with more land taken over to producing crops, which is typical for farms from the mid-eighteenth century. The vast majority of building stock dates from this period, particularly from the mid 18th - 19th century. Increased agricultural productivity, encouraged by rising grain prices and the demands of an increasingly urban population, was enabled by the expansion of the cultivated area (especially from the 1790s to 1815), due to the continued reorganisation and enlargement of holdings, and the final phase of the enclosure. Further trends to improve barns at this date was the introduction of the **Corn Laws** introduced by the *Importation Act of 1815*. The **Corn Laws** were trade laws designed to protect cereal producers in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland against competition from less expensive foreign imports between 1815 and 1846. To ensure that British landowners reaped all the financial profits from farming, the corn laws imposed steep import duties, making it too expensive for anyone to import grain from other countries, even when the people of Great Britain and Ireland needed the food (as in times of famine).

The barn within the building group is usually the earliest of the structures and the Granary would be a logical enhancement to grain production. Granaries are not common buildings within the farmyard complex and this suggests that this farm needed the extra storage for grain production. The proximity of the river with a quay in Snape allowed for river transportation of goods, including grain, and this could be a sound reason for the evident prosperity for the farm relating to Granary Barn. Snape is also famous for its maltings, dating from the mid-nineteenth century, which Pevsner called an 'uncommonly impressive group of Early Industrial buildings' (Pevsner, 1974). The proximity of such substantial maltings would have been an asset to the farming community as a whole.

The Granary may be earlier than the existing barn, which may have replaced an earlier barn, or it may be contemporary with it, either way it is of a similar date.. The Granary encloses a space (the farmyard) between Snape Hall, the original farmhouse and the barn on the east side of the complex, while on the west side of the yard is a building known as the Jam factory (fig. 7, 3). Its former use is uncertain, and its position sits uncomfortably within the group being slightly off-set on the west side of the farmyard, but could have originally been stabling or a cart shed and storage rooms.

9. Interpretation

Among the dating evidence and diagnostic features within the barn are the removed arch-braces. These were removed and replaced by bolted knee braces, an improvement which allows better access for carts and storage. This feature is likely to post-date the *1815 Corn Laws*, and is probably early to mid nineteenth century, giving a terminus-post-quem for this alteration. Arch-braces supporting the tie beams are a common feature in barns within the lowland and south-east vernacular and dates from the fifteenth century or possibly earlier. The examples removed in Granary barn are a late example of this feature and most likely date from the mid-late eighteenth century: '*Eighteenth-century alterations such as the expansion of barn space by taking down divisions, extending the building, adding porches or building an entirely new barn are all changes which are part of the farm's history.*' (English Heritage 2012).

A further diagnostic feature of the barn is the bricks that form the plinth for the farming of the barn. The plinth is constructed mainly in *English Bond*, a common seventeenth century form that was used well into the eighteenth century. The brickwork could be as late as the mid-eighteenth century, which accords with the timber-framing evidence of the removed earlier arch-braces. The roof is usually a solid dating tool and diagnostic, but in this case the roof appears much later, from the nineteenth century and was probably replaced in whole or part substantially. The Granary, as mentioned, retains a sound dating feature with the exposed primary joists being plain stop champhered beams, usually dating from the mid-late seventeenth century to the early eighteenth century.

The Granary, therefore, could pre-date the barn itself by a quarter of a century or so. Granary Barn maybe a replacement to an earlier barn, pre-dating the Granary as would seem the norm.

10. Conclusion

Granary Barn is a typical agricultural building of this type found throughout the eastern counties belonging to a prospering farm. Its form including five bays is longer than the average and attests to the higher demands for grain processing and storage at this farm, reflecting the national trend of a boom in agriculture during this period due to increases in population. Structurally it has undergone little alteration since its erection, probably sometime in the mid – late eighteenth century, except for the addition of a small storeroom attached to the porch; the material changes are a corrugated iron roof replacing an earlier thatched one; replacement studwork to the east and north facing elevations.. The barn has received modern extensions to the south-facing elevation; a new internal partition and the roof also appears to have been repaired or changed to a degree as it does not accord with the remainder of the timber-work that survives.

The name Granary also suggests the higher than normal status of this barn with the Granary itself located to the immediate south-east corner. The presence of the Granary is also suggestive of a prospering farm with its additional function to store grain. Being of brick-built construction it is not common and would also have been accommodation on the ground floor for farm workers.

11. Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Michelle Bacciottini for allowing access to the property and funding this report. The site work and report were completed by Dennis Payne BA (Hons) AIfA

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Sources:

The Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk

Hodskinson's map of Snape, 1783

The Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich

Maps Consulted:

Tithe map (1848) of Snape Ref: P461/219

Enclosure map (1860) of Snape Ref: 150/1/312.2

Enclosure apportionment folder (HD11:475)

Appendix I: Black and White Photographic Archive in Report

(Full photographic archive on accompanying CD)

Table 1: Black and White Photographic archive

Print No. Key to (fig. 9)	Description	Taken from	Date 02/04/14
1	<i>Barn exterior</i>	North	
2	Barn exterior	North	
3	Barn exterior	West	
4	Barn exterior	West	
5	Barn exterior	North	
6	Barn interior	West	
7	Barn interior, towards porch	South	
8	Barn interior	East	
9	Corner post with blind tenon	South-west	
10	Detail of blind tenon in post (north-facing wall)	South-east	
11	Void/no photo		
12	Void/no photo		
13	Roof detail	North	
14	Framing detail	South-west	
15	Void/no photo		
16	Void/no photo		
17	Void/no photo		
18	Void/no photo		
19	Void/no photo		
20	Void/no photo		
21	Void/no photo		
22	Void/no photo		
23	Void/no photo		

Appendix II: Index to Colour Slide Archive in Report

(Full Photographic archive on accompanying CD)

Print No. Key to (fig. 9)	Description	Taken from	Date 02/04/14
1	<i>Barn exterior</i>	North	
2	Barn exterior	North	
3	Barn exterior	West	
4	Barn exterior	West	
5	Barn exterior	North	
6	Barn interior	West	
7	Barn interior, towards porch	South	
8	Barn interior	East	
9	Corner post with blind tenon	South-west	
10	Detail of blind tenon in post (north-facing wall)	South-east	
11	Void/no photo		
12	Void/no photo		
13	Roof detail	North	
14	Framing detail	South-west	
15	Void/no photo		
16	Void/no photo		
17	Void/no photo		
18	Void/no photo		
19	Void/no photo		
20	Void/no photo		
21	Void/no photo		
23	Void/no photo		

Appendix III: Index to Digital Images in Report: (full photographic record on accompanying CD)

Print No. Key to (fig. 9)	Description	Taken from	Date 02/04/14
1	<i>Barn exterior</i>	North	
2	Barn exterior	North	
3	Barn exterior	West	
4	Barn exterior	West	
5	Detail of porch	North	
6	Barn interior	West	
7	Barn interior, towards porch	South	
8	Barn interior	East	
9	Corner post with blind tenon	South-west	
10	Detail of blind tenon in post (north-facing wall)	South-east	
11	Blind tenon detail in wall post	North	
12	Framing detail , north facing wall and porch	South-west	
13	Roof detail	North	
14	Framing detail	South-west	
15	New front wall framing with original post	South-east	
16	Rear view of barn	South	
17	Void/no photo		
18	Original light framing to south elevation wall	North	
19	Original bolted knee brace over of new framing	North	
20	Corner post with sawn (blind tenon)	South-west	
21	Brick plinth in north-east corner	North-west	
22	Brick-built storeroom by porch	West	
23	Barn west-facing elevation gable end wall	West	

