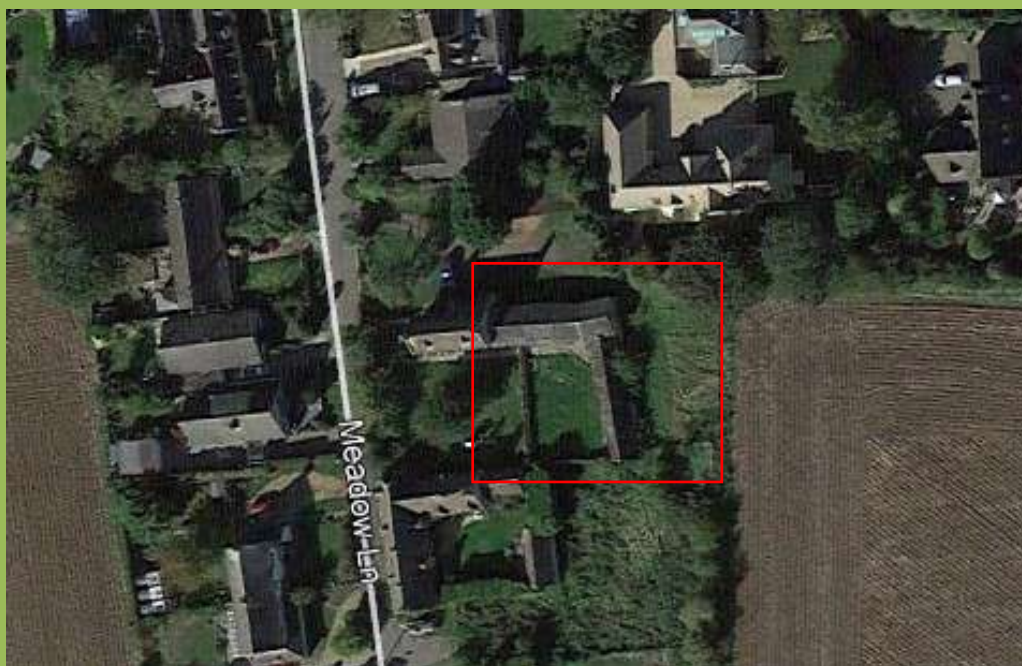




Archaeological Monitoring
Croft Farm Barns Meadow
Lane Thornhaugh
PE8 6HN



NGR: 497323 297726
Planning: 18/01359/LBC
Site Code: THOR 19
Oasis ID: Midlanda1-383134

Prepared For: JP & M Sharpley & Son

Steve Williams BA (Hons)
January 2020

Specialist & Independent Buried & Built
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CONTENTS

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Location and Description	1
3.0 Planning Background	2
4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	3
5.0 Aims and Objectives	3
6.0 Methodology	3
7.0 Results	4
8.0 Discussion and Conclusions	4
9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology	4
10.0 Acknowledgements	5
11.0 Site Archive	5
12.0 References	5
Appendix 1: Context Descriptions	7
Appendix 2: Colour Plates	8
Appendix 3: Oasis	14

List of figures

Fig.1: Location Map 1:25 000 @ A4.

Fig.2: Location Plan 1:1250 @ A4.

Fig.3: Plan & Sections 1:500 & 1:20 @ A3.

Summary

A programme of archaeological monitoring was undertaken on land at; Croft Farm, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HN. This was conducted by Midland Archaeological Services during re-development of the site.

