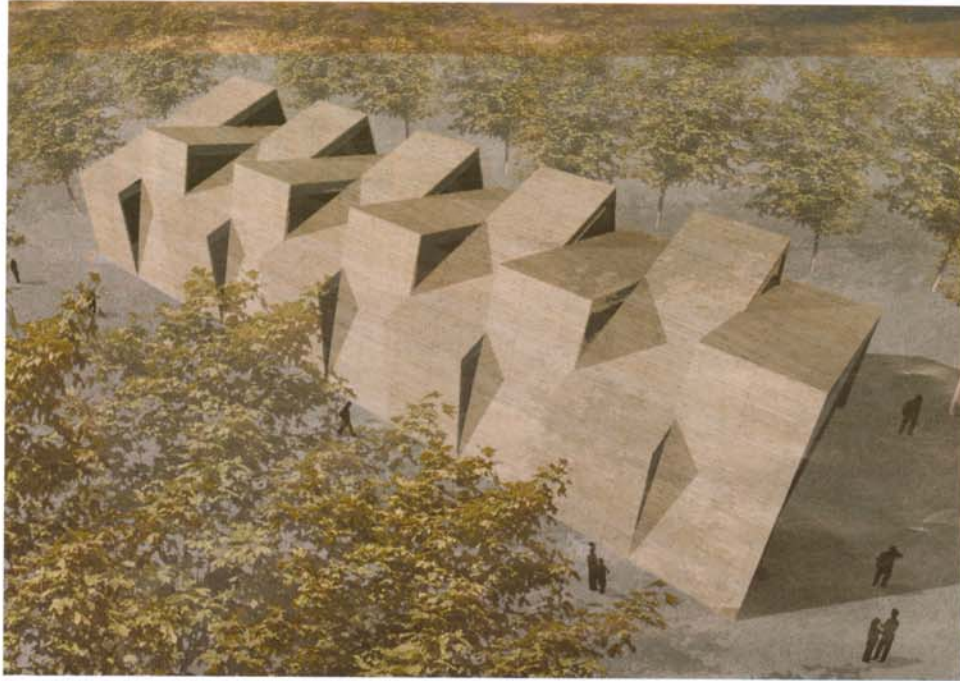


# FIRST LOOK



The museum is timber framed and timber clad, with one form repeated to create an 11m-high, 50x20m structure.

## Museum of rural conservation has natural approach to design

Mitchell Taylor Workshop has won planning permission for a new Museum of Rural Conservation Techniques in Aynhoe, Northamptonshire.

Despite receiving more than 150 letters of objection, the council unanimously voted in favour of the £1 million scheme last week, describing it as "a design exemplar".

Partner Piers Taylor said: "It's been incredibly controversial, but it got permission 10 to nil. When we got the commission, it seemed like a long shot, but the client had real vision."

The museum will be built on a plot of land that was formerly part of Aynhoe Park, designed by John Soane.

The timber frame and timber-clad museum will stand 11m tall, with a 20m by 50m footprint, and will feature

mezzanine levels and a series of teaching spaces and seminar rooms.

Taylor added: "The brief was that it had to be a very simple and economic building, naturally lit and yet with no direct light falling on the exhibits. It is one form that is repeated — all the light comes in from the side. It's got vast, 20m clear spans of timber, which really pushes the limits of the technology."

Internally, the building will contain one main volume, big enough to house large pieces of farm machinery and other exhibits.

Mature trees on the site will be retained around the building, which is expected to go on site within three months.

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Elevation of the building. All the light comes in from the side, but no direct light falls on the exhibits.