Appendix IV: Digital images



Plate 1. Granary Barn from the north



Plate 2. Granary barn and Granary from the north



Plate 3. Granary Barn from the north-west



Plate 4. Granary Barn from the south-west

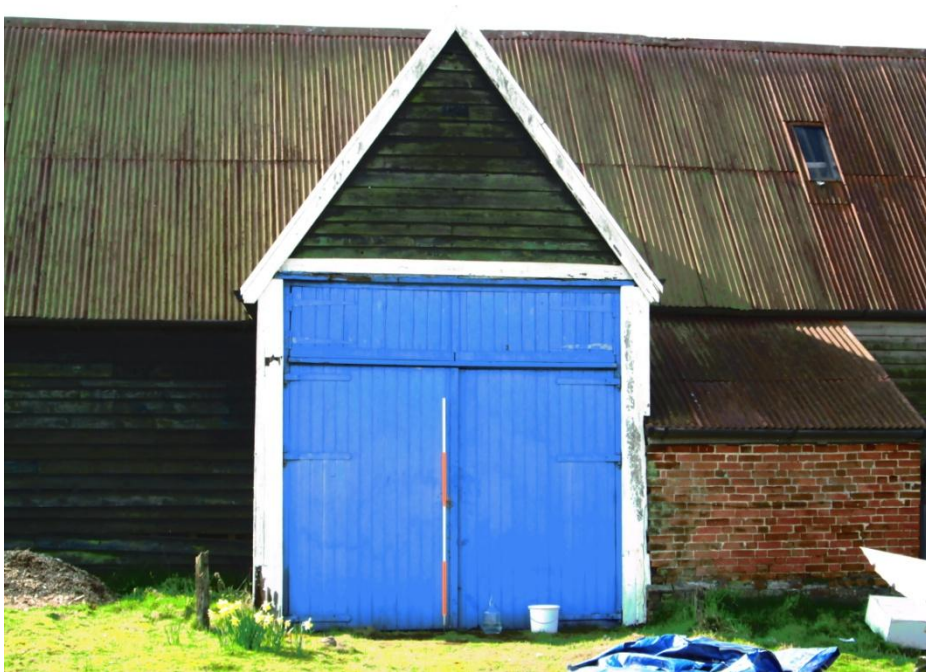


Plate 5. Detail of porch from the north



Plate 6. Interior general view from the west



Plate 7. Interior to porch from the south



Plate 8. Interior general view from the west



Plate 9. Corner post with blind tenons from the south-west



Plate 10. . Detail of blind tenon in post, north-facing wall



Plate 11. Blind tenon in wall post



Plate 12. Detail of framing, post between porch and wall



Plate 13. Roof detail from the north-east



Plate 14. Framing detail from the south-west



Plate 15. Post on corner with blind tenon next to replaced framing, looking towards inner of porch



Plate 16. Rear of barn with new extensions from the south



Plate 18. Framing detail in south wall

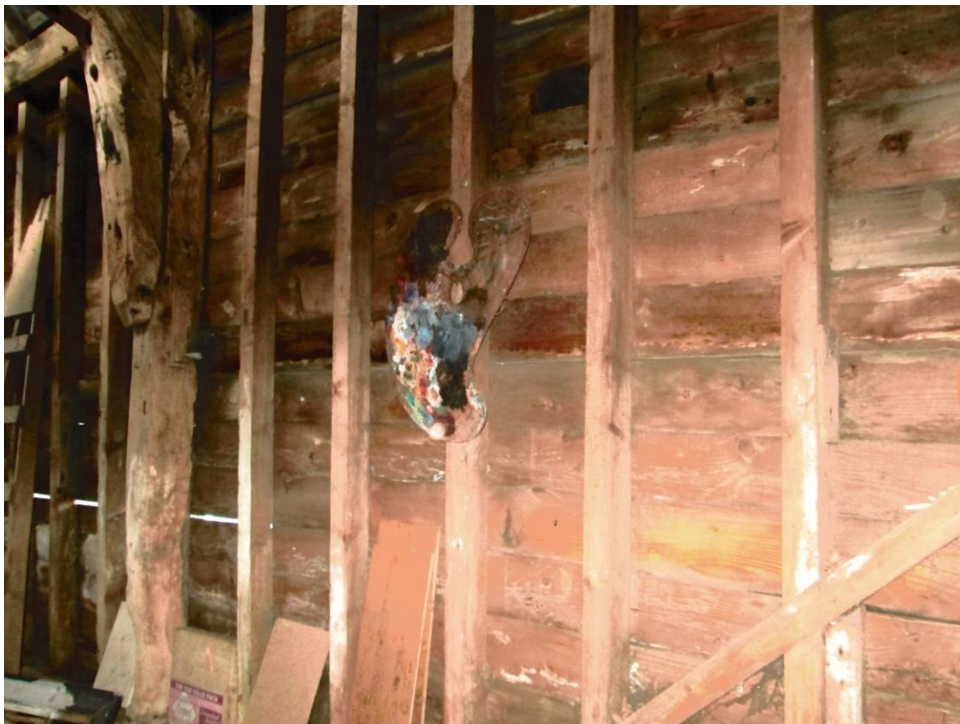


Plate 19. Original bolted knee brace over new framing on north wall from the north



Plate 20. Post to north-east corner of barn with removed braces



Plate 21. Brick plinth detail from north-west



Plate 22. Detail of Storeroom attached to porch from the west



Plate 23. Granary Barn, west-facing gable end wall

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OASIS ID: dennispa1-174619

Project details

Project name	GRANARY BARN
Short description of the project	LEVEL 2 ENGLISH HERITAGE BUILDING RECORDING FOR A BARN CONVERSION SEE REPORT
Project dates	Start: 25-03-2014 End: 02-07-2014
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	POST-MEDIEVAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL SNAPE GRANARY BARN
Postcode	IP17 1QL
Study area	150.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 339 559 52.1511811402 1.41948406249 52 09 04 N 001 25 10 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 34.00m Max: 35.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	ARCHAEOSERV
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	RICHARD HOGETT
Project director/manager	DENNIS PAYNE

Project supervisor DENNIS PAYNE

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient St Edmundsbury Museum

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient St Edmundsbury Museum

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report"

Entered by D Payne (archaeoserv@aol.com)

Entered on 3 July 2014

OASIS:

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