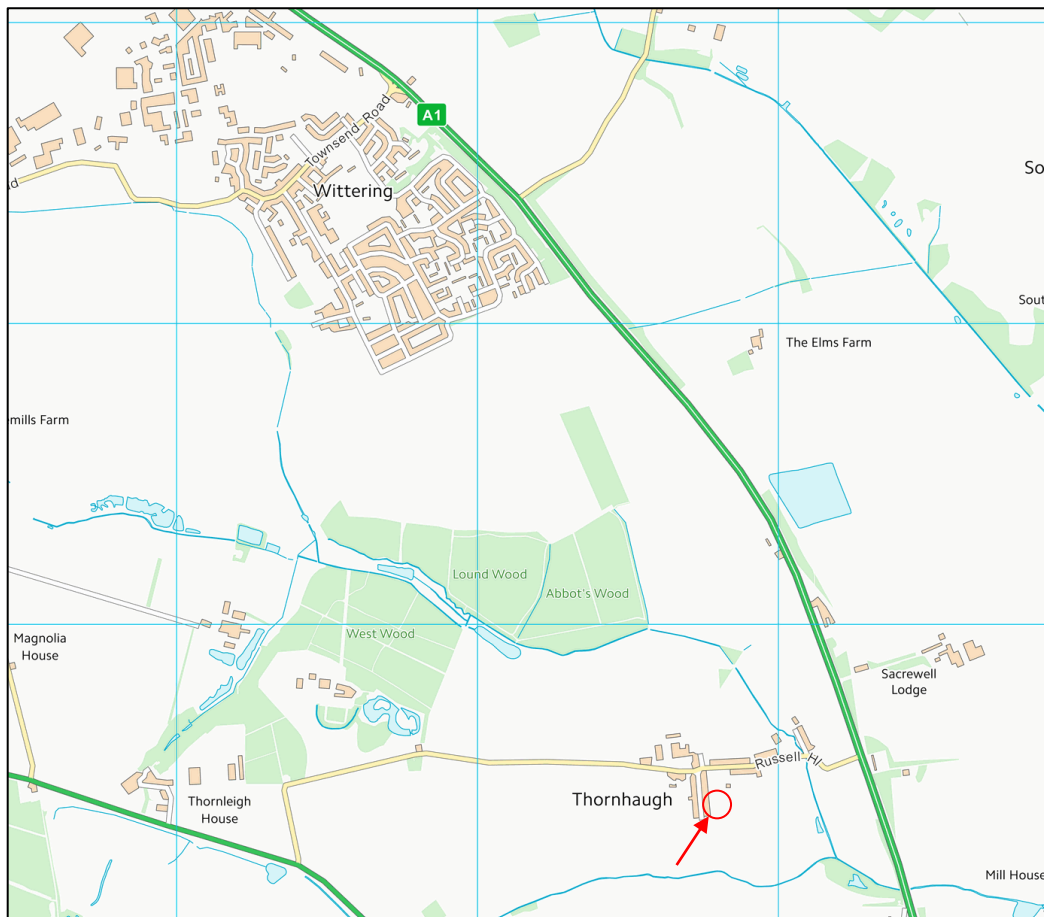


Fig.1: Site Location 1:25000

1.0 Introduction

Midland Archaeological Services (MAS) were commissioned by AP Sharpley & Sons to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring during re-development works at; Croft Farm, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HN, hereafter called the site.

2.0 Location and Description

Thornhaugh is located 15km north west of Peterborough in the county of Cambridgeshire. The site forms an L shaped building attached to the farmhouse and creating a crew yard to the south. The site lies within the Thornhaugh Conservation Area, centred on TF 506773 300438 at 31.00m OD (figs. 1, 2).



Fig.2: Location Plan 1:1250

3.0 Planning Background

Permission has been granted by Peterborough City Council for: Conversion of farm barns to provide two holiday lets (18/01359/LBC).

By the recommendation of the Planning Archaeologist (PA) that the applicant should undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring during development of the buildings.

Prior to the works detailed in this report, a programme of archaeological building recording (Level 2) was undertaken of the structures¹.

¹ MAS 2019

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

Thornhaugh is certainly old, first being mentioned as Thornhawe in 1146 AD, in a bull by Pope Eugenius confirming that it was amongst other possessions, to the abbey of the Burgh. The name meaning 'Thorn-tree enclosure' Old English thorn + haga¹.

No Scheduled Monuments lie within the village and few archaeological interventions have been undertaken in the area, although a watching brief to the north east of the site recorded a modern ditch and glass (53784), whilst a Mesolithic flint core has been recorded to the east of the site (52242).

There are several listed buildings/structures throughout the village, one being the 12th century Church of St Andrew.

5.0 Aims and Objectives

The aim of this programme of archaeological monitoring is to gather information on the archaeology of the site;

- to preserve by record any archaeological remains encountered.
- to establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation throughout the development area.
- to retrieve artefacts and to assist in the development of a type series within the region.
- to recover paleo-environmental remains.

6.0 Methodology

This programme of work did not target any known archaeological remains. The methodology required that all significantly deep excavations undertaken in connection with the development be monitored for archaeological remains during development and that a full written and drawn record be made of any archaeology observed.

All spoil was visually observed, and metal detected for archaeological artefacts. Deposits and features identified were subject to cleaning by hand in order to assess their nature, dimensions and to attempt to recover datable material. These investigations resulted in the production of written descriptions complemented by colour slides/photographs and scale drawings in plan.

Three site visits were made by staff from MAS between the 24th October 2019 and the 22nd January 2020.

Archive creation

On completion of the fieldwork all photographic films were processed by a specialist laboratory and scanned at a resolution of 600dpi for selective inclusion within this report.

All field notes and drawings were checked for completeness and ordered into a documentary archive based on the requirements of the receiving museum. The basic archive includes:

- 1 annotated site plan
- 6 no section drawings
- 1 no photographic register
- 7 context sheets
- 1 no context register
- 1 no drawing register

7.0 Results

A total of seven contexts were recorded throughout the site, (fig. 3, Appendix 1, 2).

Natural clay (001) was recorded beneath the foundations of the former cow housing (A), a natural Cornbrash layer (002) was also recorded here, as well as throughout the external drain runs to the west and east of the cow housing, where a topsoil (003) was also present.

Within the former threshing barn (B), a series of deposits were recorded, these were; the base of the limestone wall of the barn (005), which appeared contemporary with a clean orange sand layer (004). The latter sitting above a lime floor service (006) and below a layer of heavy cobbles (007), (fig.3, Appendix 1, 2).

8.0 Discussion and Conclusion

The cobbled and lime surface recorded within the threshing barn represent a succession of floor surfaces for this building, the clean sand layer (004) a bedding layer for (007). The lime surface (006) most likely part of the original build of the threshing barn and dated to the 18th century.

The replacement of the lime surface at a later date with the rough cobbled surface (007) could indicate a change of use for this building, as the cobbled surface would not easily facilitate the retrieval of cereal crops from the floor area which had escaped the process of hand winnowing, a practice which did not cease until the introduction of machine threshing sometime during the mid-19th century.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

The methodology initially required the archaeological monitoring of significantly deep excavations in relation to the groundworks for the re-development of these buildings. This was were undertaken using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a bladed bucket attached to a back-operating arm. Sufficient time was given by the developer to

ensure that complete cleaning/recording was possible, allowing for a full and detailed record to be made.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Midland Archaeological Services would like to thank AP Sharpley & Sons for this commission, thanks also go to Rebecca Cassa-Hatton and the staff at the Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service for advice prior to and during these investigations.

11.0 Site Archive

An archive of written, drawn and photographic elements is in preparation and will be deposited at Peterborough Museum within six months of the completion of this report.

12.0 References

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Williams, s., Level 2 *Historic Building Survey, Croft Farm Barns, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HN*. Midland Archaeological Services, report No: MAS/562/19

Appendix 1: Context Descriptions

- (001)** Mid grey/yellow silty clay in excess of 0.30m thick. Natural soil.
- (002)** 0.10m thick layer of Cornbrash. Natural.
- (003)** Mid brown/grey loam between 0.20-0.40m thick with occasional small rounded poorly sorted stones. Topsoil.
- (004)** 0.05m thick layer of imported, clean soft sand. Bedding layer for (007).
- (005)** Limestone wall. Wall of threshing barn, post-medieval.
- (006)** 0.06m layer of lime mortar. Post-medieval lime floor surface of threshing barn.
- (007)** Rounded cobbles approximately (0.30m x 0.17m x 0.17m) in size and bedded on (004). Post-medieval cobbled surface of threshing barn.

Appendix 2: Colour Plates



Plate 1: Working shot inside cow housing building looking south.



Plate 2: Threshing barn area prior to machining.



Plate 3: Cobbled surface (007) exposed looking west.



Plate 4: Yard area service runs looking north.



Plate 5: Service runs located to the east of cow housing looking north.



Plate 6: Section 1 looking west.



Plate 7: Section 2: looking north.



Plate 8: Section 3 looking north.



Plate 9: Section 4 looking west.



Plate 10: Section 5 looking north-west.



Plate 11: Section 6 looking south-west.

Appendix 3: Oasis**OASIS ID: midland1-383134****Project details**

Project name	Croft Farm Barns
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring during re-development.
Project dates	Start: 24-11-2019 End: 22-01-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	18/01359/LBC - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	FARM BUILDINGS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	LIME SURFACE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH THORNHAUGH Croft Farm Barns
Postcode	PE8 6HN
Study area	375 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 497323 297726 52.844259147597 0.22351058338 52 50 39 N 000 13 24 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.04m Max: 0.3m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Midland Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Midland Archaeological Services

Project director/manager	S.L.W Williams
Project supervisor	S.L.W.Williams
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

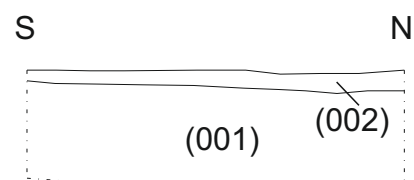
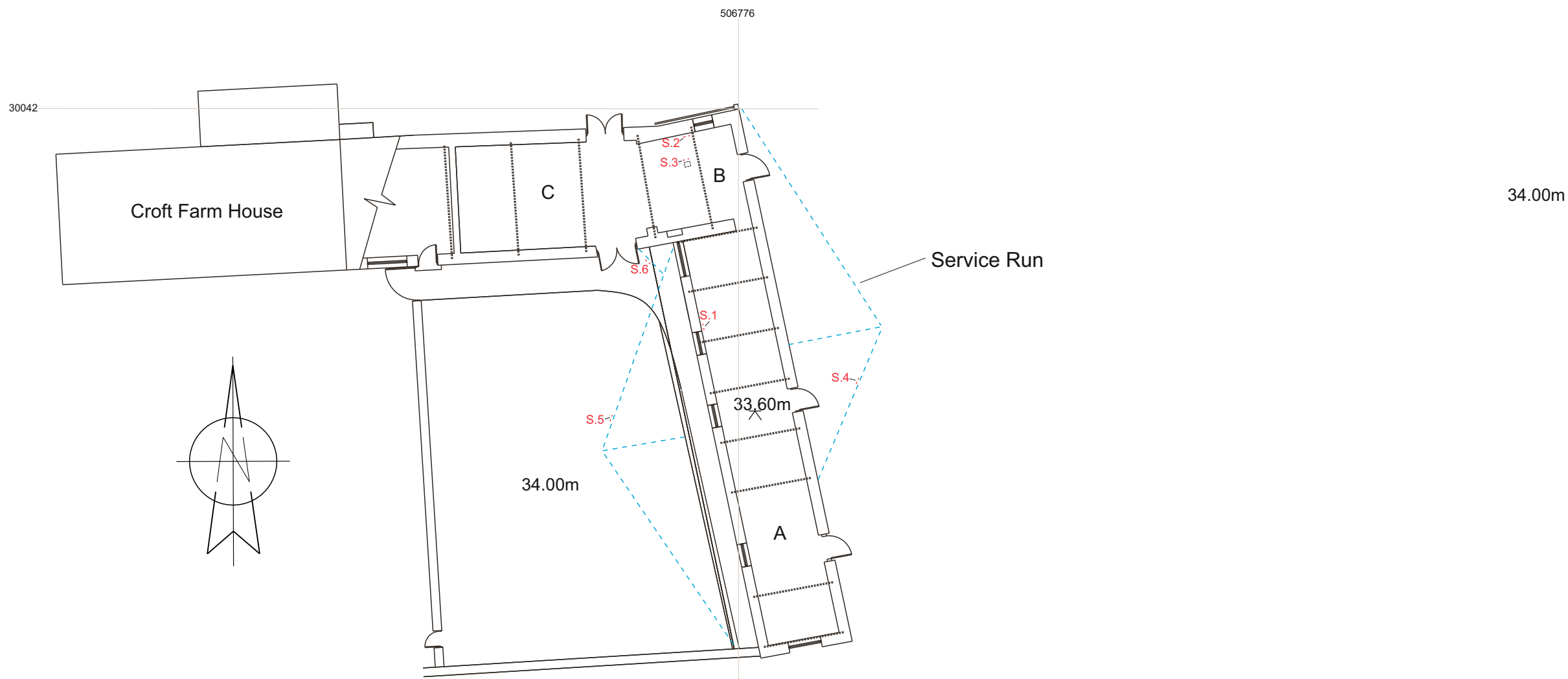
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Peterborough Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Monitoring at Croft Farm Barns, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HN.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	S.Williams
Other bibliographic details	MAS/567/19
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	MAS
Place of issue or publication	MAS Lincolnshire
Description	Archaeological monitoring and recording during re-development of a cow house and threshing barn for holiday lets. Natural ground recorded throughout. Inside the threshing barn, a cobbled surface was recorded which sat upon a clean layer of soft sand, which in turn sat above a lime floor surface. Both layers probably dating to the 18th/19th centuries, the barn originating sometime during the 18th century. No dateable evidence recovered.

Entered by	Steven Williams (info@midarch.co.uk)
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Entered on 29 January 2020



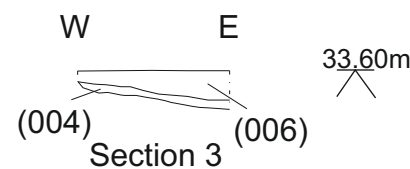
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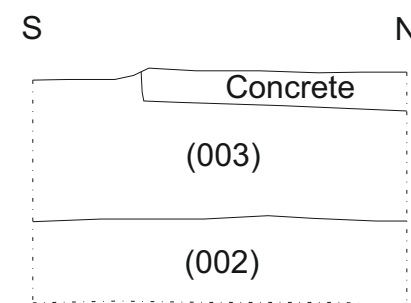


Section 2

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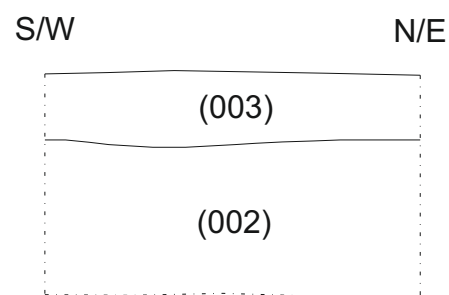


33.60m



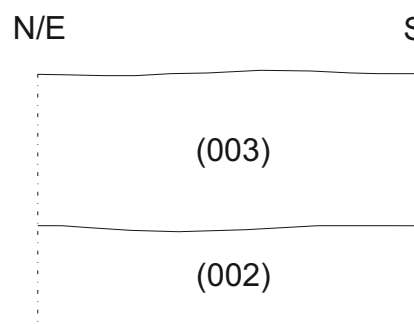
Section 6

34.00m




Section 4

34.00m



Section 5

34.00m

Drawing No: 567/3/19		
Project: Croft Farm Barns, Thornhaugh.		
Fig. 3: Plan & Sections.		
Scale: 1:200 & 1:20@A3		Site Code: THOR 19
Drn: SW	Chk:	Date 29/01/2020
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